The Mystery of White Dwarfs

For this project you must read Chapter 4 of Kip Thorne, “The Mystery of White Dwarfs”. The aim of the project is for you to critique the chapter as if it were a story for a movie.

1. What is the ‘world’ of the story? Who is the hero and who the villain? What makes the hero heroic and the villain villainous? Heroes can be more interesting if they have flaws, and villains more interesting if they are not all bad. Comment on the flaws and qualities of the hero and villain.

2. Enumerate the problems or conflicts that the hero encounters. In each case, does the hero overcome the problem, and if so how? In each case, does overcoming the problem generate new problems, and if so what? [This question is the meat of this project, and you should spend most of your time on it. Number the problems. My answer identifies 7 problems or conflicts; you may find more or less.]

3. What is the climax of the story? How is the story resolved?