Spaced Out

by

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Blackness.

Specks.

The specks become stars.

One star becomes the sun.

INT. CONVERTED HOSPITAL ROOM - MORNING

Sun strikes through the window blinds into a bare, sterile, mostly off-white room with a dozen beds. Nine empty beds have bedsheets pushed around.

SARAH-ANDREWS GREENER (30s, a  $\underline{man}$  with a bit of paunch) snaps open his eyes.

The bed next to him is EMPTY.

GREENER

He's gone.

Greener bolts awake, grabbing the ROLEX on his bedside table. He leaps out of the hospital bed. He is wearing blue scrubs at least two sizes too small.

GREENER (CONT'D)

They're all gone!

Greener sees one person still trying to sleep, completely under the covers. This is TYSON (40), unkempt and unmoving.

GREENER

Tyson. Tyson! Everybody is gone!

TYSON

(half-awake)

I'm here.

GREENER

My alarm didn't go off.

TYSON

Rolexes don't have alarms.

GREENER

(checks his watch)

Are you sure?

TYSON

Give it back to me if you don't want it.

GREENER

I didn't say that. But Dom is missing.

TYSON

He's probably taking his early morning dump. We have another ten minutes to sleep.

GREENER

But if we don't know where he is, he could get left behind. And NOBODY gets left behind, man. Nobody.

TYSON

We've been quarantined for a week. It'd be like getting lost in prison.

GREENER

What if he escaped?! He could've gotten out last night and gone some place cool. He wouldn't have left us, right? If he wasn't going somewhere cool?

TYSON

\*grunt\*

GREENER

I'll find him.

Greener goes down a hallway, stops at a window, goes inside.

INT. VISITATION ROOM - QUARANTINED SIDE

The large room is separated by glass. There are about a dozen chairs and phones sectioned off, not unlike a maximum security prison visitation room.

GREENER

Dom! Where were you?

DOM WALLACE (30s), with a faux-hawk and identical (yet somehow well-fitting) scrubs, sits at one of the chairs.

On the other side of the glass, still holding the phone receiver is a FEMALE REPORTER (30s).

DOM

I was here, Fly Boy.

GREENER

I thought maybe you were getting breakfast. Or something cool.

DOM

I don't think we're getting breakfast today.

REPORTER

Is this Tyson Washington?

GREENER

Oh no, I'm Greener.

REPORTER

Uh, Sarah Andrews Greener?

GREENER

Greener is fine. I'll, uh, let you...I'm going back to sleep.

DOM

How can you sleep? Today is the big day. Our asses are getting released and we'll get higher than we've ever been in our lives.

REPORTER

Which actually leads me to some last minute questions about what you guys do at the Tripster headquarters.

GREENER

(to Reporter)

Has he gotten your number yet?

DOM

We're just chopping it up over here, 'fore you came crying 'cause you thought I had already left.

REPORTER

Do you guys always talk like this? Make fun of each other?

DOM

On the outside, I have ladies banging on my door all night.

GREENER

Yeah, they're trying to get out.

Dom sees something.

DOM

Hey! Hey! Rockefeller! In here!

Tyson, in scrubs, wearing Ray-Ban sunglasses enters, holding a paper cup of coffee.

TYSON

Waddup.

DOM

Why the fuck are you wearing your Ray-Bans inside?

TYSON

It's bright in here.

DOM

I'd say it got a little dimmer.

GREENER

Is that coffee?

TYSON

No. It's the cup they want us to piss in.

Tyson takes a sip of his coffee.

REPORTER

I've heard you--Dom and Greener--can put on quite a show. I was told to make sure I see you perform something called...the Finale?

GREENER

No, I don't think so.

DOM

C'mon.

GREENER

I'm not in the mood.

TYSON

Go ahead.

GREENER

Nah...I'm too...hungry.

TYSON

'suppose I should tell you then: mandatory breakfast is in the room. And apparently some egg-white omelets would have broken their budget.

Dom goes to the door.

DOM

Damn. You got paper falling out of your mouth again.

TYSON

A week with no action and you're already going through withdrawals.

GREENER

(to Reporter)

It was nice meeting you.

REPORTER

Good luck!

INT. CAPE CANAVERAL - HANGER - DAY

BANNERS for the company FREEDOM FLIERS are every where.

A large stage and pushed around foldout chairs are the remnants of a large press conference. Reporters, PR reps and scientists linger in groups, fielding individual questions.

REPORTER

What kind of assistance is NASA providing Freedom Fliers for this maiden voyage around the Moon?

RANDLE (30s), an almost-hip nerd with a NASA badge, considers this question.

RANDLE

We're just observers, no different than health inspectors. I don't expect there to be any problems but we also want to assure the American people that Freedom Fliers is completely transparent, legal and--above all--safe. REPORTER

Do you think--oh look! There's Vanessa Bard!

The reporters RUSH AWAY.

RANDLE

Wait! I can still answer questions about the government! We were in space first! We invented a lot of the technology!

Everybody is gone.

RANDLE (CONT'D)

(kidding, desperation)

We...found...aliens?

INT. CONVERTED HOSPITAL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The guys are stuffing their faces while a team of doctors check their pulses and heartbeats and other vital signs.

DOM

Hey Greener! So a doctor tells a fella' that he's only got six months. But the guys can't pay the doctor.

GREENER

Yeah? What did the doctor do?

DOM

Gave the man another six months.

One doctor sticks a needle in Greener's arm.

GREENER

Ow! Why are you guys taking more blood?

TYSON

They want to clone you; what do you think?

GREENER

Can't we just sign a paper saying we won't sue if something goes wrong?

DOM

Man, don't talk like that.

TYSON

Getting more superstitious over there?

DOM

Just a little concerned about freezing or being melted or having my head explode.

DOCTOR

It doesn't happen that often, Chuckles.

TYSON

Is it bad luck to run over a black cat? I mean, it didn't completely cross my path.

GREENER

It was bad luck for the cat.

DOM

Don't talk like that.

DOCTOR

Take 'em to go get suited.

GREENER

This is cool and all, Tyson. Again, I want to thank you.

TYSON

But...?

GREENER

But I wish we were landing on the Moon, instead of just flying around it.

DOM

Slip the Captain an extra million dollars and see what she can do.

INT. SUITING ROOM/TESTING LAB

TECHNICIANS and SPACE ENGINEERS hurry around the area, making last minute preparations.

One astronaut is getting helped into a flight suit.

It's HUGH JACKMAN (yes, that one).

His frazzled agent, KEVIN (40s), is still in scrubs and holding an armful of scripts, reports and packets.

HUGH JACKMAN

I'm going to tell them the truth.

KEVIN

For the love of God, don't. Please. I'm begging you. I have all of these space scripts. Adventure, drama, comedy. Some have aliens and some don't.

HUGH JACKMAN

It's not about the script--

KEVIN

-- Take these with you.

HUGH JACKMAN

I'm going to be an astronaut. For real. I'm tired of playing pretend. I'm tired of acting. This is a good change for me.

KEVIN

That's all wonderful but it's exactly--

(To technicians)

You guys are bound to secrecy, right? By law? Government business and all that?

TECHNICIAN

We're with Freedom Fliers, not the government.

KEVIN

This conversation stays HERE.

HUGH JACKMAN

Kevin--

KEVIN

--It's wonderful you want to be an astronaut, but I don't want you to say it out loud. To anybody. Ever.

HUGH JACKMAN

I'm going into space, hours from now. It's too late.

KEVIN

And have fun. It's an incredible adventure; it's great publicity. But DO NOT say you are retiring from acting to...to become an astronaut. I spent seven days in quarantine and I can not let that have all been in vain. Do you know how many premieres I missed? One. But it was a big one. Do not ruin us!

HUGH JACKMAN

See you when I come back to Earth.

The technician puts the helmet on Hugh Jackman.

INT. CAPE CANAVERAL - HANGER - DAY

An air-tight, plastic tunnel circles around the hanger.

A man in a SPACE SUIT (no helmet) peers out of a plastic window, eying the whole pageantry. This is LT. BUTCH ALBRIGHT (50s) and he carries a LASER POINTER.

He shines a laser pointer at a reporter.

In the vortex of microphones and cameras, stands a proud woman in a pantsuit. This is VANESSA BARD (50s), the ringleader of this chaos, and she sees the red light.

She turns and sees Albright.

VANESSA

Ah, look! Lieutenant Butch Albright. The commander of our second shuttle flight is already here.

Vanessa walks up to the window. The mass of reporters and photographer follow. She presses a button, activating the speaker/intercom into the quarantined tunnel.

ALBRIGHT

--Wayne doesn't understand the new procedures for the decelamatrix.

VANESSA

Oh, okay. Just a moment.

Vanessa turns around to the press corp.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

I need a private moment with one of my astronauts.

Nobody moves.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

Move away now or I will have your credentials stripped for the remainder of the mission.

The reporters run away.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

I do not know anybody named Wayne. These are all new procedures because it's a maiden voyage. And decelamatrix? That's not even a word.

ALBRIGHT

Are you kidding me with this horse shit? Where the hell are my passengers? There is a goddamn schedule.

VANESSA

They are late. But they are coming. We had that factored into the schedule.

ALBRIGHT

Don't let them reporters distract you too much. If you're ridin' ahead of the herd, you take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there with ya.

VANESSA

Welcome to the service industry, Lieutenant. Now make your final preparations. The passengers will be present momentarily. Are there any other problems you care to imagine?

ALBRIGHT

There are two theories to arguin' with a woman. And neither one works.

Albright walks away from the window.

INT. SUITING ROOM/TESTING LAB

The trio of guys are getting crammed into the flight suits.

TYSON

Hey look, it is the real Hugh Jackman.

GREENER

So? Who's he?

DOM

I think he was Batman.

GREENER

Was he also Gladiator? You know, from the movie Gladiator.

TYSON

The character wasn't named Gladiator.

DOM

God, you're stupid. And you shouldn't be talking, Tyson. You only know him from the Country Club.

TYSON

Man, I liked it better when you guys made fun of me for having brains and not just paper. It's the same jokes over and over again.

GREENER

Another week and we'll be moving into jokes about you being an old man.

TYSON

Yeah, whatever. You'd move into the Retirement Home with me.

GREENER

Hell yeah, I would. I would be--

A technician snaps Greener's helmet on, silencing him to the world; but he keeps talking, oblivious that nobody can hear.

TECHNICIAN

Thank God.

One technician turns on the helmet speaker.

GREENER

--and she was like, DAMN that was--

The first technician hits the switch again. Re-silencing Greener. Dom and Tyson shrug.

DOM

Say, Tyson, you want Hugh Jackman, I'll get Hugh Jackman.

TYSON

I think he's already going into outer space with us.

DOM

See? I'm good.

INT. CAPE CANAVERAL - HANGER - DAY

Vanessa is back to talking to reporters.

VANESSA

Obviously we're very proud to have Hugh Jackman on this flight.

REPORTER

I assumed the name on the manifest was a different Hugh Jackman. Why keep the secret?

VANESSA

Showmanship, I guess. Some of us at Freedom Fliers were afraid a simple space launch would not be excitement enough for you today.

REPORTER

Any other passenger surprises?

VANESSA

No, that is pretty much it. We wanted him to be the last to arrive but...

Vanessa sees people walking through the hallway toward the shuttle. Albright storms up to the guys.

IN THE HALLWAY--

DOM

Oh, hey, what's good, Tex?

ALBRIGHT

If you're late on Earth, people get annoyed. If you're late, up there in space, people get dead.

GREENER

Jesus.

ALBRIGHT

Which one are you again?

TYSON

That's Dom. I'm Tyson. That's Greener.

ALBRIGHT

Sarah Andrews?

GREENER

I used to go by S.A.--but that confused people--

ALBRIGHT

I stopped caring five minutes ago.

DOM

Are we supposed to chop it up with reporters one last time?

ALBRIGHT

Should have gotten your asses here earlier if that's what you wanted.

(to Jackman)

Hey! Hollywood! Let's get a move on! Roll out! The first shuttle is launching.

IN THE HANGER--

Camera crews take their last pictures and video before flocking back to Vanessa.

VANESSA

The first shuttle is about to launch, so I will have to leave you. One more question. Yes?

REPORTER

With Freedom Fliers providing the first commercial voyage to the Moon, over 40 years since NASA went beyond low Earth orbit, does this prove the private sector is better

(MORE)

REPORTER (cont'd) equipped than the federal government?

VANESSA

You guys enjoy the show.

She walks away.

INT. MISSION OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER

Hundreds of monitors. Dozens of engineers and technicians. It looks like NASA's ground control room, but shinier and several signs labeling the place FREEDOM FLIERS, INC.

Every technician, engineer and director is at a touch-screen station. The entire front wall is an enormous display made up of several screens and monitors.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

Put Camera 7 on Center. This is launch number one.

The largest screen displays the inside of the shuttle.

INT./EXT. LAUNCHING PAD - SPACE SHUTTLE (THE ANNING) - DAY Doors are locked.

The shuttle JOLTS. Engines slowly roar to life.

Strapped in, CAPTAIN ELAINE WU (40s) taps her helmet.

WU

(into headset)

Systems go.

Clutching the straps over her chest, MEGHYN (30s) looks up at the dials and screens.

MEGHYN

Is that camera going to take pictures of us? They'll be blurry if we're shaking.

BRE (30s), struggling to control her own breathing, smiles.

BRE

You'll have plenty of photo opportunities when we arrive. Trust me, we designed Space Haven for people like you.

CLARK (60s) bristles at this comment.

CLARK

People like her? Women? Say, why am I on the women's shuttle?

BRE

It was random assignment, Clark.

CLARK

My ass it was random. Are they doing anything different in the shuttle with the men folk?

BRE

There is no men and women's shuttle. You're going to be in outer space; what are you complaining about?

CLARK

I just expect to know what's going on. You don't run a business by keeping people in the dark or letting some people have more fun than others.

MEGHYN

No offense taken.

DENISE (40s) tries to move but is unable.

DENISE

Captain Wu: is the talking distracting you? Captain Wu? Captain Wu!

WU

Okay. Everybody listen up. Say "go" or "no go." Last chance.

Wu places her hand over a lever labeled "ABORT."

WU (CONT'D)

Meghyn?

**MEGHYN** 

GO!

WU

Bre?

BRE

Of course.... I mean, GO!

WU

Clark?

CLARK

Yes. Go. Let's go. What are we waiting for dammit?

WU

Denise?

DENISE

Go.

WU

(into headset)

This is the Anning. We are go up here. Repeat: Go.

INT. MISSION OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER

VANESSA

You heard the Captain. Let's get them off this planet.

The gigantic rockets BLAST. The building-sized ship shakes and slowly rises from the ground.

TECHNICIAN

We have lift off!

INT./EXT. LAUNCHING PAD - SPACE SHUTTLE (TRANQUILITY) - DAY

Technicians strap Jackman, Greener, Dom and Tyson into their seats.

GREENER

Hey, Armstrong! Were there any hiccups with the first launch?

TECHNICIAN

No. Perfect takeoff. You'll be fine.

GREENER

But if you already had a perfect takeoff, doesn't that make it more likely something will go wrong--

0.J.

--Fly Boy: stop talking.

HUGH JACKMAN

Do the real astronauts have any traditions?

TECHNICIAN

Like what?

HUGH JACKMAN

Quotes? Superstitions? How much is this like the real thing?

TECHNICIAN

Completely.

GREENER

If something went wrong but we still survived, would you tell us?

TYSON

There are over six million parts to this shuttle. If there is a success rate of 99.99%, that still means there will be 600 problems. Don't think about those.

DOM

Yeah, that really helped. Now I'm just going to piss my space suit.

GREENER

Hey! I'm sitting right next to you, I don't want to know you're taking a leak.

TYSON

That's what the suit is for.

DOM

Say, Batman, you doing this for a new movie?

HUGH JACKMAN

Stop calling me Batman. I was never Batman--well, once for Halloween. But, yeah, it's, um...it's for a movie.

DOM

That's sexy man.

HUGH JACKMAN

Um, yeah. Thank you.

Albright pops into the ship.

ALBRIGHT

The Anning is docking with Space Haven now. We're good to go, boys.

GREENER

Say, they aren't getting started without us, are they? Like doing fun things and stuff?

ALBRIGHT

I don't know; I don't care. Ask them when we get there. Giddy up.

EXT. OUTER SPACE - SPACE HAVEN

The space shuttle connects to a protruding tube. The shuttle is DWARFED by SPACE HAVEN--an engineering marvel larger than the International Space Station and Skylab put together.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - COMMAND MODULE

There are three seats in the Command Module, only one is occupied. This smaller astronaut is JAMES CARTER (30s).

Carter has a bowl on his head, with a taped up towel providing cushioning for his crazy-person helmet.

CARTER

(to intercom)

Connecting...Gotchu. G.C., I have the Anning. Anning, watch the stabilizers. Locked. Welcome back, Captain.

WU

(over speaker, filtered) Good to be back, Carter. Can you get the door?

Carter unstraps himself, floats up and hits his helmet-covered head on the ceiling. Unconcerned, he exits the Command Module...

- ...into the BALL ROOM a larger spherical area.
- ...he glides across into THE CORRIDOR on the opposite side.

...down the corridor to the INTERSECTION--where four different branches lead to storage, living quarters, docking station two and docking station one, which Carter chooses.

Carter looks through the window and waves. He turns the massive lock on his side of the airlock door, but stops.

He remembers the helmet and tosses it down the hall.

He resumes opening the hatch. With a THUD and a HISS, the door opens.

CARTER

Welcome to--

BRE

(from the Anning) Welcome to Space Haven!

Bre enters, followed by the others.

BRE

The largest structure ever built in orbit. Over 200 meters from end to end and 25,000 cubic feet of habitable space, we will not be overly crowded on this trip around the Moon.

**MEGHYN** 

Look! I'm floating! This is so weird! I need my camera!

WU

We'll unpack in a moment. Denise? Are you coming?

DENISE

I just wanted to look around this shuttle a little more.

WU

Are you looking for anything specific? I know every bolt and screw of this shuttle.

MEGHYN

Can I see my room?

BRE

They're not exactly rooms. Just sleeping bags placed against the wall. Hear me on every level when I (MORE)

BRE (cont'd)

say, despite the size, we have to share space.

Meghyn floats down to the INTERSECTION, not listening.

CARTER

Don't go far, I need to put the Velcro pads on your suit so you can stay in place if you want.

BRE

Carter? What is this?

Bre is holding the bowl with a towel taped inside.

CARTER

It's a helmet.

Denise finally exits the Anning.

DENISE

Helmet? For what?

Carter is mesmerized.

CARTER

Whoa.

DENISE

Why did you have to design your own helmet?

CARTER

My name is Carter. James Carter.

DENISE

Your helmet?

CARTER

No, Carter. Helmet is the German engineer who--oh. Never mind.

WU

If you're looking for loose screws...here's Jimmy Carter.

CARTER

James.

DENISE

I'm Denise. Nice to meet you.

Denise inspects the dented bowl.

CARTER

I need to, um, put Velcro pads on you. On your suit.

DENISE

Go nuts.

Carter peels the sticky covering off the pads and places them under Denise's feet while she types into her iPad.

CARTER

Do you want--um--here, you can put the ones on your backside?

DENISE

On my back?

CARTER

Your seat.

BRE

Your ass, Denise.

Denise takes one of the Velcro pads. Carter coughs.

WU

Carter, get back to the Command Module. We need to be ready for Tranquility soon.

CARTER

Thank you.

Carter and Wu float down the Corridor...

...in the Ball Room, they float past the inverted Meghyn.

**MEGHYN** 

Found a camera! This room is insane! Can this be my room?

WU

It's everybody's room.

MEGHYN

(taking a picture)

Are you guys floating upside down?

CARTER

No, you're just sideways.

Meghyn considers this.

**MEGHYN** 

Wha...?

INT. SPACE HAVEN - COMMAND MODULE

Wu takes the middle seat; Carter to the left.

CARTER

What do you think?

WU

About the passengers? No thoughts. Except I didn't like how Denise was looking around my shuttle like a landlord trying to screw me out of my deposit.

CARTER

She looked good, though.

WU

Of course she looked good. We have to keep her in shape.

CARTER

Kind of cute, too. Right?

WU

No, beautiful.

CARTER

Really? You thought so?

WU

But maybe one just gets attached after so many years.

CARTER

I didn't know you knew her. How long?

WU

How did you not know? It's been ten years. You've been in her before.

CARTER

WHAT.

WU

When we attached the last solar panel.

CARTER

Denise wasn't there.

WU

De-denise? Who the--what?

CARTER

What are you--

WIJ

The Anning! My ship!

CARTER

Oh, right.

WU

You were talking about...Denise? Really, Jimmy?

CARTER

Don't call me that.

Beat.

ETHEL

(over intercom, filtered)
Are you guys finished?

Wu glares at Carter.

WU

Sorry, Ground Control. We were not aware our comms link was--

ETHEL

--Yeah, whatever. Tranquility is in orbit. They should be with you in T-minus two minutes.

Wu hits communication switches.

WU

Opening up S-2-S comms now.

CARTER

Tranquility. This is Space Haven. Do you copy? Tranquility--

INT. OUTER SPACE - TRANQUILITY

ALBRIGHT

--Copy. Tranquility here.

WU

(over intercom, filtered)

What's your status?

The guys are spinning, floating and bumping into each other.

GREENER

Best Spring Break ever!

TYSON

Way better than that week in Vegas! And--oooh--

Tyson's eyes go wide, he grabs a paper sack just in time.

Tyson BARFS.

HUGH JACKMAN

You alright?

GREENER

Dude! How--oh--

Greener BARFS.

DOM

Oh no...

Dom BARFS.

TYSON

Okay, I'm...oh!

Tyson BARFS again.

DOM

Now it's just like that week in Vegas.

GREENER

But with less gravity...like ONE less gravity.

HUGH JACKMAN

Hey I didn't lose my breakfast! Albright, do you think that means I have what it takes to be a real astronaut? Albright sneers and pushes the floating Hugh Jackman away.

WU

(over intercom, filtered)
Tranquility? What is your status?
Do you copy?

ALBRIGHT

Status...normal. All functions...

Greener BARFS again.

GREENER

Ugh.

ALBRIGHT

Normal. Beginning docking procedure.

With the steely determination of a school bus driver, Albright lines up the airlock port with the SPACE HAVEN docking section.

Locks clamp.

ALBRIGHT (CONT'D)

Clean up before we open the door.

GREENER

What an adventure.

TYSON

Oh man...are those my kidneys?

INT. SPACE HAVEN - DOCKING POD #2

DOOR OPENS.

Carter is on the other side, with Bre close behind.

CARTER

Welcome to--

BRE

Welcome to Space Haven!

CARTER

What's that smell?

ALBRIGHT

Adventure.

Albright floats past the welcome party.

CARTER

Put on your Velcro pads. They'll make life easier.

BRE

This is Space Haven. The largest structure ever built in orbit. Over 200 meters from end to--

HUGH JACKMAN

Weighs about a thousand tons, we know.

TYSON

I actually didn't know...

GREENER

Bre, right?

BRE

That's right.

GREENER

The ship's decorator.

CARTER

Designer.

BRE

Chief Living Quarters Engineer. Thank you.

GREENER

And you?

HUGH JACKMAN

That's James Carter. Am I the only one who did any research?

DOM

Jimmy Carter?

CARTER

James Carter.

DOM

No problem, J.C. People call me Dom.

GREENER

Or lazy.

CARTER

I'm sorry but there's no fighting in space.

DOM

We can change that.

BRE

Follow me and I'll show you your home for the next week.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - CORRIDOR

GREENER

Have you guys done anything already? Did we miss anything?

BRE

Well, the first thing we did was ride a rocket into outer space. Then we maintained an altitude of about 220 miles. And then you showed up. Pretty normal day. You might also notice you are not touching the ground.

HUGH JACKMAN

Are we moving to the front of the ship? I had a map but--

BRE

-- Great question, Hugh.

HUGH JACKMAN

Thank you.

BRE

It's easier if you think of the ship not as moving horizontally, like a boat, but rather as a skyscraper moving upwards.

TYSON

What.

BRE

We aren't moving forward; we are moving up. These are just walls, not ceilings and floors. The "top floor" is Command Module and the main thrusters are at the bottom.

DOM

You're blowing my mind.

BRE

Keep your helmet on in space and you'll be fine.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - COMMAND MODULE

Albright and Carter sit on either side of Wu.

ALBRIGHT

Lousy tourists. Don't care for 'em in Texas, don't care for 'em in space.

CARTER

Tourists in Texas? Are they lost?

WU

Without these tourists, there is no trip. They are paying your salary.

ALBRIGHT

Freedom Fliers is the name on my checks.

CARTER

And Freedom Fliers received billions in federal tax breaks and subsidies.

WU

So, in a way, you paid for these people to join us.

ALBRIGHT

And I hate myself for it. Let's go and get this damn PR stunt over with.

CARTER

This is no more of a PR stunt than the Titanic.

WU

Seriously? That was about the worse comparison you could possibly make.

ALBRIGHT

We didn't get this far by being superstitious. Let it go.

Wu hits the Comms switch.

WU

G.C. This is Space Haven, stand by to break orbit.

## INT. MISSION OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER

Randle walks to Vanessa, trying to take in the information overload that is the Operations Control Center.

Randle is one of a dozen suit-and-tie NASA observers overseeing the thirty or so Freedom Fliers technicians/engineers--identified by their polo shirts.

RANDLE

Leather chairs?

VANESSA

Don't tell me you NASA boys are jealous.

RANDLE

Just observing.

VANESSA

Blow me. You're in the Operations Control Center. You can **observe** everything is fine. Don't distract our flight directors.

RANDLE

I couldn't if I tried.

Randle sees who he was looking for: ETHEL (30s) at the Communications Station. He approaches.

RANDLE

Hello, ma'am.

ETHEL

Ma'am?

RANDLE

You come here often?

ETHEL

My break is in thirty.

RANDLE

Funny, mine is too.

ETHEL

My fiancé wouldn't like it.

RANDLE

I know your fiancé. He probably won't mind.

ETHEL.

Well my boss wouldn't like it.

RANDLE

I also know your boss. She probably would mind. She has this..."I've had people murdered before" air about her.

ETHEL

That is so typical. Whenever a woman is assertive or self-determined--

RANDLE

--Whoa, whoa, whoa. Cool it. Taking a chapter from the Bible of Bard?

ETHEL

Would you have a problem if I was like her?

RANDLE

...older?

ETHEL

Unless you have any questions about the communications here--

RANDLE

--like your phone number?

ETHEL

The joke's over. Vanessa is more than a boss. She's like a mentor; so if I were you, I'd get to liking her. Also, I'd check up on other stations. Don't distract the flight engineers.

NASA OBSERVER (O.S.)

Randle! I need the check-in.

RANDLE

(whisper)

See you tonight, babe.

Randle goes over to NASA Observer, LEE (40s).

LEE

Randle. What are you doing?

RANDLE

Checking their communications.

LEE

Checking out their communications, more like it.

AT THE COMMUNICATIONS STATION:

VANESSA

If that NASA narc bothers you again, have him removed from your station and then let me know.

ETHEL.

I think the NASA observers are allowed to be here.

VANESSA

Indeed. We are required to show them the bare minimum; and that's all we will show them. They'll probably steal the technology or...something. Don't even leave your stapler out.

ETHEL

I don't have a stapler.

VANESSA

They've already taken it then.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - BALL ROOM

Everybody is in the Ball Room--floating and occasionally attaching themselves to the 360-degree walls.

GREENER

We should all get tattoos when we get back home.

ALBRIGHT (O.S.)

Don't you know? Tattoos are just scars with more boring stories.

The tourists see Albright and Wu enter.

WU

A little treat for everybody. We have a bottle of wine. Kind of. They are more like juice packs.

ALBRIGHT

And contain about as much alcohol.

DOM

Oh, these are sexy.

Everybody gets a pouch of previously boxed wine.

CARTER

Tab off. Extend the straw.

**MEGHYN** 

I know how to drink alcohol.

DENISE

Should you really be drinking?

CLARK

This isn't "drinking." Besides, we're all on vacation.

GREENER

What time is it?

**MEGHYN** 

Like Clark said, we're on vacation, it doesn't matter.

WU

East Coast Standard Time...about seven o'clock a.m.

TYSON

Helluva twenty-four hours. Hey, don't record me.

Denise is holding out her iPOD.

DENISE

If it's not breaking any rules, then it shouldn't matter.

TYSON

If it doesn't matter, you should have a sip of this Space Wine, too.

HUGH JACKMAN

Lt. Albright: Do real astronauts usually sneak things on board?

ALBRIGHT

Captain, I'm going to go run diagnostics on the shuttles.

WIJ

I already did. Twice.

ALBRIGHT

Regardless.

Albright goes down the Corridor.

CLARK

Do you know the old-timers? Aldrin? Armstrong? Lovett? Those men are American heroes. I remember looking up into the sky--

WU

Excuse me, I need to...go....run the, um, other diagnostics.

Wu exits.

CLARK

Not like astronauts nowadays. Bureaucrats.

TYSON

To being astronauts!

Tyson holds up his pouch.

MEGHYN

Guys, don't worry about the alcohol shortage.

DENISE

I am a little bit. Wait, what?

Meghyn pulls out a silver FLASK.

MEGHYN

Smuggled it in with the help of the guys in the hanger.

DENISE

Really?

CLARK

Oh! Same here.

HUGH JACKMAN

I thought it was just me.

JUAN

Tyson?

TYSON

(pulls out a flask)

Yeah.

BRE

Space Haven is all about having fun.

GREENER

What exactly are the laws in space?

BRE

There are no laws! Except all regular laws, space treaties, the Freedom Fliers contract you signed and pretty much whatever the captain says.

DOM

To the final frontier.

Dom opens his flask, letting liquor spill out the top and into his mouth/face.

Dom coughs; bigger "shot" than he expected.

Everybody, sans Denise, cheers.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - BALL ROOM - LATER

People are kind of drunk. Not messy, but probably shouldn't be driving.

BRE

The altitude, I think it affects you more.

DOM

Hey, Muscles, you said there are aliens in this space movie, right?

HUGH JACKMAN

Hm? Uh, yeah. Aliens.

DOM

But the movie is realistic. So are the aliens normal E.T. and shit or like different nitrogen-based life forms?

HUGH JACKMAN

There's, um, some of both. I think.

DOM

Both?

HUGH JACKMAN

Or neither. The script was kind of vague about the aliens' origin.

MEGHYN

Say, Hugh--er, Mr. Jackman, serious question: do you know which big name actors are secretly gay?

HUGH JACKMAN

What?

GREENER

We are in OUTER SPACE. How are we not talking about that?

Denise floats past them, still typing on her iPad. Carter is right behind.

DENISE

Do you know what to do if the solar panels are damaged by a meteor?

CARTER

We cut the power to the damaged shield. Redirect the current. Calculate the loss of energy intake and, if necessary, turn off non-essential power. But you're safe. We can lose two solar panels and be fine. I've got all this under control.

DENISE

And if a meteor hits the main ship?

CARTER

We die almost instantly.

DENISE

Oh. Okay.

CLARK

Don't you worry, missy. No person has ever died this far away from Earth.

DENISE

That's some uplifting trivia.

CLARK

Before founding my home security company, I was going to be an astronaut myself.

CARTER

(not a question)
Really. What stopped you.

CLARK

Doctors. Grades. Physical requirements. Politics. Politics, mostly.

Denise and Carter exchange skeptical glances.

DENISE

Well, um, Carter...when was the last time this fire extinguisher was checked? There's no tag.

Carter inspects the small extinguisher.

CARTER

When they added--I don't--

Clark takes it from him.

CLARK

--I'm sure it's fine. Give it here, boy. See?

He squeezes the handle, shooting compressed nitrogen out the tube and LAUNCHING Clark backward across the ball room.

TYSON

Look out!

Meghyn is HIT by Clark.

Greener grabs a panel along the wall but it SNAPS off.

Clark BANGS into the opposite wall and lets go.

The extinguisher SAILS back across.

Tyson and Hugh Jackman both jump for the extinguisher and COLLIDE into each other.

TYSON

Agh!

HUGH JACKMAN

Oh come on!

Clark slowly floats back over the open area, as does Meghyn, like human pinballs.

CARTER

Stop jumping!

One of the flasks spins, spilling out its floating contents.

WU

What is going on in here?!

Wu DOGES the extinguisher, letting it float down the Corridor.

A faint column of smoke rises from the wall.

DENISE

What is that?

SPARK.

A small ball of FIRE grows from over-heated wires. It creates a circular BLUE FLAME the size of a tennis ball.

**EVERYBODY** 

\*profanities\*

WU

Albright! Lock down the modules!

The flame grows soccer ball-sized, Meghyn grabs a floating blanket.

MEGHYN

Put this on it!

A difficult task, as the blanket floats. A tube near the Corridor BURSTS.

WU

Carter! Kill the power!

CARTER

Where are you going!?

WU

The extinguisher!

DOM

Blow it out!

Greener puts his face to the flame and BLOWS on it like a birthday candle. The flame JUMPS into a tube and EXPANDS.

CLARK

Oh shit! Everybody out of here!

The tourists float across the Ball Room to the Command Module.

## STORAGE AREA PANEL:

Albright locks his feet down to floor pads and fires commands into the computer.

ALBRIGHT

Locking down modules!

### BOTTOM CORRIDOR:

Wu catches up to the floating extinguisher.

WU

Lock them! Redirect the CO2 flow!

### TOP CORRIDOR:

Carter locks his feet down and hits the power switches.

## BALL ROOM TOP ENTRANCE:

All eight tourists pile into the Command Module, made for three people. They bump into the panels and windows.

## BALL ROOM:

The air vent with the fire EXPLODES.

The BLUE FIRE races down the vent, toward Carter.

ALBRIGHT

Modules locked down!

An air-tight door clenches shut right next to Carter, just barely separating him from the AIR VENT FIRE.

Doors look on the Ball Room entrance.

The fire is trapped.

CARTER

Section clear!

WU

Flood CO2 into Section MC3!

Too late.

A BLUE BLAST knocks everybody away and into the air.

The Command Module lurches forward, knocking everybody onto the dashboard.

LIGHTS FLICKER.

INT. MISSION OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER

Everybody jumps back from the displays and monitors.

VANESSA

What the hell is going on!?

ETHEL

Space Haven! This Ground Control! Do you read me? Come in, Space Haven!

TECHNICIAN

Section MC3 is gone!

VANESSA

Gone? What do you mean GONE?!

EXT. OUTER SPACE - SPACE HAVEN

The massive ship has been bisected.

Fraying ends from just under the Ball Room to the twisted metal from the top of the Corridor nearly touch.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - CORRIDOR

Wu gets to a communications station.

WU

Albright. Come in.

ALBRIGHT

(over speaker, filtered)

I'm here.

WU

Carter.

CARTER

(over speaker, filtered)

Present.

WU

Bre?

Silence.

WU (CONT'D)

Command module? Anybody?

CARTER

(over speaker, filtered)

Oh my God. Are they dead?

WU

Albright. Open door MC-five through MC-ten. Open all doors to Docking Stations. Everybody meet up in the Anning.

ALBRIGHT

(over speaker, filtered)

Copy that.

CARTER

(over speaker, filtered)

It's like we got hit by a goddamn space iceberg.

### INT. MISSION OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER

The flight directors are going nuts, running around-- NASA and Freedom Fliers both. Ties are loosen and most people have sweat-stains under their armpits.

FLIGHT DOCTOR

Vitals are crazy but everybody is still online!

GUIDANCE DIRECTOR

Guidance is off course!

VANESSA

INCO?

ETHEL

I have them online but they are not responding.

VANESSA

Clarify.

ETHEL

I can hear them but...well...here.

Ethel broadcasts the audio.

## (Unintelligible profanities.)

VANESSA

Space Haven! This is MCC!

ETHEL

I've tried.

RANDLE

Find another way to reach them.

ETHEL

What do you want me to do, send a text message? Maybe carrier pigeon? They <u>are not</u> responding.

VANESSA

If you're giving up, go home.

ETHEL

No, ma'am.

# INT. SPACE HAVEN - COMMAND MODULE

Clark, Bre and Hugh Jackman strap themselves into the three chairs. Everybody else remains floating.

BRE

Captain Wu! Can you hear me?

CLARK

Houston, come in.

DENISE

There is no Houston. MCC is in Florida. They're not NASA.

HUGH JACKMAN

Who are you?

DENISE

I'm the safety inspector on this flight.

GREENER

Oh really? Have you noticed any dangerous problems yet?

BRE

Ground Control! Come in! I'm not getting anything.

HUGH JACKMAN

What if we relay the message?

TYSON

Relay it to what?

HUGH JACKMAN

I don't know. Relay it. Doesn't that help us? Somehow?

**MEGHYN** 

Why are you guys in the chairs?

DOM

That's a good question.

CLARK

I'm in charge.

TYSON

What?! How?

CLARK

I'm in the Captain's Chair and I'm the only one with crisis management experience.

MEGHYN

You mean when the buffet runs out of food?

GREENER

We should at least vote on it.

BRE

What?! No. There's no vote. I'm in charge.

HUGH JACKMAN

Guys: let me handle this.

Everything is going to be okay.

TYSON

What exactly are you basing that theory on?

HUGH JACKMAN

I...everything is going to be okay.

CLARK

Fine. We'll vote on it.

BRE

It's not a vote!

GREENER

Then don't vote. How are we going to do this?

## INT. ANNING SPACE SHUTTLE

The astronauts look out the windows to see the top half of Space Haven slowly drifting out ahead of the bottom half.

CARTER

Looks like a clean break.

ALBRIGHT

Looks like a disaster.

WU

Power up our comms.

CARTER

We can't get G.C. without the Command Module.

WU

No, but we can get the Command Module.

Carter goes to the front of the shuttle. Wu continues to inspect the damage.

ALBRIGHT

If they're not there, we are better off detaching now and taking the shuttle back to Earth.

WIJ

That'd be like canoing across the Pacific Ocean. We need Space Haven to get us around the Moon.

CARTER

Command Module? Do you read me?

IN COMMAND MODULE:

TYSON

No! There are eight of us! We don't need to have primaries to vote on a leader!

CARTER

(over speaker, filtered)
Command Module? Do you read me?

MEGHYN

Somebody is talking to us!

IN THE ANNING:

CARTER

Command--

BRE

(over speaker, filtered) --Hello? Hello! Oh thank God!

CLARK

(over speaker, filtered)
I'm here. Everything is under
control!

CARTER

Who is--

GREENER

(over speaker, filtered)

I'm here, too!

MEGHYN

(over speaker, filtered)

Me too!

CARTER

Everybody shut up!

## CUT BACK AND FORTH:

BRE

Carter: who is with you?

WU

This is Wu here. I have Albright and Carter. Who do you have?

BRE

We've got...um...Hugh
Jackman...uh...that, um one--

HUGH JACKMAN

--Hugh here.

WU

Who?

HUGH JACKMAN

Who? Hugh. You?

WU

Who? Wu.

GREENER

Stop playing owl!

HUGH JACKMAN

We have everybody. No causalities. No serious injuries.

CLARK

Captain! You should know I have experience in crisis management situations--

WU

--I'm going to give everybody very specific roles. We are all in serious danger.

DOM

Okay, but on our side of the ship, over here, who is in charge?

WU

I am!

CLARK

Okay, but second in command--

WU

--My astronauts: Albright and Carter. If the three of us are all incapacitated, whoever takes charge will only have about two minutes before everybody is killed. Anybody want that blemish on their eulogy? No? Any questions?

MEGHYN

How do we save us?

WU

Are you in communication with Ground Control?

**MEGHYN** 

Negatory.

CLARK

It's negative.

**MEGHYN** 

Can't it be both?

BRE

Negatory's not a word!

Everybody resumes SHOUTING over one another.

WU

SHUT UP. Here's the situation. We have the thrusters, the shuttles and supplies. Your half is the Command Module. Basically we need to reconnect the ship, but it's going to take a bit more than a roll of Duct Tape.

TYSON

Are we going to make it home?

WU

We'll cross that bridge when we get there. First let's make it around the Moon. INT./EXT. OUTER SPACE - SPACE HAVEN - CORRIDOR AIRLOCK

Carter, in a space suit, is in the Corridor near the door separating him from the vacuum of space. Albright double-checks the suit.

ALBRIGHT

We are off course of the Lunar Orbital Path. We'll miss the Moon entirely in a couple of hours.

CARTER

Lot of pressure. Got it.

ALBRIGHT

If any of those tourists give you problems out there...there won't be any questions about what happened.

CARTER

What?

ALBRIGHT

Just testing you. Don't kill them. Unless you need to.

INTER-CUT: Corridor, Shuttle, Ball Room, Command Module

WU (V.O.)

Carter will be sent out to direct everybody how to detach the broken components of the Corridor.

IN THE BALL ROOM:

BRE

We have six suits. But only three jet packs.

CLARK

I'm taking one.

GREENER

Same!

DENISE/TYSON

Me too!

MEGHYN

I want a jet pack!

WU (V.O.)

Enough! Bre. Denise. And Clark. Take the mobility units. Jackman, Tyson and Greener, you stay tethered. Dom and Meghyn, you stay in Command Module. Dom: stay in Communication. Meghyn: watch the fuel gauges.

GREENER

Why do they get the jet packs?

WU

Because they find it fun to be professional and you find it fun to goof off.

TYSON

She's got us there.

**MEGHYN** 

Closing off the Ball Room.

The six tourists are locked into their space suits.

IN THE CORRIDOR --

Albright stands at a station behind Carter.

ALBRIGHT

My pop used to talk about wanting to launch Jimmy Carter into space...

CARTER

Don't call me Jimmy, Butch.

ALBRIGHT

It took my entire life but I think I get the appeal now. Hold on to your britches.

The airlock seal separates Carter from Albright. The compartment-turned-airlock de-pressurizes with a HISS.

EXT. OUTER SPACE - SPACE HAVEN

The door opens, letting the tethered Carter float into space, toward the broken end of the top half of Space Haven.

CARTER

It's like a space shark took a bite out of us.

WU

(from Anning)

Copy that. Giant space shark.
Albright, get back to Tranquility.
Carter, we're recording everything.
Tell me what you see.

CARTER

If I was an optimist I would be calling this a character-building moment.

WU

(from Anning)

Copy that. Command Module, send out the others.

MEGHYN

(Command module)

Um.

DOM

(Command module)

I think it's this.

Dom opens the door.

All six people in space suits FLY OUT into space.

EXT. OUTER SPACE - SPACE HAVEN

**EVERYBODY** 

AHHHHH!

CARTER

OH MY GOD!

Three "astronauts" reach the end of their tether and SNAP back to the ship.

JUAN

Ow!

TYSON

Fuck!

CARTER

Activate the SAFER!

DENISE

Ahh!

CARTER

Right hand! Squeeze the handle!

All three floating astronauts with the jet packs engage the personal thrusters.

Two (Bre and Clark) fly themselves back to Space Haven.

CLARK

That was kind of fun.

BRE

You're an astro-nut if you--

CARTER

--Denise! Get back here!

DENISE

Help me!

Wu sees Denise floating past the docked shuttle.

WU

Carter! Get her!

CARTER

Tether is too short! Denise!

DENISE

The jet pack is not working!

The jet pack squirts nitrogen randomly, tossing her about.

WU

She's floating away!

HUGH JACKMAN

I'm coming!

Hugh Jackman detaches his tether and kicks himself out toward Denise.

CARTER

No!

ALBRIGHT

What happened?!

WU

Jackman is floating untethered!

DENISE

There it goes!

Denise's jet pack KICKS BACK ON, sending her away from Jackman's path.

WU

Catch him!

DENISE

I can't control this!

Denise SPINS backward.

JUAN

Grab her!

Jackman continues his straight path.

DENISE

Help me!

CARTER

I can't!

Denise is ZOOMING about randomly.

DENISE

Agh!

Jackman floats further out from Space Haven, closing in on Denise....

HUGH JACKMAN

Come on!

At the last second--

Denise BLASTS in front of Jackman.

He SNAGS her, sending them both spinning.

HUGH JACKMAN

I've got you!

DENISE

AHH!

HUGH JACKMAN

We're okay. Here! The stick is just jammed.

DENTSE

Oh God. We're so far away.

HUGH JACKMAN

Let's go back then.

Hugh Jackman, holding onto the back of the jet pack, directs the joystick to Space Haven, guiding Denise and himself.

BRE

That was incredible.

The floating astronauts clap feebly in their suits.

WU

Good job guys. Great job. No deaths so far. Now you need to detach the broken sections of the corridor from both ends so we can reattach the two halves of the ship.

CARTER

Denise! Are you okay?

DENISE

That is definitely going in my safety report.

CARTER

Your what?

DENISE

I'm the safety inspector, Mr. Carter.

WU

(over headset, filtered)
That's all very interesting but we don't have all the time in the world.

BRE

I'd say we don't have any time in the world. You know, because we're in--

The six tourists and Carter disconnect the hallway-sized broken tube from the Ball Room.

ALBRIGHT

--Watch out!

The broken module piece FLIES back.

It sails toward the bottom half of Space Haven. It SKIPS off the bottom of the docked Anning with a metallic CLANG.

WU

Ahh!

ALBRIGHT

Status!

WU

Life support systems normal!

Wu takes control of a mechanical arm with a large mirror attached. She adjusts the angle, seeing the DAMAGED bottom of her shuttle.

WU (CONT'D)

Damn. Albright. The heat shield is damaged. Entire panels are missing.

TYSON

Scale of 1 to 10...how big of a problem?

CARTER

She's not dead but the ship isn't coming back to Earth.

WU

We'll cross that bridge when we get there. Now take off the other broken end and don't knock it toward me.

GREENER

Dom? Can you hear me? Dom, come in.

WU

Command Module, come in.

GREENER

Dom!

CLARK

Stop yelling!

GREENER

What if something happened? Dom!

ALBRIGHT

Focus! Detach the broken corridor section. Now.

The crew of seven unhinges the broken remnants of the Corridor module.

CLARK

Push it away people!

Without question, the others push the piece away, also pushing themselves away.

GREENER

Agh!

The tethered space walkers snap back.

TYSON

Ow! Sonovabitch.

CLARK

That was weird.

CARTER

That was the third law of Motion. Did you even pass 8th grade science?

BRE

His schooling predates Issac Newton.

CLARK

My schooling also predated smart asses.

CARTER

Oh shit.

The broken corridor didn't drift far enough...

...it CRASHES through three of the solar panels.

INT. MISSION OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER

Operation directors and technicians are all FREAKING OUT.

Ethel takes off her headset. Vanessa approaches.

VANESSA

What are you doing? What are they saying up there?

Ethel doesn't move. Vanessa takes the headset.

VANESSA

(listening)

What? Wha-oh. OH! Jesus. Jesus! Space Haven! Come in! Shit.

Randle approaches.

RANDLE

Vanessa. We're notifying the families.

VANESSA

And saying what? We don't know what's going on up there.

RANDLE

Then that's what we'll say.

ETHEL

We have some idea what they're doing. Wouldn't want to repeat it to their families, though.

VANESSA

How do we fire our customers?

EXT. OUTER SPACE - SPACE HAVEN

A dozen cables attach the two halves of Space Haven.

WU (V.O.)

The solar panel cables are not strong enough to pull us together. While docked, Albright and I will both fire the shuttles' side-thrusters and help push the bottom half to the top half.

The shuttles each PUFF out from their side.

The motorized steel cables wrap in.

The two GIGANTIC pieces of Space Haven slowly come together.

CARTER

You got it! Everybody, close in the latches and bolts.

A series of CLICKS and DRILLING attach the pieces.

WU

Solid job everybody.

CARTER

We're not home yet.

DENISE

Yeah, but with our real-life action hero here, I feel more confident.

CARTER

I'm just an astronaut--

BRE

--She was talking about Hugh Jackman. That was awesome how you jumped out into space!

ALBRIGHT

(intercom, filtered)
Everybody back to the airlock or you're getting left behind.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - BALL ROOM

Captain Wu, with everybody behind her, opens the door to the Command Module.

GREENER

Dom? Dom!

DOM

Greener?

WU

Wait out here. He's fine and we can't fit everybody in the Command Module.

GREENER

The eight of us fit in earlier.

MEGHYN

Wu, I am so happy to see you.

DOM

Yo, Cap, what's good?

WU

Smells like sweat in here.

MEGHYN

Yeah, well, we were pretty nervous for the last hour. Just the two of us and all.

DOM

Couldn't even get communications to work.

WU

Let me see. There's power. Connection. Out signal. Incoming signal...oh you have to be kidding me. You muted Ground Control.

Wu flips a single switch.

ETHEL

(over speaker, filtered)
Captain! It is good to hear your
voice!

INT. MISSION OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER

Several people, including Randle and Vanessa, race over to Ethel's Communication station.

ETHEL (CONT'D)

And I am relieved you can hear mine. Finally.

MEGHYN

(over speaker, filtered)
Was this working the whole time?

ETHEL

In a way, yes. Are you asking could we hear you?

INTER-CUT WITH SPACE HAVEN:

MEGHYN

...Yes.

VANESSA

Yes, Meghyn. Ground Control heard everything.

GREENER

What is she talking about? The swearing?

DOM

It was nothing. We had sex.

Beat.

TYSON

Really?

ETHEL

Yes.

BRE

How was it?

MEGHYN

Difficult.

VANESSA

Status report.

DOM

Wish I had a cigarette.

VANESSA

Captain Wu: remove that man from the Command Module.

Dom is yanked out the chair before uttering a full word.

WU

Carter. Albright. Get in here. Solar panels seven, eight and ten are off-line. Nine is working at half capacity and going down. Atmosphere in the green.

ALBRIGHT

Guidance: we need new telemetry.

VANESSA

Connecting you with Frank now. We are down to mere minutes before you enter the dark side of the Moon.

IN THE BALL ROOM:

Everybody attaches themselves to the spherical wall.

GREENER

I was yelling for you.

DOM

And I was trying to not freak out myself.

GREENER

Dom...we could've died. What were you thinking?

DOM

I didn't want to hear you dying.

BRE

And I didn't want to hear you just founded the Two-Hundred Thousand Mile High Club.

TYSON

Denise. What are writing?

DENISE

My safety report.

DOM

Nah, we're both clean.

GREENER

She's not talking about your goddamn syphilis-riddled nether regions!

**MEGHYN** 

Syphilis? You said it was a pimple.

DOM

It is a pimple.

CLARK

NOT sorry to change the subject but, Denise, we're all safe now. Are you putting that in there?

DENISE

It's to be continued.

DOM

I don't think you should be badmouthing the astronauts.

MEGHYN

Why not? I could still die and I want somebody to be blamed for that.

JUAN

Blame yourself.

CLARK

We almost lost Denise.

HUGH JACKMAN

But I got her.

GREENER

Yeah, we know. Hero of the Hour.

DOM

You saved her, Action Jackson?

HUGH JACKMAN

That was Carl Weathers.

MEGHYN

Who the fuck is--

DENISE

--Enough. It's my job to keep people safe!

BRE

It's my job to keep people comfortable!

GREENER

It's my vacation!

TYSON

I paid for it.

GREENER

And he paid for it!

DOM

It's my vacation too!

Greener and Dom float, getting in one another's faces.

GREENER

Then my **real** vacation would be getting away from you!

DOM

You started the fire!

GREENER

Listening to you!

CLARK

But you started the fire!

DOM

(to Clark)

You stay out of this!

HUGH JACKMAN

You're not--

GREENER

You sit your ass down!

CLARK

You spoiled punks --

GREENER

I'll punk you!

Greener jumps across to room toward Clark.

DENISE

Watch it!

Greener and Clark take swings at each other while floating, missing wildly. Tyson snatches Greener out of the air.

TYSON

Careful! You might hit him!

Hugh Jackman grabs Clark as he floats by.

Albright pokes his head in.

ALBRIGHT

We've gone into radio silence. Ground Control can't hear us anymore. So, it's okay to start fighting...now.

### INT. MISSION OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER

VANESSA

(to self)

What a disaster.

LEE

This mission?

VANESSA

No, your last online date.

LEE

I want everybody's attention! We're calling the shots now. I got word from the Director.

VANESSA

Over my dead career, you did.

RANDLE

But we are still working with Freedom Fliers, right? In tandem?

LEE

No. Communications will report to you. Anything to the contrary will be obstruction and legally dealt with.

ETHEL

This is bullshit. I have to report to him?

RANDLE

What's wrong with me?

ETHEL

You're not with us.

RANDLE

You left NASA.

VANESSA

Do you know each other?

ETHEL

Coworkers. Former coworkers.

LEE

Then be professional.

VANESSA

That's funny coming from a government bureaucrat.

LEE

I didn't see it coming from some glorified corporate raider.

ETHEL

Fine! We'll work together!

VANESSA

(whisper to Ethel)

If anything comes up, get me first.

LEE

(whisper to Randle)
If she does anything suspicious,
contact me immediately.

Randle approaches Ethel.

RANDLE

We should tell them.

ETHEL

We're passed that point, Romeo.

RANDLE

Who's Romeo?

INT. SPACE HAVEN - COMMAND MODULE

Wu, Albright and Carter huddle around.

WU

The problem is simple. We do not have the energy to make it back for a safe re-entry.

CARTER

Can we make it around the Moon?

WU

Yes, and launch ourselves in the general direction of Earth.

ALBRIGHT

Turn off all non-essential power.

CARTER

Comms?

ALBRIGHT

Non-essential. Heat, too. Filtration stays. Extra-activities off.

CARTER

They are going to drive us nuts.

ALBRIGHT

Put 'em in space, then.

WU

We're not going to murder anybody. We just need to keep everybody working together.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - BALL ROOM

GREENER

We should have a trial.

MEGHYN

For what?

BRE

You mean, for who to blame?

TYSON

If we are looking for problems, I think the biggest problem is probably somebody in here.

CLARK

Who are we talking about exactly?

Beat.

The room erupts into unintelligible yelling and pointing.

Hugh Jackman breaks off from the wall.

HUGH JACKMAN

Stop! STOP! Whoa...

Hugh Jackman floats past the middle and hits the wall on the other side with a soft thud.

GREENER

Heh heh.

DENISE

You okay?

HUGH JACKMAN

Yeah, yeah. But my point was that we shouldn't have a trial. Also, how would that even work?

TYSON

We'd have a judge, probably the captain or something, and we would all be in the jury.

**MEGHYN** 

Who are we accusing?

DOM

Everybody. Everybody should be on trial for nearly killing everybody by starting that fire.

GREENER

I was nowhere near that fire when it first started.

MEGHYN

Save it for the trial.

DENISE

It's getting cold.

CLARK

Space is a cold place. Wait.

BRE

It is getting colder.

Captain Wu enters the Ball Room.

WU

It won't be dangerously cold, but yes, we are trying to conserve power.

CLARK

Why are we "going green" in space? Is there such a thing as "universal warming?"

HUGH JACKMAN

The solar panels were damaged.

WU

Power to the living quarters has been shut off. All planned space walks are canceled. Planned zero-g experiments are canceled. Movie night is canceled.

TYSON

We really had a movie night planned?

BRE

Yeah.

**MEGHYN** 

And it was canceled?

WU

Yes.

DOM

Bummer.

BRE

Are we doomed?

WU

We are in serious danger.

MEGHYN

What movie was it?

WU

Wall-E.

**MEGHYN** 

DAMMIT! I love that movie.

DOM

We gonna have to hustle.

TYSON

Say, Greener, did you make that last lease payment on the Lexus?

GREE

Nah. I forgot. Sorry.

TYSON

It's cool. I didn't want to die debt-free anyway.

**MEGHYN** 

Way to stick it to the car company.

GREENER

Suckers.

Greener and Tyson high-five.

BRE

If we're going to die, I also have to make a confession: I once hit a parked car and drove away. I was too scared to even leave a note.

CARTER

That's okay. I once acted sick to get out of going to an uncle's funeral.

HUGH JACKMAN

A few years ago... one of my movie underperformed at the box office.

DOM

The Incredible Hulk?

HUGH JACKMAN

What? No.

TYSON

Well...we forgive you. All of you.

BRE

Wait. Isn't everybody going to confess something?

CLARK

Hadn't plan on it.

MEGHYN

We might still survive.

CARTER

Whoa, whoa, whoa. We all said embarrassing things.

HUGH JACKMAN

Really embarrassing things.

WU

That was your prerogative.

CARTER

Oh this sucks.

BRE

I hope we die now.

WU

Let's try to stay more positive.

BRE

You mean keep taking up space?

WU

Sure.

CARTER

Captain, can I just detach Tranquility and fly out into space?

WU

You cannot take the ship just to go and die. As tempting as that may be.

TYSON

Maybe we could go discover another planet. Or be the first people on Mars. If we're going to die either way, might as well be a useful death.

WU

Noted, but we are still working on ways to bring us home.

**MEGHYN** 

Who is we?

WU

Freedom Fliers and NASA are working together on the ground to bring us home.

CLARK

We're doomed.

WU

Either way, you still can't take the ship. The heat shield is too damaged on the Anning and so we'll need Tranquility no matter what. HUGH JACKMAN

We could take Anning into Deep Space, though. Right?

WIJ

You're not taking my ship anywhere.

GREENER

Let's vote on it.

WU

Space is not a democracy.

BRE

Why do you want to die so much, Greener?

GREENER

I never know if my life is unique enough, so I just like the idea of dying in a one-of-a-kind way.

DOM

Damn. That's dark.

MEGHYN

Saying your life is plain or boring is kind of insulting your friends.

GREENER

No. Wait. No it's not.

TYSON

A little man. You're in outer space.

CLARK

Only 24 people have ever gone beyond Earth's orbit before us. That's not even a football team.

ALBRIGHT

Captain, can I talk to you?

WU

Just say it.

ALBRIGHT

Two more dark times and we'll be on sailboat fuel.

Beat.

TYSON

I'm sorry, what did he say?

HUGH JACKMAN

Two more dark times and we'll be on sailboat fuel.

TYSON

Let me re-phrase that--

WU

--In two days, we are not going to have enough fuel to land.

GREENER

I'm not a scientist--

BRE

--shocker--

GREENER

--but it seems to me that most of landing is just falling. Why would we need any fuel for that?

CLARK

Is this because the ship is a hybrid?

WU

We'll figure it out. Entertainment yourselves. Don't use any power.

Wu goes into the Command Module.

Everybody drifts and pushes themselves to the Corridor.

ALBRIGHT

I understand that letting the cat out of the bag is a lot easier than getting her back in, but you mind telling me your first idea?

WU

With no fuel, we can maybe enter the Earth's atmosphere without skipping off, but that will mean taking Space Haven too far to stop it in orbit.

CARTER

Freedom Fliers won't be happy.

WU

Then be glad they're too far away to do anything to us now.

### INT. SPACE HAVEN - STORAGE/SLEEPING AREA

Greener looks out a window near the sleeping bags. Meghyn approaches with a camera pointed at him.

GREENER

See anything interesting?

MEGHYN

Always looking for a good moment. Is it a good time?

GREENER

What time is it? I don't have my Rolex with me.

**MEGHYN** 

Yeah, right.

GREENER

No, it's true. I don't have it with me.

MEGHYN

I didn't mean to insult you about the Rolex thing. I mean, let's be honest, if you're on this trip you must have some money.

GREENER

Or a friend paid my way.

**MEGHYN** 

Yeah, I get it, I didn't make millions of dollars myself.

GREENER

I wasn't talking about you.

MEGHYN

Who else is here? Whatever, I don't need to apologize because my parents, and their parents, and their parents made good financial decisions. I tell you what though...next year I'm going to Cancun. Enough of this space crap. I want to get a tan.

GREENER

Cancun is nice. Less prep work, more bikinis... less fear of having my insides boiled by a solar flare.

MEGHYN

Some of that tequila will tear you up though.

GREENER

True.

**MEGHYN** 

Sometimes I regret buying this ticket to space. It's a status symbol. They should have made the tickets super cheap--like a thousand dollars--and just held a raffle.

GREENER

I would be harder to bring along friends, then.

**MEGHYN** 

Did you--no...Tyson is the CEO of Tripster. What exactly are you?

GREENER

I'm the...uh...vice-president of our company's culture division.

MEGHYN

And the president of that division?

GREE

He couldn't make the trip. He's afraid of heights.

**MEGHYN** 

And Dom?

GREENER

He's also the vice-president of our company's culture division. It's a big division.

**MEGHYN** 

It's just buddies from Tyson's early days?

GREENER

We go back.

MEGHYN

You're his entourage.

JUAN

No, we're--

MEGHYN

Co-vice-presidents of the mooching division of your drinking buddy's billion-dollar online start-up. No wonder you were afraid of your life not having meaning.

Greener turns to leave.

GREENER

You're an heiress. Let me know when you release a sex video. Apparently we already have the audio.

**MEGHYN** 

Greener. Wait.

GREENER

What?

**MEGHYN** 

They gave us watches for up here.

Meghyn drifts to the sleeping quarters and finds numerous watches attached the the wall.

MEGHYN (CONT'D)

How many do you need?

Greener smiles.

GREENER

You know what...let me show you what Dom and I really do.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - LIVING QUARTERS - HYGIENE AREA

Hugh Jackman examines a pouch that looks like a large Capri Sun packet. It's labeled: SOAP WATER.

Dom approaches.

DOM

Hey, Crocodile Dundee--

HUGH JACKMAN

--now that's just offensive.

DOM

You think of a plan to save us yet?

HUGH JACKMAN

I'm just trying to take a shower here. Privacy is hard to come by, though.

Jackman squirts soapy water out of the pouch and tries to catch it in the wash cloth.

DOM

I feel that. Say, this movie you're in. What's it called?

HUGH JACKMAN

It's, um, this...this is a fucking travesty, mate. Why do you care about my next movie when you don't even know who I am?

Jackman squirts water onto the wash cloth. The procedure isn't unlike a sponge bath, except the water sticks to the cloth and to his face (zero-g surface tension).

The effect is actually rather haunting.

DOM

Because other people like you, I guess. I think we could work together.

HUGH JACKMAN

No, I...what exactly do you even do?

DOM

Your face looks like it's melting.

DENISE (O.S.)

Hello? Who's here?

 $D \cap M$ 

Hugh Jackman is giving himself a sponge bath. Or something.

DENISE

(obviously excited)

Really?!

Denise swings around into the area.

HUGH JACKMAN

Hey.

DENISE

Oh. You have your shirt on.

HUGH JACKMAN

What?

DOM

Do you have a thing for Hugh Jackman?

DENISE

What? What?

DOM

He saved you from floating out into space and dying a cold, horrific death.

DENISE

Uh, yeah, thank you, Mr. Jackman, again.

HUGH JACKMAN

You would have done the same for me.

DENISE

I'm a safety inspector. And it was kind of dangerous.

Greener appears down the Corridor.

GREENER

Hey, Dom! You feel up for a run?

DENISE

A run? In space?

GREENER

We can do this anywhere.

DOM

Watches?

GREENER

Yeah. What do you say? The Greatest Show Above Earth? Just the two of us?

DOM

Alright. Everybody in the Ball Room. Round 'em up, Greener.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - BALL ROOM

All the tourists line the walls of the Ball Room, unsure of what they are about to watch. Only Tyson is smiling with anticipation.

TYSON

These guys are the best. Trust me.

MEGHYN

I thought they just threw parties for your tech company.

TYSON

Oh no. They're better than strippers.

Greener puts up his hands. Meghyn raises her camera.

GREENER

Order in the court! Order in the court. Bring in the accused.

Dom floats to the middle, next to Greener.

It's a skit.

DOM

(hiccup)

Hey there. Don't judge me.

GREENER

I am a judge. You have been brought here for drinking in public.

DOM

Excellent. Do we have any whiskey?

Chuckles from the audience.

GREENER

Never mind that. Do you even know when you were arrested?

Dom looks at his left arm. He has THREE WATCHES.

GREENER (CONT'D)

Wait a minute. What's the idea of the three wrist watches?

DOM

Well, you see, your honor, this first watch runs 15 minutes slow every half-hour. And the second one runs 30 minutes fast every two hours. And the third one...well, it's broke.

GREENER

Oh, that one is broke...

DOM

Oddly enough, it stopped exactly at two.

GREENER

So how do you tell the time?

DOM

Well, your honor, I take the first one, which runs 15 minutes slow every half-hour and multiple it by the second one, which runs 30 minutes fast every two hours. Then I divide it by the last one, which is two.

GREENER

Oh yeah? Then what time is it now?

Dom pulls out a FOURTH WATCH from his pocket--looks at it.

DOM

It's half-past twelve.

GREENER

(mimics rim shot)

Ba dum tsssss!

Tyson laughs loudest. The others smile and applaud.

TYSON

Do The Finale!

DENISE

That wasn't it?

GREENER

Okay, okay. Just a moment. I'm going to need this.

Greener takes Denises's iPad.

DENISE

Hey! I need that.

GREENER

So do we. You'll get it back.

Greener finds and selects A SONG.

Very familiar electric keyboard chords begin.

MEGHYN

What...

It's Cyndi Lauper's Time After Time.

GREENER

Lying in my bed I hear the clock tick, And think of youCaught up in circles confusion, Is nothing new. Flashback, warm nights. Almost left behind. Suitcases of memories, Time after--

DOM

--Sometimes you picture me.I'm walking too far ahead.You're calling to me, I can't hearWhat you've said.Then you say, go slow.I fall behind.The second hand unwinds--

GREENER & DOM

(almost harmonizing)

If you're lost you can look and you will find me, time after time. If you fall I will catch you, I'll be waiting, time after time.

DOM

Jackman! Get up here!

Greener is taken aback. This is a new, unwanted, addition.

Jackman, beaming, joins. The others cheer and laugh.

Greener floats back.

HUGH JACKMAN & DOM

If you're lost you can look and you will find me, time after time! If you fall I will catch you, I'll be waiting, time after time!

DOM

Do you know this song? You got this?

HUGH JACKMAN

After my picture fades and darkness has turned to gray, Watching through windows, you're wondering if I'm OK. Secrets stolen from deep inside. The drum beats out of time.

Greener floats out of the Ball Room and down the Corridor.

**EVERYBODY** 

If you're lost you can look and you will find me, time after time! If you fall I will catch you, I'll be waiting, time after time!

INT. SPACE HAVEN - TRANQUILITY SPACE SHUTTLE

Greener, fuming, looks out into space.

Dom enters.

DOM

Dude, you left in the middle of our duet.

GREENER

It's not a duet if there are three people! Due...it means two. I think.

DOM

So? Since when have we cared about rules?

GREENER

It's not about rules. It's about you trying to replace me.

DOM

That's not it at all.

GREENER

Why not? Everybody loved Hugh Jackman.

DOM

Sure they did. But that was just because it was new, not because it was better.

GREENER

I like what we had.

DOM

We have to try new things. That's how we got to where we are. Don't be so scared.

GREENER

You're the one who is scared! Scared that we're not good enough. But we are! But we were.

DOM

You're right. I am scared. I can admit that. But let fear be a good thing.

GREENER

It doesn't feel real good now.

DOM

We will always be bros. We will always be on the same team; side-by-side. You know that, right?

GREENER

Yeah. I know. My macaroni to your cheese.

DOM

To the edges of the universe.

GREENER

And Hugh Jackman?

DOM

Fuck Hugh Jackman. And *Transformers* sucked. This is about us man. 'Aight? Shiiiit. Get over here.

Dom and Greener hug it out.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - ANNING SPACE SHUTTLE

Denise floats into the shuttle. Clark is sitting in the Command Chair with his hands on the controls.

DENISE

Some show earlier. I didn't know--Are you taking off?

CLARK

Just trying to be a kid again.

DENISE

Don't press any buttons please.

CLARK

Don't treat me like a child.

DENISE

But you just said--

CLARK

--It doesn't matter what.

DENISE

Have you found any other problems to report?

CLARK

You mean betray these astronauts? You people just want excuses to not go into space. Guess what. It's dangerous. Exploring has to be, otherwise it's not exploring. I don't care if there's a fire or not, I'm not telling you anything.

DENISE

Do you think we're exploring?

CLARK

We are pioneers in space.

DENISE

You are a tourist. This is basically a cruise ship under slightly more laws and regulations.

CLARK

We're going to be in trouble for sneaking alcohol on board, aren't we?

DENISE

Yeah.

CLARK

Fuck it then.

Clark takes out his flask and takes a swig. A small amount escapes the flask before he closes it.

DENISE

Oh come on.

Clark corrals the floating liquid.

CLARK

What? I have this under control.

DENISE

You can't just keep drinking your smuggled whiskey...and not share any of it.

Clark smiles and tosses the flask to Denise. She puts down her iPad--which gently floats away.

CLARK

You won't get in trouble?

DENISE

No one will believe you.

Denise takes a swig, with some difficulty.

CLARK

I heard that Armstrong took a shot on the Moon.

DENISE

I don't think that's true.

CLARK

Eh, what would you know? You're drunk.

DENISE

In an hour, I'll be sober but you'll still be dumb.

Denise floats away.

Clark notes she left her iPad floating in the shuttle.

CLARK

Women...

INT. SPACE HAVEN - ANNING SPACE SHUTTLE

Tyson looks in compartments and reads various pouches.

Bre floats in.

BRE

Can I help you find something?

TYSON

Found some peanut butter in our supplies but no bread.

BRE

There is no bread.

TYSON

Did you eat the last of it?

BRE

Bread creates crumbs. We have tortilla shells, though.

TYSON

A peanut butter burrito?

BRE

We have raisins.

TYSON

Grapes?

BRE

Raisins are smaller and last longer.

TYSON

I'll survive. Just trying to make dinner for everybody. Or breakfast. I have kind of lost track of meals up here.

BRE

I saw an interview with you once. You talked about eating something called ketchup soap.

TYSON

Heh, yeah, that was a pretty common snack with my siblings and I when we were too little to get food other ways.

BRE

Is it what it sounds like?

TYSON

Hot water. Mix in ketchup packets. Maybe two packets a bowl.

BRE

Gross.

TYSON

It wasn't great. It's nice to be able to afford space food now.

BRE

We did what we could.

TYSON

What else did you do?

BRE

We've had to invent or adapt so many aspects of living...it's not like you can just put Saturn rockets on a Hilton Hotel and shoot it into space.

TYSON

Ever looking for more help?

BRE

You're looking for a job?

TYSON

Tripster has been great but I don't know what to make next. I feel like it's kind of done.

BRE

You got a nice payday for it.

TYSON

Real nice.

BRE

So you can do anything.

TYSON

But after landing, no matter how we land, I have no new ideas.

BRE

I think the point of being rich is that you don't have to come up with new ideas; you get to just buy other people's ideas.

TYSON

Maybe I could buy some space ideas.

BRE

There you go.

TYSON

What do you want?

BRE

To eat? Not real hungry right now.

TYSON

I meant...in life.

BRE

To start over. I think I could help make a better Space Haven the second time around.

TYSON

Maybe one where visitors have to leave a credit card on file before checking-in?

BRE

Not quite.

TYSON

Space cereal?

BRE

We have scrambled eggs.

TYSON

I need some protein.

BRE

It's easy to add protein to space food, you just make it a little meteor.

Tyson groans.

BRE (CONT'D)

Thank you. I'll be here all night!

TYSON

On second thought, we might have a place for you at Tripster.

BRE

(rolls her eyes)

I'm honored.

INT. MISSION OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER - BREAK ROOM

Vanessa, frayed and ruffled, talks int her cell phone.

VANESSA

(to phone)

She wouldn't. No. That's crazy. Well, yes. Yes. Okay, she would. So what do you want me to do? Of course lie! How?! Give me something! Fine.

Vanessa hangs up.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

Cocksuckers.

She exits to..

INT. MISSION OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER

Vanessa grabs a headset.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

Captain. We are sending a rescue mission.

WU

(speaker, filtered)

G.C. It's only me. You can be honest.

VANESSA

We just need to...put you guys in orbit.

WU

(speaker, filtered)

We don't have the energy to maintain orbit and life-support

(MORE)

WU (cont'd)

systems. Engineering, confirm that assessment.

Everybody looks at a startled flight technician. He nods, with more than a hint of panic.

Vanessa kills the comms link.

VANESSA

If we diverted power away from life support systems--

RANDLE

--You'd have the power; and be a murderer.

VANESSA

I'm just saying the power is there. We just need to find out how to use it.

ETHEL

Or we just let them come back.

VANESSA

Space Haven is not a reentry vehicle.

Vanessa flips communications back on.

WU

(speaker, filtered)
--or we just come home, bringing
everything with us.

VANESSA

Do not. I repeat: do not engage thrusters toward Earth. Do you copy? Elaine? Do you copy?

WU

Copy that. Thrusters may be empty anyway. Only the reverse thrusters...never mind.

VANESSA

Where are the others?

WII

Albright and Carter are sleeping.

VANESSA

The passengers?

WU

I do not have their exact locations. Living quarters, maybe. Maybe the shuttles. We turned off non-essential power, including the cc cameras.

VANESSA

We are working on bringing you home.

WU

Of course you are.

Vanessa takes off her headset and pulls Ethel aside.

VANESSA

Is there another way to communicate with the shuttles?

ETHEL

Wu can connect us, yes.

VANESSA

I don't want Wu to know. I don't know what's going on in her head. Life and death situations can make people unpredictable.

ETHEL

Yeah, I'm getting that feeling too.

VANESSA

What about Ground Control override?

ETHEL

It'd take time to connect to the shuttles.

VANESSA

You don't have much.

ETHEL

But exactly are we doing?

VANESSA

That is a 150 billion dollar structure up in space. Do you have any idea how many lives that equates to?

ETHEL

I think there are eleven people up there.

VANESSA

And a hundred thousand more down here dependent on Space Haven staying up there. Start the override procedure and get me comms to the shuttles.

ETHEL

I just don't think--

VANESSA

--The difference between override procedure and your opinion is that I ASKED for the goddamn override procedure!

Vanessa leaves.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - COMMAND MODULE

Carter enters.

WU

Something is bothering me.

CARTER

I wouldn't worry about it. Bre told me you are a stellar captain.

Wu looks at Carter.

CARTER (CONT'D)

Oh! It was a joke! I didn't get it at first but now--

AN ALARM GOES OFF.

BEEPING.

RED FLASHING LIGHTS.

WU

CO2 is high.

Carter turns off the alarm.

WU (CONT'D)

Ground Control.

ETHEL

(intercom)

Here.

Albright enters.

WU

We are reading high levels of CO2. Confirm?

ALBRIGHT

What is this?

WU

Check the carbon filtration system.

Albright exits.

ETHEL

(intercom)

Engineering confirms. Looking for a cause now.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - BALL ROOM

All eight tourists crowd into the Ball Room as Albright tries to go past them.

TYSON

What was that?

ALBRIGHT

Get out of my way, Green Boots!

BRE

(cough)

What's going on?

TYSON

What did he call me? Was that racist?

DENISE

What now?

BRE

Stop looking for problems.

DENISE

When there's an alarm going off, yes, sorry, I do tend to look for what is going wrong; (cough) unless it's the "Everything is Okay" alarm. Is that what that was?

CLARK

Have we figured out how we're actually getting home with a ship running on fumes?

WU

Right now, the problem is the carbon filtration system. The whole "landing" thing...we will cross that bridge when we get there.

GREENER

We need to stop crossing bridges! That's what got us here.

DENISE

Clearly you are sleep deprived.

GREENER

If you thought you were going to die in 24 hours, (cough) would you sleep?

DENISE

I do and I have.

BRE

She doesn't so much sleep as she powers down.

DENISE

Nothing else on this ship works all the time, why should I?

TYSON

I was working. I was trying to make sandwiches for everybody.

CARTER

There's no bread.

TYSON

I was making peanut butter and raisin burritos.

CLARK

Gross.

MEGHYN

Can I have one?

TYSON

No. I got distracted.

DOM

By the "everything is okay" alarm?

GREENER

That's not what the alarm is.

DOM

Then what--

ALBRIGHT

--Captain. Filtration system is back online.

WU

What was wrong?

ALBRIGHT

It was turned off. There was no damage. At all.

CLARK

Somebody sabotaged us?

WU

No. It's not like a light switch. There is a process.

BRE

Don't look at me.

GREENER

Nobody was.

DOM

I am now.

BRE

I designed the living quarters. Anybody on this ship could be a suspect.

DENISE

To poison all of us? Too much CO2 and we all die.

MEGHYN

Unless...they are a robot.

CARTER

Oh my God.

DENISE

That's idiotic.

DOM

That's what a robot would say.

DENISE

I'm not a robot.

GREENER

That's what a robot would say!

DENISE

Captain!

WU

Nobody is a robot! There is another possibility. There is a procedure for Ground Control to remotely access our system.

DENISE

Ground control?

ALBRIGHT

They could put us in orbit, maybe. But we don't have enough power to last for a rescue mission if they do that and my final moments will be listening to the nonsensical yammering of you people.

BRE

Freedom Fliers wouldn't kill everybody on their maiden voyage.

TYSON

Because it's their maiden voyage? Would they do it on their second trip around the Moon?

GREENER

I'm sorry. Are we vacationing here or are we lab rats?

BRE

They won't let us die up here.

CARTER

They would if it meant saving billions of dollars. They would if it meant saving ten dollars.

DENISE

But not the government. NASA is down there observing the flight and procedures.

ALBRIGHT

Sure, you can trust the U.S. government; just ask any Indian. Morons.

INT. MISSION OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER - BREAK ROOM

A sleepy Ethel rubs her eyes and puts a mug under the coffee maker, upside down.

Randle enters.

RANDLE

You guys are going to kill the astronauts.

ETHEL

No, we'll save them.

RANDLE

I am here exactly for this very reason. This company is going down.

A flight technician from earlier enters.

TECHNICIAN

Hey guys. Ethel, are you fraternizing with the enemy?

ETHEL

Huh?

TECHNICIAN

Just kidding. But for real, what's going on?

RANDLE

Just making coffee.

Ethel hits the coffee button, letting the coffee pour out on onto the top of the upside-down mug.

ETHEL

Shit!

Coffee spills on the counter.

TECHNICIAN

Dude!

Coffee spills on the ground.

Ethel flips her mug right-side up, burning herself.

ETHEL

Ow! Shit!

RANDLE

Watch it! It's hot!

ETHEL

Thank you! I needed the best minds NASA has to offer for that help!

Ethel runs her hand under cold water by the sink. The technician scurries out of the room.

RANDLE

I need you to get on the right side of this situation before it collapses with you underneath.

ETHEL

I'm fine with Freedom Fliers.

RANDLE

I need you to quit immediately or do anything that can get you off the hook for this company's blatant negligence and disregard for human life.

Lee, the NASA Observer from earlier, enters.

LEE

Oh, what happened here?

RANDLE

Ethel had an accident.

Randle grabs paper towels.

LEE

There is a lot of that going around.

ETHEL

I know. Dammit.

LEE

Seriously. Drink more coffee.

ETHEL

We have everything under control.

RANDLE

I think we need help.

ETHEL

We could lose everything.

LEE

What? The coffeemaker?

RANDLE

Everything is already lost. I'm getting the President involved.

LEE

Over spilled coffee? Seems a bit much, Randle.

RANDLE

You eating six donuts during every meeting is a bit much, Lee. This is cosmic.

LEE

Words hurt, Randle. Words hurt.

Lee leaves.

ETHEL

Fine. I'll do what I can to help the astronauts or hurt Freedom Fliers, which ever you think is really more important.

RANDLE

Ethel...

ETHEL

No. it's my career. I can ruin myself just fine.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - BALL ROOM

Most of the tourists are back in the Ball Room, clearly cold. Clark is missing. Greener and Dom float in the middle.

**MEGHYN** 

Is this an encore?

GREENER

If you just keep taking pictures, you'll miss everything.

HUGH JACKMAN

Are we singing again?

GREENER

You keep your seat, pretty boy.

HUGH JACKMAN

Boy? I'm older than you.

DENISE

Is this part of the show?

TYSON

Nothing else to do but watch live theater when we're still conserving power.

BRE

I feel like we should be helping the astronauts.

GREENER

How?

BRE

I don't know. Somehow.

GREENER

I'm not in the way. That's my main way of being useful.

EXT. OUTER SPACE - SPACE HAVEN

Albright and Wu are tethered and floating near the engines. They have a panel open and nearby attached flash lights.

WU

Should be a relatively simple process of reversing the wires. What's your 02?

ALBRIGHT

Eighteen percent.

WIJ

Twenty-three percent for me. I might be finishing this myself.

INTER-CUT:

Carter in the Command Module.

CARTER

This is a big risk. If Ground Control asks us to actually go into orbit, we won't be able to.

WU

They won't ask us. That's the point.

ALBRIGHT

I'm on edge about this, too.

WIJ

If they try to stop us by overriding the system, they end up pushing us to Earth. Two wrongs can make a right.

ALBRIGHT

Just 'cause trouble comes a-visiting doesn't mean you gotta offer it a place to sit. We are sabotaging ourselves, expecting them to sabotage us.

WU

Are you with me or not?

ALBRIGHT

I'm reversing engine thrusters next to you in outer space, traveling some two thousand miles per hour; what more can a simple cowboy do?

WU

We need to kill the power very specifically. Pay attention, Carter.

INT. MISSION OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER - COMMS DESK

Vanessa, headset on, leans in close to the monitor.

VANESSA

Listen carefully. This is Vanessa Bard. You need to stop Space Haven in orbit.

(PAUSE)

This must be Top Secret. I do not know who we can trust on the ship. But we definitely cannot trust Captain Elaine Wu or Lt. Butch Albright.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - ANNING SPACE SHUTTLE

Clark, headset on, contemplates this.

CLARK

What about Jimmy Carter?

VANESSA

(headset, filtered)
Jimmy Carter? He's not--

CLARK

--I'm sorry. James Carter.

VANESSA

No, not him either.

CLARK

So who is in charge?

VANESSA

You. If you stop the ship in orbit.

CLARK

I can't fly this thing.

VANESSA

It's just rocket science. Let Ground Control override the controls and you'll be fine.

CLARK

I'll be captain?

VANESSA

Yes. Fine. Remove Elaine Wu from duty. Somehow. Whatever you have to (MORE)

VANESSA (cont'd)

do to be the hero. And you'll be a real astronaut.

CLARK

Wow. I need to think about this.

VANESSA

No! Heroes don't think; they just DO!

CLARK

Fine. I'll do it. For America.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - BALL ROOM

The vaudeville-style skit continues.

DOM

Twenty people under an umbrella and not a one got wet.

GREENER

Not a one? How's that?

DOM

It wasn't raining.

Laughter from the audience.

GREENER

Alright then. You hear about the twenty people who fell off the roof? Not a one got hurt.

DOM

Not a one? How's that?

GREENER

They were killed.

Silence.

DOM

Should probably stay away from the death jokes.

EXT. OUTER SPACE - SPACE HAVEN

Wu and Albright are still re-wiring the thrusters.

An ALARM blares.

WU

Shit. 02 levels.

ALBRIGHT

What percent?

WU

Five percent.

ALBRIGHT

Get back to the ship.

WU

What are you at?

ALBRIGHT

Nine.

WU

How?

ALBRIGHT

Breathing less.

CARTER

(headset, filtered)

Captain, come back. He can finish.

WU

I will.

Albright is breathing slow but sweating. Wu doesn't move, holding the drill and lamp. Albright looks at her.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - COMMAND MODULE

Bre and Denise enter the Command Module

DENISE

How are Wu and Albright?

CARTER

They're running out of air.

An ALARM goes off. Carter turns it off.

CARTER

Captain. You're at one percent.

Another ALARM goes off. Carter turns it off.

CARTER (CONT'D)

Albright. Five percent.

EXT. OUTER SPACE - SPACE HAVEN

Albright SHOVES Wu away. She drifts redirecting herself with the jet pack. She is close to the open airlock chamber.

Albright looks at her. His message is clear.

Wu drifts into the airlock...

WII

Carter. Close the airlock.

The DOOR seals. Oxygen HISSES as the room re-pressurizes.

Wu takes off her helmet and breathes deep.

Denise opens the door from inside and pulls Wu in.

EXT. OUTER SPACE - SPACE HAVEN

OXYGEN ALARM.

CARTER

(headset, filtered)
Oxygen tank is empty! You have to
be done NOW. Get back or there will
be hell to pay.

ALBRIGHT

Oxygen in my suit.

Albright re-attaches the panel.

CARTER

(headset)

Since I know you won't waste oxygen talking back, I might as well take this time to say your tough guy persona is thin. Real thin. We all know you're a big softy and now, with you doing this stupid low-oxygen thing...that's just definitive evidence.

Albright, losing consciousness, drifts to the airlock chamber.

ALBRIGHT

Blow me.

CARTER

Hope that little waste of oxygen was worth it.

Albright floats into the airlock chamber. Wu, with her headset, watches from the tiny window.

WU

He's in!

The airlock door closes. The chamber pressurizes.

Wu swings the heavy door open.

She takes off Albright's helmet.

ALBRIGHT

(groggy) (to Carter)

It was.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - INTERSECTION

Wu and Albright remove their space suits. Everybody crowds the narrow hallway.

WU

Now we need to sit and wait.

BRE

Who knew there was so much "wait" involved in space traveling.

WU

Is anybody else getting hungry?

TYSON

I'll go make peanut butter burritos.

Clark approaches.

CLARK

Captain Wu. I'm officially removing you from...being captain.

**MEGHYN** 

I think he has Space Madness.

CLARK

No, it's true.

ALBRIGHT

About Space Madness?

CLARK

I have authority from Ground Control to be the new captain.

Everybody (save Wu) ERUPTS into yelling.

WU

Stop! Stop it! Out of curiosity, Clark, what would be your first act as captain?

CLARK

We need to slow Space Haven down and go into orbit. With one shuttle too damaged to enter the atmosphere and the other one too low on fuel, we need to stay with Space Haven.

WU

Okay, Clark. Let's go talk about it. I'll show you some controls.

CLARK

Um. Okay.

Wu floats down the Corridor to the Anning; Clark follows.

ALBRIGHT

We don't have long! Earth is getting awfully close.

CARTER

She's going to do?

DENISE

I think she's going to kill him.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - ANNING SPACE SHUTTLE

Wu takes a seat in the chair to the right and gestures for Clark to sit down in the center chair. He does.

WU

This button turns the shuttle on.

CLARK

Really?

WU

No. Absolutely not. Quick: do you know what AC stands for?

CLARK

Air conditioning.

WU

Correct. In this job it can also stand for advanced composite, aerodynamic center, alternating current, application controller, assembly complete, audio center and auxiliary computer.

INT. MISSION OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER

Ethel is listening in. Vanessa approaches.

VANESSA

Any word from Clark?

Ethel considers this.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

Ethel?

ETHEL

No.

VANESSA

Are you sure? Nothing?

ETHEL

Just silence. Do you want to hear nothing?

Ethel hands over the headset. Hardest bluff of her life. Vanessa doesn't bother to take the headset.

VANESSA

Damn. Guidance: where are we at?

GUIDANCE DIRECTOR

An hour away from the point of no return.

### INT. SPACE HAVEN - ANNING SPACE SHUTTLE

WU

So why don't you tell me what's really going on?

CLARK

I just wanted to help. They say you're reckless.

WU

We are going to wreck a lot of things. That is true.

CLARK

Ever since I was a boy, I wanted to be an astronaut.

WU

You saw them on TV and thought they were heroes?

CLARK

Of course.

WU

But you could be so much more right now.

CLARK

How?

WU

They went into space, on TV and became famous. They got parades and honorary degrees and all sorts of praise. You, right now, have the chance to make the sacrifice nobody will ever know about. Yes, you could fight your way to being captain, whatever that means to you. You can take control of the ship, I'm sure somebody down there will support you. But you could also save everybody by NOT taking charge. You and you alone can keep the peace on this ship and let us act as one unified body. And the greatest sacrifice? Nobody will ever know you made any sacrifice at all. You will not get a parade. You will not get honorary degrees or any praise at all. You will have

(MORE)

WU (cont'd)

gone into space, had a chance to go from passenger to leader and turned it down so that other people could have peace of mind. How is that not heroic?

CLARK

You'll know about it, though.

WU

That's right. And I'll never talk about it.

CLARK

Okay. I can do that. You can be captain.

WU

Thank you, Clark.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - CORRIDOR - INTERSECTION

Wu and Clark re-emerge.

GREENER

The fuck was that?

WU

Clark decided he doesn't want to be captain anymore.

DENISE

I'm sorry, but I need more information than that.

ALBRIGHT

When you're walking through a minefield, there's no point in looking behind you.

BRE

Are we in a minefield?

INT. MISSION OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER

VANESSA

Corporate says stop this ship. Engage the reverse-thrusters.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - CORRIDOR - INTERSECTION

The Space Haven JOLTS.

**MEGHYN** 

An explosion?!

WU

Carter!

CARTER

I'm here!

WU

Ground Control hit the reverse-thrusters.

TYSON

What's going on?!

ALBRIGHT

We're going home now! Everybody! Get to Tranquility! Go! Go!

INT. MISSION OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER

GUIDANCE DIRECTOR

Bard! This is all wrong! Space Haven is SPEEDING UP.

VANESSA

That's impossible!

RANDLE

They're coming home and bringing the whole house with them!

VANESSA

Jesus Christ. How did this happen?!

ETHEL

If you're giving up, go home.

VANESSA

Is that for me?

ETHEL

That was for them.

Randle approaches the monitors.

RANDLE

Holy shit.

EXT. BETWEEN SPACE AND ATMOSPHERE

The enormous space station enters the THERMOSPHERE, passing the point of no return and hitting turbulence.

A piece of the SOLAR PANEL breaks off.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - TRANQUILITY SPACE SHUTTLE

All eleven people cram into the 6-person space shuttle. A rumble grows from outside.

ALBRIGHT

This is going to be rough!

DENISE

My report! I need it!

**MEGHYN** 

I think they're going to believe you that this ship has problems!

DENISE

I'm going back!

WU

Where is it?

DENISE

I--uh--it's, I had it when drinking
with Clark!

GREENER

You were holding out on us?!

DENISE

The Anning!

WU

Stay.

CARTER

No!

Wu thrusts herself through the airlock; into the Docking Station, toward the Intersection.

BRE

We can't stay attached to Space Haven! We have to detach!

ALBRIGHT

Not a chance!

# OUTSIDE--

Pieces of debris burn as Space Haven enters the MESOSPHERE.

From 100 km below, it looks like a large meteorite.

#### INSIDE--

CARTER

Buckle up!

Albright is at the controls. Bre, Denise, Meghyn, Carter and Tyson buckle up.

Greener, Clark and Dom are just holding onto the seats.

CARTER (CONT'D)

Here! Take this!

Carter hands Greener the MAKESHIFT HELMET (bowl with a towel).

GREENER

Now I feel safe!

The ship RUMBLES.

DENISE

It's going to break! We'll burn!

ALBRIGHT

Then I'll see you in Hell!

Denise grabs Carter's hand.

Carter, while bumped around, smiles...totally worth it.

INT. SPACE HAVEN - ANNING SPACE SHUTTLE

Wu is BOUNCED AROUND by the reverberations. She snags the iPad and takes a last, brief, look at her ship.

WU

I'm sorry! I'M SORRY!

Wu kisses her hand and slaps the door frame for a last time.

Wu rushes back down the Corridor. She is determined, fierce, sweating.

### OUTSIDE--

Space Haven is PLUMMETING, leaving behind a trail of condensing gases and debris.

Larger chunks snap off.

INT. TRANQUILITY

The shuttle's shaking is now INTENSE.

SEVERAL ALARMS ARE RINGING.

Albright presses off alarms as quickly as they BUZZ again.

Greener loses his GRIP. He flies back, hard, hitting the helmet on the wall.

DOM

Greener!

GREENER

Fuck!

## OUTSIDE--

A solar panel breaks off, burns and instantly dissolved into falling shrapnel.

Pieces of Space Haven STREAK THE SKY over the Pacific Ocean.

#### INSIDE--

Space Haven is ROARING.

METAL TEARING APART.

CLARK

Wu! WU!

**MEGHYN** 

How are you cheering!?

CLARK

I calling for the captain!

BRE

WU!

CARTER

WTJ!

**MEGHYN** 

WU!

Wu springs into the shuttle.

WU

This isn't a roller coaster!

DOM

Had me fooled!

ALBRIGHT

Close the door!

A GIANT CRASH knocks everybody around.

The windows GLOW YELLOW.

ALBRIGHT

CLOSE THE DOOR!

Wu is joined by Clark, Dom and Greener--all pulling the airlock door tight.

Wu spins the lock.

WU

Locked!

ALBRIGHT

Grab something!

Everybody grabs the nearest seat with ALL THEIR MIGHT.

ALBRIGHT

AHH!

Albright pulls the lever, disengaging Tranquility.

The shuttle is CATAPULTED from the tumbling Space Haven.

SPINNING!

Entire sections of Space Haven SNAP OFF.

The Anning EXPLODES.

The space shuttle barely out paces the metallic AVALANCHE.

IN THE STRATOSPHERE--

The aerodynamics of the shuttle spin it top-wise, immediately cooling the outside.

WU

LOCATION!

ALBRIGHT

30 kilometers out of Edwards!

WU

Make it!

The rolling of the shuttle softens to hard vibrations.

INT. MISSION OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER

ETHEL

Vanessa! I quit!

VANESSA

Abandoning ship a little late, aren't you!?

GUIDANCE DIRECTOR
They're coming in, it's right
over--oh sweet baby Jesus.

VANESSA

WHERE!?

RANDLE

It's Los Angeles!

Vanessa gets a phone call. She THROWS her phone at the wall.

EXT. LOS ANGELES - DAY

A guy with a SLR camera PANS UP to the sky. Freezes.

FUTURE DIRECTOR

Are those chem trails?

Others LOOK UP.

A massive SONIC BOOM from overhead.

Space Haven is falling right to them.

People RUN as the behemoth space station descends.

A piece of debris SCREAMS through the sky and explodes through the center of RANDY'S DONUTS giant donut.

EXT. LOS ANGELES - VENICE BEACH - DAY

Shirtless and bikini-clad beach-goers scramble to shore as--

The Space Haven SLAMS into the ocean!

Waves crash up all the way up to the boardwalk.

All the walking biceps and personal trainers are knocked over by the waves. The medical marijuana shops are flooded.

EXT. EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE - DAY

News vans RACE to the runway of the air force base.

Emergency vehicles are close behind.

TECHNICIAN (V.O.)

Coming into Fort Edwards!

ETHEL (V.O.)

Comms down!

INT. TRANQUILITY - AIRBORNE - DAY

ALBRIGHT

New problem! Landing gear unresponsive!

WU

Nose up twenty degrees.

ALBRIGHT

Altitude forty and going down!

CARTER

Brace yourselves!

JUAN

We haven't unbraced ourselves from before!

ALBRIGHT

Fifteen! Ten! Five! Tou--

The shuttle SMACKS the ground.

Albright PULLS up on the nose.

ALBRIGHT

COME ON! Come on, baby!

The shuttle HITS THE GROUND again.

The underside of the shuttle is SHREDDED by the runway.

It's as LOUD AS A FREIGHT TRAIN.

ALBRIGHT

Parachute out!

THE THUNDEROUS SCREECHING-

Everybody is JOSTLED and BATTED AROUND-

Slowly, the momentum wanes.

WU

We're out of runaway!

The shuttle slides off the paved runway and onto grass.

The sparks disappear, replaced with clouds of dirt.

Losing speed, the shuttle still crashes through a chain-link fence. And with a final inanimate sigh, the smoking shuttle comes to a complete stop.

Albright flips off the last of the alarms.

Silence.

WU

Welcome back to Earth.

Everybody ERUPTS INTO CHEERING.

People in seats unbuckle themselves. Those without seats struggle to stand, woozy and doubly exhausted.

Though bruised and battered, everybody is still able to hug and laugh.

HUGH JACKMAN

You know, I think I might keep looking for other jobs.

DENISE

Too bad. I think I'm stuck; I'll be looking for problems in space for while.

CARTER

I'll be around, too.

DENISE

Then maybe I'll be looking for problems forever.

CARTER

Nice.

Outside, news vans and photographers rush to the shuttle.

WU

(to Albright)

And you were afraid of the space program becoming a PR stunt.

ALBRIGHT

A pretty good one, I'd say.

BRE

The press is outside. Do we all want to have our stories straight?

CLARK

I just want to touch ground.

EXT. EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE - DAY

The door is opened. Camera flashes go off.

Reporters hurl hundreds of questions-a-second.

DOM

Still...Best Spring Break Ever.

The astronauts emerge one-by-one.

BRE

Hey! Hey! Let me say this: what happens in space, stays in space!

Everybody takes out their flasks.

ZOOM OUT TO THE SKY:

ZOOM OUT TO THE STARS:

BLACKNESS.

GREENER (V.O.)

Say, why don't you guys all come work with us?

MEGHYN (V.O.)

Do you need a photographer?

Pictures of everybody now working in the company culture division at Tripster. We see Hugh Jackman, his agent Kevin, all the tourists, even the astronauts.

There are work parties, theme days, pranks, etc.

CREDITS.