

Eighteen-year-old Leeza Keats hopes her internship with a predatory investor will get her once-promising life back on track. She cheerfully sets out for a surprise, out-of-town assignment that could put her on the road to fortune, fame, and perhaps forgiveness.

Leeza's happiness shatters when she experiences an inexplicable loss of 79 minutes. For months, she's been cursed with unreliable time that saps her energy and compounds guilt about bad decisions and the death of her sister a year earlier.

With only 25 minutes to make it across town through Toronto's crawling traffic and catch her train, she has no choice but to accept a ride in a vintage 'Time Taxi' that's driven by Hermes, a weirdly accented, top-hatted cabbie who seems to know her deepest secrets.

The driver promises to get her to the train station, not in the do-or-die 20 minutes but in 20 seconds. The taxi hums, emits an ear-piercing whistle. A band of heat whacks Leeza in the face, followed by a rattling, and the scent of barbecue. Then everything goes black. When the light returns, the cab sits in front of Union Station. Elapsed time, 20 seconds.

The cabbie reveals Leeza's missing minutes are percolations of her hitherto unknown time warping abilities. Elizabeth, Leeza's rich and powerful 58-year-old self, sent him 40 years into the past to bring Leeza to 2064. Along the way they pick up Morry, a similarly gifted, street-smart panhandler.

Leeza is stunned by Elizabeth's beauty, youthful appearance and opulent surroundings but even more astonished by the mission laid out by her older self.

Elizabeth says that Leeza and only Leeza has the power to change the timeline to prevent human folly from bringing mankind to the brink of extinction.