

"FROM ONE SOUL FORTH"

by

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FIRST DRAFT

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From One Soul Forth - Laszlo R.

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE

Space as never seen before. The crowd of stars wrapped in the black mantle, sparkling around everywhere. As slicing space, planets, even whole star-systems rush past. It's clear that it's not the universe known by us, rather an imaginary one. Distant stars again. Meteors approaching fast - seemingly. Coming closer, they turn out to be shatters. Debris. Of a space-ship.

One piece of the shipwrecks shows an alien writing. Obvious: an accident happened or the ship was at war with someone. Getting still closer to a barely intact unit of the hull through the wrecks. At the same time a Star Explorer with the same configuration appearing among the debris.

INT. FLAGSHIP INDERAN, GENERAL ENAR'S QUARTERS

Gloomy eyes looking out of a window to the wrecks.

ENAR

We came too late. So many victims. For an unknown reason. ...Too late. Survivors?

PULL BACK TO:

GENERAL ENAR's face and ADIS, a woman standing behind him. He cannot be more than forty. The woman is younger.

ADIS

None, sir.

ENAR

Back to Inderan. Burst engines if you have to.

ADIS

But, sir. The weaponry, the armor of the wreck...

ENAR

What do you see out there, Commander?

ADIS

The debris of the Beloni Star-Explorer, the Vegran Nebula...

Adis stops talking as Enar doesn't seem to care about what she says. Then tries to continue, but in her embarrassment she can't falter out one word.

ADIS
(continuing)
Sir, I.

ENAR
Death. I see death out there.
And if we're unable to warn our
home-world, we can blow
ourselves up right away. Someone
who can carry out a destruction
like this is unlikely to need
the manual of our weapon-
systems. Don't you think?

Enar's disparagement puts her to shame.

ADIS
At full power, we'll get home in
three days.

ENAR
Three days to prepare for saying
we're lost.

ADIS
General.

ENAR
Anything else?

ADIS
We're registering a massive
energy-increase in the Vegrans
Nebula. Seems like the nebula is
spreading.

ENAR
Could be a reason for this?

ADIS
We didn't get any data that
could be paralleled with our
problem.

ENAR
Let it spread.

An offended Adis headed to the door. Enar turns back to the window, staring out of it. She pushes a button on the door frame and it vanishes like a hologram. She leaves the quarter, the door reappears.

EXT. PLANET GANDORA

Beautiful bluish green planet with a ring around it.

INT. ACADEMY, OFFICERS' DEPARTMENT - MORNING

Commander CON, a middle-aged dark-haired man enters by the door. His strong features commands respect. His eyes pan the huge hallway where he finds officers talking, thrumming on displays. Finally he spots a bit reddish chubby octopus-like secretary, NAYA.

NAYA
Good morning, Commander!

CON
Morning, miss Naya!

NAYA
Wait a second!

The man is reluctant to stop, but "obeys" her with a face expressing "What the hell does she want from me again?". Naya talks to an UPSET CADET over holo-phone. And indeed, the cadet's holo-image looks quite anxious.

UPSET CADET
Then you'll help me, won't you?

NAYA
Of course, I will, ducky. The package is in your hands in an hour.

UPSET CADET
Thank you so much. You saved a very talented cadet life.

Con stands there impatiently, and he rushes her with his waspy look. Naya acknowledges by waving and keeps him waiting.

NAYA
I don't think I did such a big favour. Anybody can lose their photon-blunderbuss.

UPSET CADET
Photon-shooter.

NAYA
All the more.

UPSET CADET
My tactical trainer is not that permissive!

NAYA
(chuckling)

Hold your feelers! He can't be that evil.

UPSET CADET
We're talking about Commander Con. That bloated scuzzbag...

Naya looks at Con perplexedly, trying to get over this conversation. Con drops his teeth for a moment, then he goes more resolute as before.

NAYA
OK, darling, stay home and wait for the package. Academy Sec. over.

CON
What were you about to tell me?

NAYA
Not this, I assure you.

CON
Will you tell me before the sun goes down?

NAYA
You've been called due to an urgent matter...

CON
(snappier)
I know that. That's why you..

NAYA
But you don't know that The Admiral is in Captain Voran's office, as well.

CON
(recoiling)
The Admiral?

NAYA
Yes. It's quite an important matter if he came here personally.

Con looks still snappy, staring ahead, clenching his fist.

NAYA
(continuing)
What is it, sir?

CON

Do you know how the aborigines
on the Nandra peninsula took
people who brought bad news?

Naya is at a loss. Embarrassed, her voice fades, but it
doesn't lack for sarcasm.

NAYA

Badly?

CON

Stabbing them with a lance
aflame.

She recoils, then talks back forcefully.

NAYA

Your mother's grave shall be...

TUROSAN

Enough!

Admiral TUROSAN standing behind Con. Con, surprised,
turns to him. Straightens up, raising his head.

CON

Admiral Turosan, I understand
I've been sent for due to an
emergency.

TUROSAN

Indeed, Commander. The issue
brooks no delay.

Turosan inviting him with his hand makes for an office.
Meanwhile Naya muttering to herself.

NAYA

He's really a bloated scuzzbag.

Con caught it. Stops, but won't look back.

TUROSAN

What's got you, Commander?

CON

(with defiance)
Nothing, sir.

Con continues, Turosan following him with a smile. They
enter the office.

EXT. SPACE

Nothing but cold space. Then suddenly as if millions of
voices crying out loud. An enormous monstrosity marching
through space. Unidentifiable as ship or anything else we

know. The phenomenon looks like an oversized black nebula in which sparkles, lightnings, explosions, energy discharges appear periodically and has a solid semi-transparent coating at the same time. When a discharge springs up, those terrible screams burst out rumbling. One could think a whole planet is in there, being tortured for committing gruesome crimes.

INT. VORAN'S OFFICE - MORNING

A fist hits the table hard. PULL BACK TO:

Commander Con as foaming with rage. In front of him, a calm Captain VORAN sitting in his chair. A real father type.

VORAN

You're not much of a help.

CON

Sorry. An unknown race is marching through our door with the assumable intention to exterminate Gandora. I wonder what makes me be off the handle.

A voice mutters from the background, the Admiral's, but Con covers him.

TUROSAN (O.S.)

As you say. Assumable.

Con turns, stands aside. The Admiral sitting on a sofa and sipping some green goo.

TUROSAN

(continuing)
Over and above, all we're receiving is the sensor readings from our outposts. So far we haven't got one piece of usable information. Forgive an old Fleet officer if he says 'We know nothing.'

Takes another sip from the strange goo. Lets its flavour fill his mouth. He likes it.

TUROSAN

(continuing; to Voran)
My appreciation to your son's girlfriend. She can make Havoda as no one can.

Con gets more and more disgusted. Turosan and Voran couldn't deny the strong father-son relationship between them. Voran stands up and turns to a wall.

VORAN
Contact with Control Center.

That said, a wall-to-wall holo-screen appears covering the entire surface. Showing a woman, with the rank of a Lieutenant.

VORAN
(continuing)
Report.

LIEUTENANT
Well, sir, there's something definitely headed to our planet at constant speed, however...

VORAN
Go on.

LIEUTENANT
Sir, common sense dictates the non-existence of what we think is there.

Con jumps in front of the screen, almost pushing the Captain over, while Turosan watching the developments with exuberant tranquillity.

CON
What's this balderdash? Deliver a goddamn report that makes sense!

Voran takes back his place, tossing Con away a bit. His eyes express reprehension. Con returns to reason, stands aside.

VORAN
Lieutenant?

LIEUTENANT
Our sensors aren't reading anything unless set to search for life-signs.

Turosan gets up. Takes the reins.

TUROSAN
How many?

LIEUTENANT
Provided the sensor readings are correct, and we can't confirm it, millions. Funny enough, apart from two hundred thousand, so far we've been unable to distinguish the rest of the signals.

Con goes boldly at asking now.

CON
How do you know there are
millions?

LIEUTENANT
The energy-level we measured
corresponds to that many lives,
but only two hundred thousand...

CON
...could be distinguished. Yes,
you've said that.

VORAN
Any idea?

LIEUTENANT
Should it be a ship, then it's
an unknown configuration and as
big as half our planet.
(tampering with
displays)
I'm sorry, Captain, we're really
at a loss. Sure is that
maintaining its speed, it'll get
to the solar system in three
days.

The three men looking at one another with fear in their
eyes.

TUROSAN
Thank you. Disconnect.

The holo-screen reappears as a simple wall.

CON
Three days. Request permission
to get 10 Xedar-class ships to
the border of the system.

TUROSAN
Denied.

CON
Sir.

TUROSAN
We don't know what it is.

CON
Isn't that a reason for us to...

TUROSAN
We'll do as you say, Commander.
All in due time.

VORAN

You think even our vast fleet of ships would be unequal to that thing?

TUROSAN

That should be the base of further acts.

Turosan chary in going on talking, the Captain puts on a face more resolute than ever. They exchange a questioning look, then the Admiral gathers confidence.

TUROSAN

(continuing)
Number of deployable cadets?

CON

Are you totally out of your mind?

VORAN

Belay! Does the word 'penitentiary' say anything to you? I could arrange something.

Con calms down by his order, seemingly. His head still looks like a volcano just before eruption.

CON

My apologies, Admiral.

TUROSAN

It's an unusual situation and a must that we all sink our differences.

(to Voran)

How many?

VORAN

Less than two thousand.

The Admiral recoils.

TUROSAN

The Academy recruits two thousand cadets every year.

VORAN

We want them to be well-trained Fleet-officers, don't we? We're glad if of those two thousand five hundred makes it. And there hasn't been a little something of a threat for a hundred years now.

As he is fully aware of what the Captain tries to explain, the recognition of this now much more dangerous situation prevails over Turosan.

TUROSAN

The inexperienced will do their job on Fleet ships. Not much of a support, though the officers can so keep their stumbling under control. Senior cadets will bring their knowledge to the proof in their own fighters.

CON

Knowledge acquired at theoretical level and in simulators. Not even the seniors have been put on the front lines yet.

TUROSAN

I welcome any suggestion to find the right solution.

Con and Voran clamming up with downcast eyes.

TUROSAN

(continuing)
Very well then, gentlemen. Captain Voran, take some ships and get a nearer view of it. I'm waiting for you on the admiralship. Commander, will you join us?

CON

Of course. Recommend taking 2000 ships and the fighters. We should also think of defending the planet however powerless we seem to be against it.

TUROSAN

Agreed.

The two standing at attention, the Admiral leaves the office.

CON

Suicide? Why not. Fight his battle.

VORAN

I don't deny. My respect towards him sometimes induces me to make a decision not expected of a Fleet officer.

CON

There.

VORAN

But a more proper one.

Con's had enough. Almost running out of the room, he stops by the door.

CON

When our 'well-trained' cadets have been slaughtered by those doodads, you'll take my side.

VORAN

Perhaps. However, as your friend I'm bound to warn...

(sigh)

...suggest that not solely promotion should govern your deeds. I made Captain sooner, indisputable. And you know the damn reason for it.

CON

I'm hot-headed. Even my mother woke me up by putting me under cold shower every morning to cool me down.

At last a bit laughing between the fellows. The signs of friendship can be still found, though quite faded.

CON

(continuing)

I'll go down to Control. Perhaps I can spell something out of that trash Miss Lieutenant called sensor measurements.

VORAN

Needless to say. Till we don't know any further, dead silence.

CON

The creators of the Gandorian ethics wouldn't be glad at all.

VORAN

On occasion, it's not them to go to war.

Con bursts into a shrewd grin.

CON

We have more in common than I've thought.

Hearing this, Voran quivers back. Smiles back palely, not happy about this remark at all.

VORAN

I hope those qualities in common
are rather working on the right
lines.

Con nods. Leaves.

EXT. ACADEMY FLEET, LANDING AREA - DAY

Followed by some other officers, they walk up to their ships and enter an air-lock. The admiral-ship and four other ones release their ray-anchor from the Academy Fleet Command building and take off.

EXT. SPACE, GANDORA

The five ships leave the bluish green planet quickly.

INT. ACADEMY FLEET, MONITORING CENTER

OFFICER

Captain, 2000 ships leaving
planet and reporting normal
function.

CAPTAIN

All right. Keep an eye on them.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

The bridge resembles the Gandorian mentality. Not too small, not too big, just enough for what it was made for.

Turosan and Voran sit in the middle. Con talks with officers, thrums on displays. The whole bridge being busy.

EXT. SPACE

The ships reach the phenomenon. They stop at a cautious distance from it. Ships arriving one after the other, getting in formation in a way no gap remains for the possible enemy to get through without a hard combat.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

HELMSMAN

Admiral, view contact is possible.

TUROSAN

Let's see.

The nebula appears on a huge holo-screen. The bridge-crew just watching the gruesome spectacle.

VORAN

Get me an extended sensor sweeping on this.

OFFICER

(confused)

Negative, sir.

VORAN

Would you give me details, Ensign?

OFFICER

The energy is there and non-existent at the same time, Sir. Incomparable to any type of energy known by us. No sensor reading coming about its mass.

TUROSAN

Perhaps the outposts can help us.

OFFICER

No communication signal.

(hesitating)

Sir, presumably we have no outposts anymore.

The Admiral remains calm. Goes on giving orders as if nothing happened.

TUROSAN

Try to get the right oscillation range of its energy's frequency. Maybe we can produce a counter-effect on it.

CON

Our phase transition missiles are supposed to have an effect on it. If this monstrosity does consist of a kind of energy, perhaps we could generate an overcharge in it.

TUROSAN

Or it swallows the missiles and spots us.

Con walks up to a monitor showing him the number of ships stationed in front of their planet. The Admiral catching on.

TUROSAN
(continuing)
Vorán, you're the Captain.

VORAN
It's presumable to have
destroyed our outposts..
(to the gunner)
Let's fire everything we have.
Missile power-level to maximum.

OFFICER
Power-level adjusted. Missiles
charged and ready to fire.

VORAN
Play them on it.

EXT. SPACE

The ships fire missiles by thousands. Explosions in the nebula, then the missiles get extinguished. Apparently it absorbed them.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

OFFICER
Its condition is constant. But
now it's headed to us.

CON
We've known that before.

OFFICER
No, Sir. Directly to our ship.
No time to bring us about.

VORAN
Full alert. Reverse engine
power. Decloak fighters.

EXT. SPACE, AROUND FLEET

The ships firing with everything they have. Then some turning around, some keep firing. Insect-looking fighters throw their cloak spinning around them as an energy-field and disappearing.

INT. KIMO'S INSECT

KIMO ZEN, Captain of Team 02, a handsome blue-haired guy, about 16, pushing buttons.

KIMO
Team Member 3, where the hell
are you?

A girl responds.

INT. SHIRA'S INSECT

SHIRA NAMOYA, a beautiful pink-haired girl about the same age.

SHIRA
I can see him nowhere.

Suddenly a timid voice breaks silence.

TIMID VOICE (V.O.)
I can't decloak.

KIMO
Left panel. Green button. Hurry
up. We can't get on it
separately.

TIMID VOICE (V.O.)
What? Yeah, right.

EXT. SPACE, AROUND FLEET

The last insect appears, too. ZYOO HAKUYI, a pudgy guy sitting in it.

ZYOO
I've always thought it was the
red one.

KIMO
Man yourself. This time it's for
real.

ZYOO
As for that, what's that surfeit
out there?

KIMO
That's what we call enemy.

SHIRA
Could we come to the substantive
part?

Kimo smiles. Then the three friends follow the other insects already attacking the nebula. The fighters seem to have got the right name.

They manoeuvre like tiny brisk, yet elegant bees around flowers to be occupied. One insect (not from Team 02) attacking the nebula with phase transition charges when some energy-lashes shoot ahead from inside the enemy. They grab the insect, dissecting it while converting its pilot into pour energy. A second one trying to smash against a part which seems solid. When smashes against it, the insect gets literally absorbed by that robustful transparent 'wall' which actually is still undefinable as solid body or some kind of energy shield.

MEANWHILE...

The nebula still approaching, pushing or absorbing everything in its path. A part of the out-of-scale Fleet ships end up drifting in the atmosphere and burning away or smashing into Gandora's White Moon. Other vessels manage to reverse their power to the retro-rockets and come to a standstill with a violent shaking, producing so overload in engines, computer systems and being torn completely or partly away. Officers flying out of the fissures caused by explosions.

CLOSE TO: victims frozen in blood with the cold of space.

INT. KIMO'S INSECT

The boy working on the consoles, sweating blood. Computer displays under his hands analyzing the dreadful monster. He sees his comrades falling prey to its energy-lashes and absorptions, exploding. His face glowing with anger. His pulse up to the skies. Cannot endure the sight of this carnage.

INTERCUT:

KIMO

(to his team)

All right! We're still together.
We must get into its center and
activate our self-destruct.

SHIRA

Center? We didn't even scratch
its periphery!

ZYOO

Same here! Stupid idea. We'd
just add more pep to that
nausea.

KIMO

It'll work. Attack formation
Alpha 6.

ZYOO
In advance, it was fun working
with you, guys.

SHIRA
I didn't give up yet.

The three insects get into formation. Shira and Zyoo
flying over Kimo. From under the insects, interlocking
claws get released and fixed on Kimo's fighter.

SHIRA
(continuing)
Interlocking complete.

KIMO
Good job. Let's...Wait! The
shields.
(annoyed and tired)
Zyoo!

The three insects activating an energy-shield.

ZYOO
Sorry. My fault.

SHIRA
Would be nice to smear our
brains to the window.

KIMO
Enough! Project rotating
shrouds.

The lateral sides of the insects project a laser-beam to
the shield-skin to stabilize it.

KIMO
(continuing)
Got it! Setting up vortex...Now.

The shield starts rotating faster and faster. In a second
it rotates so fast we can only see a static shield around
the three fighters.

KIMO
(continuing)
Attack!

They launch attack. Battling through their way, while the
Fleet ships in ruins around them and only the admiral-
ship (Vorán's ship) struggling towards the inside of the
nebula.

No chance. Lashes shooting out from the nebula again and hitting the three friends. Violent shaking inside the insects. Smaller discharges. Scream from three cadets. Their vehicles disconnects. Drifting away.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

Discharges and explosions char all officers, including the OFFICER and Turosan. They burn to death without having time for the usual farewell scene with friends. They're just gone.

EXT. NEBULA, INTERIOR

The admiral-ship, sucked inside, fires all remaining missiles. The energy effuses from the ship into the nebula's swirling center. In vain. They get absorbed like before. The ship gets at a standstill. The firework is over. Darkness.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

Ashes on the floor. Burnt smell as at least ten officers have died in that way.

VORAN

Report.

CON

Supposing this pile of scrap metal is providing reliable data, we got into the center of the nebula. Hyper-drive as dead as a nit.

VORAN

Perhaps it's the right time to get scared.

CON

Everything has a weak point. This damn barf city of a cloud also.

VORAN

Obviously not our brave tactics is the reason for us to be still alive.

CON

Doesn't make any sense. What makes us so precious for this oversized glop?

EXT. NEBULA, INTERIOR

A yellowish beam gets closer to the ship.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

The holo-screen activated, Voran and Con looking at it.

VORAN
We'll know soon.

The beam flashes them out of the ship...

EXT. NEBULA, INTERIOR

...and they get rematerialized some meters from it in front of the energy center.

ARCUS (O.S.)
Welcome, henchmen!

They look around. The dreadful voice seems to come from everywhere. The whole place is a mystery. Nowhere a solid body, though it looks so. Some parts much more energy-like matter, some parts in liquid state. Inexplicable what exactly they stand on or where they are. Everything mutters and reverberates. Faraway look at its more distant parts. Now it looks like endless, now walls of black clouds appearing fifty meters from them.

All of a sudden a hideous creature shoots ahead from the energy center. It becomes material. Black body, yellow eyes. Its body conveys the impression of some metallic energy-liquid consistence encompassed by jarring energy-discharges. Its arms end in razor-thin daggers.

CON
What the hell are you talking about?

ARCUS
It doesn't need too much perspicacity to see you've got quite a good beating. Thus, the alternatives are against you. You'll be henchmen in my dreaded armada, serving me until the end of time. And so will do your planet.

VORAN
What's your game? You've already destroyed hundreds of races throughout the star-system.

ARCUS

Billions. Throughout the galaxy.
They stand dumbfounded.

ARCUS

(continuing)
Using the life-energy I've taken
possession of and the pitiful
inhabitants on your planet I
will create the biggest armada
ever. With that, all the
putrescent organic beings of
this galaxy will plead for their
survival.

CON

It's got a fuse loose.
(to Arcus)
No one has that much power!

Arcus studies Commander Con.

ARCUS

You contrast strikingly with
your superior. You're easier to
vex. Hmm, I see now. A stale
soul eager for bearing sway.
Disgusted even at the bald fact
that you have to obey your
Captain.

VORAN

Your naive attempt to sever us
won't work. I suggest coming to
an understanding. You should
know, Gandora won't surrender
even at the expense of its life.
Our society is based on freedom
and the ethics which had taught
us to live for each other.

ARCUS

And I'll teach your unselfish
people a lesson! It really
didn't go home to you, did it? I
don't need your capitulation. I
need your energy.

CON

Why not you just take it?

ARCUS

I can take it whenever I want
to. But first, I offer you to
serve a God. Me. In gratitude, I
won't swoop down upon your
planet right now. I'll take them
individual by individual.

CON
(to Voran)
We're his pawn.

VORAN
We'll be your henchmen if you
don't injure Gandora.

Con doesn't like this idea at all.

CON
I won't attend on such a scabby
carcass ending us under the
yoke.

VORAN
You're officer of the Gandorian
Fleet. You're bound to...

CON
You've got a crust! And my
command! Due to Turosan's
patronizing you I've been
lagging behind for years, though
I could be an Admiral by now.

VORAN
You really have nothing on your
brain but beating me? Didn't you
get it? Our home-world is going
to be destroyed!

Con returns to reason. Ostensibly.

CON
You're right. I just...

VORAN
No excuses!
(to Arcus)
The evil sharpens its teeth on
you to see how many bites you're
able to endure.

ARCUS
You choose the slow transition
or you perish at once. And
you're going to be the first
victims.

The Captain and the Commander staring at each other.

VORAN
I agree.

CON
I...agree.

ARCUS
 How noble of you. In a couple of
 years I'll have tapped your
 race. Enjoy that little time
 since you're mortal, aren't you?

During the enemy's infernal laughter the black swirl covers everything, also the two men. Con gets much more permeated by it. His eyes light up, bends his brows, sneers. Darkness covers them completely.

EXT. SPACE, GANDORA

The admiral-ship gandora approaches the planet.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

Voran wakes up. Puts his hand on his head. Has a slight headache. Con already awake, driving the ship.

CON
 It was a nice ride, what?

VORAN
 Yes, very nice.

Voran looks at the screen. He still doesn't quite know where he is.

VORAN
 (continuing)
 Is it Gandora?

CON
 Yes. When I woke up, I realized
 we were on direct course to it.
 God, that black swirl put the
 lid on it.

VORAN
 Don't say that word!

CON
 Which one?

VORAN
 God.

Con won't respond. He pushes buttons.

VORAN
 (continuing; looking at
 screen)
 What are we going to tell them?

CON

You're the Admiral now. It's up to you.

VORAN
Of course, Admiral.

CON
I saw Turosan. Nothing left of him but ashes. You couldn't help him.

Voran stares at the screen. His face reflects how beautiful he thinks the planet is. Then a familiar voice starts talking on a comm channel.

CAPTAIN (O.S)
Admiral-ship Gandora, respond. Anyone hear me? Respond.

CON
Fleet Command, here's Gandora.

CAPTAIN
Good to hear you, Gandora. Casualties?

CON
Many. You'll learn it in some minutes. We're about entering the atmosphere. Over.

INT. ACADEMY FLEET, MONITORING CENTER - SUNSET

The officers can't decide whether to hug and laugh at the good news or cry out at the bad one.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

VORAN
Have you been jealous at me?

CON
All the time.

VORAN
I can't help it anymore.

CON
I'm reconciled to that.

EXT. GANDORIAN CAPITAL - SUNSET

The admiral-ship anchors to the Academy Fleet Command building. Voran and Con, as well as some injured officer

leave the ship and enter the building. The Captain waiting for them.

INT. ACADEMY FLEET, CORRIDOR - SUNSET

CAPTAIN
 Captain Voran, Commander Con,
 good to see you again. What
 happened? Where's the Admiral?

VORAN
 The Admiral is dead. Status of
 the nebula?

CAPTAIN
 It's just gone a couple of hours
 ago. 572 ships survived. 90% of
 the cadets dead.

Voran looking at the captain nervously.

CAPTAIN
 (continuing)
 Don't worry. Your son's a
 berserker. He's being treated in
 infirmary 9 with his friends.

Voran nods resolutely. Silence. The Captain looks like fainting at once.

VORAN
 Our report will be available for
 all Gandorians. And now, excuse
 me. I've got a few things to say
 to our folk.

They go on, the Captain stays there, looking down.

EXT. ACADEMY FLEET, BALCONY - SUNSET

They come out to one of the huge balcony reserved for the Admiral's speeches. The folk is excited to hear the developments.

VORAN
 I know you've been informed by
 the news and several scientists
 that something's ravaging out
 there. It was nothing but an
 enormous energy-field which had
 caused severe damages in a
 couple of sectors.
 Unfortunately, there was no help
 for the inhabitants on the
 neighbor planets. However,
 Gandora is safe now. We managed

to neutralize the field for
which Admiral Turosan...laid
down his life.

The Gandorians cry, blubber.

VORAN

(continuing)
For safety reasons no ships will
be allowed to cross the border
of our solar system. Please
understand this decision.

(a beat)

By right, and if the planet
acquiesces, I'll have to assume
the challenges of an Admiral
with Captain Con on my side. I
promise I'll keep the will of
the Gandorians in view at all
times. The ethics I'll swear on
will frame the core of our race
further on.

(sigh)

We're safe.

The crowd gives a cheer, celebrates, cries.

CON

(mockingly)

Heart-warming speech.

VORAN

I only hope that our lives will
outwear this speech.

CON

We won a few years.

VORAN

You mean we brushed him aside
with our white feathers. Not
sure. And he was familiar to me.
I've seen him somewhere.

CON

(tuning out)

Perhaps in your nightmares.

Voran won't respond, bundles off the balcony. Con stays
and lets the crowd cheer him.

MEANWHILE...

EXT. NARROW STREET - SUNSET

Two Gandorians walk. They talk, looking around.

PASSER-BY 1
Such a ballyhoo.

PASSER-BY 2
There are people who like to
celebrate if their race doesn't
get killed. And you just have
the sulks all day long.

PASSER-BY 1
I bet it wasn't as that much of
a smooth sailing as they say.

PASSER-BY 2
Mistrustful, aren't you? You'd
better waste your time to enjoy
life.

Said this, two henchmen appear. They show themselves as they are. The two passers-by just staring at them. They're not really scared, just curious. Then the henchmen turn into energy and engulf them. Shout. Environment perfused with light. They turn into energy, too, and disappear from the street.

EXT. BEACH, ROCKY AREA - SUNSET

A young couple hides behind the rocks. They play, kiss.

And again, some henchmen appear and rush on them with the same method.

INT. HOUSE - SUNSET

The henchmen capture the family living in it with the same method.

EXT. PLANET INDERAN

A planet as huge as Saturn. Large cities can be seen even from space. A real high-tech planet.

EXT. INDERAN CAPITAL - DAWN

The planet Inderan reflects an over-engineered civilization. Huge skyscrapers almost shaving the line of space - with a slight exaggeration.

A ship abraded with war sinking toward a landing unit protruding from the building of the Central Command. Enar comes out of an air-lock. Governor Zarabon greets him.

ZARABON

Welcome, General! I'm glad you came safe to port. I just hope your crew is in a far better condition than your ship.

ENAR

Hope springs eternal. Thank you for this reception. It's to be regretted that I'll have to offer disquieting news for the World Council.

ZARABON

I'm not surprised. If you had good news, you would've come back sooner. The Council is waiting for you.

They make for the building.

INT. FLOOR OF THE WORLD COUNCIL - DAWN

Enormous room resembling the mentality of Inderan. Monitors and holographic projections hanging from the ceiling and prancing on their desks. Its iron-clad walls convey an impression very unresponsive to any kind of 'humanity'. These people are genuine technocrats. Members reading reports and news on displays. Enar and Zarabon enter. The Council stills.

HIGH COUNCILLOR PION

Welcome back, General. I'd like you to know how grateful we are for your...

ENAR

I apologize for interrupting you. We're pushed for time.

HIGH COUNCILLOR PION

Very well then. Let's get to the point. What are the chances for Inderan?

ENAR

It's no good speculating about chances. We're forced to talk about total destruction.

Rumble in the room. Members turning to one another, talking about the situation which hasn't even been explained in the first place yet.

HIGH COUNCILLOR PION

This is not the answer I've expected. We've been reckoning on enlightening the cause of our

situation and suggestions for how to handle it.

ENAR

We've expected a different answer, too, when putting out from our solar system. However, this is the only answer we found. The inhabitants of the neighboring star-systems haven't reached a state of development even to scratch our Explorers. Yet, our ships on deep space missions had suffered an intense destruction I've never seen before.

HIGH COUNCILLOR PION

Who accomplished that massacre? So far, your statement seems rather a hyperbole to me.

ENAR

Allow me, sir.

The General produces a small ball-shaped device whose top is, as a characteristic, a little bit dented. Walks up to a table-shaped terminal, putting the device on it. The terminal registers the ball and above it a huge holographic projection springs to life, covering half the ceiling so that everyone can see it.

RECORD 1: showing ships already destroyed. All left are their remains.

The Council taken aback, strikes up a whispering as if they could solve this disaster by talking.

ENAR

(continuing)
We found this horror 15 light-years from the Inderan.

ZARABON

There's nothing special in that region. No stations, no outposts. Not even a star-dust worthy of our attention.

ENAR

Exactly. Our mysterious enemy seems to find pleasure in, forgive me for my roughness, mindless slaughters.

Council members looking at each other with the look 'impossible'.

HIGH COUNCILLOR PION
 Who are you talking about? There
 are not many races we don't
 know. Perhaps ghosts have
 destroyed our invulnerable
 Explorers?

On hearing the word 'invulnerable', Enar bends his brows.
 The Council members take the liberty to amuse about it a
 bit. A member interrupts.

MEMBER
 That scenario is yet to be
 written.

The member's remark followed by laughter, Enar continues
 calmly.

RECORD 2: showing a video-log from an Explorer just
 before destruction.

ENAR
 Five light-years from the
 Inderan. Just like before,
 neither have we a station or an
 outpost there. And now the final
 schock. Please watch, High
 Councillor, as our mighty ships
 being crumbled like a dry twig.

ON HOLO-SCREEN, RECORD GOING ON:

A scene on the command center of an Explorer.

LIEUTENANT
 General, we've just got a
 transmission, but we were unable
 to localize where it came from.

GENERAL
 Put it through.

Nothing specific can be heard but a senseless rumbling.

GENERAL
 (continuing)
 This is General Rengt of the
 Star Explorer Beloni. We're
 reading you. Please reply.

The Lieutenant nods negative.

GENERAL
 Can you filter anything out of
 this mess?

LIEUTENANT
 Trying, sir.

(working displays)
 No use, sir. It could be a
 background radiation, as well.

GENERAL
 I see. The background radiation
 took a liking for some small-
 talk.
 (more serious)
 Find a way to encode it.

As he said the last word, violent shakings stir up the
 ship.

GENERAL
 (continuing)
 Report!

LIEUTENANT
 (crying as his throat
 allows him to)
 Communication broken, no energy
 supply available.

GENERAL
 Transmit distress signal.
 Navigation, Back to previous
 course.

He can hardly finish the order when the command center
 blows apart. Screams, burning officers everywhere.

RECORD ENDS.

ENAR
 As I said, the only thing we're
 sure about is that none of the
 species known would be capable
 of it. And the traces are
 spreading more and more inwards
 to the Inderan.

Pion almost shouting down the room now full of
 bureaucrats in panic.

HIGH COUNCILLOR PION
 We can't tell twelve billion
 Inderans that Armageddon's
 coming and we're unable to
 preclude it. Such a statement
 would lead to a mass panic.
 Knowing the temperament of our
 folk, we would kill ourselves
 before the disaster takes place.
 How the hell do you expect us
 to...

ENAR
Evacuate the planet.

HIGH COUNCILLOR PION
Evacuate to where? Did you find
a planet suitable for us? Were
you searching for one at all?

ENAR
No. We brought the message as
fast as we could. We'll have to
live on our ships for a while.
Our fleet being decimated, less
than two hundred ships are
available. Some of them are no
Explorers, just smaller medical
vessels.

HIGH COUNCILLOR PION
You know it right well what will
happen to us.

ENAR
Yes. Everyone will attempt to
get aboard a ship to save their
own lives. I'm reliant on the
seniors. They're wise enough to
understand they have no choice
but to stay. But even if they
behave like I presume it's
impossible to billet more than
six hundred thousand.

HIGH COUNCILLOR PION
You surely understand that we
can't answer that without an
appropriate consideration.

ENAR
Of course. But take my apology
again. I would hurry you to make
your decision by dawn.

HIGH COUNCILLOR PION
Your directness is unnecessary.
I've recognized the situation
damn well.

Enar bends just enough to comply with Pion's obvious
feeling superior, then leaves. So does Zarabon. The
Council starts discussing immediately.

EXT. PLANET GANDORA

SUPER - 5 YEARS LATER

Ships flying by. A space-station (the Station) on orbit. Ships of all size docking to and leaving the docks.

INT. SPACE-STATION, PUBLIC AREA

A crowd of Gandorians walking up and down, talking, having fun, drinking at bars, playing holo-games. A female reporter looking to a flying camera and talking to a micro as big as her index finger.

REPORTER

Are we on?

No response.

REPORTER

(continuing)

Hey, junk pile, are we on?

The camera flashes its light, peeping and chirping.

CAMERA

Transmission in progress.

The Reporter realizes being on the air, disturbed, continues.

REPORTER

This time we'll skip beating-machine.

Gandorians watching the transmission all over the planet. In their home or outdoor on holo-screens floating in the sky.

REPORTER

(continuing)

Welcome to Chian Chian's Daily Talk. Today's topic: The Sinpori Feast. On the Station thousands expecting the rise of the purple moon which only peeps out of its hide-out every fifty years. Admiral Voran is here with me today to give us details about the spectacular event. Admiral, would you take it over?

VORAN

I greet all Gandorians from the Station up here. Well, Chian, it actually doesn't peep out from its hide-out. It just has a somewhat elongated orbit which extends its period.

REPORTER

(whimsically)
 But I was right about those fifty years, wasn't I? And for the youngest viewers, the Sinpori is the second and migrant moon of Gandora. Not to be confused with the smaller static white one. Miraculously enough, our ancestors were the first Gandorians to watch this phenomenon and since that time, so do all of us.

VORAN
 (embarrassed)
 Absolutely.

REPORTER
 And what about those mysterious abductions?

VORAN
 I can only tell my opinion about it. Malarkey. Since the war ended, people believed to be missing always have been found on the other side of the planet, escaping from their angry wives or mothers-in-law. I'd call it a simple post-war syndrome.

REPORTER
 Your heard, people of Gandora. No danger as big as a stardust on the event horizon. Thank you, Admiral, and Happy Sinpori.

VORAN
 Happy Sinpori for all.

The Admiral can hardly finish as she takes the micro away from him and springs at another man having his drink.

REPORTER
 Ah, professor! Anything new about those earth-shaking seisms?

Suddenly a familiar voice talking behind Voran.

KIMO
 She took you down quite a peg.

A surprised Voran turns. His face glows with happiness.

VORAN
 Son. Aren't you...

KIMO
I'm going down to the beach in
an hour.

VORAN
Good. Your friends?

KIMO
(looking around,
joking)
Somewhere in the Plenar Galaxy.

Voran pans his son. He's grown a real man, a damn
handsome cadet. Voran looks great too.

VORAN
Make the best of this day. Next
week horrible exams coming.

KIMO
Don't even mention. I really
don't feel like...OK. To get an
officer patent, I must
accomplish this.

VORAN
My thoughts exactly. Will you
come up my office?

KIMO
Anything wrong?

VORAN
No, it's nothing. Just a father-
son talk.

KIMO
You taught me a couple of years
ago the way moorland spiders set
their webs in breeding season.

VORAN
(with happy laughter)
Not that kind of talk. I hope
that topic will never come up
again.

KIMO
Right, let's go.

They enter an elevator around which a force-field
activated.

INT. - VORAN'S STATION OFFICE

They enter the office. Kimo looks around as if the place
was unknown to him.

KIMO
Well, we're here. What's the
nature of the emergency?

Voran not responding. Walking up to the window, looking
down at the planet. Ships passing by.

VORAN
Would you like a glass of
Havoda?

KIMO
I'm a minor.

VORAN
Do you refuse it when Shira
makes one for you?

Kimo looks ashamed, goes red. His father looks back to
the window. Forgetting about the drink.

VORAN
Wonderful, isn't it?

KIMO
Yes, it is.

VORAN
Not a long time ago there were
ship-wrecks and devastation
everywhere.

KIMO
I remember well. More well than
my mind wants to forget it.

VORAN
It's the same with any
Gandorian. It'll take a little
time till we forget the horrors
of that battle.
(turning to Kimo)
I'm proud of you, son. Any
speech, any honours would be an
understatement to express what a
damn excellent job you did
during that battle.

Kimo just staring at him. At a loss.

VORAN
(continuing)
If something happened to me, I
want you to know: you made me
the proudest father of this
galaxy.

Kimo runs up to him. They embrace each other closely for seconds. Then Kimo walks up the door.

KIMO

And I'm proud of my father who made clear many times - honour and trust form the base of any relationship. But now I feel anxiety in your words. When you're ready to tell what was all about that battle, I'll be there listening to you.

Kimo leaves. Voran turns back to the window, leaning against the window-frame with a tormented face, almost crying.

EXT. GANDORA, BEACH - DAY

A warm day near the beach. Gandora engrossed in a huge festivity. Young and old having a great time. A parade and procession of Fleet cadets and officers entertaining the crowd. Some watch the festal procession, some loiter at booths and stalls, and many run around on the beach already, in bathing costume, to prepare for the big event. The whole planet sitting on thorns.

Kimo and Shira walk on the beach hand in hand among the crowd. Both have grown older and more beautiful than ever. They have a great time. Kimo dragging the girl.

KIMO

Common! Let's take a dip.

SHIRA

You're nuts!

KIMO

Afraid I could see your puki?

SHIRA

Afraid the water's just as cold as your manners. I won't budge an...

Kimo pulls around the girl even more. Tries to bring her to the ocean. Typical scene between a 18-year-old couple.

SHIRA

(continuing)
Tell me one reason why I should bathe half naked with you.

KIMO

You're talking to the son of the Gandorian Fleet's Admiral after all. A little bit more respect

if I may put it that way.
Someday I'll rule the planet.

SHIRA

You'll be a Fleet-officer when
the purple moon gets stuck in
the sky.

They laugh. Kimo stops pulling her. He puts his hands on her shoulder. Passes his hands over her arms and takes her hands. He nuzzles up to the girl.

KIMO

This only happens every fifty
years. When the Sinpori emerges
on the horizon, the air hots up,
the gentle breeze embraces your
body, the water softly fondles
your skin. You feel as this
marvel permeates all your pores.

At this moment a small, pudgy, happy guy in trunks cuts in. He jumps on Kimo's head and tousles his hair.

ZYOO

What's up, chums?

SHIRA

(annoyed)
Shall I tell you what is up? You
really want me to?

ZYOO

You've got one hamster less on
your wheel today. It must be the
slight radiation coming from the
moon. Looks like weak girls are
more affected by it.

SHIRA

Unlike fatty guys who believe
their dead grandpa wants to take
them.

Kimo can't even react to that. That much surprised. But then, they burst out laughing. Shira feels ashamed sniggers prettily. Zyoo looks at them. He's got it on the spot.

ZYOO

Ah, romance in the moonlight?
You don't do things by halves,
do ya chum? Did you get her to
bathe naked...

Kimo puts his hand on his friend's mouth. Embarrassed. Whinnies.

KIMO
Don't take it ill! You know how
crazed he is.

Shira looks scornfully.

SHIRA
Queer fish.

Zyoo's laughter turns into a grunt. The young couple can't help it, either. They burst out laughing. The two boys lie in the sand while Shira goes to the water and gets rid of some pieces of her clothes.

As Kimo fights with Zyoo playfully, his hand becomes grungy. He looks down.

KIMO
What? Did you eat all the
lollipops at those stalls?

ZYOO
Tut! It's a well-known fact that
I put myself on hard diet.

KIMO
Yeah. So your trunks are wet due
to something else.

Zyoo looks down. The lollipop he hid in his trunks melts. He takes it out and takes a look at it.

ZYOO
Ah, long live fat belly!

He licks it with pleasure, which makes Kimo sick. Then Shira shouts at them from the water.

SHIRA
Now you come or turn yellow?

Kimo looking at his friend who swallows the lollipop in one piece and throws its stick away.

KIMO
Just a minute!

ZYOO
Well, did you get on her?

KIMO
Stop horsing around. And stop
talking rot before her. I don't
want to mess it up.

ZYOO
You're really dead nuts on her.

KIMO
No.

ZYOO
Now I'm a little bit confused.

KIMO
I love her.

ZYOO
It's way cooler! When are you
going to tell her?

KIMO
Just quick over it? The whole
life's waiting for us.

ZYOO
I see. You wanna play for about
four-hundred years. Good
approach.

Kimo repeats annoyed.

KIMO
I don't want to mess it up.

He looks at a booth where a little bit fat girl stokes
up.

KIMO
(continuing)
By the way, where's your
girlfriend?

ZYOO
She...she caught some disease.

KIMO
Disease?

ZYOO
Yeah...err...Mansaka.

KIMO
Mansaka.

ZYOO
Right.

KIMO
At this age?

ZYOO
She's getting in that age later.
And now she's confined to bed,
missing this wonderful day.

KIMO
I guess she's also an
enchantress. At two places at
the same time.

Kimo points at her. Zyoo flips out.

ZYOO
OK! She doesn't wanna talk to
me! Since we arrived, she's been
just pilfering the booths. She's
taking no notice of me! Better
now?!

Kimo bursts out laughing then his plump friend too. Then
Shira shouts again.

SHIRA
Hey, gentle sex! Scared of
bathing naked with a weak girl?

KIMO
One more word!

They run into the water. They laugh, splash, get on the
nerves of the people around them.

Suddenly all keep quiet and are speechless. The moment
has come.

The purple moon slowly rises on the horizon, illuminating
the sky. Its colors, purple and orange, reflect on the
water. The giant covers half the sky. Beyond expression.
People are stunned. Kimo takes Shira's hand under water.
The moon stays for a minute.

Then the event is over. The purple moon goes away and
only the sun and the little white moon stays up there.

Kimo and Shira looking at each other. Their eyes tell
everything. Zyoo still staring at the sky with tearful
eyes.

EXT. INDERAN CAPITAL - NIGHT

Panning the city, flying between skyscrapers, then
stopping at the highest point of a building. Closing to a
window until we see Ex-High Councillor Pion, much older,
already retired, much weaker. Behind him, knocking at the
door. Pion, reluctantly, answers.

INT. HOSPITAL, RETIRED PION'S ROOM

RETIRED PION
Unless you're the doctor with my
medicine, go to hell.

The door opens. General Enar entering with a cold look. Looking around in the room which obviously is a ward. A small dose of satisfaction on his face.

ENAR

Glad to see you sound and safe.

RETIRED PION

Are you? You'd be a bad politician. Irks you to lie.

ENAR

I never thought the solution to our problems was deception. Unlike you. And you did give the Inderans to believe everything was alright.

RETIRED PION

Talk the people's thoughts. Make their wish yours. True or not, they don't care.

ENAR

Three steps for how swallow rubbish best.

RETIRED PION

Your business here?

ENAR

People still trust you. I need you to tell them the truth.

RETIRED PION

It wasn't true five years ago and it isn't now. Those ships...
(coughing)
It was a goddamn accident. An accident!

ENAR

You really believe what you're saying, don't you?

Pion remains still. Staring out of the window. Traffic, smog, Inderans rushing for places.

ENAR

(continuing)
More ships have been destroyed. Reports are coming in about them all the time. It's closing.

RETIRED PION

Name it.

ENAR

Name the unknown?

RETIRED PION

Spare me this. More likely version: careless soldiers neglected their duty, maybe a glass too many in canteen. Things we've seen lots of times.

ENAR

I can't explain.

RETIRED PION

Exactly. You can't. My decision was right five years ago and still is. Did you have evidence in your hand? No. Just ship-logs with the obvious artificer of their contents: saboteurs.

ENAR

Poor old Councillor. You see threat where none is. It was a power we don't understand. And you're just hiding in your comfortable room, full of fatal lies you've been feeding our people with.

RETIRED PION

I won't order your damn evacuation foredoomed to failure. They shall die on their home planet.

ENAR

Not until I'm the General of the Armada.

Enar leaves the room hastily. Pion keeps staring at the window.

RETIRED PION

(to himself, weaker)
Foredoomed to failure.

INT. TEAM 02'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Dark. Shreds of light appear vaguely through a pair of tired eyes. The shreds vanish. Dark again. A short moment. Then the shreds appear again and this blurred image slowly clarifies in a ceiling. Two hands reach for the ceiling, while a rambling yawn belying even a gorilla's roar breaks silence. The hands fall back. A strange fellow wriggles out of the quilt.

It's Kimo, captain of Team 02. His bluish hair, slightly ragged, slightly falling on his forehead, covers his eyes. With a slothful move he slings his hair up, showing his baby face. His look could remind us now an eighteen-year-old guy, somewhat teenager yet. Handsome beyond doubt, but there's also something alien to it, which obviously shows when he finally open his crystal clear bluish eyes wide. They reflect warmth and a tiny bit of levity. Wears no shirt, just a pair of ragged short trousers. His body is muscular, but also slender.

He looks up and sees an egg flying directly towards him. It smashes into his face with a gross laughter from the background. Kimo takes his eyes at them, while the content of the egg running down on his face.

KIMO

See me shaking my side?

Shira and Zyoo jumping up to him. A girl and boy of Kimo's age. Both wearing a tight friendly-looking uniform.

SHIRA

Don't tell me it wasn't funny.

KIMO

Being attacked with slimy eggs on every morning for two weeks. I must've lost my sense of humor.

The little fat guy near Shira goes on almost screaming.

ZYOO

Common! We bombarded your face with eggs stolen from different species every day.

The girl and Zyoo laughing outright, pointing at an apparently annoyed Kimo. Then he continues with a bit malevolent face.

KIMO

Imagine how funny will be for you guys to be sitting at the exo-lesson with Gantur realizing you've eased his Manterian chickens of their eggs.

ZYOO

How d'ya think he'll find out? He's as deaf as his weird chickens.

A raucous voice shakes the room. Zyoo and Shira shudder and grab each other. Only Kimo's rollicking laughter surpasses their scared faces.

GANTUR (V.O.)
 You'll see, damned kids! I'll
 give you such deaf chicken that
 you'll never be in tune for
 abusing the property of the
 Academy again.

ZYOO
 Great Black Nebula! My mom was
 right. Grandpa's ghost came back
 to take me cause I was bad.

He grabs Kimo's shoulder, then just dragging, tousling
 him and shouting.

ZYOO
 (continuing)
 Don't let him take me to the
 other world. I'm too young to
 live among a bunch of old dead
 toothless fellows...

He fells on the floor.

ZYOO
 Ad infinitum!

Kimo can't stop laughing. Meanwhile Shira realizes what's
 going on. Her fear goes away. Kimo bends down and pulls a
 holo-projector from under the bed. The projector showing
 Professor GANTUR's head.

GANTUR
 I'm screaming from the exo-lab,
 lunkhead! Fifteen minutes till
 ringing tone. Don't be late or
 I'll give your butt a hammering.

SHIRA
 (rather rambling)
 It was some tough bawling him
 out. He's a simpleton, but...

GANTUR
 Double march!

At this scream the two rogues give such a big jump that
 they almost "hit the ceiling", and when falling on the
 floor, Zyoo makes Kimo slip the holo-pro out of his
 hands. Kimo keeps laughing, but after pushing the blanket
 from him, he shivers.

KIMO
 What the hell's wrong with
 temperature this morning?

SHIRA

Some sophomores put a freshman in the thermoregulator. A relief crew's just trying to fish him up.

ZYOO

A sophomore? Then we could say the situation is sophomoric.

Kimo and the girl just staring at him with a drear look.

SHIRA

Yes, we could. And then we'd be regarded as idiots.

The chubby guy, apparently offended, walks up to a cupboard and starts tampering with some holo-display.

HOLO-DISPLAY

Welcome to Interstellar Clothes Shop! Please submit your orders.

Zyoo starts pushing buttons. Unwillingly, Kimo gets out of the bed, headed for the bathroom. The girl throws a lecherous glance at his body. She likes what she sees. Kimo catching her look, gives a sweet smile back to her.

KIMO

You'd better hurry. You're behind your time.

HOLO-DISPLAY

Two polka dotted Dresian underwear selected. Thank you for your purchase.

ZYOO

(still tampering with the display)

Says you. Put on a shirt for God's sake.

KIMO

I'll surely be in the classroom sooner than you. By the way, who's the captain of us?

Zyoo turns the display off and sinks on his knees. Starts deifying him with a terrible roar, dancing on his friends' nerves.

ZYOO

Oh, powerful captain! Forgive this pertinacious reluctance of mine to get down to my knees and lick your...

Shira's grabbing him prevents the boy from finishing the sentence. She covers his mouth with her hand and drags him out through the door. Kimo takes his comm gadget and pushes some buttons.

KIMO
Call Shira Namoya.

The comm gadget gives a couple of peeps.

INT. HALL - MORNING

The girl and Zyoo leaves the elevator. Around them lots of cadets, teachers, officers, passengers, and different species. Her comm gadget peeping.

COMM GADGET
Incoming message on Academy frequency. Do you wish holo-contact?

Shira has a look at it. It says "Kimo Zen, Academy Cadet, Rank: Captain". She breaks into a smile.

SHIRA
(to comm gadget)
Only video contact.

Kimo appears on screen, smiling.

KIMO
What's up?

SHIRA
You're taking it out of my mouth.

KIMO
I wish we went that far!

SHIRA
(to comm gadget)
Break connection.

Kimo quickly interposes.

KIMO
Wait! I'm just kidding. Just kidding.

SHIRA
Can you see me laugh?

KIMO
If you let me on you, I'd make you laugh.

Her face goes a bit vexed.

KIMO
(continuing)
Okay, okay. I just...

SHIRA
You just?

KIMO
You know.

SHIRA
What exactly?

KIMO
Our da...

SHIRA
I'm still listening.

KIMO
Our second date is still a date,
right?

SHIRA
Not sure. Your IQ got a miscue?

Kimo sinks his head, Shira gets back to her mood, smiling
impishly.

SHIRA
(continuing)
Of course, it's a date, you
weak-headed.

Kimo can't help but guffaw.

KIMO
Awesome.

SHIRA
Awesome.

Kimo seems to have another question, but hesitates.

SHIRA (CONT'D)
Else?

KIMO
OK. Would it be impertinent to
ask you whether you're wearing
that hot bikini you had on when
we were on the coral beach?

SHIRA
What makes you think we're going
on the beach again?

Shira's screen shows Kimo entering the bathroom. He turns on the shower.

KIMO
You saw me half-naked this morning. Now it's my turn.

SHIRA
So did Zyoo. And so?

KIMO
What's his problem anyway? I'm pretty cute in the buff.

He gives his biceps a kiss and recoils.

KIMO
(continuing)
Though it wouldn't hurt taking a strong shower.

The girl gets sick.

SHIRA
This is just what a girl's eager to see right before the date.

Kimo adjusts the tap to full power. Damn hot water running from the shower makes the room swim in steam. The boy disappears in it, coughing.

KIMO
Wrong setting.

Shira bursts out laughing, then breaks connection. Zyoo standing at a sweet-shop and stuff his tight uniform pockets with different goodies, shouting to her.

ZYOO
Get a move on!

SHIRA
Don't rush me!

They leave the building running, almost pushing Captain Con over. They won't apologize, just keep running.

ZYOO
Remember? Lateness? Gantur's mood?

They run towards another building. Con rather talking to himself with indignation.

CON
They're supposed to be the generation of the future.

EXT. ACADEMY - MORNING

Huge glass skyscraper with fancy built-in stones as decoration. Around it flying cars and ships here and there. The inscription on the top of it says: Gandorian Fleet Academy. The environment is reminiscent of an exotic, tropical climate. Sparsely beautiful, but antique-looking fountains emerge from the pavement. Real paradise. It shows how much Gandorians appreciate nature and modern technology.

As the two youngsters run out, milling crowds around them. Everyone making for their jobs, lessons, the passengers for ships. In the background a security team and some doctors trying to get a cadet out of the thermoregulator. His roar can be heard from afar.

CADET

Are you totally demented? My head! Ouch! Carefully! Idiots!

EXT. GANDORA, ACADEMY EXOLAB - MINUTES LATER

Beautiful glass building with those characteristic outlandish built-in stones. Around it, strange species of trees, vegetation, animals. Just like the Academy building said it all. They adore nature.

INT. EXOLAB, CLASSROOM

About 30 cadets sitting, chatting, doing things students do in the middle-sized room. On the right of Zyoo his friends sitting, on his left nobody. A cadet killing time with a holo-pro built in his desk. Professor Gantur, a somewhat pudgy, elderly man, enters. Short grizzled beard, a few strands of hair.

GANTUR

Good morning, cadets!

ALL CADETS

Good morning, Professor Gantur!

Gantur realizes the cadet tampering with the holo-pro and watching some galactic map or something.

GANTUR

Switch it off. We won't need it today. We're talking about the process of the exobiology exam promised in three days from now.

The cadet turns it off. Rumble in the classroom. No cadet shares Gantur's enthusiasm.

GANTUR

(continuing)

I'm sorry.

(looking at Zyoo)

No bally ghost willed you into making Fleet-officers.

(to the class)

To do that, you have to be adept at anything learnt at this academy.

The prof spots Zyoo rooting under the desk. He won't put him in his place, just acts quite blasé and goes on talking. This time not blowing his stack because he sees a guy enter the room.

GANTUR

And now let me introduce your new classmate.

The new guy wears a Star Trek-like outfit. His dark short hair makes him look like a toughie. Looking at his clothes, the class laughs outright.

GANTUR

Quiet! Avast! I'd like to present Ian Gui to you. He's here because he managed to, well, how the heck say it, flounder through the Fecton University.

The class bursts out laughing again. Ian reacts calmly.

IAN

The Fecton ain't so bad as you think.

No reaction from the class. All staring at him questioningly.

IAN

(continuing)
It's a sleazo!

The cadets give a huge cheer.

ALL CADETS

Hey for the Fleet Academy!

Ian looks quite satisfied with his new friends. Gantur looking around. No free chair, except near Zyoo.

GANTUR

Well, then take your seat...err...God. Right beside Zyoo.

Ian takes his place. Zyoo gives him a warm welcome.

ZYOO
You got the right bench-mate,
Ian Fectonian!

SHIRA
One of Zyoo's theories still
open for discussion.

Laughter again. The prof's fed up.

GANTUR
All right. Enough! First of all
the word Fectonian doesn't come
through. Secondly, I'm asking
Kimo to tell Ian about what
we've been up to recently.

KIMO
We're learning in groups of
three. Every team has its
captain, executive officer and
lieutenant. Don't let ranks an'
denominations fool you. Every
member of the team must know
just the same in case someone
gets incapacitated for some
reason.

ZYOO
It's his version.

GANTUR
Now we have a group of four.

KIMO
What?

GANTUR
Oh yes, Ian's regarded as an
expert on exobiology at his old
school.

KIMO
Didn't he say it's a sleazo?

The cadets astonished, just like the prof.

GANTUR
I'm taken short by your
behavior. The most excellent
captain should appreciate the
most recognized exobiologist.

KIMO
(offended)
The most recognized?

GANTUR

Forgive me. You're good at it,
as well, but let's face it:
Ian's the real whiz in this
regard.

The prof watching Zyoo again tamper under the desk. What he can't see is that the chubby fellow pours some red slime into a ball-shaped holder as big as his palm and pushes some buttons on it. Zyoo having a great time. The elderly master has his fill of it, but still remaining calm. Walking up to Zyoo.

GANTUR
(continuing)
Would you share the subject of
your revelry with us?

ZYOO
(archly)
Share with you?

GANTUR
You'd do me proud.

Zyoo ill at ease, looking down at the holder.

GANTUR
Look alive, Lieutenant! Neither
in the line will you have time
for identifying a Mazauresque
toad and firing a detoxication
charge at it.

The class looking in a curious way.

ZYOO
But, Professor, the saliva of
Mazauresque toads are used for
healing.

GANTUR
Amazing. Not only did you
succeed in satiating your
stomach, but your head, as well.
Will you give it to me?

Being afraid and malevolent at the same time, Zyoo gives him the holder. The prof takes a look at it, then talks moodily.

GANTUR
(continuing)
Important activity while I'm
trying to...

Can't finish as the holder blows up. The reddish slimy material covers Gantur's face. Still asking relatively calmly.

GANTUR
 Would you tell me, Lieutenant,
 what splashed my face?

ZYOO
 Saliva of a Keazukan toad.

The prof running out of the classroom while screaming and trying to brush the slime aside.

INT. EXOLAB CORRIDOR

GANTUR
 Medical corps!

The corridor reverberating after him. Those standing there stare at him idiotically.

INT. EXOLAB, CLASSROOM

The whole class holding their sides with laughter. Ian makes nothing of it.

IAN
 Why has he run out?

SHIRA
 The saliva of Keazukan toads causes purulent eczema for days unless removed from skin in ten minutes in a special ward. You should know. You're a real whiz.

IAN
 That species hasn't been naturalized on the other side of the planet. And to my best knowledge, such a special ward is 15 minutes from here.

The class can't command themselves. They're almost rolling on the floor. Zyoo gives a five to Ian.

ZYOO
 Chum, you're the utmost!

Ian smiling. Glad to have fitted in his new home. Kimo looks at Zyoo and goes earnest.

KIMO
 (to Zyoo)
 Just like you, tubby.

ZYOO
 What's up with you, chum?

KIMO
 The exam will be in three days.
 We can prepare for it all alone
 now.

Zyoo stands up, raising his hands as if quoting a poem.
 Talks loud so that everyone can hear.

ZYOO
 Eager beaver Captain said! Slurp
 your drivels back. Nobody knows
 more about slimy toads than
 yourself.

KIMO
 What are you getting at?

ZYOO
 Look in the mirror. You'll
 realize. Slime-brain!

KIMO
 Lardass!

ZYOO
 Slime-brain!

KIMO
 (snappier)
 Lardass!

Zyoo would continue throwing his one-word curse at him,
 were it not for Kimo springing at him. The fight begins.
 The classroom reverberates with their names. The two guys
 have their fandom.

ALL CADETS
 Up and at 'em!

Shira not enthusing over it. She sits on her chair,
 painting her fingers yellow with a laser-like tool.

SHIRA
 (to a friend)
 I wonder if all men are that
 stupid in every galaxy.

EXT. INDERAN CAPITAL - DAWN

The whole city sleeping. The cold air suggests something
 terrible will happen.

EXT. INDERAN CENTRAL COMMAND - SAME TIME

Enar sitting in a mess-hall, drinking something, staring
 out of the window. A man steps behind him.

ZARABON (O.S.)
Dresian wine is considered to
cause severe brain damage.

ENAR
What? Oh, Governor. Will you
join me in damaging my brain?

ZARABON
I'd love to.

ENAR
Would you?

They share a faint smile. Zarabon sits down. A waiter
coming, but he signals him he doesn't want anything.
Heavy-hearted, keeps staring out of his head. Enar
reacting to it.

ENAR
(continuing)
Didn't know even the smell of
this wine has such an effect.

Zarabon looks up at his words.

ZARABON
I'm just pondering about where
we are and where we'll be in
fifty years.
(looking at Enar,
realizing)
I know. We don't have that much.

ENAR
You were promoted over two years
ago. As High Councillor you'd
have a chance to straighten out
things.

ZARABON
I was so ardent when promoted. I
thought that position would
allow me to...

He stops. Can't go on with pain.

ENAR
Find the right way?

ZARABON
'Work wonder' would be the
proper expression. All I could
do was order the Armada to be on
the alert. I can't get a goddamn
voice from the Council on any
matters.
(fretfully)

That demented mind of an Ex-High Councillor.

ENAR

Pion still has a hold on the people.

ZARABON

I'm a panic-monger, he's a storyteller. And people like stories with a happy end.

At this moment a guard of the Council enters the mess-hall. Panning the room, he finds them. Walks up to the two men.

GUARD

High Councillor. General.

ENAR

What can we do for you?

GUARD

Please come with me. Both of you.

They look at each other, not so surprised as one could expect it. They get up and follow the guard. Leaving the mess-hall, they enter a small office. Who knows who it belongs to?

ZARABON

Enough about playing games.

GUARD

Pion sent me to tell you he'd announce the evacuation in ten minutes.

Zarabon and the General exchanging glances. Their face expressing unbelief.

ENAR

Ten minutes. Gonna be quite a tight race.

GUARD

Your ship and other one thousand are ready for departure. You'll only have to wait for the passengers.

ZARABON

As simple as that.

GUARD

You're supposed to be on the flagship, too. He wants so.

ZARABON
(with more disbelief)
Pion wants so.

GUARD
Hurry! We have now four minutes.

Enar running out.

ENAR
You heard the old man's last
will.

Enar has left the room. Zarabon takes the guard's
shoulders, pressing it and looking at him appreciatively.
Then leaves.

INT. FLOOR OF THE WORLD COUNCIL - DAWN

The Councillors are gathered. Pion enters. Everyone
astonished. Goes to 'his' place. He addresses them all.

RETIRED PION
It is time. Are you all ready?

The councillors react differently. Some nod, some sink
their heads, some look resigned.

RETIRED PION
(continuing)
Well then.

Pushing some button.

RETIRED PION
This is High Councillor Pion
speaking.

EXT. INDERAN CITIES - DAWN

Huge monitors mounted in buildings showing Pion's face.
The citizens watching it carefully.

RETIRED PION
This announcement concerns the
whole planet.

EXT. GANDORIAN CAPITAL, ACADEMY-FLEET CENTER - DAY

Flying crafts in the sky. Busy passers-by on the streets.

INT. SPACE FLEET, COMMAND - DAY

Officers walk up and down, thrum on computers, do their job.

INT. VORAN'S OFFICE - DAY

Voran and Con talk a bit nervously. The shutter on the window is pulled half down. The sun shines through it.

CON
We knew it'd happen.

VORAN
Not that fast. Our race's
dropping off like flies.

CON
It was a mistake to believe him.
We'd have thought he'd break his
word. But I still think what we
did was right. A little respite
for our folk.

Voran glaring at his desk.

CON
(continuing)
I should go. I've got lots of
work due to the latter
earthquake.

VORAN
What? Yeah, right. Go.

Con leaves. Voran still stares and keeps saying.

VORAN
(continuing)
What have we done?

EXT. INDERAN - DAY

The cold weather crowns the terrible scene. The Inderan folk getting on the oversized ships in large quantities. Panic all over the planet. Young Inderans running amok, trampling others to get to a ship.

INT. ENAR'S SHIP, COMMANDING CENTER - DAY

Adis pushing buttons, then reports to Enar. Enar and Zarabon standing at the huge window. Looking at the mad crowd from high above.

ADIS

Sir, the troops have given the signal. All ships are full to the gang-plank.

ZARABON
(still looking down)
They don't know that.

Enar pushes a button on a console.

ENAR
Operators, activate platform protective fields.

EXT. INDERAN - DAY

Red lights appear around the platforms. People smashing against it. The ships start leaving the platforms.

While the ships are emerging, destruction, demolition and revolts on the surface.

A group of Inderans reaching to the sky, shouting as the ships flying away close above their head. Some trying to fire at the ships with rifles, in vain.

INT. FLOOR OF THE WORLD COUNCIL - DAY

Pion lying on his desk. Dead. Around him members mourning him. The whole room shaking violently. An explosion tears a wall away. Some Council members die in the explosion. Angry, vociferous people coming through the ruins. Grabbing Council members and killing him. The hand-to-hand fight begins between the people and the 'superior' politicians.

CLOSE TO PION'S BODY: a mad Inderan man strikes a member on Pion's desk, pushing the old man down from it. His reign is over for good and all.

EXT. INDERAN, IN THE AIR - DAY

Ships emerging from the clouds under which the gory battle continues.

INT. ENAR'S SHIP - DAY

Enar and the others still looking down, out of the window, though nothing specific can be seen now, apart from earth-shaking explosions.

ENAR
Set a course for Gandora. We need the help of friends.

ZARABON

Don't let it prey on your mind.
This decision had to be made.

ENAR

(citing a poem with dim voice)
"Where's the enemy, you wonder?
Don't ask. It's everywhere you
look, well-nigh omnipresent. And
the most earthbound and perilous
are those who as brothers press
close to our chests."

ZARABON

"The supreme enemy hiding behind
a bush. The rascally, the
treacherous brethren! And one of
them corrupts hundreds of us
like does esurience the orphan."

The Governor's eyes reflect the destruction and
explosions going on down there.

EXT. GANDORIAN ACADEMY GYM - DAY

The 30 cadets now wearing gym-suits warm up or sit on the
field in the futuristic gymnasium. Some of them playing
with an antigrav ball. Kimo and Zyoo don't even realize
each other apart from some morose look. Kimo rather
interested in Shira's slender body and peachy skin, Ian
making push-ups. A bored Shira takes the reins and tries
to settle this tiny difference, which means 'she tells
them where to get off'.

SHIRA

Featherbrains.

KIMO

Excuse me.

SHIRA

You heard me. How can two
friends be so stupid to come to
grips for nothing?

KIMO

The exam is not nothing. When
they put you out on the front,
you'll remember your stupid
boyfriend's outburst.

SHIRA

Fine. Be cross with him and
you'll get no second date.
You'll remember that.

ZYOO

Bless me! Someone's hacked off
with the Captain's fearless son.

KIMO
Asking for another trashing?

ZYOO
Asking for another chance to
beat you to a frazzle like last
time.

KIMO
Frazzle? I thought a namby-pamby
was fondling my stomach.

ZYOO
All right! You asked for it!

Zyoo reaching for him when Shira hits his chest with her
elbow. He falls back. The others reacting to it. Kimo
looks at her, smiling. Apparently he likes her kick.

SHIRA
Stop guffawing! Queer fish. And
you took my hook. Would you just
kiss and be friends?

ZYOO
You mean literally?

The girl won't do him the favor to answer. The guys,
unwillingly, struggle to their feet, lift their right
arms and hit them against each other. Sort of
reconciliation ritual.

KIMO
Sorry for hitting the roof and
flaying you.

ZYOO
Sorry for hitting the roof back
and flaying YOU.

SHIRA
So is fine.

Meanwhile Ian still making push-ups with. Kimo and the
others watching him. Now he gets observed of all
observers. He goes on making some sit-ups at amazing
pace, then stops.

KIMO
Now that's what I call
...something.

IAN
Thanks.

ZYOO

Why the slumber suit at the exo-
lesson?

IAN

A couple of weeks ago my cousin
caught a signal in the Comm
Center. Turned out to have been
sent from a distant blue planet.

SHIRA

It's so thrilling.

IAN

Right. Wonderful planet. Too bad
its inhabitants are butchering
one another for sources of
energy and stuff.

SHIRA

Thrilling, indeed.

IAN

But their entertaining
repertoire have no match in the
universe. Including parallel
universes.

ZYOO

'Course. You need some laughing
between massacres.

IAN

I've seen in a transmission
called movie actors wear such
uniforms. Sometimes they fought
for good things, sometimes those
in red shirts were killed off
funnily.

The three teenagers staring without a word. Scared,
astonished.

ZYOO

And this appealed to you?

IAN

Take it easy! I just liked the
way they surmounted any
difficulties.

KIMO

An idol is OK. I'm just curious
why from a planet off the map?

ZYOO

Oh please. Not everyone has a
supreme captain as father.

Kimo flicks off this remark.

KIMO
Come. Let's do a proper warm-up.

ZYOO
For what? After gym I'll be
gorging with plictocs.

KIMO
As your captain...

ZYOO
I didn't say a word.

Zyoo starts making ridiculous exercises with his pudgy body, which hardly has anything to do with gymnastics, rather buffoonery.

ZYOO
(continuing)
And one and two and one and two.
See? Exercise makes perfect.

A voice grumbling from behind.

CON (O.S.)
Assperfect.

Zyoo looks round. The cadets line up industriously.

CON
(continuing)
I'll tell for the last time. My
being late justifies lazing on
no accounts. When at war, you
won't be protected
(to Zyoo)
by your atrocious humor.
(to all)
You have to be prepared
physically and mentally. If now
an emergency came up, I doubt
any of you could hold ground.

CADET
Sir.

CON
What?

CADET
I think we held ground damn well
five years ago. As for that, is
it true that the earthquakes
might be the sign for that enemy
to return?

Con's face fires up.

CON
Where d'you get this crap from,
cadet?

CADET
My father's stationed on the
next outpost. In his last letter
he wrote...

CON
Your father? Great. That's the
price you pay if a whole planet
is obsessed with a superior
ethics. There's no man on this
planet whose relative doesn't
work in the Fleet, construing
every-day phenomena in universal
Armageddon. The planet is clear.
Understood?

ALL CADETS
Yes, sir.

CON
As for your father, I could take
him under arrest for scare-
mongering.

CADET
Supposing he lied.

CON
What was that?

CADET
My father's not that jittery. He
doesn't tell stories.

CON
I understand you call me a liar.

CADET
As I said, sir. He's not a
candyass.

Con flies into a rage, walking up to the cadet who stands
with a resolute face.

CON
We could talk about who's a
candyass. Have you got your
photon-shooter in those five
years?

The cadet frightened won't respond.

CON
Do you know what kind of
punishment one deserves for
offending a superior officer?

All cadets taken aback. Muttering. Surprised looks.

CADET
You mean senior.

Con realizes now what he said. Recoils to the fact that a
cadet put him in his place. Continues calmly.

CON
Fifty rounds. Then you take your
shooter and under the direction
of Commander Zicor gunnery.

Con waves to small lizard-like creature, ZICOR. He runs
up to him. Has a nice look. Con whispers something, Zicor
nods. Con about to leave the gym. Zicor turns to the
group and his slightly sputtering voice fills the room.

ZICOR
All serene, cadets. Running
starts from now.

Looks back if Con has gone for sure.

ZICOR
(continuing)
Thirty rounds will do. So we'll
have more time for shooting
around.

Everyone whooping for him.

IAN
(to Kimo)
All trainers are OK, just Con's
a dimwit.

KIMO
Congrats. You just figured out
the most important rule of the
Academy.

They laugh and start running.

EXT. SPACE

The Inderan Fleet marching through space. No nebula, no
planets within sight. Just space. The flagship leading
the fleet.

INT. INDERAN FLAGSHIP, ENAR'S OFFICE

The spacy room in total silence. The lights at a subdued level. Enar sits on his comfortable chair. Through the windows he watches the rest of the fleet following the flagship he commands. At least these are relative peaceful moments and his expression tells us he enjoys every second of them. Not for long, as someone ringing the bell at his door. Depressed, tired, he pushes a button on his desk. The door opens. Zarabon standing there with a curious face. Enar knows this face of his.

ENAR

Come in, my friend. You know I always have time for you.

Zarabon enters, the door closes. He rests for a second then moves on closer.

ZARABON

I didn't know what mood you'd be in.

ENAR

(looking out)

In a mood all Inderans are on those ships. Embittered, weary, disappointed.

ZARABON

Not exactly the qualities a General should entertain.

ENAR

I'm no supernatural man to lack for such feelings.

(a beat)

I'm a moron. I really thought I could save our race. Look at us. Drifting through stars without a future.

ZARABON

Those stars do have a future. That thing out there...

ENAR

(interrupting)

destroys everything. Where are we to go now?

ZARABON

(bringing it into relief)

That thing out there will perish through our hands. It must perish.

The General lets his hand give a hard hit to the desk. He's about to flame out. Zarabon recoils.

ENAR

I knew a High Councillor who had
an alike starry-eyed attitude.

He springs up, getting closer to Zarabon very fast.
Talking to his ear, watching out of the window again.

ENAR

(continuing)
Look what ambitious desires make
us. 600.000 Inderans hacking
along the galaxy like slugs in
muddy earth. Trying to get help
from friends we may never see
again.

He walks up to the door quickly. The door opens. Zarabon
turn around.

ZARABON

(with emphasis)

The General should think about
what a leader becomes if he lets
fear guide his mind.

An offended Enar bolts out. The door closes. Zarabon
stays there, already regrets his tone.

EXT. GANDORA, RESIDENTIAL AREA - AFTERNOON

People walk, talk on the street. Children play on the
playground. Some kids sweep away with hover-bikes over
the cover of a sewer.

INT. SEWER - AFTERNOON

Two legs walk on the corridor of the sewer, then turn to
another corridor, take some steps, and stops in front of
the clarifier at the end of the sewer. A hand produces a
device from a pocket and puts it on the side of the
clarifier. Then the hand puts a bottle of red liquid on
the top of it. Pushes some buttons on the device. The
legs turn around, and walk up to the intersection of the
two corridors. They stop. The hand produces a remote
control, pushes a button on the device whose lights start
flashing. We see his eyes. It's Captain Con. He turns and
leaves the sewer.

EXT. RESIDENTIAL AREA - AFTERNOON

A small craft leaves the area at high speed.

INT. SEWER - AFTERNOON

The device chirps faster and faster, then sounds a long humming noise. The sewer system slowly starts shaking. The building materials falls down from the walls.

EXT. RESIDENTIAL AREA - AFTERNOON

Some adults fall. Children fall down from monkey bars. Their parents run up to them to take them away from the street, but the area shakes more and more. Cry, shout everywhere.

PASSERS-BY
Earthquake!

INT. VORAN'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Shira cooking dinner. Kimo nuzzles up with her from the back. He helps her stir the food.

KIMO
How's your newest concoction going?

She gives him the spoon with the food on it while she stands back refusing him.

SHIRA
This time you'd better wag your hand, not your chin.

He doesn't take the spoon into his mouth, but puts his finger in the sauce and licks it.

KIMO
Sweet.

He gently pulls her to himself and gives her kisses. The girl is absorbed in the heat of kissing, but returns to reason as she smells the food burning.

SHIRA
It's burning.

KIMO
So am I.

They continue kissing. Kimo picks her up, takes her to a couch. The house starts shaking. Plates fall down, the concoction on the floor already, the furniture move.

KIMO
(continuing)
Let's get out of here!

He drags her out onto the street, taking her hand. The road splits, they stop short, falling back to the fence. The neighbors do the same.

EXT. RESIDENTIAL AREA - AFTERNOON

Earthquake intensifies.

INT. IAN GUI'S APPARTMENT - AFTERNOON

The appartment walls shake like jelly. IAN'S DAD running to the door. He opens it.

IAN'S DAD
To the street! Hurry!

Ian and his MOTHER running out of a room to the corridor.

INT. IAN GUI'S APPARTMENT, CORRIDOR - AFTERNOON

They run as they can. So do other families pushing one another. Another shaking makes the ceiling come down. It covers Ian's Dad and some people. His mother stops. Shouts for Ian.

IAN'S MOM
Ian! Come!

The crowd takes her away. Ian tries to pull his dad out. In vain.

IAN'S DAD
Do as your mom said! Run!

IAN
I'm taking you out.

Keeps pulling him just like before. Another shaking makes the rest of the ceiling come down. It falls on Ian. Nothing but a scream can be heard. They're dead.

INT. SEWER - AFTERNOON

The bottle of red liquid smashes into the wall, breaks. The liquid runs onto the clarifier. It gets a closure. Explosion. Spreading in the sewer.

EXT. RESIDENTIAL AREA - AFTERNOON

The cover of the sewer flies up to the sky due to the explosion. First the explosion goes directly up towards the sky. Looks like a huge flame cylinder. Then it spreads concentrically in all directions. Faint screams.

The buildings blow up from below, then the flames make them collapse.

EXT. VORAN'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

The shaking ceases gradually. Kimo and Shira are still frightened, taking the fence. They struggle on their feet, just like the neighbors. One of them talks to them.

NEIGHBOR

Are you in one piece?

The girl still upset.

KIMO

Yes. We're all right. And you?

NEIGHBOR

I'm fine. Except that I've never seen such an earthquake in my life. My nerves are still quivering.

The Neighbor looks at his house. Kimo's comm device on his wrist chirps. The display shows Zyoo.

ZYOO

Did you feel that, too?

KIMO

I couldn't not feel it. Nice big shaking. Are you keeping well?

ZYOO

Yeah, but I don't think I'd have eaten thirty plectocs.

Zyoo throws up, Kimo gets sick.

KIMO

I'm glad I only see what you're doing, and not smell it.

He comes back to the display.

ZYOO

Did you call Shira?

KIMO

She's with me.

Zyoo just grinning.

ZYOO

Oh!

KIMO

Oh! What d'you mean by that?

ZYOO

Nothing. I won't disturb you.
I'm sure she needs gentle
consolation.

KIMO

You're one big brain-storm.
Break connection.

Kimo looks around, Shira is in the house already. The boy starts out but his comm device chirps again.

VORAN

Are you OK, son?

KIMO

I am. But our house could do
with a plastering and my wrist
comm's picking up no signal from
Ian.

VORAN

Do me a favour and don't enter
the house for a while. At the
moment we're going to the center
of the earthquake to inspect it.
(a beat)
Son...Ian is unlikely to have
survived. They lived in the
building which blew up first.
I'm sorry.

Voran disappears from the display and while Kimo trying to process what his dad just said, Shira enters the house.

KIMO

Shira, there could be some
aftershocks. Come out!

The Neighbor talks edgily.

NEIGHBOR

Sorry for eavesdropping, but I'd
rather you told your father to
inspect why our smart
seismologists didn't foresee an
earthquake as big as this.

The Neighbor keeps picking up refuse. Kimo enters the house.

INT. VORAN'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

KIMO

What about listening to me only once?

The girl waves him to hush. She watches the news on a big holo-screen. Pictures coming in from the whole city. Destroyed buildings and fire in many places.

ANNOUNCER

...but the worst-case scenario took place in the Ioran Residential Area. Whole blocks have become the prey of flames. The local fire department is still trying to rein the conflagration while Fleet-officers set to examine the motive.

Shira takes her boyfriend's hand.

INT. CON'S OFFICE - HOURS LATER

Con enters. Stops in the middle of the room. Pushes some buttons on a panel. The office darkens. A blurred holographic image appears.

CON

I've delivered the message.

ARCUS

Excellent. Your duty is to overuse him if needed. Will you be able to do justice to my demand?

CON

I can assure you there's no need for liquidating Voran untimely. He's the Admiral, but gives credit to a friend's advice.

ARCUS

I would hate you disappointing me. That would mean a rather grievous experience for you.

CON

(quavering)
You can count on me.

ARCUS

Of course, I can. Remember! If you succeed, you'll be god among the wretched mortals. If not...

Arcus' image disappears amid babel and murmuring.

EXT. SPACE

Inderan ships slowly flying.

INT. INDERAN FLAGSHIP, LOUNGE

The Governor sits at a table near a window. The room has an enormous size. WAITER 1 brings his drink, putting it on his table elegantly. The waiter tries to feign a smile and joke.

WAITER 1

At your command, Councillor.

Expecting an answer, he waits but for a second as Zarabon unwilling to say as much as 'Go to hell'. His face rather resembles that reply. The waiter leaves him alone. Hardly does he leave when General Enar enters the room. Looks around. Spots Zarabon. Doesn't seem like wanting to meet him. He goes to the counter, waving to WAITER 2.

ENAR

A mug of Darad liquor.

WAITER 2

Don't recommend for a General just before heavy combat.

ENAR

(feigning a smile)

What makes you think there will be any kind of combat.

WAITER 2

Everyone's talking about it. We've been out here for a couple of days now. Space is too stuffy with silence.

ENAR

It's supposed to be.

WAITER 2

You know what I mean. So Darad liquor, right?

Not waiting for an answer, he starts preparing his drink.

ENAR

Right. We've been out here for a couple of days. The lounge is too stuffy with silence. I really should get giddy with that liquor.

WAITER 2

You're not supposed to be.

The waiter gives him the liquor and leaves a bit afire. Enar stares at his drink with empty eyes. Makes a decision. He puts it down the counter.

ZARABON

Maybe I'll promote that waiter to General. Appears to have more common sense.

Enar turns around. Throws a casual look at Zarabon. Slowly walks up to him. Sits on a chair, facing the Councillor. They exchange a glance which reflects forgiveness.

ZARABON

(continuing)
Having reached the next planet, we'll try to ask for asylum. The Elan are renowned for their hospitality. I pin my hopes on minimal delays, which a jaunty small-talk will compensate.

ENAR

Agreed. It's two month till we reach Gandora. The Elanar will satisfy our needs. But at this juncture even the most warm-hearted folk fights its own hand. Unless, of course, they're already dead. I don't have much confidence in it.

ZARABON

We must try. We couldn't carry on our journey without a proper respite. Taking account of the Inderans' actual state of mind...

ENAR

...it wouldn't be advisable for us to bedwelling in space. We'll see.

Zarabon stares at the General with a regretful look. He's about to tell something when suddenly springs up and slaps Enar's shoulder.

ZARABON

Come with me.

INT. ACADEMY FLEET CENTER, CORRIDOR - DAY

Captain Con leaves his office. As he steps out, stops short. His face diffusing anger. The two big windows

built in the wall of the corridor showing the Gandorians queuing beside the ships. Con running away.

INT. WORKING AREA - DAY

Admiral Voran thrumming on displays, talking to officers. Con running in, pulling him in a corner.

CON
(whispering)
What the hell's goin' on?

VORAN
We're evacuating the planet, Captain. I bet that explosion was generated by his henchmen.

CON
It's a revolt against Arcus. I suggested that until we don't know any further, we won't trumpet it abroad. You agreed to...

VORAN
I agreed not to talk about our arrangement with...
(recoiling)
Arcus. Professor Arcus from the Inderan. Now I understand. How do you know his name?

CON
You're all in the blue about what you've done. You're not going to get to the moon, not to talk about the solar system. You know that!

Now the officers listening to Con's anger. The Admiral gives them order with a voice that commands respect.

VORAN
Keep on working.

The officers go on.

VORAN
(continuing)
He's taken away hundreds of thousands of us, but he needs the entire population only in a couple of years.

Con will not respond. His face petrifies. He straightens up.

VORAN

Why are you looking at me like that? What? We have no years, do we?!

CON

While we were swimming in his cloud, I offered a much shorter period and a quick attack. It'll be easier for the folk. This is the only reason why we've survived so far. Don't worry. You and I will stay alive.

VORAN

As his slaves!

CON

As rulers!

Voran looks at him as if he was a piece of trash.

CON

(continuing)

Stop staring at me with this judging face. I'm sick of it. You're as much the savior of our folk as I am. You're a traitor like me! Admit it!

VORAN

I should kill you right now, but I doubt it would bring any solution.

(to the officers)

Hurry up! Take as many people as you can to the coordinates given by me.

Con running away.

EXT. GANDORA, LANDING AREA - DAY

Con gets in a shuttle and rushes up to the sky.

INT. WORKING AREA - DAY

An officer shouts to Voran.

OFFICER

Sir, I've been reported that Captain Con has just left the planet with a shuttle.

The other officers look at one another, then Voran.

VORAN

Let him go.

Everyone gets back to work.

VORAN

(continuing; to
himself)

Qualities which incarnate a
Gandorian had died out of him
long ago.

EXT. SPACE, NEBULA

Black nebula in space. Lightnings, sparkles erupting from
its core as before. Con headed for it with his shuttle.

INT. CON'S SHUTTLE

He vanishes from the cockpit in a dazzle of light.

EXT. SPACE, NEBULA

The shuttle blows up as reaching the periphery of the
nebula.

INT. NEBULA

And appears in front of the core. Huge room. Black cloud,
swirls, sparkles merge into one another. Arcus appears
from the core.

ARCUS

Your attendance took me by
surprise.

Con wheezing and gibbering, standing there worn-out.

CON

Voran is evacuating the planet.
I couldn't stop him, believe me.
I tried my outmost.

ARCUS

(interrupting)
Quiet! Hideous worm! I should
tear your heart out, however,
your ineptitude will approximate
my goal to come true. Your
rudimentary culture is running
in my hands. Now I allow you to
be transformed...

CON

Yes, yes. Please!

ARCUS
 Regretful individual. You'll be
 perfect with my armada.

A horrible laughter leaves his mouth.

CON
 You promised I would be God
 among the mortals.

ARCUS
 And you made the mistake to have
 confidence in my words. You
 really thought I would make you
 equal to me?

Said that, a tail of energy takes possession of Con. Amid
 roars and lightnings he turns him into a henchman.
 Transformation complete.

ARCUS
 (continuing)
 Enter your new home.

A large part of the swirling cloud vanishes and a whole
 city rises to view. Henchmen are attached to rock-like
 buildups with energy bands. They rave with fury.
 Obviously they're slaves. The Captain has a bit strength
 to resist with his mind, but that's barely enough to
 realize this is what's waiting for him till eternity.

INT. INDERAN FLAGSHIP, CORRIDOR

Enar and Zarabon walk along the wide corridor. Some
 officers busy at a junction, some just walking by. They
 arrive at a door.

INT. INDERAN FLAGSHIP, PRC

They enter the PRC (Particle Reconstruction Chamber).
 Huge room. At least 30x30 meters which can't be seen now
 as a group of Inderan officers drill in space-suits. The
 simulation is a frontline on a desert moon with starlit
 space above. The moon has lots of craters and its
 coloration ranges from dirty green to dark blue. Only the
 stars give an orientation point as a beautiful ice-planet
 casts a shadow over the moon from the left. Officers
 appearing from behind a rock. They have rifles in their
 hands, only for practicing. All of a sudden ray-like
 creatures coming from nowhere. They swing their fragile-
 looking wings in the vacuum of space easily. They
 approach the officers. The COMMANDING OFFICER cries out.

COMMANDING OFFICER

Above! White rays! Fire!

All officers fire at the creatures. A wounded ray loses height as his wing squirting energy. It manages to sink down to an officer. It grabs him with the unhurt wing and sucks his energy out, then drops him. His bad wing gets healed and the ray climbs higher and higher in space. As it flies over Zarabon and Enar with the rest of the herd, another officer opens fire at them. Hits a ray which reflects the plasma shot as a feedback hitting Zarabon. The Councillor won't get frightened, just standing there calmly. The officer who shouted at the beginning, shouts again.

COMMANDING OFFICER
(continuing)
Exercise over!

The moon simulation disappears and only the naked high-tech walls of the chamber are visible now. In the middle of it the officers and the two older men. The wounded officer gets up as if nothing happened.

ENAR
(to misfiring officer)
Nice shot. Had it been a real fight, the Councillor would've died. What's going on here?

COMMANDING OFFICER
I'm conducting a drill to prepare them for a possible combat, Sir.

ENAR
Praiseworthy. Would be more praiseworthy if you followed my orders. No unnecessary energy-diminution. As for a possible combat, we don't even know the enemy. Prepare your soldiers for that. Dismiss.

The Commanding Officer and the others stand at attention then leave the chamber.

ZARABON
Has he committed a crime of that relevance?

ENAR
Ask the medical department. They reported power decreasing an hour ago.
(jesting)
Now it's your turn to do so.

ZARABON
(speaking to the walls)

PRC Program 5301. Zarabon Exyr,
 Classification Level 3.
 Activate.

EXT. GANDORA, LANDING AREA - HOURS AFTER CON LEFT

Ships in the sky. The crowd getting aboard the ships relatively in peace.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, MESS-HALL

Kimo, Shira and Zyoo sitting in a mess-hall. Aboard the flagship. The ship of Kimo's dad. Still waiting on the ground. Around them, more Gandorians talking, drinking in an irritated state of feeling.

SHIRA

What do they mean by "The planet is about to explode."? Aren't scientists to foresee things like that?

ZYOO

Cor blimey! What if the planet blows up while evacuating it? What if the earth moves under us before we lift off? What if...?

KIMO

Be done! Don't you really get it with your fat brain? Our home-world is being destroyed! You have to make jest of it anyhow, do ya?

Zyoo shrinks a bit. He's never heard Kimo talk like that.

SHIRA

Enough! Ian's died in that explosion, too.

Sinking their heads. Embarrassing silence for a moment.

SHIRA

You think that's the real reason for it? So many excellent scientists and no one knew what was happening underground? Strangely enough, none said it professedly. All we've got was Admiral Voran's announcement.

KIMO

What are you aiming at?

SHIRA

Your dad. Ask him. It stinks.

Shira bursts out crying. Runs out of the mess-hall. The two boys staring at each other. At a loss. At the same time the windows show the ship lift off and reaching the atmosphere.

KIMO
May she be right? My father
withheld something from us?

ZYOO
There's something to it.
Earthquakes have been predicted
in time.

KIMO
Earthquakes. Not explosions.

ZYOO
Right. But shouldn't they be
able to realize an entire planet
is at an end?

Kimo gets scared when hearing these words. Saddens.

KIMO
I refuse to believe that the
Admiral of the Gandorian Fleet
would lie to his own people.
(with dim voice)
To me.

ZYOO
(casual)
If you don't ask, you'll never
know.

Kimo forces a smile out of himself. He nods at the idea with tearful eyes and wonders at Zyoo's calmness as CUT TO:

INT. INDERAN FLAGSHIP, PRC

Battlefield as far as the eye can reach. The battle scene gives us the impression we watch a recording. Ten thousands of ships firing at the enemy with plasma and quantum charges. The vessels are familiar, but they look like more older configurations. They were Gandorian and Inderan Fleet ships a hundred years ago. Together they fight against battle-ships of Dheptorian origin.

WIDE TO: a planet whose orbit is thick with Dheptorian ships, stations and bigger asteroids from which Dheptorian fighters swarm out to launch attack against a Gandorian ship.

About twenty fighters rush against the Fleet ship and blowing up in its hull. Hull parts coming off the huge vessel with frantic explosion and seemingly implosion as the port hyper-drive going phut and ceases working. An incredible amount of drive cryogen squirting into space. The liquid hits a Dheptorian fighter whose hull freezes immediately, drifting away and smashing into an Inderan ship at high speed. The Gandorian ship's drive can't take more attack and gets torn from the hull. Continues flying towards the enemy fighters, colliding with them and so causing them to blow up. Also the Gandorian vessel slowly comes apart. Its wrecks raising difficulties for ships to come through there. Several other ships of all species rushing against those wrecks as unable to reverse engines.

An Inderan ship sinking in the atmosphere of the Dheptor. Losing height fast. Its front cannon, which looks very different from its other weapons on hull, pinpoints an area on the surface. When trying to fire, only a weak energy beam comes out for no more than a second. Something went wrong and the ship still sinking while heating up rapidly due to friction with the atmosphere. All of a sudden the ship blows up with a power we've never seen before. The vessel itself must be something like a futuristic atom bomb. The flames scorch everything. First the surface with the inhabitants and their ships above them, then the flames blast a huge crater on the surface, going deeper and deeper till they reach the core. The Dheptor blows up whirling almost every ship in the battlefield. The planet's gone. So are lots of ships. Suddenly we hear Enar's voice from the background.

ENAR (O.S.)

The Dheptorian War. This record has been shown at history courses for more than fifty years now.

(entering the simulation)

A hundred-year-old story.

Now we see Enar stands on an old Inderan ship while the simulation still running, then freezes.

ZARABON

(getting closer to Enar)

What you couldn't see was the conference which took place just before the final battle. Gandorian and Inderan politicians were discussing a most delicate affair. The Counsel thought there was an inexhaustible energy source somewhere under the planet. This reputed energy-source was

feeding every corner of Dheptor and everything was connected to it. True enough that expansionism played an important part in it, too.

ENAR

We didn't have sufficient colonized planets, right? We were never told why we'd concluded an alliance with the Gandorians.

ZARABON

Actually there's less to it than you'd think. Technology exchange. No more. Moreover, our goal was the same. The Dheptorian had been threatening a lot of species at that time.

ENAR

Energy-source.

ZARABON

Ah, yes. So the Counsel projected a plan B in case we'd run out of time and wouldn't find it. They asked Professor Arcus, the best energetics researcher of the Command, to develop an energy-weapon that was capable to wipe out the planet. After surprisingly little work, he made it. However, the computer simulations fell out badly.

ENAR

The Counsel backed it down?

ZARABON

On the spot. To emit the energy, one ship would have been enough. But after several demonstrations of no avail they didn't want to imperil a ship while at war.

ENAR

What happened?

ZARABON

Arcus was ordered to help General Garont, your grandfather's ship reach the highest power-level possible during combats. He smuggled his invention aboard the ship. And now look at this. PRC Program

5329. Zarabon Exyr,
Classification Level 4.
Activate.

A new simulation begins.

INT. INDERAN SHIP, COMMANDING CENTER

We see it as a video record, sometimes blurred, sometimes clearer. We're in the Command Center of General Garont's ship. Officers doing their job. PROFESSOR ARCUS, flesh and blood, dressed differently from officers, working on a console which displays mathematical equations, charts and stuff. He then gets up from his chair, walking up to GARONT.

PROFESSOR ARCUS
General, I've finished the
reconfiguration of our power and
weapon systems. Request
permission to leave Center.

GARONT
(not caring much)
Your shift's not over.

PROFESSOR ARCUS
My head's splitting apart. I'd
go to the infirmary.

Garont stands up. Much taller than Arcus.

GARONT
Look, Professor. I'm not the man
for games. I don't trust you.
Nobody does after those failed
simulations. I'm damn certain
you must've known it wouldn't
work, but you kept feeding us
with hope. Now we don't have a
chance to fight the Dheptor
anymore.

PROFESSOR ARCUS
I couldn't know.

GARONT
Get out of here.

The Professor leaves offended. Garont sits back on his chair.

INT. INDERAN SHIP, CORRIDOR/ARCUS' ROOM

Arcus rushes along an almost empty corridor. Everyone's at their posts. He enters his room too small for such a

big brain. Quickly he produces a middle-sized device from under his bed. Throws it on a table and hooks it up to a terminal. Works on his computer and the device comes to life. Works more on the computer till it says: DEVICE CONNECTED TO MAIN POWER SYSTEM.

INT. INDERAN SHIP, COMMANDING CENTER

An officers reports to Garont.

OFFICER
Sir, ready to sink.

GARONT
Initiate.

The huge window before Garont shows the battle (seen before) and as the ships sinks into the atmosphere.

GARONT
(continuing)
All right. Lead the energy of conventional weapons to the front cannon.
(to himself)
I hope it'll be sufficient.

INT. INDERAN SHIP, ARCUS' ROOM

Arcus watching the computer.

PROFESSOR ARCUS
(activating communication)
Hmm, I see my invention is useful for you after all, General. Let me tune it up a bit.

Working on computer.

SIMULATION END.

ENAR
He activated the weapon.

ZARABON
In a totally uncontrolled environment.

ENAR
(dumbfounded)
I saw the planet blow up on those records. Then I believed

it the most beautiful view ever.
And Garont to be a hero.

ZARABON
Garont played no bigger part in
the war than any other officer,
except that he let himself
outwit. I'm sorry.

Enar takes a sip from his drink.

ENAR
Too bad that's all we can do.
Regret it. Is it possible that
Arcus survived?

ZARABON
We never figured out what his
invention was truly capable of.

Enar bends his brows when Adis calls him through comm
channel. Reports through holo-contact on a PRC wall.

ADIS
I apologize for disturbing you,
sir.

ENAR
Go ahead!

ADIS
We're getting indications from a
strange energy-increase in the
Vegran Nebula.

ZARABON
The Nebula?

ADIS
Yes, sir. Seems like it was a
mistake letting it spread.

Zarabon looks at Enar.

ENAR
Long story. Change course for
the Vegran Nebula. Full speed
ahead. Dispatch a message to all
ships. They must be on the
alert.

ADIS
Yes, sir.

Adis breaks connection.

ENAR

Someone isn't eager at all for us to gain a foothold in Gandorian territory.

ZARABON

You know what we're going to be in a couple of hours?

ENAR

Ambushed. Perhaps you agree that they didn't open but one door to step in.

ZARABON

Fine. But who?

ENAR

Arcus. He's the key to this immense destruction.

Zarabon almost drops his teeth.

ZARABON

I'm open to everything but this. He was transformed in a supernatural red-handed dictator? Rot!

Enar starts for the door.

EXT. GANDORA

The last ships, including the flagship leaves the planet. At least five hundred vessels. All huge Fleet-ships.

INT. NEBULA CORE

The core shrieks open. Thousands, perhaps millions of henchmen resting in their brigs surrounded by energy and torturing them. Arcus enters.

ARCUS

Time to slaughter.

The energy-fields gets shut down. Hundreds of henchmen set off for Gandora with a terrible scream and rumble. Arcus watches sneering as they leave.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

Admiral Voran looking at monitors. Talking to female Commander SOMORI. Meanwhile Kimo appears in the rear elevator composed of a disk to stand on, surrounded by a bluish force-field. The field turns off. Kimo steps out.

SOMORI
 No, Voran. The planet is intact.
 No sign for an eventual
 implosion.

Voran catching sight of his son.

VORAN
 Thank you, proceed.

Somori leaves, he steps up to his son.

VORAN
 (continuing)
 Everything's all right? Managed
 to encamp?

KIMO
 Yes. Everything's all
 right...Dad.

VORAN
 I know it's hard, but...

KIMO
 (gathering confidence)
 Did you lie to us?

Surprised, he takes his son in his office near bridge.
 Somori heard the conversation. Pushes some buttons on her
 console and puts on earphones.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, VORAN'S OFFICE

VORAN
 How do you come to think that?

KIMO
 It's rumoured that certain
 people don't understand.

VORAN
 What?

KIMO
 If Gandora is being threatened
 by earthquakes, why didn't the
 scientists foresee them? They're
 able to register if someone
 drops a pebble on the ground.

VORAN
 Yes. I lied. Partly.

Kimo recoils at his relatively neutral confession. Those
 words just exploded out of Voran. Continues with a break
 in his voice.

KIMO
 You just throw it in my face?
 There's no more upright and
 sincere Gandorian than a Fleet
 Officer. You're supposed to
 embody everything on the basis
 of which we define ourselves.

VORAN
 That's enough!

Long silence. The atmosphere is so frozen that a pick-axe could slice it.

EXT. SPACE, PLANET GANDORA

The henchmen reaching the planet. Going through atmosphere. Smashing into earth. Drilling themselves to the core. They merge into it. Sparkles visible around the core.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, VORAN'S OFFICE

VORAN
 I had my reasons. You can figure
 I can't tell you about it. All I
 ask you is to trust me.

KIMO
 Our home is lost whose real
 reason is kept back by the Fleet
 Admiral, my father. You have the
 nerve to ask for my confidence?

VORAN
 As the Admiral's son, you have
 much more burden on your
 shoulders than anyone else. It
 wouldn't have a good effect on
 our folk if you aroused
 mistrust. We should be glad the
 evacuation passed off under
 comparatively calm conditions,
 exempt from victims.

In his anger, Kimo throws a chair to his father. He barely manages to dodge it. Kimo standing before the window where Gandora is still visible in the distance.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP, BRIDGE

Meanwhile Somori listening to their private discussion edgily.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP, VORAN'S OFFICE

Kimo runs riot.

KIMO

It's not owing to you that we're
still alive! You're not our
leader! You're not my father!

EXT. PLANET GANDORA / FLEET

At this moment Gandora explodes into pieces. The ships
are still close. The shockwave reaches them. Ninety
percent of the fleet is on fire at once.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, VORAN'S OFFICE/BRIDGE

Voran falling through the door to the bridge. Kimo
knocking against the wall. Trying to hold onto the floor.

VORAN

All ships to hyper-speed!

Frantic explosions, sparkles, rumble. All hands trying to
hold on to something. The huge holo-screen shows the
destruction of the fleet. Some officer fly on the other
side of the bridge due to the shaking. Finally the wave
ceases. The ship not shaking anymore. The crew slowly
struggling on their feet.

VORAN

(continuing)
Report.

SOMORI

Structural damage 36 percent.
Wounded 576. Casualties 1322.

VORAN

The fleet?

Somori can hardly hold her tears.

SOMORI

Forty-seven ships out of 500.
Less than one million people
left of us.

The crew staring. Some dragging the others from the
bridge. Kimo has difficulty in creeping to the bridge,
but he looks fine. Voran calms down when he sees his son.
Somori's console peeps.

SOMORI

(continuing)

Our sensors are reading the same energy patterns created during the explosion of Gandora.

VORAN

Where?

SOMORI

As far as the sensors can reach. Deep-space outposts, neighbor planets. According to the data we're getting, it's all gone.

VORAN

(to helmsman)

Set a course for the Inderan. Maximum speed.

Officers staring at each other. Voran understands the excitement.

VORAN

Yes. We may go at war and we need our friends. I'll explain later.

SOMORI

(interrupting)

Can I have a word with you?

The officers get to work.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, VORAN'S OFFICE

Voran and Somori enter the office.

VORAN

Well, Commander, I'm listening.

SOMORI

I monitored the conversation with your son.

Voran looks astonished, then goes on almost uninterested.

VORAN

That's a wholly new characteristic I haven't discovered in you yet.

SOMORI

You're not the only one to be taken aback. Would you put me up to the ropes?

VORAN

You were eavesdropping. You know I can't.

SOMORI

The treason is uncovered. At least let us know how to fight against it. Whatever should it be.

VORAN

It would be no use at all ruminating over the motive for its development.

SOMORI

The trouble is bigger than I thought. You're raving.

VORAN

I don't understand.

SOMORI

I didn't ask that. I asked for your opinion how we could defeat it.

Voran not responding. Tampering with some reports on his desk.

SOMORI

(continuing)
I won't make it public because it seems to me that nobody can pull us out of the hot water but you.

VORAN

I understand you won't rebel against my position.

SOMORI

More than enough a Gandorian Admiral betraying his folk. There's no need for a Gandorian Commander to set her face against the supreme ethics. Mutiny in the Gandorian society, on the Admiral's ship would be tantamount to bathing in the Lenusian Volcano.

EXT. SPACE, GANDORIAN FLEET

The rest of the ships is surrounded by some kind of energy-shield. Then one after the other vanishes in thin air. They entered a wormhole.

EXT. NEBULA

The henchmen return.

INT. NEBULA

The henchmen penetrate. Arcus shooting ahead from an energy pattern.

ARCUS
You lived up to my expectations.

HENCHMEN
Yes, Arcus.

ARCUS
In exchange, you may rejoin your slot.

HENCHMEN
Yes, Arcus.

The henchmen heading for their energy-cage when Arcus holds one of them up.

ARCUS
You stay.

The henchman looks up to him. He's hardly recognizable as Con.

ARCUS
(continuing)
You've made a considerable devastation on your first mission. I may have made a bad decision by not making you alike.

Con watching imploringly.

ARCUS
I like bad decisions.

Arcus sneers. Con sinks his head. Shuddering, wheezing, tired. Arcus turns his back on him.

ARCUS
(to himself)
Those preposterous organic beings will knock at my door soon. I will take possession of this part of the galaxy. And then we'll see how the universe reacts to my immortal cohort.

EXT. SPACE, GANDORIAN FLEET

The Admiral's ship swimming in hyper-space majestically. Behind her the rest of the tumble-down fleet.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, CORRIDOR

Kimo comes down in an elevator. The force-field around him gets deactivated. He steps out, goes through the long corridors, and finally enters the medical room.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

Enormous room full of sick-beds, instruments, monitors. Doctors doing their job, treating wounded patients. Shira stands beside a bed. Kimo gets closer to her. Now he sees that Zyoo lies on the bed with severe burns. His eyes are black with soot, full of wounds. The girl talks without Kimo asking her.

SHIRA

We were in the mess-hall. The whole ship was shaking. Those who could rushed to the doors. I fell against the wall. Zyoo dragged me out. Then we were torn apart on the corridor and...

She bursts out crying.

KIMO

What happened?

SHIRA

A few of us were in the elevator when an explosion broke through the end of the corridor. The flames burnt down everything.

Kimo turns to Zyoo. Struggling with his tears.

KIMO

You'll be fine. You'll survive it. We'll be together again. The three of us.

Zyoo's quite unconscious.

ZYOO

Shira...Where...

KIMO

She's here. You saved her.

ZYOO

(whispering)
I can't see anything.

Kimo takes his hand.

KIMO
I'm here. Shira's here, too.

Kimo stares at him tearfully.

KIMO
(continuing)
You'll always be my best friend.

ZYOO
Remember when we were talking
about God? I wondered if he
existed.

Kimo talks more and more in staccato voice.

KIMO
Don't talk about that. You'll
recover.

ZYOO
I know he does. I could have
such a good friend all my
life...

Zyoo stops talking, he has great pains.

KIMO
Don't exert yourself. Relax.

ZYOO
Am I going to die?

KIMO
I...

ZYOO
Don't cry. I don't mind. I'm
going to die knowing that one
day you'll lead our folk. All of
us will be proud of you.

INT. NEBULA

A blurred vortex. Voices shouting down the others.

CAPTAIN CON'S POV:

YOUNG VORAN
Con, look, my certificate to
captaincy.

Blurred vortex appearing and swirling again as:

YOUNGER ADMIRAL TUROSAN

I'm sorry Commander Con. I trust Voran's abilities as a captain a good deal. You're not quite all right.

PRESENT DAY VORAN
You're a Fleet Officer. You're bound to...

CON
(to Voran)
You're a traitor like me.
(echoing)
Admit it!

Voran's face and body change into Arcus.

ARCUS
Welcome back, henchman!

Con wakes up, his neck being held by Arcus. The monster closing up to Con's face. Arcus' face flowing with that disgusting black energy-liquid material.

ARCUS
(continuing)
What a delightful nightmare!

Con looks worn-out. Hardly capable of holding his head.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, QUARTER

Kimo and Shira sit hunched up in an armchair oppositely. Now and then they look at each other.

KIMO
If I ever chance upon those who did this.

SHIRA
What could you do? Even your father is helpless.

She burst out crying.

KIMO
Don't know.

Kimo goes down on the knees in front of her. He hugs her. Comforts her. Their eyes meet.

KIMO
(continuing)
I don't know... so I'm trying to finally tell you...I want to be with you however much time we have. Maybe a week, a day...

She gets closer to his mouth.

SHIRA

An hour.

They gently kiss. Then she shudders and puts her head on his shoulder.

KIMO

I'm with you. I'm with you forever.

SHIRA

So many victims, and we have no idea for what.

Kimo looking at a family picture on a desk fretfully, fixing his eyes on his father. They hug as Voran's voice come through the comm channel.

VORAN (O.S.)

All officers report to the starboard mess-hall.

EXT. INDERAN PLANET

The planet's gone. Its remains floating in space. Two moons can be seen. The smaller one is a cracked half moon, but also the bigger one has only one side barely intact while the other side looks like a mountain with sharp peaks coming out of the intact part. The Gandorian ships coming out of hyper-space and at a standstill in front of the remains.

INT. INDERAN FLAGSHIP, COMMANDING CENTER

ADIS

We've arrived.

The crew look at the screen showing the Vegran Nebula which looks like the nebula that attacked Gandora five years ago.

ENAR

All power to protective fields. We're going in.

The officers don't know what to do. Adis nods to them. They get to work and carry out the order.

EXT. NEBULA, FLEET

The Inderan ships start with a huge din, headed to the nebula. Henchmen swarming out of it. They transform into smaller energy-fields, so attacking the ships. An energy-

field permeates the engine of a ship. It blows up. Other fields permeate many other ships, hitting different parts. They all explode.

INT. INDERAN SHIP, CORRIDOR/ROOMS

Smoke, panic, attempts to escape and explosions in many corridors, mess-halls, lounges, quarters.

EXT. NEBULA, FLEET

The above-mentioned ship blows up, whirling some other ships with her. The ships being dragged, explode too. The flagship getting through the periphery of the nebula. The ship exploded pulling up, drifting in front of her.

INT. INDERAN FLAGSHIP, COMMANDING CENTER

The commanding center shaking violently.

ADIS
General, our ships are drifting
ahead of us. We're on a
collision course.

ENAR
Hold course.

Meanwhile smaller explosions, discharges on consoles.

ENAR
(continuing; shocked)
We'll have to use them as
shields.

Adis staring at Enar.

ENAR
No time for moral discussions.
Execute!

The crew hanging on, shaking. The same situation in other rooms. Once again a couple of explosions aboard the ship and on the ship's hull.

EXT. NEBULA, INTERIOR

Some pieces of the ships drifting before the flagship hitting her hull. The bigger wrecks protecting the ship for a while. Finally they burn away when the flagship enters the last energy-wall.

INT. INDERAN FLAGSHIP, COMMANDING CENTER

ADIS

We're in.

ENAR

Proceed to the center. We've got to destroy it somehow.

OFFICER

Sir, we don't even know what exactly it is.

ENAR

We've got to try anyway. Enough losses for the galaxy. Only God knows how many civilizations have been sent to the other world by this glop.

ZARABON

To be quite frank, I wonder why it didn't occur to anyone that the nebula might be the reason for the destructions.

ENAR

You mean it didn't occur to me. It's been before our very eyes, yet, I envisaged a palpable enemy.

ZARABON

That's not what I mean. Nobody knew. However, it's astonishing.

Silence for a moment. All looking at the screen showing the nebula interior. Enar breaks the silence.

ENAR

If there's no other way, we'll implode our engines.

(to the crew)

Objection?

The crew not saying a word. Wearing a faint smile and turning to their consoles. Enar and Adis react to it, looking at each other.

EXT. INDERAN PLANET, GANDORIAN FLEET

Tumble-down ships lagging around, avoiding asteroids, meteors and other space junk.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, STARBOARD MESS-HALL

The majority of the crew has gathered. Kimo enters too. He stops. Heads the line. Voran standing on a stage.

VORAN

Thank you for your promptness.
I've called the crew together to
(a beat)
make a confession. All ships are
listening to me through the comm
channels right now. Five years
ago I and Captain Con made a
mistake. What you didn't know
about that battle, my friends,
is that we wasn't drifting in
space for hours as we told then.
The leader of that nebula pulled
our ship in the middle of its
center where we met...a
creature.

SOMORI

What are you talking about?

VORAN

That creature was Arcus.
Professor Arcus from the planet
Inderan. I don't think I need to
tell you about that combat.
You're fully aware of what
happened. But you can't know
that Arcus had developed a mass-
destruction weapon to eliminate
the Dheptor.

Reaction in the crowd.

VORAN

(continuing)
And we debarred him from using
it. Nonetheless he succeeded in
detonating it and this is how
the Dheptor was defeated. I'll
let our doctor explain from now.
Doctor Saien.

Doctor SAIEN steps up to the stage and continues.

SAIEN

From the data Admiral Voran
gathered at this encounter, we
realized that the energy coming
from him isn't so resistant as
he needs living energy to stay
alive. We still don't understand
how he can be alive, but to
destroy him, we don't have to
know that. He consist of organic
matter, as well. If we can
neutralize that matter...

KIMO
(whispering in unison)
...the structure of the being
will become unstable.

SAIEN
But we have a problem. A
considerable part of the cargo
has been destroyed. Including a
great amount of the vaccine we'd
prepared.

VORAN
How many Gandorians can be
inoculated?

SAIEN
Half the actual headcount can
get the whole dose. Many will
have to make do with the quarter
of it, which doesn't provide
perfect defence.

VORAN
How many?

SAIEN
Enough for about two hundred
thousand Gandorians.

Apparently the crew is rowed out. They can't believe it.

VORAN
Two hundred thousand...Time to
inoculate them?

SAIEN
Half an hour at most. We
designed the substance so that
it can be taken by air. The
systems aren't working at full
capacity. It's ten minutes for
it to spread all over the ship.
Less than twenty minutes for our
organism to absorb it. The
radiation emitted will be read
by the sensors. We'll see then
if it's working or not.

VORAN
You heard the Doctor. We begin
the inoculation right away.
Saïen will explain how exactly
it works. Any question?

The crew steps out one by one.

CREWMAN 1

Sir, you didn't tell us
everything, did you?

CREWMAN 2
Why was so important your and
Con's role. And where the hell
is he?

VORAN
I...committed treason.

Rumble in the mess-hall. The room reverberates with cries
and loud manifestations. Some people faint.

VORAN
(continuing)
As for Con, he's sticking up for
Arcus now.

All of a sudden silence. The officers tear the insignia
down from their uniform. So does Kimo. Shira just
standing there, tired. Kimo steps out.

KIMO
Zyoo's dead!

VORAN
I'm sorry.

Kimo getting angrier.

KIMO
That's all you can say. You've
known him since he was born.

Voran shouts, being fed up with it.

VORAN
I told you I'm sorry! Many died.
We're at war.

KIMO
You made us go at war!

VORAN
Under the actual circumstances I
can't afford to be driven by my
personal feelings.
(moderately)
We must survive.

Kimo looks like giving vent to his anger soon.

KIMO
What did Arcus tell you?

VORAN
I.

KIMO
What made you commit treason?

Voran starts acting like an offended child and a little bit mad man at the same time.

VORAN
Unimportant! What matters is that we must defeat him. Why is it so important for you?

KIMO
He killed my best friend!

VORAN
What do you want me to say?

KIMO
The truth!

VORAN
You couldn't get over the truth!

KIMO
I think it's a bigger charge for you to accept it. We don't need your help anymore.

Voran thuds back on the floor.

VORAN
You have no idea.

KIMO
In addition, Con knows about the ship's weaponry, security codes...

VORAN
They don't need them. You heard the Doctor. They're made up of almost pure energy. It would make no difference giving new codes. That coward worm. Let me get at him!

KIMO
Imagine if your personal feelings were preventing you from doing your duty. I can't figure out which of you was the coward, and which the worm.

VORAN
(in delirium)
He wanted to kill us. All of us. What could I do?

KIMO
Choose the death.

VORAN
I did it for the sake of our folk. I might judge the situation amiss, but had I chosen the other way, Gandora would've been destroyed.

Kimo blowing his stack.

KIMO
It's been destroyed!

VORAN
You don't understand. You can't. I am a victim as you are.

KIMO
You betrayed our world. You betrayed your son.

Kimo tears the badge of admiral rank off his uniform. Crying like never before.

KIMO
(continuing)
Father of our folk. You're no longer the ideal for us. You have not as much dignity in your soul as Captain Con. He betrayed us and he paid for that. All left for you is faded excuses to escape from the responsibility. Of exterminating a civilization!

Voran is beside himself. Notices a tired Shira in the crew which slowly walk out of the room.

VORAN
Shira! How are you?

Kimo stands in front of her like his protector.

KIMO
Apart from some bruises, she's fine.
(dim voice)
Thanks to Zyoo.

Kimo and Shira leave, too. Voran now standing there almost paralysed.

INT. INDERAN FLAGSHIP, COMMANDING CENTER

The huge screen shows the energy center of the nebula.
Enar walks up to the screen.

ENAR
Suggestions?

ADIS
We don't know how it reacts at
our impulse-rays. Impossible to
foresee its course of action.

ZARABON
Perhaps we'll hark back to the
Captain's original plan.

Enar looking at Zarabon then at the crew.

ENAR
I'll give you no order. However,
you should take in consideration
that our planet is likely to be
lost. Until this thing wipes out
whole races, we won't be able to
take refuge. There's not much
reserve at our disposal. Either
of crewmen, nor of power.
(looking to the nebula then the
crew)
Hard decision. But if we want to
follow it out, we've got to take
action.

Everyone stares at the air or at each other.

OFFICER
Get it gone!

Enar sharing a look with Zarabon again.

ZARABON
Don't look at me. As I'd pointed
it out before, I'll follow you
anywhere.

ENAR
Engine-room, this is the Center.

CHIEF ENGINEER (O.S.)
Go ahead!

ENAR
Start overloading engines,
initiate self-destruct protocol.
Extrude as much power out of the
ship as you can.

INT. INDERAN FLAGSHIP, ENGINE-ROOM

CHIEF ENGINEER
For what purpose?

ENAR
Perhaps we can generate an
overcharge in the center of the
nebula. Provided we ever get to
it.

The CHIEF-ENGINEER looks at the others. He doesn't really
look like believing that it works.

CHIEF ENGINEER
Understood. But, sir.

INT. INDERAN FLAGSHIP, COMMANDING CENTER

ENAR
I know. You can't guarantee
anything. Let's start.

INT. INDERAN FLAGSHIP, ENGINE-ROOM

CHIEF ENGINEER
Common fellows, get to work!
Captain, half a minute.

ENAR
(through comm channel)
Acknowledged.

INT. NEBULA

The engines glow. The whole ship shakes.

Henchmen come out of the center of the cloud. They whoosh
through the ship and fly upwards. They absorb the ship's
energy. It loses all power and bangs into the surface.
Discharges cover the ship.

INT. INDERAN FLAGSHIP, COMMANDING CENTER

ENAR
Engine-room, report.

INT. INDERAN FLAGSHIP, ENGINE-ROOM

CHIEF ENGINEER
All systems are inoperative.
Oxygen reserves reduced to 0.2%.

INT. NEBULA

The ship beds in the surface violently. The henchmen nose down igniting the ship by whooshing through it once again.

INT. INDERAN FLAGSHIP, COMMANDING CENTER

Many officers blow up and so does Adis. The bridge is perfused with light. Enar and Zarabon vanish in it.

INT. NEBULA

The ship blows up and goes into pieces.

EXT. NEBULA, GANDORIAN FLEET

The Gandorian Fleet reaches the nebula.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

The huge holo-screen shows the nebula. Voran leaves an elevator. Somori reports.

SOMORI
Admiral, we've reached the Area.

VORAN
Attention to all ships
designated. Prepare for
neutralization. Good luck.

INT. ANOTHER GANDORIAN SHIP, BRIDGE

The Captain speaks through intercom.

CAPTAIN
Captain to all.

INT. ANOTHER GANDORIAN SHIP, CORRIDORS/ROOMS

CAPTAIN
(through comm channel)
Probably this is the last
opportunity for me to thank
everyone for your courage and
self-sacrifice. If the vaccine
reacts as expected, we'll
exterminate them. All hands in
readiness. We fly in.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

SOMORI

All ships are ready. Waiting for your signal.

VORAN

Play them on it.

The Gandorian ships start flying into the nebula. Many of them explode, officers flying out of the ship as the hull breaches. They extinguish henchmen in material form immediately or get into the vortex of the nebula, melting with it and dying.

SOMORI

The ships have been destroyed. Reading radiation throughout the nebula. Its energy vortex started conveying the vaccine immediately.

Voran looking at Kimo and Shira.

VORAN

Leave the bridge. It's not safe here.

KIMO

Because any other part of the ship is a lot safer. You'd better remember why you're still our Admiral. It's your dirt and you'll clean it up.

Said that, Kimo considers this little controversy finished. They both sit down at an already destroyed console. Voran is reconciled to that.

VORAN

Readiness on all ships. We fly in.

The rest of the fleet slowly heading to the nebula's periphery. However a few ships turn about and get a little distance from it. Lots of the ships trying to enter the nebula explode.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

The bridge shaking violently. Smaller explosions on consoles, fluctuating holo-screen.

VORAN

Report.

SOMORI

We're almost there.

OFFICER
Exterior shield-skin exfoliation
on deck 324 through 410.

VORAN
Full power to reintegrate the
hull.

INT. NEBULA

The flagship manages to fly in the center of the nebula amid this morbid battle. The vaccine radiation and the energy of the nebula blending. They break through the last energy wall. They've arrived, trying to land somewhere. The soil is rather a moorland here and a rocky area there. They find a place. The ship is on the ground.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

The crew composing itself. Looking at the holo-screen, now stable.

KIMO
What now? Waiting for a cortege?

VORAN
Provided he didn't change in two
hundred years, he'll beam us...

The Admiral can't finish the sentence as the familiar yellowish beam take them out of the ship.

INT. NEBULA

And puts them down just before the core. Voran finishing the sentence.

VORAN
Directly to his door.

They look around and turn. Now they see that the whole crew, which could be two or three thousand people, got beamed out too. Around them the black cloud swirling with their vaccine. The place is like an abandoned black desert and the sky with yellowish, pink light between. Suddenly a cracking noise. They look in the direction they hear it from. Voran getting closer.

VORAN
(continuing)
Who's there?
(looking back at the core)
Arcus, we're here.

Two figures emerges from the black cloud where they heard the noise from. The crew backing a bit. It's Enar and Zarabon emerging. Voran calms down.

VORAN
Identify yourselves.

ENAR
General Enar from the planet
Inderan. And you sir?

VORAN
Admiral Voran from the planet
Gandora.

ZARABON
(sarcastic)
We ran across in time.

SOMORI
Interesting. Your existence is
new for me.

ZARABON
You look young. You couldn't be
there.

VORAN
I'm sorry about your planet.

ENAR
So it's gone.

VORAN
Yes.

Zarabon and Enar almost cry out. Meanwhile Shira and Kimo embrace each other. The girl trembling a bit from cold and fear.

KIMO
Don't worry. This must come to
an end now. We're out of here
soon.

A resounding voice interrupting them.

ARCUS (O.S.)
Don't be so sure about that.

The people shuddering. Looking around where that terrible voice could come from. Arcus shoots ahead from the core. The crew backing off.

ARCUS
(continuing)

Once you walked in my trap, I will not let you go hand over head.

(turning to Voran)
Nice to see you again, my faithful slave.

VORAN

I'm not your slave. Not until I'm able to fight against you.

ARCUS

You fool! You've been my slave since you agreed to sacrifice your own people just to save your life. Captain Con has resigned himself to my will.

VORAN

Where is he?

Arcus looks back to the core. Suddenly Con emerging from it. Voran and his people are shocked.

ARCUS

You shouldn't be so disgusted. You'll be one of them.

Zarabon steps forward, talking with a decided voice.

ZARABON

Compared to your coward deception in the Dheptorian war you've become quite overweening. Professor Arcus.

Arcus getting closer to him, examining him.

ARCUS

Familiar voice.

ZARABON

I'm High Councillor Zarabon.

ARCUS

Oh yes, that arrogant bastard whose vote helped my invention end up in smoke. Back then just a Council Member aspiring to be Governor.

ZARABON

That was the right decision. I would make it again.

ARCUS

Of course, you would. Do you have the faintest idea how much

your little resistance dragged my credibility as a scientist through the mire?

ZARABON

Your credibility ended up in smoke when you detonated that invention.

ARCUS

Believe me. It wasn't an easy decision like yours. But look at me now. I've grown more powerful than your pitiful council could ever imagine. By the way, how is it with your insignificant planet?

Enar interrupts.

ENAR

We don't have a planet anymore.

ARCUS

Tears coming to my eyes. Inderans are so calculable. Let me guess. They slaughtered one another. Hands dripping with blood reaching to the sky, panic and happy dispatches.

ZARABON

You knew all along they would react like that.

ARCUS

Of course. I was one of you, remember? I didn't even have to send my henchmen to massacre them.

Enar wants to turn on Arcus. He almost runs up to him when Con stops him by putting his hands on his chest. The familiar light show. Enar disappears in the light. Became energy food. Zarabon sinks his head. Not moving, not raving with fury, just staring at the ground. However, Voran can't command himself. Utters a fat roar.

VORAN

Enough of that! You've killed whole star-systems and you're still hungry for bloodshed.

ARCUS

I didn't see blood.

Voran is beside himself. Kimo lets Shira's hand go, looking at her, then steps to his father. Talking calmly.

KIMO
That's what you betrayed our
folk for. Empty power plays.

Voran's strength slowly waning. Thuds on the ground.

VORAN
I'm sorry.

ARCUS
What a touching family reunion!
Time to get acquainted with your
kinsmen.

Henchmen melting out of the cloud, thousands of them
surrounding the Gandorians and Zarabon.

ARCUS
(continuing)
Let's begin...

A Gandorian cries out.

GANDORIAN MAN
Attack them!

The Gandorians start running against henchmen at random. Once touched one, they extinguish each other. Shouts, screams, the whole area perfused with light. Con steps to Zarabon, touching him, but Kimo pushes him away and pulls Zarabon on his side. Pushing him toward the ship Gandora. Even so, the governor got a few burns on his chest. Con gets mad, attacking Kimo. Voran sees it, springs up, pushing away his son. Kimo falls. Meanwhile Shira and Somori trying to get a wounded Zarabon to the ship. Voran fighting Con. Con almost touches him when a Gandorian woman, shouting, jumps on his neck. The process caused by the vaccine has immediate effect. The usual light show throwing back Voran.

Arcus approaching to Voran.

ARCUS
I hoped you'd be killed by your
own comrade.

Kimo seeing Arcus. Produces a photon-shooter.

ARCUS
(continuing)
It will be a great pleasure to
slaughter you.

KIMO
Leave him alone.

ARCUS

I'm getting annoyed at this family.

Kimo firing at him with pulse charges. No effect. Arcus absorbs them.

ARCUS
If that's the way you want it.

He goes toward Kimo who still fires at him. Shira shouts crying for him from the ship's ramp.

SHIRA
Get out of there!

Kimo shouts back.

KIMO
Start the ship's engine.

Arcus closing.

ARCUS
You're going nowhere.

At this moment Voran jumps at him. Arcus being stronger than his henchmen starts melting just partly.

KIMO
Father!

At Kimo's scream Gandorians running to Voran. Arcus raise his hand, firing a sort of energy at them. Some Gandorians vanish in thin air. However five of them manage to touch him or jump on him. Arcus decomposing gradually. The strength of the shock-wave caused by his and the others' extinction throws Kimo back to a considerable distance. Somori running for him, dragging him aboard ship.

Arcus has died. His henchmen start blowing apart. Keep extinguishing Gandorians.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

Somori and the others enter the bridge. Somori puts Kimo on a chair, then running to a console, pushing buttons.

SOMORI
We've got to get out of here!

SHIRA
Why aren't you fighting with them?

SOMORI

There are people out there. They
withdrew when we started
attacking the cloud.

SHIRA
Other of our own race?

SOMORI
Yes. Sit down.

INT. NEBULA

The ship lifting off. Her lower part covered with some
slimy material, which was a part of the nebula, comes off
in part. The ships sweeps away.

INT. NEBULA, MORE OUTSIDE

The ship making big efforts to keep on. Behind her
explosions spreading.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

The bridge shaking more violently then ever. Zarabon
holding Kimo. Then a big shaking makes them bump down to
the floor.

INT. NEBULA, MORE OUTSIDE

The ship recoils.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

SOMORI
OK. It's gonna be tough.

Pushing buttons. All of them falling down from their
chair. Screaming.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, OTHER ROOMS

The rest of the crew falling too or hitting the wall.

EXT. SPACE, NEBULA

The whole nebula visible now. Huge explosion. From the
center serpentining beams shooting ahead. Final
explosion. Arcus is done forever. So are lots of
Gandorian ships. Darkness. Silence.

EXT. SPACE

The Gandorian flagship drafts in space, turning around its axis.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

Somori lying on a console. Kimo on the floor. An unconscious Shira in front of the holo-screen. Zarabon lying near a door.

INT. OTHER ROOMS

An unconscious crew everywhere.

INT. ADMIRAL-SHIP GANDORA, BRIDGE

The screen shows an alien ship approaching.

EXT. SPACE

The alien ship adapts itself to the rhythm of the Gandorian ship's rotation. Slows down and projects a cluster of beam onto it.

EXT. SPACE, ORANGE PLANET

The alien ship tows the flagship up to a space-station. Behind them a beautiful orange planet with unbelievably green continents.

INT. MEDICAL DEPARTMENT, WARD

A vague image appears, focusing more and more on two figures. Two aliens with big green eyes. ALIEN 1 talks like it swallowed helium.

ALIEN 1
 (to Alien 2)
 His life-signs are getting stable.
 (to KIMO)
 Do you understand what I'm saying, boy? How are you feeling?

KIMO (POV)
 Deadbeat.

Kimo slowly sits up, puts his hand on his head. Shira sleeps on the bed in front of him. Seeing the boy's careworn face, ALIEN 2 soothes him.

ALIEN 2
She's fine. But there are only
three-hundred left from your
crew. They're also fine.

Being shocked, he doesn't even realize the whole situation first, but he definitely hears what the doctor says.

KIMO
Three-hundred Gandorians...the
being!

ALIEN 2
Repose. It's over.

Kimo is terribly exhausted. He thuds back onto the bed.

INT. OBSERVATION ROOM

Zarabon, Somori, Kimo and Shira sit around. Tired. They stare at the orange planet out of a huge window. A NURSE comes.

NURSE
According to your medical
reports you're on the road to
recovery. You may leave the
station.

Shira stands up and goes to the window. She looks down at the planet.

SHIRA
What's expecting us down there?

NURSE
Millions of friends who are
suffering from the same pain as
all beings in this galaxy.

SHIRA
Was the destruction that
devastating?

NURSE
Ships are searching for
survivors out there. To bring
them here where safe.

Kimo walks up to Shira.

KIMO

Friends. Sounds good, doesn't it?

They force their mouth to smile.

The Nurse starts, Kimo and Shira follow her. Also Somori follows them, but stops short seeing that Zarabon won't move. He stares at the planet with tearful eyes.

SOMORI
Come. It's over.

ZARABON
It's our fault.

SOMORI
It was enough suffering. Forget it. Be glad you're alive.

Somori sees that the Governor doesn't really care about her. Leaves. Zarabon keeps staring, then leaves too.

INT. OBSERVATION ROOM

We go through the window.

EXT. SPACE, ORANGE PLANET

Approaching the planet, getting through its atmosphere.

EXT. ORANGE PLANET, CITY - DAY

Above a huge city. A ship passes by, flies to a big square surrounded by a crowd. It lands.

Kimo and the others get out. The crowd starts cheering them. They're not really touched, just tired. A strange fellow talks to them.

ALIEN 3
I greet you.

Zarabon as an experienced politician steps out because nobody moves or says anything.

ZARABON
Thank you for this warm reception. And don't misunderstand. We don't know what to make of it.

ALIEN 3
That's the least we can do for the liberators of the galaxy.

They look at each other. Embarrassed.

ZARABON
Well, thank you very much
indeed.

ALIEN 3
You must be tired. Come. We'll
give you drink, food, rooms.

SOMORI
I could do with an abundant
meal.

Hearing the word meal, Kimo activates the comm device on his wrist. A photo shows Kimo, Shira and Zyoo together. The others go, Kimo talks to Alien 3.

KIMO
Excuse me, is there a way to
copy some data on a computer
with bigger capacity?

Alien 3 looking at the photo. Commiseration permeates her face. She knows exactly what he feels.

ALIEN 3
Good friend?

KIMO
The best.

Shira nestles to Kimo's arm.

EXT. SQUARE - DAY

The crowd keeps cheering them. They follow the hosts.

INT. RECREATION ROOM - DAY

They're all here. Once again, staring out of a window that looks onto the city. Kimo and Shira sitting on a sofa, nestling to each other, giving some kisses. Zarabon fixes himself a drink. Somori stands next to the window.

SHIRA
It's so peaceful. Peace at last.

KIMO
We can only hope that it won't
change.

He looks at the Governor reprovngly while his drinking.

ZARABON
I have no excuse.

KIMO

Even if you had, you'd have run
out of time with it.

Zarabon puts the glass down and leaves the room. Somori
turns to Kimo.

SOMORI

Don't treat him that hard.

KIMO

How to treat a traitor? Any
reference book for it?

SOMORI

We're all traitors at a certain
extent.

KIMO

Right. So you're telling me I
was the one who forgot to
mention that a mad professor
wanted to yoke the whole galaxy.

SOMORI

That's not what I mean.
(turning back to the window)
Our lives are nothing but being
on the run for selfish interests
untill a tragedy happens that
brings us to heels. Perhaps it's
a good lesson for all races out
there. The enforceability of an
ethics is maintainable as long
as its creators believe in it.
Forgetting about our principles,
running after more power is the
beginning of our decadence. The
answer is "together".

Somori leaves the room. Kimo and Shira still nestling to
each other.

EXT. SQUARE - DAY

Going through the window down to the big square. Members
of different species get together. They talk. They share
a smile. Perhaps without prejudice.

FADE OUT.