

EXT. CORNFIELD - DAWN

Misty sunlight reveals fresh, intricate crop circles.
Birds scatter as a battered pickup bumps into view.
JOSIE, 30s, clever, rumpled, climbs out with a thermos.
She stares, unimpressed, at the new crop circle.

JOSIE

Tuesday already?

She snaps a photo, sips her coffee.
A distant rumble. Josie squints at the horizon.
Her dog, PATCHES, chases a butterfly nearby.

JOSIE

Come on, Patches. Let's see what the aliens left us this time.
She heads into the crop circle, dog in tow.
A glint of metal pokes from the flattened stalks.
Josie kneels, brushing dirt off a strange, humming device.
She grins, curiosity piqued.

INT. JOSIE'S WORKSHOP - DAY

Gadgets, spare parts, and blueprints clutter the space.
Josie inspects the alien device under a magnifier.
Patches sniffs at a pile of wires.

JOSIE

Well, you're not a toaster...

She pokes at a button. The device glows faintly.
A low hum vibrates through the room.

JOSIE

Whoa—

A small light shoots from the device, tracing symbols in the air.
Josie grabs a notebook, sketching the patterns.

JOSIE

If this is a message, I hope it's not just a cosmic prank call.
Patches barks, startled by the glowing patterns.

Josie laughs, patting the dog's head.

EXT. GENERAL STORE - MORNING

Locals mingle, swapping stories and sipping coffee.

Josie strolls up with her notebook, waving.

MRS. HENDERSON

Another one of your little projects, Josie?

JOSIE

Just trying to keep things interesting.

Mr. Hanks, the barber, leans in conspiratorially.

MR. HANKS

You see lights again last night, Josie?

JOSIE

If I did, I'd charge admission.

Laughter ripples through the group.

Josie glances at her notes, distracted.

JOSIE

Gotta run. Got a... thing to figure out.

EXT. BARN - AFTERNOON

Josie sets up the device in a clearing.

She wires it to a car battery, safety goggles on.

Patches barks, circling the contraption.

JOSIE

If I disappear, tell the town I went out with a bang.

She flips a switch. The device hums, louder now.

A blue pulse ripples outward, bending the grass.

Suddenly, the barn's rusty weather vane spins wildly.

Josie shields her eyes as a column of light bursts upward.

The device clatters, then falls silent.

JOSIE

That... was new.

Patches hides behind a bale of hay.

Josie kneels, examining the now-silent device.

A strange pattern glows on her palm.

INT. JOSIE'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Josie washes her hands, the pattern on her palm pulsing faintly.
She tries to scrub it away, but it glows brighter.
Patches whines, pawing at her leg.

JOSIE

It's okay, Patch. I'm just... glowing a little.

The kitchen lights flicker.

Josie gasps as her coffee mug levitates for a moment.
She waves her hand, and the mug drops.

JOSIE

Okay, that's new too.

She laughs, nervous and excited.

The radio crackles, picking up static and odd signals.
Josie scribbles notes, ideas flowing fast.

JOSIE

Let's see what else you can do.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - DAY

Josie, energized, races to the town's old clock tower.
She waves her hand; the tower's stopped clock spins to life.
Locals marvel. Children cheer.

JOSIE

Guess it just needed a little encouragement!

The crowd applauds. Josie beams, waving awkwardly.
Her palm glows, unnoticed by others.
Mrs. Henderson eyes Josie, suspicious.

MRS. HENDERSON

That's no ordinary fix, Josie. What're you up to?

JOSIE

Just a little elbow grease.

Josie hurries off, hiding her glowing palm.
Patches follows, tail wagging.
Josie glances at the device in her bag, conflicted.

INT. WORKSHOP - NIGHT

Josie studies the device, surrounded by chaos.

Tools float, blueprints flutter. Patches hides beneath the workbench.

JOSIE

I can fix everything. Maybe even make things better for everyone.

She closes her eyes, focusing. The device pulses, energy building.

Suddenly, the workshop lights explode in a shower of sparks.

Josie collapses, gasping. The glow on her palm dims.

JOSIE

What's happening to me?

She looks at her trembling hands.

Patches whimpers, nuzzling her.

JOSIE

I don't want to lose you, Patch.

Tears streak Josie's face.

She hugs Patches tightly.

EXT. CORNFIELD - SUNSET

Josie trudges to the crop circle, device in hand.

She kneels, placing it back where she found it.

The pattern on her palm fades.

JOSIE

Thank you, whoever you are.

She stands, watching the sky turn violet.

A faint shimmer ripples across the field.

Patches sits by her side, tail thumping softly.

JOSIE

Let's go home, Patch.

She turns, walking back toward the farmhouse.

The device glows faintly, then goes still.

A shooting star streaks overhead.

Josie looks up, a bittersweet smile on her face.

FADE OUT.