Intergalactic Alliance (Television Pilot)

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IMPOSE -- EARTH, UNITED GALAXY COMPLEX, 2133 A.D.

INT. SUPERIOR GENERAL BRYANT'S OFFICE - DAY

Superior General Bryant waits for the arrival of High Commander Blakefield in his office at the United Galaxy Complex.

It wasn't long before a mellow tone told him there was someone at his door.

GENERAL BRYANT

Yes. Who is it?

A soldier just beyond answers.

ALLIANCE SOLDIER (V.O.)

Alliance soldier Wilson, Sir. Requesting permission to enter, Sir.

Bryant places a handgun on his desk near his right hand.

GENERAL BRYANT

Enter.

The young soldier enters the room with a salute.

Bryant lazily returns his salute.

GENERAL BRYANT (CONT'D)

What is it soldier?

ALLIANCE SOLDIER

I've just been informed that High Commander Lucian will be landing in five minutes, Sir.

Bryant stands.

GENERAL BRYANT

It's about damn time. Tell Scarlet to wait for me in the war room. I'll go greet the High Commander in person.

ALLIANCE SOLDIER

Would you like an armed escort, Sir?

Bryant walks out from around his desk and joins the soldier.

CONTINUED:

GENERAL BRYANT

I'm quite capable of taking care of myself. Just take care of my orders. You're dismissed.

ALLIANCE SOLDIER

Yes, Sir!

CUT TO:

EXT. UNITED GALAXY COMPLEX LANDING PAD - DAY

A tall well-built man steps out of the drop ship, he holds a large rifle in one hand, the visor of his mirrored helmet slowly rose to reveal rugged features.

A nasty scar crosses the left side of a patched eye; he scratches a well-trimmed goatee and lights a cigarette.

The man finds himself surrounded by six fully armed Alliance soldiers.

ALLIANCE SOLDIER

Hold it right there!

LUCIAN

I reckon someone was not informed of my arrival.

Lucian takes a long drag off his cigarette.

LUCIAN (CONT'D)

If you're going to point a gun at someone you better intend on using it. Either that or you will be removing it from your ass.

Lucian's voice is dry, cold, and holds a Southern accent.

Remnants of dry blood cakes his body armor.

LUCIAN (CONT'D)

I've no problem using my rifle.

However, seeing as I'm in no mood for this. I'll let this mishap slide. You boys may consider yourselves lucky.

Lucian lowers his rifle.

Lucian wipes the blood away from his nameplate to reveal his rank.

CONTINUED:

The soldiers stare at each other and lower their weapons in a quick salute.

ALLIANCE SOLDIER

We are sorry, High Commander, Sir!

LUCIAN

Get the hell out of my way. I'm here to have a little talk with my favorite cousin.

ALLIANCE SOLDIER

Superior General Bryant. . .

Lucian starts towards the complex entrance.

LUCIAN

Well, you're the regular Einstein now aren't you? If you hear shooting don't bother coming it'll be to late by then. No one orders me out of the heat of battle.

The soldiers come up behind Lucian, weapons risen once again.

ALLIANCE SOLDIER

Sir, we cannot allow you to enter the complex after such a threat, sir!

LUCIAN

You plan on stopping me.

Lucian turns and flicks the cigarette at the soldier.

LUCIAN (CONT'D)

I don't give second chances. Now, you better think before you act, or things will get messy.

GENERAL BRYANT

I suggest you lower your rifle, High Commander.

The voice comes from just behind Lucian, he knows who it is -- SUPERIOR GENERAL BRYANT.

GENERAL BRYANT (CONT'D)

Lower your weapons, soldiers. We may be fighting a war, but not against each other for God sake.

The soldiers lower their weapons.

GENERAL BRYANT (CONT'D)

Do you realize you're two hours late. I should let them shoot you, but there is something important I must tell you.

Lucian smiles.

LUCIAN

I have something I would like to say to you as well. . .

Lucian spins around quick striking Bryant across the chin with the butt of his rifle.

LUCIAN (CONT'D)

. . .how dare you take me away from my command? You're damn lucky --

Two soldiers grab Lucian from behind.

Lucian delivers a powerful elbow to the soldier's helmet cracking the visor.

He delivers a second elbow to the heads of the other soldiers, while they wobble off balance; Lucian catches them both with a leg sweep and flattens them.

Before the other two can react, Lucian kicks the third soldier in his stomach, and follows up with a round kick to his face.

The soldier spins and crashes to the concrete.

The fourth soldier raises his weapon to fire, only Lucian kicks the weapon, propels it like a slingshot into the soldier's helmet.

GENERAL BRYANT

That is enough, Lucian!

LUCIAN

Not nearly enough in my opinion.

GENERAL BRYANT

I ordered you to drop your rifle and stand down, High Commander.

Lucian turns towards Bryant and aims the rifle at him.

LUCIAN

You're ordering me, Bryant. Let us not forget who has the advantage here.

Bryant holds up both hands.

GENERAL BRYANT

If you will allow me to explain why I asked you here.

LUCIAN

It had better be one hell of a good reason.

Bryant looks around the landing pad.

GENERAL BRYANT

We can not discuss this in the open, Lucian. Follow me.

Bryant walks into the complex building, and wipes away a trickle of blood from his lip.

GENERAL BRYANT (CONT'D)

In any other situation striking me like you did would have meant your death. You are lucky I need you.

Lucian laughs.

LUCIAN

Spare me your pathetic threats and get to the damn point. Keep moving.

Bryant and Lucian enter a security checkpoint sirens blare.

More armed alliance soldiers and one large laser cannon lower from the ceiling in front of them.

ALLIANCE SOLDIER

Unauthorized weapons are forbidden past this point, sir.

A soldier says as four others aim their weapons at Lucian.

ALLIANCE SOLDIER (CONT'D)

Place your rifle on the floor or we open fire. Are you all right, Superior General Bryant, Sir?

CONTINUED:

LUCIAN

He's still breathing take that as a good sign.

GENERAL BRYANT

If I were you Lucian --

LUCIAN

If you were me Bryant you would know how stupid that would be. You would also know that surviving this situation is easier I hold onto my hostage.

Lucian pulls Bryant close placing the barrel of the rifle against his head.

LUCIAN (CONT'D)

Let me through or I blow his head off.

GENERAL BRYANT

Lucian . . . What in God's name are you doing? You're going to get yourself killed.

LUCIAN

If they're smart they'll know firing with you in my grasp means hitting you. They won't chance it. Call them off, and everything will be just peachy.

GENERAL BRYANT

You know that --

Lucian smacks the barrel of his rifle against Bryant's head.

LUCIAN

Just call them off.

GENERAL BRYANT

Did you need to --

The barrel of the rifle smacks against Bryant's head again.

LUCIAN

Just do it, Bryant!

Bryant looks at the soldiers and waves both hands.

GENERAL BRYANT

Stand down, men. Stand down. Cancel the security alert at once.

ALLIANCE SOLDIER

But, Sir --

GENERAL BRYANT

I gave you a direct order!

ALLIANCE SOLDIER

Computer. . . Cancel security alert!

A computer voice responds.

COMPUTER VOICE (V.O.)

What are the designated passwords please?

GENERAL BRYANT

I am going to have your ass for this, Lucian!

LUCIAN

You know I'm straight, Bryant. I think you should kept your sexual preferences to yourself though.

The computer repeats itself after not getting a verbal answer.

COMPUTER VOICE (V.O.)

What are the designated passwords please?

GENERAL BRYANT

What in the hell are you waiting for, soldier?

LUCIAN

I have had enough! You all have until the count of three, and I clear this room. Don't think for a second I won't do it. That's one! Two --

All the soldiers lower their weapons.

ALLIANCE SOLDIER
Okay, okay! The cancellation
passwords are Sigma - Delta - Omega
- Orion!

COMPUTER VOICE (V.O.)

Sigma - Delta - Omega - Orion. . . Please hold for verification.

COMPUTER VOICE

Warning . . . Incorrect passwords. Security will commence with total lock down and cleansing of known threat in sixty seconds.

ALLIANCE SOLDIER

What. . . Those are the correct passwords! Computer. . . Why are you claiming the cancellation passwords are incorrect?

LUCIAN

We don't have time to ask the damn thing twenty questions. How about you cousin do you know the words?

Bryant turns to face the barrel of the rifle.

GENERAL BRYANT

Of course I know the words.

LUCIAN

I suggest you start talking then.

The computer's voice interrupts.

COMPUTER VOICE (V.O.)

Thirty seconds remaining until lock down and cleansing.

GENERAL BRYANT

I'll give the correct words, but first I have to hear you okay something in return.

Lucian places the rifle barrel against Bryant's forehead.

LUCIAN

I'll give you one word -- bullet! As in the one you'll be eating if you don't use that mouth for something other than being a smart ass!

GENERAL BRYANT

All I'm asking for is your okay and I'll stop the alert.

LUCIAN

You're really pushing your luck! What in the hell do you want?

Bryant smiles.

GENERAL BRYANT

That's more like it. Just say yes for now that's all I'm asking.

LUCIAN

Yes to what. . .?

GENERAL BRYANT

We'll talk all about that after you agree.

COMPUTER VOICE (V.O.)

Ten seconds to lock down and cleansing.

LUCIAN

Yes! Damn you! Yes!

GENERAL BRYANT

See now that wasn't so hard. Computer. . . Cancel the security alert. Password C - M - F one, nine, seven, four.

COMPUTER VOICE (V.O.)

The security alert has been canceled.

The warning lights turn off along with the siren, and the laser cannons rise into the ceiling.

Four alliance soldiers come up behind Lucian with their rifles aimed.

Lucian still had not lowered his aim on General Bryant.

ALLIANCE SOLDIER What should we do now, Sir?

LUCIAN

I suggest you get the hell off my back. I can always squeeze off a few bursts before you shoot me down.

GENERAL BRYANT
Stubborn right up to the final
moment, Lucian. That's the only
quality I've ever liked about you.
Return to your posts soldiers.
There will be no charges placed
against High Commander Lucian at
this time.

The alliance soldiers lower their weapons and return to their posts.

General Bryant walks ahead through two sliding doors, turning to look at Lucian.

GENERAL BRYANT (CONT'D)

Are you coming or are you just going to stand there? Time is critical here, and you've wasted too much already with your lack of obedience.

Lucian follows General Bryant into a large circular room.

A crystal table in the form of the alliance insignia.

The chairs levitate a few feet from touching the floor of black marble.

INT. GALAXY COMPLEX WAR ROOM - DAY

General Bryant takes a seat at the head of five seats.

LUCIAN

This must be important, bringing me into your precious war room.

GENERAL BRYANT

I'm sure by now word of the Phoenix Nebula has reached the battlefield.

LUCIAN

You mean the supposed power source that could end this war, and supply the needs of every planet in the galaxy. I've never heard of it.

GENERAL BRYANT

Very amusing. You know exactly what I am talking about, and how much the Skaggs want this power source for themselves.

LUCIAN

I swear if you brought me here just to tell me something I already know

GENERAL BRYANT

Shut up and listen! Through trusted spies, I have received word the skaggs plan on assassinating every member of the Galaxy Council at the meeting tomorrow.

Lucian laughs.

LUCIAN

Bullshit! The Skaggs know they'd never stand a chance attacking the Galaxy Complex. Next thing you'll ask me to recall my platoon so we can protect your little meeting.

GENERAL BRYANT

Close, but not exactly what I have in mind. I do need your platoon only not on Earth. I need you to protect the phoenix nebula during the meeting.

LUCIAN

Screw that noise, Bryant! Do I look like a freaking space jockey to you? That's a job for Deep Space Defense Corps not the Alliance.

GENERAL BRYANT

I understand. Sit. . . I want you to see something.

Lucian doesn't sit as requested.

GENERAL BRYANT (CONT'D) Stand for all I care, but try to pay attention for a minute and let this holo-video sink in. Computer. . . Replay the recent deep space corps incident.

CUT TO:

EXT. WAR ZONE TWELVE, DOWNTOWN PITTSBURGH PENNSYLVANIA - DAY

SUPERIMPOSE: CITY OF PITTSBURGH ALTERNATIVE FUEL COMPLEX

The yell of a dying alliance soldier follows the fly-by of three rebel gun platforms.

Everywhere fires burn, explosions rise into the air followed by thick billowing smoke.

SECONDARY HIGH COMMANDER JASON BLAKEFIELD, 31, blonde hair, six foot one inch tall, large build, leaps behind a glass steel barricade for cover. A barrage of bullets strikes the barricade.

JASON BLAKEFIELD
Move your ass's soldiers! We can't let them take the fuel complex.

Just behind Jason an armed drop ship hovers low, hatch opened releasing Alliance soldiers and firing upon the rebel's.

The drop ship manages to destroy one of the rebel gun platforms, the rebel pilot streaks towards the street ablaze and screaming.

SOLDIER/SWORD MASTER AYSHIAL LUMINENN, 25, five foot seven inches, white hair, glowing purple skin, slim build, jumps from the drop ship brandishing two Laser-Edge Katana Swords.

FIRST CLASS LIEUTENANT SARAH JACOBSON, 35, five foot seven inches tall, light-blonde hair, athletic build, follows behind Ayshial.

SARAH JACOBSON Move it, Kirkland! We have a fire fight out here to deal with.

BUTCH KIRKLAND
You're calling this here a fire
fight? Sarah. It's like a bunch of
kids throwing rocks at each
another. One time I was --

CONTINUED:

SOLDIER/ARMORER BUTCH KIRKLAND, 35, African-American, five foot eight inches tall, average build, casually walks to the open hatch.

SARAH JACOBSON

We don't have time for old war stories, Butch! More so ones you've told a hundred times before. Move it!

Sarah grabs Butch and yanks him out of the drop ship.

They get about fifteen feet away before a missile turns the drop ship into a ball of fire and deadly shrapnel.

The explosion knocks Sarah, Butch, and Ayshial off their feet.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Where in the hell did that come from?

SARAH JACOBSON

Are you all right? Are you hit?

BUTCH KIRKLAND

WHAT. . . I CAN'T HEAR YOU!

Jason tries to grab the attention of Butch and Sarah.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Hey, stop being easy targets by shouting like idiots and get over here now!

They dodge bullets and return fire a few times.

Finally, they get a break in the rebel fire making it behind the barricade.

JASON BLAKEFIELD (CONT'D)

What was that all about back there?

SARAH JACOBSON

Sir, we were shocked by the explosion. We needed time --

JASON BLAKEFIELD

One moment is all it takes the rebels to turn you into casualties of war. I'll not have another alliance soldier die on my watch!

SARAH JACOBSON

I'm sorry, Sir!

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Do not be sorry, be careful, Sarah. I saw Ayshial drop in with you where is she now?

SARAH JACOBSON

She was right behind us, Sir.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

You don't think that she's doing it again, Sir?

CUT TO:

INT. GALAXY COUNCIL WAR ROOM - DAY

A large holographic image appears just behind General Bryant.

LUCIAN

I don't have time to watch old war videos, Bryant. There is a war, and you are keeping me from it.

Lucian turns starting to walk towards the exit.

GENERAL BRYANT

I think you will change your attitude once you see what is on this holo-video. You said it was a job for deep space corps. Right, Lucian?

Lucian turns towards General Bryant with a shout.

LUCIAN

You are damn right it is!

Lucian watches the holographic projection, taking slow steps closer.

The image shows us and Lucian watches as Deep Space Corps Fighter ships fight Skagg Scythe ships.

Even Deep Space Corps base of operations Sigma-Six was firing every known weapon.

Yet there were literally hundreds of Skagg Scythe ships swarming the area, firing at every angle.

CONTINUED:

Out of a Wormhole appeared a Skagg Devastator, the largest and most powerful known warship in the skagg's arsenal.

In one large burst of dark red energy matter Sigma Six Base exploded and the video ended.

LUCIAN (CONT'D)

Those sons of bitches they --

GENERAL BRYANT

Exactly . . . This would have been a job for the deep space corps if they still existed. There were only a few survivors from that assault.

(Beat)

The phoenix nebula is completely unprotected. For all we know the skaggs could be stealing its energy as we speak.

LUCIAN

We can't let that happen! Send a fleet of alliance fighters to the nebula.

GENERAL BRYANT

Not possible. Our basic alliance fighter's cannot withstand attacks of that magnitude. We'd lose a hundred ships in an hour. That's why we need your platoon.

LUCIAN

You just told me a hundred alliance fighters wouldn't make it, but one ship with my platoon will?

Lucian grabs General Bryant lifting him from the chair.

LUCIAN (CONT'D)

You want my platoon? You are going to start answering my questions!

A female voice interrupts Lucian.

SCARLET (O.S.)

Release the Superior General at once, High Commander Lucian. Do not force me to harm you.

Lucian makes out a shadow with womanlike curves standing fifteen feet away.

LUCIAN

I don't know who you are, but you've got a pair of brass balls talking to me like that.

GENERAL BRYANT

That reminds me I was going to introduce you two, but never got the chance. I'd like for you to meet Scarlet. She'll be joining your platoon.

A slender female walks out of the shadows.

Scarlet is dressed in a tight-fitting white suit.

Lucian notices that Scarlet is bald and has no eyebrows.

There was a number tattooed above Scarlet's right eyebrow -- S-1.

Lucian grins and lets General Bryant drop back into his chair.

LUCIAN

Like hell she will. You got them boys at the genetics lab to build you a playmate, Bryant. I'm shocked. She is attractive though, not sure about the bald look.

GENERAL BRYANT

I advise you not to upset her, Lucian. Scarlet isn't as average as you may think. You see --

Lucian walks up to Scarlet.

LUCIAN

Yeah, I know, bald and looks funny.

GENERAL BRYANT

You know damn well that's not what I mean.

Lucian laughs.

LUCIAN

Well, hey there little lady, you realize you've just threatened a High Commander?

Lucian struts up to her in a cocky fashion.

SCARLET

I had no choice. I'm here to protect the highest ranked man or woman in this complex. You're not one of them, Sir.

Lucian walks around Scarlet looking her over.

Scarlet's eyes never leave Lucian.

LUCIAN

Your sex pet here has a big mouth, Bryant. Does she know what happens to soldiers who talk back to their superiors? Can she back up her words up?

General Bryant stands from his chair.

GENERAL BRYANT

Far more than you know. . .

LUCIAN

You don't honestly think that this freak of a female can take me in a hand-to-hand fight.

GENERAL BRYANT

Don't start something you'll not be able to finish.

Lucian raises his rifle aiming it at General Bryant.

LUCIAN

I am now placing the life of the Superior General In danger, little lady. What do you plan on --

Scarlet grabs the barrel of the rifle bending it.

Lucian stares at the barrel and at Scarlet.

SCARLET

That threat is no longer a problem. Would you like to try another method, Sir?

LUCIAN

You bitch! That was my favorite rifle!

Lucian quickly reaches for a sidearm strapped to his thigh.

Only to find Scarlet's hand on top of his holding the weapon at bay.

Lucian swats Scarlet's hand away attacking her with a front kick.

Scarlet easily dodges Lucian's kick a hard right jab catches her.

General Bryant shakes his head.

LUCIAN

How did you like that? There's more where that came from.

Lucian tries to strike Scarlet with his left fist.

Scarlet grabs his fist out of the air.

Lucian tries to hit her with his other fist.

Scarlet easily grabs that fist as well with a smile.

SCARLET

Quit while you're still standing, Sir. I need healthy enough to command when we're through.

LUCIAN

What kind of freak is she, Bryant? No ordinary female has strength like this.

GENERAL BRYANT

I never said Scarlet was ordinary, Lucian. Well, technically she is a normal female in every aspect. There is one minor exception.

Lucian struggles against scarlet trying to break free.

LUCIAN

Back her off or she's dead!

A Laser Edged blade flicks out to reveal itself from the toe of Lucian's boot.

Lucian kicks the bladed boot forward, and Scarlet blocks the kick with her right foot inches from penetration.

Scarlet twists both of Lucian's arms in the wrong directions, and kicks the bladed leg away from her.

She releases his arms only long enough to nail Lucian with a front kick to the chest that sends him to the floor six feet away.

GENERAL BRYANT

You can stand down, Scarlet. I doubt he'll be giving us anymore trouble after that.

SCARLET

Yes, Superior General Bryant, Sir.

Lucian gets to his feet.

GENERAL BRYANT

Are you ready to listen now, Lucian? Scarlet can continue fighting like this all night if need be.

Lucian laughs and charges for Scarlet with a yell.

CUT TO:

EXT. WAR ZONE TWELVE, DOWNTOWN PITTSBURGH PENNSYLVANIA - DAY

JASON BLAKEFIELD

God Damn it! That is exactly what she is doing! She is going after the gun platforms herself.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

She does not even have a weapon except for her swords. That is pure suicide!

JASON BLAKEFIELD

If the rebels do not get her, first I am going to kill her. Okay, Butch, throw a pulse grenade in front of her. It might keep the bullets from her long enough so I can get her to a safer location.

SARAH JACOBSON

Wait a minute, Sir. No offense, sir, but I'm much faster than you are. You do not have to risk yourself. Let me go.

CONTINUED:

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Excuse me --

SARAH JACOBSON

We have no time to argue about it now, Sir! Get that grenade ready, Butch.

Butch pulls a CD sized device off the front plate of his body armor.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

You will have about thirty seconds of protection until the pulse shield drops, and then you best be behind cover. Are you ready?

SARAH JACOBSON

Give me some cover fire, Sir.

Jason nods opening fire with his rifle.

SARAH JACOBSON (CONT'D)

Throw it, Butch!

Butch pokes his head up long enough to throw the deflection grenade.

The grenade floats across the battlefield like a Frisbee.

Sarah runs towards Ayshial turning to fire upon two advancing rebels who are blown backwards in a mist of blood.

Sarah also watches as the deflection grenade is shattered into a hundred pieces before it can strike the ground to activate.

SARAH JACOBSON (CONT'D)

Sir, the grenade is gone, it never had a chance to activate!

JASON BLAKEFIELD (V.O.)

Get back here on the double, Sarah! That is a direct order!

SARAH JACOBSON

It is a little late for orders,
Sir! Just watch my back!

BUTCH KIRKLAND (V.O.)

No problem there, little lady!

Ayshial gets to her feet watching the rebels flying gun platforms.

The intensity of her glowing skin brightens.

The two rebel gun platforms turn in her direction firing away.

Ayshial manages to dodge the hail of bullets jumping on top of a small hover van.

Ayshial starts twirling both swords, which causes a purple blossom effect.

This deflects the bullets fired from the gun platforms.

As the platforms pass over Ayshial leaps into the air and slashes her swords.

There are flashes as the platforms spin out of control; each cut completely in half.

The remaining halves strike the street exploding.

AYSHIAL

Pathetic. . . I am safe now, Sir. I truly wish you would stop treating me like an average grunt. Alliance training ended five years ago, and I was trained much longer on Furrian.

JASON BLAKEFIELD (V.O.) I do not give a rat's ass how long or where you were trained, Ayshial! You follow my orders and mine only. You do not go off on your own and play hero!

AYSHIAL

You worry far to much, Sir. Worrying is bad for the nerves. Try to Relax.

JASON BLAKEFIELD (V.O.) You are still on my shit list, Ayshial. There will be no talking your way out of this incident. Sarah, you and her team up, we still have rebels out there.

SARAH JACOBSON

Understood, Sir.

Sarah approaches Ayshial as she flips down from the van.

SARAH JACOBSON (CONT'D)

You really have to stop pushing your luck like this, Ayshial. One day you might not be so lucky and then what?

AYSHIAL

Then I die with true warrior's honor, fighting for what I believe in. We Furrian's believe this, and I live by my race's tradition.

From out of hiding, jump two armed rebels.

The rebels aim their weapons at Ayshial and Sarah.

REBEL SOLDIER

Move and we'll open fire!

AYSHIAL

Then you should have opened fire!

Ayshial nods at Sarah and they both drop their weapons grabbing each other's hands.

The rebels watch their rifle's drop to the ground.

Ayshial spins Sarah she kicks her right leg out first which disarms rebel one, and her left foot slams into the man's face shattering his nose in a spray of blood.

Sarah performs the exact same attack on rebel two.

Gaining enough spinning strength, they release each other drop kicking both rebels.

BUTCH KIRKLAND (V.O.)

The Windmill . . . I love it when the girls use that technique against poor, unsuspecting bastards.

SARAH JACOBSON

The fight is far from over, Butch.

Sarah snaps the neck of her enemy.

AYSHIAL

Then why has the gunfire stopped, Sarah?

Ayshial grabs her swords and slashes her enemy across the chest.

Sarah speaks into the communications device embedded in her body armor.

SARAH JACOBSON

Sir, have you noticed the sudden cease in gunfire?

JASON BLAKEFIELD (V.O.)

Yeah, but don't that fool you, Sarah. It could be a trick to get us into the open. Regroup on me at once.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Sir, I do not think the enemy is trying to trick us. I have been checking them out through my infrared scope.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

What exactly is your point, Butch?

Butch hands his rifle over to Jason.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Have a look for yourself, Sir.

Jason takes the rifle staring through the infrared scope.

Jason notices five of the rebels flee the battlefield.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

What in the hell are they doing? They would not abandon the chance to take over the fuel complex. I think they are up to something.

Ayshial and Sarah approach Jason and Butch.

SARAH JACOBSON

What is the situation, Sir?

AYSHIAL

Are they bugging out?

JASON BLAKEFIELD

It would appear so. We need to --

They all hear a thunderous sound; feel the ground tremble beneath them.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Did anyone else feel that?

Jason stares back through the infrared scope; through the scope he spots, a very large heat signature headed their direction.

The sound grows thunderous and small tremors shake the soldiers and building foundations.

SARAH JACOBSON

What in the hell is that?

The fifteen foot tall, Dark Skull War Cyborg emerges from the billowing clouds of smoke.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Oh, shit.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

You have got to be kidding me, man.

AYSHIAL

It's a Dark Skull Cyborg. What do we do now, Sir?

SARAH JACOBSON

Pray.

INT. GALAXY COMPLEX WAR ROOM - DAY

Lucian attacks Scarlet with a flying jump kick that she swats away with ease.

SCARLET

Just give up this foolish attempt at retaliation, High Commander Lucian. You have no chance at winning against me.

GENERAL BRYANT

She is right you know, Lucian. Oh, you may manage to get in a lucky hit or two but you can't beat her.

(BEAT)

She is the next generation in Alliance soldier technology. A clone enhanced in every possible way. Scarlet is a living weapon.

Lucian stops his attack on Scarlet.

LUCIAN

You mean she's a freak! I will not have this freak in my platoon, Bryant.

SCARLET

I am not a freak, High Commander Lucian. I agree being cloned for the sole purpose of combat is not normal but I am human. I possess emotions and free will.

LUCIAN

Why not just send your freak to do the job. After all, we might screw up. What are the chances of that happening with her.

SCARLET

The answer to your question is approximately ninety-nine point nine percent probability, High Commander Lucian.

Bryant takes a seat.

GENERAL BRYANT

She may be the perfect soldier, but she's far from indestructible. We need to talk about a small glitch. Please go prepare the ship, Scarlet. I would like to speak with High Commander Lucian in private.

SCARLET

Are you sure you will be all right, Sir?

Bryant and Scarlet both look at Lucian.

Lucian lights himself a cigarette.

LUCIAN

I see no point in wasting anymore time or energy. If you want to chew the fat, do it and do it quick, Bryant.

Lucian walks over to the table and takes a seat propping both feet up.

SCARLET

I shall begin with the preparation of the ship, Superior General, Sir. Until we meet again, High Commander Lucian.

LUCIAN

I do not think that will be happening anytime soon, little lady. If we do though. I swear to you, Bryant, and his lab boys. They won't find enough of your DNA to clone you again.

Scarlet walks towards a door that slides open and she stops looking back at Lucian.

SCARLET

I like you, High Commander. You are a very amusing man. I am sure I will see you again.

LUCIAN

I will be counting the days.

GENERAL BRYANT

She is really not very bad once you get to know her, Lucian. She would be a great help in your platoon.

LUCIAN

How do you know who or what is good for my platoon? You said something about a glitch.

GENERAL BRYANT

When the scientists were raising her, they tried two different methods of mental programming. One as you know was that of the perfect soldier.

(BEAT)

A few unnamed scientists thought this was inhumane. They taught her normal human emotions, love, compassion, sadness. . .

Lucian takes his boots down off the table and stands.

LUCIAN

I know where this is going. Trying to teach your prodigy soldier how to be a warrior with emotion messed up her brainpan. She could snap at any moment on anyone of my soldiers.

GENERAL BRYANT

Not to worry she has a neural inhibitor chip implant. At the first sign of a psychotic episode, you speak an activation command and she shuts down.

LUCIAN

You mean it kills her.

GENERAL BRYANT

No. We're not barbarians for God sake. She is merely unconscious for a duration of sixty minutes.

LUCIAN

What is the word to activate the chip?

Bryant laughs.

GENERAL BRYANT

You really do not think I am that stupid, Lucian. I give you the activation word, and you render her unconscious out of revenge.

LUCIAN

I resent that, Bryant. What kind of a man do you think I am? It is not a bad idea though; call her in here for a minute will you?

GENERAL BRYANT

Look, what I told you about the assassination attempt on the council is true. We have prepared of course by beefing up security. Though I doubt it will make much of a difference.

Lucian inhales and exhales a stream of smoke.

LUCIAN

That is what I don't understand. You know the skaggs are going to try and attack the council. Though it's against all I stand for. I'd rather be here protecting the Council. If we don't and you all die, the shit hits the galactic fan.

GENERAL BRYANT

Well, I'll be damned. Is that a hint of sympathy I'm hearing? You actually care if I live or die tomorrow.

Lucian laughs hard as he walks towards the table to extinguish his cigarette on the clear crystal.

Lucian takes a seat still laughing.

LUCIAN

Far from it! I care only about what happens to earth. What's your big plan or do you even have one?

Bryant gets eye to eye with Lucian.

GENERAL BRYANT

Your lack of respect makes me sick! If you were not such a needed asset in this war, I would've killed your ass the first time you mouthed off to me.

Bryant walks away and picks up Lucian's rifle carries it over to the table.

GENERAL BRYANT (CONT'D)

Oh, I just wanted to. . .

Bryant strikes Lucian across the face with the butt end of the rifle knocking him out of the chair.

GENERAL BRYANT (CONT'D)

. . . Return your rifle!

Lucian laughs spitting blood on the floor.

LUCIAN

I guess I deserved that, well struck too, Bryant. I think you've knocked a tooth loose.

Bryant kicks Lucian in the stomach lifting him off the floor slightly.

GENERAL BRYANT

I'm tired of your bullshit! You'll learn to follow orders and not demand explanations!

LUCIAN

Is this any way to ask someone for help? What's that magic word --

Another hard kick slams into Lucian's stomach.

GENERAL BRYANT

Enough!

LUCIAN

No. Not even close but keep trying, it starts with a --

Another kick and a final one to the face renders Lucian close to unconsciousness.

GENERAL BRYANT

Fine, I've tried being civil. With you, I should've known better. Here is the deal, Lucian. Die here and now or do as I ask.

The door to the war room opens.

Alliance soldiers file in quickly pointing their weapons at Lucian.

LUCIAN

I'll do it. I'll play space cowboy while the skaggs attack earth. No problem.

CUT TO:

EXT. WAR ZONE TWELVE, DOWNTOWN PITTSBURGH PENNSYLVANIA - DAY Jason and his platoon watch the Dark Skull Cyborg advance.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Sir, we don't have the firepower to take that bastard out.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

I know that, Butch. We need to call in air support.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

That's not a good idea, Sir.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Mind letting me make the decisions here, soldier!

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Sir, calling in air support will give our position away. It'll home in on your outgoing transmission.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

It already knows we're here.

AYSHIAL

Why hasn't it fired upon us?

SARAH JACOBSON

You actually sound disappointed, Ayshial.

AYSHIAL

I have just heard stories.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

You are welcome to stick around and find out if those stories are true , Ayshial. The rest of us are bugging out.

CONTINUED:

SARAH JACOBSON

But, sir, what about the fuel complex? If the cyborg gains access, the American rebels will run the city.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

We'll be back with stronger firepower, Sarah. Besides, I don't think it's worried about the fuel complex. We need to locate a vehicle in operating condition.

The platoon stare around the wreckage ridden battlefield.

Ayshial spots a possible vehicle they can use.

AYSHIAL

Hey, how about that garbage truck.

Ayshial points out a very old garbage truck that is still intact.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

You are kidding, Ayshial.

AYSHIAL

Sir, I don't think at this point beggars should be choosers.

SARAH JACOBSON

She has a good point, Sir.

A missile roars over their heads and destroys a building close to the truck.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Who knows how to hot wire a truck?

SARAH JACOBSON

I can, Sir!

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Let's do this!

Sarah leads them towards the garbage truck.

As they duck behind old cars and debris for cover.

The rebels appear once again opening fire.

The cyborg walked in their direction yet slower.

They all rush to the rear of the garbage truck.

JASON BLAKEFIELD (CONT'D)

Okay, move it, Sarah.

Trying to open the door does little good since it's locked.

Sarah rams the butt of her rifle through the window glass.

JASON BLAKEFIELD (CONT'D)

Attracting the cyborg's attention wasn't the plan.

SARAH JACOBSON

The door was locked, Sir.

The cyborg turns in their direction opening fire with its duel mini guns.

Jason, Butch, and Ayshial leap into the rear just as the bullets shower orange sparks off the steel.

Sarah ducks her head yet is protected by the side of the vehicle.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Get this damn thing started, Sarah!

Sarah jumps into the truck cab slides beneath the steering wheel pulls down a handful of wires.

In the rear Jason and Butch open fire with their machine rifles.

Sarah touches the two appropriate colored wires together the truck's engine attempts to turn over but dies and sputters.

JASON BLAKEFIELD (CONT'D)

SARAH!

SARAH JACOBSON

I am going as fast as I can! The piece of shit won't start!

JASON BLAKEFIELD

We need to find a way to slow it down.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

What about bringing that overpass down on top of it. It may buy us some time.

The truck's engine coughs and sputters.

JASON BLAKEFIELD Sounds like a plan, but those rebel Americans aren't going to make it

easy.

BUTCH KIRKLAND Let's return the favor, sir.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

I never get over shooting a fellow American. Sure they're trying to kill us, but the Government put the screws to them not us.

BUTCH KIRKLAND I'd be pissed in their situation.

AYSHIAL

That doesn't give them the right to go against galaxy council energy regulations and rebel. They deserve what's coming to them.

Two American rebels run along side the cyborg firing at the garbage truck.

Ayshial takes one American rebel down with a few rounds from her handgun.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Would you accept living without an energy source that was designed to be free for all? The Greys never intended Benaddite to be sold you know that.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

The hell with the Greys! My brother and I've never trusted them. They no doubt had something to do with creating a business out of their fuel source.

The last American rebel quickly jumps from cover firing upon the truck.

They duck down being showered with orange sparks.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Butch will you shoot that S.O.B.!

BUTCH KIRKLAND

I'm on it, sir.

The garbage truck starts.

Sarah puts the truck into gear jams her foot down on the gas pedal.

Butch fires off a round that soars harmlessly towards the sky as he is jerked by the movement of the truck.

SARAH JACOBSON (V.O.)

Hold on! We are getting the hell out of here!

Jason shouts.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

How about a warning next time, Sarah!

SARAH JACOBSON (V.O.)

No time for warnings, Sir.

The entire street ahead is torn upward from the cyborgs miniguns.

Sarah slams on the truck's breaks.

The truck nearly comes to a halt.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Why are you stopping for god sake!

SARAH JACOBSON (V.O.)

No backseat drivers please!

Their small rounds strike the cyborg forcing it back.

Sarah notices two burning cars across the road.

SARAH JACOBSON (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Everyone brace for impact!

JASON BLAKEFIELD

What exactly do you mean by impact, Sarah!

The truck is ten feet away from the road block, when its right front tire is blows out causing the truck to swerve hard to the right.

SARAH JACOBSON (V.O.)

Hold on! We have a problem!

INT. GALAXY COMPLEX WAR ROOM - EVENING

The sun slowly fades beyond the horizon as Bryant stares out a large window.

Lucian sits at the table in handcuffs.

GENERAL BRYANT

I know what you're thinking, Lucian. I'm a bastard forcing you to do something against your will. You'll understand soon enough though.

LUCIAN

You realize that these cuffs can't hold me forever.

Bryant turns towards Lucian with a smile.

GENERAL BRYANT

If you break free I'll have you shot down like the dog you are.

LUCIAN

You know you're very sexy when you're angry, cousin.

Scarlet walks out from two sliding doors.

SCARLET

Everything is prepared, Superior General, Sir. I see you've finally been put in your place, High Commander Lucian.

LUCIAN

Please tell me that secret word, Bryant. I'm begging you and you know I'd rather swallow my tongue than do that.

SCARLET

So you've been told about my inhibitor chip. How unfortunate. Too bad you won't ever know the activation word.

Scarlet gets in Lucian's face.

CONTINUED:

SCARLET (CONT'D)

Do you care about this planet's welfare or merely your pathetic morals?

Lucian glares at Bryant and back at Scarlet.

LUCIAN

I'm a better soldier than you'll ever be, freak! I was fighting this war when you were still a sex cocktail in a petri dish.

SCARLET

That's what I like to hear, High Commander. Perhaps there's a true patriot in there somewhere after all. Still. . . I highly doubt it.

GENERAL BRYANT

That's enough, Scarlet. I think it's time to show Lucian why we've brought him here in the first place. Follow us, cousin.

Bryant, Scarlet, and Lucian head towards the very same doors Scarlet had come out of.

The doors slide open to reveal it's actually an elevator.

GENERAL BRYANT (CONT'D)

You first. Please.

Lucian steps into the elevator, Bryant and Scarlet follow behind doors sliding shut.

INT. WAR ROOM ELEVATOR

GENERAL BRYANT

Your mission was never to protect the council.

SCARLET

Our mission will be much more important than that, High Commander, Sir. We will be in charge of protecting the phoenix nebula during the meeting.

LUCIAN

I think you're more screwed in the head than Bryant told me.

(MORE)

CONTINUED:

LUCIAN (CONT'D)

That's a suicide mission, we'd need a ship more powerful than anything earth possesses and --

Scarlet looks at Bryant with a smile.

The elevator doors open to a sight that stops Lucian from speaking.

There is a vast hanger beyond the doors.

Alliance personnel hurry to and fro Lucian's sight is fixed upon the spacecraft hovering before him.

GENERAL BRYANT

You mentioned needing a ship more powerful than anything earth possesses. Here's that ship. . .the Rogue Starr. She'll be your craft for as long as needed.

LUCIAN

Why didn't you send this ship to protect the sigma-six base?

SCARLET

We would have but the rogue starr was in construction phase at the time. We're still not one hundred percent sure if she'll fly as planned.

GENERAL BRYANT

For years we've been trying to duplicate the skagg's organic shielding used on their fighters. With the rogue starr we've not only succeeded, but took it a step further.

(BEAT)

This ship has that organic plating plus ten inches of Glass Steel protecting its hull. Also the most advanced propulsion system this side of the galaxy.

LUCIAN

What are its weapons capabilities, tell me more, a captain has to know everything about his vessel. CONTINUED: (2)

SCARLET

Excuse me? Did you just say Captain, High Commander, Sir?

LUCIAN

Don't get your hopes up, cue ball. It's going to take a hell of a lot before I let you on this ship as one of my own.

GENERAL BRYANT

If you take this mission she goes with you, Lucian. Right now she's the only one who knows how to pilot the ship.

LUCIAN

You know that's bull shit, Bryant. This ship could fly the mission on its own if it wanted to, I'm right, aren't I?

SCARLET

You're correct, the rogue starr is has been chosen to house Genesis One.

LUCIAN

Genesis One. . . But that means the ship itself is a living entity.

SCARLET

Not the entire ship, High Commander, Sir. Only its organics and central intelligence core.

LUCIAN

I don't like a ship that can read my crews thoughts. Genesis One is beyond any basic alien technology. Our alien scientists still have no idea as to its true origin.

A female voice enters Lucian's head.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

You have nothing to fear from me, High Commander Lucian. Or should I call you Captain from here on? I thought it urgent to let you know I'm receiving a distress call for an air strike.

CONTINUED: (3)

Lucian stares at Bryant and then Scarlet.

LUCIAN

Tell me you both just heard that voice. Either that or I'm going crazy.

GENERAL BRYANT

I didn't hear anything. Yet only those the message is intended for will be able to hear. What did this voice have to say?

A soldier walks up behind them and salutes.

ALLIANCE SOLDIER

Sir, central intelligence has just received a distress call from a platoon in war zone twelve, Sir.

GENERAL BRYANT

What's their request, soldier?

ALLIANCE SOLDIER

The platoon is requesting an immediate air strike on a attacking dark skull cyborg. The platoon is High Commander Lucian's, Sir.

LUCIAN

The voice told me something very similar to that.

Lucian starts walking towards the rogue starr.

GENERAL BRYANT

Where do you think you're going, Lucian?

LUCIAN

I'm going on a test flight. If you plan on assisting me cue ball get moving. Power up whatever needs power, we're providing air support.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

Yes, Captain. Star Drive online.

LUCIAN

Enough. . . Just let me inside, time is of the essence.

CONTINUED: (4)

Tubes and latches disengage from the ships hull, visible oxygen hisses in different directions.

The rogue starr's internal and external lights wink to life.

As the final latch releases the ship it hangs suspended in the air silently.

A stairwell slowly lowers from the side of the ship.

GENERAL BRYANT

Lucian, you're talking about taking a highly-classified alliance spacecraft out into the public.

Lucian turns towards Bryant.

LUCIAN

Are you supposed to have a point?

GENERAL BRYANT

So why in the hell are you still here? Go!

Scarlet follows beside Lucian.

SCARLET

Permission to come aboard, Sir?

Lucian starts walking up the ship's stairwell.

LUCIAN

What choice do I have. You are the only one qualified to fly this thing.

SCARLET

Yes, Sir.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

Forgive me for prying into your mind again, Captain Lucian. But you know that you truly want her to come, and you're also hiding an attraction towards her.

LUCIAN

You so much as mention that, and I'll find a way to make you regret it.

CONTINUED: (5)

SCARLET

Excuse me, Sir? Were you talking to me?

LUCIAN

You must be hearing things I didn't say a word.

Lucian enters the ship followed by Scarlet.

The rogue starr slowly rises higher as the stairwell returns inside the ship.

A large hanger doorway opens revealing that night has set in as it flies out at high speed.

CUT TO:

EXT. WAR ZONE TWELVE, DOWNTOWN PITTSBURGH PENNSYLVANIA - NIGHT

The garbage truck slams into the side of the road block.

JASON BLAKEFIELD (V.O.)

What in the hell is going on up there! Report!

SARAH JACOBSON

We've hit a road block, Sir! One of the tires must have been shot out. Did you call for an air strike, sir?

JASON BLAKEFIELD (V.O.)

I've been trying for fifteen minutes now and nothing!

A familiar voice surprises Jason over his communications badge.

LUCIAN (V.O.)

Don't get your panties in a bunch, little brother! The calvary has arrived! I suggest you find the best cover possible.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Lucian. . . Where In the hell are you?

CONTINUED:

LUCIAN (V.O.)

Don't worry about where I am just watch the big bad cyborg go byebye.

Jason, Sarah, Ayshial, and butch cautiously step from the truck.

They watch as the rogue starr slowly lowers behind the cyborg and hovers.

AYSHIAL

It is a skagg fighter. . .

BUTCH KIRKLAND

No. . . That's not a skagg fighter. Look at the way it's designed. I've never seen a fighter like it -ever.

LUCIAN (V.O.)

I told you idiots to find some cover! NOW!

The cyborg's turns in the direction of his platoon.

They all scatter for cover once it opens fire with its miniguns.

The rouge starr opens fire with its two forward mounted laser mini-guns tearing the cyborg to flaming scrap metal.

AYSHIAL

That ship has kick ass firepower!

SARAH JACOBSON

Yeah, but why did they save us? It couldn't be High Commander Lucian, that isn't an alliance class craft.

The rouge starr slowly descends but cannot land due to its size so it merely hovers near ground level.

LUCIAN (V.O.)

Like hell it can't, Sarah. How do you like the new ship?

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Where did you come across a ship like this, Lucian? Tell me you didn't steal it from the alliance.

CONTINUED: (2)

LUCIAN (V.O.)

Hey, stop busting my chops about that one time. This ship is going to be ours, and you won't believe me when I tell you why. So get aboard on the double.

The stairwell lowers from the ship and his platoon enter.

INT. ROGUE STARR INTERIOR - NIGHT

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

Welcome. . . I'm Genesis One the rogue starr's sentient intelligence core. If you follow the flashing strobes they'll lead you to your High Commander.

Butch's eyes lit up and a wide grin crossed his face.

The others looked at one another.

JASON BLAKEFIELD Did everyone else just hear that voice?

They all just nod their heads in response.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Do you realize what we just heard, Sir?

JASON BLAKEFIELD

No. I am sure you are dying to tell us though, Butch.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

It is the Genesis One, the first alien artifact found by man. The Alliance has been studying it for forty-five years, after it was discovered buried deep in the

antarctic.

AYSHIAL

Yeah, we know the story, Butch. Why don't you get to the point.

Jason leads the others as they follow the floor strobes.

CONTINUED:

BUTCH KIRKLAND

You guys don't understand what I am talking about here.

SARAH JACOBSON

It is not that butch, we just do not really care right at the moment. I think it is more important to find out what is going on now.

AYSHIAL

This ship is constructed of at least partial skagg technology. You can see areas where this ships builders used skagg organics in the hull.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Yeah, and I know who constructed this ship. Check out the insignia boys and girls. Unbelievable.

Jason knocks on the wall as he passes the insignia.

SARAH JACOBSON

I do not believe it.

AYSHIAL

The alliance built this thing. I thought they were only good at building low-tech pieces of junk.

They are met halfway by Lucian and Scarlet.

LUCIAN

I would not say that to loud if I were you, Ayshial.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

High commander present stand at attention!

Lucian's platoon all stand at attention with a salute.

Then they all look at each other and laugh.

LUCIAN

The day you guys do that and mean it please shoot me.

CONTINUED: (2)

SCARLET

I do not see the humor in breaking alliance protocol by not saluting a superior officer, Sir.

LUCIAN

If it makes you feel better you can salute me, Scarlet.

Ayshial steps up to face Scarlet.

AYSHIAL

Who is the alliance stiff, Sir?

Lucian moves Ayshial back from Scarlet.

LUCIAN

She is someone you do not want to tangle with, Ayshial. Trust me. This is Scarlet an alliance genesoldier. She will regretfully be joining us on our mission to the phoenix nebula.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Whoa, whoa, you just said we are going on a mission into outer space. That's a job for the deep space corps.

LUCIAN

I thought the very same thing before I spoke to Bryant. He showed me a holographic video of the skaggs destroying sigma-six base and most of their fleet.

SARAH JACOBSON

My brother is stationed there! Who survived? I'm asking you a question you bald freak! Were there any survivors after the attack?

SCARLET

There were. . . I cannot be certain if one of them was your brother. I'm sorry.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Why in the hell are the skaggs becoming so brave?

CONTINUED: (3)

LUCIAN

I think that's quite obvious, little brother. They want the free energy flowing from the phoenix nebula. Bryant has informed me the skaggs intend on trying to assassinate the galaxy council tomorrow.

JASON BLAKEFIELD So, that is why they gave you this vessel, and added another member to the platoon? They want us to protect them like mere security guards.

Ayshial hits Jason on his shoulder hard.

AYSHIAL

You know my father is on the council! We have to see that those bastard skaggs get nowhere near tomorrows meeting.

Lucian looks at Ayshial and starts to walk away.

LUCIAN

Well, I am afraid to tell you, Ayshial. That is not the mission we will be going on tomorrow. I've been instructed to take this experimental ship to the nebula, and protect it from the skaggs.

AYSHIAL

Bullshit! Then you will be going on your own, Sir. I'll not stand by while my father's life is in jeopardy. Drop me off at the council complex.

LUCIAN

We are going to the council complex but if you think you are staying you are mistaken, Ayshial. Your father and the council will be well protected. CONTINUED: (4)

AYSHIAL

Protected by who, a bunch of recruits with hardly a years worth of experience! I will be staying, If you like it or not!

SARAH JACOBSON

Ayshial. . . We understand your concern for your father's safety. Going against the orders of your High Commander holds a stiff penalty and you know it. Perhaps it is best if we just --

Ayshial pulls her sidearm aims it at Sarah.

AYSHIAL

I could care less what the High Commander thinks is best! If he won't listen to me then let him reason with this.

Lucian laughs.

Scarlet kicks the pistol from Ayshial's hand.

Ayshial pulls her two laser-edge swords.

AYSHIAL (CONT'D)

That was a big mistake!

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Calm down, Ayshial! Besides, I do
not think it's a good idea --

Lucian interrupts.

LUCIAN

No, Butch. Let Ayshial learn the hard way.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

But, Sir.

LUCIAN

Trust me. This won't last very long, I will stop it if it gets out of hand.

Ayshial swings her swords in a blur towards Scarlet who easy steps back avoiding the deadly attack.

CONTINUED: (5)

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Sir, what if Ayshial triggers her Furrian rage?

LUCIAN

Then we stand back and see who kills who.

Ayshial slashes her blades as fast as possible in many directions.

One slash is to fast for Scarlet and her stomach is slashed but not deeply.

SCARLET

I do not want to harm you, Ayshial. You are leaving me little choice and getting me very upset.

AYSHIAL

Oh, and you getting upset is supposed to frighten me, freak!

Ayshial stares at Scarlet's gash as it slowly heals.

SCARLET

Yes.

LUCIAN

I have got a bad feeling about this, Butch. You see, there is something I did not tell any of you about Scarlet. She has a screw loose and is prone to psychotic outbursts.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Do you think she is --

LUCIAN

Yeah, I would say she is about to go mental on Ayshial.

SARAH JACOBSON

Isn't there something you can do to stop her?

LUCIAN

Well, there is a secret word I can say and it knocks her out.

CONTINUED: (6)

SARAH JACOBSON

Why don't you say it then before Ayshial gets hurt?

LUCIAN

Bryant never gave it to me.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

I can give you the word needed to stop Scarlet, Captain Lucian.

Scarlet ducks beneath Ayshial's swords kicks Ayshial's feet out from under her.

Ayshial's swords go flying across the deck.

Scarlet leaps on top of Ayshial straddles her waist.

Ayshial wraps both of her legs around Scarlet's waist and tries to pull Scarlet down.

Scarlet easily lifts Ayshial off the floor by her throat.

Sarah rushes in to try and stop Scarlet only to be backhanded.

LUCIAN

Okay, ship, I think it is time to tell me the word.

Ayshial strikes Scarlet across both ears with her palms which stuns her slightly.

Scarlet's grip on Ayshial's throat remains tight.

Another ear strike and Scarlet drops Ayshial who delivers three kicks into her side, the fourth kick is grabbed and held.

Scarlet smiles and Ayshial jumps sideways nailing Scarlet across her face with a boot to the back of her head.

Scarlet still doesn't let go of Ayshial's leg, raising her elbow planning on brining it down to snap Ayshial's leg.

SCARLET

You human's are weak! Let's see how you walk after I snap your thigh in two.

AYSHIAL

Do I look human to you!

CONTINUED: (7)

Scarlet brings her elbow down.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

The secret word is -- good night.

LUCIAN

Hey, Scarlet!

Scarlet's blow is interrupted by Lucian's shout.

LUCIAN (CONT'D)

I have one word for you, little lady. Good night.

Scarlet drops Ayshial's leg staring at Lucian.

SCARLET

How. . . Did you. . . know?

LUCIAN

Let's just say a little birdie told me.

Scarlet drops to the floor like a sack of potatoes unconscious.

AYSHIAL

What the hell did you do, Sir, did you shoot her?

Lucian helps Ayshial to her feet.

LUCIAN

No, nothing so drastic, Ayshial. She will be unconscious for sixty minutes. How are you feeling?

AYSHIAL

I have felt better.

LUCIAN

Hey, I hate to say I told you so, but I told you so.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

What you failed to mention is that she could go ballistic on us at any moment. She is supposed to be on our side for God sake, bro.

Jason helps Sarah to her feet.

CONTINUED: (8)

SARAH JACOBSON

Please tell us you're not really brining her, Lucian. I know you to well and you told Bryant to kiss your ass, right?

LUCIAN

Not that well I am afraid, Sarah. Scarlet is the only one who knows how to pilot this ship. So she is an asset to the platoon and the mission. She stays.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

I do not believe this, my brother following orders like a dog from the one man he hates the most. I never thought I would see the day.

Lucian grabs his brother by the front of his armor pulling him close.

LUCIAN

You are all going to have to wake up, people! Haven't you been listening to a damn thing I have said? The skaggs are knocking at our front door!

(BEAT)

They are going after the phoenix nebula. Would you let them drain it dry without trying to defend it? They are in our territory, killed thousands of good soldiers and that pisses me off!

Lucian gives Jason a light shove away from him.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Well, why are we just standing around like a bunch of recruits. I say it is about time to dish out a little revenge!

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Damn straight! I am just dying to see what this ship can do in the way of firepower.

LUCIAN

What do you say, Ayshial?

CONTINUED: (9)

AYSHIAL

Just keep that psycho bitch away from me. Next time, I will kill her for sure, and anyone who gets in my way.

Ayshial picks her swords up off the deck and walks away.

SARAH JACOBSON

I guess that means she is in. You know If my brother survived the attack, I am sure he is back on Earth. If he did not I know he went out fighting. So I am in as well, Sir.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

Captain. . . Superior General Bryant wishes to speak with you at once.

LUCIAN

What in the hell does he want?

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Are you talking to the ship again? And who does who want again?

LUCIAN

Yes, I am talking to the ship, Jason. It seems Bryant has not busted my chops enough today. He wants to speak to me right away. Hey, ship?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

Captain Lucian could you please call me Gene. It just sounds much better than being called ship.

LUCIAN

Whatever, Gene.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

Great, so how can I assist you, Captain?

LUCIAN

For one if you quit calling me captain that would be great.

(MORE)

CONTINUED: (10)
LUCIAN(CONT'D)

Two, from now on every time you speak it is to be heard by the entire crew. Understood?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)
Of course, Sir. Would you like for me to put the Superior General through now?

LUCIAN

What in the hell do you want now, Bryant?

GENERAL BRYANT (V.O.) I need to speak with Scarlet at once where is she?

LUCIAN

She is busy washing her hair. I thought you had to speak with me?

GENERAL BRYANT (V.O.) Where is she, Lucian?

LUCIAN

I had to put the little lady to sleep. She decided to try and twist one of my soldiers heads off without asking my permission first. So you will have to tell me whatever you had to say to her.

GENERAL BRYANT (V.O.) I can not believe you used the shutdown word on Scarlet. How in the hell did you find out what it was? She needs to be conscious.

LUCIAN

That's the interesting thing, Bryant. It seems the ship, I'm sorry, Gene knew the shutdown word. I forgot to thank Gene by the way. Thanks, Gene.

GENERAL BRYANT (V.O.) That is not what is important right now. You are to report directly to the phoenix nebula at once. Space-Net is picking up skagg activity we speak.

CONTINUED: (11)

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Hey, brother, I don't know about this. We can't even pilot this ship without her, and she's out cold.

GENERAL BRYANT (V.O.)

The rogue starr is capable of flying herself. I'm ordering you to change course and defend that nebula. Now!

LUCIAN

You have no idea how sexy your voice sounds when you are angry, Bryant. Just a quick news flash for you, there are no armed soldiers here. We do whatever the hell we --

The ship moves slightly causing them to adjust their balance.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

Yes, Superior General Bryant, Sir. Setting course for the phoenix nebula now. I do suggest you follow your High Commander to the flight deck and strap in.

LUCIAN

Hey, Gene. Who is in charge of this ship you or the Captain?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

The Captain of course, Sir. Yet the Superior General's orders override even the Captain's. I sensed you had no intentions of listening to him.

LUCIAN

Now ain't that a bitch. I told you to stop reading my mind, Gene!

AYSHIAL

Great we have a ship with an attitude problem too. What are we going to do about curly here? Personally, I say we just leave her.

CONTINUED: (12)

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

You must take her with you, her body would not be able to survive a star burst without the protective shielding on the flight deck.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

What exactly is a star burst, Gene?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

You are the platoon's armorer Butch Kirkland, finally, someone I can talk to technically that will understand me. My propulsion system is run on an atmospheric star drive.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

You are telling me that you don't run on a combustive fuel source. That your atmospheric star drive draws in energy from the atmosphere itself. That is truly amazing!

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

Why thank you very much, Butch. There is one problem though I must warn you all of, we must use a star burst to reach the nebula quickly.

LUCIAN

Yeah, we are aware of that, Gene. So what is the warning?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

The Alliance never had a chance to fully test my abilities at their maximum levels. There is a seventy-five percent chance that my star drive will overload during star burst.

LUCIAN

Finally, a little excitement, Gene. Well. . . Ayshial, Sarah, grab Scarlet and follow me.

SARAH JACOBSON

Gene, what exactly happens if your star drive overloads during this star burst besides the obvious explosion? CONTINUED: (13)

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

In theory it would cause an explosion equal to that of a super nova. The blast would wipe out earth, and every existing planet in our solar system. It would be a disaster of epic proportions.

JASON BLAKEFIELD Well, no shit, Sherlock. At least this will be an exciting ride if

nothing else. Grab your new girlfriend so we can do this.

Sarah and Ayshial glare at Jason.

AYSHIAL

You are a freaking laugh riot, Sir. I do not see why I have to carry her your brother knocked her out. She damn near killed me, and I'm supposed to help her now.

SARAH JACOBSON

Maybe when she comes to we can teach her that all men are truly her enemy.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Oh, now that is really brilliant, Sarah. You think that up on your own? Time is wasting, grab her skinny ass and let's go.

SARAH JACOBSON

Let's just get this over with, Ayshial. She can't weigh that much I will get her arms you get her legs.

Sarah grabs Scarlet's arms and Ayshial grabs her legs.

SARAH JACOBSON (CONT'D)

Let's do it on three. One. . . Two.

. . THREE!

They both use all their strength but cannot lift her off the deck.

AYSHIAL

Good God! There is no possible way she can weigh this much.

CONTINUED: (14)

SARAH JACOBSON

Are you still there, Superior General Bryant, Sir?

GENERAL BRYANT (V.O.)

I thought ordered you to get to the phoenix nebula at once. Is that such a hard order to follow, First Lieutenant?

SARAH JACOBSON

No, Sir.

GENERAL BRYANT (V.O.)

Then why are we still talking?

AYSHIAL

Look, we were ordered to move your genetic pet project to the flight deck, but we can't because she weighs a ton.

GENERAL BRYANT (V.O.)

Oh, that is understandable, Ayshial. You see her entire skeleton is fused with Glass-Steel. Quite light on her toes weighing five hundred pounds, isn't she?

SARAH JACOBSON

What are we supposed to do with her then, Sir? The ship is preparing to go into a star burst. Won't the force kill her?

GENERAL BRYANT (V.O.)

Well, her body has never been tested against that kind of gravitational force, but it is likely she will survive the star burst. It is highly unlikely any of you will though.

Lucian and his men stop after hearing Bryant's words.

LUCIAN

You set us up didn't you bastard!

GENERAL BRYANT (V.O.)

Very perceptive for a mere grunt, Lucian. I figured your platoon was highly expendable.

(MORE)

CONTINUED: (15)

GENERAL BRYANT(CONT'D)

You have never listened to orders without disobedience, making you and your platoon the perfect lab rats.

LUCIAN

So you think that is all there is to this, Bryant! I will just turn this ship around and pay your ass a little visit!

Bryant just laughs boldly.

GENERAL BRYANT (V.O.)

You do not really think you can stop the ship with your commands. I have locked out all manual and verbal commands. I hope it works out for you enjoy your trip, Lucian! Goodbye now!

LUCIAN

Do not think this is over, Bryant! It is not over by a freaking long shot! I am coming back to personally kill your ass!

JASON BLAKEFIELD

I can not believe he set us up like that. Gene, is what he said true, we are no longer in control of your functions?

There is a brief silence.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

That is unfortunately correct, High Commander. Superior General Bryant has locked out all members of your platoon from controlling any of my systems.

LUCIAN

That son of a bitch! I want everyone to report to the flight deck at once!

Sarah and Ayshial approach Lucian from around the hall without Scarlet.

CONTINUED: (16)

LUCIAN (CONT'D)

I thought I told you two to bring Scarlet with you. Is that to hard for you two to understand.

AYSHIAL

I had it up to here with you, Lucian! Your brother told us to bring her, and if you can lift her five hundred pound ass go back a feel free to try.

JASON BLAKEFIELD Wait. . . What are you talking about, Ayshial? There is no way that skinny woman weighs five hundred pounds.

AYSHIAL

Well, according to Superior ass hole Bryant, her skeletal structure is coated in a layer of Glass-Steel. You still think she is such a lightweight?

JASON BLAKEFIELD You have got to be kidding me, this just keeps getting better and better with time. What do you suggest, bro?

LUCIAN

I suggest you just leave her where she is, she is one of Bryant's toys, if she dies it is none of our concern.

SARAH JACOBSON

You can not be that heartless, Lucian. She may have been created by Lucian but that is not her fault nor was it her decision.

LUCIAN

I know you heard what Bryant said about the ships controls being locked out to us. We have become his lab rats, Sarah. There is no time to worry about Scarlet now.

CONTINUED: (17)

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Sir, you have failed to pick up on one thing I have. The fact that Bryant never mentioned the ship's controls were locked out to Scarlet's commands.

Lucian laughs.

LUCIAN

You're right, Butch. We still have a chance at living through this, but only if Scarlet survives. Everyone move! To the flight deck and strap yourselves down.

The platoon races into the flight deck each taking a seat strapping themselves down.

LUCIAN (CONT'D)

Gene, what exactly should we expect from this star burst?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

You all should expect some disorientation, blurred vision, during and after the initial star burst. The trip will take an estimated twenty-four hours. Though it will seem instant to all of you.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

That does not make any sense, Gene. Why will it take you twenty-four hours to make it to the phoenix nebula?

AYSHIAL

That means that the skaggs will attack the galaxy council and we'll not be able to do a thing about it. Stop the star burst now or I will slash this place to hell and back!

Ayshial tries to take her straps off yet discovers they will not unbuckle.

AYSHIAL (CONT'D)

What in the hell is going on? Let me out of this freaking chair!

CONTINUED: (18)

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

I cannot allow you or anyone to jeopardize this important mission. Star burst is now initializing.

Ayshial and all of the platoon members find it becoming hard to breath.

LUCIAN

What in the hell are you doing, Gene! I can not breath. Are you trying to kill us.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

I am sorry, Commander Lucian. You will all be rendered unconscious due to lack of oxygen just long enough for me to finish my star burst.

LUCIAN

I can not believe you are doing this! The galaxy council members are going to be killed because of you and Bryant's interference.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

If you knew the truth it would only add to the anger you feel towards Superior General Bryant.

The cabin pressure drops so low that the platoon is rendered unconscious.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Star burst initiated. . .

The ship streaks forward leaving a ripple effect behind and then in the blink of an eye it's gone.

CUT TO:

SUPERIMPOSE: THE PHOENIX NEBULA, TWENTY-FOUR HOURS LATER

EXT. OUTER SPACE, THE PHOENIX NEBULA

The rogue starr comes out of star burst about five hundred yards from the nebula.

The nebula has the appearance of a large black hole only its a bright gold.

CONTINUED:

As it slowly spins particles of what look like small golden stars drift off and around it. The center itself is so bright its almost as if a sun rests there.

Warning lights go off inside the Rouge Starr.

Not three hundred feet in front of the rogue starr wait over fifty skagg bloody scythe fighter ships.

The fighters surround a skagg devastator warship that is draining energy from the phoenix nebula.

Like a pack of rabid dogs the skagg fighter ships advance on the rogue starr firing their weapons.

It's the first of many direct hits that wakes Lucian from unconsciousness.

LUCIAN

What was that for god sake! Speak to me now, Gene!

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

It would seem within the passing twenty-four hours, an armada of skagg bloody scythe fighters, and a devastator warship beat us to the nebula. The fighters have begun their assault.

Lucian's eyesight is blurred and he's disoriented.

LUCIAN

I hope like hell you plan on fighting them off! I can't see a thing right now. With all that firepower out there we will be dead in five minutes!

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

Have a little faith in my capabilities, High Commander. Your eyesight will return shortly. Sit back, and watch what I'm capable of.

The rogue starr does a 360 degree barrel roll as it dives beneath the advancing skagg fighters.

It opens fire with its mini guns still spinning destroying six skagg fighter ships.

INT. ROGUE STARR HALLWAY

Scarlet comes to her senses and stands noticing the flashing lights.

SCARLET

We must be under attack, I have to get to the flight deck at once! Gene, what is the situation?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

The skaggs were waiting for us and have begun their assault. It is as if they knew we were coming. There is also a devastator warship that appears to be draining energy from the nebula.

Scarlet makes her way towards the flight deck.

SCARLET

That is not possible, Gene. No one knows how to drain the nebula's energy or if it's even possible. How many fighters are we --

Scarlet stares out noticing how many fighter ships that swarm the area.

LUCIAN

Oh, so glad you could join us, Scarlet! The shit has officially hit the fan as you can see. I have no control over the ship thanks to Bryant. I hope you are not still pissed at me for knocking you out.

SCARLET

We will have a talk about that after we get out of this alive. Gene, prepare rocket pods, and charge the star cannon. Target the devastator warship. Also target the fighters with your missiles.

LUCIAN

Have you flipped your lid again, Scarlet! Firing on a devastator warship is asking for a quick death! Do I have to say the --

CONTINUED:

Scarlet knocks Lucian unconscious with a swift chop to the back of the neck.

SCARLET

I am sorry about that, High Commander. If you want to live you need me conscious. Has anyone else come to yet?

SARAH JACOBSON

Yeah, I am awake but can not see very well. What is going on?

SCARLET

We have come out of the star burst straight into a skagg ambush. We are facing forty some fighters and a devastator. How goes the target locks, Gene?

Sarah stares at the forward windshield and watches close to forty sperate targets appear and one large one on the devastator warship.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

All targets locked, ready to fire missiles at your command. Star cannon will be ready to fire in thirty seconds. Wait. . .

SCARLET

What seems to be the problem, Gene?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

It's strange. All of a sudden my scanners are picking up a very large life-form.

SARAH JACOBSON

Where is this life-form coming from?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

That is what is so strange. The life-form is the phoenix nebula itself. It's entire mass is currently changing. Brace yourselves for impact!

There is a brilliant golden flash that streaks across space.

CONTINUED: (2)

The devastator warship explodes in a large ball of fire as the wave of energy hits it almost dead on, even quite a few fighters are destroyed.

Once the energy wave slams into the rouge starr it's not powerful enough to destroy the ship but it hits it hard taking out the shields, and wakes everyone but Lucian.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

The energy wave has knocked out my shields. I am experiencing trouble with my propulsion system and maneuverability.

SCARLET

Something destroyed the skagg devastator warship and most of the fighters as well. What is the trouble with your propulsion and maneuverability, Gene?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

The nebula has created its own form of black hole. It is attempting to draw me into it. It's very strong to strong for me to resist without blowing my star drive.

SARAH JACOBSON

You said that the nebula was a lifeform. What if this is its way of defending itself. The skaggs were attempting to drain energy from it. Now it is pissed and fighting back.

SCARLET

That is an interesting probability, First Lieutenant. Gene, what happens if we get to close to the nebula's core?

SARAH JACOBSON

My guess this is our first and last mission in space.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Exactly how long are you going to keep us in these damn seats! According to my brother you can control the ship, Scarlet. I want to die standing.

CONTINUED: (3)

SCARLET

We are not completely out of danger just yet, High Commander. There are still skagg fighters closing in on us.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

That is a false statement, Scarlet. The skagg fighters are also being pulled into the nebula, even faster than we are.

AYSHIAL

Then let me out of this seat!

SCARLET

I am not sure that would be such a good idea. If we are going to be pulled into the nebula you would be safer strapped down. I myself am going to do the same.

Scarlet takes a seat and straps herself in.

SCARLET (CONT'D)

Gene, how long until we enter the nebula?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

At my current rate of speed no less than a minute. I do have good news though, I was able to fix the shield. It is up and running at one hundred percent. It may keep us from being destroyed.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

I really do not have a good feeling about this. I love you guys.

They all watch as the nebula grows closer and closer.

The ship begins to tremble violently as it enters the outer section of the nebula.

The inside of the ship is flooded with the golden light.

All movement comes to a halt inside the rogue starr.

Outside, the nebula vanishes in a great flash along with the ship.

EXT. OUTER SPACE, UNKNOWN LOCATION

There is a sudden bright flash and the rogue starr appears from out of nowhere.

INT. ROGUE STARR FLIGHT DECK

All is still frozen for a very short period, then time catches up with them and the ship.

LUCIAN

Can someone please tell me what just happened?

SCARLET

It would seem we have survived entering the nebula. Gene, where are we and what is our current status?

LUCIAN

Who's bright idea was it to enter the freaking nebula? That was not part of the mission. The last I remember is we were being attacked by skaggs.

SCARLET

Yes, that is true, High Commander. We had been under attack until I rendered you unconscious. The nebula turned out to be a living entity that attacked the skaggs and us.

LUCIAN

If that does not sound like a bull shit story. Is any of it true?

SARAH JACOBSON

Yes, Sir. What Scarlet is telling you happened. The thing that puzzles me why it destroyed the skaggs but left us intact?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

I have discovered where the nebula has taken us but it is hard for me to believe. According to my scans and current coordinates we haven't moved, we are exactly where the phoenix nebula should still be. CONTINUED:

SCARLET

That is impossible. An entire nebula just doesn't vanish.

AYSHIAL

Well, it seems like you do not know it all do you. I say we go back to Earth now! There is no longer a nebula to protect, so there is no reason to waste our time.

LUCIAN

I have to totally agree with my soldier. Order the ship to head for home.

Lucian quickly stands after cutting through his straps with his hip sheathed laser-edge knife.

LUCIAN (CONT'D)

Do not make me ask a second time, Scarlet! I will say the word and this time don't plan on waking up.

Lucian cuts his brothers straps and soon all his soldiers are free.

Ayshial has her swords out.

SCARLET

You do realize you are all committing acts of treason. Is it really worth your lives?

All Lucian does is give a bold laugh.

LUCIAN

How soon we forget, little lady. The galaxy council no longer exists so who is going to convict us?

SCARLET

Indeed. Take us to earth, Gene.

LUCIAN

That is good. You have no idea how much I want to kill you, lady. I am in a good mood right now. So just stay in your seat and don't say a word unless you are spoken to. How long until we reach earth, Gene?

CONTINUED: (2)

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

I do not think it is a wise idea to return to earth, High Commander. I have been trying to reach various alliance bases, but getting no replies. It is almost as if they --

LUCIAN

Do not try and pull that shit with me, Gene! Even if the skaggs did attack the planet within the time we were gone there would still be manned bases. How long. . .

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

Without another star burst, and at my highest rate of speed no less than a half-hour.

LUCIAN

Wait, wait just a minute, you told us a star burst was needed to reach the nebula when we started this damn mission. Now you are telling me that at top speed you can get us home in an half-hour.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

The star burst was only needed as an initial test of the star drive itself. Bryant had hoped it would have blown killing you all in the process, if not the skagg ambush was waiting.

SCARLET

I'm confused. Superior General Bryant was involved in setting Lucian's platoon up, and he also has been dealing with the skaggs. That cannot be possible.

AYSHIAL

Oh, don't act innocent! You've no doubt been holding out on us all this time as well! I say we kill Bryant's freak and take this ship!

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

No. Scarlet had no idea that Bryant was involved. I can assure you all of that much.

(MORE)

CONTINUED: (3)

GENESIS ONE(CONT'D)

Remember, she to would have died if my star drive would have blown.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

The ship has you on that one, Ayshial. I never did trust that bastard Bryant. How do you feel about your great General now, Scarlet?

SCARLET

Betrayed. . . Angry. . .

LUCIAN

Hey, you know how fast I can put you out, little lady.

SCARLET

I am in total control of my emotions right now, High Commander. It will not come to that. You have my word as a soldier.

LUCIAN

Normally, that does not go very far, Scarlet. Seeing though as you were also going to be a sacrifice in Bryant's plan I will trust you for now.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

I have just entered our solar system we will reach Earth in fifteen minutes. I still do not like the way my scanners are reading things on the surface. I am not picking up any form of transmissions military or civilian.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

That cannot be possible, Gene. The skaggs themselves need to communicate using laser beam transmissions. There would be the chance of survivors, resistance fighters with communications equipment.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

We all shall find out in five minutes once we pass the dark side of the moon. I'm raising my shields just in case we are wrong. CONTINUED: (4)

They all watch as the ship slowly flies beyond the backside of the moon.

The Earth comes into view and all appears normal.

Most of them cheer except for Butch who stood silent.

LUCIAN

See, I told you the skaggs had no chance against the alliance defenses.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

I would not be so sure of that just yet, Sir. Something is not jiving with me that you all should have noticed as well.

AYSHIAL

What in the hell are you talking about, Butch? It looks clear to me, man. Do you see any skagg fighters coming for us? Gene, are you picking up any bad guys on your scanners?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

No.

AYSHIAL

See, nothing to worry about, we are home free, buddy!

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Then I gather you all did not notice we were never checked by space-net security and allowed access to enter earth's atmosphere!

(BEAT)

Everyone here knows that all ship's must be green lighted first. Where was the space-net's grid, Ayshial?

SARAH JACOBSON

Butch is right we never had to pass through space-net security. That is not normal at all, Gene, scan for the space-net grid.

SCARLET

Gene, will only take orders from --

CONTINUED: (5)

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

There is no sign of the space-net grid or its station, First Lieutenant.

SARAH JACOBSON

Has it been destroyed?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

Negative. My scanners show no signs of debris, it is as if it never existed. What is your next command, High Commander Lucian?

Lucian turns and stares at Earth as it slowly gets closer.

LUCIAN

Do you have stealth, a way that the skaggs would not be able to pick you up on scanners if we went down to take a look, Gene?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

No, Sir. Yet I can manipulate my hull structure to appear as one of their craft. It may fool them long enough for a good observation of the situation.

AYSHIAL

Yeah, if that's even the case, which we are not even sure that it is just yet. We are jumping to conclusions way to soon.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Oh, come on, Ayshial! Tell the truth you're just hoping your father is still alive, you do not care about our planet's welfare.

Ayshial rushes towards Butch but is stopped by Lucian.

AYSHIAL

How dare you even talk about my father! Of course I want to know if he is alive! Would not you want to know if it was your father. Of course I care about the planet, I have to live there to.

CONTINUED: (6)

LUCIAN

That is enough of this childish bull you two! We have more to worry about than fighting with one another. Okay, Gene, do your thing and take us into Earth's atmosphere.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

Yes, Sir. Initiating Doppelganger cover. Now descending.

Outside, the rogue starr undergoes a transformation, and when it's finished the ship looks just like a skagg bloody scythe fighter.

The rogue starr enters earth's atmosphere, breaking through dark clouds full of lightning flashes.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

When we break through this storm front, we should be overlooking the galaxy complex.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

If it is still there that is.

The rogue starr breaks through the dense cloud cover to a horrifying sight.

LUCIAN

Lord have mercy. . .

AYSHIAL

No, no this is not possible!

What they all see is desolation.

Every known earth structure has been replaced by skagg strongholds.

Plainly visible are skagg fighters and devastator warships.

The once great galaxy complex is now the skagg main stronghold, its lights seem to glow with the golden energy of the now vanished phoenix nebula. The color can be seen all through out the area, and in the lights of the craft.

LUCIAN

They took the whole planet. That is just not possible, they never had the power to invade earth.

CONTINUED: (7)

SARAH JACOBSON

They must have somehow harnessed the power of the nebula, and used it against our defences. We can not give up hope now though, there still could be survivors.

AYSHIAL

Oh, shut the hell up, Sarah! These bastard skaggs have killed your race and invaded your planet! I say we strike --

Sarah nails Ayshial with a hard right knocking her unconscious.

SARAH JACOBSON

Shut up! She was really getting on my nerves with all her bitching. Now maybe we'll have some time to think straight.

LUCIAN

I agree. Good punch by the way.

SARAH JACOBSON

Thanks.

LUCIAN

Gene, I want you to do the longest possible scan that you can and get us some information. Pronto!

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

I do not think I will have time to preform that scan for you, Sir. My doppelganger disguise has not proven good enough to fool them. I can tell you that the energy being used has the same life-force signature as that of the nebula.

LUCIAN

What do you mean you do not have the time you are a super genius alien computer for god sake! What could possibly stop you from doing a little scan? CONTINUED: (8)

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

Three devastator warships and thirty bloody scythe fighters with all their weapons systems prepared to fire on my position.

LUCIAN

That would do it for me to.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

The ships are opening fire, Sir! Hold on! I'm taking evasive action.

The devastators open fire with their black hole cannons and one beam manages to strike the rogue starr dead on.

Everyone inside the rogue starr is knocked forward to the floor, sparks shower the computer consoles, warning lights wink on and off.

Lucian slowly gets to his feet a large bloody gash above his good eye.

LUCIAN

What is the situation, Gene!

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

We took a direct hit from one of the devastators black hole cannons! It is taken out my shields! There is a core breach in my star drive!

(BEAT)

This is very dangerous for you all, not only can it contaminate the entire ship with deadly plasma radiation. If we are struck one more time it will cause a super nova.

LUCIAN

Give me manual control, Gene! I just might be able to keep us alive long enough for you to mend yourself!

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

Once my star drive was damaged it incapacitated my ability to regenerate. Right now we are just flying on pure forward inertia.

(MORE)

CONTINUED: (9)

GENESIS ONE(CONT'D)

Once that runs out we will start to drop from the sky quick.

Scarlet quickly puts out the spreading fire.

AYSHIAL

So you're trying to tell us that after all we have been through this is the end! I thought you were supposed to be a kick ass experimental fighter!

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

I am not indestructible you know! That blast was much stronger than the usual black hole cannon. I think they have successfully harnessed the energy of the phoenix nebula.

SARAH JACOBSON

They are moving in quick, Gene! We have to do something and do it now! Do you have a back-up engine?

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Don't you think that Gene would switch to it if she did, Sarah! Gene, is it possible to fire your missiles in reverse?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

Yes, though you know it wont effect the larger ships. Doing so will also deplete the last of my remaining energy. As you humans say we'd be sitting ducks.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

We humans have a lot of sayings, Gene. One of my favorites is quite old but a good one. JUST DO IT!

The rogue starr's missile pods slowly turn to face the enemy.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

My targeting system is shaky at best. I will try to get a lock on every target possible.

CONTINUED: (10)

LUCIAN

Do not worry about accuracy, Gene. You are trying to create more of a diversion than anything. It might give us enough time to escape. Do you have an escape shuttle?

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

No, Sir. That is what alliance scientists were working on before you took me to save your platoon.

LUCIAN

There have to be other possible options!

JASON BLAKEFIELD I knew you stole this ship, smooth move, bro!

LUCIAN

Whoa, whoa, pal! If it were not for me saving your ass you would be ground meat by now! I say you owe me!

BUTCH KIRKLAND

No time for arguing right now! We have run out of options, and the skaggs are firing! Return fire, Gene!

The crew watch as the skagg devastators black hole cannons charged building as a golden glow that grew slowly in size.

Every missile shoots forth from beneath the rogue starr towards the skaggs.

The black hole cannons fire three large beams.

Just as the missiles and beams are about to impact with each other all the missiles freeze mid-air along with the black hole cannon beams.

The interior of the rogue starr is bathed in a brilliant golden glow.

LUCIAN

Are we dead. . .

CONTINUED: (11)

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

I am reading all of your life signs, Sir. There is also a presence here with me I cannot explain. It's very similar to the life-force from the nebula.

SCARLET

That would explain the creature standing in front of us.

BUTCH KIRKLAND

Whoa! Maybe we are dead and this is an angel.

Lucian laughs.

LUCIAN

Right, like any of us are going to go to Heaven when we kick the bucket, Butch.

SARAH JACOBSON

Speak for yourself, Lucian.

The creature before them is more light than substance though a human figure and white eyes gaze back at them.

Its voice has the sound of many voices overlapped together as one and it echoes off after finishing.

NEBULA LIFE-FORM

You have nothing to fear from me. I am not here to do you physical harm but to help you.

LUCIAN

Are you the one that just put time on a stand still?

NEBULA LIFE-FORM

The current situation called for a suspension in the time space continuum.

LUCIAN

Yeah, just exactly where were you all this time, and why are you helping us now? You were quite insistent on wiping us out when you tried sucking us into your nebula.

CONTINUED: (12)

JASON BLAKEFIELD

Hey, bro. Do not piss this thing off, we have no idea what it can do. If it can stop time it can handle us with ease. Shut up!

NEBULA LIFE-FORM

My people were not attacking you, we were defending ourselves from the creatures that recently saw to the end of my kind. You were accidentally drawn into the collapse of our world.

SARAH JACOBSON

So what we thought was an energy nebula was a planet? Good God, no wonder you attacked the skaggs they were draining your very life essence.

LUCIAN

Big question is how did you manage to survive the destruction or should I say harvesting of your race?

NEBULA LIFE-FORM

I escaped being harvested by concealing myself in the star drive of this vessel for the sake of your race and mine.

LUCIAN

Wait a minute here, Hoss. You are not making much sense at the moment. You saved your ass for the sake of both our races. Why don't you try being a little more clear on what you are telling us.

AYSHIAL

Yeah, how do we know this thing is not really hostile, and just waiting for the right moment to get revenge on us and the skaggs.

SCARLET

Just look outside and you will see why I don't feel this being is a threat, Ayshial. It's stopped us from being destroyed.

CONTINUED: (13)

AYSHIAL

That could be a cover-up just to save its own ass! It is on a ship that was about to be blasted from the sky. Give it some thought and it makes sense.

The creature raises both its hands palms out within each palm appears an image, one is of the planet earth and the other the phoenix nebula.

NEBULA LIFE-FORM

Our planets have been destroyed, yet they have been merged through the spirits of humankind and my kind.

The creature brings together the two images of the planets and reveals a new planet, it looks like Earth yet Skagg strongholds and the golden glow of innocent nebula beings now used as energy illuminate the structures.

NEBULA LIFE-FORM (CONT'D)

We are now bound as one through loss and anger. I am here to tell you of the only way to reverse all of this chaos, and return things to the way they were intended.

LUCIAN

Can't you just reverse it all, you can stop time why not reverse it?

NEBULA LIFE-FORM

It is beyond my power to reverse time, but there is one known being somewhere in the galaxy who can. For the sake of our races I implore you seek this being out.

JASON BLAKEFIELD

That would be like searching for a needle in a freaking haystack! How would we even track this being down?

NEBULA LIFE-FORM

I shall soon become one with your ship's intelligence, using the remainder of my life-force. To see that you and your crew make it off this planet alive.

(MORE)

CONTINUED: (14)

NEBULA LIFE-FORM(CONT'D)

That time has now arrived. Once I have become one with this vessel.

(BEAT)

She will be able to track ancient monuments where this being once resided. They will reveal vital information as to where the being has traveled. Peace be with you all and safe journey.

SARAH JACOBSON

Wait just a minute! You are going to sacrifice yourself. We can not let you do that, It is not right you are the last of your race.

NEBULA LIFE-FORM It is a sacrifice that must be made.

The being slowly raises its arms and as it does its glow intensifies.

Then its body explodes in a shower of small golden orbs that cover the entire ship and its crew in gold auras.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

I have made a full recovery, High Commander. My star burst has been activated and our destination is unknown.

LUCIAN

Let us just thank God, and someone else we're still alive, Gene.

GENESIS ONE (V.O.)

Yes, Sir.

We watch the rogue starr come out of its star burst and slowly drift through space, behind it a golden trail slowly flows off the hull.

FADE TO BLACK.