Film Title: *War of the Worlds (2005) Spielberg*

**Narrative Analysis**

**What do the protagonists do to try and restore equilibrium?**
The Protagonists run and hide from the aliens, and wait for the local forces to destroy the tripods. The protagonists then travel to Boston to reunite Rachel and Robbie with their mother. Along the way Robbie joins the army and is lost from Ray and Rachel, they then journey towards Boston to reunite with Mary-Ann.

Ray doesn't try to fight the aliens until quite in the narrative (V reactive hero)

**What event restores equilibrium?**
The equilibrium is restored when Ray realises the shields on the tripods are down and so the they can be damaged by the army’s weapons. It is revealed in the epilogue that bacteria were the main cause that stopped the alien invaders, which in turn restores the equilibrium.

**Describe the equilibrium:**
We’re introduced to Ray and his dysfunctional family. Consisting of Ray, Robbie, Rachel and ex wife Mary-Ann. Mary-Ann leaves the children with Ray for the weekend. As their relationships worsen so a storm arrives.

**Describe the forces in the narrative:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plot (Events)</th>
<th>Ray, Rachel and Robbie form a dysfunctional family unit. Aliens attack causing havoc, killing people. Ray tries to escape and return the children to their mother so they can be saved. The humans start to fight each other for survival. The aliens get killed by earthly bacteria they have no resistance to and Ray returns the children to their mother, thus reuniting the family, Robbie and Ray are also reunited in a new mutually respectful relationship.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Characters &amp; Their Needs</td>
<td>Each character has a need for something within the narrative. This can be shown through the character of Rachel, as she wants to be with her mother and ‘safe’. Robbie’s need is to hit back at the alien invaders. He also seeks respect and recognition from his father, Ray’s intentions are to run and hide in order to protect his family and get them to their mother safely; this need is compromised when Robbie joins the army.</td>
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</table>
| Conflict(s) | Ray and Robbie
Ray and the family
Ray vs Harlan Ogilvy |
| Setting | American suburbs
Ruined cities
The edges of a battle field |
| | aliens vs nature
Mankind vs the aliens |
| | A cellar
Journey across ruined America
Boston |

**Are we aware of a storyteller? Do we trust them?**
Morgan Freeman is the storyteller in this film. He narrates at the beginning and the end, we as an audience trust him because he’s not a character in the film, so audience is shown to trust him as he simply tells the story.

**Describe the equilibrium and themes evident:**
The family are reunited. The themes shown within the equilibrium are that family is important. Also that mutual trust & respect is important in a family relationship.