## ICARUS RISING "Snappers"

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FADE IN:

INT. ICARUS - CORRIDOR - DAY

An army of large prehistoric turtles advances towards the door to the Control Room.

Several hiss in unison.

The door opens.

Armed with paint guns, and safety goggles, BRANDON and NAOMI peer out.

BRANDON

They're just turtles. What can they do?

NAOMI

Just zap 'em.

ERIC (O.S.)

Just do it.

BRANDON

Harmless. We could walk around them. I mean. Come on. Like I'm really scared.

ORIRIS the mantis alien looks out over Brandon's shoulder.

BRANDON

Please don't do that.

Oriris tips his triangular head.

The first wave of turtles spring up, massive shells pound on the walls of the shuttle and around the door.

Thump! Thump! Thump!

BRANDON

Turtles can't jump! Not even big thawed out ones!

Naomi blasts a random turtle. Blue paint splatters all over its shell, face. Turtle skims like a stone across a river of its kin. Lands in a small open corner. Legs flail about like a helpless child.

The assault on the shuttle continues, sparks of wires shoot off.

INT. ICARUS - COMMAND ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jason's headset flickers.

**JASON** 

Ashley, Eric, I need you two in...

A rouge turtle bounces in the room, launches itself at Jason's chair. Jason taps a console. The ship tilts, the turtle misses him and the chair by inches.

ERIC

Hey! Enough of that!

The ship levels. Ashley shoots red paint over the turtle. Red turtle's head pops out, cries in protest.

BRANDON

This was a bad idea!

More turtles get through the door, knock over Oriris. Oriris scrambles, tosses his attacker over to BARTENDER.

BARTENDER

Now hold on just a minute -

Ducks out of the way as the turtle whacks against the wall.

Bartender grabs a chrome pipe from the floor. Turns to swat the turtle.

It jumps on him, beak mouth crunches down on the center of the metal pipe.

Forces Bartender to land on his ass.

Struggles with the prehistoric turtle for control of the pipe...

Pipe breaks in two.

Turtle about to lunch on Bartender's neck...

Ashley blinds it with a blotch of red.

Oriris' arm shoots out, knocks the turtle off Bartender.

ERIC

Do something, Jason!

JASON

Doing it.

Jason taps the console.

Waits a few seconds... Nothing.

Punches in another code.

Turtles hurl themselves at Brandon and Naomi. Brandon taps a device next to the door. Door closes.

Hail of dents form, bang against the other side of the door.

**JASON** 

Not working -

BRANDON

Try something else!

JASON

Alright. Hang on to something! Hopefully this will work -

ERIC

Not again! You are not rocking this thing one more -

**JASON** 

Hang on!

ORTRIS

Whatever human is going to do...

JASON

That's not it...

ASHLEY

Jason!

A turtle jumps up on Jason's lap, mouth clamps down on part of the armrest, attacks it more like a mad dog than a turtle.

Jason slaps it on the head. It lets go of the chair, and snaps at his fingers.

Jason's other hand balls into a fist and slams own on part of the console.

The turtle, and everything and everyone but him and Oriris--FLOAT up in the air. INT. MEDICAL LAB - MOMENTS LATER

Tom rises to the ceiling. His eyes dart about as nano-bots drift off him.

His nose presses against the surface.

MOT

Wonderful.

INT. COMMAND ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Brandon and Naomi drift like astronauts in zero gravity.

Oriris lashes out, hits one of the painted Red Turtles. The turtle protests as it floats away. The turtle snaps at Ashley's right heel, misses.

ASHLEY

What are doing, you stupid overgrown insect?

ORIRIS

Overgrown insect. Still learning your language, methods.

**ASHLEY** 

Okay. Understand this. Don't do that again.

ORIRIS

Can you push one over to me? I might be able to kill it.

ERIC

There's a few to choose from in here, Ori...whatever Your name is.

ORIRIS

Oriris.

ERIC

Ding-dong. Airhead. Dumb-Dumb.

BRANDON

That's not helping either.

ORIRIS

Doing the best I can.

JASON

Oriris, If one of them bites through the translator, nobody will understand you.

ORIRIS

I'll learn -

JASON

All you're going to do is bat them around.

ORIRIS

Bat them?

BARTENDER

Oriris - you said you were part of some sort of salvage crew or something?

ORIRIS

Correct.

BARTENDER

Was there anything you brought on board with you, anything you can use?

ORIRIS

Don't know if it was working.

BARTENDER

So you did bring something.

ORIRIS

We brought it before we knew we had to bring it and brought a few other objects after we brung it.

Puzzlement on everyone's faces. Even the turtles look clueless.

NAOMI

Oh. Techspeak.

BRANDON

So you know what the bug's talking about?

NAOMI

Not really.

JASON

I think what they're asking if there's anything that might get the turtles off the ship.

ORIRIS

There is such an item, if we remembered to bring it after we brought -

BRANDON

Yes or no, bug.

ORIRIS

Not sure. If we brought -

BRANDON

Shut up and help us.

Oriris nods. Steps over to the Nano-pod panel. Taps on it with his foreleg.

Knock. Knock.

BRANDON

What's he doing?

ASHLEY

Tom.

Ashley takes a breath, exhales. She can see her breath.

ASHLEY

What the -

NAOMI

Yes. Temperature's dropping.

Jason looks to the ripped armrest.

JASON

We have five minutes before the ship shuts down.

ORIRIS

All freeze. Two thousand years.

Brandon floats over to Oriris. A turtle snaps away near him, but Eric grabs it from behind, moves it away.

MEDICAL LAB - MOMENTS LATER

Tom hears a tap on the other side of the wall. He's still on the celing.

MOT

I don't know if I like this...

BRANDON (O.S.)

Tom! Listen up. There's some sort of weapon in the medical lab with you.

TOM

Weapon?

BRANDON

A gun. A ray gun.

MOT

Ray gun!

BRANDON

Where is it?

TOM

You don't know?

BRANDON

Hard to understand the bug.

Tom turns to look below him, cranes over too far...the alien mummy stares him in the face. In his face. Tom cries out a protest.

BRANDON

Gonna have to cowboy up. Ray gun's in there with you. I think.

TOM

You think?

BRANDON

Find it! Fast!

Tom turns his whole body around. The alien mummy practically hugs him. Tom pushes it away from him, but changes his mind.

Pats down the mummy. Dust shakes off the corpse.

BRANDON

What are you doing in there?

TOM

Think I found it! I found it! I found it!

BRANDON

Wonderful!

Snap! Brandon pulls out "the gun".
It's an alien bone!
The rest of the mummy floats away...

BRANDON

Okay! Here's how you use it...listening?

MOT

Yeah. All ears!

Tom pushes off the ceiling, drifts to the table. Nano-bots scurry out of the way.

Tom grasps the tables edges, pulls forward.

Looks under the table.

Not a gosh darn thing.

BRANDON (O.S.)

There is a small slide release level on the left side of the handle. Then turn it around.

MOT

Hang on just a minute...

Tom turns himself mid-air, gets a look under the other table.

A look of frustration. Shrugs. Pulls himself closer, grabs the thing that looks like a retrofitted squirt-gun. The barrel of the gun is closed off.

Upside-down, Tom cradles the gun.

TOM

Slide, left handle...

Tom finds it. A white lightning pulse of energy in the container.

Glides in the air to the side door.

INT. CORRIDOR - MOMENTS LATER

Tom floats at a side angle, aims the weapon..not Sure what to shoot at. He sees a turtle with blue paint over its shell.

Blue turtle chomps on a piece of wiring. Lets go of his meal. The light system flickers, dies.

Tom shoots.

The energy pulse shoots out from under his back right armpit. Blows a hole through the wall behind him.
Thrusts him forward in a mid-air cartwheel.

Tom realizes his error, turns the gun around.

Zaps the Blue Turtle. Tom flops backward. Electrocutes another floating turtle. A dozen or so more turtles floating to his right. Random shots. It's like a bumper pool.

INT. COMMAND ROOM - DAY

Nano-bots scurry around the door, repair the last of the dents. They clear away.

The door opens.

Tom floats in, worse for wear.

Everyone except Jason holds a turtle by the back.

**JASON** 

Okay. Let them go.

ASHLEY

Wouldn't these be like, endangered species?

BARTENDER

Just let the turtles go.

They all release the turtles. The turtles drift over to Tom.

TOM

Figures it would be my problem.

Aims, fires away. Zap-Zap-Zap.

Jason taps a code in the console. Everyone falls to the floor.

Naomi sits up, smile on her pretty nerd face.

NAOMI

So what was it like?

MOT

Chill it, girlfriend.

Oriris approaches Tom, Tom hands him the gun.

Oriris inspects it.

ORIRIS

After a few thousand years, reawakened nano-probe would fix.

JASON

Is there anything else on board?

ORIRIS

Gear in chamber. Had to bring before we brung -

JASON

Yes or no will do.

ORIRIS

Yes. They would help move things off ship.

ERIC

And on?

ORIRIS

Yes. But there may also be the -

BARTENDER

Do you have a ship near here?

Nods upward.

ORIRIS

Transport. Once in danger, ship left.

BARTENDER

Left you for dead.

ORIRIS

Don't know. Just left.

Nano-bots carry off dead turtles into the secret compartments.

Oriris carries the gun and lays it down near the compartment.

JASON

Someone's going to have to go into the chamber, have a look around. Find anything, keep us informed.

NAOMI

Me and Tom will go!

MOT

Wait a second. I -

ORIRIS

Great idea. Bold for humans to volunteer.

ERIC

Going to need some chairs.

ASHLEY

I need a drink.

BARTENDER

With you there.

Jason waves them off the conversation.

JASON

Nanobots will be busy on repairs. I want to get the shuttle up and running.

FADE OUT.