

## INTO THE SHADOWS

**Logline:** Crystal meteorites pummel Earth, unleashing deadly shadows. A blacklisted astrophysicist must unravel mysteries in time to deter the horror threatening loved ones and world devastation.

**Genre:** Horror/Sci-Fi/Thriller

**Tagline:** Stay out of the shadows. *A Quiet Place* meets *The Shadow*.

### Synopsis:

Meteorites from deep space strike remote locations across America. Campers and a response team at another US Campsite mysteriously disappear. Half a world away, inexplicable deaths erupt at the powder-keg Tri-Border region of Russia, China, and North Korea. Each accuses the other of weaponizing space, escalating atomic threats between super-powers.

When mixed race Caucasian/Native American astrophysicist, Phoenix Cota (26), expounds on his outlandish theory about the quantum emergence of non-biological life, he is relegated to a token position at the Los Angeles Griffith Park Observatory. There he discovers a bizarre crystal fragment dangling from a sundial and a haunting note in a child's handwriting: "**We Are Alive.**"

When he agrees to appear on his half-brother Tuc's (28) radio show, *The Abyss*, which is dedicated to the supernatural, even his position at the observatory is threatened.

Phoenix and Tuc take a troop of young scout boys camping at Will Rogers State Park. At a nearby campsite, Olympic cyclist Piper Spencer (24) and the woman he'd once had a brief affair with, rallies a girls' scout troop. With her is little sister Emma (10), a bright and endearing girl on the autism spectrum who sees the future through visions she doesn't understand. The two troops quickly clash.

Teetering on the brink of nuclear annihilation, world leaders intensify threats over accusations of breaking the Space Weapons Treaty.

Phoenix seeks answers in meteorite reports from around the globe. Realization of the danger hits home when Emma and Piper are apparently killed when they are sucked into a shadow and disappear. Convinced they are still alive, Phoenix connects the mysterious shadows to ancient Indian myths of Crystal Travelers. In a leap of faith, Phoenix takes charge of his destiny when he risks all for a chance to rescue the sisters.

Trapped in the crystal world, Phoenix discovers time distortion and is horrified to learn that Earth's superpowers have launched a world-wide nuclear conflagration and destroyed civilization.

With new knowledge found from traversing the crystal world, Phoenix rescues Piper and Emma and returns to the day the meteorites first struck Earth in an attempt to unite the world against the deadly shadows and avert nuclear catastrophe.

## Character List

**Phoenix Cota** – Single male (26), mixed race Caucasian/Chumash Indian, an easy-going man with an open, farm-boy face hiding a fierce adventurer. An astrophysicist with a sense of humor studying for his doctorate degree, his cutting-edge theories about the universe are criticized. Specializes in meteorites and quantum emergence theory. On weekends, he leads a Woodcraft Ranger troop of 10-year-old boys. Wants to make amends with Piper and avert a world disaster.

**Piper Spencer** – Single female (24). Tough competitor, champion Olympic cyclist, fiercely protective of her younger sister, Emma. Also a children’s book author specializing in the mythology of American indigenous people. She leads Emma’s Woodcraft Ranger troop. After one date with Phoenix, he disappears to Hawaii. As far as she’s concerned, he can go to hell.

**Tucson (Tuc) Cota** – Single male (28). A biracial mix of Native American/African American. Half-brother of Phoenix and host of radio talk show, *The Abyss*, a late-night supernatural show with a crazed following. Phoenix’s funny sidekick doesn’t take himself or his topics too seriously, although he is actually the “Oracle of the Airwaves” and has the gift of prophecy. Unlike the oracle Casandra, who was given the gift of prophecy along with the curse that no one would ever believe her, Tuc has the gift of prophecy but his curse is that he doesn’t believe his own insights.

**Emma Spencer** – A smart-as-a-whip girl (10) with the appearance of endearingly unkempt puppy. Socially awkward on the autism spectrum, with a gift of frightening visions she doesn’t understand and no one except Piper believes. Loves to record videos with her mobile phone.

**Debra Spencer** – Mother (40s) of Piper and Emma. A divorced, world-weary waitress who only wants to make it through each day. Loves her daughters, but doesn’t understand either of them.

**Sean** – The “little brother” (10) of Phoenix and part of the Woodcraft Rangers troop. A funny, clever, pudgy boy. Shyly attracted to Emma.

**Carl** – Bitter bully, a boy (10) who is part of the Woodcraft Rangers troop. Sean’s nemesis.

**Kaila-** – Single Hawaiian female (22), who was Phoenix’s girlfriend in Hawaii. A doctoral student in astrophysics, she works at the Hawaiian observatory on Haleakala.

**Mr. Finch** – Phoenix’s loyal sheepdog, who loves to herd scout troops and race cyclists. Leaps into the shadows with Phoenix.

### **About the Creators**

*Click names for IMDB profiles.*

Dallas Jones – Screenwriter known for Stephen King’s new CUJO (2019).

Jan Moran – Novelist published by St. Martin’s Press/Macmillan, Random House Germany, New Compton Italy, etc.

### **Professionals that can be attached:**

Douglas Smith – **Academy Award winner** (Oscar) in 1997 for ‘Independence Day’ for Special Effects. Also, the ‘Visual Effects Supervisor’ for the biggest current movie productions in China.