

EXODUS 2057

BOOK III

(Pilot)

"Ero"

Written By

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TEASER

INT. SPACESHIP TRAVELING THROUGH SPACE - BRIDGE - NIGHT

DAMON BLAKE (42), a tall, white male with long brown hair and a shaggy, unkempt beard is all alone on the bridge.

He is tucked into the captain's chair, napping. The chair has a display monitor on each side.

A pair of flip-flops are at the base of the chair. He is wearing boxer shorts and a T-shirt.

The bridge is large, clean, and completely quiet. Lighting is dim with a strip of light blue lights around the ceiling. Computer monitors are working.

The view of space is visible through the large front windows.

TITLE CARD OVER BLACK:

YEAR 2139

INT. SPACESHIP - BRIDGE - SPACE

Damon's head rapidly moves side to side. He is having a nightmare.

INT. DAMON'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EARTH - DAY - FLASHBACK
DREAM

TWELVE-YEAR-OLD DAMON is standing on top of the staircase and watching downstairs.

His mother, SUSAN BLAKE (40), 5'5" brunette, is in the house by the front door talking to TWO MEN dressed in black suits, white shirts, and black ties.

The men show her their ID cards.

One of the men grabs her arm. She yanks her arm free.

SUSAN BLAKE
Don't touch me! I'm not going
anywhere till I know more.

The other man receives a call on his mobile phone. He answers the call. He nods his head, says something softly, and immediately gives Susan the mobile phone.

Susan listens to the phone. Her head is down, and when she speaks, Damon can't hear what she is saying on the phone.

She gives the phone back to the man.

SUSAN BLAKE (CONT'D)
Give me a few minutes to pack and talk to my husband.

MAN #1
(firmly)
Ma'am, I'm sorry. I can't. We must leave now.

Both men grab Susan's arms.

She steps back and releases her arms.

SUSAN BLAKE
I said don't touch me!

Twelve-year-old Damon is watching this in horror.

SUSAN BLAKE (CONT'D)
(shouts)
Steve! Steve, wake up!

TWELVE-YEAR-OLD DAMON
(yells)
Mom!

SUSAN BLAKE
Damon, honey, go get your dad quickly. Hustle, hustle!

Damon runs to his parents' bedroom.

TWELVE-YEAR-OLD DAMON
(yells)
Dad, Dad!

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

INT. SPACESHIP TRAVELING THROUGH SPACE - BRIDGE - NIGHT

Damon is sleeping in the captain's chair, his head is tossing side to side.

SHIP'S COMPUTER (V.O.)
(calm male voice)
Captain, we are approaching the
target planet, GJ-375D.

Damon doesn't respond. His head moves from side to side.

SHIP'S COMPUTER (V.O.)
(louder)
Captain? -- Captain!

Loud rock music engulfs the bridge.

Damon startles in his chair. Wakes up sweating.

DAMON
(shocked)
What? What's happening?

Music stops.

SHIP'S COMPUTER (V.O.)
(calm voice)
Captain, we are approaching the
target planet, GJ-375D.

Damon rubs his face to wake up.

DAMON
Yes, yes, what's the ETA?

SHIP'S COMPUTER (V.O.)
3 hours, 11 minutes and 37 seconds,
following the standard protocol.

DAMON
Oh! Show the target planet. The
front display.

A large front window flickers and turns to a display. It shows dark space with a few small, bright stars/planets.

DAMON (CONT'D)
Enlarge factor 25.

The display shows a planet with two moons.

Damon stares at the view and nods his head.

DAMON (CONT'D)
(whispers)
Finally.

Damon rubs his hands together.

DAMON (CONT'D)
Okay. Wake them up!

SHIP'S COMPUTER (V.O.)
Command not clear.

Damon clears his throat.

DAMON
Computer, initiate Phase One,
Operation New Home.

SHIP'S COMPUTER (V.O.)
Operation New Home, Phase One is
now initiated.

A strip of dim blue lights around the ceiling of the bridge turns to bright green.

SHIP'S COMPUTER (V.O.)
Command staff revival in
progress...

Damon interrupts the computer's voice.

DAMON
Computer, send the progress report
to my Screen Two. Initiate graduate
speed reduction to maximum impulse
within the next thirty minutes.

He glances at his left display near his chair.

INSERT - LIST OF NAMES AND PROCESSES ARE ROLLING UP.

Damon stands up, puts his flip-flops on and walks toward the elevator to the left of the bridge to exit the bridge.

INT. SPACESHIP - HALLWAY - SPACE

Damon is happily walking in empty hallways humming a song. Strips of bright green lights on the ceiling are glowing.

INT. SPACESHIP - HIBERNATION ROOM - SPACE

A large hall is stacked with thousands of sleep pods in multiple rows and columns.

A few pods are showing computer activity on their front display modules.

A selected few, one by one, move on a rail to a prep room.

INT. SPACESHIP - DAMON'S QUARTERS - SPACE

The automatic door slides open, room lights go on, a narrow strip of bright green lights around the ceiling are on.

Damon enters his room.

Embedded in the wall are three computer displays.

One display is scrolling the list of names and their positions as they are being awakened.

The second monitor is showing the front view of the ship traveling through space, approaching the target planet.

The third monitor is displaying tasks and statuses of multiple operations as they progress.

Damon glances at the first display.

DAMON

Music.

Slow, tranquil music starts playing.

DAMON (CONT'D)

No, no. Happy music. Computer, play happy music.

Rhythmic music starts playing.

Damon walks into his bathroom.

INT. DAMON'S BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Damon looks at himself in a mirror.

DAMON

Hmm. This ain't the face of a captain.

He starts shaving his beard.

INT. SPACESHIP - BRIDGE - SPACE

Empty bridge, no human is present. Computer displays show busy activities. The strip of bright green lights around the ceiling are glowing.

INT. SPACESHIP - DAMON'S BATHROOM - SPACE

Damon is looking at himself in a mirror. His face is shaved. He plays with his long hair, contemplating cutting it.

DAMON

Nah. I'll keep it.

Damon steps into his shower pod.

INT. SPACESHIP - HIBERNATION PREP ROOM - SPACE

Hibernation pods are arriving on conveyer railing systems from the hibernation storage room to the preparation room. They have aerodynamical shape and metallic casing with only one window showing the face of the person inside.

Pods stop at a platform, standing vertically. Doors open one after the other.

A small railing extends out in front of each vertical pod to help each newly awakened person stay erect.

People in undergarments are stepping out of the pods.

Some of them fall to the ground as soon as they step out, but pull themselves up. However, most of them use the railing to get used to standing.

They walk to the steam shower area in front of them.

INT. SPACESHIP - DAMON'S QUARTERS - SPACE

Damon steps out of his bathroom. He puts on pants, a pair of military boots, and a solid-color polo shirt. He goes to his drawer and picks up a gold pendant on a chain.

Damon pauses, stares at the pendant for a few seconds, then closes his eyes and grips the pendant in a tight squeeze. He then loops the chain over his head and tucks it underneath his shirt.

He looks in the mirror and styles his hair into a man bun.

On his way out he checks himself in a mirror again.

DAMON

Nah.

He puts a baseball cap on.

The cap shows the logo and the name of the ship, "Ero."

INT. SPACESHIP - HALLWAYS - SPACE

Damon is walking with a big smile.

People wearing casual clothing, who are recently awakened, pass him.

He nods his head, greeting the ones that look at him.

Damon is excited. He hasn't seen activity for a long time.

INT. SPACESHIP - BRIDGE - SPACE

The bridge is well-lit. Two men and a woman, busy with their computers, are sitting in front. They are dressed in long pants and shirts with their nametags.

The elevator door opens, and Damon enters the bridge.

Ship's computer plays a whistle.

SHIP'S COMPUTER (V.O.)

Captain on the bridge.

The crew turn their heads toward Damon.

DAMON

(loud and jubilant)

Welcome, everyone!

The crew smile and continue watching him.

Damon rubs his hands and makes a hand gesture.

DAMON (CONT'D)

Okay, well, introduce yourselves
and report the status.

The crew look at each other. They don't know who should go first.

DAMON (CONT'D)
We start from my left.
(points to the man to his
left)
You go first.

ALI RASHTI (24), a Persian man, skinny with black hair, nods and introduces himself. He is a fast talker.

ALI
(with Persian accent)
Ali Rashti, ensign. We are at a
half impulse speed approaching the
target planet, GJ-375D.

Damon nods his head with a smile and turns his head to the next person.

JIAXIN (Jashin) CHIN (22), stocky Chinese woman.

JIAXIN(JASHIN)
Jashin Chin, navigator. No
surprises, sir.

Damon looks at the last one, PHILLIPPE COUTEAU (26), a tall, Black French man.

PHILIPPE
(French accent, clear and
well-tempered voice)
Philippe Couteau, science station.
Atmospheric scan is completed. With
the limited data from the initial
scan, designation of GJ-375D as a
habitable planet is correct, sir.

Damon sits in the captain's chair and swivels his chair to see Philippe better.

DAMON
How about communication? Do you
detect any sign of indigenous
signals?

PHILIPPE
No, nothing yet, sir.

Damon swivels back to his original position.

DAMON
(loudly)
Ali, bring us nice and easy into
the orbit.

(MORE)

DAMON (CONT'D)
 Philippe, start planetary scans and
 initiate loading probes. Jashin,
 keep all sensors at maximum
 sensitivity and record all signals
 for analysis. Computer, display
 planet image on the front viewer.
 Magnification factor 10.

INSERT - IMAGE OF EARTH-LIKE PLANET WITH LESS BLUE

<p>DAMON (CONT'D) (soft voice) Hello, beautiful. I can't wait to touch you.</p>	<p>SHIP'S COMPUTER (V.O.) Phase One, Operation New Home, completed.</p>	<p>* *</p>
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DAMON (CONT'D)
 Haven't seen anything this pretty
 for a long time. Ali, put us on
 geostationary orbit.

ALI
 Is 36,000 kilometers okay, sir?

DAMON
 You got it.

SHIP'S COMPUTER (V.O.)
 We have five crew members being
 treated in medical --

Damon cuts the computer off.

DAMON
 Computer, send the status report to
 my Screen Two.

INSERT - IMAGE OF THE SPACESHIP POSITIONING INTO ORBIT

PHILIPPE
 Scanning the planet.

Damon leans forward to see the image of the planet better.

INSERT - IMAGE OF THE PLANET GETTING LARGER WITH MORE DETAIL

PHILIPPE (CONT'D)
 Levels and natures of surface air
 composition vary. However, overall
 it seems nitrogen is within 75-80%,
 oxygen 20-22%, argon 0.94%...

DAMON
 (interrupts)
 So the air is breathable?

PHILIPPE

For the most part, yes.

DAMON

Any sign of life?

PHILIPPE

At this range, I can only confirm
plant life.

DAMON

Jashin, any signs of communication?

JIAXIN (JASHIN)

Nope.

DAMON

Philippe?

PHILIPPE

I concur.

Damon energetically rubs his hands together.

DAMON

Okay, per United Nation's article
953D, Section 5 of the 2056, I
hereby declare the planet GJ-375D
is now "Somnium."

Ali and Jiaxin look at each other and smile.

Damon is looking at the planet with joy.

DAMON (CONT'D)

(softly)

I've waited 85 years to say this.

Damon stands.

DAMON (CONT'D)

Ali, stay in this orbit for two
full rotations. Call me when
completed.

Damon leaves the bridge.

INT. SPACESHIP - HALLWAYS - SPACE

Damon is walking through hallways.

People in casual clothing pass by him.

INT. SPACESHIP - SICK BAY - CONTINUOUS - SPACE

Damon enters the sick bay. There are three people in bed and another person in a clear pod, like a bubble.

DAMON

Who is in charge here?

A NURSE (28), 5'5" Latino woman who is attending another person, glances at him.

NURSE

Take a seat, we'll get to you as soon as we can.

The nurse goes back to tending the person in the bed.

DAMON

I'm the captain and would like to speak with the person in charge.

The nurse glances back at him again.

NURSE

Yeah, right, the captain of the ship would know who is running his sick bay!

DAMON

There is a lot going on. I haven't had a chance to read --

The voice of Dr. ROSE BILLINGTON (43), 5'7", blond, lean and toned, interrupts.

DR. BILLINGTON

I'm Dr. Billington. How can I help you?

Damon turns around. He is stunned.

DAMON

(whispers)

Rose?

Rose is taken aback.

DR. BILLINGTON

(surprised)

Damon!

For a moment, they pause and stare at each other.

Equipment at a patient's bedside starts beeping loudly.

