

GREENHOUSE

By
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FADE IN:

SAN FRANCISCO

INT. ALLIANCE CORPORATION - BOARDROOM

A sleek, high-tech room punctuated with exotic, stuffed animals. Five BOARD MEMBERS gaze intently at MR. JOHN FEINLEIN, the ever efficient, robotic CEO of the ALLIANCE CHEMICAL CORPORATION. John's metallic hand maneuvers the Holographic Image Creator sitting on the table. The box throws off a three D GRAPH showing Alliance Profits and Losses for the year 2020. The board members look sourly at Feinlein. His rigid face doesn't change as he gazes through the hologram.

BOARDMEMBER #1

We're not happy... Our revenues have dwindled since this Greenhouse crap started.

BOARDMEMBER #2

What are you going to do about it, John?

FEINLEIN

I'll buy more votes.

BOARDMEMBER #2

Don't bullshit us. You've bought all the votes you can.

Feinlein shuts down the hologram. The image vanishes.

BOARDMEMBER #1

John, we need to win this contract. A future, your future depends on it. You beat Greenhouse or find another job. And ditch the stupid animal collection.

Feinlein's eyes connect with the lifeless eyes of the stuffed black panther poised on a stand nearby. He's no more alive than they are.

FEINLEIN

Gentlemen... So to answer your question... whatever's bloody necessary. That's what I'm going to do. Listen... I have to call my son. Meeting adjourned.

EXT. HARRY'S TACO HOUSE - SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT

A gaudy-looking RESTAURANT nestled on a hill that overlooks a city in environmental decay. AIR TRAFFIC clutters the landing zone around the restaurant.

Satellite dishes cover the roof, fighting for space with the sign that says, THE MEDIA IS THE MEAL.

INT. HARRY'S TACO HOUSE

A packed eating establishment that serves up video images on screens. The images relentlessly flash from every point on the planet. Media overload with a touch of salsa.

COLIN "COLLIE" FOX, a ruggedly built man in his mid-twenties, sips coffee and fiddles with the video menu. The video screens pull up current happenings. He stops to watch, his face passive, almost bored.

VIDEO #1 - THE LINDA LANG SHOW

Linda Lang argues with several women in her audience. One audience member angrily throws a shoe at Linda.

LINDA LANG (ON
SCREEN)
Don't threaten me! Genetically
engineered people should have the
same rights as us.
(ducks another
shoe)

VIDEO #2 - SHE'S SYNTHETIC

A cheesy sitcom. A perky blond man shoves his well-endowed girl friend into a closet when the AUTO DOOR MAN sounds off. He opens the door to find his annoyed landlord standing there, with a NO GENE JOBS sign in his mit.

LANDLORD (ON SCREEN)
Don't you know there's no Gene Jobs
allowed here!

BLOND MAN (ON SCREEN)
That's not a Gene Job, that's my
sister.

Colin scowls, displeased by the show. He bundles up a bunch of assorted mix flowers, holding them like the rare jewels that they are.

VIDEO #3 - ALLIANCE PROMO

Brief thirty-second display showing Feinlein sitting with children in an hermetically sealed dome. Graphic reads - ALLIANCE CHEMICAL CORPORATION - PUTTING OUR CHILDREN FIRST.

Colin smiles and finishes his coffee. He stops the menu on the last screen and listens.

VIDEO #4 - SENATE HOUR

A newscast. An ANNOUNCER speaks over a visual of the Senate chambers.

ANNOUNCER (ON SCREEN)

Latest poll results... Greenhouse leads fifty points over the Alliance Plan. This is being hailed as the most important government contract fight of this century. On other fronts, Genetic civil rights will be argued this afternoon. Stay tuned.

Colin listens with intense interest.

ANNOUNCER (ON SCREEN)

Air and water indexes are up, with the price of flowers up ten dollars an ounce. It still pays to give fake flowers, they're cheaper. On a sad note... An era came to a close today when Ezra Pound, the last independent flower engineer was found murdered. We will miss him.

Colin plucks an Easter lily from the flower bunch and lays it on the restaurant check.

COLIN

I won't.

LOUDSPEAKER

Mr. Fox, your ship is cleared for departure. Have a nice day.

Colin takes the flowers and walks away.

SPACE

The sun rises over the dingy, brown Earth. Waves of shuttle traffic clutter up the airways.

Colin's cargo ship, the MYTHIC EXPLORER, an antiquated S class cargo shuttle, enters a holding pattern.

SPACE - GREENHOUSE ONE

Above all this clamor, the space station called GREENHOUSE ONE hovers like a massive steel and glass molecule. Its five arm-like appendages with a life-filled pod at their ends, glitter in the sunlight. Painted on the station's side is the LOGO of a TREE. Girding the middle of the molecule is a narrow catwalk.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - RAINFOREST BIOME

Exotic collection of jungle flora and fauna. What is left of the rainforest lives here in this oasis.

Stationed at the center of the jungle is the steel, robotic arm named TARA, a voice activated robotic arm. Tara quietly stands like a sentinel in a sea of manufactured trees.

Something crashes through the canopy and agilely jumps from tree to tree.

Suddenly, a female BLACK PANTHER leaps from a branch landing on the ground. There's a growl, then a contented laugh overhead. Sheila, the panther looks up as MAGGIE CAMPBELL descends in a graceful dive.

She catches the vines and swings to the ground. Maggie is genetically engineered and looks like a goddess. Builder of Greenhouse One. Its mother and caretaker.

Maggie and the panther playfully roll on the ground. The woman gently pushes Sheila down and sits up. Sheila lays her head in the woman's lap.

MAGGIE

Soon, you'll have a whole forest to run it.

Maggie stands up. She grabs another vine and climbs up to a tree branch. The Goddess of Greenhouse drapes herself over the branch like a snake and hangs there. A real snake watching with curiosity, joins in.

MAGGIE

After all these years, they're actually listening. Feinlein must be getting nervous.. Good.

She closed her eyes and smiles. Then she remembers.

MAGGIE

The interview.

Maggie slips to the ground and rushes off.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - C DECK, CREW QUARTERS

Very uninhibited and lived-in environment. A series of small rooms, each bearing the distinctive mark of its occupants.

The crew quarters are loosely divided into male and female areas with a separate area whimsically marked with a sign: GENE JOBS ONLY.

From another room marked: THE OTHER WOMAN, comes DARSEY GRANGER, a short, overweight young Southern woman. Maggie walks down the hall and passes her.

Darsey makes a mental comparison of their figures and looks depressed about it.

MAGGIE

(to Darsey)

Don't forget the interview.

DARSEY

How can I forget. That's all you talk about.

MAGGIE

(calls out)

We have less than an hour. Diane, are you ready?

Walking casually from the Gene Job room, brushing her hair, DIANE RAINEY, a good-looking, clean cut engineered woman whisks by Maggie and pecks her on the cheek. Diane wears a business suit.

DIANE

Do I look alright?

MAGGIE

Great. Where's Madwoman Butterfly?

DIANE

Kimi's cleaning her sword collection or something. I don't know.

MAGGIE

Kimiko. Up front.

KIMIKO MATSUMOTO, a tall Japanese woman, comes into the hall. "Kimi" has a powerful build and a powerful temper. A classic case of Gene Job burnout.

KIMIKO

Is this going to be another slam at us? If it is, count me out.

MAGGIE

Fake some enthusiasm. People are watching.

KIMIKO

Fine. Great.

The three women enter the men's area where two rooms labeled, SAM AND WOODY'S PLACE, resemble a gym locker. A SHOWER runs somewhere and two distinctly off-key VOICES sing in broken harmony.

MAGGIE

They sound like alley cats.

The water stops. SAM LENTZ, middle-aged, with a week's worth of beard, walks dripping wet from the shower. He's barely covered by a towel. A man who is impossible to ignore with a sledgehammer sense of humor. A natural man in an unnatural world.

SAM

That was a Mozart Cantata for two cats.

MAGGIE

Sam, would you please look presentable this time.

The women enter an elevator. The door closes.

SAM

At least she said please. I'm always presentable.

He goes back into the shower room, dragging the towel.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - PLANT NURSERY

A large, pastel-colored room with the biggest assortment of plant life assembled anywhere in one gene factory. Flowers, trees, shrubs, skunk cabbages, poison ivy, vines, fuchsia-roses.

On the wall a sign proclaims, BE KIND TO YOUR PLANT FRIENDS, FOR A TURNIP COULD BE SOMEBODY'S MOM.

The nursery appears a bit rundown but clean. Maggie turns on the video screen.

WOODY JONES, rushes into the lab out of breath. A loose kind of guy. No frills computer expert. He takes a second glance at Maggie in her interview outfit and holds his chest.

WOODY

Whew... Looks like that give me palpitations!

Sam and the other women walk in to find Maggie setting up a chair. She misses Woody's comment.

MAGGIE

This chair too busy?

SAM

Do you think Feinlein will really care what you sit on?

MAGGIE

I care.

TV SCREEN -- Linda Lang show PROMO. Linda appears.

LINDA LANG (ON SCREEN)

Tonight on live feed from our studio, we will bring together two adversaries, John Feinlein, Alliance CEO. Maggie Campbell, head of the Greenhouse One Biology Lab.

Sam and Woody pick up metal crates and carry them to the plant work station. Sam studies the specimens, chooses several and loads them in the crate.

Kimiko and Darsey stand off in a corner watching. Maggie sits down, ready for a battle. She glances over to Diane for support. Diane smiles back.

DIANE

Kill the bum.

LINDA LANG (ON SCREEN)

Ms. Campbell, are you ready? We can start.

MAGGIE

I am.

TV SCREEN -- Mr. Feinlein appears sitting in the lobby of his opulent San Francisco headquarters. He waves a metallic hand in greeting to a phalanx of NEWS CAMERAS presently surrounding him. Feinlein smiles pleasantly at the video screen stationed nearby. On the screen, Linda's face is seen next to Maggie Campbell's.

LINDA LANG (ON SCREEN)

Mr. Feinlein, first... How do you feel about competing with a genetically engineered woman for what is called the most important contract of this century?

MR. FEINLEIN

I feel fine about it. We own the best democratic system ever devised by man. I welcome fair and unbiased competition.

Maggie's TV image faces him.

LINDA LANG (V.O.)

Do you agree, Ms. Campbell?

MAGGIE

He does own it, that much I agree with.

Sam smirks at the remark. He looks at her pleased.

MR. FEINLEIN (ON SCREEN)

The lady has a sense of humor, besides being very beautiful.

(measured)

But we have to be practical, don't you think? It's just not cost effective in this day and age to play the romantic nature lover.

(measured)

Don't get me wrong, my only purpose is to serve the future and provide the best for our children.

MAGGIE

Is that cost effective?

FEINLEIN (ON SCREEN)

Do I hear a note of sarcasm?

MAGGIE

I just don't see how paying a multinational corporation, year after year, for things the planet can provide by itself, is cost effective.

LINDA LANG (ON SCREEN)

Ms. Campbell... your wide popularity in the Senate. How do you feel about it?

MAGGIE

I feel vindicated... we all do here. I'm sure Mr. Feinlein isn't happy. But, then again, he did say this was a democracy.

INT. ALLIANCE HEADQUARTERS - LOBBY

Feinlein motions over his personal SECRETARY. The young man leans down as Feinlein whispers to him. Then, he dutifully hurries off. Feinlein faces the screen again. The interview continues.

LINDA LANG (ON SCREEN)

Are you unhappy?

FEINLEIN

I'm not worried. Let reason and prudence prevail. People know my track record in providing sound resource management on a global scale. That's what I'm good at.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - PLANT NURSERY

Maggie shakes her head in annoyance at the statement. Woody focuses the video camera on her.

LINDA LANG (ON SCREEN)

Ms. Campbell, your response.

MAGGIE

Mr. Feinlein, you bucket of bolts, you're only good at sound bites... If people could see this world here, they wouldn't listen to you.

I want to bring life back to the world. The whole world.

(pauses)

One last thing... please remember, genetically engineered people are an endangered species also. We want a fair chance just as much as these...

Maggie's face on the TV screen is lost to static, then snow. Feinlein's image is not affected.

Maggie is cut off in mid-sentence and the live feed is over. A SUNSPOT WARNING flashes.

INT. TV STUDIO

Linda Lang shifts in her chair. Feinlein's face occupies half the screen. The warning sign fills the other half. She glances around, confused.

LINDA LANG

Looks like we lost her due to solar activity... I guess the floor is yours, Mr. Feinlein.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - PLANT NURSERY

General confusion. Maggie looks dumbfounded at the screen as Feinlein's voice drones on.

MAGGIE

What happened?

WOODY

Sun spots? Not for a week.

Maggie stands up and walks over to the screen. She scowls at Feinlein's face.

MAGGIE

You can't shut me up.

SAM

Next time.

MAGGIE

What next time? Sam, there is no next time.

Sam goes back to the crates. Woody and Diane follow him. By now there are several crates ready to go. Crates of living things, their work and their future packed like sardines in a can. Kimiko paces the floor.

KIMIKO

This is shit. They're never going to listen to you.

Maggie walks towards her. She trips over a garden trowel on the floor.

MAGGIE

How many times have I told you...
Sam... the tools.

Standing up with her back against the wall, trowel in hand, Maggie has a stunned expression.

CLOSE ON - A pointed garden tool hurls through the air. It strikes the wall just inches from Maggie's skull and hangs there.

On another wall, a TV monitor plays a vintage ERROL FLYNN pirate movie. Flynn is throwing knives and laughing.

GARDEN SCISSORS - Two pair of garden scissors whiz towards Maggie, point blank. Just three inches from her face, she reaches up and catches them in mid-flight.

MAGGIE

(astonished)

I don't believe it! Stop it,
Homer!

At the far end of the nursery, an innocent looking potted plant wraps its tendrils around another tool. Sam rushes over and grabs it away.

SAM

He's mimicking the TV. Our plant.
Your plant. Good boy, Homer.

The humans gather around the plant. Maggie kisses Homer on its throwing "hand." It trembles and wraps itself around her neck.

WOODY

We should send Homer after that
melonhead Feinlein.

MAGGIE

Homer has my genes in him. Like
mother like son.

SAM

Yeah... I still don't know... do I
congratulate him or feel sorry.

MAGGIE

Sure, Sam. Kimi... let's take a
walk. See you later, my pet.

EXT. SPACE - GREENHOUSE ONE

Three forms in space suits, cling to the edge of the catwalk, their bodies floating weightless in space.

CLOSE UP - Maggie rolls up her sun visor, eyes fixed and resolute.

MAGGIE

Here we go, again.

Maggie, Kimiko, and Diane hook up bungee cords to large eye hooks on the catwalk. On their backs are power packs. They flip on the packs and fly out a ways, then cut off the jets. The momentum carries them out. They stop when they reach the end of the tether lines.

The whipping action of the ropes causes them to be flung back at the station and towards a PAINTED TARGET on its side. Bungee jumping in space.

They stop the impact with brute force, slide down from the target, and land on the catwalk, unscathed.

Maggie is the first to hit and land.

MAGGIE

(raises sun visor)

Nothing like a walk to clear the mind.

DIANE

(panting)

Could we stop now? I like living too much.

KIMIKO

You do? I don't. How about another run at it?

MAGGIE

I always like to bash my head in when dealing with Feinlein. Makes the insults he inflicts less painful.

Maggie rests on the catwalk. Diane and Kimiko join her.

MAGGIE (CON'T)

I hope you don't mind going, Diane... You understand.

KIMIKO

I can hear Feinlein telling his cronies how the bitch got cold feet.

MAGGIE

That baby is our only live dolphin birth this year. I have to be here.

DIANE

No. I don't mind going. So... Collie coming?

MAGGIE

Yes. I invited him.

KIMIKO

He's natural. Natural men are mucho troublino.

DIANE

You're so bigoted, Kimi. Sam?

Maggie looks down, then away. She lowers her sun visor. But the pain in her eyes still shows.

MAGGIE

Yes. He knows.

Kimiko stands and flips on her jet pack. She looks at Maggie.

KIMIKO

Coming?

Maggie nods, comprehending the urge. She's had it, too.

MAGGIE

Let's do it.

The two women fly off the catwalk. Diane stays put on the catwalk.

KIMIKO -- Turns off her power pack as usual. Suddenly, she turns it back on. She speeds toward the target.

MAGGIE -- Alarmed by Kimiko's actions, flies after her.

TARGET -- Kimiko hits the target at full force, Maggie intervenes in time. Kimiko is only stunned.

MAGGIE

Why are you doing this?

KIMIKO

It's the only free choice I have.

MAGGIE

Killing yourself?

KIMIKO

Yeah.

Maggie helps Kimiko to the pressure hatch door.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - RECREATION ROOM - GYM

The pressure hatch opens. Maggie, Diane, and Kimiko enter into an oversized gymnasium with padded walls.

The women remove their pressure suits and roll up the tether lines. There is a strained silence between them.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - SHUTTLE

The constant THUMPING of the engines and the soft red glow from the overhead lamp makes the shuttle cockpit resemble a metallic heart. Diane adjusts for the lack of sitting room. She's surrounded by crates. Maggie hugs her.

MAGGIE

I have faith in you.

DIANE

Thanks.

The shuttle rotates to face the open shuttle bay door and BLASTS off onto the void.

INT. MYTHIC EXPLORER - CARGO HOLD

The cargo hold, boxy on the inside and just plain ugly. Piles of empty crates, metal cages and electronic equipment labeled, GREENHOUSE ONE, fill up the dimly lit room.

Colin sits in a chair, methodically picking the lint from a yellow suit jacket. The flowers are neatly arranged in a utility bucket. He leans down, picks out a blemished petal and rips it off, tossing the petal into the pile of lint on the floor.

Satisfied, Colin dons the jacket. He combs his newly bleached out blond hair. Turns on the video fax unit and practices at smiling. The unit is ready.

COLIN

Maggie, honey. I'm on my way.
I've got a surprise. See you in a few.

The unit transmits and CLICKS off. Colin takes off the jacket and hangs it up.

He sits down in the chair, checks his watch and compares it to the ship's computer's time readout. He peers out the hold's small porthole at passing shuttle crafts zipping by outside.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - MAIN COMMUNICATIONS ROOM

Maggie faces a video phone in the modestly equipped room. She flips it on and rubs her forehead. The stress is showing.

MAGGIE

Shuttle One, please.

The video phone complies.

Yeah. DIANE (ON SCREEN)

Still in orbit? MAGGIE

Maggie looks unhappy.

DIANE (ON SCREEN)
I can't help the shuttle jam. Oh,
by the way, those pills you gave me
for my queasy stomach, worked.

MAGGIE
Watch the dosage. They put me to
sleep.

DIANE (ON SCREEN)
No problem... Collie there yet?

No. MAGGIE

Diane frowns at her friend.

DIANE (ON SCREEN)
I won't say it, again... about
burning bridges.

The video fax unit receives a transmission.

MAGGIE
I know you care... Believe me.
It's over. I have to go. Fax me
from the hotel. Bye.

She hangs up and turns on the fax monitor to find Colin's
smiling face.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - FOREST BIOME

An elevator door WHOOSHES open. Maggie and Kimiko, wearing work
overalls, step out. They walk into a genetically engineered
forest, alive with ANIMAL SOUNDS. Maggie pauses to admire the
view.

MAGGIE
Another day in paradise.

Kimiko crouches, her eyes drift down to the ground.

Preoccupied, but not wanted to seem too obvious. She is
obvious.

KIMIKO

The grass is growing well.

Maggie looks at the back of Kimiko's black hair, reflecting light like burnished ebony around her shoulders. She sits next to Kimi, taking her perfectly chiseled chin in hand, draws it up. Their eyes connect. Maggie lifts Kimi's right hand and holds out her own right hand.

The NUMBER 47 is tattooed into their palms, faded reminders of their unique origins.

MAGGIE

It really doesn't matter what people think.

KIMIKO

I try. Believe me, I do try but it's bloody, damn hard sometimes.

Maggie pulls Kimiko up.

MAGGIE

I'll always love you, no matter what happens.

KIMIKO

Yeah. Let's go see what Sarge is messing up.

Maggie activates the computer terminal in a fake tree stump. A COMPUTER VOICE that resembles a gruff drill sergeant, barks out orders to four small ROBOT DROIDS.

SARGE

Pick up those feet, you lazy bums... Yes, Sir?

MAGGIE

The inventory, Sarge.

SARGE

Company halt, men. Seven hundred fish, total. Ten beavers, etc, etc. Read the print out, Sir. You may resume, troops.

The computer spits out a hard copy. Maggie takes it. The droids go back to work counting the inventory.

MAGGIE

When is he going to stop calling me sir?

The women follow a miniature stream until it runs into a pond, made to resemble an old swimming hole, complete with tire swing.

A sign on the tree reads, SAM AND MAGGIE'S HIDEOUT. Maggie takes down the sign.

MAGGIE

Out with the old and in with the new.

KIMIKO

You make everything seem so damn easy.

MAGGIE

Isn't it?

She walks away. Kimiko looks down at the ground, trying to find words but they don't come.

SOME TIME LATER

INT. SHUTTLE ONE

Diane sits drowsy in the crowded shuttle, waiting for the traffic to clear. Suddenly, she watches in horror as a large shadowy outline of another space vessel looms in front of her. There's a jolt and she's hurled from the seat and thrown against a rear wall. The impact knocks her out cold and overturns the cargo.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DOCKING BAY

A loud THUD shakes the Docking Bay as the Mythic Explorer hooks up. Maggie and the others wait at an internal pressure hatch.

Colin Fox disembarks through the air lock. He emerges from a haze of decontamination mist, silhouetted against the bright of the docking area.

He's holding something in his hands. Colin's Sunday best hangs well on him and Maggie watches with muted interest as he walks towards her.

COLIN

(holds out flowers)

Hey, baby. For the most beautiful flower in this garden.

MAGGIE

(getting kittenish)

Collie, they're real? Oh, you shouldn't have!

COLIN

(grinning)

I really had to fight for'em.

He kisses her. The kiss turns into a long one. Sam looks away, uncomfortable to say the least. Woody cuts in, pushing Darsey ahead.

WOODY

Ah, Collie, nice to see you. This is our new girl, Darsey. She's from Georgia.

Colin breaks free. Darsey's now in his face.

COLIN

What's a nice magnolia like you doing here?

DARSEY

I'm a victim of the hiring quota. What's a magnolia?

Maggie leads the group out of the Docking Bay. Colin hands his bags to Sam.

COLIN

Could you carry these? I have a bad back.

Sam hands the bags to Kimiko who reluctantly takes them.

SAM

No, not really.

KIMIKO

I don't want his bags, either.

Maggie smiles at Colin and scowls at Sam as they walk into the hallway.

MAGGIE

Smell that air, Collie. Oxygen's up today. We're in a blooming period. You should see our flowers.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - HALLWAY

Walking down the hallway, Colin works his charm on her until they're interrupted by the sound of Sam's voice splitting the air.

SAM (OVER INTERCOM)
Jill's fetal monitor is going
haywire. We got a kid on the way!

Maggie drags Colin to the closest elevator and they disappear into it.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - OCEAN BIOME

The ocean biome looks and smells like any small tidal area, with all the familiar sea life found by the shore. Two dolphins, BILL and JILL are about to be parents. The pregnant Jill CHIRPS at Maggie as she wades into the water in a wet suit.

Maggie cavorts with the animals and inspects the belly of Jill. The dolphin nuzzles her.

MAGGIE
They don't come any prettier than
you.

Kimiko wades into the water with a bag of medical things. The others watch from the shore.

Jill's monitor is removed. She spooks and starts to thrash around. Sam rushes into the water.

SAM
Wait for me!

MAGGIE
(looks at him)
No. You don't really need to.

Colin sits on the sand and studies the layout of several layers of solar panels hanging from the ceiling.

Kimiko and Maggie struggle to contain the beast in labor. Sam tries to help but feels like a loose cog.

MAGGIE
We really can manage fine
ourselves.
(contained passion)
I never get tired of this.

The baby dolphin appears and Maggie grabs it by the middle and pulls on it.

SAM
O.K. O.K.

MAGGIE

(getting worried)

The kid is stuck. Collie, come and see this.

Jill chirps in pain and throws Maggie off her body. Maggie falls into the water. Sam picks her up. Bill, the father swims by and rubs up against Jill. She calms down.

COLIN

It makes me queazy.

Colin gets up and wades into the water. He hesitates.

MAGGIE

Come on. You can do it.

Kimiko and Maggie work together at the final pull and the baby is born. It swims by its mother. Maggie pets it and tears well up in her eyes. Sam can't help his happiness.

SAM

We should name it after you, Collie. Nice resemblance.

Colin stares at the bloody mammal in the water.

COLIN

(surprised)

So that's how it's done?

KIMIKO

Where'd you think they came from. Museums? Old dad never gave you a sex talk?

Maggie leads Colin to the animals. He touches the baby dolphin and its mother like he's afraid of them. They offer little response. Sam watches the exchange from the water, pleased by Colin's lack of savvy.

COLIN

No. Not exactly.

MAGGIE

We have company.

A horde of sand flies settles on the group. Colin fights off the insects and he SNEEZES his head off.

KIMIKO

(working)

We spaced how you had no stomach for this.

COLIN

Yeah. What's that smell?

The crew puts their tools away.

MAGGIE

It's nature. You'll get used to it.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - MAIN COMMUNICATIONS ROOM

Maggie sits alone in the dark, empty room. She activates the video phone.

MAGGIE

Shuttle One, come in.

There's no answer. She tries on another channel but no reply.

Maggie looks at the tattoo, permanently on her hand.

SOME HOURS LATER

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DINING ROOM

A small but homey environment. A touch of Earth in every corner. A short table sits by a fake fire place. Sam and Woody, fresh from exercising, sit in their shorts at the table. Woody reads a magazine called, SQUARE FOOT HYDROPONICS. Sam tosses paper wads into the fireplace and sniffs the air, dreamily.

SAM

Prime rib, mashed potatoes, chicken pot pie, cupcakes.

WOODY

Steamed broccoli.

SAM

Not in my dream it ain't.

Darsey comes out of the kitchen in an apron and not much else. She's carrying the evening meal.

DARSEY

Soup's on.

Sam takes the dish and sets it on the table. He studies Darsey in the apron.

SAM

You look nice.

DARSEY

When in Rome...

The elevator door sticks and won't open. Someone pries it apart from the inside. Maggie's hand yanks it all the way. Maggie steps from the elevator with Colin and Kimiko. Kimiko in a homemade kimono, carries her chopsticks. Maggie carries a box with something BUZZING inside.

She sets the box on the table. They all take a seat.

COLIN

What's in the box, honey?

MAGGIE

A little surprise for you.

(to Kimiko)

I called Diane. She wasn't in the shuttle.

Kimiko practices with the chopsticks.

KIMIKO

She must have bribed the landing tower to get down this soon. It works for me every single time.

COLIN

Kimi, that's an interesting outfit.

KIMIKO

Cultural orientation. I'm taking a mail order course in Japanese lingo.

Darsey passes the plates out. They dig in. Colin has a confused expression when the food is served.

COLIN

Can I ask what this is?

DARSEY

It's the failed experiment of the day. Sorry, darlin. I'm the new cook here.

Colin picks at his plate, looking at the assortment of vegetables and the thing he doesn't recognize as edible.

Colin is entranced by the buzzing box. He can't resist lifting up the top. A bunch of colorful scarab beetles escape. He shuts the box on them. No one seems to mind their crawling about on the dinner table. Colin stops eating.

COLIN

What are they?

MAGGIE

Scarab beetles. Brought back from extinction. Resurrected from four thousand year old DNA. My first product here.

Maggie pets one of the beetles, then gives it to Colin.

COLIN

Thanks.

SAM

Waste perfectly good beetles on Colin. Brother...

Colin desperately tries to ignore the bugs. Sam plays the stoic as Colin affectionately pats Maggie's hand. Maggie looks pleased by his gentleness.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - LIVING ROOM

Built as an afterthought and cramped for space. There are five years of mail order curiosities and other items from the surface laying around.

SAM

Well, Darsey, that was a decent meal. So... Collie, how about a game to digest our food?

DARSEY

Thanks, Sam. I try.

SAM

Boxing, Collie?

MAGGIE

Sam. He doesn't want to.

SAM

Just wanting to be friendly.

MAGGIE

No.

Maggie takes Colin by the hand, leads him from the living area. Sam sighs.

Woody throws him a reassuring, you're all right glance but it doesn't help the pain.

Kimiko sits alone by a pile of her magazines and stares quietly at the ties on her kimono.

Darsey attempts to take it all in. These strange and complicated people are not what she's used to.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - COLIN'S ROOM

Maggie and Colin walk arm in arm into Colin's guest cubicle. He holds her close and they passionately kiss. Colin sets the box of beetles on the night stand before sweeping her onto the bed. She smiles as he takes off her top.

MAGGIE

Scarab beetles bring good luck to their owners.

COLIN

I'd say my luck is improving exponentially.

MAGGIE

But only for an hour. Then, it's back to work.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - MAIN COMMUNICATIONS ROOM

Sam sits alone, talking to the video screen. On the screen is his brother, DICKY LENTZ.

SAM

(to Dicky)

I wanted to call and wish you a happy birthday, kid.

DICKY (ON SCREEN)

(brightly)

Thanks, Sammy.

INT. HALL BY THE COMMUNICATIONS ROOM

Maggie walks silently down the hall. She hears VOICES drifting from the communications room and pauses by the open door and out of sight. The temptation to eavesdrop becomes overpowering. She listens.

INT. MAIN COMMUNICATIONS ROOM

DICKY (ON SCREEN)

You really look awful.

SAM

Spend five years of your life
wrestling for the biggest contract
ever was and eat only broccoli.
Then, tell me how you would feel.

INT. HALL BY THE COMMUNICATIONS ROOM

Maggie becomes more interested in Sam's conversation.

INT. MAIN COMMUNICATION ROOM

DICKY (ON SCREEN)

Sure. Mr. Feinlein has been doing
a smear campaign. Everyone loves
everyone.

SAM

And.

DICKY (ON SCREEN)

Are you ever going to tell that
woman the truth?

SAM

It's too late. She's in love with
somebody else.

DICKY (ON SCREEN)

Can you blame her?

SAM

No... It was my fault.

DICKY (ON SCREEN)

So, why don't you get off your ass
and do something to change that?

SAM

Like what? Tell her I love her?

DICKY (ON SCREEN)

Why is that so damn hard for you?

SAM

I don't know. Have a nice
birthday. I'll see you sometime.

DICKY (ON SCREEN)

I know you will. I gotta eat my
birthday cake.

SAM

Bye.

Sam signs off and the screen goes to black. He props his feet on the desk, staring into the night.

INT. HALL BY THE COMMUNICATIONS ROOM

Maggie clears her throat a few times to announce her presence in the hall. Then, she boldly enters the communications room only to find Sam sound asleep. Feeling relieved in not having to really talk to him, she rushes off.

INT. MYTHIC EXPLORER - CARGO HOLD

Colin enters the front room of the hold where his stacks of electronic equipment are kept. Next to them, sits a strongbox. He breaks it open and removes several small, round, flat objects and gently lays them on the floor. He closes the box.

Colin gathers together different items; hitches, rings, measuring devices, goggles, and cutting tools. He loads them into a dirty laundry sack. After tucking the black objects into his shirt, he leaves with the sack.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - COLIN'S ROOM

Colin opens his suitcase. Inside is a video phone. He sits on the bed with the phone in his lap. Next to the bed, the box of beetles bounces about. Colin talks to the phone.

COLIN

I'm here. Well... I just had a wonderful time cavorting with ancient bugs. I wonder if they swim? Don't worry everything's dandy. Bye...

The box tips over and one stray beetle carelessly wanders out onto the table.

Colin stares at it while he puts the phone away. He picks up the box and walks into the tiny bathroom compartment. He shuts the door.

The sound of water FLUSHING comes from the bathroom. Colin's HUMMING is heard over the water. Then, the bathroom door opens and Colin comes out in a bathrobe.

With hair neatly combed, he sets the bug box and his personal items on the night table. The box is strangely quiet and the stray beetle crawls up to it, wanting to get back in. Colin ignores the bug and goes to bed.

THE NEXT WORKING DAY

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DINING ROOM

Sam slouches over a cold cup of coffee. He's a mess. Maggie gaily saunters in, a picture of feminine completeness in her tank top and tight sweat pants.

MAGGIE

(falters)

Morning, Sam.

SAM

(tired)

Don't rub it in... Oh, I called my brother. He says hello.

MAGGIE

(acts unaware of this)

Oh?

Just then, Colin walks in, also dressed in sweat pants. He kisses Maggie in front of Sam. Sam looks away.

COLIN

I feel fabulous. Good morning, Sam.

There's a RUMBLING sound coming towards them. Woody has Homer, the plant in a portable pot. He wheels it into the dining room area.

WOODY

I taught Homer a new trick!

Woody takes off his baseball cap and tosses it to the plant. Homer catches it with a tendril. There's a hush of anticipation in the room. Homer sets the hat on its top shoot. They applaud.

COLIN

Damn!! You made that?

MAGGIE

(adamant)

Yeah. But he's not part of the government contract. He's our pet.

Kimiko and Darsey come in for breakfast.

DARSEY

(amused)

Homer, I think the hat would look better on Sarge.

COLIN

Does Mr. Feinlein know you have this?

MAGGIE

No. He might want to mass produce them. Speaking of bastards...

Maggie turns up the TV.

A silent COMMERCIAL flashes by. DANCING GIRLS cavort on the screen and wave several Alliance Corporation products in a cheery dance. Their costumes spell out the word, Alliance.

MAGGIE

Aren't we glad we don't have to endure what society has come to.

SAM

Amen to that.

The commercial is followed by a NEWSCAST. Linda Lang is on the air.

LINDA LANG (ON SCREEN)

And now for the news.

Colin slips into a chair. Maggie wraps her arms around his neck and kisses him.

LINDA LANG (ON SCREEN)

(continuing)

News on Capital Hill... Has announced today a delay of the Habitat vote for forty-eight hours. All parties were not present as no member of the Greenhouse Project attended. Attempts to reach Greenhouse One have failed.

MAGGIE

Failed? Quiet everyone!! Let's hear this.

DARSEY

Oh, my God.

LINDA LANG (ON SCREEN)

The voting body stated that if Greenhouse doesn't contact them in forty-eight hours, the Alliance wins the contract by default.

The screen goes to black. Maggie panics.

MAGGIE
I'll call the shuttle!

SAM
Now, everybody stay calm!

Colin goes after her as she runs from the dining room.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - MAIN COMMUNICATIONS ROOM

Maggie activates the phone and nervously enters a call code.
Colin stands by.

MAGGIE
Shuttle.

VIDEO PHONE
(recorded message)
Shuttle unoccupied. Please start
message now.

INT. A CAGE - SOMEWHERE

Diane lays unconscious, bound and gagged in a cage built to contain something powerful. The cage sits in a pitch black room.

In the b.g., the video phone message PLAYS BACK. The sound stirs her and she rouses.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - MAIN COMMUNICATIONS ROOM

Maggie hangs up the phone. The rest of the crew comes in, anxious for news.

MAGGIE
She's not there.

SAM
There has to be a logical
explanation.

KIMIKO
I can hear them now, the gene job
cot cold feet.

WOODY
We'll lose support because of this.

MAGGIE
We can't worry about that now.

COLIN
Would it help if I stayed?

SAM / MAGGIE
No. / Yes.

Colin looks around the room at each of them in their degrees of distress.

Maggie goes to the phone and enters the call code. There's static on the line and the operator breaks in.

OPERATOR (ON SCREEN)
Due to technical difficulties, we
cannot connect at this time.

The screen blacks out.

WOODY
Feinlein.

COLIN
Maybe it's sunspots.

DARSEY
What I hear is the Alliance
Corporation owns the company that
owns the company that owns our
satellite network.

COLIN
This is one lousy business you're
in.

DARSEY
I wasn't born yesterday.

COLIN
I bet it brings out the worst in
people.

DARSEY
But, not us.

MAGGIE
No, not us. Right people?

SAM
Right. We still have to keep this
tin can running.

MAGGIE
And we have to get down there now!

SAM
We can't waste these crucial hours.
I agree.

MAGGIE
If Feinlein wants to fight, we'll
give him one.

WOODY
Unplug him for good.

Maggie looks around at the others. They nod in agreement.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - LIFE SUPPORT WORK STATION

Darsey earnestly studies the array of GRID PATTERNS of the LIFE SUPPORT FUNCTIONS work station. Each grid is labeled with its particular area of the station. She busily takes notes. Colin walks by. Darsey stops working and looks up.

COLIN
Busy?

DARSEY
I just checked all these programs.
I'm exhausted.

COLIN
Want to see a magic trick?

DARSEY
How can you think of games at a
time like this?

COLIN
Oh, come on, we could use a little
levity around here.

DARSEY
Alright, it if makes you happy.

Colin pulls out three coins from his pocket and lays them in Darsey's hand.

COLIN
Close your hand.

She does.

DARSEY
Now what?

COLIN
Now, think them away.

Darsey closed her eyes and thinks hard. Colin leans up against the Life support work bench and slides his hand under the table and quickly takes it away.

DARSEY
Am I done

COLIN
Well?

She opens her hand and the coins are gone. She's completely surprised.

DARSEY
How did you do that?

COLIN
You did it. Very good.

Darsey glances at her watch.

DARSEY
Damn, I have to get back to work.

COLIN
You'll do fine. Gotta go.

Colin walks away with the three coins in his hand.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DOCKING BAY WORK STATION

Maggie works at the Docking Bay work area, double-checking the systems. Colin walks by. He calls to her.

COLIN
Now, there's a real girl. May I visit.

Maggie looks perplexed.

MAGGIE
I'm really getting worried.

Colin unbuttons her shirt at the top, exposing her large attributes. She stops him.

MAGGIE
I mean it, Collie. Too many malfunctions, lately.

COLIN
It's an old station.

He leans over her and kisses her hard on the mouth. The grid patters go wild then return to normal. She sees it and pushes him off.

MAGGIE

What was that? I just saw something!

COLIN

I don't see anything.

Colin waves cutely as he strolls down the corridor of the Docking Bay. Maggie frowns at the grid board.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - SAM'S LIVING QUARTERS

A room mixed with high-tech and nostalgia. Sam's bed is a ruffled white hammock, strung between the walls. The usual lamp hangs from the ceiling. An antique COMPACT DISC PLAYER sits on a table.

Maggie helps Sam pack for his trip. He inserts a disk into the old CD player. Sounds of AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL CHANTS waft through the air.

SAM

Music from our lizard past.

MAGGIE

Sam... Colin told me he loves me.

Sam makes eye contact with her and blandly says,

SAM

That's nice.

MAGGIE

Things could get serious.

SAM

So... Trying to make me feel bad? You know me by now... I don't want to get tied down with somebody...

Maggie listens to the music, staring out the room's window towards Earth.

MAGGIE

If I had parents and a family tree, you'd want to.

SAM

I never meant it in that way.

MAGGIE

I'm weak because I want love like other people. I'm not real?

SAM

(slams suitcase)

Damn it, Maggie!

MAGGIE

(defensive)

Are you going to apologize to me?

Sam finishes packing. He takes his bag and a folded handwritten speech and walks to the door. He turns to her.

SAM

I have to go.

Maggie looks quizzically at Sam as he walks out of the room.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - SHUTTLE ROOM

Another shuttle, loaded to the brim with plant and animal specimens, waits on the shuttle platform. Sam wedges his large frame into the seat.

MAGGIE

I'm not finished with this.

SAM

I am.

MAGGIE

I don't care about you, either!

Colin and the inhabitants of Greenhouse wave goodbye as the shuttle rotates to face the shuttle bay door. The huge door lumbers open as the craft advances towards it.

SHUTTLE -- Accelerates until it reaches the door, which keeps opening.

The door WHINES to a grinding halt just as the shuttle takes to the air and WHAP, flies right into the half open door and gets stuck in it. Trapped.

Sounds of Sam SCREAMING his own brand of expletives, echo off the walls. Maggie becomes frantic:

MAGGIE

Sam!! Oh, God, I didn't mean it!

It's surreal, this sight of the shuttle flying to nowhere. The crew stands in utter catatonic shock until Maggie yells out.

MAGGIE

The air's escaping. Put your suit
on, Sam!

The open door is now a safety hazard. The crew get into suits.
Maggie and Kimiko pick up cutting torches and rush to the
shuttle.

They blast their way through with the laser torches and manually
pry the door off. Sam, wearing a suit, hoists himself out.
Maggie is overjoyed.

SAM

(touching the
shuttle door)

Don't care.

MAGGIE

Forget the door. It's the animals
I care about.

Woody goes to the work station and calls up the TRANSPORTATION
GRID on the computer. Woody talks to Sarge.

WOODY

So, what happened, Sarge?

SARGE

Mr. Jones, sir. I don't know. I'm
sick.

WOODY

Computers don't get sick.

SARGE

As sure as the rain falls on the
Savanna in spring, I am.

WOODY

He's no help.

SARGE

I need to shut down.

Woody bangs on the computer.

WOODY

Is the whole grid going to fail?

SAM

I almost got killed.

SARGE

Unable to determine status of
transport grid.

SAM

Damn. What would cause Sarge to malfunction? We'll have to work without him.

The frightened animals in the shuttle express their alarm. The sounds ECHO, ghostly cries for help.

The crew look dazed at each other. This is not a situation that happens everyday. Maggie gathers up ropes.

She ties them to the shuttle frame and the other ends to the building superstructure. A life line.

The shuttle bay door inches closed, a hand around a steel sponge. Maggie, panics, throws her weight against one side to stop it. The shuttle craft GRINDS under the pressure.

MAGGIE

Everybody, let's do it!

Everyone grabs a hold and pushes for dear life. The door opens slowly, so slowly, but the worst happens. The shuttle starts to heave forwards.

SHUTTLE -- Tips and slides out into space, held only by its lifeline. The tension snaps the ropes and the helpless vessel drifts into the void. The shuttle door snaps closed with a vengeance. The technology has won.

MAGGIE

It's gone! All our work!

She pounds in anger at the door as if it would somehow show mercy and open again. She slumps to the floor in her grief.

MAGGIE

(continuing;
weakly)

I'm not weak.

Sam helps Maggie back to her feet.

SAM

There's the cargo ship.

MAGGIE

The docking bay is still on line.

WOODY

It's a miracle that didn't break down, too.

DARSEY

(mumbles)

Was it my fault?

MAGGIE
I'm O.K. now. Read me the job
roster.

Woody checks the job roster.

WOODY
You gave it to Darsey.

Darsey stares at the floor.

DARSEY
I checked the whole program and it
was fine. Believe me!

Colin flashes Darsey a cold look with his eyes. She doesn't see it as she fidgets nervously with her hands. It's Maggie's stare she's afraid of.

MAGGIE
Well, you didn't do a good enough
job.

DARSEY
It's not my job. I'm not trained
for this.

MAGGIE
Your mistake just cost us the lives
of those poor creatures and almost
killed Sam!

The truth hits home like a punch in the stomach.

DARSEY
(sobbing)
God, I'm so sorry!

Sam gives Maggie an angry scowl and walks away. Maggie wants to go after him but she's torn by Darsey's pitiful remorse.

Through the large observation window, the group watches as the shuttle wanders into space. Maggie presses her face against the glass.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - MAIN COMMUNICATIONS ROOM

Sam sits in front of the video phone with the empty screen. He re-inserts his calling card but nothing happens. Sam is punching the desk when Maggie walks in. He turns to her with a bent calling card in his fist.

SAM
I told you not to do that.

Maggie reacts to Sam's anger with some of her own.

MAGGIE
Why didn't you stop me?

SAM
Because you're in charge.

MAGGIE
I trusted her.

SAM
Hey, she's a cook for god's sake.

MAGGIE
(backs off a
moment)
But... we don't have the manpower.

SAM
Why didn't you ask me? You always
asked me first.

Sam wipes the sweat from his face, frowning at the floor.
Maggie hands him her calling card.

MAGGIE
No, I don't.

He inserts the card. The machine sucks in the card and then
spits it back out while the screen flashes out, OUT OF ORDER.

SAM
What the fuck's going on here?

MAGGIE
Calm down. We'll work it out.

SAM
Yes, boss.

MAGGIE
Maybe Collie can help.

Maggie hurries from the room. Sam turns away.

SAM
Yeah... right.

INT. COLIN'S CARGO SHIP

Colin calmly hides away in the cargo hold smoking a cigarette.
He draws the smoke in deeply and blows it out over his head. He
snuffs out the butt in the palm of his right hand.

Colin goes about the hold searching for something. He finds a small box with four buttons on one end, deftly presses the buttons from left to right and shoves it into a dirty laundry bag. Hearing FOOTSTEPS coming at him, Colin quickly turns a fan on to rid the area of smoke and hastens towards the sound.

Colin walks into the front area of his cargo ship and finds Maggie.

MAGGIE

I want to call the shuttle. Does your phone work?

COLIN

Now, why didn't I think of that?

Colin inserts his phone card. Maggie enters the shuttle code.

MAGGIE

Shuttle One. Come in.

There's a pause and then, a familiar voice. Maggie breathes a sigh of relief.

DIANE (ON SCREEN)

Well... I finally made it. Will call you.

The transmission ends.

COLIN

See, there was nothing to worry about.

MAGGIE

I don't believe it. How?

COLIN

I have my own satellite hook-up. Got to in this business.

MAGGIE

I could use a drink.

COLIN

I guess you could. Come on. It's going to be all right. Trust me.

Colin leads Maggie from the cargo hold.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DOCKING BAY

Maggie yells over the intercom.

MAGGIE

I made contact with Diane.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - LIVING ROOM

Sam cleans up the mess from the floor and lights the fake holographic fireplace. There's a spirited feeling in the air. Woody drags Homer into the living room.

Darsey cannot get into the mood. She sits quietly by the window gazing at the broken shuttle floating in the far distance. Maggie goes to her.

MAGGIE

Don't do this to yourself. It's my fault.

DARSEY

I screwed up. I killed those animals out there.

Kimiko sits by the fire place, eavesdropping on their conversation.

MAGGIE

You can't help it if you make mistakes... Normal.

DARSEY

Is that supposed to boost my self-esteem?

MAGGIE

Did it?

DARSEY

No.

MAGGIE

Oh. We better join the party.

Kimiko breaks from eavesdropping and passes out drinks.

KIMIKO

I think we should have a drink to our history making politicians. Fuck'em all.

Maggie and Darsey join the others by the fireplace. Colin sniffs his glass and chokes on the fumes.

MAGGIE

Being excessive, Kimi?

KIMIKO

Me? Excessive?

SAM

(to Maggie)

Did you talk to her in person?

MAGGIE

No. Message.

SAM

You had a visual?

MAGGIE

She was on the screen. It was a recording.

SAM

How can you trust a damn recording?
How do you know she's there?

MAGGIE

We're talking about Diane for
Christ's sake!

COLIN

Sam, don't worry so much.
Everything's going to be fine,
isn't it sweetheart?

MAGGIE

I hope so.

Maggie pours another drink. Just then, Woody comes into the living room wearing grimy overalls.

WOODY

What's this?

SAM

We have a supposed and assumed
message from Diane saying she
arrived.

WOODY

No shit. I couldn't patch up a
connection with the neighboring
satellite network. How did you
manage that? Smoke signals?

SAM

Colin's phone. It works. I guess
you're good for something, heh,
Collie?

COLIN

So is my bootleg satellite. Why don't you build your own system?

MAGGIE

With what? The Alliance has scared off our investors. Somehow they always seem to be a jump ahead of us.

Sam rubs the edge of his glass and stares at the holographic flames dancing in the fireplace.

SAM

(Speaks slow;
deliberately)

Yeah... Like they have a window into our lives.

DARSEY

Well they do. You're on the news more than the President.

SAM

Yes... Now obviously it's more than that.

MAGGIE

Sam's right.

Sam downs a swig of booze. He gets up.

SAM

I'm ready to go. Collie, you drive.

Colin glances at Maggie, reaching for her hand. She smiles sweetly. Sam taps Colin on the back.

SAM

Now.

Sam downs the last of his drink and gets up. Woody follows him out of the living room.

Colin goes to the window with Maggie for a moment alone.

COLIN

I'm really sorry about the shuttle.

Maggie finds refuge in his arms.

Kimiko picks up the dirty glasses and sniffs her subtle discontent. She looks at Darsey, drunkenly.

KIMIKO

To all ye good citizens of Earth.
I think I'll puke.

DARSEY

Well, don't have too much fun
without me.

KIMIKO

Don't worry. I won't.

Kimiko wanders off in her inebriated state. Darsey completes the housekeeping chores in silence.

Darsey drops a glass and breaks it. Colin looks at her with amusement. Darsey glares at him as she retrieves the glass from the rug.

COLIN

(to Maggie)

I think the sake makes you even
more beautiful.

Maggie kisses him.

MAGGIE

This is the most relaxed I've been
in weeks.

Colin and Maggie walk off.

DARSEY

(mumbling)

What have I gotten myself into?

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - AIR RECYCLING PLANT

A complex arrangement of air ducts and pipes run by the artificial brain called SARGE. Sarge resembles the drill instructor that he sounds like, complete with army hat.

SARGE

Now, not too much CO₂... who
cleaned those air vents? They're
full of smoke...

(shocked)

Hey...

FLASH and the whole thing breaks out in flames. Sarge fries in the fire, hat and all. The smoke escapes into the airduct network.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DOCKING BAY

Sam and Woody carry supplies to Colin's ship. Woody tries to enter the ship's main hatch but it's locked. He sets his load on the floor.

WOODY

Where the hell is he?

SAM

He better get in here before I blast the door down. We're running out of time.

No sooner said when Maggie and Colin come into the loading area with Colin's suitcase. Sam does not hide his impatience.

SAM

Our competition's going to nail us in the Senate and you two are practicing the wedding march. Let's get the lead out.

Colin unlocks his door and goes on alone into his ship.

COLIN (O.S.)

Let me turn on the lights.

A billow of smoke from an airduct, wafts over their heads. Maggie smells it and looks up.

MAGGIE

What the hell?

A FIRE ALARM blares.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - GENE POOL LAB

A room where the 20,000 or so flora and fauna genes sleep in Permafrost.

On a cold frost bed the ANCIENT BACTERIAS are tagged HARMFUL and FRIENDLY. On the Harmful shelf, the various beds called, TYPHOID, MALARIA, COMMON COLD, MEASLES, all suspended in time.

The temperature gauge creeps up one degree than stops as a puff of smoke drifts slowly onto the shelves.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - AIR RECYCLING PLANT

The crew, manned with fire fighting gear race to the blaze.

Colin zealously pushes through the flames and smoke as he hoses water onto the burning head of Sarge.

The fire appears out. Exhausted, they toss their gear on the soggy floor. Sarge's dripping melted head is gruesome.

MAGGIE

Poor slob never had a chance.

Maggie inspects the charred remains and finds something attached behind one oozing ear. The object comes off in her hand.

SAM

What's that?

She hands it to Woody.

WOODY

Somebody forgot to plug Sarge's circuit together.

KIMIKO

Oh, shit! I was cleaning the processors.

WOODY

How could you forget that?

Maggie takes back the piece of burnt metal.

MAGGIE

You started this fire. I can't believe how stupid that was.

COLIN

Can I see that?

Maggie hands it to him. Colin looks curiously at the object, then at the Japanese woman. He notices her eyes. Eyes that hide from scrutiny. He understands that look. He's been there.

SAM

(agitated; glares
at
Kimiko)

It caused a malfunction in the cooling unit. You should know better, Kimiko!

MAGGIE

(being diplomatic)

We'll fix it.

Maggie walks to a nearby window, drawn by the sliver of Earth in the distance. She rubs a sooty palm on the glass, wiping it clean. A hand reaches out and touches her on the shoulder. She jumps.

KIMIKO
(to Maggie)
I'm sorry. I wasn't thinking.

MAGGIE
(angry; cuts her
off)
You're in charge of the repairs.

KIMIKO
(concedes)
You're right.

Maggie walks back to the wreckage of Sarge. She picks up the army cap and offers it to Woody.

WOODY
(takes the hat)
That was my favorite hat. I'll get
the air masks.

Woody retrieves several air masks from a shelf. Darsey takes one nervously and hangs it around her neck. A growing sense of anxiety shows in her face.

DARSEY
That's all you have?

WOODY
Yeah, honey. That's all.
(passing out masks)
Don't lose these... I'll have to
activate the back-up system.

SAM
That will take hours.

WOODY
Any better suggestions?

SAM
No.

Maggie puts her mask on.

MAGGIE
Every living thing on this station
depends on it. Sam, you'll help
Kimi with repairs.

Sam can't help hide his growing anger towards Kimiko. He'd rather be somewhere else.

MAGGIE

(grows impatient)

Don't give me that look, Sam. You can't lift the components.

KIMIKO

That's what Gene Jobs are for, Sam. You can't disassemble Sarge. I can.

Maggie wipes dirt from her face and ponders these people she calls friends. She's getting wound tight and they see it. Nobody tries to argue with her now.

MAGGIE

Sam... are we clear?... .

Maggie leaves with the others. Sam and Kimiko assess Sarge's damage. Sam tries to pull apart the wreckage but fails. Kimiko steps in.

KIMIKO

Don't worry, Sam. It'll all be over soon.

The powerful woman rips off the main control box and Sarge's once charming head. She hands Sam the head.

SAM

(regards the head)

Why do you have to be so damn careless?

KIMIKO

I'm a defective Gene Job. Don't you know that by now?

They continue the work in silence. Sam can't restrain his urge to argue.

SAM

Don't they ever give you people common sense tests?

KIMIKO

Go fuck yourself.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - HALL BY RAINFOREST BIOME

Maggie and the others walk down the hall by the elevator marked, JUNGLE BIOME. Woody scratches his head, he muses, sighs and finally speaks.

WOODY

I'll be glad when this is over
with.

MAGGIE

Me, too.

Woody glimpses some unusual activity on an overhanging VIDEO SCREEN monitoring the biome pod. He becomes alarmed and turns the sound up on the screen.

INT. GREENHOUSE - RAINFOREST BIOME

Stationed in the center of the jungle is the steel, robotic arm named TARA. Tara lifts its metallic head and swings upward, smashing a tree branch. The branch CRASHES to the ground. Monkeys CHATTER furiously.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - HALL BY RAINFOREST BIOME

The crew peer up at the screen watching intently.

MAGGIE

It's on a rampage.

WOODY

I'll go up, pull that sucker's
plug, damn it.

MAGGIE

Take Collie with you. Then, meet
us at the Docking Bay.

WOODY

This should be no problem. Come on
Collie.

Woody sends for the elevator and it drops down. They get in.

INT. ELEVATOR

The elevator careens up the long, transparent arm to the biome pod. Colin observes the interplay of light to dark as they pass the lamps built into the giant appendage. The elevator halts.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - RAINFOREST BIOME

The door opens upon the sudden onslaught of animal sounds. Colin covers his ears. Woody points towards the underbrush.

WOODY

Come on.

They push away the brush. The presence of the wildlife irritates Colin. He swats away a relentless swarm of bugs.

LIFE SUPPORT WORK STATION -- Is camouflaged as a stump between two rocks. Woody checks the readings.

WOODY

(concerned)

The methane level is rising.

Woody inspects the place carefully. He finds the broken tree branch with the name, COLLIE, etched in it. The TARA machine is out of position and it mimics a twisted, flying serpent.

COLIN

Strange machine.

WOODY

I'll show you. TARA, straight up.

The arm unkinks itself and finishes in an upright position. Colin smiles, pleased by the machine.

Woody takes Colin to a device that resembles an eye doctor's optical exam instrument. The bulging eye-piece swings around on a pedestal. Colin toys with it.

COLIN

Let me guess. You check the primates for myopia?

COLIN'S POV -- Everything in front of him looks watery and distorted. The colors are off.

WOODY

That's how the apes see us.

Colin trains the eye on Woody as he climbs the TARA.

COLIN

(to himself)

Man from ape. Evolution, what an inefficient mess.

Woody pauses at the top, looks down at Colin.

WOODY

(hanging onto TARA)

Collie, could you check the monitor and tell me what you see?

Colin stands over the Life Support monitor. The computer grid zips along at its eye popping rate. The smooth pattern suddenly becomes scrambled when a series of BLUE STATIC LINES invade it. Colin glances at his watch and smiles. These are punctual.

COLIN

I can't see anything except for some funny blue lines dashing around the grid.

WOODY

Blue lines?

Woody turns on the TARA's mini screen.

COLIN

Is that normal?

WOODY

(does a double take)

Is that a virus? That's not possible.

WOODY -- Shimmies down the TARA arm. There's a sudden jerking motion. He scurries back to the top.

COLIN

(smiles slyly at Woody; mock concern)

You have a bee in your bonnet, Mr. Jones?

Colin removes himself from the monitor and goes back to playing with the monkey eye. He points it at Woody.

COLIN

(singing under his breath)

Hi ho, hi ho, to hell I'll let you go...

WOODY

Throw me some rope.

Colin picks up the coiled rope by his feet and unravels it. He tosses it at the arm. Woody reaches out and snags one end. He ties it to the arm.

Woody climbs down the rope safely this time. Colin follows him to the work station screen.

Blue lines are systematically devouring every grid line as it appears on the screen. Woody's horrified.

WOODY

How did it get into our system?

The TARA arm rears up, swinging around the work station. Ready to be slammed into, Colin impulsively raises his right hand to fend off the machine.

The impact sends the appendage reeling the other way. He's not even bruised. Woody's mouth hangs open in disbelief.

Colin regrets his action. There is no place for him to hide.

WOODY

The only time I've ever seen that happen...

Colin thinks quickly. He takes a small black object and attaches it to the monitor. The blue lines go haywire. The TARA comes to life again, swinging wildly.

Woody tries to stop him. Colin wraps the rope around Woody's legs. In seconds he's suspended upside down from the arm. Woody screams in panic.

COLIN

Sorry, Woody.

WOODY

No!!

TARA heaves a mighty mechanical sigh, wrenches itself up and down until Woody is thrown loose. He crashes to the jungle floor, breaking his neck on impact.

Colin takes the black object off the monitor after the last grid line disappears, slides it into his shirt pocket.

COLIN

Must tell Sarge to pencil in the new inventory, minus one human.

Colin walks to the broken tree branch. He walks several times around the branch in a ceremonial fashion.

He stoops to touch his name that's carved there with much tenderness. He pauses at the sound of trees rubbing together.

FEMALE BLACK PANTHER -- Sheila, the panther warily approaches Colin, gums curled back, ready to strike. She GROWLS at him.

COLIN -- Stares nastily at her and HISSSES.

COLIN

The negation of nature is the road to happiness.

He heaves the heavy tree branch at her and she runs off.

INT. ELEVATOR

Colin zips down the elevator to the main floor.

On the way, he yanks off his right boot and slides the sole off, revealing a hidden compartment.

He takes out a tiny, matchbox sized cube.

He replaces the sole and puts the boot back on.

Colin gracefully leaps to the upper left corner of the elevator and secures the cube to the ceiling.

He checks the time and exits.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - AIR RECYCLING PLANT

Sam and Kimiko work on the burnt air processing plant. Sam takes a break long enough to catch his breath in the stale, humid air. He leans on the intercom.

SAM
(breathing hard)
I'm almost done here.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DOCKING BAY

Maggie and Darsey try the Docking Bay's disengage mechanism. The DISCONNECT OK sign blinks on.

MAGGIE
Ready here.

Suddenly, the DOCKING LOCKOUT sign replaces it.

MAGGIE
Sam... I think the grid just failed.

SAM (OVER INTERCOM)
No.

MAGGIE
That's what I said.

SAM (OVER INTERCOM)
Shit!!

MAGGIE
This is a nightmare.

Maggie looks helpless.

MAGGIE
Would you find Colin?

Maggie gives Darsey her best I want to reassure you that all's well look. Darsey puts down her tools.

DARSEY
Fine. Be right back.

Darsey walks out, then breaks into a run.

INT. AIR RECYCLING PLANT

Colin walks into view. Sam throws him a wrench. Colin reaches out to catch it.

SAM
(to Colin)
Know how to use this?

COLIN
Of course.

SAM
Fine. So, undo that bolt.

Sam points to a sooty bolt in front of them. Colin starts to unscrew it.

COLIN
Here we are... working together.

Colin chokes on the dirty air.

SAM
Sure.

COLIN
I was given a plot of ground by my father once. I loved it until he made me grow lilies. I wanted to grow daisies. I always loved their smell.

SAM
They've grown nothing down there for years...

COLIN
I plowed it all up and paved it over for a tennis court. No daisies, no garden.

Colin completes the task. He starts unscrewing another bolt and rambles on. Sam listens in silence as he works.

COLIN

I like tennis...

The area is rocked by a muffled EXPLOSION. Sam's tools scatter.

SAM

What was that?

Sam fumbles for a portable lamp in the tool box. He finds it just as the rumbling ceases.

Overhead, a siren WAILS. Then, a plaintive CRY splits the air.

DARSEY (OVER

INTERCOM)
Help!

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - RAINFOREST BIOME

Darsey kneels over Woody, pulling away fallen debris from the explosion. She's hysterical. Sam's voice blares through the intercom.

SAM (OVER INTERCOM)

Darsey!

She numbly staggers to the intercom and struggles to talk.

DARSEY

Woody's dead, Sam!
(sobbing)
He's dead...

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DOCKING BAY

Maggie hears, forgets what she's doing and runs off, panicked.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - ELEVATOR BY RAINFOREST BIOME

The elevator door has been blown off. The two groups converge at the explosion site. They search the shredded elevator.

MAGGIE

What could have done this?

The EMERGENCY ESCAPE LADDER, recently let down, dangles above them. Maggie pulls the steel ladder close and releases a lever on the bottom rung. The ladder quickly stiffens up to the top.

MAGGIE

Come on.

Maggie begins the climb up, followed by Sam and Colin. Their weight forces the ladder to sway. Maggie secures the ladder to the wall with hooks.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - RAINFOREST BIOME

The crew wades through the underbrush. Maggie takes off her air mask and breathes deeply.

MAGGIE

It's still breathable.

(calling)

Darsey!!

Darsey jumps up in a panic and heads for her voice.

DARSEY

I was about to walk into the lift when it blew! He must have fallen from the blast.

Maggie checks for a pulse.

MAGGIE

I told him to come up here.

SAM

It's not your fault.

MAGGIE

Why him?

Maggie gently hoists Woody onto her shoulders and carries him to the escape ladder. She turns and looks back to the now dormant TARA machine.

The biome is tomb-like except for the ever present growl of the female black panther.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - INFIRMARY

A room set up with hand-me-down medical equipment. Maggie lays Woody on an examining table.

MAGGIE

When you all hired on, you signed a release.

Maggie walks to each of her staff, looks them in the eye. There is a sense of uneasiness and a sudden awareness of this little spoken about legal agreement.

MAGGIE

(continuing;
somber)

We're not equipped for tissue regeneration. I decided that. The life we create here, is more important than our own.

(fighting back
emotion; she gets
angry)

I regret it, now.

DARSEY

There's nothing we can do for him?

MAGGIE

No.

Kimiko removes a necklace she's wearing. She stares at it and lays it on Woody's body.

KIMIKO

(becoming
unraveled)

I never liked this.

The others look at her perplexed.

MAGGIE

Yes, you did. He gave it to you.

Kimiko slams a fist into the wall.

MAGGIE

Keep it together.

KIMIKO

(flatly)

It fell apart long ago.

Kimiko charges for the infirmary door and runs off.

MAGGIE

Come back here.

Maggie wraps a blanket around Woody's body. She holds his lifeless hand. Colin stands beside her.

COLIN

(to Maggie)

She's breaking.

MAGGIE

Kimi?

SAM

Forget her. What about the blast?

MAGGIE

We don't keep bombs here.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - FEMALE CREW QUARTERS

Maggie, Colin, and the crew walk through the bedrooms. The air is cloudy with unfiltered dust. Maggie lifts her mask and takes a whiff. She coughs.

MAGGIE

Smells like a sewer.

Maggie walks into the Gene Jobs Only area and opens the doors to the cubicles.

INT. MAGGIE'S ROOM

Darsey waves a metal detector around the room. Maggie throws back the bedding. The room is spartanly adorned and doesn't appear much used.

DARSEY

This place looks like it could use a decorator.

INT. KIMIKO'S ROOM

A junk heap. The place resembles a Twenty-first Century antique store. Rare Japanese artifacts and old swords collect dust in the corners.

MAGGIE

Don't trip on the swords.

SAM

When was she going to let me sell this stuff? We could finance for a year.

MAGGIE

Sentimental.

Maggie finds a passport and a computer bank statement. She inserts the statement card into the computer.

MAGGIE

(continuing)

I never knew she had so much money.

SAM
Fifty-thousand in gold. It's from
Japan.

Colin scrutinizes data on the computer screen as if to memorize every detail.

INT. DIANE'S ROOM

Maggie goes in alone. The others wait in the hall.

MAGGIE
If you don't mind.

Maggie closed the door. On a wall in the bedroom hangs a PHOTOGRAPH of the three genetically engineered women smiling and waving. All around are MEMENTOS of past good times. She looks at the photo and lets go of her emotions for the moment.

MAGGIE
What have I done?

Maggie opens the door. She's calm, again. A rock.

INT. HALL BY DARSEY'S ROOM

Darsey stops the crew at the entrance of The Other Woman.

DARSEY
Let the men inspect.

Sam and Colin take the metal detector inside. Maggie acts insulted.

MAGGIE
This is no time to play the
slighted Normal.

DARSEY
I wouldn't want anyone planting
things.

Maggie's mouth drops at the accusation but keeps quiet. From within Darsey's cubicle, the metal detector TICKS loudly. Maggie bolts to the door just as Sam opens it.

SAM
We found something!

The women run into the room. Darsey has an insulted scowl on her face.

DARSEY
That's not possible!

INSIDE DARSEY'S ROOM

Sam and Colin drag ladies clothing from a closet. Darsey becomes incensed, tries to block their efforts. Maggie yanks her away and is struck in the face by Darsey's backhand. Maggie almost breaks Darsey's arm off and she desists.

Underneath a pile of boots is a small suitcase. Sam unzips it. He discovers five metal pins.

DARSEY

They belong to the Bater Box over there. Let me show you.

Darsey takes a pin and inserts it into her Bater Box Holographic Image Creator. It creates a perfect three-dimensional image of the Greenhouse One, complete with floor plan.

MAGGIE

Why is this on here?

DARSEY

I don't know. I let Kimi use it last.

SAM

Why does she need a floor plan?

COLIN

Good question.

MAGGIE

(getting disturbed)

Yeah. Why does she?

Surrounded by the holographic image, they can see into its inner workings, the blueprint in 3-D.

Colin, amazed by what he sees, walks through the ghostly image, moving his hands along the shimmering lines.

COLIN

(almost reverent)

Anyone wanting to damage the station could find all its weak points. Much better than my Bater Box.

Maggie shuts off the Bater Box.

MAGGIE

I've seen enough.

SAM

I'm next.

INT. SAM AND WOODY'S PLACE

Sam opens his closet and removes a travel bag. Maggie rummages through the bag. She feels something hard in the bag's lining. Ripping it apart, she finds two small, black bombs encased in foam.

Removing the foam, the metal detector TICKS. Sam's face turns sheet white.

SAM

What the fuck?

The others look incredulous.

MAGGIE

Could she have wanted us to think you...

Colin looks away, perplexed by the find.

COLIN

(turning around)

This is incredible. Kimi, is trying to sabotage the station?

SAM

I was hoping it was you.

MAGGIE

(sharply)

Sam!

Sam notices Colin's gaze in the mirror. It disturbs him for a moment. He carefully picks up the explosives and passes it to Maggie.

SAM

Take these.

DARSEY

(to Maggie)

Why not use them on the Docking Bay?

MAGGIE

We could blow the seals loose. Where did she get them?

COLIN

(getting his ego
bruised)

She probably got them in the mail... I would.

An alarm WAILS, then a COMPUTER VOICE speaks.

COMPUTER VOICE
Malfunction. Gene Lab.

MAGGIE
Not that!

Maggie and the crew bolt from Sam's cubicle.

Colin silently trails behind, wondering.

He resets his watch and exits the cubicle.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - GENE POOL LAB.

Kimiko sits in the shadows and watches the temperature gauge as it creeps up. She breathes into the air mask and shivers. She looks once again, at the tattoo of the number 47 imbedded in her palm.

KIMIKO
(with conviction)
He promised me.
(getting colder;
shivering)
He promised me...

In front of her on a shelf, alone and isolated, sits the thing in question; HUMAN GENES - LOT 47.

EXT. GENE POOL LAB

Maggie pushes and shoves her way through the heavy, insulated steel door of the lab.

INT. GENE POOL LAB

Kimiko slips farther into the shadows. Presently, Maggie forces open the lab door and shuts off the alarm. The temperature gauge slowly rises on the PERMAFROST BEDS. Warming Permafrost beds HISS as they melt.

Maggie tightens her air mask as she enters into the room, hazy with a cloud of water vapor. The gauge passes the THIRTY DEGREE mark.

Gene beds, stacked three to a wall; are labeled with the names of their origins. Maggie walks by the shelf containing Lot 47.

An ominous puff of steam shoots out from the shelf casually titled, ANCIENT BACTERIA BED.

MAGGIE
You in here, Kimi?

Kimiko hides under the work bench. She makes a subtle scraping sound as she moves around.

Maggie looks around the furniture and under the work bench.

Kimiko peers up at her, not willing to move just yet.

MAGGIE

Remember when we were little?
Everyone said we'd be together
always. We were sisters.

KIMIKO

Things change.

MAGGIE

I'm not going to let you go.

KIMIKO

I'm gone.

MAGGIE

Please, come out. You're all I
have. Please.

Maggie walks away from the work bench and waits.

Kimiko comes out of the shadows and approaches Maggie.

MAGGIE

Why, Kimi? Who's side are you on?

KIMIKO

I made a deal.

MAGGIE

No. Not with Feinlein.

KIMIKO

What chance does a crazy Gene Job
have, Maggie? Feinlein offered me
a way out. I took it.

MAGGIE

(shocked; watches
the steam rise)
What? A new identity? Erase your
tattoo?

KIMIKO

He offered me everything.

Maggie tries to override the controls but to no avail. She goes for the FROZEN NITROGEN SPRAYERS.

Kimiko tries to stop her. As Maggie and Kimiko scuffle, Kimiko's air mask is pulled off her face.

MAGGIE

Get AWAY from me! Can't you see
it's going to blow?

A warning buzzer SCREECHES as a plume of INFLUENZA is released. It hits Kimiko square in the face.

Maggie sprays the shelves until the gauge drops below freezing. Kimiko chokes from the plume. Maggie drags her away.

KIMIKO

I put the bombs in Sam's closet.
But, not in the elevator. I didn't
kill Woody. Somebody else did.

Kimiko breaks free from Maggie and escaped into the hall.

MAGGIE

Somebody else?

She staggers to the Lot 47 shelf. It's hidden by a white frost. Maggie wipes the frost from the sign, uncovers the number 47, then she runs from the lab.

INT. MYTHIC EXPLORER - HIDDEN ROOM

A TAPPING and SCRAPING noise comes from the cage. FOOTSTEPS quietly shuffle across the floor.

Diane now partially bound and gagged, quickly hides the belt buckle she used to hit the bars.

She peers into the dark. Colin hurries by the cage and disappears through a hidden door.

INT. MYTHIC EXPLORER - CARGO HOLD

The video screen flickers on. Colin waits impatiently.

The joyless face of Mr. Feinlein, president of Alliance Chemical Corporation, appears on the screen.

COLIN

Dad, there's a problem.

MR. FEINLEIN (ON SCREEN)

Problem?

COLIN

That Japanese bitch is screwing
with my work.

MR. FEINLEIN (ON SCREEN)
Now, why would she be doing that?

COLIN
She seems to have an agenda of her own. I don't know why.

MR. FEINLEIN (ON SCREEN)
Well, Colin. Just finish your assignment and get out... Let the best man win. Good bye...

Mr. Feinlein's face blinks out. The room is dark again.

Colin sits staring at the blank screen.

INT. MYTHIC EXPLORER - HIDDEN ROOM

Diane wrestles with her bindings. The footsteps return and she stoops. She bolts upright at the voice speaking by the cage.

COLIN
It's your old pal, Collie. Sorry about the cage.

Diane BANGS on the cage. He kneels beside the cage, his face by her face. Her eyes express the total surprise that her mouth can't.

COLIN
Don't interfere. Woody did and I broke his neck.

Colin rubs his chin in thought and studies her painfully contorted expression.

The news of Woody's death sends shock waves through Diane. She's torn between grief and wanting to break the cage.

The grief wins. Diane sobs.

COLIN
We all have our jobs to do.

In the b.g., anguished MOANS of animals still locked in the nearby shuttle, punctuate the darkness.

Diane looks over to the shuttle, her pain replaced by the growing need to break free from the cage.

COLIN
The eternal battle... We fight over life... We fight to live...

Colin cuts off the conversation and leaves without another word.
Diane continues to wrestle with the bindings.

EXT. SPACE

Greenhouse heaves and tilts. Two gyroscopes rotate, turning the solar panels, sweeping them away from the sun.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DECK C - SOLAR PANEL WORK STATION

Maggie pursues Kimiko through the corridor. She momentarily loses balance as the station shifts on its axis.

Close by, a SOLAR PANEL WORK STATION juts out into space. The five biome pods are suspended above them, devoid of sun light.

Maggie checks the grid. Blue static lines devour the grid pattern as it appears. She has no control over it.

MAGGIE

It's a computer virus. We've been bugged?

INT. HALL BY GENE POOL LAB

Sam and Darsey push open the lab door, finding it blanketed in the nitrogen frost. Supplies are thrown off the shelves in the movement.

SAM

Watch out!

DARSEY

We're turning.

SAM

How can we be turning? No way to change the axis.

DARSEY

Somebody just found a way.

SAM

Everything'll freeze!

DARSEY

Oh, my Lord.

Sam surveys the damaged bacteria bed. A gaping hole remains from where the steam plume emerged.

SAM
Influenza. Get out of here, quick!

INT. DECK C HALL

Kimiko doubles over on the floor, coughing. She pulls out a handheld laser rifle from her shirt.

Sweat droplets dampen the weapon as she sits up.

Kimiko takes a deep breath and stands.

INT. SOLAR PANEL WORKSTATION

Maggie turns to the sound of footsteps coming towards her in the work station.

MAGGIE
Is that you, Sam?

COLIN
No baby, it's me...

MAGGIE
(uneasy)
I discovered a computer virus in the system... It altered the gyros.

COLIN
What will happen?

MAGGIE
The solar panels will shut down.
We'll freeze.

Colin looks at the grid patterns on the work station.

COLIN
The grids are disappearing.

Sam and the crew enter the walkway behind Colin.

MAGGIE
Sam, the whole place is infected.

Maggie's shirt pocket starts to BUZZ. She removes a buzzing, pencil-shaped device.

MAGGIE
The baby's heart rate is dropping!

SAM
We better set up the tent!

MAGGIE

You and... Colin.

DARSEY

I'll check around down here.

MAGGIE

O.K.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - ELEVATOR TO THE OCEAN BIOME

The elevator is out of order. Sam yanks down the ladder.

SAM

Thank God for plain old low
technology.

MAGGIE

(to Colin)

You first.

INT. ELEVATOR SHAFT

Maggie and Sam climb behind him. On the way up the ladder, they come across a BIRD, frozen in fear on a rung.

Maggie carefully plucks the bird from the rung and sets it on her shoulder where it clings for dear life.

From the top of the ladder, the distance to the bottom becomes dizzying.

Colin touches the trap door and pushed it open. He shimmies through it. Maggie and Sam are right behind.

INT. OCEAN BIOME POD

They stand up on the beach. A freezing fan-induced wind blows sand in their air masks.

Gasping for air, Maggie finds three oxygen tanks and gloves in a nearby storage shed.

MAGGIE

We'll need these.

Colin casually collects snowflakes in his hand, unfazed as Maggie and Sam find their prize dolphins beached on the sand, fighting for life.

SAM

I'll get the tank.

Sam rips open a large storage container and takes out a folded, plastic apparatus. He pulls a handle and it inflates into a giant fish tank. Sam hooks up a hose and activates the heater unit. He drags the adult dolphins into it.

MAGGIE

(cradles the
newborn; grieves)
He didn't make it, Sam!

SAM

(touches Maggie;
forgetting himself)
Our only one...
(getting angry)
I'll kill who did this!

Sam takes the baby from her and lays it into the tank. Maggie and Sam round up the surviving marine life into the tank. Colin picks up a stray crab and tosses it in before Sam seals the unit.

COLIN

You'll have to kill one of your
own.

MAGGIE

(concedes)
It's true. She's working for
Feinlein. Sam... she made a deal.
Us... for her.

Maggie turns away, stunned at the sound of her own words.

INT. ELEVATOR SHAFT

Maggie glances at Colin and Sam climbing below her. Suddenly an unexpected JOLT rocks them. The walls and ladder SHAKE wildly for a few seconds.

Sam is thrown against the narrow passageway. He fights to get hold of the ladder with his left arm.

SAM

I can't hold on!

MAGGIE

The freeze must be buckling the
bulkheads. Help him, Collie!

Colin climbs down, wraps one arm around Sam and helps him down the ladder.

SAM

I can do this myself.

Colin squeezes Sam around the waist and won't let go.

Sam looks surprised at the man's strength as he's carried down the ladder. He looks up at Colin.

Colin reaches the bottom rung and releases Sam. Maggie is right behind them. Sam holds his arm, almost slumps to the floor. Maggie helps him into the hall.

INT. HALL BY THE ELEVATOR

Maggie removes her belt and trusses up Sam's arm.

MAGGIE

Good as new.

Maggie looks up and discovers that Colin has left. Sam sees the dismay in her eyes. She takes off her mask and gloves.

MAGGIE

Is he the other one?

SAM

What did you expect?

MAGGIE

(getting mad)

I don't know what to expect anymore! Sam...

(deeply uneasy; her voice shakes)

Kimi says she didn't cause Woody's death... that someone else did.

SAM

(interrupts)

Come on Maggie...

MAGGIE

Everyone else is loyal.

SAM

Do you know what you're saying?

MAGGIE

Why am I so damn stupid?

(looking confused)

Sam?

Sam gets excited. He grabs her hand with the LOT 47 tattoo imbedded in it.

CLOSE ON SAM AND THE HAND

SAM

It's this. It keeps us apart. You hate this thing. You'd do anything to be someone else. It makes you weak. You are weak.

Sam's words hit a nerve sending Maggie running down the hall. Sam stands up in the hall and takes a deep breath, starts to run after her but changes his mind.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - CREW QUARTERS - COLIN'S ROOM

Colin gathers up the remains of his supplies not the suitcase. He picks up the stray bug that keeps circling the box and packs it with the other belongings.

COLIN

My lucky charm.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DECK C

In the dim light, Darsey walks slowly along the wall, the metal detector hums quietly in her hand.

She looks nervously around. Nobody there, just silence. She looks at the wall clock.

DARSEY

Time to go home.

Darsey tightens the air mask. The air is getting rank and cold.

Darsey stops to rest. She's not in shape.

Darsey spooks when she hears the RUSTLING of fabric coming from behind. She turns around but no one is there.

DARSEY

Oh, God. Please don't let me die here.

Fatigued, Darsey leans up against the wall. She lowers the bomb detector and her guard.

Her eyelids droop down in surrender.

Darsey stops still when she hears the rustling sound again. This time she goes to investigate.

Darsey enters a dark corner of the corridor.

WHAP! She slumps to the floor. FOOTSTEPS run off.

Something on the floor POPS open and a FOG pours out of it, filling up the hall.

Darsey lays knocked out just as Kimiko dashes down the corridor and out of sight.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DECK C - ANOTHER AREA

Maggie leans against a window, wiping her eyes. There's a FLASH OF LIGHT happening in the FOREST BIOME right above her. It commands her attention. She pauses to watch smoke rising in the biome.

MAGGIE

Nooo...!

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - FOREST BIOME ELEVATOR

Maggie checks the elevator. It works but she takes down the ladder, instead.

Maggie nimbly races up the ladder.

From above, small ANIMALS and BIRDS scurry into the escape passage, landing in her face. Small rodents fall to their death before she can catch them.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - FOREST BIOME

Maggie breaks through the trap door.

Flames blaze in the center of the trees. The heat becomes uncomfortable and a strange change from the freeze, down below.

Maggie searches for the fire extinguishes by the work station but the holders are empty.

A COMPUTER VOICE says in a condescending tone...

COMPUTER VOICE

Watch for falling debris. No
smoking in the biome area. Only
you can prevent forest fires.
(repeats)

MAGGIE

Sure.

Maggie goes to the work station and finds a hose. She connects it to a water supply, turning it on full blast.

She wades through the bushes with the hose to the middle of the blaze. The stand of Ponderosa pines fry into cinders.

She sprays the fire until most of it is out. Tired, she sets the hose down.

There's a small curling line of putrid black smoke coming from somewhere by Sam's Watering Hole.

She sees it and her heart sinks.

MAGGIE

Why don't you come out and fight!

(picks up hose)

If you're going to burn my trees...
burn me, too.

She's hit by a falling tree branch and knocked out.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DECK C - WINDOW

Sam stares spellbound at the blazing forest biome.

He turns around and finds Kimiko looking at it, too. Her laser rifle is strapped to her side.

SAM

Kimi?

KIMIKO

Sorry, Sam.

She runs off. Her SNEEZES echo down the corridor.

INT. FOREST BIOME

Maggie comes to. Someone stands over her in a pressure suit, the sun visor drawn down.

MAGGIE

Show yourself.

COLIN

(raises the visor)

It would appear, sweet heart, that
I... got you.

Colin smiles, blows her a kiss and runs off.

MAGGIE

Collie!!

Maggie jumps up, torn between annihilating Colin and stopping the fire. But, the smoke from Sam's swimming hole forces her to decide.

The tire is on fire. The fumes are poisonous and impossible to breathe. Flames travel up the tire's rope to the tree and it starts to burn.

Maggie drags the water hose but it doesn't reach. She can't see anything.

It's totally dark. Animals run around in a panic.

Maggie runs to the beaver pond with a portable pump. She sets up the pump and pumps water from the beaver dam onto the fire. It works. The beavers hide in the shrinking pond.

With the fire under control, Maggie forces open the elevator door. She leads the surviving animals into the elevator and sends it down.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DECK C

The forest biome elevator opens. The frantic hoards of wildlife flock into the hall, running haphazardly.

INT. A CORRIDOR

Sam runs down the hall. He hears NOISES. Something crawls up his leg. He jumps and then slaps his leg. It's a squirrel. The animal runs off.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - FOREST BIOME

The empty elevator opens as another fire flares up in the forest. The inferno races through the small brush.

Maggie brings over the hose and shoots water at it. The water slows down to a trickle and quits.

She looks up at the ceiling to the water sprinklers.

Heat rises to the plexiglass dome in radiant waves.

A CRACK forms at the top of the dome!

Maggie watches the crack in horror. She tries to override the computers but they don't work. The crack creeps along the outer rim of the dome.

The fire roars up, licking the plexiglass.

Maggie throws a heavy object at one of the sprinkler heads and knocks it off. The water comes shooting out over the fire.

But, the crack spreads undaunted.

An alarm SCREECHES, then a COMPUTER VOICE speaks in a pleasant monotone.

COMPUTER VOICE
Structural stress points will
exceed tolerance in two minutes.
Evacuate.

Maggie throws another heavy object at another sprinkler head and shatters it. The water gushes out.

Water floods the floor of the biome. The burnt tire floats by. Dead birds float by.

But the crack keeps growing all the same.

Maggie retreats to the elevator but it's burned out.

She opens the trap door. Water and debris flood into it. She fights to keep it clear as she climbs through, closing it behind her.

INT. ELEVATOR SHAFT ESCAPE PASSAGE

Maggie climbs down the ladder through the dark, murky, water.

INT. FOREST BIOME

The computer voice drones on.

COMPUTER VOICE
Five, four, three, two, one...

The expanding crack in the dome GRINDS to a halt.

It lets out a mournful CREAKING sound, then...

EXPLODES into a million pieces!

Everything in the forest biome gets sucked out into space! Fire, water, burnt flora and fauna flies away.

The computer work station shatters.

Rakes, hoes, hoses, pumps, and the tire disappear.

A desk and chair are hurled into the void.

INT. A CORRIDOR

Sam is slammed to the floor by a deep TREMOR. He regains his footing and staggers to a window.

Looking outside, Sam finds all that is left of the forest biome is a memory and an empty space at the biome's arm. His face contorts in disbelief.

SAM

She couldn't be in there.

He races off.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DECK C

The tremor shakes Darsey awake. She comes to and is alone, still clutching the metal detector.

DARSEY

Not again!

She hears a THUD coming from outside the station. Darsey crawls to a view port and peeks out.

HER POV -- A rake bangs up against the view port. Beyond that is what's left of the forest biome, drifting in space. The sight leaves her unnerved to the bone.

RUNNING FOOTSTEPS behind her make Darsey spin around, metal detector in hand. She strikes out at the sound and someone hollers in pain.

SAM

Don't hit me with that thing.
You're gonna kill somebody!

Darsey tosses the detector away. Sam stands in front of her, his mouth bleeding.

She collapses in a heap of nerves.

DARSEY

I'm scared, Sam.

SAM

Don't crap out on me! We may be
the only ones left. I need you!

He forces her to stand up.

SAM

Good.

Darsey takes Sam by the hand. They stare out in the view port. Sick and exhausted. Too much pain in too short a time. She looks at him, not retreating this time.

DARSEY

Let's go find her.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - AN AIR DUCT

Colin crawls along inside an air duct. He pauses to peek through a vent long enough to see someone moving in the hall below him.

HIS POV -- Kimiko walks the hall holding onto the rifle.

INT. THE HALL

Kimiko wipes the sweat from her face and coughs.

KIMIKO

(delirious)

Air and water indexes are up...
What about us? How much are WE
worth?

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - FOREST BIOME ELEVATOR

Sam and Darsey step into puddles of water. Sam stops in front of dead rabbits on the floor.

DARSEY

What the hell?

SAM

Where's this water coming from?

He runs to the forest biome elevator escape hatch. It's blocked closed but water is seeping underneath the door. They force the door open.

Everything falls out with the filthy water. Maggie slides out in the debris in an unconscious heap.

DARSEY

Is she dead?

SAM

Maggie! Wake up!

He cradles her in his good arm fighting back tears. He slaps her in the face to make her come to.

SAM

You can't die, Damn'you!

Maggie moves and then she opens her eyes. She coughs up dirty water.

MAGGIE
Colin used me. He did this.
(chokes)
Oh, Sam, everything's gone. I
couldn't stop the fire!

SAM
I love you.

Maggie turns to Sam for comfort. He embraces her desperately.

MAGGIE
You were right.

SAM
No, baby. I'm afraid I was never
right.

DARSEY
Don't worry, we'll find him.

MAGGIE
I'll find him. He's my battle.

DARSEY
He must be searching for a way off.

SAM
There is no way off.

MAGGIE
Yes, there is.

Maggie stands up. She rallies herself, eyes intent, turns to them and then disappears into the darkness.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DOCKING BAY

Colin plants the last of three bombs around the docking ring that holds his ship secure to the station.

INT. MYTHIC EXPLORER - CARGO HOLD

Colin enters the hold and feverishly hunts around until he finds a laundry bag. He takes out another one of his devices, a tiny round ball, from a dirty sock,

COLIN
I must remember to wash my socks
after this.

INT. THE CAGE

Diane has gotten the cover off her mouth. She looks up and finds Colin looming over her.

DIANE

I don't get it, Collie. What do you get?

COLIN

If I knew the answer to that, I wouldn't be here.

He laughs on the way out of the hidden hold.

INT. DOCKING BAY

Colin finishes rigging up the explosives. He puts his thumb on the fatal button on the trickster box when...

ZAP! A laser shot barely misses cutting off his ear.

Maggie steps out from behind a storage cabinet, her laser rifle ready. She steps into the open.

Colin turns white, as if he's seen a ghost. He puts his thumb on the button and presses it.

COLIN

It's true what people say about the superiority of genetic engineering.

The bombs EXPLODE and shatter the docking ring into smithereens.

Maggie is dumbfounded.

INT. HALL BY THE DOCKING BAY

Homer, the vegetable pulls himself along the hall by curling his tendrils around the objects in the way. Any chair, table, or lamp will do.

He heads for the Docking Bay, attracted by the VOICES there. Homer appears to be shriveling from the cold.

INT. DOCKING BAY

Colin starts to run back into his ship. He picks up a rifle sitting by the door. He steps in view of Maggie, aims and fires and her.

She tumbles to the floor to avoid being hit. Colin rushes to the work station. The computer reads, DISENGAGE O.K. but he can't get the ship to disengage.

COLIN

Guess this means the love is over, honey... There are many kinds of weakness... weakness of body, weakness of mind... But, your weakness, dear Maggie... is your heart. And it's going to kill what you love most.

Maggie sees the reflection of Homer behind her. She sets the gun down and waits. Colin holds her at bay.

A long, green tendril slides silently along the floor towards Maggie's gun. Colin doesn't see it. It soon disappears.

Something hard and cold is being poked between Colin's shoulder blades as he fiddles with the computer. It keeps poking him.

Colin turns around. There in front of him is Homer holding Maggie's gun in his tendrils. Colin stares down the barrel.

Homer fires it and nails Colin in the left shoulder. The man is aghast.

Colin wipes blood from his shoulder. Maggie is just as surprised.

Colin pushes his way past the plant and runs off.

Homer sits patiently on his portable utility wagon. Maggie runs off.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DECK C

Maggie is close behind Colin as he navigates the maze of halls.

She shoots at him but he moves too fast.

MAGGIE

Who are you, really?

Colin turns to her, staring into her gun barrel.

COLIN

Just another victim like you.

Colin makes a sudden turn into a dark recess and drops out of sight.

Maggie loses sight of him.

MAGGIE

Damn!

INT. AIR DUCT ABOVE HALL

Colin watches Maggie through the ceiling vent.

INT. HALL

Maggie sits down in the hall, poised to fight.

INT. AIR DUCT ABOVE HALL

Colin wrinkles up his face. He moves closer to the vent cover.

INT. HALL

Maggie stands up and slowly walks the length of the hall under the air duct.

INT. AIR DUCT ABOVE HALL

Colin wipes the blood from his shoulder. He holds his breath and looks down. The hunter is now the prey.

COLIN'S POV -- Maggie edges closer to the air vent and stands under him.

She looks up at the air vent.

MAGGIE

Come out, Collie. Come out and embrace your loving Maggie...

INT. HALL

Colin crashes through the air vent and pounces viciously on top of her. They wrestle each other to the floor.

Maggie is stunned to find that Colin strong as her.

He throws her to the floor. She's pinned down by his right hand and she can't pry loose.

MAGGIE

(on the floor;
dumbfounded)

You're one of us!

COLIN

So perceptive.

She lunges at him and kicks him in the ribs. Colin staggers for a moment, breathless in the open hall.

Without warning, a laser rifle blast fires past him and misses. Colin spins around to find Kimiko standing behind Maggie, her rifle on the target.

MAGGIE

What the...

In the confusion, Colin escapes. Maggie follows him. Kimiko disappears into the shadows.

INT. MYTHIC EXPLORER - HIDDEN ROOM

Diane thrusts her weight on the cage until it falls apart.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DOCKING BAY

Sam and Darsey guard the entrance to Colin's cargo ship.

Down the hall, Colin sneaks up, realized the way is blocked, proceeds in another direction.

Sam hears BANGING coming from inside the cargo ship.

SAM

Do you hear that?

INT. MYTHIC EXPLORER - CARGO HOLD

Sam follows the sound to a wall. The wall is really a door and it opens into the hidden room.

INT. HIDDEN ROOM

The sound has stopped. Sam feels the presence of another person. Without warning, the hot breath of someone behind him causes him to turn around.

He gets backhanded hard and falls to the ground. Diane stands over him.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - RECREATION ROOM

Colin puts on one of the heavy-duty pressure suits hanging on the wall. Frantic POUNDING shakes the door that Colin has blocked closed with gym equipment.

Colin takes a jet pack from the wall and straps it on. He watches the door being hammered on. It won't last.

He opens the pressure hatch and climbs in. It cycles to the outside.

He steps into the alcove. The door shuts just as Maggie crashes through the recreation room door.

She slips quickly into a pressure suit and jet pack.

EXT. GREENHOUSE ONE - RECREATION ROOM - CATWALK

Colin steps onto the catwalk. Seeing his ship docked off in the distance, Colin ignites the jet pack, checks his air supply, and flies off.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - RECREATION ROOM

Maggie enters the pressure hatch and waits for it to cycle. She's got a look that would scare the Devil.

EXT. GREENHOUSE ONE - RECREATION ROOM - CATWALK

Colin turns around as the pressure hatch opens. He smiles slightly. Showtime has arrived.

Maggie climbs onto the catwalk. She adjusts the jet pack. In her hands is a roll of bungee cord.

Maggie forms a lasso with the rope and makes a practice throw. It's perfect.

EXT. SPACE

Colin tries to increase his speed as Maggie is now behind him and gaining speed.

Maggie tosses the lasso at Colin. He spins to avoid the rope. It misses. He flips on his headset.

COLIN

You missed me.

Colin shoves up his sun visor, his laughing is designed to taunt her. It does.

Maggie turns on her headset.

MAGGIE

Don't get your hopes up.

Maggie increases her speed and tosses out the lasso.

Colin zigzags around, successfully avoiding the snare. He hides behind a jutting part of the space station superstructure.

He flies up to the biomes and out of the rope's reach.

Maggie jaunts in the other direction. She coils up the rope and waits for him.

Colin soars off in the direction of the Docking Bay.

He looks for Maggie but doesn't see her.

He finds a knife in his suit's storage compartment and straps it to his arm. Then, he checks the contents of another compartment close to his heart.

Maggie hides behind part of the FARM BIOME.

HER POV - A small herd of cows wade in snow. Distressed birds bang into the dome.

Colin looks then he leaps, only to be surprised when Maggie suddenly appears in front of him. She aims her rope and throws it.

The rope catches hold of Colin around the neck.

Maggie pulls it tight. He looks astonished.

Colin fights but he can't get it off. He takes out the knife but the cord is too strong to be cut. He turns on the headset.

Maggie yanks the rope tighter. Heavy breathing mists up her face mask. Tears run down her face.

Maggie adjusts her headset but there's no response.

Colin flies off with the rope slung around him. He begins to pull her in a game of tug-of-war.

He wraps the rope around a piece of the superstructure and gets himself free of the noose.

Maggie looks back and discovers she's tugging on the station. Colin is gone.

MAGGIE

Damn!

COLIN (MAGGIE'S

HEADSET)

I just had a pleasant memory.

Maggie checks the air supply. The sun's glare blurs her view.

COLIN (MAGGIE'S

HEADSET)

I was a tiny baby in a dingy nursery with other babies.

(pause)

Then, I was adopted. Suddenly I had a Daddy.

(pause)

You see he wanted a boy. All the other babies were girls in Lot 47.

You and...

MAGGIE

(to herself)

Kimi and Diane. That was you?

COLIN (MAGGIE'S

HEADSET)

Even Feinlein gets lonely, sometimes.

MAGGIE

He sent my biological brother to seduce me? You... a Gene Job raised by a damn machine.

Maggie cringes. The thought disgusts her. She flies to the superstructure and undoes the bungee cord that's tied to part of the solar panel work station.

EXT. GREENHOUSE ONE - SOLAR PANELS

Maggie ties the bungee cord to the gyroscope's arm. Off in the distance, Colin heads for his cargo ship.

Maggie flies out until the cord is tight and she yanks at the arm until it moves but it doesn't move enough.

She strains at it while her eyes are glued to Colin. Suddenly, the arm moves enough. The gyroscopes are now turning.

The entire station moves twenty degrees to the left.

Maggie flies away to avoid being struck by the jutting parts of the station.

INT. MYTHIC EXPLORER - HIDDEN ROOM

Sam wakes up to find Diane ripping off sheets of plastic from her body. He sees the shattered cage.

SAM
(befuddled)
Rainey?

DIANE
(totally confused)
Sam?

SAM
You've been here all along?

The whole room sways as the gyroscopes shift, tossing them to the floor. Diane catches Sam before he cracks his head on the metal flooring.

EXT. MYTHIC EXPLORER - REAR ENTRANCE

Colin fiddles with the ship's emergency entrance hatch. He activates a set of external work lights to see with. Just then the whole ship swings around in unison with the shifting space station. He gets banged in the head by a radio antenna.

COLIN
Shit!

EXT. GREENHOUSE ONE - SOLAR PANELS

Maggie watches as the cargo ship's work lights blink on. She flies towards it.

HER POV - Colin rapidly moves away from his cargo ship.

EXT. SPACE - WRECKAGE OF THE FOREST BIOME

Colin hovers over the blown-out forest biome. Wreckage floats everywhere. Trees, body parts, metal parts, everything.

Colin grabs a metal shard and throws it boomerang-style at Maggie. It shoots like a missile at her.

She barely escapes being hit.

Maggie rips off a straggly piece of biome still dangling from the arm.

She pushes it towards him. It crashes into other objects, scattering them like leaves.

Colin hides and avoids being hit.

Maggie reaches for a piece of metal. It's the remains of a robot droid. She holds it close to her, as if it means something. It does.

Colin takes the last of his bomb detonators hidden in his suit's chest pocket.

He holds it up for Maggie to see. He rests his hand on the button and speaks softly in his headset.

COLIN
(waxing poetic)
And man shall subdue the Earth...
we teeter... you and I... on the
brink of a great abyss, this new
Millennium... Alone.

Colin gently fingers the detonator button, casually with the patience of an artist.

MAGGIE (COLIN'S HEADSET)
I don't want to be alone. I want
life. But it's disappearing from
our fingers.

COLIN
And you want to bring it back?

MAGGIE (COLIN'S HEADSET)
Because I love it. Because it
loves me back... I do it for Sam.

COLIN
Maybe you do it because you're
weak.

MAGGIE (COLIN'S HEADSET)
Shut up!

COLIN
It seems our kind needs constant
affirmation. I know... that's what
my father taught me... when I was
fresh from the nursery.

Colin presses the button and then flings the detonator out into space.

Maggie becomes so enraged she starts hurling wreckage at him. She changes her headset channel.

MAGGIE
Sam, can you hear me? He's got
another bomb and he's triggered it!

Maggie throws a chunk of metal at him. It hits Colin's air tank on the gauge. He looks down at the gauge. It's cracked and won't turn.

He bangs on it to make it turn.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DOCKING BAY

Sam and Diane walk into the docking bay area to the shocked faces of the other crew. Maggie's panicked VOICE echoes over their heads.

EXT. SPACE - WRECKAGE OF THE FOREST BIOME

Maggie watches the movement of the floating debris and scopes out a broken chair. She throws the lasso at the chair and snares it.

Colin checks his air supply. Air is escaping fast. He becomes preoccupied with it.

Maggie flies off with the chair in tow.

Colin looks up and discovers a chair racing towards him! It bangs him in the head and knocks him out cold.

MAGGIE (COLIN'S HEADSET)

Pull up a chair, sweetheart.

Maggie flies over to Colin, limp in space. She removes the lasso from the chair and wraps it around him.

She tows Colin to the Rainforest Biome which is the nearest point of entry back into the station.

EXT. GREENHOUSE ONE - RAINFOREST BIOME

Maggie finds the MAINTENANCE PRESSURE HATCH. Opening it, she takes Colin inside.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - RAINFOREST BIOME

Maggie enters a small cubicle. The inner hatch door opens up after it completes its air cycle.

She carries Colin through the door and is now at the top of the sunlit rainforest canopy.

Maggie lowers Colin and herself with the bungee ropes. The sun's heat reacts with the chilled air and produces a mist that rises to the roof.

Maggie undoes her headgear. She jumps onto a tree branch. Maggie grabs a vine and swings down to the floor. She lowers Colin.

Colin lays on the ground and comes to. He opens his eyes and looks around. But he pretends to be out.

Maggie removes her pressure suit. Colin seizes his chance and escapes into the brush. She turns around and he's gone.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DOCKING BAY

The kidnapped shuttle sits before them. Diane rips off the door, her anger boiling over into rage. Sam startles at this side of her. Darsey is awed.

Inside, what was left of the cargo is either withered or dead. Comatose and dehydrated animals lay prostrate in their enclosures. There is a stench of death. Darsey faints. It's too much for her.

MAGGIE (THROUGH

INTERCOM)

I have him in the canopy! You have to evacuate! He's got a bomb somewhere!

Diane screams into the intercom.

DIANE

Maggie! It's me!

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - RAINFOREST BIOME

MAGGIE -- Beats the brush hunting for Colin. The familiar voice hits her like a brick.

MAGGIE

Diane?

COLIN -- Pulls back behind the TARA arm and waits for her. He can hear the squeaking of the emergency trap door being lifted and strains to look but sees no one.

MAGGIE -- Stands by the TARA arm on the spot where Woody fell. The broken tree branch lays nearby with Colin's name engraved on it. She picks up the branch and violently throws it. Birds scatter in alarm.

COLIN -- Avoids being hit by the branch.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - RAINFOREST BIOME ELEVATOR

Diane scrambles up the escape latter with Darsey close behind. Sam hoists himself along with his good arm.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - RAINFOREST BIOME

COLIN -- Snakes his way through the brush. Anguished animals break the uneasy silence around him.

MAGGIE -- Steps through the brush. Pushing the foliage aside, she discovers Colin sitting calmly on a stump.

MAGGIE

Where is it?

COLIN

You'll find out in ten minutes.
Come... join me in eternity.

Sam and Darsey chop their way through. Sam aims his rifle at Colin. Diane is not with them.

SAM

Game's over, Fox.

MAGGIE

I heard Diane's voice.

SAM

No. Just another one of Collie's tricks.

COLIN -- Looks confused by the statement but plays along. There are two laser rifles pointed at him now. Darsey's and Sam's. Maggie coils up the bungee rope.

COLIN

That's right. Just a tape. So,
now we'll play a game. Find the
bomb.

The words hang in the air forever. Colin takes in the moment, savoring it, his finest hour.

Maggie looks at Darsey and Sam, almost panics, but it's not her way.

The ever present GROWL is heard in the brush.

Maggie climbs up to a tree branch and yanks down the remains of a dead animal.

MAGGIE

Be glad that's not you.

The panther becomes provoked by the dead carcass on the ground. Colin looks at the escape hatch door and at Darsey with her rifle, looking pale and terrified. He sizes her up.

Colin moves with terrific speed from the stump, pounces on Darsey and rips the rifle from her hand, lets off two shots at the group and misses them. He rolls into the bushes.

Colin fires a round at Sam, misses and hits a tree branch, slicing it off. It hits the ground.

COLIN

Maggie, my dearest... I could have killed him. But, I would rather not. You have five minutes.

Colin slithers over the trap door.

Maggie hurls a rock at him. He stumbles but makes it to the trap door.

Colin goes to lift the door when...

WHAM! The door smacks him in the jaw.

Diane hoists herself up onto the jungle floor.

Maggie is flabbergasted to see her.

Colin is back on his feet and at the trap door. Diane grabs him by the hair and pulls him up.

DIANE

Tell us where the bomb is.

Colin muses over the question.

COLIN

It could be under your noses.

Sam and Darsey search for the bomb.

Colin kicks at Diane. She loses her grip. They wrestle until he fights her off. He jumps away.

Colin goes for the escape door. Suddenly from the brush a laser rifle fires at him and misses.

Kimiko comes out from hiding and fires again. She coughs and shakes with fever.

KIMIKO

(coughs)

Feinlein and I made a deal. Your life for mine.

Colin goes blank momentarily in his mind. His face becomes twisted and strained. In front of him, Kimiko, the assassin, stands ready to finish her work.

COLIN

What?

Kimiko circles the escape hatch. Close enough to look into his eyes.

KIMIKO

Hurts, doesn't it, being part of the game.

Colin looks completely surprised just as GROWLING comes from a hidden tree. Sheila, the black panther leaps onto Colin's back and bites him in the neck.

SAM -- Tearing through the foliage, sees a shiny object under the tree stump where Colin was sitting.

SAM

I found it!

Maggie pulls the cat off of him but it's too late. There's a gaping hole in his neck and he's bleeding to death.

Diane takes the bomb from Sam and attaches it to Maggie's jet pack. She jumps to the ceiling's outside pressure hatch, stuffs the pack inside and cycles it.

The door opens to the outside and the pack whizzes off into space. Nothing happens. Maggie kneels by Colin and cradles his head.

Kimiko lays down her weapon. She stands over Colin.

A BLAST is heard above the station.

COLIN

I always was bad at timing those things.

Sheila sits by Maggie. She licks the blood from Colin's wounds. Colin's eyes connect with the vibrant life in this creature's face.

COLIN

Can't believe he never wanted me to escape. I thought he loved me.

MAGGIE

So we both were fooled.

COLIN

Why?

MAGGIE

Orphans... because we're orphans...
we want to believe.

COLIN

(the last word)

Oh... No, you don't.

Colin summons up his last bit of strength and takes a small laser from his shirt. Kimiko heads for the escape hatch and starts climbing down.

Colin fires and hits her in the arm. She falls through the hatch.

Colin dies, the gun slipping from his grip.

Sam holds Maggie and allows her to grieve.

INT. GREENHOUSE ONE - DECK C

Maggie and Sam walk together down the hall, exhausted after their ordeal. The other crew straggle along carrying Colin. Maggie reaches for Sam.

MAGGIE

Everything is lost... but you're
still here.

Sam gazes thoughtfully into her questioning eyes.

SAM

You can't get rid of me.

She falls into his waiting embrace.

SAM

This is where you belong.

INT. MYTHIC EXPLORER - CARGO HOLD

The video screen faces the figure in the chair. Mr. Feinlein's metallic mouth smiles as he speaks. Kimiko nurses her mangled arm.

MR. FEINLEIN (ON SCREEN)

Kimiko, you look terrible. Give me
your status.

KIMIKO

(struggles)

Your business competitors are dead,
sir. Just as you wanted.

MR. FEINLEIN (ON SCREEN)
Did he fight well? I always taught
him to fight well.

KIMIKO
Yes. A regular chip off the old
block.

MR. FEINLEIN (ON SCREEN)
The superiority of genetically
engineered men and women is proven
once again.

KIMIKO
I could debate that with you, but
I'm running out of blood.

MR. FEINLEIN (ON SCREEN)
That you are.

Mr. Feinlein holds up a legal document for Kimiko to see.

KIMIKO
My new identity?

MR. FEINLEIN (ON SCREEN)
You've earned it. No more second-
class status. We're sending you to
Asia where you can eat synthetic
sushi to your heart's content.

The screen goes black. Kimiko swivels away from the screen.
Maggie and the crew stand at the doorway, bewildered.

KIMIKO
You have six hours before the vote.
Make them count.

Kimiko, losing strength, tumbles from the chair. Maggie runs to
her.

MAGGIE
Kimiko!

CLOSE ON -- Kimiko reaches up her hand. Maggie presses her face
to the open palm and kisses it.

Diane looks on, fighting her anger. She punches the wall before
walking away.

Sam turns to Maggie, his eyes full of unspoken passion. Maggie
holds Kimiko close to her.

MAGGIE
If I hadn't been such an idiot...

Maggie looks up and their eyes meet. Suddenly she realizes the truth.

MAGGIE

We're just running from the same things.

Darsey paces, apprehensive. She shakes Maggie.

DARSEY

We can still get there!

The crew takes Kimiko away from the cargo hold.

LATER ON - EARTH

INT. SENATE CHAMBERS

The crowded hall bustles with delegates from throughout the world.

Mr. Feinlein lounges at his part of the hall marked ALLIANCE CORPORATIONS. He's acting smug and grinning to everyone. Mr. Teflon.

The CHAIRPERSON BANGS the gavel to order.

The hall calms down.

CHAIRPERSON

The next item on the agenda is the Habitat Vote.

(squints)

Is the Greenhouse Project here yet?

Without warning the great hall doors swing open. In parades a CLAMOROUS rabble of animals. Maggie has Sheila, the panther at her heels.

Diane and Kimiko approach the delegates, bloody and torn. The Chairperson is speechless as Maggie steps forward.

MAGGIE

The Greenhouse Project is here, you Honor.

CHAIRPERSON

Good Lord, what happened to you?

Mr. Feinlein's jaw drops to his knees. He tries to hide under his chair as the audience begins to CHEER and APPLAUD. He doesn't fit.

MAGGIE

Good bye, Mr. Feinlein.

The Alliance boardmembers look on in shock. Mr. Feinlein ducks away. Maggie sends Sheila running after him. The cat growls and chases him out of the Senate hall as Sam and Maggie, finding comfort in each other, smile, deeply satisfied.

FADE OUT:

THE END