Terraforce: The Incoming

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FADE IN:

EXT. NEW YORK BAY HARBOR - THE LIBERTY STATUE - NIGHT

CUT TO:

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE - NIGHT

On the tenth floor of a building construction sight, WILLIAM DALE FLEMING, an athletic African-American, looks around contemplating the day's work. At a distance he notices a worker standing out on a girder at the far end of the floor.

WILLIAM

(Startled)

MURPHY, is that you?!

MURPHY

(At the verge of tears)
Hey boss, no disrespect but could
you leave me alone!

WILLIAM moves slowly toward MURPHY.

WILLIAM

What's going on?

MURPHY

Please Mister Fleming, just leave me alone.

WILLIAM stands beside MURPHY and gently places his hand on MURPHY's shoulder.

WILLIAM

What seems to be the problem?

MURPHY

She left me boss! After twenty years of marriage she just got up and left. I got nothin' now!

WILLIAM

I know how it feels Murph. When I lost my wife to leukemia I was out of it for a while. The pain was almost overwhelming but days became weeks, weeks became months, months became years. The pain was less, not gone but less.

MURPHY

This is different. I guess she got bored or fell in love with someone else. It made me feel...

WILLIAM

You got kids don't you Murph?

MURPHY

They're grown now. My youngest got married a couple weeks ago. I guess my wife felt there was no reason to hang around.

WILLIAM

What do you think your daughters will feel about this? They'll be crushed.

MURPHY

(Tearful)

My youngest and I are pretty close.

WILLIAM

You were in Desert Storm weren't your Murph?

MURPHY

Yeah. They hit us with something out there. Gave me bad itching and now my blood has something. I, were you there too?

WILLIAM

Yep. I got the same problem.

MURPHY

Infantry?

WILLIAM

Engineering core. We were putting out the oil well fires in Kuwait.

MURPHY

Gotta protect that damn oil.

They slowly move away from the edge.

WILLIAM

Listen, it's Wednesday. Your weekend starts as of now. Leave with pay, on me.

MURPHY

But....

WILLIAM

No buts! Go over to the Veterans Administration office for some help, and if they can't help, find a support group or a shrink. But most of all, call your daughter, have dinner with her, okay?

MURPHY

Yeah, okay boss. I, really appreciate this.

WILLIAM

Don't mention it. Get your head together. I'll see you on Monday.

MURPHY

I didn't know there were people like you still left in this world. Especially here in New York.

WILLIAM

Well if you spread it around I'll toss you over the side of the building. Go home. Take it easy.

MURPHY

I will.

MURPHY walks into the cargo elevator and goes down. WILLIAM walks toward the edge of a girder and looks out across the construction site. He sees a man at a distance near his car. He moves concerned toward a tool box on the floor nearby. He picks it up with one hand and holds the crowbar on the other. He then heads toward the cargo elevator and enters it. As the elevator descends he watches the floors pass by through the security mesh.

He steps out at ground level, walks over to a tool shack and places the crowbar and the toolbox in and locks it. He walks toward the gate.

GUARD

Goodnight Mister Fleming! See ya tomorrow!

WILLIAM

Goodnight Juan.

WILLIAM exits through the gate and moves toward his car cautiously. The vehicle is far from the security guard's station. He examines his BMW closely and looks around the parking lot. He looks back at his car and is startled at the sight of a figure that wasn't there a second ago. He instinctively drops into a fighting stance. The stranger is wearing a wide brim had that conceals his face and is wearing a trench coat.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

(Low voice to himself)

Getting jacked is no way to end a day!

(Speaking louder)

Can I help you with something?

The man tilts his head back to reveal his face and is African-American but something about his appearance seems artificial.

TRENCH COAT MAN

WILLIAM Dale Fleming?

WILLIAM

(Sarcastic)

Don't tell me, you're with the IRS?

TRENCH COAT MAN

Are you Mister...

WILLIAM

Yes I am, was up?

His eyes begin to glow like small suns.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

What the Hell!

EXT. BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER - DAY

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - DAY

A young oriental woman, in her mid twenties, athletic, dressed in surgeon apparel, moves toward a husband and wife sitting in a hospital waiting room. The couple is upset. The wife is crying softly.

YURIKO

Mister and Misses Baker?! Melissa is going to be all right!

MOTHER

Thank God! Thank God! Oh doctor, thank you so much. Can we see her?

YURIKO

Please be patient. In a couple of hours she'll be moved to a room. The remotion of the tumor was complete. She'll be fine. The nurses station will fill you in as to which room.

FATHER

(Emotional)

We can't say thanks enough for all you've done doctor. We don't have any money, but whatever you need, please just ask!

YURIKO

No worries.

The parents walk down the hall toward the nurses station. YURIKO walks toward the cafeteria as an orderly intercepts her.

ORDERLY

Doctor, you are needed in E R. Will you accompany me please?

YURIKO follows the orderly. He stops in front of a door.

ORDERLY (CONT'D)

We'll need a gurney that's in this room. Someone placed an E K G machine on it and I need to remove it. Can you help me doctor?

YURIKO

Sure, no problem.

They step into the room. Seconds later a bright flash of light is seen coming from the doorway.

EXT. LAKESHORE DRIVE - CHICAGO - DAY

CUT TO:

EXT. ROBERTO CLEMENTE HIGH SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

CUT TO:

INT. CLASS ROOM - (STOCK) - AFTERNOON

RICK, a strong looking Hispanic male, is seen wearing a suit and tie teaching a class.

RICK

Well that's all for today. Make sure to have your essays ready by next Thursday.

The students start leaving the classroom except one young Hispanic teenager who remains sitting.

CARLOS

Yo teach! Got a minute.

RICK

(Smiling)

Yes Carlos, was up?!

CARLOS

Is not easy for me to say this. You understand.

(Pauses)

I just wanted to thank you for helping me and my family out. Know what am sayin. My mom is doing great in that new job you helped her get and my grades are going up cuz of your tutoring. But I just wanted to know, why do you do all that? I heard you got your own business and junk. You make good money, man! Hell, if I made money like that, nobody would see my ass up in here!

RICK

Now, remember what I told you about profanity.

CARLOS

It is a recourse of those with a weak mind.

RICK

That's right. When I was a young punk like you...

CARLOS

Hey!

RICK

People helped me out so now I'm just paying it back. You gotta make this world a little better than the way you found it. If you don't you've wasted your time.

CARLOS

Word! Sounds deep. Like something you read in a fortune cookie.

RICK

You got a good sense of humor kid.

CARLOS

It's what keeps me alive.

RICK

I understand. As for me I'm just keepin it real.

They shake hands.

CARLOS

I gotta bounce.

RICK

Me too. As always, stay clean, okay? Or else....

CARLOS

I know, I know. You'll hunt me down and beat the crap out of me! Right?!

RICK

(Smiling)

Word!

EXT. ROBERTO CLEMENTE HIGH SCHOOL - FRONT ENTRANCE - LATE AFTERNOON

RICK and CARLOS go separate ways. RICK walks toward a streetlight, a police car stops at the curb in front him.

POLICE OFFICER

Ricardo Del Valle?!

RICK moves closer to the car while holding his briefcase.

RICK

Yes!? What can I do for you officer?

POLICE OFFICER

Would you please accompany me to the station? We have one of your students and he is asking for you.

RICK

(Alarmed)

Of course Officer! Who is it?

RICK gets in the car. A bright light is seen inside the car as the police car disappears in thin air.

EXT. AN EXQUISITE URBAN MANSION IN YESSUP, GEORGIA - DAY

CUT TO:

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

Jonathan Sebastian RAISE, a man in his early fifties, sits in front of a personal computer typing away energetically. The housekeeper, a robust African-American woman in her late sixties, enters the room. Both speak with heavy southern drawl.

HOUSEKEEPER

I ironed your favorite shirt and prepared your suit for the conference, Doctor RAISE.

RAISE

What?

HOUSEKEEPER

(Annoyed)

Your shirt is ready. You told me to remind you at five to get ready to leave for your conference.

RAISE doesn't take his eyes away from the computer.

RAISE

(Coldly)

It's only four thirty!

HOUSEKEEPER

I know that, but as you know, I have to leave early today so you'll have to remind yourself to get ready. I don't think those Georgia Tech people like waiting, no matter how smart you are.

RAISE

(Talking to himself)
I must say, you people have the gift for gab.

HOUSEKEEPER

(Very angry)

I heard that! If you mean us niggers...yeah we do! I don't know why I put up with this shit! If your sweet wife hadn't been like a daughter to me, and I hadn't promised to take care of you if anything ever happened to her, I would have told you to go to Hell a long time ago!

RAISE

(Still looking at computer)

Nonsense, you need the money.

HOUSEKEEPER

Well Mister Jonathan Sebastian RAISE P h D. in physics, you can take this job and shove it where the sun don't shine! I quit!

RAISE

Now, now Vilma Geraldine. No threats, you heah!

HOUSEKEEPER

My son has a P h D of his own and he's been begging me to quit this job for a long time.

She storms out of the library, takes her hat and coat from a nearby rack, steps out the front door and slams it behind her. RAISE follows her seconds later and opens the front door.

HOUSEKEEPER (CONT'D)

He said, "You don't need to work anymore Momma. We got plenty of money". Good-bye and good riddance you fucking old racist!

RAISE returns to the library upset and sits in front of the computer. He looks at the screen then puts his elbows on the table and buries his face in his hands. Seconds later the door bell rings.

He gets up eagerly and hurries toward the front door and opens it and comes face to face with the man in the trench coat and wide brimmed hat.

TRENCH COAT MAN Jonathan Sebastian RAISE?!

RAISE

(Startled)

Yes?!

A brilliant flash of light is seen from inside the house.

EXT. THE KREMLIN'S RED SQUARE - DAY

CUT TO:

EXT. RUSSIAN AIRFORCE BASE - DAY

A Soviet military airplane is seen flying above. It lands and moves through hangar doors. The doors close behind it. After it parks, the cockpit opens. A narrow ladder is attached to the plane by a ground crew worker. A tall blonde woman climbs down the ladder. A MECHANIC secures the plane's wheels while the ground crew worker watches her descend.

MECHANIC

How did it feel moi druga?

TATIANA

A little sluggish on left turns but other than that, it was pretty good.

MECHANIC

I vill look into it.

The MECHANIC and TATIANA walk over to the wing in question. The MECHANIC leans slightly closer to TATIANA's ear.

MECHANIC (CONT'D)

(Whispering)

Someone is here to see you.

He nods his head in the general direction of a stranger wearing a trench coat. TATIANA sees the man standing by the hanger doors.

TATIANA

(Whispering)

KGB?

MECHANIC

(Whispering)

Maybe. I vasn't going to ask. Besides, who knows what the KGB is doing these days?

TATIANA shrugs her shoulders and walks over to the man in the trench coat.

TATIANA

Can I help you?

TRENCH COAT MAN

(Flashes a police badge)
Commander TATIANA Pablova
Myroslava?! May I have a word with
you please? Would you walk with me?

They move out of sight outside the hangar. Seconds later a bright flash of light is seen by the MECHANIC working on the plane's wing. He jumps of a step ladder and runs toward where TATIANA and the man in a trench coat had stepped off to. When he gets there he only sees military personnel in the background and parked military airplanes. Two other ground crew personnel arrive on the scene.

MECHANIC

(Alarmed)

Vhere did they go?

INT. ROOM WITH WHITE WALLS, FLOOR AND CEILING - LIMBO

WILLIAM is clad in a gold silk sleeveless shirt, shorts and low heel booties. He wakes slowly, sits up and stretches. He stands and looks around confused. He sees another figure lying on a table several feet away and starts walking slowly toward her. The figure begins to stir and sits up. YURIKO, looks fearfully around the room. She sees that the only clothing she is wearing is gold-colored silk panties and low heel booties. Instinctively she crosses her arms to cover her breasts. She then notices WILLIAM approaching.

YURIKO

(Nervously)

Hello.

WILLIAM

(Trying to be calm)

Hello.

YURIKO

Wha...what's going on? Where am I?

WILLIAM

(Nervously)

Beats me! I just woke up myself.

YURIKO states at him and then at his shirt.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

(Hesitating)

Oh! Just a second.

(Takes his shirt off)

Here...

He hands her the shirt as she covers her breasts with one arm and takes it. He turns his back. YURIKO also turns around and puts the shirt on. The fabric automatically adjust itself to her measurements which startles her.

YURIKO

Jesus, check this out!

WILLIAM turns around quickly and face each other.

WILLIAM

That is the freakiest thing I've ever seen!

YURIKO

It it fits perfectly.

Both look confuse.

YURIKO (CONT'D)

I'm YURIKO Tetzuro Gates.

WILLIAM

WILLIAM Dale Fleming. Everyone calls me WILLIAM.

YURIKO

(Nervously)

Please to meet you WILLIAM.

They shake hands.

YURIKO (CONT'D)

(Smiling nervously)

Now may I get hysterical?

WILLIAM

(Humorously)

Not unless you wanna find yourself alone.

YURIKO

(Trembling)

What's the last thing you remember?

WILLIAM

I was at a construction sight and a man in a trench coat showed up out of nowhere and then everything went bright. Next thing I know I wake up here.

YURIKO

(Puzzled)

With me it was an orderly.

RAISE (O.S.)

I just think you could have grabbed a more qualified set of people.

Both WILLIAM and YURIKO turn in the direction of the voice. RAISE walks through a white wall in the direction of YURIKO and WILLIAM. A bright ball of energy floats by his side at shoulder level.

RAISE (CONT'D)

(Speaking to ball)

This is not the best that mankind has to offer!

MYGANOS

Mister RAISE, the criteria were thought out and planted thousands of years before you were born. We feel we know what we are doing.

Both the entity and RAISE pause when they reach WILLIAM and $\mathtt{YURIKO}_{\bullet}$

MYGANOS (CONT'D)

(Addressing YURIKO

and WILLIAM)

Please follow us.

They look at each other with puzzled expressions. They begin walking toward a white wall. As they reach it the wall dissolves to reveal a futuristic type of living room. In front of them is a curved white wide sofa where RICK and TATIANA are seen already sitting. From behind the sofa, in vault-like fashion and up onto the ceiling, is a glass-like surface showing the stars passing by at incredible speed.

WILLIAM

(In awe)
Holy shit! We're in space!

YURIKO

(Alarmed)

What is this?! What's happening?

RAISE walks toward the sofa and sits on one of its wide table-like armrests. WILLIAM comforts her. They both sit.

MYGANOS

Good Day! I am known as MYGANOS. (Pause)

We are facing a predicament at a galactic level that places in danger a myriad of worlds that are densely populated by many sentient beings of all sorts. This event was foreseen by a millenary being known as the Oracle of planet Ecklar. In accordance to his time dimensional spanning gaze he saw a warship of a neighboring galaxy entered ours. Its design and origins unknown. Its weapons capabilities and defences are insurmountable.

The entity flies toward the front of the sofa and to the audience, the facilities shift to resemble a classroom.

MYGANOS (CONT'D)

This warship has proven to be impervious to our defense networks. Just before the planet of the Beydaks was destroyed, they named the warship the Therapsis. Which in their language means Death Storm. They also named this ship as Lajonsanks which means Light of Hope. Many were evacuated but over 10 billion Beydak lives were lost.

The floor in front of the group shifts to create a glass-like surface and a three dimensional solid looking projection of an immense vessel materializes. It is seen being attacked by numerous an varied types ships emitting a variety of energy blasts from alien weapons.

MYGANOS (CONT'D)

On the Oracle of Ecklar's vision it saw five humans from one of our galaxy's most primitive worlds intervening via an incursion. The vision stopped at the juncture in which the outcome was not known. The Oracle has stated that time dimensional visions constantly shift as quantum variances enter in an out of his range of perception. In accordance to his vision and following our work plan your mission is to penetrate the Death Storm, seek out its primary power core and destroy it. I sense fear and confusion in all of you and it is understandable. All of you will be protected to the best of our abilities, but there is something else you must know.

WILLIAM

Don't tell me, more good news!

MYGANOS

We have been watching your planet since the beginning of time. I have been in observance of it for the past 800 years. We have seen your species evolve dramatically through normal evolution and the Forger's will. From primordial amino acid pools to Homo Sapiens with Rigelian gene infusion, our purpose was to map your different races' evolution so we could identify when each of your moments of conception would take place. We did so successfully. While your cellular replication was occurring in your mother's womb, we surreptitiously intervened adding gene traits to enhance strength, intelligence, endurance, intellectual capabilities and reflex accuracy. You may see yourselves as normal humans but you and your offspring are an improved branch. You are a superior form of human beings, the equivalent of another one to 200 years of your own species' normal evolution.

YURIKO covers her face crying.

RAISE

(Irritated)

Hush woman!

Addressing WILLIAM and pointing at RAISE with his thumb.

RICK

Is this guy mister sensitivity or what!? I...I don't know about anybody else, but I'm scared shitless and I, ah, would like to go home now, thank you.

MYGANOS

(Warmly)

First, please let me finish. We have an Earth month before we reach our first destination. During that period, you will be trained, enhancing your fighting skills, improving your survival rate. You may return home if you wish and the Conclave will do it's best to stop this menace. If we should fail, this immense ship of destruction will reach Earth in ten of your years on this mark.

There is an uncomfortable moment of silence. YURIKO has grown silent and contemplative.

MYGANOS (CONT'D)

Ninety percent of the space faring races coexist in the same time frame. We do so by traveling through what you call singularities or black holes.

RAISE

That's impossible!

MYGANOS

It would be for someone with limited technology and primitive concepts in physics, doctor Raise. Death Storm has already passed a singularity that has brought it to a nearby space sector fully functional and deadly.

(MORE)

MYGANOS (CONT'D)

At present trajectory it will reach a singularity that would place it within Earth's solar system in 10 years. Our duty is to protect all the worlds in its path. Even the unhabited ones. The disruption of a planetary orbit is often enough to make an entire solar system break apart. We were forced to destroy a sol that went adrift after one of it's primary balance planets was destroyed by Death Storm. Destroying stars is considered a sin by some sentient life forms. We had no choice.

(Pause)

If the mission is successful, you will be returned to exactly the same place and point in time you were taken with no recollection of the events you have undergone. No one will have noticed your absence.

TATIANA

(Grimly)

What happens if ve die?

MYGANOS

(Sadly)

Replicated or repaired bodies will be sent to Earth showing death by natural causes.

TATIANA

(Very angry)

You altered our D N A! Vhat gives you the right to play vit our lives this way!

MYGANOS

With so many lives lost, cut short of their evolutionary patterns, we had no choice.

Another entity comes into the classroom bringing a golden silk-like shirt. It floats toward WILLIAM. He leans back into the sofa trying to evade it, but in a flash of light it places the shirt on him.

WILLIAM

(Nervous)

Thank you.

ENTITY

(Feminine voice)

I believe the cordial response is you are welcome.

WILLIAM

I was in Desert Storm. Does anyone else here have military training or experience?

TATIANA

I fought in Aphganistan. My rank is captain. I'm a fighter pilot.

WILLIAM

(Looking around)

A month may not be enough time. Besides, I have to count myself out. I can't go.

WILLIAM looks sad and turns away.

RAISE

If figures! You people will never amount to a hill of beans.

RICK

Excuse me! Do I detect some bigot genes in you?

RAISE

America is for the Americans, Spic!

RICK

(Sarcastically)

Shit, they're giving everything back to the Indians and nobody told me! Besides we spics were here before your Mayflower even got here.

WILLIAM

(Ignoring the dispute)
During Desert Storm I was exposed to some sort of an agent which makes me produce excess red blood cells. So far I've been able to manage it. But recently,

(Pause)

I've begun to feel weakness. I...

There is an uncomfortable moment of silence.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

I might grow weak when I'm needed the most. I...

MYGANOS

Mister Fleming, that has been corrected.

WILLIAM

What do you mean, it has been corrected?

MYGANOS

We identified the pathogen, isolated and eradicated it from your body.

YURIKO

(Enthusiastically)

Wait a minute! You have that kind of medical knowledge? You have to bring this back to earth. You have to, to....

MYGANOS

We cannot intervene.

YURIKO

You didn't seem to have that problem when it came to altering our genetic structure!

MYGANOS

As terrible as it sounds, Doctor Gates, we cannot intervene in this respect.

RAISE looks amazed at the mentioning of her title.

MYGANOS (CONT'D)

Your species is alarmingly progressing toward over-population and you are aware of the possible consequences of this. Your world still has poverty, starvation, religious and socio political situations beyond your control and the only reason for this is primitive religious practices, ignorance and greed.

(MORE)

MYGANOS (CONT'D)

Imagine the impact your world would receive if life expectancy were to double because of us sharing medical knowledge with your species. The is also a factor to consider. Were we to release medical information of this nature would be against the Conclave's main edict. We dared to challenge this edict to a certain point.

TATIANA

You say this so cold, so distant!

MYGANOS

On the contrary, it is practical. What distresses us as a species isn't your mortality rate. It's the negative things you do to yourselves and your environment for strict monetary gain. Without taking in consideration the impact and it's consequences in the future.

WILLIAM (O.S.)

(Crying)

Jesus Christ, I'm cured. Thank you Jesus.

TATIANA stands and goes to comfort him.

RICK

What if we decide not to cooperate unless you give us medical knowledge?

MYGANOS

Then your world will die, without a chance, in ten years.

RICK

Isn't your world in as much deep shit as ours?

MYGANOS

My world was destroyed one thousand three hundred and sixty-six Earth years ago, which was one Earth year after my day of birth. YURIKO

(Nodding toward TATIANA)
This may seem stupid, but I noticed she was given a blouse. Why didn't I get one?

MYGANOS

We found a lump of cellular tissue replicating abnormally on your left mammary gland.

YURIKO

Yes, I've been aware of for quite some time now. It had metastasized. It is inoperable. The prognosis was that I had a month to live.

She looks down sadly at her hands in her lap.

MYGANOS

We determined it to be an erratic cellular instruction within a specific cluster. We have made the necessary corrections. Normal cellular replication has been reinstated. This episode will never reoccur in you in your lifetime.

RICK

If we were altered to be genetically superior, then you guys really screwed up a lot didn't you?

MYGANOS

That is not correct. The problems with your genetic coding are related to the diseases caused by atmospheric contaminants, global warming, and increasing levels of background radiation. Your species has caused more genetic mutations by contamination than your natural evolution has done in the last five thousand years.

RAISE

MYGANOS, if you let me...
(Moving toward MYGANOS)
We can go back to Earth and I'll
help you pick up the best that
Earth has to offer.

RICK

Some of the good o'l boys, eh Doc?

RAISE

Shut up! Just shut up you stupid Spic!

RICK

(Taking a fighting stance)
Fuck you man! Why don't you make
me!

RAISE

(Turning to MYGANOS)
Listen, with these people, Earth
and all the other worlds don't
stand a chance!

MYGANOS

Mister RAISE, perhaps you haven't been listening.

TATIANA moves toward the sofa but doesn't sit. WILLIAM moves closer to MYGANOS.

WILLIAM

(Now collected)

We obviously have differences within the team. If we don't learn to work together I don't foresee this as anything but a suicide mission.

(Turning to RAISE)

In order for us to survive, we must learn to trust and depend on each other. I got your back, you got mine! Do you honestly think that at any given moment you will protect me or any of us?

RAISE

I...I...

WILLIAM

What's your name?

RAISE

(Arrogant)

Doctor Jonathan Sebastian RAISE.

WILLIAM

(Pointing a finger at RAISE)
(MORE)

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

Perhaps, Mister RAISE, you should consider going back!

YURIKO

I tend to agree.

RICK

Here here!

TATIANA

I agree! You're out of here!

MYGANOS

Your appointed leaders are Mister WILLIAM Fleming and Miss TATIANA Miroslava. If you can't accept the fact that you will be working closely together with different races from your own planet, we will arrange your passage back to Earth.

RAISE

What?! You can't do this to me! This is an opportunity of a lifetime!

WILLIAM

(Angry)

It's your call Mr. RAISE! Can you deal with it? We are going to millions of miles from Earth, facing death, and can really do without all this racial bullshit!

RAISE

(Showing defeat)
I...I can deal with it.

CUT TO:

EXT. STAR FILLED SPACE NEAR THE DEATH STORM WARSHIP

An assortment of alien ships are attacking a huge whale-like looking black ship with red details. As each squadron approaches, they fire energy blasts. The engines of the ships flicker on and off within proximity due to power failure.

CUT TO:

INT. STUDY CHAMBER WITHIN THE SHIP

The team stands around the circular table looking the very solid hologram of the chaotic scene of the Death Storm ship under attack.

WILLIAM

What's the strategy for getting into that thing?

MYGANOS

There is a large cave-like entrance on its bow. This thing tends to absorbs select matter from the planets it destroys.

WILLIAM

Straight into the lion's mouth!

MYGANOS

Yes, I suppose so. If I understand the metaphor correctly.

RAISE

(Addressing RICK)

You scared?

RICK

Sure. Anybody in their right mind would be.

RAISE

(Sarcastically)

I'm surprised you feel anything at all then.

RICK

(Irritated)

Hey man, you don't know me and let's just keep it that way, okay!?

WILLIAM

On that note, we need some background info from each other so we can understand and support one another better. MYGANOS, would you excuse us alone for a bit?

WILLIAM moves toward a round table away from the hologram. The rest of the team walks around the hologram following WILLIAM.

MYGANOS

Our first stop will be the Galactic conclave. I believe you also deal with politics in your home world. We have such things out here as well. I will be at the command deck. To summon me simply call out my name.

MYGANOS moves toward a white wall and disappears through it.

WILLIAM

Let's start with you RAISE. Then we'll go clockwise.

RAISE

I have a Ph D in Physics from Georgia Tech University. I was born and raised in Yessup, Georgia fifty two years ago. I always had a natural disposition for sports, especially boxing, I was Golden Gloves while in college. My wife passed away 5 years ago. I have a younger brother and sister. My nephews and nieces are grown and have family of their own.

TATIANA

I am TATIANA Pablova Miroslava, test pilot for the Russian government, I am a veteran of Aphganistan and a degree in Electronics. My parents are well in Leningrad. I have 2 sisters. I'm, how you say, single. No children.

YURIKO

My name is YURIKO Tetzuro Gates, medical physician and thoracic surgeon. I was born and raised in Boston. My father is industrialist Yamato Tetzuro and my mother is actress Melissa Gates. I'm a gold medal winner in the 2004 Olympics for archery.

RICK

(Stunned)

You're Melissa Gates' daughter? I've seen all her movies!

YURIKO smiles and slightly bows.

RICK (CONT'D)

My name is Ricardo Del Valle. I am a computer programmer analyst, born in Manhattan and raised in Chicago. I don't a have a gold medal but I've pretty much had to fend for myself since childhood. Let's just say I'm very skilled in hand to hand combat and weapons. I'm divorced. No children. My parents passed away a couple of years ago. I have two younger half sisters, Patty and Mimi.

WILLIAM

As you all know, I am WILLIAM Dale Fleming. I'm a civil engineer and run my own business in New York city. I was born in Alabama in extreme poverty. I joined the service at eighteen and achieved the rank of Captain. I served during Desert Storm. After my tour of duty, I went back to college and finished my post graduate degree. I'm a widow. I have 3 brothers and two sisters. My parents still live in Alabama. I stay in contact with them.

(Pauses)

So we all have family back home and a lot to fight for. As a team we have a decision to make. We go back home and wait and see what happens ten years from now. Or engage this thing head on. In ten years I don't think we'll have nukes that can deal with that thing. If we go back home and tell this to anyone no one is going to take us seriously. They'll say we're a cult or something. I need to know that everyone is committed to this effort. I know I am! It's pretty much do or die. What do you all say?

He looks around the room.

RICK

What do I got to loose.

RAISE

(With disdain)

As I said before, this is an opportunity of a lifetime. I'm not going to pass on it.

YURIKO

I-I. Of course I'm in.

TATIANA

Da. I have no question on what needs to be done. I'm in.

RAISE

I'll be frank. I have concerns about our team capabilities under these strange conditions. We just met and...

WILLIAM

They did say we'll have a month to bring it all together. I'm surprised we've adapted so well to these extremely odd circumstances.

YURIKO

I have a theory about that. It seems that we are all fairly adventurous to begin with. It's probably part of our genetic enhancement.

RAISE

Like the famous callousness of the Kennedys I suppose. Yet you seem to be the most frightened one of all of us all the time.

RICK

Hey man! Back off!

YURIKO

Fear is a natural reaction mister Raise.

RAISE

(With pompous dignity)
I'm just voicing my concerns. As
for me backing off I don't think
you are the man that can get that
done!

RICK

(Irritated)

Well if you ever need a bitch slapping let me know.

RAISE

And I would love to wipe that smirk off your face my Latino friend.

RICK

It's a date doc oc. When would you like my foot up your ass?

YURIKO

Gentlemen please! The testosterone is making me ill!

TATIANA

No, YURIKO! I velieve in this instance we may learn something from this stupidity.

WILLIAM

I tend to agree. Tomorrow at midday. I understand they have a training room designed for us. If you both get it out of your system we won't have to hear it anymore. For now I've asked MYGANOS for audiovisual materials concerning our first stop. We don't want to freak out looking at weird creatures in the conclave. We'd look like amateur mercenaries. Study them in your bedrooms before you sleep tonight okay?

The team members stand to leave and I are guided by entities to their rooms.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

TATIANA, may I speak with you?

TATIANA

Yes?

WILLIAM moves over to the chair next to TATIANA.

WILLIAM

I don't think our teammates may have the guts to do what needs to be done.

(MORE)

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

To be honest, this exchange of blows will be a good test of character for RICK and RAISE. I'm more interested in their emotional background than their family tree. What do you think?

TATIANA

Unlike you and me these people are not soldiers. MYGANOS' people may be masters of genetic manipulation, but perhaps they are not so good judge of characters. These people are, how you say, desk jockeys. The spirit may be there but their conditioning vill take time. Perhaps more time than ve have.

WILLIAM

We can't carry all of them in combat. They must learn to carry their own weight. We might be the leaders but each one of us has an important part to play according to the vision of that oracle thing. Let's get some sleep and subliminal conditioning and see what happens tomorrow.

TATIANA stands and leaves the room. WILLIAM reclines in his chair and interlaces his fingers behind his head thinking.

CUT TO:

INT. TRAINING SHIP - NEXT DAY

Alien and familiar exercise equipment is seen in the back-ground. In the center lies a large exercise mat. WILLIAM and TATIANA move toward it. They are all wearing similar exercise gear. RAISE is seen phasing through the wall and into the room. He is dressed in boxing trunks and a tank top.

Two yellow boxing gloves hang by their laces over his shoulder. He looks at WILLIAM and TATIANA.

RAISE

(Arrogant)

Where is RICK? Why am I not surprised? That wet back is not going to show!

RICK

S'cuse me? I'm Puerto Rican! Born in US territory with American citizenship! Of course an ignorant dick head like you probably doesn't even know that Puerto Rico is a U S territory. I am not a wet back! After I beat the shit out of you, I'd like to add that those folks on the Mayflower weren't wet backs either. They were just soaked all over!

RAISE

Shut up, asshole! And what's with the Kung Fu get up? This is a boxing match!

RICK

Hey, I never agreed to boxing!
I'll fight on my own terms. I
didn't pick this fight, you did! I
don't know what bug crawled up your
ass when you met me, or Hispanics,
or all non-whites in general, but I
believe this may prove to be a
learning experience for you.

RAISE

WILLIAM, this is not correct! We must agree on...

WILLIAM

Sorry RAISE. My money's on RICK!

RAISE

Oh, is that right?! Okay, okay. We'll play it your way.

RAISE throws his gloves on the floor.

RAISE (CONT'D)

Anything goes!

TATIANA

So much hatred, Mister RAISE! What ever happened to you?

RAISE looks at TATIANA and begins warming up with some stretches.

RAISE

I'm going to enjoy this!

RICK

Hey with all your hot air you could get a job in Albuquerque, you know, blowing up those hot air balloons.

RAISE

(Determined)

Get in the circle, boy! You're gonna get a whippin.

RAISE assumes a boxing stance. RICK relaxes into a fighting stance. RAISE throws a haymaker which RICK evades. RAISE throws a sequence of punches all deflected by RICK. RAISE throws another exchange and this time lands a punch on RICK's stomach which doesn't faze him.

RICK

Nice punch you got there RAISE. I haven't done bare knuckle in a while.

RAISE

Mister RAISE to you boy!

More punches are thrown by RAISE and all are blocked by RICK. In the background, YURIKO comes in through a wall with a multi-screened object floating by her side. RICK sees YURIKO and the object out of the corner of his eye and gets distracted. A punch lands on his jaw knocking him to the mat dazed. RICK jumps back to his feet.

RAISE (CONT'D)

Welcome to the real world boy! Your race is inferior and always will be!

RICK jumps to his feet. RAISE throws a punch. RICK hooks it and hits the elbow. A snapping sound is heard.

RAISE (CONT'D)

(In pain)

Argh!

RICK drives a knee into RAISE's mid-section. RAISE staggers back holding his arm. RICK side kicks RAISE on the side and another snapping sound is heard. RAISE is flung through the air several feet and drops to the mat. RICK continues to pursue.

YURIKO

Stop! Stop! You're going to kill him!

YURIKO tackles RICK to the matt as WILLIAM and TATIANA move in.

RICK

(Jumps to his feet angry)
Shit! Shit!

RICK turns away upset and exits the room. WILLIAM, TATIANA and YURIKO speed toward RAISE.

YURIKO

What the hell is going on here?!

WILLIAM

Raise pushed and RICK pushed back a little too hard.

RAISE

(In pain)

Oh my ribs! That damn Spic tried to kill me!

YURIKO

(Pointing at the floating object near her)
Well this is as good a time as any to test this thing!

WILLIAM

TATIANA, please see to RICK. He's got some explaining to do.

RAISE

Argh!

TATIANA gets up from her crouching position and walks through the same wall RICK exited.

INT. - RICK'S STUDIO/BEDROOM

Practical yet beautiful furniture is seen in the background as well as a full-size bed.

TATIANA

Okay! How you say, splash it!?

RICK

(Looking at his hands and then at TATIANA)
Say what?

TATIANA

You know the vords...

RICK

You mean "spill it".

TATIANA

Vhatever. You did not exercise control. You could have killed him. Vhat's eating you?

RICK

It's RAISE. You don't know how hard it is having to prove to everyone that you're not some kind of low life! Sometimes I feel like I should have my resume printed on my shirt just to let everyone know I had a good upbringing and I'm not a criminal. And even then, people like him still make me feel like shit.

TATIANA

Never the less, you'll have to learn to either tolerate him or ignore him. His knowledge is important to our mission. Besides, you do not have to prove anything to anyone except yourself.

RICK

Yeah, I know all that but it still stings. Maybe RAISE has learned that it's best to stay out of my face.

INT. - TRAINING ROOM

MYGANOS and PLYMAR arrive in the exercise room with a floating stretcher. Another entity moves near WILLIAM and YURIKO. RAISE floats up from the floor and MYGANOS moves the stretcher under him.

MYGANOS

Is everything all right?

WILLIAM

(Trying to look casual)
Oh yeah! Everything is fine! You know, just us primitive kids playing.

MYGANOS

(Shocked)

I don't understand. This is how you play?

YURIKO

Eh, yeah...sure. This is how we play. Can you excuse us please?

CUT TO:

INT. - LIGHT OF HOPE - EXERCISE ROOM - 24 HOURS LATER

The team members are exercising. RAISE is seen wearing an arm and rib brace with lights flashing. He is jogging lightly on a treadmill. TATIANA and WILLIAM are sharing a weights bench. RICK is on the exercise mat practicing martial arts moves. YURIKO is working on a floating multi-monitored object. From time to time, the team members glance at her and the object of her attention.

YURIKO

Okay folks. If I may have your attention please?!

The team gathers around YURIKO and the strange object.

YURIKO (CONT'D)

My intention, before that little wrestlemania yesterday, was to introduce you to the Tobe Unit. MYGANOS introduced me to it the night before last. It is a microprocessing computer responsible for telemetry readings and our team's protection. It also is sentient and has its own personality.

TOBE

Greetings Earthlings.

Everyone giggles. From a slot on its side, five thumb-sized objects fly out.

YURIKO

(Smiling)

That greeting was my idea. Those little things are data input drones. They act like bees to a hive. The fly, don't ask me how, independently. They will monitor our body temperature, heart rate, and blood pressure.

(MORE)

YURIKO (CONT'D)

I call them bees for a lack of a better term. They are now actively collecting your physiological data or telemetry. You must learn to ignore them. RICK, MYGANOS instructed me in the medical diagnostics side of this thing and you are to learn its design and programming capabilities.

WILLIAM

Impressive YURIKO! I've got another task for you also RICK.

RICK

Shoot!

WILLIAM

MYGANOS has made available to us matter disruptor weapons that are more commonly used around these parts of the galaxy. I'd like for you to design more personalized weapons for us to use. Weapons that we all will feel more comfortable with.

YURIKO

Excuse me! I'm a doctor, not a soldier. I will not carry a weapon.

WILLIAM

There are no exceptions. You will carry...

YURIKO

(Angry)

I will not!

WILLIAM

You will or you'll find your ass on your way back home.

RICK

(Awkward)

I'll gather specs from you guys after our work out.

WILLIAM

YURIKO, I need to talk to you.

RICK

(In a low voice to YURIKO) You in trouble.

WILLIAM and YURIKO move to the side and sit on a white couch. The bees float around taking readings.

YURIKO

Look, I'm sorry but I have my reasons.

WILLIAM

That's not what I called you over for, but let's hear it.

YURIKO

I was raised in the lap of luxury. I admit that freely. But bad things still happen. My brother was paralyzed because he was shot during a bank robbery in Boston. Since then I've been opposing weapons of all kinds. Once we are on that ship, I'm going to try to reason with whatever beings are in there, but I won't shoot anybody or anything.

WILLIAM

My first option is always to try to communicate, but let me tell you a little story. When I was growing up, I lived on my grandfather's farm for awhile. One day I went out to feed the chickens and noticed that some cockroaches where coming out of some loose boards in the floor of the chicken coop. The chickens where having a field day eating them. Have you ever tried to reason with a chicken?

YURIKO

I find your analogy simplistic and of little value. Whatever beings created that ship, they are surely more intelligent than chickens!

WILLIAM

That's probably true, but if to them we are no more than cockroaches, we could be in a hell of a lot of trouble.

(MORE)

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

Growing up in Bama taught me a lot. I know how it feels to be treated like a dirt bag. In this place we are not Oriental, Hispanic, black or white. We are the first contact with these beings on equal terms, not as laboratory rats, and we have to be at our very best. When we reach the Galactic Conclave, we will be representing Earth to a larger community. We must come across as assertive intelligent creatures that will not throw the first punch but also won't let ourselves be treated like cockroaches. For you to bear arms means that you'll be protecting us as a physician and as a warrior! You really don't have a choice in this YURIKO. I'm sorry.

They pause for a moment.

WILLIAM (CONT'D) Will RAISE be all right?

YURIKO

Ah, yes, yes. With the medical knowledge these people have, they can cure or mend just about anything in a couple hours. That's another thing that bugs me. They want us to do their killing for them in exchange for nothing. Accepting the fact that they won't provide us with the cure for AIDS or cancer makes me feel like we got a raw deal.

WILLIAM

Right now it looks like we've compromised but I haven't given up trying to obtain this information through subterfuge.

YURIKO

Well it sucks! They should give it to us willingly!

She stands and leaves.

INT. - STUDY ROOM - THREE EARTH WEEKS LATER

The team members are sitting on futuristic reclining chairs with monitors in a circle. The chairs are facing inward. The team members are interacting with the monitors. The bees are each floating by their assigned team member. The TOBE unit is floating steadily in the center of the monitors.

VOICE ON SPEAKER (O.S.) Arriving at the main station of the Galactic Conclave in ten Earth minutes. Mark.

MYGANOS phases through a wall and floats near TATIANA.

TATIANA

The strategy seems simple for insertion. Vhy hasn't anybody else tried it?

MYGANOS

They have and died in the process. Death Storm is sensitive to electron displacements. Once detected, it targeted the teams and destroyed them. It also has the capability of rendering defense shields inoperative.

YURIKO

Why do you think we can make it? Even our thought processes carry low levels of electron displacement.

MYGANOS

Yes, that is true. That is why the others failed. We believe you can get through because you are more primitive in your evolutionary scale even if we speeded up the team's evolutionary rate. Your thought processes carry very little electron displacement. Your minds are much too primitive for the Death Storm's sensory grid.

RICK

(Overhearing the conversation) telling you, this "w

I'm telling you, this "we believe" thing doesn't give me a warm and fuzzy.

RAISE

So, why don't you go back home, boy?

RICK

What! And miss seeing you shit in your pants at the first sign of trouble?!

WILLIAM

(Impatient)

Knock it off guys!

VOICE ON SPEAKER (O.S.)

We are within the Conclave's security perimeter. Docking in five minutes.

MYGANOS

Please follow me. I think you will enjoy this.

The group follows MYGANOS through wide ivory halls. Pressure sealed air locked doors opens revealing the large cockpit-like room with many entities, similar to MYGANOS, floating about working different ship controls. Everybody leans on the main view port. Hundreds of alien ships of all shapes and sizes are flying in and out of an immense glass domed structure.

VOICE ON SPEAKER (O.S.)

Warning! We are penetrating an electromagnetic atmospheric shield. Be advised of a slight tremor.

The ship shakes slightly.

RAISE

(Low voice)

A dream come true!

VOICE ON SPEAKER (O.S.)

Beginning docking procedures.

EXT. LIGHT OF HOPE TRAINING SHIP

The vessel aligns itself with one of the horizontal structures. It slowly approaches sideways until it makes contact with the platform.

WILLIAM (O.S.)

Tobe, you and the bees will stay on board here!

TOBE (O.S.)

May I inquire as to the reason why?

WILLIAM (O.S.)

I don't want them to see us in the Conclave with our baby-sitter.

TOBE (O.S.)

I fail to understand your statement.

WILLIAM (O.S.)

I'll explain later.

The group exits the ship and walk out onto a walkway.

RICK

Everybody remember where we parked.

RAISE

Don't you take anything seriously!

RICK

You deal with stress your way. I deal with stress my way.

INT. CONCLAVE'S CENTRAL OPERATIONS

A structure similar in many ways to the Roman coliseum becomes increasingly larger as they approach it. They arrive at huge doors guarded by large sentries, gray colored and dressed in metallic blue uniforms. The sentries open the doors and look at the group tilting their heads downward.

PRUVIAN

(Sarcastically)

That's the galaxy's best hope?! (Chuckling)

MYGANOS

(Addressing the group while floating)

Ignore them! Their false pride are as big as their bodies.

A second set of large doors open and the group enters the center of the dark coliseum. On multi-leveled podiums, are thousands of alien species sitting under a star domed sky. A profound and intimidating silence is felt.

MYGANOS proceeds to the center of the arena. The group remains by the now closed doors.

MYGANOS (CONT'D)

These are the warriors prophesied by the Oracle of Ecklar, with whom I am pleased.

CROWD'S RESPONSE

Bouje! Bouje! Bouje!

MYGANOS

They have trained hard and will continue to do so until they face the threat of the Death Storm.

CROWD'S RESPONSE

Bouje!

EGGMOS (O.S.)

(Angry)

Enough!

A beam of light appears from above and a large, bulky, gray colored figure, dressed in metallic blue and wearing a cape with symbols of rank, steps into the arena.

VOICE IN CHAMBER

The representative of the Pruvian Protectorate, Eggmos!

EGGMOS

These vile and primitive creatures shame us with their presence. They have a stench of death. Death they cause one another for symbols in paper or stupor inducing drugs. Things that have no value. How successful do you hope them to be? For in their ignorance, they choose to fear death when there are more horrible things to fear! They...

MYGANOS

(Interrupting)

We were all once, one way or another, as simple as they are now! Our father's fathers feared darkness, shadows and death. But have we not grown?! Have we not evolved?! Their anger, their tenacity is what we need now.

(MORE)

MYGANOS (CONT'D)

Our spears have gone blunt because we now lack the skills to use them. Our souls have become gentle and placid. It is their anger, their fury we desperately need.

EGGMOS (O.S.)

Nonsense! We are superior!

RICK

(In a low voice to William)

Hey, I thought this was a done deal. That this was our gig.

EGGMOS (O.S.)

If you have so much faith in your genetically engineered oddities then we request a test of virtue.

MYGANOS (O.S.)

This view is interrupting their training.

RAISE

Shut up.

RICK

Kiss my ass cracker!

EGGMOS (O.S.)

How do you train for death MYGANOS?!

WILLIAM

Shut up both of you, now!

EGGMOS

You are an immortal Myganos. You and your kind leave this plane of existence at will, but what about them?! Are they willing to sacrifice themselves for beings they don't know?! Their greed and fear, I assure you, will destroy them! They must be tested!

A booming voice is heard through the coliseum.

VOICE IN CHAMBER (O.S.)

The request for a test of virtue will be honored!

MYGANOS

(Objecting)

Master of chamber ... ?!

VOICE IN CHAMBER (O.S.)

A test has already been designed. You may speak with your team of warriors if you wish MYGANOS.

MYGANOS flies toward the team. Eggmos is lifted on a hexagonal platform upward by a column of glass. The floor of the arena splits. Two irregular cylindrical glass structures rise from beneath the floor on platforms. The structures lay horizontally with an object in the spherical center of each.

TATIANA

(Addressing MYGANOS)

Is there something you forgot to tell us?

MYGANOS

No. It's the Pruvians. They are at times, bothersome. You must choose among you who will engage in this test. It requires speed and intellect.

WILLIAM

What's the objective?

MYGANOS

To remove the sphere from its docking station and escape the fuse activation field before the sphere explodes.

WILLIAM

(Looking at his team)
It's between TATIANA and me!

RICK

Hey! I'm game!

YURIKO

So am I!

WILLIAM

I know, but RICK, you're not fast at running. RAISE is older and has less stamina. YURIKO, is fast but that sphere looks too heavy for you. I'm going to do this.

TATIANA

I'm the second in command! By rank I must take the risk. As lead commander, you must be protected as much as possible.

WILLIAM

Not this time.

TATIANA

(Smiling slightly)
No buts! This is a quasi-military operation so we must observe the

chain of command in risk order!

WILLIAM

As I said before, not this time.

WILLIAM and TATIANA shake hands, she pulls him close and kisses him on the cheek which catches him off guard.

TATIANA

You are a stubborn man!

VOICE IN CHAMBER (O.S.)

The Conclave has chosen Myros to represent them in the test of virtue. Contestants, please enter the test area.

A nimble, lizard-like creature steps into the light near one of the cylindrical outlets as does WILLIAM.

WILLIAM

MYGANOS, what is that?!

MYGANOS

That is Myros. If he takes his sphere out the other outlet before you do, a thirty Earth second detonation device on your sphere will become active. You must leave its premises before it explodes.

WILLIAM

What if I take mine out first?

MYGANOS

The same conditions apply for him. I will use telepathy to encode your mind with instructions on how to release the sphere from its docking station. The rest is up to you.

A beam of light emanates from MYGANOS and touches WILLIAM's forehead.

VOICE IN CHAMBER (0.S.) Participants, take your positions.

The lizard smiles at WILLIAM and waves briefly from its cylinder's outlet.

WILLIAM

(Low voice to herself) What have we gotten ourselves into?

VOICE IN CHAMBER (O.S.)

Begin!

A red light ignites overhead and a loud humming sound is heard. Both WILLIAM and MYROS run into their transparent cylinders. MYROS reaches the sphere before WILLIAM. The sphere, metallic with multiple light gauges, is fastened to the sphere glass wall that surrounds it. MYROS starts removing fiber optic-like cables. WILLIAM reaches his sphere and starts to do the same. The lizard frees his sphere securing part of the cables with its arms and starts running with it toward the cylindrical exit. WILLIAM finishes freeing his sphere but notices one of the cables is giving off sparks of electricity. He removes his shirt and wraps the shirt around the cable's end and tightly secures it on to one of the sphere's grooves. While transporting the sphere, the same cable comes loose from the MYRO's grip and touches one of its webbed feet shocking him. He drops the sphere, falls and starts convulsing. WILLIAM lifts his sphere and runs through the exit. He reaches the exit and wins. The crowd sits silently. He looks around the coliseum and then at his team with a questioning look. He notices the arena MYRO's predicament and rushes through the cylindrical exit of MYRO's tube. He pushes his sphere away, lifts MYROS carrying it him out of danger. The sphere exudes a red smoke, gives off a loud alarm and then goes silent. WILLIAM reaches the outside pulling MYROS confused and expecting an explosion. MYROS comes to his feet turns toward her and expresses appreciation.

CROWD'S RESPONSE

Bouje! Bouje! Bouje!

INT. LIGHT OF HOPE - TRAINING ROOM

TATIANA

So, it vas all a hoax! The sphere vasn't ever going to explode. Vhy do this?!

MYGANOS

Tests of virtue can take many forms. This one proved to be about compassion and self sacrifice.

TATIANA

That vas the real test?

YURIKO

That creature seemed agile and intelligent enough to infiltrate the DEATH STORM. Why didn't the Conclave choose them instead of us?

MYGANOS

Myros is a Klatecian. They are in the midst of a theological revolution. They might not be able to kill to reach the final goal of stopping the DEATH STORM.

YURIKO

I got bad news for you I don't intend to kill anything. I'm a physician not an assassin!

MYGANOS

That is your role. Your associates have their roles as well and their lives must be protected even if killing is necessary.

RAISE

I don't think I can kill anyone either.

RICK

I don't know about that! Your hatred for anything that doesn't measure up to your standards says otherwise.

RAISE

What do you know Puerto Rican!?

RICK

And proud of it!

WILLIAM

Enough! Let's check our weapons detail.

WILLIAM moves away from the group and points a device to a large soft edged box. It rolls forward smoothly toward them. Two panels slide open forming tables. On one side there are uniforms, on the other are weapons.

INT. LIGHT OF HOPE - TRAINING ROOM

TATIANA adjusts a bar control on a weight lifting bench. On one end, in blue, can be read 250 pounds. WILLIAM lays down on the bench next to her and begins his bench presses.

TATIANA

How many?

WILLIAM

Just four sets. I'm a little tired today.

TATIANA

You look worried. Vhat's in your mind?

WILLIAM

(Pausing from his exercises) What's in your mind?

TATIANA

I asked first.

WILLIAM

No. Tatiana, you said what's in your mind. It's what's on your mind.

TATIANA

Okay! Vhat's on your mind?

WILLIAM

How we hear everything in English when I know for a fact some of these creatures don't even talk. Not like we do. Not like we know speech to be.

TATIANA

It must be part of our subliminal conditioning. Yuriko mentioned it explains our emotional adaptability to this very odd situation.

WILLIAM

(Smiling)

I suppose so. Remind me to ask MYGANOS about it when we see him. We don't want to end up doing something against our will or instincts.

WILLIAM gets up and adjusts the dials on his weight bar. Now read 110 pounds. TATIANA lays down and begins to bench press.

TATIANA

Tell me moi drug, do you find me attractive?

WILLIAM

(Surprised)

Say what?!

TATIANA

Vell, we both choose the same exercise routines. So for the most part, we have been working out together for a month and I was wondering.

WILLIAM

I guess, TATIANA, my mind is set to the task at hand. My frame of mind is a, well, in battle mode. Is sort of comes with military conditioning. We tend to become emotionally detached.

TATIANA

I know. You were a soldier I still am. Remember.

WILLIAM

Right, Well, you might not believe this since it's obvious I'm a stud, but, it's been so long since I've been with a woman after my wife passed away. I guess I'm a little rusty.

TATIANA

I find that hard to believe. Vhat is a little rusty?

WILLIAM

I'm out of practice at flirting, at seducing and romancing. I remember I was good at it.

TATIANA

(Low voice)

I'm sure of it.

(Smiling flirting)
I think that is vhat is making me intrigued. Anyvay, about our private agenda. I tried to steal the cure of AIDS and cancer from their data banks, but failed.

WILLIAM

(Low voice)
As did RICK and I.

TATIANA

(Low voice)

Their, how you say, protocol, is very hard to break through.

WILLIAM

Actually, I think it's impossible. But YURIKO told me that our blood could be the key in developing cures for any number of diseases. She believes that it is vital that we survive this mission and get back to Earth from a simple medical point of view. It's all up to lady luck though once we get in that ship.

TATIANA

My original question is still unanswered.

WILLIAM

Well...yes, you are very attractive. Now let's get back to work, okay?

TATIANA

Just one more thing. Have you noticed a feeling of sadness surrounding RICK and YURIKO?

WILLIAM

Yes I have, now that you mention it. And sometimes I feel it around you too!

TATIANA averts her eyes from his.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, I didn't mean to pry.

TATIANA

It's okay.

(Pause)

During my tour of duty in Aphganistan, I vas captured and raped while in prison. It took me a long time for me to get over that. It took me even longer to be able to deal with my own sexuality. I felt dirty and hated men because of it for a long time. My father helped me get through those dark times.

WILLIAM

Boy, do I feel stupid!

TATIANA

No moi drug! Never you mind! I have overcome that problem. Besides getting to know your people is critical now that time is running short.

She adjusts a dial on one end of her weight bar to 260 pounds. She stands and places a knee on the bench and adjusts the dial on the other side of the bar. Her movements are smooth and sensual. WILLIAM is wiping his face and neck with a towel. He watches her buttocks and long legs and becomes sexually aroused. He lowers his arm holding the towel to just above his groin trying to conceal his excitement and look casual. TATIANA looks back notices the intention of his movements and smiles coyly. She straightens up and turns only inches away from his body. WILLIAM grips the towel even harder.

TATIANA (CONT'D)

Your turn moi drug!

WILLIAM

I, ah, need a little more rest from that last set. You go ahead.

TATIANA

(Sensually)

Are you sure?

WILLIAM

(Swallowing hard)

I thought women from Russia were more reserved and conservative.

TATIANA

Most of my college years vere in France. They teach you a different perspective on life.

(Pause)

I vill go get us some vater. Maybe it'll ease your tension a bit. Then again sex works for me.

WILLIAM

We gotta keep it professional for the time being.

She walks away sensually to go get water.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

(Low voice to himself)
Girl, no water will put out the

kind of heat I'm packin!

CUT TO:

EXT. STAR FILLED SPACE

The Death Storm warship is followed by the Light of Hope training ship. The Light of Hope is considerably smaller yet still great in size.

CUT TO:

INT. - LIGHT OF HOPE - LAST WEEK OF TRAINING

Entities fly about busier than usual all about the ship.

WILLIAM

Present distance Plymar?

PLYMAR

Five hundred kilometers off the starboard bow. In human terms.

MYGANOS

The Tobe unit is powering down. We will jump into hyper speed and come back into real space ahead of the Death Storm. Since it has reduced speed to target the next available solar system, this will be the best time for the incursion.

WILLIAM

When's that?

MYGANOS

In forty-five minutes.

WILLIAM

When will Death Storm reach the next solar system?

MYGANOS

In ten of your twenty-four-hour days.

TATIANA

How many lives are at stake?

MYGANOS

Three billion.

YURIKO

Ten days?! Isn't that cutting it a little too close?

MYGANOS

You weren't ready. Now you are.

CUT TO:

EXT. LIGHT OF HOPE'S CARGO BAY

Team members help each other suit up except for RAISE. RAISE struggles getting his suit on. They are dressing in NASA-like atmospheric suits.

MYGANOS

Your suits contain pressure dials and directional guidance systems of very low ion displacement. Your utility belt also contains a electromagnetic atmospheric field projector but it will need to be charged while in the incursion.

(MORE)

MYGANOS (CONT'D)

This acts as a redundant backup environmental suit and camouflage. Each suit has been programmed to take you to the entry point.

WILLIAM

RICK, you'll bring the Tobe unit. TATIANA, you carry the cannon. YURIKO, the med-kit.

RAISE

(Feeling left out)

What about me?

WILLIAM

All I need from you is to man your maser rifle and keep a sharp look out.

Each member secures their helmet and lowers a visor.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

We'll stay tight. Once inside, remember to look for the nearest power source to charge our equipment. Will we have breathable atmosphere inside that thing?

MYGANOS

Unknown.

TATIANA

Too bad you can't tell us much about the creatures that vuilt it.

MYGANOS

Peace treaties and neutrality zones, after the great war, limited the exchange of information.

CUT TO:

INT. LIGHT OF HOPE - AIRLOCK

The airlock door closes behind MYGANOS. Everyone stares at MYGANOS surprised. The outer airlock opens to reveal space. Everyone lines up and hooks their lifeline to each other. Suit thruster fire and the team moves forward into space toward their target. Speaking through the helmets communicator.

RICK

(Nervous)

I wonder why I thought MYGANOS needed air!

RAISE

He's mostly energy, you dunce. Why should he need air? Besides the Light of Hope was specifically created and design to sustain us primitive life forms.

TATIANA

Keep a sharp look out ahead!

YURIKO

How about giving Rick a break Raise? Fire is a form of energy and it can't exist in a vacuum.

RICK

Anybody got Dramamine?

WILLIAM

(Joking)

Chew it back, man! Chew it back!

RAISE

I told you he couldn't cut it!

The team enter the maw of an immense cave-like entry port of the Death Storm warship. They enter into total darkness.

TATTANA

Now vhat!

WILLIAM

These suits are programmed to take us in as far as one mile. Let's hope we see some light. Stay on your toes people!

TATIANA

How can ve? Ve are floating.

As they move forward, they reach a lit corridor. Gravity gradually comes into effect. WILLIAM removes a side arm from a holster and starts looking around. TATIANA also looks around and finds the source of the light. She kneels on the metallic floor. Without turning, she signals RICK to come close. RICK comes and places one knee on the ground.

He places the large duffle bag in front of him on the ground and pulls out the TOBE unit. From within the TOBE unit he extracts a hose-like cable and hands it to TATIANA.

TATIANA (CONT'D)

Let's hope this is some sort of electrolyte conduit substance MYGANOS said is most commonly used out here.

RICK

It sure looks like it. Be careful! The amperage on that thing is unpredictable. The unit will absorb only what it needs but a random spark can fry you!

RICK and TATIANA are surrounded by YURIKO, WILLIAM and RAISE in defensive and alert postures. TATIANA dips the cable into the transparent liquid and electronic flashes are seen flowing through the cable into the TOBE unit.

TOBE

Powering up. Initial management loading and artificial intelligence concluded.

(With feeling)

Ah, that's better.

WILLIAM

Okay RICK, you're the hacker here. Do your thing!

RICK

(Renewed confidence)

Tobe, start the multi-spectrum energy probe. Locate the direction of the strongest power source.

TOBE

Affirmative.

(Pause)

The strongest power source is an alpha wave pattern flowing through out this ship.

RICK

Alpha wave?

RAISE

Alpha waves are brain wave measurement parameters for higher levels of thought, you simpleton.

RICK

Pinpoint the origin of the source.

TOBE

Affirmative.

WILLIAM

RICK, take YURIKO's place but keep working on this. YURIKO, help TATIANA power up our weapons.

YURIKO

Got it!

The tunnels in which the team presently stands is dimly lit. The Tobe unit's thought processes emanate light in kaleidoscope fashion.

TOBE

Task is complete.

RICK

Launch the bee units. Engage antigravity.

TOBE

Affirmative.

RICK carefully lets go of the TOBE unit as it floats freely.

TATIANA

Ve are done here.

RICK

(Addressing the

Tobe unit)

Do we have breathable air here?

TOBE

Affirmative.

YURIKO

Good news folks! We can scrap the heavy suits.

RICK

I'm going to miss my astronaut diaper. I've become close to it.

YURIKO

Rick, that's sick.

RICK

Just kidding.

The team removes the bulky environment suit and are now wearing their team uniform. They pick up their weapons. YURIKO and RICK help each other with their weapons and equipment as do TATIANA and WILLIAM.

RAISE

Nobody helps me...fine! Just fine! I'll do it myself!

The group looks at him with disdain.

WILLIAM

You sow what you reap mister. We'll baby-sit you but you have to pick up after yourself.

RAISE

I don't need help from you anyway.

WILLIAM

You got a problem!

RICK

Don't bother man. Believe me...he's not worth it. (Looking at Raise)
Viejo mamao!

TOBE

The origin of alpha waves has been located.

RICK and WILLIAM exchange looks.

RICK

Say the word boss.

WILLIAM

Lead us to it Tobe.

The unit floats slowly deeper into the corridor. The team follows. They arrive at an entrance. The group stands in awe at the sight of the alien planetary landscape. Overhead n artificial sun floats under metallic heavens. They step onto land.

RICK

Looks like an EPCOT pavilion.

RATSE

Look!

Humanoid alien creatures sit around a fire quietly. A metallic object is seen protruding from their heads. TATIANA moves closer and holds WILLIAM by the arm.

TATIANA

(In low voice) Is that one of them?

WILLIAM

I don't think so.

YURIKO

Tobe, scan for brain wave activity.

TOBE

Affirmative.

(Pause)

Only elemental brain activity is present. Their thought process organ has been damaged or partially disabled.

The humanoid-like beings begin to stand side-by-side. They move slowly apart yet do not advance toward the team. WILLIAM signals everyone to stay back. He slowly moves toward them. From behind tall bushes a large, horrible looking creature jumps and grabs one of the beings and snaps its jaws around it's waist snapping him in two. WILLIAM jumps back out of reflex and draws his sidearm. He slowly backs up joining the team. The rest of the team have their weapons drawn and are visibly scared.

WILLIAM

What the hell is that?!

TATIANA aims her weapon to fire at the wounded humanoid. WILLIAM swiftly moves her weapon away from its target.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

He's already dead. Besides, look.

Many more creatures come into view surveying the remaining humanoid-like beings as if they were cattle.

TOBE

I have engaged a dense electromagnetic field in for our protection. (MORE)

TOBE (CONT'D)

Be advised, the predatory creatures' mass and estimated strength, will breach the field in less than five minutes on a given assault. You cannot fire within the protective perimeter.

WILLIAM

Noted!

A creature grabs a humanoid as another chooses the same one and a in a tug of war tear the humanoid apart. YURIKO winces in disgust.

YURIKO

(Low voice)

Let's get the hell out of here!

RICK

(Low voice)

I second that motion!

WILLIAM

(Low voice)

Approved!

RAISE

(Low voice)

Tobe, are you recording all this?

TOBE

(Low voice)

Affirmative. Be advised sensory bees have detected accelerated heart rates and perspiration on all team members.

RICK

(Low voice)

No shit Tobe.

RAISE

This is fascinating.

WILLIAM

Everybody starts moving back slowly.

RICK

(Low voice)

Is this the right way Tobe?

TOBE

Affirmative.

The creatures see the team and lurch after them.

WILLIAM

Run! Run!

The team runs together through the tundra which separates or flatten under the pressure of the magnetic shielding of the Tobe unit. The creatures bounce against the shielding.

RICK

(Gasping)

For the love of Christ, tell me there's a way out of here!

TOBE

(Flying ahead of RICK)
Affirmative. Sensors indicate a
different radiation signature
magnetic field frequency six point
five minutes from our present
position on this course and speed.
It could possibly be a gateway.

YURIKO

(Short breathed)

We can make it!

RAISE

(Addressing his bee) How's the field holding?

TOBE

(Relaying to everyone)
Not well. The partition of the
tundra and the creatures onslaught
are accelerating the drain on my
field capacitor.

WILLIAM

Great! Just great! RAISE, haul ass or you're dead meat.

WILLIAM grabs RAISE by one arm and pulls him to move faster.

YURIKO

Let's drop our weapons to lighten the load?!

WILLIAM

Negative! That's an order!

TATIANA

(Pulling on Yuriko)
You heard him! Move it Yuriko!

YURIKO

(Angry and screaming)
I'm not a soldier WILLIAM! I don't
have to obey your orders!

WILLIAM

You'll do as I say or I swear I'll personally feed you to one of those things!

YURIKO

Shit! I knew it! You're a crazy!

WILLIAM releases RAISE, kneels down facing the creatures and removes a strapped energy rifle. RAISE notices and starts slowing down.

WILLIAM

(Addressing RAISE)
Keep going! That's an order!

The shield phasing around him makes him shudder. He fires at one of the creatures and it drops to the ground mortally wounded. The other creatures reach the fallen comrade and start feeding on it. WILLIAM clenches a fist enjoying the success of his gambit.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

Yes!

WILLIAM stands, turns and runs to catch up with the team.

INT. NARROW CORRIDOR - CIRCULAR BLUISH COLOR

The team walks down a corridor.

TATIANA

(Addressing WILLIAM)
Are you all right? Did we lose them?

WILLIAM

I think so. I dropped one of them and the rest stopped to snack on their fallen one.

YURIKO

You took a big chance! I never thought that there actually was a fate worse than death. I'm sorry WILLIAM. You got us out of there. I won't question your orders again!

WILLIAM

I would appreciate that. It was pretty ugly back there.
 (Addressing Tobe)
Tobe, how much farther to the source of the alpha waves?

TOBE

Approximately two hundred eightyeight hours and fifteen minutes at our present speed.

WILLIAM

That's twelve twenty-four-hour days at this pace. That's too much time if we're going to save the people in the upcoming solar system. We must find a means of transportation in this hell hole.

The TOBE unit flies ahead of the team. RAISE swats at his bee, which is flying around his head.

RAISE

This damn thing is driving me crazy. It keeps getting in my way.

RICK

You can instruct it to stop doing that or have it rest on your pendant. You know that.

RAISE

(Addressing his bee) Stay out of my way! Get on the pendant.

RAISE'S BEE

Affirmative.

The bee monitoring device attaches itself to pendant on his neck chain.

INT. - ANOTHER TUNNEL

The team enters the tunnel where torn shattered buildings are seen. Around them is a large alien metropolitan city.

YURIKO

Why do you suppose all of this is here? It's horrible!

RAISE

(In awe)

It's a collection.

YURIKO

Excuse me?!

RAISE

It's like travel stamp collecting. Souvenirs.

WILLIAM

And, for the lack of a better word, the zombies?

RICK

Also part of the collection. Automatons. Like what you see at Disney World except instead of being mechanical, they're biological. At least that's what I suspect it might be.

RAISE

I don't think so. I think that they breed them for food for the larger creatures.

RICK moves a few steps away from the team.

TATIANA

So they take over their brains, tell them to have sex to replace those that die or are eaten, eat when their bodies are weak, and produce stool to eliminate waste. This is a nightmare. Sounds like the old Soviet Union.

RICK

(Excited and pointing)

Look!

The team turn in the direction while drawing their weapons.

RICK (CONT'D)

WILLIAM, gallo, you must have connections with the man upstairs.

TOBE

My sensors do not register the existence of any life forms above us or anywhere close to our present position.

RICK

It's a figure of speech Tobe.

TOBE

Explain this figure of speech please.

RICK

Forget it.

TOBE

Explain forg...

RICK

(Exasperated)

Cancel inquiry!

TOBE

(Annoyed)

Affirmative.

The team sees a large metallic object beneath some heavy brush.

WILLIAM

Wheels!

RICK gestures for a high-five and WILLIAM accommodates him.

RICK

It looks like a fifty-seven Chevy in a weird and sporty sort of way.

YURIKO

There are two problems here though. How do we get it running and who knows how to drive it?

RICK

Don't worry YURIKO. Tobe, do your thing!

TOBE

Explain thi...

RICK

(Annoyed)

Fix it Tobe!

TOBE

Affirmative.

The Tobe unit emanates a white light removing the debris from the front of the vehicle. It uses that same beam to pull a door open on the side and then floats inside the vehicle. Servos, gears, welding sounds and light are heard and seen.

TATIANA

How can it know how to fix it?

RICK

MYGANOS explained Tobe has a adaptive engineering programming parameter known as mechanical empathy. It is highly adaptable to any alien environment and or technology.

WILLIAM

How much longer Tobe?

TOBE (O.S.)

(From within the vehicle)
The vehicle will require major
repairs. It's power source is
depleted. It will take eight hours
fifteen minutes twelve seconds.

WILLIAM

We better set up camp here. We've been on our feet for over ten hours. I'll take the first watch. RICK, you take the second.

RICK

(Pretending intoxication)
Will do osiffer! I mean officer.
 (Normal tone and pointing)
Eh, I'm going back behind that big
pile of rubble to take care of some
business.

RICK walks off. The rest of the team are busy opening backpacks and setting up camp.

WILLIAM moves toward the wall of a partially destroyed building, checks his maser rifle, and sits and leans back on the wall. TATIANA moves toward him and sits down beside him.

WILLIAM

What are you doing?

TATIANA

Keeping you company.

WILLIAM

You need your rest.

TATIANA

During a military operation I believe it is good practice to review the day's events and the team's performance, especially under stressful situations.

WILLIAM

Agreed. What are your observations?

TATIANA

To be honest. I'm vorried about YURIKO.

WILLIAM

Trust me. I believe I'm a fairly good judge of character. She'll be all right.

TATIANA

Don't misunderstand me. She is a good person and extremely intelligent. More so than me I think. It's just that I find her somewhat emotionally not prepared for this mission. Even with the conditioning.

WILLIAM

I don't know TATIANA. I think she's getting better. I was just going to say that sometimes those that seem to be the weakest are, at times, the strongest. She shared a personal experience concerning her brother but it seems to me that there's much more to her. Maybe you can get closer to her and help her open up more.

TATIANA

I'm not certain that she vill talk vith me moi drug. I believe she has more of a friendship vith RICK than anyone else in our group.

There is a moment of silence.

TATIANA (CONT'D)

Vhat are you thinking about?

WILLIAM

That I didn't get a chance to say good-bye to my kids.

TATIANA

That is sad. I didn't say good by to my parents and sisters.

WILLIAM

My sister has custody of the kids. It's a long story. Anyway, work makes it hard for me to see them.

TATIANA

Vhat happened to your wife if I may ask?

WILLIAM

She developed Leukemia. She fought it but in the end...

TATIANA moves closer to WILLIAM.

TATIANA

(Sadly)

Life can be hard some times.

WILLIAM

Yes it can.

TATIANA

Was your late wife black?

WILLIAM

Yes. Why do you ask?

TATIANA

Have you ever dated outside of your race?

WILLIAM

Yes but never outside of my species. Though I must admit I saw this very sexy goat once.

TATIANA

You're funny.

WILLIAM

What about you? Have you ever been married?

TATIANA

(Tired voice)

No. I've had affairs but not many. Even in Russia, men are intimidated by tall women. A military career also leaves little time for romance.

TATIANA closes her eyes and her body relaxes falling asleep. RICK approaches them. He squats near WILLIAM. TATIANA is now fast asleep on WILLIAM's chest. WILLIAM puts a finger to his own lips signaling RICK not to say anything. RICK gives back a thumbs up and walks away. WILLIAM rests his head against the wall and goes to sleep.

INT. DEATH STORM - CITY RUINS - SECOND DAY OF INCURSION

RICK

Rise and shine everybody! Breakfast is ready!

TATIANA stirs wakes up still resting on WILLIAM's chest and looks around. She then looks at him and smiles.

TATIANA

You didn't take advantage of me vhile I was asleep, did you?

WILLIAM

Contrary to popular belief not all men are pigs.

Team members begin moving around and gather an electronic pad laid out on a concrete-like structure. They remove food similar to pop-tarts and begin eating. They notice the vehicle and move toward it.

RICK

(Eating)

These things are good. Mine tastes like fresh scrambled eggs.
(MORE)

RICK (CONT'D)

Look at our wheels! Yo, I think Tobe even gave it a paint job.

WILLIAM

(Eating)

Mine tastes like pancakes. Who's going to drive it?

TOBE

I will.

There's a pause as everyone looks quizzically at the Tobe unit.

WILLIAM

I don't have a problem with that! Okay people. Let's take down camp and get going.

The vehicle's ceiling opens in four different directions creating plush boarding stairs. The sitting accommodations are circular and located around a large cylindrical device. The team sit around it facing each other. The ceiling closes.

INT. - INSIDE THE VEHICLE'S CABIN

YURIKO

(Eating)

Not a good place to put a column.

TOBE

It is actually a panoramic external viewing device. We are ready for departure at your discretion.

WILLIAM

Get us on our way TOBE.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF VEHICLE

The Tobe unit attaches itself to the rear part of the hood of the vehicle and emits red and blue lights. The vessel flies upward from the ground.

INT. TRANSPORT VESSEL

RICK

(Eating)

Keep in mind that MYGANOS stuck a bunch of information in our brains but for the life of me I can't figure how to access it. It would be useful if we knew how to access when the time comes to unplug this thing.

RAISE

(Eating)

I am surprised though that an ape like you has a brain at all.

RICK

Have I reminded you to kiss my ass lately RAISE.

TATIANA

(Eating)

No matter what additional information we might have been programmed with this technology is alien even to MYGANOS' people.

The vehicle lifts several hundred feet over the city. In the distance burning fires can be seen.

YURIKO

This is depressing! There's no sense of time in here.

WILLIAM

(Understanding voice)
Try not to think about it.
Actually, this place reminds me a
lot to certain parts of Bagdad.

TATIANA

Does it not strike you how this vehicle's internal accommodations serve us so vell?

RICK

I'm not aware of Tobe having any real limitations, but I don't think it had enough time create these accommodations for us.

RAISE

Of course it didn't you idiot!

YURIKO

This vehicle is ergonomically correct for us. That means that the species that was, eh, collected in this must have been humanoid.

WILLIAM

Tobe? Ah shit, it can't hear me out there.

RICK

Speak into your bee Will.

He faces left and speaks to the small floating object.

WILLIAM

Tobe, bring us near one of those skyscrapers. If it weren't for the signs and billboards written in gibberish, I'd swear this was Earth.

WILLIAM'S BEE

Affirmative.

RICK

(Addressing his bee)
Do you sense any signs of life?

RICK'S BEE

No change in previous query on lifeforms being present.

TATIANA

(Emotional)

Look!

RICK

Dios mio!

The transport hovers near a bay window in a once luxurious alien apartment. They see the charred remains of a woman embracing a child. The image is displayed on the transport's column screen. YURIKO turns away crying.

WILLIAM

Tobe, get us away from here now!

WILLIAM' BEE

Affirmative. Bearing?

WILLIAM

Previous trajectory Tobe! Maximum speed!

CUT TO:

EXT. SKYSCRAPER

The transport vessel comes about and speeds away from the skyscraper. The vehicle levels off at a higher altitude.

BACK TO:

INT. TRANSPORT VESSEL

TATIANA

Is that what avaits Earth?

RICK

(Depressed)

Hey RAISE feel free to grieve for them. They might have been white!

RAISE ignores RICK's comment. There is a moment of silence throughout the cabin.

WILLIAM

Tobe can project the forward image on my monitor section.

TOBE

Affirmative.

The section of the column displays the forward image of the transport's flight.

BACK TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE TRANSPORT

As the transport flies through the artificial heavens and clouds of smoke. It flies into a large, dark hole.

BACK TO:

INT. TRANSPORT VESSEL

TOBE turns on bright external lights. The find themselves in a large conduit were streams of plasma energy flash by.

Tubes, cables and alien looking pipping are lining the walls in odd shapes. Shifting colors are seen all around the transport.

RICK

The Death Storm isn't putting up much of a fight.

RAISE

It doesn't know we're here stupid.

RICK

Yeah? Well what about those land sharks?

WILLIAM

Land sharks? That's a good name for those ugly things. I think they were a set up.

TATIANA

Da! I think we were the main course and the humanoids were used to lure us to the table.

YURIKO keeps looking out the window trying to avoid eye contact with everybody. She wipes tears from her eyes. RICK glances at her often with a worried expression. TATIANA and WILLIAM exchange looks.

WILLIAM' BEE

The ion energy conduit is becoming smaller at the rate of one foot in diameter per each two hundred meters. Sonar indicates possible impact with an approaching wall in thirty seconds. It is advisable to reduce speed. Impact is imminent. Probable survival rate of passengers is nil.

WILLIAM

Tobe, open up the hatch!

WILLIAM' BEE

Explain.

WILLIAM

Open this thing now!

WILLIAM' BEE

Affirmative.

The ceiling opens. Wind comes in with great force.

WILLIAM

(Yelling over the wind to TATIANA)
Hand me the maser cannon!

TATIANA

The cannon is my detail!

WILLIAM' BEE

Imminent impact in twenty seconds.

WILLIAM

Not now TATIANA! Tobe, reduce speed!

WILLIAM' BEE

Affirmative. Reducing speed to three knots.

TATIANA

I disagree!

WILLIAM

Very well damn it, you shoot!

TATIANA takes the bazooka-like object and stands in the center of the vehicle bracing her body against the wind.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

Everybody grab a hold of her! Keep her steady!

TATIANA

Tobe, stop the vehicle!

Her blond hair flies madly in the wind. She takes aim. The weapon rests firmly on her shoulder and is also tied to her waist. She opens fire. The ball of light is seen leaving the end of the cannon and hits the wall causing very little damage. She fires again. Electricity spreads through the wall. It cracks and explodes inward. Air begins to rush into the hole.

RAISE

Vacuum! We're dead! We're dead!

RAISE pulls TATIANA roughly to the floor.

RAISE (CONT'D)

Tobe, close the cabin! Let's hope this thing is air tight.

RAISE'S BEE

It is. I verified that last night as instructed by mister WILLIAM. I secured five hours of air by turning a storage compartment into an air tank.

RICK

I'll trade my desk top for you any day, Tobe.

RAISE

(Angry)

WILLIAM, you took a big chance with our lives!

WILLIAM

I made sure of the space worthiness of this vehicle mister! We are here to take chances, remember? You had your chance to go home and you passed. Now is the time to do or die! Is that understood?!

There is a moment of uncomfortable silence.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

Tobe, increase speed by one quarter. Advance to preset destination.

EXT. ELECTRICAL CONDUIT AND THE DESTROYED WALL

The vessel advances through the opening into a white-lit corridor.

BACK TO:

IN. TRANSPORT VESSEL

WILLIAM

Scan the next one hundred kilometers. If all is clear, take us to maximum speed.

WILLIAM' BEE

Affirmative.

The vehicle flies slowly for a moment and then jerks into high speed. It comes out a hole of light into what appears to be space.

WILLIAM

(Confused)

Are we out of the ship?

WILLIAM' BEE

Negative.

YURIKO

What's that over there?!

She points ahead at three large, bright shapes. The team feels a wave of pain build up in everyone's heads.

RICK

Argh! What is this?!

RAISE

My brain feels like its on fire!

TATIANA

Tobe do something! Those things are going to kill us!

TATIANA'S BEE

Affirmative.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE THE VEHICLE

An aura of green light appears around the transport.

BACK TO:

INT. TRANSPORT VESSEL

YURIKO

Ah, that's better!

She lifts a device in front of her and starts scanning for signs of injuries to the team.

YURIKO (CONT'D)

Tobe, where those alpha waves?

YURIKO'S BEE

Negative. They were beta waves. Alpha waves of that magnitude would have caused your death.

YURIKO

Were they trying to communicate?

YURIKO'S BEE

Affirmative.

YURIKO

(Delighted while

scanning)

At last, something that's alive and reasons! What were they saying?

YURIKO'S BEE

(Concerned)

They are confused. They know they are not in their solar system but they can't figure out how to get back.

RAISE

That's understandable. Look at the vault of artificial space around us. The stars are all symmetrically placed.

YURIKO

So?

RAISE

The sailors of long ago used to navigate their ships by the placement of the stars in the sky. If these things move around in space the same way, it's understandable that they would be confused. Tobe, give us a general description of these creatures.

RAISE'S BEE

They are primarily composed of plasma energy with a highly dense molecular structure. They have identified themselves as Celians. I have no information in my data banks pertaining to their world.

RAISE

I think they are part of the collection. I think it's best to resume our course.

WILLIAM

I don't think so. Tobe, identify the composition of their members.

The transport gets within one hundred meters of the aliens. Now it becomes clear that they look like three huge jellyfish and a small moon.

WILLIAM' BEE

Three members, two males, one female. The circular object is an egg containing six thousand two hundred and thirty-eight siblings.

WILLIAM

Tobe, stop the vehicle! Look closely RAISE.

The beings are translucent. Inside one of the alien females hundreds of already born offspring can be seen floating closely together inside of her.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

My guess is that she's gathered them inside of her to protect them. We have to help these beings now because if all Hell breaks loose when we bust this place, they might not be able to free themselves and escape. Any ideas on what we can do to help?

RICK

What about the way we came in?

TATIANA

They von't fit. Besides, there is gravity that way. I don't think they are capable of handling gravity.

RAISE

I have an idea, but you'll have to let me take charge.

WILLIAM

(Hesitating)

I never thought I'd be saying this to you but, okay, take over.

RAISE

Tobe, scan the environment for the highest concentration of background stellar radiation.

RAISE'S BEE

Affirmative.

(Pause)

The highest concentration of background stellar radiation is forty-five degrees to your left based on the premise that our front is where the transport's engine is located. It is one point three thousand kilometers.

RAISE

Take us there at top speed. Hold position at two kilometers away from that point.

RAISE'S BEE

Affirmative.

CUT TO:

EXT. SPACE CONTAINMENT VAULT

The vehicle turns and heads toward a starred wall.

BACK TO:

INT. TRANSPORT VESSEL

RAISE'S BEE

We have arrived.

RAISE

Can you create and project a redcolored hologram?

RAISE' BEE

Affirmative.

RAISE

Please create a hologram, thirty meters large in the shape of a red X, on the wall with background stellar radiation. Appraise the Celians of the situation of the wall space simulation and that real space is past this wall.

RAISES'BEE

Affirmative.

CUT TO:

EXT. SPACE CONTAINMENT VAULT

A bright red X appears on the wall.

CUT TO:

INT. TRANSPORT VESSEL

WILLIAM

This creatures are mainly plasma energy with dense electron displacement. I wonder why the Death Storm's defense grid didn't affect them.

RAISE'S BEE

Warning! The Celians are coming toward us at great speed. Do you wish me to query them about your last statement commander Fleming.

WILLIAM

Please do.

WILLIAM'S BEE

The Celians have stated that the defense network of the Death Storm caused them to go into a dormant state.

RAISE

Move us out of the way Tobe!

YURIKO

If they somehow manage to get out I'm concerned once they're on the outside. Won't the defense grid affect them again?

RAISE

I suspect that the Death Storm won't shift around to pick them up again. I also suspect that if they somehow break through the defense grid will be disabled. At least for this sector.

WILLIAM

It would be the ideal time have an attach done at that juncture.

YURIKO

Strike while it's wounded.

WILLIAM

Precisely. Tobe are our communications to the outside still being jammed?

WILLIAM'S BEE

Affirmative.

The three creatures and the egg float toward the wall. Plasma energy is emitted by the biggest of the three directly at the red X. The wall were the X is being projected explodes and real space is seen framed by a jagged steel-like hole.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE OF THE DEATH STORM

The creatures fly out with their egg.

BACK TO:

INT. TRANSPORT VESSEL

The group feels a wave of orgasmic-like pleasure.

TATIANA

(Short breathed)

Vhat is happening?

TATIANA'S BEE

The creatures do not know how to express appreciation, but they do know how to express pleasure. It is their way of saying thank you.

YURIKO

(Smiling)

I I I don't remember sex being this good or this safe!

RICK

(Smiling)

I wonder if I could get one of those things to follow me home? Why why why so quiet Raise?

WILLIAM

(Considerably shaken)

Tobe, resume our co co course. Good job RAISE!

RAISE

(Surprised)

A-A compliment! How how how rare!

RICK

They made you bark you you you old coot!

Everybody laughs.

WILLIAM

Tobe resume flight to our original destination.

CUT TO:

INT. - AN INNER HALL FILLED WITH WHITE LIGHT

The transport vehicle enters through a brightly-lit entrance that resembles a star on the wall of the space vault. It comes to a full stop on a plain, well-lit access duct.

WILLIAM' BEE

We have passed through a magnetic airlock. Atmosphere capable of sustaining human life is now present. No pathogens registered that are harmful to human life.

WILLIAM

Good! Tobe, replenish our air supply. We'll camp here.

WILLIAM' BEE

Affirmative.

WILLIAM

Tati, you take the first three-hour watch. YURIKO, you take the next. RAISE, you take the last. Eat something if you're hungry folks.

RAISE

You make me sleep more than the others. Why is that?

WILLIAM

You have a pretty decent constitution RAISE but you're also the oldest. You did a good job back there but, like it or not, you need more rest than us. That's an order.

RAISE moves away to rest. WILLIAM moves around to survey the area keeping his hand on his weapon.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

(Addressing his bee)

Tobe, how much farther to our goal?

WILLIAM' BEE

The use of the transport has considerably improved our time. We are half an Earth day away from our objective.

WILLIAM

Good! I don't know for sure what has to be done to stop this thing. I only pray that five days will be enough. What is the center of those alpha waves isn't the command center of this ship? What's our next move?

WILLIAM' BEE

I've computed a ninety-five percent probability that the source of the alpha waves is responsible for all the higher functions of this ship.

WILLIAM

Well, that gives me some peace of mind I guess.

WILLIAM' BEE

(Sounding sincere)

My pleasure.

RAISE is awakened by YURIKO for his turn at watch. He stands and looks around, takes some dried food from his duffel bag and starts eating. He notices that WILLIAM is missing. He walks around looking for him.

RAISE

Tobe, where is WILLIAM?

RAISE'S BEE

I no longer have contact with his bee.

RAISE

Everybody wake up! WILLIAM is missing!

TATIANA

Grab your veapons now!

The team forms a circle and slowly widens the perimeter. They all start calling out for WILLIAM. A metallic stalagmite suddenly starts rising from the white, metal floor and throws everyone on to the floor in different directions. Reality shifts slightly causing disorientation on the team.

CUT TO:

EXT. DESERT ENVIRONMENT - DAY

WILLIAM is dressed in desert military combat uniform and is standing in a sand hill on an open desert. He sees fallen friends everywhere. A short distance away he sees a small Iraqi town.

WILLIAM

Bee, how long have I been here?

WILLIAM' BEE

Four hours thirty-three minutes.

WILLIAM

Damn! This shit is playing mind games with me. Bee to your station!

The bee flies toward a pendant around WILLIAM's neck and attaches itself to it. He walks toward the town an reaches it from a nearby building an Iraqi boy around thirteen years of age, rushes him with a scimitar on hand. William is stunned by his size and age but tries to subdue him. His weapon flies from his hands and lands out of reach. He holds the boy's arm that is holding the sword, away from his body but finds himself getting tossed on the ground as the boy seems sizably stronger than he looks. The boy presses the scimitar on his neck. WILLIAM reaches with his free arm along his right leg feeling for his smaller side arm. He finds it, pulls it from its holster, and shoots the boy on the side. He keeps struggling. WILLIAM shoots him again. The boy's body goes limp. He pushes him off. The boy lies in still as electrical sparks and smoke start coming out of his side. WILLIAM runs away as it explodes.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

(Addressing his bee)

The thing or things that run this ship must be some sick bastards. Bee, direct me to the nearest wall in this nightmare.

WILLIAM' BEE

Warning! Higher level functions are not available.

WILLIAM

That just great!

He picks up the weapon and watches it change shape back into his M16-like maser blaster.

CUT TO:

INT. - A WHITE ROOM

RICK is wearing a Karate uniform and is lying on the floor. He gets to his feet and sees an empty samurai suit of armor standing close by. The armor withdraws a Katana sword and starts walking toward him. RICK withdraws a sword from a holster strung across his back. He turns half of the handle clockwise and the blade is layered on one side with a laser blade.

RICK

(Devilish smile)

Whoever you are, I don't like these games!

The samurai keeps moving toward him.

RICK (CONT'D)

(Nervous)

Yo I'm not playin now! Stay back!

(To his bee)

There's no one inside. Is this a ghost?

RICK'S BEE

Negative. It is a mechanical construct.

RICK

Bee, attach to pendant. I think...

The samurai thrusts forward and RICK blocks.

RICK (CONT'D)

This is not civilized! Can we talk?

There is another forward thrust, this time to RICK's head, but he blocks.

RICK (CONT'D)

(Beginning to anger)

Okay asshole! If you want a piece of me, come and get it!

RICK attacks. The samurai blocks. A series of exchanges take place. In one of them, RICK's shoulder receives a cut.

RICK (CONT'D)

(Winded)

I'm getting tired and this thing isn't! Any ideas bee?

RICK'S BEE

Aim for the legs.

RICK

Good idea!

There is another energetic exchange. But this time RICK cuts off one of its legs but the samurai falls on top of him. Both swords are now inches away from RICK's face.

RICK (CONT'D)

(Gasping for breath)

Bad idea bee! Bad bee! Okay...I'm

done... playing...asshole!

RICK turns the handle of his sword fully around and removes a laser dagger from within the handle. He thrusts it into the armpit of the android several times. The android thrashes in jerking movements hurting RICK even more. RICK manages to knock him off to one side and rise to his feet. He limps and staggers away as the android explodes. The explosion slams RICK against a wall.

RICK (CONT'D)

(Weak and breathless)

I'm not exactly...having...a great...day, bee! Detach from pendant and take this.

The bee flies off the pendant and focuses a mini tractor beam on to a small gray box RICK removed from his belt.

RICK (CONT'D)

Place it on the right wall from where I entered. Activate it and return to me.

The bee does as instructed. An explosion breaks open the wall revealing a hysterical RAISE about to be killed by a giant black widow spider. RICK runs, sword in hand, turns the handle clockwise activating the blade and throws it at the body of the spider. RICK then falls to his knees. The blade reaches its target slicing a huge tear into the spider's back. The spider falls limp to the floor. RAISE crawls from under one of its legs, runs toward RICK, falls scrambles to his feet and starts running again.

RAISE

Who in hell here knows I'm afraid of spiders?!

RAISE reaches RICK who is now lying face up bleeding in several places.

RAISE (CONT'D)

You look like fried shit, boy!

RICK

(Faintly but smiling)

Your momma!

RAISE squats down and starts checking RICK for serious injuries.

RAISE

What happened to you?

RICK

(In pain)

I had a close encounter with Robbie the robot.

RAISE

We have to find YURIKO! Get up!

RAISE helps RICK stand and lends a shoulder for support.

RICK

RAISE, why do you hate me so much?

RAISE

(Pause)

Three years ago my wife and I went to Chicago to a physics symposium.
(MORE)

RAISE (CONT'D)

We also got to do some sight seeing. On the third day she went out by herself. She wanted to get me a birthday present. She was shot and killed by a Hispanic punk. A gang-banger I think they call them nowadays. Since then, I haven't cared much for your type.

They continue moving away from the room where the torn mechanical black widow spider lays still.

RAISE (CONT'D)

I hate to admit it, but you're different from them.

RICK

(More energetically)

No RAISE, I'm exactly like them. have "their" same hopes, dreams and desires. It's just that I had some better circumstances. My mother achieved a higher education and made me follow in her footsteps. Hispanic kids are being left behind because no one cares. The system doesn't care. Society only wants more money while ignoring the human spirit. Your wife just happened to be at the wrong place at the wrong time. She was exposed to a problem that's existed in Chicago for a long time. There are good and bad people everywhere and they come in all shapes, colors and sizes.

RAISE

You talk like a sociologist.

RICK

I have a degree in humanities, but the point is... argh! The point is, nobody is born a bigot RAISE. Bigotry is a learned behavior, not a genetic trait. You can change, anyone can. My greatest fear is the thought that our next Albert Einstein might be strung out on drugs lying in filth somewhere in the projects. INT. GIANT CRIB - TWILIGHT

YURIKO is standing in a giant crib. Above her head is a giant mobile going around in circles. As she looks around, she sees a giant baby standing in the far corner of the crib holding on to the top rail and facing away from her. The baby is several meters tall but not much older than two years old, oriental, in pigtails, and wearing a zip-up sleeper. The child looks exactly like YURIKO at age two.

GIANT BABY

(Shouting)

Daddy play! Daddy play!

FATHER (O.S.)

Silence Tetzuro! It's time to sleep!

GIANT BABY

No sleep! Play!

FATHER

Enough Tetzuro, enough! Go to sleep!

A huge looming figure of an oriental man begins to appear as he walks closer to the crib.

FATHER (CONT'D)

I am turning off this silly nightlight and you will go to sleep!

GIANT BABY

No! Want light!

FATHER

Ie! (Yes in Japanese) Sleep now!

He reaches over to a child's lamp and turns it off.

GIANT BABY

(Crying and hysterical)
No daddy, no daddy! Monsters!

FATHER

(Impatient)

There are no monsters Tetzuro!
Remember your heritage. You are of
the Yamato Klan! You must be brave!

GIANT BABY

(Crying)

I want mommy! Mommy! Mommy!

The father reaches into the crib and roughly pushes the child down to the sleeping mat.

FATHER

Lie down Tetzuro!

GIANT BABY

Mommy, mommy! The monster!

Shadowy reflections of the child receiving a beating are seen on a wall.

YURIKO

Stop it! Stop it!

YURIKO begins to cry and falls to her knees. The child is heard sobbing. The father leaves the scene. There is a few seconds of silence. YURIKO stands and moves toward the gigantic child.

YURIKO (CONT'D)

(Sobbing)

Don't cry! Don't cry! He'll change! He did change. Mother made him go to counseling.

The child lifts her head from the mat and looks at YURIKO with teary eyes. She smiles and suddenly grabs YURIKO.

GIANT BABY

Baby dolly! Pretty baby dolly!

YURIKO

No wait! You're crushing me! Bee, help!

The bee flies to the child's hand that is holding YURIKO and fires a light blue beam.

GIANT BABY

Ouch! Bad dolly!

The child throws YURIKO to the far corner of the crib but she does a tuck and roll and recovers on her feet.

YURIKO

(Addressing her bee)

For a minute I forgot where I was! Bee, help me out! Where am I?

YURIKO'S BEE

Warning! Higher level functions are not available. Power drain will cause shutdown in three minutes.

YURIKO

Great! Just great! Where's the rest of the team!?

The silhouette of the father returns. The child doesn't see the father and is approaching YURIKO. YURIKO sees her bow case close by and runs for it.

GIANT BABY

(Angry)
Bad dolly! Spank dolly!

FATHER

Tetzuro! You have exhausted my patience!

The father reaches down but instead of picking up the child, he reaches for pint sized YURIKO. YURIKO reaches her bow as his hand is about to close around her. She manages to fire a lightening-like arrow that hits the father in his face. Reality shifts back and forth from a crib to an empty padded chamber. The child and father shift in and out from very human to androids. The father begins to shake and twist. During one reality shift, YURIKO notices that the child's pillow is actually a large oblong object that looks sturdy. She runs toward it. As the android father explodes, YURIKO jumps behind it. Pieces of metal, with electrical displays and crackling sounds, fly all around. A large piece of debris strikes the child in the chest knocking it down. Silence sets in and YURIKO looks up over her hiding place and sees the now immobile giant android child with sparks and circuitry coming from its wound.

YURIKO

(Grabbing her bee)
Save energy! Don't fly for now!
Try to establish a comlink with the team! Guys, where are you?

From the opposite corner of the crib, an explosion takes place at a near wall creating a large hole. RAISE (still helping RICK) and RICK hurry toward YURIKO.

CUT TO:

INT. A DARK PRISON CELL

TATIANA has her arms tied behind her back with wire.

TATIANA

This is not Aphganistan! Vhat is going on?! Bee, can you do something?

TATIANA'S BEE

Please elaborate.

TATIANA

Cut these wires!

TATIANA'S BEE

Affirmative.

The bee flies behind her and floats above her hands. A blue beam of light cuts her bonds. Her wrists are bleeding slightly. The cell door opens and a guard comes in. She strikes his face with the heel of her hand and takes his weapon. She fires at the guard. The mid-section of the guard opens up with sparks and flames. She runs through the cell door as the android explodes.

TATIANA

Bee, locate my veapons!

Another guard comes down a brick staircase. She fires and the android falls in flames. Prisoners in other cells call out for freedom. She hesitates and looks at them.

TATIANA (CONT'D)

Bee, are these people real life forms?

TATIANA'S BEE

Negative. Warning! Power drain will cause shutdown in three minutes.

The bee flies away rapidly. She runs after it. She shoots her weapon at guards approaching from ahead and clears the way for the bee. She finds her belt and weapons on a metal shelf and removes an impressive sized blaster and fires at the guards approaching from behind her. Shouting and mayhem is heard all around. She picks up the cannon, rests it on her shoulder and fires at a nearby wall. The wall crumbles revealing the earlier desert-like scenario.

TATIANA

Vill! Vill!

They run into each other's arms but WILLIAM pulls away to blast and disable more guard-androids coming through the hole following her. No more androids appear.

They again are in each other's arms and they kiss passionately. Another wall is heard exploding close by.

YURIKO, RAISE, RICK

Come on! Come on! We found the way out!

CUT TO:

INT. THE LAST ENCAMPMENT - NEAR THE TRANSPORT VESSEL - DAY 10

RICK is sitting and having his ribs wrapped by YURIKO. In the background WILLIAM is checking TATIANA's wrists.

YURIKO

You have some bruised ribs but no internal bleeding. That cut will heal in minutes thanks to Tahilan medicine.

RICK

YURIKO, you haven't talked about your experience in there yet.

YURIKO

I don't want to talk about it.

RICK

If that's what you want, I'll respect your wishes. But I really think you should get it off your chest.

She finishes the rib dressing, takes an alien object and presses it against his chest while reading some dials. YURIKO pauses in her task.

YURIKO

In there I had to face a mechanized version of my father and me as a baby. My father was about two stories high and the baby was several meters tall. It was as if a toy in their play. To survive I had to kill my robotic father. I felt so much hatred in my heart for him. He was a proud Japanese father. An ideal Freudian case I suppose. He had wanted a son but got a daughter. Work was his first priority, then came the family. He was also physically abusive when I was a child.

(MORE)

YURIKO (CONT'D)

That harsh upbringing instilled in me my timid nature I guess. Mother forced him into therapy by filing a complaint with the police. The shame almost pushed my father to the verge of suicide. Those were hard times but they are in the past.

RICK

We all seem to have had pretty hard lives one way or another. I wonder if MYGANOS and his flunkies had anything to do with that.

RAISE approaches and sits down beside RICK. YURIKO picks up her med-kit and goes to see TATIANA.

RAISE

Why did you help me back there?

RICK

Wouldn't you have done the same thing for me?

RAISE

(Sadly)

I suppose I would. But I froze up.

RICK

Don't sweat it man. You're coming along just fine.

The team is seen picking up their gear. In the background, shattered walls are seen where the team members had made their escapes. WILLIAM is talking directly to the Tobe unit on top of the vehicle. He then moves to the middle of the group to get their attention.

WILLIAM

I'm hate to do this, but we must get going. The attempt by this thing to kill us has taken too much time. By now we are within the perimeter of the first populated solar system. Tobe has notified me that we aren't far away from a transport duct that we may be able to use. RICK will ride in the vehicle while the rest of us walk. Keep your weapons loaded and ready!

The team starts moving through the only intact corridor. The vehicle flies behind them driven by the Tobe unit.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

(Addressing RAISE)

Why doesn't this thing just zap us and get it over with?

RAISE

That wouldn't be fun. Somebody or something is enjoying all of this.

At the end of the corridor are two huge emerald colored doors. A medium size android rolls toward them. TATIANA takes aim. RICK gets out of the vehicle with his weapon ready.

MALVADA

(Coming to a stop)

Don't shoot! Please don't shoot!

The team walks cautiously toward it.

TATIANA

(With authority)

Who are you?!

MALVADA

I am called Malvada.

YURIKO looks closely at a window opening on the creature's head and sees a brain alive with pulsing movement.

YURIKO

My God! Tobe, is this thing alive?

YURIKO'S BEE

Affirmative. It emits the same type of alpha waves that permeate this ship.

MALVADA

I was the one that sent the prophetic vision to the Oracle of Ecklar before the others atrophied my frontal lobes. I no longer possess the ability of telepathic communication.

WILLIAM

Can you shed some light on what's going on here?

MALVADA

I do not understand your question.

WILLIAM

Who are the others? Why are they destroying worlds? Why are you helping us?

MALVADA

We are too exposed to attack here. It is best we go through these doors.

The doors split open into four pieces and retract within the ship's walls. Inside is an egg-like shuttle is seen stationed inside the cylinder transport duct. It is large enough to sit all the members of the team and their host.

MALVADA (CONT'D)

This is the way to the elders. After we board I will tell you all that you wish to know.

The Tobe unit detaches itself from the transport, flies over and hovers above the cybernetic organism MALVADA. It then floats toward WILLIAM.

WILLIAM

Tobe, are we still on track?

TOBE

Affirmative.

WILLIAM

Should we trust this thing?

TOBE

Unknown. No ulterior physiological readings are present to help determine deceit.

WILLIAM

(Hesitating)

What the hell, let's get in.

They step into the egg-shaped transport through wide crystal doors.

MALVADA

Thousands of years ago, two solar systems were at war.
(MORE)

MALVADA (CONT'D)

The rival solar system, the Gaykan Protectorate, and ours, the Malluvian Alliance. The technology and resources we both possessed were too evenly balanced. Neither side gained any solid victories and the war was costing millions of lives and resources. With this in mind, our most prominent military minds developed a plan to create a war machine so versatile and fast learning that it could change strategies at a moment's notice.

The aerodynamic egg-shaped shuttle departs through a maze of crystalline tunnels, at times shooting through conduits running on the outside of the Death Storm, at great speed.

MALVADA (CONT'D)

Imagination is a valuable commodity machines lack. So, special receptacles were built to support our minds and harness their power to be used by this massive ship. Our military willingly had their bodies mutilated in such a way as to become physically part of it. We reached our enemy's solar system and destroyed them. Not one of their planets was spared. When we returned, we found that our home world had also been destroyed. A thermonuclear device of great magnitude had obliterated our planet. Our solar system then broke apart because it was unable to compensate for the gravitational changes as a result of our missing planet. The remaining colonies died instantly and the shock of the death of all our loved ones eventually drove the commanders of this ship insane.

WILLIAM

What do you want from us?!

MALVADA

Look over there.

The creature turns in a pointing manner to one of the view ports. Another crystalline duct is seen leading into a tower.

MALVADA (CONT'D)

That is the main energy-processing tower. To get into it you must retrieve the access orb. The orb lies in the main control chamber. Use the orb to open the access gate on the tower and instruct the reactor to overload and explode thus destroying this ship.

WILLIAM

You are asking us to kill you...why?

MALVADA

I still have some degree of sanity left. I realized that this ship must be destroyed. I cannot bare this existence any longer!

TATIANA

That is our goal, but vhy didn't you destroy it yourself?

MALVADA

(Regretful)

Look at the view screen in the floor.

A picture of a humanoid creature appears.

MALVADA (CONT'D)

I no longer have the physical abilities. This is how I used to look before they destroyed my body. Prepare yourselves for what is to come. Afterwards, death will be a welcome release.

CUT TO:

INT. ENTRY DOCK

The shuttle arrives at a dock. The doors open and MALVADA is the first to roll out. The team follows him to a very large airlock which opens automatically once the reach it. They enter the room which and it filled with alien technology. Several feet up on pedestals are seven bodies of considerable size with tubes entering and exiting their bodies in several places. A green viscous liquid flows through the transparent pipes.

PRIME ENTITY

So Malvada, you bring your little soldiers of war to meet us. How pitiful.

MALVADA

My brothers, give these creatures the orb. There is nothing left for us in this existence. We have terminated too many lives. We have no purpose to live for.

PRIME ENTITY

Silence, you piece of stool! We are immortals. We do as we wish and take what we want. We are above anyone's sense of morality. We are omnipotent. The conclaves of two galaxies were unable to stop us. Your little warriors, Malvada, are harmless and ineffective.

Malvada turns around and sees the team members squirming on the floor in pain and terror. The Tobe unit rests on the floor while the bees fly frantically over their owners.

PRIME ENTITY (CONT'D)

See how easy it is to over power them? Their worst fears are being fed to them as real as this plain of existence. One sees himself trying to save his children from imminent death. Another sees his mother being tortured and slain. I find them all amusing! Wait, from one of them I sense a name. An idea!

RICK is brought to his feet by unseen forces. He is lifted into the air and brought closer to the prime entity.

PRIME ENTITY (CONT'D)

Nitzche, nihilism. A thinker from their planet has given us a name. We are nihilists. How wonderful! In honor of this being, we will proceed directly to their planet, Earth. We will ask this being to join us. If he no longer exists, we will destroy the planet.

The floor splits and tilts. The team falls through the opening including the Tobe unit. RICK is last to fall.

PRIME ENTITY (CONT'D)
We will not kill them yet. They are

amusing. As for you Malvada, we have thought up some wonderful things for you!

INT. INNER CHAMBER - ON THE LOWER FLOOR - DARKNESS

All the team members lie immobile. YURIKO is the first to wake.

YURIKO

Tobe, are we being monitored?

TOBE

Negative. Ricardo's bee indicates that a negative cardiovascular episode has occurred.

YURIKO

Augment your radiance Tobe. I want to see where he is.

She sees him and tries to run toward him but falls. She feels pain in one of her ankles and crawls toward RICK dragging her med-kit. WILLIAM stirs and goes to TATIANA. RAISE lies still.

WILLIAM

Everyone okay?

YURIKO

(Panicky)

RICK's in bad shape!

WILLIAM goes to RAISE and helps him up. TATIANA is left behind sitting on the floor rubbing her head. RAISE hurries over to RICK.

RAISE

Is he going to make it?

YURIKO

I injected blood thinners. The EKG indicates that he had a mild heart attack. He had a clean bill of health. We all had a physical in the Light of Hope. I must have been the stress of the attack by those things up there. Come on RICK! Wake up!

RICK begins to come around.

RICK

My chest feels tight!

YURIKO

You had a heart attack. I mild one it seems.

RICK

That's crazy! I don't have heart problems.

WILLIAM

Those arrogant bastards don't even consider us a threat. They didn't even take our weapons. Tobe, have you come up with some schematics of this place that we can use?

TOBE

Affirmative! By sensor scanning and visual perception I have determined the best possible way out. Currently we are here!

A hologram appears in mid air of an external view of the ship. A bright red dot appears on the underbelly of the ship. The team stands around the hologram except RICK who stays on the floor.

TATIANA

Look! One of those crystal-like ducts is nearby.

WILLIAM

We can crack one of these walls and get on it, then run like hell toward this communication duct and be on the tower. Any atmosphere on those suckers Tobe?

TOBE

Affirmative.

RAISE

What about the orb?

The Tobe unit floats away from the team and floats freely in one place.

TOBE

It is here. On the level above us.

RAISE

How do we get it?

TOBE

Place five units of explosives at this point.

A beam of light appears on the corner of the dark room.

TOBE (CONT'D)

Activate it for twenty seconds, move to the farthest corner facing the wall and cover your ears.

The Tobe unit dissipates into thin air. Seconds later, it reappears with the floating orb.

RICK

(Weakly)

Tobe, are you a teletransporter?

TOBE

Yes, of limited capability.

RICK

(Breathing with difficulty)

I always suspected you were a Trekker Tobe.

TOBE

Please define Trekker.

The explosion opens a jagged hole in the wall. Outside, a glass-like duct is seen with stars passing by.

WILLIAM

Tobe, cancel inquiry. Come on let's go! RAISE, help RICK!

RAISE

Come on guy! Don't die on me now, you hear?

RICK

(Smiling slightly with

pain)

Why RAISE, I didn't know you cared!

RAISE

Don't get cocky with me boy. I still think America is for Americans.

RICK

Great! I'll write my friend, Steve Running Bear, and give him the good news that you'll be returning all his lands to his tribe!

The team enters the communications duct and starts running down the side of the ship. The floor and the walls are transparent. The stars are seen flying by all around them.

INT. COMMAND CHAMBER WHERE THE ENTITIES RESIDE

ONE ENTITY

An explosion has taken place under us. The creatures have escaped through a nearby duct.

PRIME ENTITY

Send a shuttle through it. They are more bothersome than expected.

CUT TO:

INT. - THE TEAM IN A DUCT

YURIKO

Why don't they use that nightmare inducing power of theirs to stop us?

WILLIAM

They must have a limited range. Otherwise, when we first started out they wouldn't have bothered with androids and land sharks. They could have convinced us to commit suicide or kill each other.

RAISE

If their range is limited how can that Malvada critter communicate with the Oracle of Ecklar.

WILLIAM

I don't have all the answers.

TATIANA

Maybe the Oracles range is greater and met Malvada more than half way.

RAISE

Wait a minute. Do you hear that?

The rushing sound of air is felt and seen coming from behind them.

TOBE

A shuttle is coming this way! It is traveling at one hundred and twenty Earth miles per hour.

WILLIAM

(Desperate)

Run toward the communication duct. Hustle! Hustle!

The teams runs and RAISE drags RICK along with him. The shuttle is seen rushing toward them. The team reaches the side duct but RAISE looses his grip and RICK falls. RAISE reaches out and pulls him into the side duct.

RAISE

Everybody get up! This isn't over yet! That shuttle is heading toward a tight turn it won't have enough time to slow down! It'll crash through the wall and the vacuum will drag us out.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE THE DEATH STORM VESSEL

The group moves into an adjoining duct. The shuttle crashes through the duct and atmosphere begins to escape. The force of the vacuum slows the team's progress. All bees instantly settle on each team member's pendant. The electromagnetic atmospheric suit automatically kicks in enveloping each individual in a blueish aura. They struggle to reach the connecting duct and a translucent wall begins to close in front of them.

CUT TO:

INT. - COMMAND CHAMBER

ENTITY

We are losing atmosphere through the duct the creatures made during their escape!

PRIME ENTITY

Send the maintenance androids to repair it.

ENTITY

Shall we send another shuttle after them?

PRIME ENTITY

(Sinister)

No. Let them reach the Distribution tower. Its defense system will take care of them.

CUT TO:

INT. - THE TEAM IN A DIFFERENT DUCT

YURIKO

Look at that!

Earth is seen in the background.

WILLIAM

This thing has changed directions on us and I'll be damned if we're going to let those freaks destroy Earth.

The team reaches the end of the duct at the foot of the tower. The access airlock door is open.

RICK

(Short breathed)

Except for the jellyfish we met upstairs, why is there atmosphere on a mostly unmanned ship?

RAISE

This ship has too much mass to have been built planet side. I think the air was for their core of engineers.

They pass through the door and experience zero gravity. The TOBE unit emits a green-colored tractor beam to stabilize and direct the orb.

WILLIAM

Tobe, can you issue another tractor beam without jeopardizing your hold on the orb?

TOBE

Affirmative.

WILLIAM

Then take us to the top!

The team is bathed by another form of alien light emitted by the Tobe unit. Everything else is absolute darkness. Objects start hitting them. The objects seem to come from the walls. One hits RAISE in the head and a couple drops of blood come out of his forehead and are now floating in the air near his head. RICK grabs hold of RAISE by the waist and draws his Katana sword. This motion starts them spinning. Another objects hits TATIANA in her stomach. WILLIAM floats ahead of them close to the TOBE unit and the orb. He turns and a sharp object cuts him on his shoulder. He sees TATIANA doubled over in pain.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

Tatiana! Tatiana! Tobe, shield us!

TOBE

I can engage an electromagnetic defense shield but I will have to relinquish my hold on the orb.

WILLIAM

Slow down the orb and then let go. Now Tobe! Engage the shield!

The orb slows down. WILLIAM tries to catch it but misses. YURIKO is not far beneath him and grabs it.

YURIKO

Tobe, status report on the health of all team members!

The bees come loose from the pendants and frantically begin circling around their assigned members in a downward series of circles. Objects continue to hurtle toward them but are deflected by the invisible force field.

YURIKO'S BEE

All members have received contusions or abrasions. All vital signs are stable and within satisfactory ranges. Commander WILLIAM and Doctor RAISE are bleeding from deep cuts that require medical attention. Ricardo is weak but stable. Telemetric readings of all members are stabilizing.

YURIKO

Increase my speed Tobe, so I can reach WILLIAM.

When she reaches WILLIAM, she carefully lets go of the orb, letting it float freely beside her, and starts dressing his wound.

WILLIAM

(Addressing YURIKO)
Keep an eye on that orb or this is going to be a short trip. Is
TATIANA okay?

YURIKO

She's fine. Her bee is assisting her.

(Pause)

You care for her don't you?

WILLIAM

Yeah. She's really something special.

TOBE

We will be arriving at the top of the tower in one minute. Sensors indicate movement and readings of high levels of energy. This could possibly be plasma-based weaponry. The entities will probably attack as soon as we arrive.

CUT TO:

INT. - MAIN CONTROL CHAMBER

ENTITY

We have scanned their databases and found that Fredererick Nitzche, creator of nihilism, died in Earth year one thousand nine hundred.

PRIMARY ENTITY

Then this planet bares no interest to us. These moronic creatures are of no importance to the rest of the universe. They do not have sense enough to preserve their most intelligent leaders. Destroy this planet as soon as we arrive. I find their existence offensive.

Dials on a nearby wall emit light and begin flashing rapidly. A loud hum is heard.

ENTITY

The maser cannon will be ready for firing in ten clicks.

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL TOWER

TOBE

Sensors indicate increased levels in this ship's plasma wells.

WILLIAM

They're building up to fire! Tobe, increase our ascent!

RICK

Our father, who art in heaven, holy be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will...

RAISE

(Short breathed and in pain)

Stop...your...superstitious...ranting!

WILLIAM

Let him pray RAISE. We need all the help we can get. Get ready for combat!

The team arrives on a plateau where two church like doors are guarded by several defensive androids of all shapes and sizes. The androids start firing laser weapons but the strikes are deflected by the protective shield. WILLIAM reaches into YURIKO's backpack and extracts her bow. The rest of the team feels a renewed energy at the face of battle.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

Tobe, drop the shield!
(Addressing the team)
Fire! Fire!

The team floats in front of the androids and open fire. Electrical arrows are flying. Mayhem is felt as energy lines and conduits sporadically illuminate Red and amber as explosions are seen as a result of the exchange of heavy fire.

TATIANA

That last one is mine!

A little android rolls around on its wheels. It stops and fires but misses. TATIANA fires and hits the android. The android starts shaking comically, falls over, kicks its little wheels in the air and then breaks in half with a big puff of smoke.

WILLIAM

Tough little sucker wasn't he?

TOBE

Artificial gravity detected on nearby surface.

They float to the plateau. TOBE discontinues the tractor beam and the team lands on their feet. YURIKO gives the orb to RAISE who has recuperated. He walks over to a wall receptacle and inserts the orb. The doors open. The team enters the chamber and all around them is a complex array of alien technology.

TATIANA

How are ve supposed to convince this thing to self-destruct?

TOBE

I will scan and evaluate.

(Pause)

I am not compatible with this technology. Interface is not possible.

RICK moves painfully toward a panel of controls while studying the alien architecture.

RICK

(Addressing Tobe)

Change your configuration. Try some variances and if that doesn't work, change your platform to another architecture.

The TOBE unit pauses and is seen changing shapes. Then it resumes it's original form.

TOBE

I am not compatible in any of my configurations or architectural platforms with this technology. Interface is not possible.

(MORE)

TOBE (CONT'D)

(Pause)

I am sorry.

WILLIAM moves about looking at all the panel arrays and equipment. He moves closer to a device that slightly resembles a dentist's chair. A menacing looking assortment of devices hang from cables over where the torso and the head would be in the chair.

WILLIAM

Tobe, analyze this thing!

Tobe floats toward the chair and emits a beam of light that scans over the chair and the devices.

TOBE

It is a communications terminal array designed for humanoid interface.

WILLIAM

Elaborate Tobe.

TOBE

My analysis reveals that the head and chest array were designed to create a symbiotic interface between the user and the Death Storm war vessel's central processing unit.

RICK

Will, this is the purest form of a cybernetic relationship I can possibly imagine.

TATIANA

Tobe, vhat is the status of the plasma build up?

TOBE

Progressing geometrically. They will be able to fire in two minutes.

TATIANA

Someone has to get into that thing and take control away from the entities.

YURIKO

That sounds easy TATIANA, but there's one problem.

(MORE)

YURIKO (CONT'D)

That thing wasn't designed for humans. If one of us gets in it, we don't know if he or she will be able to take over control. And we sure don't know if that person will survive.

TOBE

If I may shed some light on this, my data on human physiology confirms that this device will cause severe trauma. Death is not only possible, it is a ninety-nine percent probability.

WILLIAM

I'll do it!

WILLIAM starts moving into the chair but RICK pushes him back.

RICK

No, I'll do it!

WILLIAM

(Forcefully)

I'm the commander here and I will...

RICK

What do you know about technology and programming Will? This is my detail. Once I'm done, your job will be to get me medical care ASAP! Call nine one one if you have too but don't let me die without a fight!

There is a moment of silence and everyone looks at RICK with acceptance and respect. RICK then moves toward the chair and slowly climbs into it. He presses two controls and then leans on them. The array above slowly drops on and around him. Several small needles-like devices penetrate his forehead. Two rubber hoses with syringes are electronically guided to his arms and puncture the veins.

RICK (CONT'D)

(Wincing in pain)

Argh!

Everyone circles around him with expressions of awe and horror. YURIKO roughly grabs the Tobe unit from mid-air, presses a dial and looks through one of its monitors.

RICK (CONT'D)

Yuri, can you do something for the pain?

She removes a hypodermic and injects a drug into his neck.

YURIKO

Is that better?

RICK

Yeah....I see them Yuri! They were a proud race, a lot like us really. Their pride let them to arrogance. They forgot who God is. I can see the matrix that regulates the plasma wells and I can see all of you too.

(Beginning to sound tired)
How's this for cybernetics, huh
RAISE!

RAISE

He's not making any sense.

YURIKO

He's loosing a lot of blood and becoming delirious.

WILLIAM

Hang tough RICK! Focus on the
matrix!

TOBE

This ship is now ready to open fire on Earth.

CUT TO:

INT. - AN ALIEN ENGINE ROOM

Energy bolts are seen merging together and forming a hexagonal sphere like shape.

RICK

Yes! I see the plasma hexagon device. Argh! I...I see the access latch and the guidance system on the ceiling. I'm severing the contact of all the other entities. The mass will become intolerable in seconds. They are trying to get in my head through the interface. Go to Hell!

A flash of light is seen through a wide bay window of the tower. All except RICK run to the window. In the far horizon, they see bluish-white light and thunder bolts, than an explosion that rocks the entire ship. The explosion hurtles the Death Storm in a direction away from Earth. The team members are struggling to get back to RICK's side.

RICK (CONT'D)

(Moving sluggishly)

Main engines are down. Now I have to instruct the primary reactor to start building up and also cut off the cooling system.

(With slurred speech)

I have put an eight-minute delay on the build up process. Time enough for you guys to get out.

YURIKO frantically tries to release RICK from the array.

YURIKO

Oh no you don't! You're coming with us!

RICK

(Faintly)

No Yuri. It was all wishful thinking. Look at my life signs....I'm already dead!

CUT TO:

INT. MAIN CONTROL ROOM OF LIGHT OF HOPE SPACE SHIP

PLYMAR

MYGANOS, the ion dispersion field of the Death Storm is down.

MYGANOS

Move in closer. We might get them out of there after all.

PLYMAR

I am receiving a distress signal from the Tobe unit.

MYGANOS

Where is it coming from?

PLYMAR

From the tallest structure on the top side of the vessel.

MYGANOS

Move us closer to that point!

Tremors are seen and felt throughout the control room.

PLYMAR

We are being fired upon!

MYGANOS

Increase the strength of our shields! Return fire but do not hit that tower.

CUT TO:

EXT. OPEN SPACE

There is heavy laser fire exchange between the Death Storm and the Light of Hope.

CUT TO:

INT. TOP OF TOWER

Heavy laser fire is heard and the ship rocks with every hit it takes.

WILLIAM

We can't move him but we sure as Hell can't leave him here!

RICK

(Weakly touching is holster)

You know what to do Will! Let me die with dignity.

RAISE

What is this dieing with dignity horse shit!

RAISE starts pulling the devices from their base overhead.

RAISE (CONT'D)

I won't listen to that kind of talk! We're getting you outta heah!

WILLIAM

You got it RAISE! We all go or we all die together!

RAISE

I wouldn't go that far!

TATIANA

Hurry up. Cut the hoses going into his arms!

RAISE takes out a sharp knife from a side holster and cuts the tubes. Blood sprays through the air and hits their clothes. RICK goes into shock.

YURIKO

(Handing WILLIAM and RAISE rolled bandages)
Wrap his arms and apply pressure but no tourniquets!

WILLIAM climbs on to the chair's armrest and removes the array from RICK's head with great effort. RICK's forehead is covered with blood.

RICK'S BEE

Life signs are minimal. Cardiac arrest is imminent.

YURIKO

Come on!

The ship shudders once more. Sounds of destruction and mayhem are heard in the background. WILLIAM and RAISE lift RICK and carry him.

CUT TO:

INT. DEATH STORM - MAIN CONTROL CHAMBER

ENTITY

I have lost empathic communication with the plasma wells. We are in great danger!

The prime entity stands, ripping flesh and tubes away from its body. Blood and liquids are seen oozing out of his naked form.

PRIME ENTITY

Nonsense, we are immortals. Where is Malvada?

The prime entity falls face down on the floor.

CUT TO:

INT. BOTTOM OF THE DEATH STORM'S TOWER

The group is seen landing. The TOBE unit flies ahead of them.

WILLIAM

Tobe, what's the quickest way out of here?!

TOBE

Follow me! My sensors indicate this duct still holds structural integrity.

TATIANA removes her qun from her holster.

TATIANA

I'll lead! YURIKO, guard our backs! I'm sure those creatures won't underestimate us now!

RAISE

Hey RICK, you should think about going on a diet!

WILLIAM

Too bad he can't hear you. I never thought I'd miss hearing you guys fight.

RICK's bee places itself on his chest and starts applying electric stimulus to the heart.

TOBE

This way, hurry!

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTER CORE OF THE DEATH STORM ON A CRYSTALLINE DUCT

The DEATH STORM shudders. The team falls but gets back on their feet quickly. Overhead, through the crystal duct, they can see large pieces of ship debris passing by. The Tobe unit flies ahead and sees that the duct has collapsed. Nearby, a long bluish flame is seen jetting through the ship's hull near the duct.

TOBE

(Addressing the team)
We must go back to the tower. The
duct's structural integrity has
been compromised. I have Transmitted a distress signal and our
coordinates for rescue. The Light
of Hope is approaching.

They all turn around in the crystalline duct and head back to the tower. RAISE and WILLIAM drag RICK along the floor.

At the entrance to the tower stands MALVADA. He sports mechanical arms and aims a menacing rifle-like weapon at the team. More laser fire and chaos is visible overhead above the crystalline duct. The DEATH STORM shudders violently knocking the team to the floor.

RICK'S BEE

(Loudly)

Warning, full cardiac arrest! Warning, full cardiac arrest!

YURIKO crawls over next to RICK. She does CPR.

YURIKO

Come on RICK! You can't die! Hold on!

RAISE

He's dead!

YURIKO

No he's not! He is not brain dead! Tobe put him in stasis!

The TOBE unit moves close to RICK and envelopes him in a field of amber energy.

MALVADA

He might as well be.

TATIANA moves slowly toward her gun that lays on the floor.

MALVADA (CONT'D)

I'm afraid we can't have that!

Using his weapon, Malvada motions for everyone to drop their weapons.

WILLIAM

Why are you doing this? You practically brought us here!

MALVADA

And you did exceptionally well!
But there is one problem with that.
If you were resourceful enough to
destroy this ship, you also
represent as much of a threat to
the galaxy as us. No one must be a
victor of this battle. You must
stay and die with us. Do you like
my new arms?

WILLIAM

You're as crazy as the others!

TOBE

Fifteen seconds for reactor detonation. My energy levels are very low. Stasis is now active on Ricardo. I can't create defensive force fields.

MALVADA

Accept the inevitable. As I have.

TATIANA

Like my comrades' vould say, fuck you!

She jumps for her gun. MALVADA fires. The beam hits where she was standing. She grabs her weapon, tumbles, rolls and comes up in a kneeling position firing. A blast hits MALVADA's head exploding it. Brain matter and liquids fly everywhere. The duct shatters with a great shudder. The team is surrounded by an aura of blue light created by the emergency atmospheric field suits. Artificial gravity fails. The Light of Hope arrives at that very second and block the stars of space behind the team.

CUT TO:

EXT. DEATH STORM VESSEL WITH THE TRAINING SHIP HOVERING CLOSE ABOVE

In the background, Earth is seen growing smaller and smaller as both ships fly away at great speed.

CUT TO:

EXT. UNDERBELLY OF LIGHT OF HOPE

A bubble is emitted from a bay and the team is seen being drawn into the Light of Hope training ship.

WILLIAM

(Addressing MYGANOS by talking to his bee)
Let's haul ass people!

TOBE

(Slightly rejuvenated)
Ten seconds until detonation!

The Light of Hope pulls away from the DEATH STORM. Planet Saturn is seen passing by.

A large explosion takes pace and a big section of the DEATH STORM starts breaking away. Another explosion is seen and a chunk of the DEATH STORM blows apart into space.

CUT TO:

INT. LIGHT OF HOPE - DEBRIEFING ROOM

YURIKO enters the room followed by MYGANOS. The other team members are already present and seated.

RAISE

(Concerned)

How's he doing?

YURIKO

He's going to make it. These beings can perform miracles!

TATIANA and WILLIAM are then seen talking and holding hands.

TATIANA

(Addressing WILLIAM)
So what do we do now lover?

WILLIAM

I don't know, but I do know I've developed some very strong feelings for you.

(Pause and sadly)
Once this ship moves from behind
our moon, they'll do that time
travel trick. Our thoughts and
memories will be gone. I don't want
to loose what I'm feeling for you.

TATIANA

I feel the same vay. I hate the idea of loosing our memories. It will take them time to prepare for the time jump.

(Sensually)

In the meantime, we can imprint some memories they might not be able to erase.

She kisses WILLIAM on the neck and reaches behind him to grab his ass.

WILLIAM

(Addressing the team)
Ah, TATIANA and I, ah, want to
discuss some alternate strategies
we could have used on this mission.
So, ah, we're going over to
the....

TATIANA

Ve're going to my room to prepare some notes.

RAISE and YURIKO look at each other and then back at WILLIAM and TATIANA.

RAISE

(Sarcastic)

We understand. There are number of things we could've done better. Go. Go and get back to us with your conclusions.

YURIKO

(Sarcastic)

Oh yeah! Sure. Don't strain yourselves. Get back with us and give us feedback.

RAISE and YURIKO leave the room. Moments later WILLIAM and TATIANA leave as well smiling and holding hands.

CUT TO:

INT. A SMALL VESSEL DOCKED INSIDE THE LIGHT OF HOPE

A team is seen on a hologram sitting around a small table in civilian clothes.

ORACLE OF ECKLAR

What of them now?

MYGANOS

Their memories will be erased on their way home. Everything will be as if nothing has happened. They will be returned to the exact place and time of retrieval.

ORACLE OF ECKLAR What about the bees and pendants.

MYGANOS

Tokens bought on travels or excursions. These people will never meet each other again!

The ORACLE OF ECKLAR wearing a black cloak with a hood that completely conceals its head moves closer to MYGANOS.

ORACLE OF ECKLAR
You could not be more mistaken.

MYGANOS

What ever do you mean?! For all that is holy, speak your mind! Throughout this entire quest you have kept hidden in the vowels of this ship for reasons of your own. Now speak!

The creature pulls back the hood revealing facial features that are a mixture of cat and a demonic-like creature.

ORACLE OF ECKLAR
They will come together again and the fate of two galaxies will depend on their actions.

He stands, turns and walks away down a dark hallway. Through a bay window, the vessel carrying the Terra Force team is seen flying back toward Earth.

FADE OUT.

THE END