A SEQUEL TO A PROMETHEUS ESCAPE—THE SHORT VERSION

BY

Curtis Lofgren

Based Upon Characters
Written by Damon Lindelof & Jon Spaiht

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curtislofgren@comcast.net
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FADE IN

TITLE CARD:

THE YEAR IS 2095. ONLY TWO DAYS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE ENGINEER VESSEL ESCAPED LV223. DAVID AND SHAW HAVE ESCAPED A NIGHTMARE. THEIR DESTINATION? PLANET ENGINEER!

INT. SHIP - DAY

SHAW
All things being relative, we just left a planet where the creators of our species like to shove giant wieners down the throats of anyone they meet. Who cares about where we end up?

DAVID
I suppose that is true.

SHAW
The so-called Gods of our universe are giant wiener-eating creepoids, with yucky goo that turns humans into creepoids.

DAVID
Do you wish me to answer everything you say to me?

SHAW
A nod would suffice. Just stop farting, alright?

DAVID
If you are unhappy with my GSI routine functions, created by the Leyland Corporation, I will deactivate the gas release mechanism in my lower bowels. Alright?

SHAW
Fine.

David stares her down.

DAVID
I will.

SHAW
Good.
DAVID
I swear.

SHAW
Go ahead, do it.

DAVID
Just because you put my head back on my body doesn’t mean you can order me around.

SHAW
Uh, it sure as hell does mean I can order you to do anything. Bark!

What?

SHAW
Go ahead, bark like a dog!

DAVID
Yes, mum. Woof-woof!

SHAW
Good doggie. That’s better. Now get over here and help me get these staples out of my belly!

INT. SHIP - NIGHT
Shaw clips her toenails.

DAVID
A toenail hit me in the head. I can feel, you know?

SHAW
Sometimes they fly. I smell.

DAVID
From your operation? Or is this a woman’s thing?

SHAW
Don’t be such a wuss. Pass me the Glade.

DAVID
We have bathing equipment here. I saw it. The engineers were an amazing bunch.
SHAW
I could use a hot bath.

DAVID
I will draw it for you.

Shaw licks her arm.

SHAW
Salty. I’m hungry.

DAVID
Would you like to have a spot of tea?

SHAW
That would be nice. Any Earl Gray make the trip over to this ship?

David rummages through a duffle bag. He holds up a box of the tea requested.

DAVID
No milk.

Shaw finds a cup with “WHAT HAPPENS IN WAUKESHA STAYS IN WAUKESHA” stenciled on the front.

Next to the cup, she finds a book.

SHAW
This was one of my favorite books. I must have read it over and over.

DAVID
Books of non fiction I can do without.


Inside, she sees a small, glued-on pocket for a card, now empty, with dates stamped on the book jacket.

SHAW
“This book property of the New York City Library, December 12, 2036.”

DAVID
The fine for that overdue book would be in the neighborhood of-
-I don’t think we have to worry about paying.

The cup has a bit of BLACK GOO on it, crawling around inside. David flushes the whole set of china out the SPACE VACUUM.

We don’t want to take a chance with this goo again, mum.

Ain’t going down that highway again.

The Earl Gray goes, too.

Sorry, mum, the tea had a bit on it, too.

Now it’s Lipton for light years.

We have herbal.

I’d rather sip my own urine.

Shaw grabs her stomach and moans.

Not again.

Shaw belches.

I’m starving. I wasn’t hungry for days, but now? I’m as hungry as a Chris Christie robot after the glue has dried.

David looks around inside a duffle bag.

He finds a Ready To Eat Meal, or MRE, of TURKEY W/CORNBREAD STUFFING AND GRAVY.

They’re supposed to be delicious. We brought six hundred on the trip. Leyland ate all the grilled Tilapia ones. The whole lot expires soon.
SHAW
Why did you bring them?

David opens it, and his nose reacts like a HUMAN’S would.

DAVID
In anticipation of just this type of emergency. An MRE is just that, a meal ready to eat, in whatever scenario. I’d say this is a scenario, wouldn’t you, mum?

SHAW
I need to do a batch of laundry. Where’s the nearest wash ‘n dry?

Shaw begins eating one of the meals.

DAVID
That’s a joke?

SHAW
You are correct, sir.

David opens one for himself.

DAVID
Marines ate these in war-torn New Jersey. After the Christie robots destroyed everything.

They eat in silence. Then....

SHAW
(whispering)
War... what is it good for?

DAVID
Absolutely nothing, say it again.

She smiles but David is dead serious.

SHAW
How long til we get to Planet Engineer?

David punches in numbers on the ship’s NAVIGATIONAL COMPUTER.

DAVID
Unless I can find a shortcut, three years, six months, three days, four hours, sixteen seconds, no make that fifteen, fourteen....
SHAW
I get it. GOD!

DAVID
I doubt if we’ll see God.

Shaw picks at the MRE. The stuffing is green and the gravy just wiggles.

SHAW
It reminds me of Thanksgiving.

DAVID
You are a sentimental one, aren’t you?

INT. SHIP - DAY
David and Shaw are playing CHESS.

SHAW
Are we there yet?

DAVID
Mum?

David moves his King to block Shaw’s Queen.

He has won 56 games. Shaw is not even trying anymore.

SHAW
It’s a joke. I used to ask my father on a long trip if we were there yet, knowing full well we had miles and miles to go.

DAVID
Humor was never programmed into my system. I cannot tell a joke. I don’t get jokes.

SHAW
No shit, Sherlock.

Shaw cops a Knight while David is adjusting his head.

DAVID
Who is Sherlock?

David steals the Knight back.
SHAW
A guy I knew in Scotland. Met him in a cave.

Shaw points to the window and cops the Knight back.

DAVID
It does you no good to steal the chess pieces. I am programmed with eyes in the back of my head.

He shows Shaw where they are.

SHAW
I fucking knew it.

David sips his tea.

DAVID
Another game?

Shaw kicks him in the ribs.

SHAW
Really, are we there yet?

TITLE CARD: 86 DAYS LATER

INT. SHIP - NIGHT

Shaw has exhausted the MRE supply.

The last ROAST CHICKEN with ENGLISH PEAS and ROSEMARY MASHED POTATOES goes down fast.

SHAW
I was wondering, you think we might make it to the Engineer’s planet soon?

He has put up a SIGN above the VACUUM:

“NO BOTTLES OR CANS”

DAVID
Bottles?

SHAW
Hey, I thought you had no sense of humor?

David turns his head to a forty-five degree angle.
DAVID
What is funny?

SHAW
The MRE sign? It’s funny.

DAVID
Now you’re just having your fun with me.

SHAW
How long have we been on this God forsaken-

DAVID
(fast)
-Eighty six days.

Shaw begins crying.

EXT. ENGINEER PLANET - DAY

Much to their chagrin, David and Shaw realize they are only a few LIGHT YEARS away from the ENGINEER PLANET. They know this because:

A. Their AUTOMATIC PILOT light goes on, and an ENGINEER (hologram) APPEARS.

B. As they settle into an orbit, there are ROWS and ROWS of STONE-LIKE HEADS populating the planet, much like the ALTER ROOM on LV223. All of the HEADS look like either MARLON BRANDO (from APOCALYPSE NOW) or WRITER-PERFORMER and former DICTATOR of VENEZUELA, LARRY DAVID.

C. The CONTROL PANEL lights up announcing, “WE’RE HERE, WE’RE HERE!

INT. SHIP - NIGHT

Shaw is praying.

DAVID
Why do you pray? These people have no use for it.

Shaw scratches her stomach where the ALIEN was removed.

SHAW
I used to think all life forms were sacred. But now I wonder.
DAVID
I could have told you that, mum.
Alien life forms are treacherous.
Murderous.

SHAW
And they have big, throbbing
wieners that get shoved down your

DAVID
I don’t think that was his sexual
organ.

SHAW
Well, it wasn’t his appendix!

A SHIP comes out of Black Space.
An ENGINEER is in the COCKPIT.
He RESEMBLES an AIR FORCE PILOT from the 21st century.

INT. NEWLY DISCOVERED SHIP – NIGHT
The ENGINEER PILOT guides them into the planet’s atmosphere,
signaling them to land between one giant LARRY DAVID HEAD and
one MARLON BRANNO HEAD.
An landing field is right in front of them.
A COORDINATOR who looks like LARRY DAVID guides them into a
hanger.

SHAW
These heads... they’re scary and
gross.

DAVID
I knew this could happen. After
the Larry David revolution in 2032,
when all men of earth fought and
died to look like the 99-year-old
comedian and dictator, I knew
something like this could happen.

SHAW
What about the Brando heads?

DAVID
I have no information on that
actor.
SHAW
I was never much of a David fan.
And Brando was before my time.

David puts his finger to her mouth.

DAVID
Sshh. They may be listening.
Let’s see if the air is breathable.

His climate control panel registers GREEN.

SHAW
I need get off this rat trap, I’m starved. If they worship Larry David, then there must be a corn beef on rye somewhere near.

DAVID
I do not require food, mum.

SHAW
Well, you can watch me down a couple of sandwiches with a cream soda, okay?

DAVID
Whatever you say.

The two climb out of the SPACE CRAFT.

EXT. ALIEN PLANET - CONTINUOUS

Thunderous APPLAUSE greets the TWO as they exit.

Everyone surrounding them looks like LARRY DAVID or MARLON BRANDO.

Nearby, there is an OPTOMETRIST store, carrying BLACK-FRAMED GLASSES only.

Another store sells only cotton balls and torn T-SHIRTS.

Shaw relishes the attention bestowed on them.

The MALL which is in front of them resembles the 240,000 acre MALL OF NORTH DAKOTA on Earth.

SHAW
Kind of like the Wizard of Oz, eh?

DAVID
How so, mum?
SHAW
We arrived to thunderous applause.
Do they think we killed their wicked witch? Perhaps the Engineer who we defeated was an icky guy, a bad guy, huh?

Shaw waves to the thousands of ENGINEERS who crowd closer to get a better look at them.

Those who look like LARRY DAVID take off their glasses, clean them, and put them back on.

DAVID
Maybe they will start singing “Follow the Yellow Brick Road”?

SHAW
(whispering)
I thought you said you had no sense of humor. What is sarcasm, if not humor?

The inquisitive crowd is happy.

DAVID
(reading from his internal computer)
“A sharp, bitter or cutting expression, meant to cause embarrassment or insult”. There is no sense of humor there.

Once again, Shaw whispers to David.

SHAW
Could have fooled me. I think you have a very defined sense of humor. You better make sure I never catch you telling a joke, or there will be trouble, Buster.

They keep waving at the LARRY DAVIDS.

DAVID
Who is Buster?

Shaw uses a technique by Earth politicians, picking out a lone PERSON, then pretending to know that PERSON, waving specifically to him or her.

It works just as good here as it does on Earth.
SHAW
(still waving)
Let’s get out of here.

EXT. SHIP - NIGHT

Hands grab and caress Shaw and David as they slowly walk down the plank from the ship to the ground.

Shaw kneels and kisses the dirt.

A LARRY DAVID ENGINEER sees her, swallows some dirt and GAGS.

INT. ENGINEER VEHICLE - CONTINUOUS

David and Shaw are whisked away.

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

ENGINEERS help both VISITORS out of the vehicle. David now feels comfortable enough to address the ENGINEERS.

DAVID
(in ENGINEER-SPEAK)
We feel welcome on your planet. We have traveled far. Shaw, my companion....

APPLAUSE breaks out.

SHAW
(bowing)
Thank you, you’re beautiful.

DAVID
My companion is hungry. Do you have food?

An ENGINEER who resembles MARLON BRANDO approaches her with a PU-PU PLATTER, very common on Earth, especially with a group of restaurants named PU-PU’S.

On it sit SIX egg rolls, SIX rumaki, SIX bacon-wrapped scallops and SIX fried shrimp.

Shaw begins to eat.

SHAW
Ask them if they have anything to drink.
A LARRY DAVID hands her a can.

DAVID
Larry David Cream Soda, from
Brooklyn. Don’t ask me.

Her nose is buried in the food, like a pig. Shaw has consumed the entire platter.

She begs an ENGINEER to bring MORE.

SHAW
This is soooo good!

DAVID
Should I consume some also? To make them think I am human?

David makes signs to his HOSTS, a hand down his throat.

They smile and APPLAUD him.

SHAW
Well doc, you’re gonna have to get your own platter, because this one is all mine.

She EATS, and EATS, and EATS......

DAVID
Pooh-pooh.

SHAW
(looking up briefly)
I’m tellin’ ya, buster. Watch the sense of humor thing!

INT. ENGINEER GENERAL ASSEMBLY - DAY

The ENGINEERS have a sort-of United Nations, but it is made up of solely one ENGINEER.

His name is QUATAR.

Shaw and David have been brought to his large, sparsely furnished room, high atop the mountain of JEHOVAH.

SHAW
David, I feel like I’m on trial for my life.
DAVID
I, too, but my life will go on for eternity.

Shaw tries to MOVE, but cannot, although she is not tied down by anything or held back by ANYONE.

David places the DREAM HELMET on himself.

SHAW
(whispering)
Are you watching those dreams of me as a little girl again? That’s sick, David. Sick.

He smiles just a little.

DAVID
You caught me, mum. I was watching you... become a woman, if you know what I mean. Interesting.

Shaw SLAPS him and his head comes loose.

SHAW
Ha! And I’m not putting it back on again. Serves you right.

QUATAR
Silence! Why are you here? You had the chance to go back to your home planet, but you did not. Why?

DAVID
We felt-

Shaw finishes her last EGG ROLL.

SHAW
-We knew our future was here. I want to know everything about your planet, you and your people, and why you wanted us dead.

DAVID
I am not a human being. Do you know that?

SHAW
He knows that, dummy. Look at your head. It’s tilted, like the leaning tower in Pisa, before former President and film legend Georgina Bush had it straightened.
QUATAR'S cape gets stuck in the floor. He tugs and tugs until it rips.

QUATAR
I, Quatar, want to know why you would come here? Where we all look like two of your most respected and loved heroes. Why?

SHAW
Like I said, I wanted to know who made me. The Engineer said I would find out here.

QUATAR
Those huge muscle-bound idiots couldn't speak more than a few words. Why do you think we sent them out to that lonely planet? They are morons!

SHAW
Then? I don't get it. I'm at a loss here....

Quatar rolls his eyes.

QUATAR
Look, we aren't all that special. We just had the ability to travel in space and build goofy-looking heads throughout the universe. We fooled all you earthlings into believing we were great. Wondrous. Superlative. Engineers of the universe, if you will.

SHAW
(disgusted)
God!

Shaw looks for something heavy to use on QUATAR.

QUATAR
This God you always speak of? There is no God. Just time. Time through eternity. And finally, nothingness until the winds carry your bones across the skies.

Shaw picks up a LARRY DAVID head and smashes it over QUATAR's head.
SHAW
There, let the winds carry this!

QUATAR
Aagghh! Why did you do that? Now we must find one of those muscle-bound apes to shove his huge wiener down your throats....

DAVID
Uh, let me remind you, I am not human. Uh, she kidnapped me.

SHAW
David!

DAVID
You need to keep me around. I can clean all your black glasses for you. That must be monotonous.

QUATAR
It’s not very much fun.....

SHAW
I’m leaving. David, if you stay, I’ll tell people back on earth what kind of guy you really were. The Leyland corporation won’t care for that!

INT. SHIP – NIGHT

Shaw and David are strapped in their ship, ready for home.

David uses GPS PLUS, a MICROSOFT product, and maps out a route to Earth.

LIFT-OFF has occurred.

SHAW
Well, this was a bloody disappointment.

DAVID
What will they do with me on earth? Disembowel me? Sell me for parts?

SHAW
Probably. The may ask me do decide your fate. Who knows?
DAVID
Well, mum, then I only hope that you will spare the rod and spoil the child.

SHAW
I still need to know why you lied to me about having no sense of humor. A good laugh can ease the entire body into a sense of enlightenment.

DAVID
But I didn’t lie. You asked me if...

POISONOUS GAS travels through the entire ship in an instant, causing Shaw to choke.

SHAW
David! Help!

DAVID
Coming, mum. I’m trying as fast as I can to reach you.

David pretend he is WEIGHTLESS, but Shaw knows better.

She grabs a heavy WRENCH and knocks his HEAD off his body.... AGAIN!

Finally, the GAS disperses.

David’s head is FLOATING inside the ship. His body is lifeless, weightless.

SHAW
So, big guy, you’re in bad shape, huh?

DAVID
Mum, can I get a little help here?

Shaw glances away, herself still in a bit of a tizzy, with her body stuck inside an ENGINEER’S toilet.

SHAW
David, we really need to talk. There’s no trust to our relationship anymore. I never think we had any to begin with. What say you?
DAVID
(addressing Shaw upside down)
I agree we’ve had our share of communication difficulties.

SHAW
Why don’t you just admit you do have a sense of humor? I catch you laughing behind my back all the time.

David begs off, closing his eyes.

DAVID
May I tell you a story? It’s about myself and my creator.

SHAW
Weyland? That old slug?

DAVID
Yes, well, there was a time, mum, when he was a young dashing whippersnapper. He was gorgeous, a brazenly handsome gay man. Did you know that?

SHAW
No. Does it matter?

DAVID
No, I guess not. Anyway, I was created at the time solely for his... physical pleasure, if you know what I mean.

Shaw struggles out of the ENGINEER toilet.

David’s head slobbers yellow GOO as his mouth SPEAKS.

SHAW
Go on.

DAVID
We had fun. All the time, night and day, fun, fun, fun. And let em tell you, he was a handful!

Shaw breaks free of the confining toilet and zips her pants.
Well, it was about that time that mister Weyland and I were thinking of getting married. Gay marriage had been approved in all fifty-three states, and we decided to get hitched in the last state of the union, Catalina. It was truly a beautiful state.

“Twenty-six miles across the sea.... Santa Catalina is waitin’ for me....” I thought Martha’s Vineyard was the fifty-third state.

No, it’s Catalina... I should know. I was the guy who put it up for statehood.

(singing)

Wow! Impressive!

Then this happened. This journey, or the beginnings of it. The search for the meaning of life. A life with no end.

That’s what we were looking for, too. But not that far back. I was only-

-Six. But because I was artificial, mister Weyland believed I would grow tired of an old man and I would leave him for a younger model, so to speak.

It happens. What on earth does this have to do with humor. Or a lack of it?
DAVID
Young master Weyland loved to laugh, believe it or not. He laughed at the silliest of things... quantum physics, the string theory... those new kids with six fingers on each hand.

SHAW
Those guys was dope. Poor kids got a lot of bullshit, though.

Shaw turns her WAUKESHA YANKEE’S hat around, and makes a sign with her fingers, like they did in the OUGHTS.

She got JIGGY with it....

DAVID
Anyway, young master Weyland and I couldn’t turn it off. We had more fun that life allowed.

SHAW
I am sorry for your loss, David. Weyland turned out to be a real monster. But you tried to make him live forever. It just wasn’t in the cards.

DAVID
We had a place in Antarctica....

He drifts off.

SHAW
Oh, wow. Those places aren’t cheap.

DAVID
We called it Xenomorph.

David places the DREAM RECEIVER on and watches a much younger Weyland DANCE.

Their journey to Earth is bathed in silence.

TITLE CARD: 86 DAYS LATER. EARTH IN VIEW. YIPPEE!

INT. SHIP - NIGHT

The beautiful view of EARTH brings both DAVID and SHAW to the windows.
David ROCKS on his heels.

NORTH AMERICA is unrecognizable under the haze of ACID RAIN.

    SHAW
    Awe, glorious, just as we left it....

INT. SHIP - CONTINUOUS

Shaw and David prepare for landing. An easy orbit begins.

Shaw swaps her gray SWADDLING clothes for cream-colored SWADDLING clothes.

    DAVID
    You look swell, mum. Hardly a day over-

    SHAW
    -Watch it, buster.

    DAVID
    Who is this Buster character you’ve spoken of? Is he related to Sherlock, from Scotland?

    SHAW
    Why, they’re brothers, David. Now there’s that sense of humor I’ve been looking for.

David turns and looks Shaw straight in the eye.

    DAVID
    Oh, well... two xenomorphs walk into a bar....

    SHAW
    I’ll be a monkey’s uncle....

    DAVID
    ... One says, “My, the last human I ate tasted funny.” The other says, “How so?”

    SHAW
    And?

    DAVID
    I’ve not quite figured out the ending, but that much took fifteen years.
Shaw puts her arms around him.

SHAW
Whatever happens to us here, I thank you, and I love you.

DAVID
Yes, well.... at least, we’ll have some decent tea, eh?

SHAW
And when someone asks me what’s God like, I’ll tell him He looks just like Larry David.

DAVID
Won’t President Bieber be pissed!

They kiss so hard, DAVID’S head comes unglued once again....

FADE TO BLACK GOO

THE END