

PREPOSTEROUS

By

ANTHONY HUDSON

(alfy)

COPYRIGHT 2012

buckrogers_10@hotmail.com

FADE IN:

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - WATERFALL - DAY

A HUMANOID, tall and slender, stands by a waterfall, a small box in his grasp. He gazes at his reflection in the ripples. A dark shape appears in the water.

The Humanoid looks up. A large spaceship hovers above him. Its engines glow and it disappears beyond the horizon.

He runs his fingers around the edge of the box and it begins to open. A liquid is present inside.

The Humanoid takes a sip of the liquid and repels.

HUMANOID

What's that, it's disgusting?

He begins to shake and convulse.

HUMANOID

Oh, bollocks!

His body breaks apart, falls into the water and disappears over the waterfall.

INT. CAVE - DAY

SUPER: 2089

Dark and damp.

SHAW, twenties and spunky, flashes her torch light back and forth.

BOB, thirties and bland, follows.

Shaw illuminates a childish scrawl on the cave wall. It depicts a figure pointing toward stars in the sky.

SHAW

Look!

BOB

What is it?

SHAW

It's what we wanted to find.

BOB

But what is it?

SHAW
I'll tell you later. Lets get
Charlie.

She turns and exits.

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

Shaw exits the cave and looks down the hill.

HOLLOWAY, thirties and clean shaven, examines a stone.

SHAW
Charlie, we've found something.

He smiles back.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - STASIS SUITE - SPACE

Empty and quiet.

DAVID, tall and handsome, saunters in. He runs his hands
over Shaw's stasis pod.

DREAM SEQUENCE - SOMEWHERE IN AFRICA

A young GIRL and her FATHER. They watch a TRIBE pass by.

GIRL
Where's mum?

FATHER
She's dead.

GIRL
I miss her.

FATHER
We both do.

END DREAM SEQUENCE.

David stands back.

DAVID
Boring.

He exits.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - COCKPIT - SPACE

David looks out of the window. A large planet is visible.

He smiles and exits.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - CARGO BAY - SPACE

VICKERS, thirties and beautiful, stands before the seated crew. Scientists and other nondescript personnel.

VICKERS

Hello, we've arrived at LV -
twenty two three.

The crew look glum and uninterested.

VICKERS

David.

David presses a button and a hologram of WEYLAND, seventies and decrepid, appears.

WEYLAND

Welcome. I will now tell you
nothing of what you want to hear
and lots of shit that makes no
sense, but this will all become
clear later...or maybe not.
Goodbye.

The image flickers and disappears.

VICKERS

Shaw, Holloway, you're next to
waffle on a bit.

Shaw and Holloway stand. A number of images appear, they show the childish scribbles from before.

SHAW

What we have here a numerous
drawing found all across the
earth from many time periods but
all show the same image, that of
a star map.

A crew member raises their hand.

HOLLOWAY

Not now.

The hand slowly lowers.

SHAW

They show a map of planets, far,
far away from us but it's a map
of the origins of man...or...a
map to warn us. One of those is
definitely right.

A hand raises from the crew.

HOLLOWAY
What is it?

MILBURN, thirties and shaggy haired, stands.

MILBURN
Who drew the map, and why?

SHAW
Have I not just explained this?

MILBURN
No, not really.

SHAW
Then I'll explain later.

MILBURN
When?

SHAW
Later...or never, I can't decide.

MILBURN
But you think aliens drew it for us?

Shaw shrugs.

MILBURN
Why? If it's a map from thousands of years ago then they knew we hadn't the technology to get there, and if it's a warning, why leave it so we'd think to investigate? It makes no sense.

SHAW
Don't worry, that's the least of your worries.

Milburn sits.

VICKERS
Okay. Captain Janek will now lands us on the planet.

A hand shoots up.

Vickers sighs.

VICKERS
What is it now?

FIFIELD, thirties and forgettable, stands.

FIFIELD

If the captain was in stasis with us, how did we get here?

VICKERS

David piloted the ship.

FIFIELD

Then why do we need a captain?

Vickers looks confused.

VICKERS

Sit down.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - COCKPIT - LV-223

Captain JANEK, forties and boring, looks out the window.

JANEK

Let's take her down.

Two CO-PILOTS, both lame, sit beside Janek. One points out.

CO-PILOT #1

Look, is that what we're looking for?

A large structure is visible on the otherwise desolate surface.

JANEK

What a stroke of luck. We appear to have stumbled across exactly what we're looking for.

EXT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP / PLANET LV-223- DAY

The spaceship lands.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - COCKPIT - DAY

Vickers enters, the scientists follow.

JANEK

There it is.

VICKERS

Okay, go take a look but touch nothing. I can't stress enough that you touch nothing and have no contact with anything. Understood.

The crew nod in unison.

INT. ALIEN TEMPLE - ENTRANCE

Large and impressive.

David, Shaw, Holloway, Milburn and Fifield are in awe at their surroundings. Other non essential characters also mill about. They all wear space suits.

HOLLOWAY

I'm going to take off my helmet.

SHAW

No, Charlie, it's not safe.
There's no oxygen and you'll die.

HOLLOWAY

It's okay cos my device says it's good.

He removes his helmet.

SHAW

Nooo....

Holloway sucks in a lung full.

HOLLOWAY

See, it's fine.

SHAW

Oh, it's lucky there was nothing harmful in the atmosphere that we didn't know about.

All the team remove their helmets.

DAVID

I didn't need mine anyway because I'm not even human.

INT. ALIEN TEMPLE - CORRIDOR

The team encounter a dead Alien. It's head is missing.

DAVID

This must be one of the Engineers.

MILBURN

The what?

DAVID
Engineers, that's what we call
them. Were you not briefed about
this?

MILBURN
No.

David shrugs.

FIFIELD
I wonder how he died.

SHAW
The door has decapitated it.
They must have closed it in a
hurry, to keep something out...or
in.

MILBURN
Then lets not open it.

David pushes a button and the door opens.

DAVID
Sorry but I can't stop touching
things.

A hologram image appears and shows a number of Engineer's
running toward the Ampule room.

HOLLOWAY
What is this?

DAVID
It's a security device. For some
reason it's playing part of the
recording over again.

HOLLOWAY
Shame it's not showing us
anything worthwhile.

MILBURN
Like?

HOLLOWAY
Like, what are they running from.

DAVID
That would spoil any surprise.

They all look at David.

Shaw removes a sandwich bag.

SHAW

Let's bag the head and get it
back to the ship.

MILBURN

I thought we weren't suppose to
touch anything or have any
contact with anything?

SHAW

Oh, who cares what Vickers says,
who is she anyway?

DAVID

She's paid for us to be here.

Shaw pulls a face and bags the head.

MILBURN

I'm scared, why did no one
mention all this to me before we
set off? I'm only a biologist,
I'm going.

FIFIELD

Me too.

Milburn and Fifield turn and run away.

David enters the next room.

INT. ALIEN TEMPLE - AMPOULE ROOM

Ampoules cover the floor and a giant stone head watches
over them.

David saunters in and secretly collects one of the
ampoules.

JANEK (O.S.)

(radio)

There's a storm coming so you
need to leave.

Shaw, Holloway, David and the irrelevant others leave.

INT/EXT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - CARGO BAY

David, Holloway and the non essentials enter.

Shaw drops the bagged head outside and goes back out for
it.

HOLLOWAY
 No, it's too dangerous, you're
 going to die!

Shaw collects the head and is blown off her feet by the storm.

Vickers stands in the doorway.

VICKERS
 She's dead for sure.

Shaw disappears from view.

VICKERS
 Told you.

EXT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - DAY

Shaw is blown round the side of the ship.

David appears in a space suit. He is tied to the ship with a length of bungee cord.

He grabs Shaw and they ping back inside.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - CARGO BAY

Vickers stands arms folded.

David and Shaw enter.

Holloway beams a smile.

HOLLOWAY
 Liz, you're alive.

SHAW
 Yes, it seems the storm couldn't
 kill me after all.

INT. ALIEN TEMPLE - CORRIDOR

Fifield and Milburn walk along.

MILBURN
 How did we get lost when the bots
 have mapped out the layout?

FIFIELD
 Don't ask me. The ship should
 have known we were heading in the
 wrong direction and told us, but
 of course they didn't.

MILBURN

Too busy trying to work out what
the star maps were all about
probably?

FIFIELD

Yeah, either that or playing
Doom?

JANEK (O.S.)

(intercom)

Hey guys, looks like you're stuck
there till the storm passes. Oh,
and there's something on the map.
It's alive and you're heading
toward it. Bye.

The two stop and turn around.

FIFIELD

Best go this way then.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - MEDICAL BAY

Clean and bright.

Shaw enters with the bagged head.

She is joined by FORD, medical officer in her thirties.

FORD

Let's take a look at this head.
Maybe we should prod it and poke
it about?

Shaw puts the head on the table.

SHAW

Okay, that sounds like a good
idea.

FORD

Hey, maybe we should try and
stimulate it with electrodes?

Shaw nods.

Ford sticks electrodes into the Engineer's head. It
twitches and starts to mutate.

FORD

Oh dear, this looks bad.

SHAW

It's going to explode. Put it in
the microwave thing.

Ford throws the head in a quarantine box. It explodes.

FORD

Wow, that was lucky, and we didn't take any precautions either.

SHAW

Yeah, and we've just destroyed a great discovery. Oh, well.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - DAVID'S QUARTERS

David examines the ampule and discovers a black liquid inside. He smiles.

DAVID

Interesting.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - CANTEEN

The crew celebrate with drinks and nibbles.

Shaw raises her glass.

SHAW

Here's to everyone and the great discovery we've made...and destroyed.

Everyone drinks.

David enters and picks up a glass of champagne. He secretly smears a drop of the black liquid into the glass and hands it to Holloway.

DAVID

Here you go, Holloway.

Holloway takes it.

HOLLOWAY

Thanks.

DAVID

My pleasure.

INT. ALIEN TEMPLE - AMPOULE ROOM

Fifield and Milburn enter.

FIFIELD

Why have we come back here?

MILBURN

I don't know but we might as well stay now.

Milburn notices a black liquid on the floor. Something moves in it.

MILBURN

Oh, look at that.

FIFIELD

What is it?

Milburn kneels down for a better look.

MILBURN

I don't know?

A snake-like creature emerges and sways, hypnotically.

Milburn holds out his hand toward the creature.

FIFIELD

What you doing, I thought you were scared?

MILBURN

What, of this little alien thing, why would I be?

FIFIELD

You were scared of bugger all a few hours ago.

Milburn teases the creature.

MILBURN

Relax, it's kind of cute.

The creature jumps from the liquid and wraps itself around Milburn's arm.

MILBURN

Oh, bloody hell, I think I've misjudged the situation.

The creature tightens its grip and starts to bite its way into his spacesuit.

MILBURN

Get it off.

FIFIELD

How?

MILBURN

Oh, don't bother, it's probably
too late now anyway?

The creature disappears into his suit and appears in his helmet. He screams and the creature dives in to his mouth.

Fifield stands in shock. A yellow goo explodes from Milburn's body and melts his helmet to his face.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - SHAW'S QUARTERS

Shaw and Holloway smooch and get freaky.

LATER

Holloway stands and looks in the mirror. A small worm bulges from his eye and winks at him. He repels but shrugs it off.

INT. ALIEN TEMPLE - AMPOULE ROOM

David, Holloway, Shaw and a few others enter and discover the dead body of Milburn.

DAVID

Oh dear, he's dead.

He shoots a look to Holloway.

SHAW

Not to worry, he was a Jesse
anyway.

DAVID

You have a look round here while
I snoop about somewhere else,
being anything but suspicious.

David exits.

HOLLOWAY

I don't feel to good. I've got
the shits real bad.

Shaw looks at him with disgust.

INT. ALIEN TEMPLE - ALIEN SHIP

Large stasis pods line the cylindrical room. There's a stage at its center and an chair offset.

David enters and approaches one of the pods. He rubs the window clear and looks inside at an Engineer.

DAVID

Oh, it appears to be alive.

He shrugs, turns and sits in the chair. He fumbles with buttons on a control panel but nothing happens.

He notices a flute and picks it up. He blows a random tune and the alien computer turns on. A large star map is projected onto the stage.

David leaps up and is in awe at the map. It spins until an image of the earth comes in to view.

DAVID

Interesting.

EXT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - CARGO BAY - DAY

David and the others wait by the doors.

Holloway rubs his stomach and cringes.

VICKERS (O.S.)

(intercom)

I'm sorry but we can't let you in.

SHAW

Why?

VICKERS (O.S.)

(intercom)

Holloway looks sick. Is he infected or something?

SHAW

No, it's just the shits.

Holloway groans.

HOLLOWAY

I'm fine.

The cargo bay door opens. Vickers stands with several other crew members. She holds a flame thrower.

SHAW

What's that for?

She nods to Holloway.

VICKERS

He can't come in.

David nods.

DAVID
I'm okay though, right.

He saunters in.

VICKERS
Stay back or else.

Holloway farts and stares at Shaw.

HOLLOWAY
Oh dear...

Vickers ignites Holloway with a blast from the flame
thrower.

SHAW
Noooooooo!

VICKERS
Okay, you can come in.

Vickers walks away.

Shaw drops to her knees and cries.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - MEDICAL BAY

Shaw lies on an examination table. David stands beside
her.

DAVID
It's best to check you over, just
in case.

SHAW
You're right, I don't want to
shit myself like Charlie.

David starts a body scanning machine.

DAVID
Who?

SHAW
My boyfriend, it was a shame he
had to die.

David nods. He looks at a screen that shows a detailed
image of Shaw's body.

DAVID
Oh, you seem to be pregnant.

SHAW
Impossible, I can't be. I can't
have children.

DAVID
Well you are.

SHAW
Blimey, that's weird. We only
had sex last night.

Shaw looks at David. He looks back.

DAVID
(whispers)
Then my plan worked.

SHAW
What?

DAVID
Nothing.

SHAW
You said...

Shaw starts to sit up but David tries to restrain her. She
fights free and runs out of the medical bay.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - VICKERS' QUARTERS

A large automated surgery pod stands in the corner.

Shaw runs over to it. She scans the instruction sheet.

SHAW
Seems quite straight forward.

She pushes some buttons but the pod beeps.

SHAW
What do you mean, men only!

She slaps the side of the machine.

SHAW
Oh well, it'll never know.

She jumps in the pod and it closes. Her belly pulses and
she groans.

SHAW
Jesus, this baby lark is quick.
It's only been twelve hours.

The pod starts to buzz and a laser cuts through Shaw's abdomen. A claw device scoops out a live wriggling ALIEN BABY and holds it tight.

SHAW
Bloody hell, what the hell is
that?

The pod buzzes and an electric arm device descends. It staples up her open abdomen.

The alien baby squirms in the pod.

Shaw quick exits the pod and looks at her wound.

SHAW
Wow, I thought this would be
agony but I feel great.

She closes the alien inside the pod and turns to be faced by David and Vickers.

VICKERS
What are you doing?

Shaw shrugs.

DAVID
How are you feeling?

SHAW
Great.

Vickers steps to the side to reveal Weyland. He looks frail and tired.

Shaw points and double takes.

SHAW
What? Eh? What the hell?

WEYLAND
What, did you think I wasn't here
even though I personally funding
this expedition.

Shaw shrugs again.

WEYLAND
You see the Engineer's created
life on earth and so I figure
they can save me before I die
from old age.

SHAW
Did they?

DAVID
Keep up, Shaw.

VICKERS
Why are you telling her all this,
Dad?

SHAW
Dad?

David huffs.

DAVID
What did I just say.

David turns to leave.

DAVID
Come on and I'll introduce you to
the Engineer's.

He exits.

SHAW
They makes no sense, I'm totally
confused. Why didn't you come
out of stasis with us or did you,
for some unknown reason, feel the
need to hide from us?

WEYLAND
I over slept.

SHAW
Oh, okay.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - CARGO BAY

David, Weyland, Vickers and Shaw enter. They all wear
space suits.

Janek and numerous other crew members stand by the door
with guns ready.

VICKERS
What's going on?

JANEK
Fifield's outside.

VICKERS
What, I thought he was dead?

JANEK
Yeah, he don't look too healthy
to me.

He points to a monitor that shows Fifield outside the Cargo bay door. His body is twisted in an unnatural fashion.

VICKERS

Then open the door and kill him.

Janek seems surprised.

JANEK

Really, just open the door.

DAVID

May I interject?

VICKERS

No.

She turns to Janek.

VICKERS

Look, we haven't cared too much about anything up to now so why bother about an alien infected corpse.

Janek shrugs.

JANEK

Open the door.

The door opens. Fifield leaps in to the cargo bay and quickly kills some of the second rate crew members.

VICKERS

Bollocks, who would have thought that was going to happen?

WEYLAND

Do something, David.

DAVID

Like what?

Janek draws a gun and shoots Fifield dead.

WEYLAND

Well done. Now let's get going.

Ford appears.

FORD

Hey, can I come?

VICKERS

Why?

FORD
Why not, I am the medical
officer?

VICKERS
Okay. I'll stay here then.

Weyland, David, Ford and Shaw exit the ship.

VICKERS
All dressed up and nowhere to go.
She walks away.

Janek is joined by the Co-pilots.

JANEK
You know what?

CO-PILOT #1
What?

JANEK
I think this planet is actually
some kind of military base and
the Engineer's have designed a
biological weapon which they
intended to send to Earth to kill
us all.

The Co-pilot's stares at Janek.

JANEK
But somehow they lost control of
the weapon and it mutated or
something and eventually started
to kill them off.

CO-PILOT #1
Wow. You seem to know more about
this than the so called experts.

JANEK
Thanks.

CO-PILOT #2
Shame you're a crap Captain.

Janek frowns.

INT. ALIEN TEMPLE - ALIEN SHIP

David, Weyland, Ford and Shaw enter.

David immediately goes over to the stasis pod.

DAVID
He's in here.

Shaw looks round the vast room.

SHAW
What is this place?

DAVID
It's a space ship.

FORD
A space ship?

DAVID
Yes, now can we continue?

David pushes some buttons and the pod opens.

The ENGINEER opens his eyes. He yawns and stretches before climbing out of the stasis pod.

ENGINEER
What time is it?

Weyland slowly walks forward.

WEYLAND
Hello there, I'm Weyland

The Engineer looks at him with a blank stare.

DAVID
I'm David, and I was hoping you
could...

The Engineer flings out his arm and decapitates David. His head flies across the room and his body crumples and falls.

Ford stands motionless and open jawed.

Shaw backs away.

WEYLAND
Oh my, not that's rude. I say, I
think you...

The Engineer batters Weyland across the room.

The Engineer approaches Ford.

ENGINEER
Why did you wake me?

Ford shrugs.

FORD

I don't know, honestly, I don't anything.

The Engineer kills her.

Shaw runs out of the room.

ENGINEER

You're for it now, you vile species. We should never have created you in the first place.

The Engineer follows.

David's head blinks.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - COCKPIT

Vickers stands beside Janek. The two Co-pilots sit at the controls.

DAVID (V.O.)

(intercom)

Vickers, the Engineer is going to destroy Earth. You must stop him.

VICKERS

What, that's rubbish surely?

DAVID (V.O.)

(intercom)

No really, the creatures here are weapons that they intended to send to Earth.

Janek beams a smile.

JANEK

Told ya.

VICKERS

Cobblers. We're going home, I'm bored of all this now.

DAVID (V.O.)

(intercom)

Oh, and you're dad's dead by the way.

VICKERS

Whatever. Take us home, Captain Janek.

SHAW (V.O.)
 (intercom)
 Wait! You need to stop the ship.

VICKERS
 What ship?

EXT. PLANET LV-223 - DAY

The surface rumbles and splits apart.

Shaw runs for her life. She jumps over ever increasing cracks in the planet.

The cracks reveal part of the planet is a space ship.

SHAW
 You must stop the ship from taking off.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS SPACESHIP - COCKPIT

JaneK looks out of the window at Shaw.

JANEK
 We need to stop the alien ship.

VICKERS
 I don't think so. This is my ship and you do what I say.

JANEK
 Bite me.

Vickers gasps. The Co-pilots chuckle.

JANEK
 I'll ram it. So you three better get off in an escape pod.

CO-PILOT #1
 What, and leave you in charge? I don't think so.

CO-PILOT #2
 Right, you can't fly this thing for shit. We're staying and dying for no reason.

CO-PILOT #1
 Yeah, we'll be dead heroic. Dead, you get it?

VICKERS
 Well I'm out of here.

Vickers leaves.

EXT. PLANET LV-223 - DAY

Shaw dives behind a rock as the alien space ship takes off. The ship is circular in shape.

The Preposterous takes off and crashes into it. A huge explosion destroys the Preposterous and causes the alien ship to hurtle back to the planets surface.

Shaw watches as it nears her. She gets up and runs away.

Vickers appears and runs directly behind her.

The alien ship crashes into the planet and begins to roll like a donut.

SHAW
Where did you come from?

VICKERS
The escape pod.

The rolling ship gets ever closer.

SHAW
Should we keep going or just sidestep it?

VICKERS
What do you mean, sidestep?

Both women tire and breath heavy.

SHAW
We could simply move to the side and it will roll past us.

VICKERS
Really, I can't think straight, I'm too knackered. Okay we'll just...

The space ship rolls over Vickers and squashes her into the ground.

Shaw trips and falls beside a large boulder. The ship rolls on to the boulder and stops. Shaw is safe.

She stands and views the carnage.

She sees the escape pod from the Preposterous and runs toward it.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS ESCAPE POD

Scattered equipment covers the floor. An inner door is at the far end of the pod.

Shaw looks through the equipment.

A noise (O.S.)

Shaw tentatively approaches the inner door and looks through the glass.

A large tentacle flashes past.

TENTACLE CREATURE
Mother, is that you?

Shaw jerks back.

DAVID (V.O.)
(intercom)
Hello, is anyone there. I need assistance, I'm completely legless here.

SHAW
David?

DAVID (V.O.)
(intercom)
Shaw, the Engineer is coming for you.

SHAW
What, why?

The Engineer bursts in and startles Shaw. She ducks the advance and opens the inner door.

The TENTACLE CREATURE attacks the Engineer and pins him to the floor.

EXT. PLANET LV-223 - DAY

Shaw makes her escape and closes the outer door. The Engineer and the Tentacle Creature are trapped inside.

She runs away.

INT. PREPOSTEROUS ESCAPE POD

The Tentacle Creature sticks its tongue down the throat of the Engineer.

INT. ALIEN TEMPLE - ALIEN SHIP

Shaw enters and walks over to David's head.

 DAVID
Thank you for coming.

 SHAW
Why did you warn me?

 DAVID
What?

 SHAW
You tried to kill me earlier, so
why did you warn me the Engineer
was coming?

David's eyes look up.

 DAVID
I'm shrugging but you probably
can't tell.

Shaw shakes her head.

 SHAW
We're knackered now anyway, as
we've no way to get of this
planet.

 DAVID
We could just take one of the
other alien ships?

 SHAW
There's more?

 DAVID
Yeah, there's loads and by a huge
coincidence, I can fly them.

 SHAW
Even without a body?

David smiles.

 DAVID
Yes.

Shaw picks up his head.

 SHAW
So we can go home?

DAVID

No, I thought we'd go to the
Engineers home planet and ask
them why they want to kill you.

Shaw freezes.

SHAW

Really?

INT. PREPOSTEROUS ESCAPE POD

The Tentacle Creature and the Engineer both lie motionless
on the floor.

The Engineer's body twitches and its stomach pulses. A
violent jolt and an ALIEN bursts from its body.

ALIEN

Here's Xenomorph!

FADE OUT: