

TITLE: YEAR 2245

TITLE: CHRYSALIS GALAXY - MINING STATION G08

EXT. OUTER SPACE - PLANETOID G08 MINING STATION - NIGHT

An ugly malformed rock nestled in a dark and lonely corner of space. Lights emanate from the mining station and meekly pierce the overpowering darkness. Man's presence is dwarfed by the hulk of the planetoid.

Six modules connected to a central core by windowed hallways make up G08 Mining Base. Patched with different bits of metal over the years, it's been here awhile.

INT. SECURITY CONTROL ROOM - DAY

A room full of shiny surveillance electronics distributed at four tidy workstations. Soft, indirect lighting exudes calm. Numbers, letters, and images float in front of CHIEF ILYANA VATCHE (Asian, trim and 30s) as her eyes zip across the various feeds.

Bored, SGT. GREG RIGHTSON (heavy, 20s) flips his Academy ring in the air. He loses concentration for a moment and DROPS it. The BING DING-A-LING sound annoys Ilyana.

ILYANA

Either it stays on or I cut the
finger off.

He grabs the errant ring from the floor and sheepishly puts it back on.

GREG

Sorry, boss.

Live images of the miners float in front of them, unaware they're being watched. Walking in halls, eating in the cafe.

Deep below, workers operate machinery that RIPS through sheer walls of impossibly ancient rock. Others run massive grinders that shred the rocks into gravel.

A red light flashes, Ilyana waves her hand over the panel. A 3-D image of her second in command, MARKUS WORISTER, (wiry 30s) appears. He whispers discreetly.

MARKUS

The subject has arrived.

Ilyana snaps upright, she's been waiting for this.

ILYANA
Excellent, on my way. Return to HQ.

MARKUS
Sure? Two's better than one.

The slightest of smiles crosses Ilyana's lips.

ILYANA
Thanks, but I'll handle this
myself.

The image shimmers, then disappears. She drops a few items into her bag, leans over to Greg as she stands.

ILYANA
Hold down the fort.

He smiles efficiently, waves.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - HALLWAY 8-B - DAY

A hand comes up, KNOCKS INSISTENTLY on a door.

ILYANA
Security, open up, now!

A brief pause, the door opens to reveal a raven beauty, CORRINE KUCZKOWSKI (20s). She blocks the entrance; anxious, excited.

Just beyond her is a fairly drab standard quarters.

CORRINE
Chief Vatche, I, uh, can I help
you?

ILYANA
Security Inspection, executive
order 47 dash 12a.

CORRINE
I just need a minute to...

Ilyana BURSTS past her into the room. A silk scarf has been thrown over a harsh light for some atmosphere. Everything else screams 'basic blah'.

Images of exotic places mixed with whimsical stuffed animals define the room. It belongs to a young woman with dreams.

She hasn't reached them yet.

INT. CORRINE'S ROOM - DAY

Ilyana inspects personal items on a shelf. Below it are a standard issue sleep cubicle and small storage bins. Curtains frame a window, outside there's a peaceful clearing in a woods. Ilyana suspiciously SNATCHES an open bottle of wine from the table.

ILYANA

This Shiraz is over 30 years old.
Older than you in fact. Awfully
pricey for a third year mining
assist, yes?

CORRINE

Maybe it's fake?

Ilyana dumps some into a glass, swirls, tastes the contraband. Corrine waits nervously. Ilyana ponders, grimaces.

ILYANA

You're right, absolute shit.

A burst of LAUGHTER. They fall into each other's arms, happy for the moment.

CORRINE

It'd better not be, cost a fortune.
Happy first anniversary, beautiful.
I haven't wrapped your present yet.

ILYANA

I'd rather start with unwrapping.

Ilyana playfully starts unbuttoning Corrine's uniform. Corrine holds her glass up.

CORRINE

To unwrapping.

They toast, then set the glasses down and kiss passionately. The embrace builds until Corrine bumps into Ilyana's shoulder.

ILYANA

Ouch! Careful.

CORRINE

Still hurts? Been two weeks.

Ilyana pulls her top off to reveal an angry mark the size of a grape. She gingerly touches it, then pulls her other half down on the bed.

CORRINE

What was it for again?

ILYANA

New medical protocol from up top.

From the window, a deer watches them.

ILYANA

Bambi freaks me out.

Corrine waves at the controls. The peaceful woods go, replaced by actual reality, cold empty space seen from a crappy little crew quarters porthole on a crappy little mining base.

ILYANA

Two more years and I can request a transfer to Andromeda. The planet there has two suns.

CORRINE

Two's better than none.

They settle in and kiss again, lay back. BEEP, there's an URGENT interruption from the floor. Ilyana looks down, digs for her wrist com unit, it's Markus. She hastily sits up.

ILYANA

Better be good...

INT. G08 MINING STATION - SECURITY CONTROL - CONTINUOUS

Markus sits at Ilyana's desk. He and Greg grimly face a variety of projected images. Red lights flash, more people calling in. A sense of URGENCY.

MARKUS

Sorry, Chief, we've got an ongoing incident in B2.

Ilyana's projection appears in front of them, she quickly straightens her uniform.

ILYANA

An incident?

GREG

Multiple incidents.

INT. CORRINE'S ROOM -DAY

A 3-D image floats above the table from her wrist com. Ilyana and Corrine watch as someone is THROWN hundreds of meters down a chasm, SCREAMING all the way.

MARKUS (O.S.)

There's more.

The next projection is an ENRAGED MINER, eyes bloody and insane. He SCREAMS in mindless, inhuman RAGE, picks up a rock and CRUSHES a woman's head in. She goes limp and her legs start twitching. He grabs the bloody rock and CRASHES it into the camera, ending the feed.

ILYANA

Call all security personnel to meet
in B2, five minutes. Full
armaments.

She ends the transmission. A radically changed mood has taken over. Ilyana snaps a PLASMA PISTOL out of her ankle holster, holds it out for Corrine.

ILYANA

Take this.

CORRINE

I don't know how...

Ilyana chugs what's left of her wine, flips off the safety, holds out the gun again.

ILYANA

Pull the trigger, whatever was in
front of you won't be there
anymore.

Corrine nods silently, takes the gun. They kiss again, but a different kind of kiss. An uncertain future.

CORRINE

I love you.

ILYANA

I love you, too. I'll...I'll see
you soon.

She pastes an unconvincing SMILE on her face, then RUNS out the door. Corrine stares sadly at the wine bottle.

END TEASER

ACT ONE

TITLE: CHRYSALIS GALAXY - SPACE BASE G06

EXT. OUTER SPACE - G06 SPACE BASE - DAY

A rocky world orbits a dim orange star, its thin atmosphere glows with the amber light.

On the surface a base complex comes into view, buildings glisten out of the haze covered in work lights and vehicles moving about.

We focus on a tattered ship, THE COGBURN, docked at the base. The freighter is dented, some panels newer than others. Mismatched colors and patches on top of patches complete the weary patina.

INT. G06 SPACE BASE - DAY

One hundred meters of nearly empty ports, some damaged and unused for years. PEOPLE move pallets of cargo on an anti-gravity jack a few doors down.

Freighter pilot STEVE TOKARZ (African, 20s and handsome) and his partner, VIC ADNEY (20s, not as handsome) meander out of the dock and back toward the Cogburn, their ship.

This is the "service" end of the world, nothing new or shiny here. Dock hand GIL drags the refueling connector from the back of the Cogburn as the cargo doors close.

TOKARZ

We good to go?

GIL

Yep, cargo's all unloaded.

Tokarz brushes his wrist device, a spreadsheet floats in front of him.

TOKARZ

Four thousand kilos of food paste,
three hundred pallets of engineered
vegetables, and two hundred of
fresh-ish lab grown meat.

GIL

Sounds right.

TOKARZ

Sign here.

Gil confirms the transfer. Distracted, he drops the refueling hose, a tiny drop leaks out and BURSTS into a SEARING FLAME. Tokarz grabs a bucket and DUMPS flame retardant powder on the fire, putting it OUT.

GIL

Whoops. Damn that's hot.

ADNEY

Plasma and oxygen don't mix.

GIL

Tell me about it! You'd think I'd remember.

He holds up his replacement arm and cycles the metal fingers. A load of freight floats out of the ship next to theirs on anti-grav pallets. The operator waves for Gil.

GIL

See ya next time.

Gil jogs to the other ship. On a display above them the corporate news channel loops endlessly. They stop for a moment to watch.

On the screen dozens of corporate personnel march in formation to a large transport.

ADNEY

More troops to stop the uprisings.

TOKARZ

Good luck with that.

ADNEY

They knew it was a shitty deal when they signed up.

TOKARZ

Some people want more than five cubic meters of living space.

The guys enter the rear air lock of the Cogburn, give a last look at G06, and close the door.

ADNEY

Should've stayed on Earth.

Tokarz watches it close.

TOKARZ
Thirteen months and I'll be there.

ADNEY
Going to see Mom?

TOKARZ
Might stay this time.

ADNEY
Heard it before, you always come back. Hey, you gonna ask her about that loan? We buy our own ship, we make the rules?

Tokarz walks toward the cockpit, shakes his head.

TOKARZ
Not a chance.

INT. INTERSTELLAR DYNAMICS CENTER - VIOLA'S OFFICE - DAY

Not quite human, not quite a robot, the CEO of Interstellar Dynamics, VIOLA FANTOZEN sits displeased at her desk. The insectoid zips through floating documents with a violent swipe.

A red light flashes in the air. She blinks at it and her secretary HAVENSKA (40s), pops up as an image floating above her desk.

HAVENSKA
Apologies, forgive the intrusion.

Annoyance is replaced by a thin-lipped, icy smile.

VIOLA
I'm sure it's extremely important.

HAVENSKA
Mr. Orickson is here, he's...

The door to the office BURSTS OPEN. An older white man, MR. ORICKSON, floats in on an ambu-chair.

MR. ORICKSON
You motherfucker.

VIOLA
Nice to see you too, Glen.

MR. ORICKSON
We agreed to a cautious schedule.

Viola smiles in an unconvincing fashion.

VIOLA

You weren't getting the results we needed.

MR. ORICKSON

We AGREED. Now I find you've turned G08 into a fucking Petri dish.

VIOLA

You're leaving for your treatments, I wanted to surprise you with real progress.

MR. ORICKSON

Progress? I've seen the reports. They're all dead. You're done. See you at the trial.

Mr. Orickson hits some controls on his ambu-chair and zips off in a huff.

VIOLA

Aw, don't go away angry. Let me show you my vacation holos.

INT. COGBURN COCKPIT - DAY

A functional but grimy cockpit.

Two centuries of technological progress haven't changed the look of duct tape, which holds the interior together. Some of the control lights don't shine as brightly as others.

Seated in the control seats; Tokarz operates the ship while Adney naps, a red light flashing in front of him.

TOKARZ

Hey, wake up, asshole. Incoming.

Adney keeps sleeping, Tokarz snaps a restraint over himself. He flips a control marked "Cockpit Gravity" to "OFF".

Adney slowly floats up out of his seat, when he's a few inches above it Tokarz flips the gravity back ON. Adney CRASHES down.

ADNEY

Whaaa? What was that for?

Tokarz points to the flashing light.

TOKARZ

Incoming transmission, answer it.
It's G08, 2 stops ahead.

ADNEY

Maybe they want to order some extra
roach motels. That place has always
been a shit hole.

TOKARZ

Classy. Do your job.

ADNEY

Because it's on our route or
because your ex lives there?

TOKARZ

Just answer it.

Adney taps a control. FRIEDA, the communications officer at
G08, floats in front of them. She's terrified, swirling in
chaos. PEOPLE run, SCREAM, and FIGHT behind her.

FRIEDA

The children aren't listening! They
just aren't and I can't make them
listen.

ADNEY

Frieda? What children? What are you
talking about?

She looks to the side as someone approaches from off screen.

FRIEDA

No, please, dear GOD NO...

MORE SCREAMS then the transmission breaks up, STATIC.

TOKARZ

Get her back.

Adney hits some buttons.

ADNEY

No signal, completely gone.

TOKARZ

The emergency frequency?

ADNEY

Already tried. Nothing.

Tokarz taps some buttons. Taps them again, confused.

TOKARZ

Their navigation beacon is down.
That's never supposed to happen.

ADNEY

Office party out of control.

TOKARZ

That's your professional
assessment? I'm gonna check the
manual.

ADNEY

Of course you are.

Tokarz raises his wrist and starts swiping through pages.

TOKARZ

That was a distress call. Manual's
very clear, we've got no choice but
to alter course and provide
assistance.

ADNEY

Give it an hour or two. They'll
sober up and call it off, you'll
see.

Tokarz shakes his head, annoyed.

TOKARZ

Upping speed to fifty percent of
light, altering course to heading
B47-09, Mining Base G08.

Adney SIGHS loudly.

TOKARZ

First Officer Adney, please advise
station G07 that we will be
delayed. Request guidance from
Interstellar Dynamics HQ regarding
G08.

ADNEY

Why bother? We won't get an answer
'til after we get there.

TOKARZ

It's called 'procedure'. Just do
it.

Adney types on his panel. Hits 'send' with a self-satisfied
flourish.

ADNEY

Done. At this speed, we'll arrive
in 5 hours, get an answer in 6.
Back to more important things.

He closes his eyes, nap time.

EXT. OUTER SPACE G08 STATION - NIGHT

Fires can be seen in several station windows. Emergency
lights FLASH in others.

INT. COGBURN COCKPIT - DAY

A few hours have passed. Tokarz handles the controls with
urgency. Adney naps. Tokarz kicks his seat to wake him up.

TOKARZ

We're here. Try to reach them
again. Still no nav beacon.

Adney runs his hands over the controls. Watches.

ADNEY

Nothing from the ops deck.

TOKARZ

Prepare to dock on manual.

A new light flashes in front of Adney.

ADNEY

Whoa! Just got urgent encoded flash
text from the company. Full 3-D in
15 hours when the signal gets here.

TOKARZ

The suspense is killing me. What'd
they say?

Adney reads through a mass of words, frowns. Then smiles.

ADNEY

We're to bypass and continue to
G07. Nothing's wrong here, likely
radio outage due to routine
maintenance.

Adney gives him an "I won" look, Tokarz isn't convinced.

TOKARZ
OK, what part of 'routine
maintenance' requires setting fire
to the station?

They look down at the beleaguered base.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - DOCK AREA - DAY

Very similar in appearance to G06, but with nobody around.
Lights FLICKER, their hatch cycles open and they walk in.
Cautiously.

TOKARZ
Vindlay? Anyone?

ADNEY
Let's refuel her and head back out,
yeah?

He snaps the refueling connector on the Cogburn and flips it
to the "flow" position.

TOKARZ
Curious to find out what's going
on?

ADNEY
They said it's routine maintenance.

Tokarz touches some buttons, their rear hatch cycles closed.

TOKARZ
Right. We're heading to ops, come
on.

Tokarz leads the way, Adney follows reluctantly.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - ELEVATOR A - DAY

They stand in silence, Tokarz studies a station map. Red
alert lights flash nearby. He traces a route then hits the
button to call the elevator.

TOKARZ
We'll check in with ops and
ascertain the situation.

ADNEY
I'll ascertain it for you right
here. Something's gone south and it
isn't our problem.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - HALLWAY 5-A - DAY

They exit the elevator and have a look around. A hallway stretches ahead of them, lined with windows looking out on the planetoid surface. Some of the windows look into crew quarters.

The area seems normal, but oddly deserted. Dark.

From somewhere nearby there's a CRASH followed by a SCREAM. Tokarz runs down the hall, Adney follows.

TOKARZ
See anything?

ADNEY
Nothing.

They're surprised by CRACKLING SOUNDS, broken glass underfoot. They slow down and look around.

ADNEY
Nice carpet.

Tokarz motions to a nearby crew window, smashed from the inside. They peer in cautiously, a cabin in disarray. A dark handprint on the door frame with drips running down.

ADNEY
Is that blood?

TOKARZ
Looks like it. I'm gonna try operations.

He walks to a terminal and starts typing.

ADNEY
Anything?

Tokarz gets a blinking cursor.

TOKARZ
Nobody's answering. One escape pod was launched, no record of where it went or who was on board.

ADNEY
Back to the Cogburn then?

TOKARZ
We just heard a scream.

ADNEY

Not our problem. We aren't trained
for this.

He gestures toward the ship. Tokarz shakes his head, walking again, glances at a photo in his hand.

TOKARZ

You're forgetting Lisa.

ADNEY

Actually, Lisa forgot you. After
banging half of the base.

He glances at her photo again before putting it away. Adney never saw it.

TOKARZ

Don't sugarcoat it.

ADNEY

Anyhow, you don't owe her a daring
rescue from space pirates, or
whatever this is.

TOKARZ

What do you think this is?

ADNEY

Look around. We should have run
into a couple dozen people by now.
What happened to them? If we keep
looking, is it going to happen to
us?

Tokarz stops, realizing the depth of Adney's cowardice.

TOKARZ

You'd just zip off and pretend this
never happened, wouldn't you?...

Adney's forming a response, but something over Tokarz's shoulder gets his attention.

TOKARZ

...Can't even make eye contact.

Now Adney's pissed, he swivels Tokarz around, aims him out the exterior port.

ADNEY

Or maybe, I was watching that guy.

A DISTURBED MINER waves FRANTICALLY to them from a parallel hallway. His mouth opens and closes quickly, too quickly. He has a crazed expression and moves in jerky fits.

TOKARZ

Great, we found somebody.

ADNEY

Why doesn't he realize we can't
hear him?

The man gets more and more desperate, beats on the window. Hard. Blood SMEARS the glass. His arm seems oddly distorted.

TOKARZ

Gonna hurt himself.

The man picks up a STRANGE HAMMER and swings it around. He SMACKS the window. CRACKS form and spread LIKE A SPIDER WEB.

The window BLASTS OUTWARD into space, along with the disturbed miner and assorted flotsam.

He continues gyrating for a few seconds then goes STILL. His last breath sparkles as a cloud of ice crystals around his head.

He glides slowly off into the distance. They watch in stunned silence.

ADNEY

OK, that's fucked up.

TOKARZ

Yeah.

They watch the atmosphere vent from that wing of the station. A fire a few windows down goes out.

ADNEY

Put the fire out, that's a plus.

TOKARZ

Shut up. The guy just died.

ADNEY

Better him than...

TOKARZ

Uh huh. Sometimes I hate you.

ADNEY

We're out of our depth here. We're
not heroes, soldiers or space cops.

TOKARZ
So, cut and run?

Relief washes across Adney.

ADNEY
Abso-fucking-lutley. Let's go.

Tokarz thinks for a moment.

TOKARZ
Lisa's room's up two levels. Least
we can do is check before we leave.

ADNEY
Fine. If you must, let's go.

Adney grabs a metal rod from the floor, feels its weight. A
slow WIND starts blowing.

ADNEY
But Lisa's on eight, that's three
levels up, not two.

TOKARZ
You're right, she is on eight. But
how'd you know that?

KLAXONS go off as Adney weighs an answer.

LOUD COMPUTER VOICE (O.C.)
An atmospheric breach has been
detected on this level. You have
thirty seconds to exit before all
remaining atmosphere is vented.
Bulkheads closing.

They look at each other, should have seen this coming.

TOKARZ
Bulkhead's way down there. Run!

They RACE for the bulkhead door. Air BLASTS around them.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. G08 MINING STATION - HALLWAY 5-A - DAY

Tokarz and Adney sprint for the bulkhead. They fall inside, breathless and panting. The ROAR of air leaving the station builds as the door closes, then SILENCE.

ADNEY
Elevator this way.

INT. G08 LISA'S ROOM - DAY

They look through the remnants of a hasty retreat. Clothes strewn about, personal items in disarray. Tokarz searches the closet.

TOKARZ
Travel case is gone. Good sign.

ADNEY
A GREAT sign. She left, now us.

Tokarz picks up one of her outfits and SMELLS IT. He closes his eyes for a second, transported to another place and time.

Photos are everywhere, the pretty girl we already saw in Tokarz's hand, now with a variety of friends, in a variety of adventures.

Adney notices a MAN'S BELT on the floor, quickly stuffs it in his POCKET. He puts his hand on Tokarz's shoulder.

ADNEY
Left for safety days ago. Our turn.

Tokarz knows he's right.

TOKARZ
Yeah, okay.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - ELEVATOR B - DAY

The INANE MESSAGES start playing again, Adney rams the steel rod through the speaker. It goes SILENT.

TOKARZ
Thanks.

Adney consults a diagram, hits a button. After a brief transit they stop at Floor 2. Nothing happening here.

TOKARZ
Yeah, let's go to 2, cross through
medical.

ADNEY
Looks good here.

Tokarz raises his wrist and flips through the manual again.

TOKARZ
Standard procedure, check for
survivors in medical before evac.

ADNEY
Why do they have a procedure for
this?

Tokarz hits the button for floor 2. At first the display shows the floor in red, LOCKED. Seconds later it swaps to green, OPEN.

ADNEY
Unlocked itself...?

INT. G08 MINING STATION - HALL 2-B - DAY

The door opens. They cautiously look out at a hallway streaked with blood. Bodies have been dragged through here. Gurneys lay on their sides, things went badly.

Adney reaches for the elevator buttons.

ADNEY
Back to 3 then?

Tokarz shakes his head.

TOKARZ
Come on.

They step out into the grisly corridor. Adney stops at an odd-shaped piece of glass leaning on the wall. Scratched and scuffed, it glows slightly.

ADNEY
See this?

TOKARZ

Broken glass? Plenty of that
around.

Tokarz keeps walking. Adney leans the sheet away from the wall, surprised.

ADNEY

Look.

Annoyed, Tokarz returns. The wall is pristine when viewed through the glass. Leaning it away from the wall they see it's actually coated in gore.

TOKARZ

Makes blood invisible? Why does it
look like it's been around for
centuries?

Adney struggles with the glass.

ADNEY

A little help here?

They grapple with it, then hold it up toward the medical center. Instead of desolation and destruction they see a happy, normal place full of life and activity. People walking and smiling.

TOKARZ

What the hell are we seeing?

ADNEY

Last week, maybe?

They watch through the odd glass, a WOMAN walks toward and then THROUGH them. Shocked, they nearly DROP it.

TOKARZ

Maybe they got the hang of light
deceleration?

They set it back down. Adney examines some arcane writing on the edge.

ADNEY

Weird markings, I don't think I've
seen anything like this before. If
we weren't in a hurry to get the
fuck out of here...

They walk toward the intake area for medical. Blood and body parts EVERYWHERE, the floor sticky. Lights FLICKER, things are broken and overturned.

TOKARZ

I don't think many people got away
on that escape pod.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - MEDICAL INTAKE - DAY

They walk through the entrance, nobody home but SHREDDED AND MANGLED CORPSES. DRIPPING blood is the only sound. Tokarz notes a glove dispenser on the wall, grabs a pair for both of them.

TOKARZ

Put these on.

ADNEY

Wish we had some guns.

TOKARZ

Gun won't stop a virus.

They wander deeper into the medical facility. Adney uses his steel rod to shove a severed hand away from a console, types at a terminal.

ADNEY

The last medical log...

In front of them an image appears. DR. HELEN CARTER makes a report, hysteria EXPLODING behind her.

DR. HELEN CARTER

The virus continues to spread.
Those not pre-treated with the
vaccine quickly progress through
all three stages and become...

The severed hand drips blood into the console. The log flickers and breaks up, skipping forward.

DR. HELEN CARTER

...saliva becomes an
anticoagulant...weaponized...

A few more drops of blood FIZZ into the console, it BURSTS into SPARKS and SMOKE. The projection VANISHES.

TOKARZ

Blood.

ADNEY

Yeah, like wayyyy too much. No one
to rescue.

Adney grabs the log cart from the shorted out console, stuffs it in his pocket.

ADNEY

We'll have another look at this
when we're far away.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - HALL B-2 - DAY

Looking at an assortment of corpses, Tokarz winces. A woman lying on the floor has one of the strange hammers in her hand.

He gingerly YANKS it from her stiffened fingers, uncomfortable. Her face is frozen in a look of SHEER TERROR. He looks away, nearly nauseous, but recovers, swings the hammer in the air.

TOKARZ

Nice heft to it.

ADNEY

Be careful around windows.

TOKARZ

Hey, maybe we break off a piece of
that funky glass?

They look, the panel is gone. Tokarz points.

TOKARZ

Wasn't it right there?

ADNEY

These halls all look the same, come
on.

They head back for the elevator. A bedraggled WOMAN sits in the corner and TALKS quietly to herself. Bloody and twitching. They RUSH to her.

TOKARZ

Excuse me? Miss?

ADNEY

Don't touch her.

She turns to them, smiling sweetly.

CORNER WOMAN

Dinner'll be ready soon. Fetch my
brothers, please.

ADNEY

Okey doke.

They look at each other for a second. She's not sane. Adney silently gestures to keep walking, Tokarz hesitates.

CORNER WOMAN

It's almost ready, you can smell it can't you?

TOKARZ

Yes, it smells wonderful. Let's go have dinner.

Still wearing gloves, he takes her hand, she stands with him.

TOKARZ

She's not safe here.

ADNEY

We're not safe here. The difference is, we still have our minds with us.

TOKARZ

We're going to help her.

ADNEY

She'll slow us down. And she's crazy.

Tokarz turns, angry.

TOKARZ

Maybe we can only save this one person. But if that's the case, we do it.

Adney backs off.

ADNEY

Fine, she's your project. Good luck.

CORNER WOMAN

I was hoping for mac and cheese but Mom said 'no'.

Adney gives Tokarz a 'WTF' look. Tokarz leads Corner Woman with them.

They hit the call button for the elevator, it's dripping with blood. Farther up the hall another WOMAN sits with a MAN on the floor, mumbling.

ADNEY
More 'survivors'.

Tokarz and Adney leave Corner Woman at the elevator and walk cautiously toward the couple. The man and woman work on something together, facing away from us.

TOKARZ
Excuse me, it's not safe here. We
should all leave now.

FLOOR WOMAN
You can't change the color, it's
already blue.

ADNEY
Oh boy, I can see which way this is
going.

Tokarz gives him a dirty look, tries another tactic as they get closer to the couple.

TOKARZ
We're going to the docks, can you
show us the way?

The man turns to them, a maniacal smile on his bloody face.

FLOOR MAN
There's time to change your mind.
There always is! I changed my mind
twice already.

Adney stops walking, holds Tokarz back.

ADNEY
Something wrong here.

Behind them the elevator doors open, but they're closer to the couple on the floor. The woman slowly turns her head. Blood, muscle, and sinew hang from her mouth.

The man's forearms have been gnawed down to sharpened bone, but he's oblivious. They stand up. Her tone RISES SHARPLY as she speaks.

FLOOR WOMAN
What don't you understand? It's
already blue!

The man brandishes his sharpened forearms like swords. The gory couple LURCH toward them.

FLOOR MAN

I can change your mind, or you can
change your mind. I changed my mind
twice!

Adney grabs Tokarz, they BOLT AWAY.

They RACE for the open elevator as the crazy couple chases
after them, GAINING QUICKLY.

FLOOR WOMAN

It's blue, don't you see?

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. G08 MINING STATION - HALL B-2 - DAY

Tokarz and Adney run for the elevator, the raving couple hot on their heels. Tokarz grabs the confused Corner Woman as they jump in the elevator.

TOKARZ

Time to go!

CORNER WOMAN

It smells delicious, don't you think?

INT. G08 MINING STATION - ELEVATOR B - DAY

He tries to pull her in, she won't move.

TOKARZ

Come on!

She blocks the doors as they close. A sharpened piece of bone BURSTS THROUGH her chest, but she's merely curious. The man thrusts his other sharpened arm through her.

CORNER WOMAN

Who wants biscuits? I'll get the milk.

Blood bubbles from her lips, then she goes limp. Floor Man JABS his sharpened arms through her a few more times. Tokarz and Adney are in SHOCK, mouths agape. The enraged Floor Woman comes around the slicing man.

FLOOR WOMAN

You can't paint over blue! It takes two coats!

Without hesitation Tokarz swings the hammer. Her head EXPLODES, blasting shattered bits onto the wall. Her corpse drops to the floor, TWITCHING.

The man repeatedly jabs his sharpened bones through the Corner Woman on the floor, now quite dead.

FLOOR MAN

Have you changed your mind?

They kick her body out of the elevator, the door finally CLOSES.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - ELEVATOR B - DAY

Adney hits the button for the first floor. They can still hear the man's blade arms MASH against the doors. They breathe in SILENCE for a moment.

ADNEY

Fuck.

They look at the hammer, bone and gore dripping off it.

TOKARZ

I didn't know, I don't...If we can just get back to the Cogburn...

They look directly into each others' eyes, scared.

The door opens on Floor 1, they brandish their weapons and look out into the hall. Nothing moves. The hall looks normal, no blood or broken bodies to be seen.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - HALL 1-B - DAY

They step out cautiously. All QUIET here.

ADNEY

Ship's this way.

TOKARZ

I tried to save her.

ADNEY

Come on. Her mind was gone. She was probably going to serve up her arms for dinner.

Tokarz stops.

TOKARZ

You're oddly immune to the tragedy here.

ADNEY

How's about we analyze my mental status after we escape?

TOKARZ

Whatever's convenient.

ADNEY

This isn't one of the times where your superior debate skills matter. So shut up.

Tokarz is hurt and silenced. They round the corner to find a massive MOB OF DERANGED MINERS chomping on each other in silence, unaware that the guys are standing ten meters from them.

Tokarz and Adney back away quietly.

TOKARZ
(whispers)
Elevator.

They make some progress before Tokarz bumps into a trash can that falls over with a KLANG.

The entire mob turns as one. Bloodshot eyes GLARING in RAGE.

ADNEY
Run!

They bolt back down the hall toward the elevator.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - HALL 1-B - DAY

The guys race straight toward the elevator, a mob of thirty or more miners RIGHT BEHIND THEM, all SHOUTING absurd phrases. Many swing sharpened arms.

OUTRAGED MINER #1
I need someone from hydroponics!

OUTRAGED MINER #2
Father? Is that you?

They reach the elevator and hit the button. There's no time to wait for a car. The mob is just meters away.

Adney sees a door, YANKS on the handle. It's locked.

ADNEY
Now what?

Seconds from death, the door BURSTS OPEN. A woman in a stained and bloody security outfit beckons for them. Sharp eyes will remember Ilyana from the teaser.

ILYANA
This way!

She BLASTS a few of the infected miners with BLASTS from a plasma pistol. They DROP and slow the rest.

The mob just seconds away, the guys follow her through the door. It SLAMS shut behind them.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - STAIRWAY B - CONTINUOUS

They catch their breath.

ILYANA
Let's hit my office.

TOKARZ
We have a ship here.

The door gets yanked hard, it's RATTLING in its frame. The sick miners SCREAM in rage, yanking and BANGING on the door.

ILYANA
Won't hold them long.

She heads up the stairs.

The guys stare at each other. Without a word Tokarz RACES up the dark stairwell, Adney follows.

Seconds later the plastic ties give way, the door BURSTS open. The mob powers into the stairwell.

INT. SECURITY CONTROL ROOM - DAY

The PANTING group of three enters the safety of the Security Control office. She slams a large steel rod across the door.

ILYANA
They can't get in here.

The room was hastily evacuated since we last saw it. Chairs spun at odd angles, desks no longer neat and orderly.

They drop into chairs by Ilyana's desk. She types furiously at her keyboard.

ADNEY
So, what the fuck happened here?

She holds her finger up for him to wait, types some more.

TOKARZ
Is that really important now?

She finishes typing, sits back.

ILYANA
Communications have been cut for three days due to the antennae link being down.

ADNEY

And...

ILYANA

I was on my way back from fixing it when I heard you clowns trying to get killed.

Tokarz holds his hand out.

TOKARZ

Steven J Tokarz, Captain of Interstellar Dynamics CSF Cogburn supply ship. We received a distress call and sped here to help. We underestimated the problem and were unprepared, thank you for saving us. On my right is assistant clown Vic Adney, my 2nd.

Ilyana shakes Tokarz's hand warmly.

ADNEY

Vic Adney, communications officer of the Cogburn. So, what the fuck happened here?

Ilyana releases a SIGH. She gets some SNACK BARS and WATER POUCHES from a box on the floor.

ILYANA

I'd love to tell you what happened, but I've got no idea. Forty-seven days ago the miners found a sealed chamber with an odd graphic above the entry. Most people thought the graphic meant 'Keep the fuck out.' A vocal minority was convinced it meant 'Enter Here.' So they did, and brought a strange artifact up from down below, despite strident advice to the contrary.

She taps some keys, a 3-D image appears. Miners triumphantly float an object on an anti-grav pallet up from below.

The object is cylindrical with three sharp points toward the top. Tokarz drinks eagerly from a water pouch while he watches.

ADNEY

And then? How did that museum piece lead to this catastrophe?

Ilyana shakes her head, sadness on her face.

ILYANA

The artifact was millions of years old, but they claimed it smelled of Cardamon and Sumac when it was opened.

ADNEY

Opened?

TOKARZ

Old middle eastern Earth spices?

ADNEY

Yeah, yeah, I'm sure it smelled great. And then? Guessing the 'Keep the Fuck Out' crowd did an epic 'I told you so' before getting eaten.

ILYANA

The company's robot queen overlord sent some specialists here. They set up a cloak and dagger division, took over an entire floor along with mine shaft B47e. Two weeks ago the violence started. Fights that kept growing, couldn't be stopped. Eventually, the infected self-cannibalize, to the point of chewing their arms down to sharpened bone.

Her fingers glide over keys, images of mass insurrection and chaos. The breakdown of order as the facility succumbed to the growing infection. Maniacal miners ingesting their own flesh, sharpening bones with their teeth.

ILYANA

The mutations started, the sick feasting on the rest of us...

ADNEY

Brain virus. Will we get it?

ILYANA

How long have you been here?

ADNEY

Less than an hour.

She thinks for a moment.

ILYANA

You've got three or fours hours
until the symptoms start.

The guys visibly collapse. Hope is gone.

ADNEY

What do you know?

ILYANA

I know nothing, and whatever the
scientists knew, they didn't get to
tell us. Things went from the
frying pan to the fires of hell.
One day, five were infected, the
next maybe fifteen, but just a day
later it was thousands. Whatever it
is, it took over, FAST.

TOKARZ

Will we be dining on each other
tonight?

Ilyana shakes her head.

ADNEY

Wait, how did you stay healthy?

ILYANA

I got vaccinated. Too late for you,
but with your help I may be able to
get you the neutralizer.

TOKARZ

Neutralizer?

ILYANA

Those company 'specialists' I
mentioned. Watch this.

She pulls a cart from her uniform and plugs it into the
console. An image flickers into the air above. Two workers
pack up vials from a cabinet in Medical.

WORKER #1

Is this all of it?

WORKER #2

Twenty doses, all that's left.

WORKER #1

Let's go. This place is falling.

They close the case up and RUN from the medical center. The next image shows them just outside the escape pod, hitting keys on a control surface.

WORKER #1

Fuck Interstellar and Viola, we're out of here.

WORKER #2

Escape Pod #2 is ready for launch. Time to go.

Behind the workers a miner with sharpened arms hungrily works his way toward them, unseen. It's over in seconds, he runs his arms through them, blood pours out of them. The SCREAMS make Tokarz and Adney flinch. The case DROPS to the floor.

TOKARZ

But didn't the escape pod launch already?

Ilyana smiles briefly.

ILYANA

Not that one. And I removed all record of that exchange from the station's computers. I've had the funny feeling someone else is here, operating in the shadows. Watching and deleting.

She YANKS the cart and the recording vanishes. She hits some buttons and a current image pops up. The area outside the escape pod is full of roaming deranged miners. The case of neutralizer is visible on the floor.

ADNEY

Are you sure it works?

ILYANA

You don't see me gibbering like an idiot do you?

ADNEY

How'd they have time to find a vaccine and neutralizer? Somebody knows something they didn't tell you.

ILYANA

Ding, ding, ding, you win the prize. But right now I need your help.

ADNEY

Help?

ILYANA

My job was the safety of the people here. I have one last group of miners that got cut off in a distant structure, I need to get them out.

She runs her hands over the controls. People can be seen moving inside another facility through windows. Next to this a 3-D model of the station appears, the route they need to take to the escape pod is highlighted. It's not close by.

ADNEY

Why can't you contact them directly?

ILYANA

Communication lines are severed. I don't know who's out there, but they seem okay.

TOKARZ

So what's the plan?

ILYANA

One stays here to control the doors. Two of us go and free those people, then we all meet at escape pod 2, grab the neutralizer, and blast off. Do not mention the neutralizer over the radio.

ADNEY

Can't you just go in the tunnels?

ILYANA

The tunnels are crawling with them, and no lights.

TOKARZ

Let's go.

INT. G08 MEDICAL CENTER - DR. RAMIR'S OFFICE - DAY

SMASH! A hammer comes down and breaks the odd glowing glass sheet into bits. A MYSTERIOUS MAN in black military garb picks up a PIECE OF THE GLASS.

He looks through it at a more pleasant time period in the recent past. People smiling, no blood streaks on the walls.

He taps the edge, odd figures appear over the image and the image itself changes.

It appears he's fine-tuning it. Smiling workers meander past him. He smiles coldly back, then works his way down the hall. The ancient glass is in one hand, a GRENADE LAUNCHER in the other with a VARIETY OF ARMAMENTS strapped to his back.

INT. ENTRANCE TO AIRLOCK B13 - DAY

Ilyana leads Tokarz down dark hallways to the sealed airlock. They look around carefully, danger everywhere. Nothing but silence at the airlock. She raises her wrist and contacts Adney.

ILYANA
Open the entrance to airlock
B13.

ADNEY (O.S.)
Hold on, one second.

The door in front of them yawns opens.

ILYANA
That's it.

INT. SECURITY CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Adney sits at Ilyana's console, watches them in one of the video feeds.

ADNEY
Glad to be of service.

He pages through various other data, digging. Many feeds show infected miners gnawing on each other or grouping together in dark corners.

INT. ENTRANCE TO AIRLOCK B13 - DAY

Ilyana and Tokarz enter the airlock. It's worn but well maintained. White surfaces and bright lights leave no place for mystery.

She motions to one of the space suits hanging on the wall.

ILYANA
One size fits all.

Ilyana starts peeling off her security uniform. Tokarz, uncomfortable, looks for privacy.

TOKARZ

So...?

ILYANA

Nothing I haven't seen before.
Besides, it's none of your
business, but I have no use for
your dangling meat stick.

She smiles quickly at him, then pops her top off and undoes her belt. Tokarz, emboldened, starts yanking his clothes off with gusto, revealing a nice build.

INT. SECURITY CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Adney ignores the other feeds to watch them strip. He's unusually attentive, some might say obsessive. He leans in and turns up the audio.

He doesn't notice that one of the other feeds shows the mysterious man in black walk to a mine entrance, occasionally glancing through that broken piece of glass.

TOKARZ (O.S.)

...he's not really as bad as he
seems. Actually, maybe he is. Tell
me about you.

INT. ENTRANCE TO AIRLOCK B13 - DAY

Stripped to underwear, they pull the space suits down from the wall.

ILYANA

I haven't seen my other half,
Corrine since things went south.

They help each other into the space suits.

TOKARZ

I'm sorry. That can't be easy.

She hands him a helmet. As they toss their normal clothes into backpacks, she caresses a small printed image of Corrine. She tears up for a moment, then tucks the photo away.

ILYANA

This exterior mine building, I'm hoping she's there.

TOKARZ

I'm looking for someone too, Lisa. She's an ex, but I still care about her.

ILYANA

Lisa Sinmai? I didn't find any record of where she ended up.

TOKARZ

Maybe we'll find both of them over there.

EXT. G08 PLANETOID SURFACE - DAY

The airlock door opens, Tokarz and Ilyana step out onto the surface. Dry barren rock, illuminated by lights hung at regular intervals. They head toward the A-3 mine structure on the haphazardly lighted path, darkness encroaching.

Ilyana leads. The sound of PANTING and GULPING for air can be heard.

ILYANA

Are you OK? Your breathing is erratic.

TOKARZ

I was about to ask you the same thing.

They stop, aware what this means. Before they can turn around Tokarz SLAMS to the ground. An ENRAGED MINER in a space suit BASHES Tokarz's head repeatedly onto the hard surface. A CRACK forms in his helmet glass, terror on his face as he tries to fight the attacker off.

TOKARZ

Get off me, you crazy fuck!

ENRAGED SPACE MAN

Patsy, is that you? Patsy? Pats?

Ilyana grabs a rock and smashes it into the miner's helmet. It cracks but he keeps HAMMERING Tokarz into the rocky surface.

ENRAGED SPACE MAN

Patsy, come home. I just need you
home, Patsy.

Ilyana SWINGS the rock again and again. The glass is breaking, gas escapes in a trail of sparkling vapor. Oblivious, he keeps mashing Tokarz's helmet HARD.

She hits him one more time, his helmet SHATTERS. The air BLASTS out of his suit in one PUFF. His mouth keeps moving but no more sound comes out.

They watch him die, then freeze. They're relieved, but unhappy.

As she helps Tokarz up, the ground shakes, followed by a FLASH of light. They look up to see the last escape pod BLAST into the sky above them in a blaze of flame and light.

TOKARZ

More survivors getting away?

She shakes her head.

ILYANA

I don't think so. Adney, playback
feeds from Escape Pod 2, last two
minutes.

INT. SECURITY CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Adney rewinds through feeds from the interior of the escape pod. Nothing moves, nobody was inside.

ADNEY

It was empty, looks like it was
remote launched.

ILYANA

And?

Adney checks current views of the exterior area. He zooms in to check that the case of neutralizer is still present.

ADNEY

We're good. Still there.

EXT. G08 ASTEROID SURFACE - DAY

They're somewhat relieved, but unnerved that their primary escape means just left without them.

TOKARZ

We'll leave on the Cogburn. Nobody
can remote launch it but me.

He motions to his wrist com. Ilyana nods.

ILYANA

Let's keep moving.

They take a last glance at the frozen and now dead miner
floating off. They resume their journey to the A-3 Minehead.

EXT. EARTH - DAY

Establishing shot of Earth.

INT. REVAEB MEDICAL FACILITY - 57TH FLOOR HALLWAY - NIGHT

TITLE: REVAEB MEDICAL FACILITY - EARTH

An ORDERLY, muscular and 40s, paces efficiently down a hall.
He checks the number '116Z' above a door against a medical
pad in his hand. He swipes his wristband over the door
switch, the door vanishes into the wall.

INT. REVAEB MEDICAL FACILITY - ROOM 116Z - NIGHT

All business, he strides quickly to the lone bed. Mr.
Orickson sleeps, his name and vitals projected onto the wall
above him.

The Orderly peers at the delicate old man sleeping before
him, looks thoughtfully into his face. He pours a full glass
from a water pitcher.

He raises the glass up in front of a light, checks the
clarity, approves. He drinks it slowly, appreciating every
drop. He smiles, sets the glass carefully back down.

He pulls out a syringe and uncaps the needle, deftly INJECTS
it into the IV bag. The old man wakes, confused.

MR. ORICKSON

Is it time for my pills?

ORDERLY

Oh yes, it's time, Mr. Orickson.

MR. ORICKSON

All right then, let's get it over with. When I still ran this place they'd a sent a pretty girl for this, not some burnt out grunt.

ORDERLY

Whatever you say, sir.

MR. ORICKSON

Hold on, aren't you...?

The orderly smiles slowly and watches the old man start shaking. He sputters, dribble forms at the corner of his mouth, convulsing. Seizures WRACK his body.

In seconds it's over. The orderly calmly tucks Mr. Orickson back in before he leaves.

ORDERLY

Viola sends her love.

END ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

INT. A-3 MINEHEAD BUILDING - DAY

Ilyana and Tokarz step from the A-3 airlock into the main room. Spacious and full of dusty equipment, it's a place where workers load up before heading into the mines below.

TERRIFIED MINERS hide amongst equipment as the rescuers enter. They remove their helmets.

ILYANA

I'm Security Chief Ilyana Vatche.
We're here to get you to safety.

The survivors slowly come out of hiding. Ilyana looks each of them over, searching for Corrine. She and Tokarz' eyes meet, both disappointed.

A weary yet strong WOMAN steps forward in the group.

TERRY

I'm Terry Duncan, thanks for coming
for us.

A MAN joins her, they hold each other's hands.

CANTAR

And I'm Cantar Duncan. Where are
the rescue troops?

Ilyana and Tokarz LAUGH briefly.

TOKARZ

Steve Tokarz, one third of the
rescue troops.

TERRY

How are we getting out of here now
with all the escape pods gone?

TOKARZ

We've got room in my supply ship,
the Cogburn.

CANTAR

How're we going to get to it?
There's fourteen of us, and just
two space suits.

ILYANA

We're going to use the mines.

The survivors cringe, fear on their faces.

TERRY

But those tunnels, they're full
of...

ILYANA

I didn't say it'd be easy. Let's
have a look in the equipment room.

INT. A-3 EQUIPMENT ROOM - DAY

Ilyana and Tokarz back in their regular clothes. The rest of
the survivors wait outside the tiny equipment room.

Rows of shelves littered with dusty old mining gear. Ilyana's
bold front drops as soon as they're alone.

ILYANA

I really hoped she'd be here.

Tokarz is surprised by the change, she's deflated. He leans
in, gives her a light hug.

TOKARZ

Don't give up. And, don't make me
resort to platitudes, I suck at
them.

She smiles.

ILYANA

Of course, now's not the time.
Let's see what they've got.

Ilyana finds a box marked 'Mining Charges'.

ILYANA

These may come in handy.

Tokarz finds a crate of the odd hammers that have worked so
well. He drags it out for the survivors.

INT. A-3 MINEHEAD HALLWAY - DAY

Tokarz and Ilyana hand out the mining hammers.

TERRY

I was hoping for something more
like that little beauty.

She points to Ilyana's plasma pistol.

ILYANA
Sorry, only got the one. But as
Tokarz here has discovered, the
hammers are quite effective in
close quarters.

More cringing, nobody wants to be in 'close quarters'.

TOKARZ
Aim for the head, avoid windows.

ILYANA
Which way to the mines?

INT. A-3 TUNNEL ENTRANCE - DAY

Ilyana walks up and touches the door control. It's older and dirtier than the rest of the station. It's also locked. She activates her wrist com.

ILYANA
Adney, you there? Open minehead A3,
door C7.

INT. SECURITY CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Adney works his way through dozens of video feeds. He flips open another interface screen and hunts for C7.

ADNEY
Found it.

INT. A3 TUNNEL ENTRANCE - DAY

The door to the tunnels opens in front of them. Damp air rushes out, streaks of rust and other residues streak the walls. ECHOED from the darkness deep below they hear the SCREAMS of sick miners.

TOKARZ
Great.

ILYANA
Adney, we need the lights on too.

ADNEY (O.S.)
Looking.

Within moments the lights flicker on in the tunnels. Further down, the walls are streaked with blood and body parts. There's a GROAN from the survivors.

TOKARZ

Maybe it was better dark.

ILYANA

We get through it, we get to the Cogburn, and we escape with our lives. Or we die here, no other options.

TERRY

She's right. Only one way to go, down.

Terry marches into the tunnel and down the rusty spiral staircase.

ILYANA

I like her.

She follows Terry.

INT. SECURITY CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Adney flips through some more data, watching recorded feeds from the outbreak.

ILYANA (O.S.)

Unlock everything between us and the Cogburn.

ADNEY

Okey doke.

He flips through more screens, unlocking doors.

ILYANA (O.S.)

For yourself, find and clear a route to the location we discussed. Then join us at the Cogburn. We should be there shortly.

ADNEY

Go by myself?

ILYANA (O.S.)

Or make some friends on the way, your call.

Uncomfortable, Adney pulls up a 3-D map of his route. It's not short.

INT. A3 TUNNEL JUNCTION B - DAY

Ilyana leads the group to a 'Y' in the tunnel. She pulls up a 3-D map from her wrist, gives it a quick glance and motions to the left branch. The walls are hewn from shiny black rock, dripping an oily liquid.

ILYANA

This way.

They follow her past the junction, as the last of them pass we see a FIGURE emerge from the other tunnel.

A WOMAN, her arms whittled to sharpened bloody points, sniffs the air and follows them. After her flows a DOZEN MORE, all oddly silent.

INT. A3 TUNNEL PAST JUNCTION B - DAY

Ilyana leads the group, behind them the pack of infected sneaks up at speed.

The final man in the group SCREAMS in agonizing pain. The tunnel woman has THRUST her arm bones through him.

They turn in horror and watch as she SAVAGES him, several more jabs bring him to the ground. In utter terror he watches the blood run out of his own body.

MAN

Dear god no, please no!

ILYANA

Run!

They BOLT down the tunnel, Ilyana hangs back, grabs something from her bag. As the last survivor passes she tosses one of the mining charges toward the infected mob, then turns and runs.

ILYANA

Fire in the...

The mining charge BLASTS the infected to pieces, but also knocks her flat. She WRITHES for a moment, then grabs her leg.

ILYANA

I need help.

The group stops. Tokarz is first at her side, a nasty piece of steel pokes out of her leg.

TOKARZ
Who's got medical training?

Terry steps forward. She looks nervously at the wound, bursts into action. She RIPS a strip of cloth from her own shirt, yanks the steel out, then wraps the cloth tightly around the BLEEDING wound.

TERRY
That should stop the bleeding
until...

TOKARZ
...Until we get her to the med
terminal on the Cogburn, let's go.

They hear more CLATTERING coming up behind them. Ilyana fights to remain conscious.

ILYANA
...More coming...

TOKARZ
Her bag!

Cantar hands Tokarz the bag, he yanks out another mining charge.

TOKARZ
Everybody down!

He tosses the charge into the tunnel. KERBLAM! Body parts go speeding past them, followed by silence. The lights flicker, go out. Terry fires up a flashlight and holds it on Ilyana, she's fading fast.

TOKARZ
Grab her, we've gotta keep moving.

Cantar and Terry get Ilyana to her feet. Tokarz leads them toward the docks.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - DOCK ENTRANCE AREA - DAY

Adney crouches behind some containers in a room outside the docks, the case of neutralizer in his hand. The area is full of infected wandering mindlessly. Adney WHISPERS into his wrist unit.

ADNEY

(whispers)

I'm outside the dock entrance, the place is writhing. How far away are you?

INT. A3 TUNNEL TERMINUS - DAY

Tokarz and the survivors at the end of the tunnel, a rusty old staircase in front of them. A sign on the staircase reads "Space Docks" with an arrow up. Cantar and Terry support Ilyana, too weak on her own. Tokarz brings his wrist up to respond.

TOKARZ

We're right below the dock.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - DOCK ENTRANCE AREA - DAY

Adney uses his wrist unit to look around the docks, sees the stairs exit hatch. It's right in the middle of the room. He tries to open the LARGE DOOR separating him from the docks. It asks for an override code. He shakes his head.

ADNEY

(whispers)

Great, hope you're packing more than a hammer. At least twenty of the dangerous ones are on top of you. And I can't even get to you, the door re-locked itself somehow. I need an override code.

INT. A3 TUNNEL TERMINUS - DAY

Tokarz looks at Ilyana, she's fading in and out.

TOKARZ

Ilyana, we need an override code for the dock access door.

Her head rolls, she mumbles something.

ADNEY (O.S.)

What'd she say?

TOKARZ

Nothing usable, you're on your own, buddy.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - DOCK ENTRANCE AREA - DAY

Adney tries some codes in the interface, they get denied. An infected miner appears at his side.

CURIOUS MINER

How's the game going? What's the score?

ADNEY

Sudden death overtime.

Adney brings the hammer down on the guy's head, KERBLAM, gore goes flying. Meanwhile, the other infected hear this and start running.

He climbs a ladder by the door, they stay at the bottom. He's relieved, wedges the case into the ladder and starts trying door codes again. The group at the bottom of the ladder keeps growing, they're hungry.

ADNEY

Hey, tell her I need that code, like yesterday.

As he watches, some infected begin lowering themselves from above, getting closer.

ADNEY

I'm kinda fucked here, please?

INT. A3 TUNNEL TERMINUS - DAY

Tokarz looks frantically through Ilyana's bag. The SCREECHES of infected are getting louder.

TOAKRZ

(to Adney)

We're a little, uh, overwhelmed, ourselves.

ILYANA

Muh, muh, mary good.

TOKARZ

(to survivors)

Where'd the box of charges go?

CANTAR

Got dropped somewhere. Just this one left.

Cantar holds one up, Tokarz grabs it from him.

There's screaming from the darkness, the shuffling of feet and bones clattering on walls.

TERRY

More infected coming up behind us
in the dark!

TOKARZ

Come on!

He bolts up the stairs. The rest follow as fast as they can.

END ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

INT. G08 MINING STATION - DOCK AREA - DAY

Tokarz flips the hatch door open and jumps out. As Adney warned, the infected SWARM the bay. He eyes an anti-gravity pallet nearby, turns to Terry behind him.

TOKARZ

Get everyone to the Cogburn.

ILYANA

Muh, muh, Marigold.

They turn to her for a brief second, unable to process this. Terry figures it out.

TERRY

Adney, try 'Marigold'.

ADNEY

(OS)

Is that with one "y" or two?

TOKARZ

It's an "I", like in "idiot". We've got to move, now.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - DOCK ENTRANCE AREA - DAY

Adney types in 'Marigold', the door opens with a loud CLATTER. The infected at the base of his ladder look across the dock at Tokarz and his group, shift towards them.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - DOCK AREA - CONTINUOUS

Tokarz tosses Terry his wrist unit, leaps on the anti-gravity pallet. He starts SCREAMING to get the infected's attention.

TOKARZ

Attention hungry cannibals! Dinner served this way.

The mindless hoard follows. Terry leads the survivors to the ship. Adney watches from the other side of the room, sees his moment, runs.

DOCK INFECTED #1

The paint isn't dry yet, I told you to wait.

Tokarz grabs the anti-grav control from the side pocket and takes off. He's floating twenty centimeters above the floor, riding it like a skateboard.

DOCK INFECTED #2
You always want to be right, you
can't always be right..

Terry and the rag-tag group of survivors reach the old freighter, several limping and bleeding.

TOKARZ
Come and get me. I'm delicious.

Adney meets up with Terry and the survivors at the Cogburn. Tokarz has twenty or so infected following him in the other direction.

TERRY
He's brave.

ADNEY
Maybe, but he forgot to open the
ship.

Terry looks hopeful.

TERRY
Actually, he gave me this.

Adney grabs the wrist unit from her and taps out a sequence, the rear door opens.

ADNEY
Everyone in, now.

Adney helps the survivors into the Cogburn. He tosses the case of neutralizer inside. In the distance, Tokarz leads the infected on a wild goose chase.

TOKARZ
Over here, hungry friends.

He looks over and sees Terry and Adney lead the last of the survivors to safety. They make eye contact for just a second.

He crashes the pallet into a wall, jumps off. The enraged miners SLASH their arms wildly to get to him. He hits a button on the last explosive charge, drops it, and ducks into a side office.

TOKARZ
See you in HELL, fuckers!

INT. G08 MINING STATION - DOCK SIDE OFFICE - DAY

Tokarz leaps in, slams the door, and drops to the floor covering his ears. He waits, and waits. Nothing happens.

He's stuck in the tiny office with an enraged mob of infected beating on the door. Without his wrist unit he can't even communicate.

TOAKRZ

This sucks.

Above him one of the Interstellar Dynamics video feeds plays.

VIDEO FEED ANNOUNCER

A sad day for the Interstellar Dynamics family as Chairman of the Board Orickson was laid to rest. CEO Viola gave a short yet touching eulogy as she assumed Mr. Orickson's duties...

Tokarz yanks the wires from the back of the screen, it goes dark.

INT. G08 MINING STATION - DOCK AREA - DAY

Adney watches from the rear hatch of the Cogburn.

ADNEY

That sucks.

TERRY

What's he doing now?

ADNEY

Got himself cornered. Something didn't go as planned.

TERRY

What're we gonna do?

One of the other SURVIVORS, an entitled young man standing behind them SPEAKS UP.

.

SURVIVOR

We go. We've been waiting in that shack for days, it's time to get the hell out of here.

ADNEY

Wrong.

He disconnects the plasma fuel hose from the Cogburn and takes off running across the dock with it.

SURVIVOR

Who put him in charge?

ILYANA

(sternly)

Go sit in the hold.

Once he's far from the Cogburn, Adney loudly kicks over a stack of metal containers.

ADNEY

Over here, assholes!

The mob sees him and start running, leaving the office they have Tokarz cornered in. Tokarz watches from inside. He cautiously opens the door, then sprints for the Cogburn.

TOKARZ

Adney, double back!

The infected are just a few meters from Adney. He whips a screwdriver from his back pocket and jams it into the safety lock on the plasma connector.

He works the side lever and aims for the mass of infected heading straight for him. It won't release, nothing happens.

ADNEY

Fuck!

He jimmies the screwdriver again, a glowing stream of liquid plasma SHOOTS out. Normally held at massive pressure the plasma BURSTS into a superheated jet of fire.

The infected are MOWED DOWN in the WITHERING FLAME, melting before they hit the floor. Tokarz watches as he runs.

TOKARZ

Fuck yeah!

Adney closes the valve on the plasma hose, his fingers scorching on the superheated metal. Everything in front of him BURNS, his hands singe as he drops the nozzle.

ADNEY

Ahhh!

He turns and runs. A few charred miners get back up and rejoin the chase, on fire but blissfully unaware.

ADNEY

Oh fer fuck's sake! Don't you know
you're on fire?

They're gaining on him as he nears the Cogburn. He won't make it.

BWAP! BWAP! Shots from a plasma pistol ring out. Ilyana props herself up on the floor of the Cogburn and DROPS each of the flaming ghouls chasing Adney. Tokarz gets to the ship first, seconds before Adney joins him. Ilyana COLLAPSES inside.

INT. COGBURN REAR HATCH AREA - DAY

Adney hits the "close" button and the hatch starts coming down. Inside the dock, a door into the station opens, a dozen more infected burst out.

ADNEY

Jesus fucking Christ, will it ever
end?

The Cogburn's hatch is almost closed but one infected thrusts her head inside, squirming through the hatch.

DOCK INFECTED #3

The winning team isn't always the
one with the most points.

TOKARZ

Wrong.

He brings his hammer down onto her head, blasting brains and blood across the dock. The door closes and they watch through the porthole as the last few bang on the hatch.

Tokarz looks at Adney with awe. Adney beams, surprised at himself.

TOKARZ

Thanks for that.

ADNEY

Couldn't let you be the only hero.

Adney winces, holding his burned hand out. Tokarz has a quick look around.

TOKARZ

You'll get your turn in the doctor machine. So, who opened that door just now?

ILYANA

Same people who launched the last escape pod.

TOAKRZ

I never want to see this place again.

ADNEY

You won't, we're leaving. I'll start the launch sequence.

INT. COGBURN COCKPIT - NIGHT

Same cockpit, same guys, completely different mood. They stare ahead, minds churning. They rub injection sites on their arms.

ADNEY

Relax, we're not getting the crazy disease.

Adney sits back, puts his hands behind his head.

TOKARZ

Relax? I don't think I'll ever relax again.

ADNEY

We're about to be heroes.

Tokarz stares out the window, his face drawn and empty.

TOKARZ

I don't think it will play that way. Gonna check on our passengers.

He gets up and walks out. Adney considers, flips a switch and checks the readouts.

INT. COGBURN PASSENGER AREA - DAY

The ten survivors sit shocked and stunned. Ilyana helps one out of the med machine.

TOKARZ

Most use that thing's gotten since
I cut my finger on a cargo strap.

ILYANA

I would have bled out without it.

TOKARZ

Oh, I don't know. You're a lot
tougher than I expected.

ILYANA

So are you, cargo boy. Got any food
on this barge? These folks are
hungry.

He smiles, walks toward the hold.

TOKARZ

Step into my office.

INT. MAIN CARGO HOLD - DAY

Large and half full, the cargo hold of the Cogburn awes
Ilyana.

TOKARZ

Come on, this way.

He leads her down one of the numerous aisles.

INT. MAIN CARGO HOLD - AISLE C7 - DAY

They make their way down, Tokarz reads labels on the boxes
and shelves. Ilyana wipes a quick tear from her eye, Tokarz
tries not to notice. She stops and start weeping, leaning on
a crate.

ILYANA

I can't...

TOKARZ

Ilyana, come on. You did it. You
got your people to safety.

ILYANA

I failed Corrine. I needed her to
be in A-3. What do I do now?

Tokarz at a loss. She's been the strong one until now.

TOKARZ

You uh, you did everything you could.

ILYANA

No, I didn't.

She looks at him, not telling him something. He leans in and holds her.

INT. COGBURN COCKPIT - NIGHT

Adney watches the tender scene via a 3-D projection in the cockpit. Terry wanders in unannounced.

TERRY

How much longer to G07?

Adney flips a switch, the projection vanishes.

ADNEY

(annoyed)

A few more hours. I'd rather you stayed in back.

She shakes her head, disgusted.

TERRY

OK, back to your eavesdropping.

She turns and walks down the narrow passageway. Adney jerks the control stick, causing her to CRASH into the wall.

ADNEY

Sorry. Meteor. Better go strap yourself down for safety.

TERRY

(under her breath)

Douchebag.

INT. INTERSTELLAR DYNAMICS CENTER - VIOLA'S OFFICE - DAY

Viola at her desk, a pained smile across her face. JULIE MAY (80s) sits across from her.

JULIE

Your trash mines in India are releasing toxins into the water. The children working there are dying at a horrible rate.

VIOLA

How sad. I'll be certain to run
that by the board, but small
children fit in the mines better.

A screen pops up, obscuring her view of Julie. Viola reads the text, gets upset. She urgently presses a button under the desk. Once, twice, three times.

JULIE

The Earth needs to heal, those
trash mines allow so much poison
back into the world.

VIOLA

Huh. If the world doesn't want that
trash, they shouldn't pay us so
much to extract it.

SERGEANT BRECHT BOYLE (late 40s) enters the room. Swarthy and built like a tank, a finely tailored uniform outlines his muscles. Much more impressive than the hospital orderly uniform we saw him in before.

SGT. BOYLE

Yes?

Viola motions to Julie.

VIOLA

Remove that.

Boyle yanks Julie from the comfy leather chair.

JULIE

What, I, uh...?

SGT. BOYLE

You're done, time to go.

He scurries her out the door and returns to an irritated Viola.

VIOLA

Why do I have to entertain
creatures like that?

SGT. BOYLE

Because you don't control all of
the news outlets here on Earth. You
need some good PR. Give her some
empty promises and a few million
credits. But you didn't call me in
just for her?

VIOLA

We're free of Orickson's palsied grip, but things on that mining station have deteriorated, badly. Clean it all up before it gets to the Earth news feeds.

Sgt. Boyle smiles broadly. Images of Tokarz, Adney, Ilyana and the survivors flash above Viola's desk.

SGT. BOYLE

Gladly.

VIOLA

They're going to G07, another pathetic squalid little mining colony. Perhaps a terrorist bomb, bad air seals, something like that. No survivors.

SGT. BOYLE

Of course.

VIOLA

Swift gathered the alien tech and launched the last escape pod empty. He'll finish mopping up on G08 and meet you at G07.

Viola shows the slimmest of smiles, then sniffs the air.

VIOLA

And Boyle, send housekeeping in. I want that 'old person stink' out of here.

INT. ESCAPE POD ONE - PASSENGER AREA - DAY

Corrine sits nervously with forty or more ESCAPEES. She looks much more bedraggled than she did in the teaser. She huddles with several of the others in a conversation.

CORRINE

You're certain there's no way for us to take control from here?

ESCAPEE #1

With what? There's no control surfaces. All we have are these.

He waves his wrist unit in the air.

ESCAPEE #2
Can't navigate or land with that.

ESCAPEE #1
We've only got food and water for a
another day.

ESCAPEE #2
Shouldn't we wait for rescue?

CORRINE
You keep waiting, I'm going to do
something.

Corrine reaches down and pulls out the small gun Ilyana gave
her.

They walk up and look through the small porthole into the
cockpit.

The pilot and copilot THRASH against the bloody window,
slicing at it with sharpened forearms.

They SCREAM mindless nothings that we can't hear. Corrine
flips the safety off, looks at the others. Her hand HOVERS
over the door button.

CORRINE
Ready?

END SHOW