Battlestar Galactica

"The Frog & The Scorpion"

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FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE - GALACTICA - DEBRIS FIELD

Galactica (sotto) passes through a debris field. The various metallic pieces in the debris field TWINKLE in the light of a nearby star.

EXT. SPACE - RAPTOR 1 & VIPERS - CHASE CAMERA POV

Far ahead of Galactica surveying the debris.

INT. RAPTOR 1 - CONSOLE POV

C.O. operating console and PRESSING buttons.

    RAPTOR 1 C.O.
    There's a lot of charring on this metal...I'm getting heat and radioactive isotope readings...at least one fifty megaton blast sometime in the last three hours.

INT. GALACTICA - CIC - CONTINUOUS

Gaeta finishes typing on a keyboard and walks to Adama and Tigh.

    GAETA
    The field contains Cylon-utilized metallic alloys and best calculations put the equivalent mass around two basestars.

    TIGH
    Two basestars?

    ADAMA
    Equivalent mass? I need to know if it was two basestars.

Gaeta nods and returns to his station.
INT. BUNKROOM – DUALLA'S BUNK

Dualla lies flat in the shadows of the bottom bunk, her head propped up with a number of pillows. She flinches at the bright light and positions herself in a way that uses Billy, sitting on the bed next to her, as a shield from the brightness.

ANGLE ON: DUALLA

Her face is green. Her eyes are puffy and sweat pours off of her face and hands.

DUALLA
Ugh! I hate this! I can't--

BILLY
You just need your immune system to kick in. Doc said a few more days. Until then, I'll be here to take care of you.

He lifts her head and gives her water.

DUALLA
I'm not thirsty.

BILLY
Drink, or you won't get better and you'll just be stuck in bed longer.
(tipping cup into her mouth)
Now don't be such a difficult patient.

DUALLA
(sipping)
If I wanted a nurse I would have stayed in sick bay.
BILLY
And if you stayed in sick bay you wouldn't get to see me as much.

A smile forms through the creases of her mouth.

EXT. SPACE - DEBRIS FIELD

A few GLIMMERS and SHIMMERS at the edge of the debris field.

INT. RAPTOR 1 - INNER BAY

RAPTOR 1 C.O.
Contact. Bearing twelve carom four.

RAPTOR 1 PILOT

INT. GALACTICA - CIC

Tigh grabs a handset.

ADAMA
Mr. Gaeta. Set condition one. Launch the alert vipers.

GAETA
Aye sir.

ON HANDSET

GAETA (CONT'D)
Action stations, action stations. Set condition one throughout the ship.

ACTION STATIONS KLAXON SOUNDS.

INT. LANDING BAY - CONTINUOUS

Pilots run to their Vipers.

INT. BUNKROOM - DUALLA'S BUNK - CONTINUOUS

Billy looks deep into D's eyes, strokes her hair, but the klaxon interrupts.
DUALLA
(attempting to rise)
I gotta go.

The bright room lights disorient her.

BILLY
You aren't--

She wobbles and falls back to her bunk.

BILLY (CONT'D)
--going anywhere.

DUALLA
But my station--

BILLY
--will be fine.

He places her back into her bunk.

EXT. SPACE - GALACTICA - FLIGHT POD
Vipers BLASTING out of launch tubes.

INT. GALACTICA - CIC
Adama & Tigh view the monitor.

ADAMA
Mr. Gaeta, what do we know?

GAETA
(into headset)
Raptor 1. Do you have visual identification?

RAPTOR 1 PILOT (WIRELESS)
That's a negative Galactica. It's hard to see anything out here. Just some sporadic movement at the edge of the debris field. Some minor secondary explosions. Moving (MORE)
RAPTOR 1 PILOT (CONT'D)
in for a closer look.

GAETA
(on console)
Dradis reports 5 contacts. No transponder readings. No recognizable Cylon heat signature. Ship size and energy output match nothing in the database. The computer has never seen these before.

EXT. SPACE - RAPTOR 1 - OVERHEAD COCKPIT POV

Vipers & Raptor 1 approach the edge of the debris field. The unidentified ships appear as slight shimmers in the starfield, camouflaged black on black.

INT. RAPTOR 1 - INNER BAY

The C.O. works the Dradis console.

RAPTOR 1 C.O.
Apollo. Raptor 1. I'm getting 5 intermittent contacts.

APOLLO (WIRELESS)
Got'em. 5 contacts. Listen-up people. Spread out. Containment formations. Tallyho...whoa!

EXT. SPACE - DEBRIS FIELD - WIDE SHOT

Four of the ships FOLD IN on themselves and JUMP away.

APOLLO (WIRELESS)
Galactica. Apollo. Four of the ships just jumped away.

INT. GALACTICA - CIC

Tigh leans into Adama's ear.
TIGH
Think they left a nuke?

ADAMA
Maybe. Mr. Gaeta. Order them to investigate, but to keep some distance. It could be a trap.

GAETA
Yes Sir.

INT. APOLLO'S VIPER - CONSOLE POV
Lee strains to see what's in the distance.

GAETA (WIRELESS)
Apollo -- you are ordered to investigate, but keep your distance.

APOLLO
Roger that.
(mumbling sarcastically to himself)
Get in close, but stay back...right.

INT. HOT DOG'S VIPER - CONSOLE POV
Hot Dog listening to Apollo.

APOLLO (WIRELESS)
Hot Dog, you're with me. The rest of you stay here.

HOT DOG
Affirmative.

EXT. SPACE - APOLLO & HOT DOG'S VIPERS - CHASE CAMERA POV
Apollo & Hot Dog thrust ahead of the group.

EXT. SPACE - APOLLO'S VIPER - WING CAMERA POV
Apollo and Hot Dog closing fast. The ship grows bigger, though still hard to see clearly. It is sleek black, and still in dark shadow.
Intermittent thrusts from the ship's engines move it helter-skelter, but the ship goes nowhere fast.

EXT. SPACE - WOUNDED SHIP - WING CAMERA POV

The Camera, though spinning and wobbly, shows Apollo & Hot Dog's Vipers fast approach.

EXT. SPACE - DEBRIS FIELD - WIDER SHOT

The engine bursts continue, intermittently FLASHING, until all 3 engines IGNITE (in the same configuration as a Viper) and the ship BLASTS away.

    HOT DOG (WIRELESS)
    He's running!

Apollo & Hot Dog TURBO after. The ship has breakaway speed with all three engines operating and accelerates away from the pursuit.

INT. HOT DOG'S VIPER - CONSOLE POV

Hot Dog slack-jawed.

    HOT DOG
    Do you see those engines?

    APOLLO (WIRELESS)
    I Do. Keep on him!

EXT. SPACE - CHASE CAMERA POV

Follows the three ships.

The engines of the bogie FLAME OUT one at a time, forcing the ship to drift out of control, slowly spinning. For the first time, as if coming out from behind an eclipse, it catches the light of a nearby star, revealing what looks like a cross between a Cylon Raider and Colonial Viper--sleak, black and smaller than both. If a Mark 2 Viper is comparable to a Ford Mustang, this is a Ferrari.
EXT. SPACE - APOLLO'S VIPER - WING CAMERA POV

Closes on the ship.

APOLLO (WIRELESS)
Galactica. This is Apollo. I've got a visual on the bogie...

GAETA (WIRELESS)
Go ahead Apollo...Apollo...go ahead.

Apollo speechless.

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER
ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE - APOLLO'S VIPER - OVER SHOULDER CAMERA

Apollo & Hot Dog are close enough to see into the cockpit except the tinted windows allow only the view of a human-shaped silhouette.

APOLLO
Unidentified aircraft. This is Viper 105...do you read? Unidentified aircraft. This is Colonial Viper 105 come in.

SCORPION 3 PILOT (WIRELESS)
I read you loud and clear Viper 105. I heard you two systems away...ANYONE could hear you two systems away with your non-stop wireless chatter.

APOLLO
(slightly taken aback)
Really...

EXT. SPACE - WIDE SHOT

Apollo & Hot Dog's Vipers orbit the wounded ship.

SCORPION 3 PILOT (WIRELESS)
How about just giving me a quick jump and I'll be outta your hair.

APOLLO (WIRELESS)
Sorry, can't do that. What...uh....exactly are you?

SCORPION 3 PILOT (WIRELESS)
Well I'm not a Cylon if that's what you mean. Anything more personal and you're gonna have to buy me dinner.
INT. APOLLO'S VIPER - CONSOLE POV

Apollo searches for direction.

APOLLO
If you can stomach 2 year old K rations.
(beat)
Power down all of your systems. We're
gonna reel you in.

SCORPION 3 PILOT (WIRELESS)
Roger that Viper 105.

APOLLO
Raptor 1, come in.

RAPTOR 1 PILOT (WIRELESS)
Heard you loud and clear, Captain. Moving
in.

INT. RAPTOR 1 - CONSOLE POV

The Pilot operates the console.

SCORPION 3 PILOT (WIRELESS)
Powering Down.

RAPTOR 1 C.O.
No radiological weapons detected. Ship is
venting fuel.

RAPTOR 1 PILOT
Let's reel it in.

EXT. SPACE - RAPTOR 1 - HULL CAMERA POV

Raptor 1 positions itself over the Scorpion, enveloping it in
shadow again. A claw extends from Raptor 1 and attaches to
the hull of the Scorpion.

RAPTOR 1 C.O. (WIRELESS)
We've got a lock.
RAPTOR 1 PILOT (WIRELESS)
Galactica. Raptor 1. Trailer is hitched.

GAETA (WIRELESS)
Raptor 1 you are cleared into the port landing bay.

RAPTOR 1 PILOT (WIRELESS)
Roger that Galactica.

Raptor 1 and Scorpion slowly turn and thrust toward the Galactica.

INT. GALACTICA - PASSAGEWAYS/GANGWAYS

Tigh & Adama hustle.

ADAMA
I always wondered if the rumors were true...but I thought they were just that, rumors.

TIGH
What rumors?

ADAMA
Remember the stuffy ship commander conferences, the ones at the big hotels on Picon?

TIGH
I remember the nights you said were only for ship commanders...

ADAMA
Long after the speeches, and after most of the men had too much to drink, some of the officers would talk about seeing things, things you don't talk about... Unidentified flying objects, advanced design ships appearing, then disappearing, propulsion systems faster and more advanced than anything in the (MORE)
ADAMA (CONT'D)

fleet.

TIGH
Things you don't say...

ADAMA
If you want to keep your job....

TIGH
...and stay out of the loony bin.

INT. GALACTICA - PORT LANDING BAY - DECK CAMERA POV

Raptor 1 flies the Scorpion into the bay and drops it onto the magnetic lift.

INT. REPAIR BAY - CONTINUOUS

MARINES surround the battle-scarred ship. MECHANICS stare wide-eyed at what appears to be a snub-nosed Viper with the skin of a Cylon Raider. It is stark black, with no insignias, lettering, or identifying marks of any kind. DECKHANDS and Chief Tyrol stand at the perimeter.

DECKHAND
Have you ever seen anything like that?

TYROL
Only in my dreams.
The canopy slowly OPENS.

MARINE SERGEANT
(face on rifle stock)
Hands up! Step out of the cockpit. Keep your hands where I can see them at all times.

Rising out of the Scorpion cockpit is DAVIDAN. Black, early 30s, he's wearing a flight suit similar to the Colonials, only it is pure black with no visible rank or other insignias.
DAVIDAN
I won't make any sudden movements either, Sergeant.

Apollo APPROACHES.

DAVIDAN (CONT'D)
(cocky and informal)
Captain Apollo. I'm Davidan. Call sign Back Door. Caprica Scorpion Squadron Romeo. Friends call me Dave.

Apollo doesn't quite know how to respond.

APOLLO
There's no such squadron on Caprica...

DAVIDAN
There was, and still is.
Apollo looks at him in complete disbelief.

APOLLO
You have a lot of questions to answer. Sergeant. Take Mr. Davidan to Interrogation.

MARINE
Yessir.

DAVIDAN
(to Apollo)
I'll answer your questions...
(to Marines)
I just need to make one stop.

INT. BUNKROOM - DUALLA'S BUNK - MOMENTS LATER

Dualla is propped up in her bunk. Billy feeds her soup.

DUALLA
(sipping)
Aach! Where'd you learn to cook?
BILLY
It's my mother's recipe. It tastes terrible, but it does the job. Now eat!

Dualla sighs. She takes a big swig and has to close her eyes to swallow. Slowly opening them again, her eyes practically explode as they widen, tears forming in the corners and her mouth falling open.

Billy puts the spoon of soup to her mouth. Not seeing the spoon she attempts to speak, but nothing comes out, and soup dribbles down her shirt.

DUALLA
D...D...D...Dave???

Billy turns. At the door, coming out of the shadow of the passageway, surrounded by Marine guards, is Davidan.

Dualla gets up shakily from her bottom bunk, ignoring her dizziness. She blows past Billy and into Davidan's arms.

Confused and defeated, Billy stands up, surveying the scene of two people holding each other out of deep love and affection. The pain on his face is obvious.

Billy nervously begins tidying up the area.

DUALLA (CONT'D)
You're alive...how? You should be dead!

DAVIDAN
I'm very much alive Peaches.

DUALLA
(gurgly)
I've missed you so much.

DAVIDAN
I'm here now Anna.

DUALLA
(pulling back a bit)
How did you survive the attack? Where (MORE)
DUALLA (CONT'D)
have you been all this time? What about
Mom & Dad?

Adama and Tigh appear in the hatchway, observing the scene.

DAVIDAN
(looking over his shoulder)
It's a long story and I think I'm going
to have to explain that to these guys
first. Then we can talk...

Holding her by the shoulders he puts her at arms length and
looks her over.

DAVIDAN (CONT'D)
In the meantime, you don't look so good
kiddo.

DUALLA
Just a little virus.

Billy, cleaning up, drops the spoon from the soup onto the
floor.

DUALLA (CONT'D)
(remembering)
Billy, uh, Dave. Dave, Billy.

They shake hands awkwardly.

DUALLA (CONT'D)
Billy...Dave's my brother.

Billy's face registers relief.

DUALLA (CONT'D)
(to Davidan)
Billy's my...friend. He's been taking
care of me, like you used to.

Billy shrugs.
ADAMA
(losing patience)
Sorry to break up the family reunion...

DUALLA
Yessir. Sorry.

DAVIDAN
We'll catch up later.
(to Billy)
Take care of my Anna.

BILLY
(smiling)
Will do.

The Marines take Davidan by the shoulder and EXIT.

ADAMA
(to Duala)
You'll get time to catch up. Right now we have some questions for him.

DUALLA
Yessir...sir?

ADAMA
Yeah, D?

DUALLA
How did he get here?

ADAMA
That's what we're going to find out.
Adama and Tigh EXIT.

INT. GALACTICA - PASSAGEWAYS/GANGWAYS

Starbuck catches up to Apollo, who is following behind Adama and Tigh.

STARBUCK
I hear some ship blew your ass away and the only reason you caught up to it was
(MORE)
STARBUCK (CONT'D)
because it broke down.

Starbuck makes engine-choking NOISES.

APOLLO

Adama and Tigh stop and turn to Apollo.

TIGH
How did it look, Apollo?

APOLLO
That thing was fast. With all three
engines working it did blow us away.

STARBUCK
Cylon?

APOLLO
Close-up it looks Cylon. Well, what the
Cylons would build if they built a Viper.

ADAMA
So it's a Cylon ship?

TIGH
And he's a Cylon?

APOLLO
...I can't say.

ADAMA (CONT'D)
Starbuck. I want you to take a look at
that ship. Give it a good once-over, then
go over it again. I want you to find out
everything about it. I need to know if it
is Cylon.

STARBUCK
Yessir.
(to Apollo)
(MORE)
STARBUCK (CONT'D)
Leave this to the experts...

APOLLO
That's funny. I reel 'em in so you can clean and gut 'em.

Starbuck EXITS.

TIGH
Do you think the Cylons have made a Viper?

APOLLO
Why not? They've made nearly perfect, hard to destroy, upgraded copies of people, why not Vipers?

ADAMA
I think the three of us need to have a word with this Dave.

APOLLO
You don't think...I mean he really seemed to be Dee's brother.

TIGH
Dee hasn't seen anyone in her family in over two years.

ADAMA
We're not taking any chances.

INT. GALACTICA - INTERROGATION ROOM

The room is dark. Davidan sits stationed at one side of the room, behind a table. Four marines man the corners of the room. On the table is a glass of water and a notepad.

Adama, Tigh and Apollo ENTER.

ADAMA
(as he enters and to the point)
(MORE)
ADAMA (CONT'D)
Are you a Cylon agent?

DAVIDAN
Boy, you cut to the chase, don't you?

ADAMA
Let's just say I've had it up to here with Cylons that look like humans.

DAVIDAN
No.

ADAMA
No what.

DAVIDAN
No, I'm not a Cylon agent.

ADAMA
(unmoved)
I need you to prove to me you're not a Cylon agent.

Davidan laughs. Tigh gives a look to Adama.

ADAMA (CONT'D)
What's so funny?

Davidan leans forward into the light a bit.

DAVIDAN
I should be interrogating you. Your little rag-tag fleet has so many holes in it that you could fly a Carrillonian freighter in here full of Cylon agents and you would never be the wiser.

ADAMA
Whether or not that is true, it doesn't give you a workable alibi from my perspective.
DAVIDAN
My group is the ONLY remaining Colonial entity not contaminated by Cylon agents.

TIGH
Poof! You appear out of nowhere. The only things in this universe that appear out of nowhere are Cylons. What reason do I have to believe you're not one of them?

Davidan leans back again on his chair into the shadows.

DAVIDAN
I don't know what I can prove to you except that I'm Lieutenant Davidan Dualla, Anna's brother, and a Colonial Scorpion pilot, Caprica Squadron Romeo.

TIGH
There's no such frakking Colonial ship! Or squadron!

APOLLO
That ship you were flying...it looks like a Viper...but it also looks Cylon. Davidan leans back further and rests one of his legs on the table.

DAVIDAN
The Scorpion has the same basic design as a Viper. Launch tube capable, similar mechanics and redundant systems configuration. It's actually called the Viper, Mark Eleven. The lead designer was Leonin, so we changed the name to honor the small, agile and incredibly deadly desert scorpions of Leonis.

TIGH
Mark Eleven, my ass. I've seen the schematics for the Mark Eight. That was just on the drawing board at Picon fleet (MORE)
TIGH (CONT'D)
headquarters when the Cylons attacked.

DAVIDAN
(to Tigh)
Come on Colonel, don't be so naive. The fleet is generations behind what we have.

Tigh scowls.

ADAMA
We?

DAVIDAN
Special ops group, Operation Phoenix. Carprica Squadron Romeo. There are multiple Scorpion squadrons, but each operates independently, as an individual cell. No overt contact between groups is allowed and no networked communications. Encrypted transmissions are sent regarding Cylon movements in the Colonies, but for protection of the cells, no open contact is allowed.

ADAMA
Who's your commanding officer?

DAVIDAN
Admiral Montgomery.

TIGH
Montgomery's dead...he was killed four years ago in that reactor explosion on the Agamemnon.

A slight smile grows in the corner of Davidan's mouth.

Adama sits on the edge of the table.

ADAMA
You're telling us he never died.

As Adama sits, Davidan sits up and replaces his foot on the ground.
DAVIDAN
I'm telling you nothing except that my superior officer is Admiral Montgomery. You connect the dots in whatever way you see fit.

INT. REPAIR BAY - SCORPION

Starbuck and Tyrol are going over the hull of the ship.

TYROL
A lot of this scoring is pretty old. This ship has seen plenty of action.

STARBUCK
Yeah but which side has she been fighting on?

Starbuck OPENS the canopy.

The cockpit resembles the Viper cockpit, but this one is more advanced and sleek black, like the outside.

Looking over the displays she sees a picture and picks it up.

STARBUCK (CONT'D)
Oh my Gods, she's just a baby.

ON PICTURE: Dee as a teenager with her Mom, Dad (scowling) and Davidan (in a regulation Colonial cadet uniform, not his black ops uniform).

TYROL
Who?

He grabs the photo.

STARBUCK
D.

TYROL
Do you think this guy could be her real brother?
STARBUCK
Yeah, maybe. Gods, I hope he's not a Cylon like...

TYROL
Like Sharon?

STARBUCK
Yeah. That would really be hard on D.

TYROL
(quieter)
It would be hard on anyone.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE
FADE IN:

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM

Adama is pacing, eager.

ADAMA
So, Operation Phoenix, this was some kind of "black op"?

DAVIDAN
Operation Phoenix is a special ops group, used to test advanced weapons systems, ships...things that must not be seen in the light of day for reasons of Colonial security.

APOLLO
But your ship has Cylon technology.

DAVIDAN
The Cylons use the most advanced polymer skins for fighter craft, absorbing fire and flak much better than any Colonial material. It was only logical to incorporate this into the design of the next generation Viper.

Adama takes a new approach.

ADAMA
You knew we were out here. Why haven't you attempted to make contact with Galactica.

DAVIDAN
This is a guerrilla war. We use guerrilla tactics. On our board the Galactica fleet is just another resistance cell, one which has been infiltrated by Cylon agents, negating any chance of open contact. If we made overt contact with (MORE)
DAVIDAN (CONT'D)
you, the Cylons who've contaminated your little fleet could bring down a world of hurt on us.

ADAMA
If this is so top secret, why are you telling us all of this.

DAVIDAN
Because we've been fighting the Cylons every day since the attack. Our existence and relative numbers are no secret to them. It's our isolation that will protect us from full scale attack.

TIGH
So if your ship hadn't been damaged, we still wouldn't know you exist.

DAVIDAN
The debris field we're flying through--that was a Cylon trap waiting for your fleet, and you flew directly into it.

TIGH
We would've jumped.

DAVIDAN
Possibly. But maybe this time Galactica's FTL drive doesn't work, or maybe they get a nuke placed in the middle of the fleet before you jump. The point is this isn't the first time we've been there for you.

TIGH
(chuckling)
What're you saying...you're our guardian angels or something like that?

DAVIDAN
In a manner of speaking. Why do you think the Cylons haven't come down on you with (MORE)
DAVIDAN (CONT'D)
everything they have? Because THEY KNOW you aren't the last humans...and because we sometimes help out a bit.

ADAMA
Our computers estimated two basestars worth of metal in that debris field. Apollo, standing in the shadow of the doorway steps forward, this is his first clue to the composition of the debris field.

APOLLO
You took out two basestars and all of the Raiders?

DAVIDAN
I can't take credit for the Raiders. Once we took out the basestars most of the Raiders bugged out.

TIGH
Two basestars--the frak you did!

Davidan leans forward bracing against the table.

DAVIDAN
So why don't you give me your theory.

TIGH
I think you're a Cylon agent, put in the middle of a debris field with a great story, left to be picked up by us, so you could infiltrate the Galactica.

DAVIDAN
Right, I'm a Cylon and we, the Cylons, blew up 2 of our basestars so we could infiltrate the Galactica resistance cell...which has already been infiltrated for some time now.
We don't know exactly what motivates the Cylons, but they have sacrificed assets like basestars for tactical reasons before...

Adama shutters and freezes as he FLASHES BACK to Boomer SHOOTING him in the chest.

Tigh looks at Adama frozen in mid-thought.

...and they would do it again. All we know about the debris field is that it contains the debris equivalent of 2 basestars, we don't know if the debris is 2 basestars.

Well, then I think you should figure that one out.

I think we should.

Adama, coming to, places himself between Tigh & Davidan.

In case you think of anything else you would like to tell us.

Adama, Tigh and Apollo EXIT.

Dualla, bracing herself against the wall, grabs her towel and shower pail and moves toward the door.
DUALLA
I've got to clean this sickness off of me.

BILLY
You're not going to be able to see him...

DUALLA
I'm just going to take a--

She stumbles at the door. Billy rushes over to help her.

DUALLA (CONT'D)
I can do it!

BILLY
D... what if he's not your--I mean what about Sharon? Nobody could tell.

DUALLA
He is. I can feel it.
She puts her head on his chest and stares into the distance.

INT. ADAMA'S STATEROOM

Tigh and Adama sip coffee. Adama shells nuts with a nutcracker, picking the meat out with his forefingers.

NUT-CRACKING SOUNDS.

ADAMA
I want him tested.

TIGH
Baltar's stuck back with the fleet. We could send a Raptor...

ADAMA
I don't want Baltar to do the test and I want no contact with the fleet until we've figured out who this guy is and what's in this debris field.

CRACK!
TIGH
How should we test him then?
Doorbell SOUNDS.

ADAMA
Enter!

Gaeta ENTERS.

GAETA
You wanted to see me sir?

ADAMA
Mr. Gaeta, you’ve worked on the Cylon
detector with Doctor Baltar. Can you run
the test?

GAETA
I don't think so.

ADAMA
You don't think so? What were you doing
all those hours with him?

GAETA
I never completely understood how the
test worked, how it was structured, the
complete testing protocol...

Tigh looks at Adama. CRACK!

ADAMA
Too complicated?

GAETA
No, not really. He would just have me
work on different sections of code and he
would never explain the whole test. But,
the parts I did work on didn't seem to
make much sense... it seemed like a lot of
busy work to me.
TIGH

Busywork?

GAETA

First Dr. Baltar claimed the test parameters were one thing, then another. I'm not sure he ever tested the same criteria twice.

TIGH

(to Adama)
I told you that son-of-a-bitch was shifty.

Gaeta smirks. CRACK!

ADAMA

We've got to try something--at least make D's brother, or whoever that is, think we can detect whether or not he is a Cylon.

TIGH

Put a good scare into him.

GAETA

I could run the test using the parameters from the last time Doctor Baltar ran the program. It should still be in memory. After that we could have Doc Cottle run a full body scan. At least then we could detect any metal alloys, microchips, or other foreign objects.

ADAMA

Set it up and report to me as soon as you're ready.

GAETA

Yes Sir.

Gaeta EXITS.
ADAMA
(to Tigh)
I want you there during those tests.

CRACK!

TIGH
I'll watch him like a hawk.

INT. REPAIR BAY

Starbuck and Tyrol, covered in grease, work on the underbelly of the Scorpion.

Adama, slowly, but deliberately, approaches the Scorpion. He circles it once and lightly touches the back of one wing.

Starbuck notices and stops working.

Starbuck's POV: Following Adama circle the Scorpion.

STARBUCK
(hesitant)
Creepy, isn't it...sir?

Adama, deep in thought, doesn't immediately respond.

STARBUCK (CONT'D)
...if it's actually Colonial, that is...

Adama, still distant, looks down to Tyrol.

TYROL
(needling to say something)
It's a Viper...well, essentially. Same engine design, just much more efficient—stronger composite metals throughout the manifold allow for increased power in a slightly smaller package.

(pointing to the guns, then the underbelly)
Same ammo package, but these barrels receive thrust assistance from the power plant making the bullets travel 25% (MORE)
TYROL (CONT'D)
faster and doubling their explosive force. Same missile racks, except for these two hidden mounts, protected by thin lead shielding, which appear to be capable of carrying two small nuclear missiles. The ship has its own FTL drive, integrating Colonial technology, which is far more advanced than Galactica's, with Cylon technology.

ADAMA
Is it Colonial then?

STARBUCK
We don't know for sure. It has a similar skin to the Raider we captured...

TYROL
... set on top of a Colonial skeleton. The computers, the weapons, the engines, the avionics, they all seem to be of Colonial design, just highly modified with Cylon technology.

ADAMA
Thank-you chief.

Adama runs his hand down the hull. Starbuck looks up again.

ADAMA (CONT'D)
Starbuck. As soon as you and the Chief get this up and running, why don't you take her for a spin.

Starbuck gets a shit-eating grin on her face and turns to Tyrol.

STARBUCK
Yes Sir! You heard the man Chief. Get to work!

TYROL
(to Adama)
Thanks. Sir.
INT. INTERROGATION ROOM

Adama ENTERS. Davidan is jotting something on the notepad in the shadows.

ADAMA
Grocery list?

DAVIDAN
I could use some fresh vegetables and a case of ambrosia now that you mention it.

ADAMA
Couldn't we all?

DAVIDAN
Did you know that feral wheat and corn, some wild fruits, berries...are growing everywhere on Caprica?

ADAMA
No I didn't.

DAVIDAN
Sometimes you want to run out and eat it right in the field--except for the radioactivity. In some areas the plants glow at night. It is the most beautiful and deadly thing I've ever seen.

Adama pauses, but moves ahead with his questioning.

ADAMA
(leaning in) Something's been bothering me. How did you integrate what you've said is Cylon technology into the Viper design so quickly with all the manufacturing capacity of the Colonies destroyed?

DAVIDAN
The Skunkworks on Picon isn't dependent on private manufacturing capacity. It is the secret division of the Colonial Corps (MORE)
DAVIDAN (CONT'D)
of Engineers. Self-contained, isolated.

ADAMA
So they produced these fighters in less than a year under war conditions with limited access to resources?

DAVIDAN
The Skunkworks did produce the Scorpion, as well as a few other ships...for much longer than a year.

ADAMA
How long?

DAVIDAN
(leaning in)
I've been flying my Scorpion for over two and a half years.

ADAMA
The Scorpion squadrons existed before the Cylon attack...how?

DAVIDAN
The Cylons appeared a little over four years ago. A ship here, a ship there, we knew...

ADAMA
Who knew?

DAVIDAN
Phoenix intelligence. We knew they were watching us. We were gathering data on them when we got a gift from the Gods.

ADAMA
A gift?

DAVIDAN
A Raider jumped into the upper atmosphere of Geminon, smashing right into a weather (MORE)
DAVIDAN (CONT'D)
satellite. A Phoenix patrol picked it up and we spent the next 3 months reverse engineering the ship, then slowly we began integrating the best design elements into our ships. We knew we were in trouble and our only chance was to adapt enough technology before they could strike—if they would strike. We were never sure.

ADAMA
And you didn't tell anyone?

DAVIDAN
Of course we did! The Quorum oversight committee, President Adar, they all knew.

ADAMA
I can't believe they kept this a secret from the fleet.

DAVIDAN
Like the location of earth?

Adama busted.

DAVIDAN (CONT'D)
They probably felt that if the fleet knew, and the Cylons found out, the Cylons would attack. They figured if we could keep it quiet, develop the technology, eventually we'd be able to create a strong enough defense before the Cylons figured out we'd stolen their technology.

ADAMA
Pretty big gamble...and now 12 billion dead.
DAVIDAN
That wasn't my call. I was just following orders.

ADAMA
Why didn't you get the advanced fighters out to more of the fleet?

DAVIDAN
The last Phoenix squadron was put in place only three weeks before the Cylon attack. There was no way the Quorum would have approved the increase in the military budget necessary to produce greater numbers of Scorpions for the regular fleet.

ADAMA
But, if the public knew about the Cylons...

DAVIDAN
Like I said, that wasn't my call, but I understand the conundrum.

ADAMA
What would you have done?

DAVIDAN
I don't know...The rear-view mirror always has perfect focus. Where you've been is clearer than where you're going.

ADAMA
Welcome to my universe.

INT. GALACTICA - ENGINE ROOM

This is the dark, dirty and hot part of Galactica. The bowels of the ship. It is loud. Everyone working here wears grease-coated long-faded blaze orange jumpsuits and has earmuffs and protective goggles on.

Some sealed compartments and access ports have noise suppression allowing crew members to speak.
An ENLISTED CREWMAN (without earmuffs) is on the floor working on an access panel when two other enlisted MECHANICS enter, removing their earmuffs to communicate.

MECHANIC 1
Where did it come from?

MECHANIC 2
Nobody knows. Four other ships jumped away as our Vipers reached its location.

MECHANIC 1
Is it really shaped like a Viper?

MECHANIC 2
That's what they say. It's a Viper, but with a Cylon skin.

The Enlisted Crewman stops working. Slightly tilts his head to hear better.

MECHANIC 1
Do you think it's a Cylon ship?

MECHANIC 2
I don't know. Why would the Cylons waste time making a Viper knockoff? Seems pretty inefficient to me.

MECHANIC 1
Let's finish that coupling maintenance and see if we can take a look at the ship.

MECHANIC 2
I'm with ya.

They EXIT, closing the hatch behind them.

On their exit the Enlisted Crewman sets down his tools, stands up and turns to REVEAL that he is another copy of the Cylon agent SIMON. He has a beard and is covered with oil and grime, a blue-collar Cylon.
On Simon's stare... FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO
ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. BUNKROOM - DUALLA'S BUNK

Dualla is cleaning up, trying to put fresh clothes on. The room is brighter.

    BILLY
    D, where are you going?

    DUALLA
    I don't know...outta here!

    BILLY
    But, you need to rest. You can speak to Dave later.

    DUALLA
    I don't know if I want to speak to him, but I would like to do some things to him.

She trips as she puts her pants on and falls face first into her bunk.

    BILLY
    You can barely walk.

    DUALLA
    I can do this William!

    BILLY
    Fine. But, I'm not helping you.

    DUALLA
    Fine.

She tries to get out of bed, gets dizzy and falls back down.
Billy looks over his shoulder at Dualla, frozen, conflicted.

INT. MEDLAB

Gaeta fumbles around with different computers and machines as Tigh, Apollo and the Marines bring in Davidan.

GAETA
I'm just about ready. Please sit down.

Tigh nervously eyes Gaeta's fumbling. It doesn't appear that Gaeta has a clue what he's doing.

DAVIDAN
 stil cocky
So, this is your 100% guaranteed or your money back Cylon detector.

TIGH
It's worked before.

DAVIDAN
I'm sure it has, but can you be sure it will work now?

GAETA
(not looking up)
Doctor Baltar has added a number of fail-safes.

Davidan chuckles. The marines sit him behind a bank of computers.

Gaeta stops typing and looks up.

TIGH
What's so funny?
DAVIDAN
It was through his program that the Cylons infiltrated the Defense net.

APOLLO
We know.

Gaeta picks up a syringe and takes a sample of Davidan's blood.

DAVIDAN
Did you know that Doctor Baltar was commissioned to write his code from scratch, but instead he used the old Defense mainframe O.S.? He used old, corrupted code to reduce his development costs. Essentially, he just patched new programs onto the old system, leaving all the old wormholes and virus susceptibilities behind.

Gaeta finishes taking the blood sample.

GAETA
I'm going to scan this sample for traces of certain rare elements and precursors.

Dualla STORMS in and almost falls down. Billy, following close behind, holds her steady.

DUALLA
What did Dad say to you just before you left for the last time?

Tigh, Apollo and Gaeta stand back, aware of her fury.

DAVIDAN
(pleading)
Anna...

DUALLA
Well?
DAVIDAN
(slightly embarrassed)
He said that I was a patriotic fool for joining up in the first place and I was an incompetent moron for flunking out.

Gaeta goes back to the computer.

APOLLO
(puzzled)
Flunked out?

DUALLA
(first to Apollo, then Dave)
...of the academy. What was Mom's favorite color?

DAVIDAN
Seafoam blue.

DUALLA
Where did Mom & Dad spend their twenty-fifth anniversary?

DAVIDAN
The Quartz Islands. Anna, don't do this. I remember everything we've ever done together.

TIGH
You flunked out of the academy?

DUALLA
(to Davidan)
Just up until you disappeared.

DAVIDAN
I had to go.

DUALLA
You ran away. You left us...
DAVIDAN
That's what I had to say.

DUALLA
Dad was furious when you were accepted, but they both were so destroyed when you got kicked out. Dad couldn't stand his only son being both a fool and a failure.

DAVIDAN
That's why I didn't have to 'die.'

DUALLA/APOLLO/TIGH
Die?

DAVIDAN
Most Phoenix recruits have to 'die.' From timely heart attacks, rare diseases, in freak accidents. Because of Dad's history of hatred for the military and the fact that Mom couldn't face a washout it was plausible that I could just run away, disappear--that I was so embarrassed I could never come home again.

DUALLA
Mom was bad when you washed out, but when you ran away--she would keep the phone by her all day waiting for you to call. You never did.

Billy helps D sit.

DAVIDAN
If I could've told her the truth she would've been so proud. Dad wouldn't've been happy, but knowing I was flying with the best...he could've lived with it. But, I could never tell anyone. I was chosen to fly ships so secret only 500 people in the entire Colonies knew of their existence.
APOLLO
Five hundred?

DUALLA
Mom would've been proud of you no matter where you ended up, as long as she could see you and brag to her friends about you.

DAVIDAN
I looked for her after the attack.

DUALLA
Well?

DAVIDAN
Nothing.

DUALLA
Home?

DAVIDAN
Gone.

Dualla gulps, tears of closure stream down her face.

DUALLA
They both loved you so much. They never deserved to be abandoned like that and now they're dead. And you knew the Cylons were watching the Colonies.

DAVIDAN
I'm sorry. I couldn't, they wouldn't let us...even our families...

DUALLA
After you left, he couldn't talk to me anymore. He was so bitter when he looked at me...like he was seeing you...and then I enlisted--I guess to try to make up for your failure and...
DAVIDAN
...Anna, I'm sorry. I joined Phoenix because in the end I believed it would make them proud. I didn't do it just for me, Gods I wanted so bad to call them...and you.

Computer BEEPS.

ON SCREEN: "Inconclusive-not enough data"

DAVIDAN (CONT'D)
(turning on a dime to Gaeta)
How's your test coming along?

Gaeta looks at Tigh. Tigh walks around to view the screen.

GAETA
(fidgety)
Ah, the computer's having some problems interpreting the scans. It'll take some more time...

TIGH
Meanwhile, we'll take you back to holding.

Dualla, tears in her eyes, looks at Davidan, stands up shakily using Billy as a crutch, 180's and exits.

DAVIDAN
(to Apollo)
She just needs some time...

APOLLO
...and honest answers from...

DAVIDAN
...her brother. If I really am her brother, right?

APOLLO
(grunts)
Something like that.
INT. REPAIR BAY

The Scorpion's engines look better, repaired. Tyrol and Starbuck are covered in a thicker layer of grease and grime.

Apollo ENTERS.

    STARBUCK
How'do you like our new toy Apollo?

    APOLLO
Toy is not the word I would use to describe what this thing can do. Tyrol wipes his hands off.

    TYROL
I'll have the engines ready in an hour or so, then she'll be good enough for a flight test. Weapons will be offline, though.

    APOLLO
(to Starbuck)
That's why you're so excited. You think you get to...

    STARBUCK
Frakkin' right I'm drivin'. The old man said I could. And if there was space, Chief would get the first ride for getting her to fly again.

Tyrol smiles out of the corner of his mouth.

    TYROL
There is no way I'm getting in any ship with you, sir.

    STARBUCK
(smiling, then to Apollo)
How's "D's brother" doing upstairs?
APOLLO
Inconclusive.

In the background Simon ENTERS, and watches the Scorpion from a distance, measuring...plotting.

SIMON'S POV: The ship, Starbuck, Apollo and Tyrol, as well as ten or more Marine guards. Too many to rush.

STARBUCK
Inconclusive?

APOLLO
Gaeta ran Doctor Baltar's Cylon Detector and the results came back inconclusive.

Tyrol rolls his eyes, Starbuck follows with a snort, and Apollo laughs.

STARBUCK
That could mean anything.

APOLLO
D's pretty shaken up.

STARBUCK
That happens when you see a ghost.

Simon looks around, grabs a Marine riot (ammo) belt off of a mechanics case and EXITS.

INT. DOC COTTLE'S MED LAB

Doc and Tigh watch on monitors. Davidan is in the dark in the MRI machine in the next room. Doc talks with Tigh.

Adama ENTERS.

DOC
There appears to be a subdermal device of some kind on the upper back by the shoulder blade...here.

ON SCREEN: Doc points to a spot above the shoulder blade.
ADAMA
What do you think it is?

DOC
I'm not sure, but it's right underneath the skin. It'll be no problem taking it out...

ACTION STATIONS KLAXON SOUNDS.

GAETA
(intercom)
Commander Adama. Report to CIC immediately.

ADAMA
(to Doc)
Call me as soon as you figure out what that device is.

Adama and Tigh RUN OUT.

INT. GALACTICA - CIC

Adama and Tigh ENTER.

ADAMA
Whadda we got?

GAETA
Intermittent Dradis contacts. Ships jumping in and out.

TIGH
Identification?

GAETA
None.

TIGH
Scorpions?

ADAMA
Launch Apollo and the alert fighters.
INT. LAUNCH TUBES
Vipers launch.

EXT. SPACE - GALACTICA - FLIGHT POD
Vipers BLASTING out of launch tubes.

INT. GALACTICA - CIC
Gaeta hangs up the phone.

    GAETA
    Alert fighters away.

      APOLLO (WIRELESS)
      Galactica. Apollo. Thirty seconds to intercept.

      GAETA
      (looking at screen)
      Contacts gone!

ON DRADIS SCREEN: Blips disappear.

      TIGH
      Where'd they go?

      GAETA
      Hold on...

ON DRADIS SCREEN: Blips reappear on the other side of the monitor.

      GAETA (CONT'D)
      Contacts reappeared at eighty one carom seven.

Adama picks up a handset.

      ADAMA
      (on handset)
      Hangar Bay, give me Starbuck.
TIGH
Mr. Gaeta, get all of the pilots to their ships. With all this jumping around we're gonna need some cover.

GAETA
Yessir.

Gaeta picks up a com link.

GAETA (CONT'D)
(on handset)
All pilots, man your Vipers. Repeat, all pilots, man your Vipers.

INT. REPAIR BAY
Pilots RUN past Tyrol and Starbuck.

STARBUCK
(on handset)
Yessir.

Starbuck replaces the handset.

STARBUCK (CONT'D)
Gotta go, chief.

TYROL
No, no, no--we haven't even tested...

STARBUCK
That's what I'm about to do.

Starbuck RUNS out of the Repair Bay to get her flight gear.

TYROL
(mutters)
And that's why I'll never fly with you.

EXT. SPACE - APOLLO & HOT DOG'S VIPERS - CHASE CAMERA POV
Apollo and Hot Dog chase the intermittent flashes.
APOLLO
Galactica. Apollo. We're getting nowhere. Everytime we approach, the bogies jump and reappear somewhere else. We're playing cat and mouse.

HOT DOG (WIRELESS)
Squeak.

INT. GALACTICA - CIC

Doc saunters in.

DOC
The device is definitely Colonial--it's an identification chip. The fleet was toying with putting these in every pilot for emergency identification and encrypted critical information storage...

ADAMA
So he's not a Cylon.

DOC
No. Not unless he's one by choice.
Adama looks at Doc.

INT. GALACTICA - PASSAGEWAYS/GANGWAYS

Dualla, dazed, holds on to Billy and wanders.

At a junction she sends Billy away and ventures in the opposite direction.

Starbuck RUNS past Billy and Dualla.

STARBUCK
Make a hole!

Ahead at another junction Starbuck stops cold.

STARBUCK'S POV: From the back she sees an engine-room mechanic, somewhat out of place in a flight pod, walking up the passageway away from her.
Starbuck changes her path and begins to follow.

Rounding a bend she sees his familiar, if scruffy profile.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE
ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. GALACTICA - PASSAGEWAY/GANGWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Starbuck shakily starts chasing.

STARBUCK
(almost choking)
Simon.

She RUNS FASTER.

STARBUCK (CONT'D)
(gaining courage)
Simon!

Approaching the interrogation room Simon picks up his pace, takes a flash-bang grenade from the riot belt and tosses it at the hatch where TWO MARINES stand guard.

Starbuck dives to the side as the grenade EXPLODES with a blinding FLASH, sending smoke everywhere.

Starbuck, shaken, rises to see the two guards stabbed to death on the floor, and Simon ENTERING the hatch.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Simon knifes the two closest guards with lightning-quick moves, then goes for Davidan, who parries the attack, knocks the blade away and kicks Simon backwards.

Simon, startled that a human has that kind of skill, comes at Davidan again, who spin-tosses him aikido-style over his shoulder and onto his back on the floor where the two remaining guards PUMP him with 15 rounds each.

Starbuck RUNS in and sees blood pouring out of Simon's mouth.

The Marines turn their aim to Davidan.
STARBUCK
(eyes on Simon)
He's a Cylon.

DAVIDAN
I know. We've seen him a lot on Caprica.

STARBUCK
(to one of the Guards)
Get someone to clean up this mess!

GUARD 1
Yessir.

Guard 1 EXITS. Dualla stands in the brightly lit doorway.

DUALLA
He's a Cylon?

STARBUCK
He's the model I met on Caprica.
Dualla nods, looks at her brother.

DUALLA
Sounds like your friends are out there.

DAVIDAN
They don't like to leave anyone behind...

DUALLA
Why didn't you try to contact me...just let me know you were okay? Why didn't you warn us?

Davidan is silent for once.

DUALLA (CONT'D)
Mom and Dad are gone and I never got to tell Dad how much...

Dualla can't look at him.
DAVIDAN
I know you blame me for Mom and Dad's death...and their unhappiness before.

He moves toward her, coming out of the shadows. She starts tearing up.

DAVIDAN (CONT'D)
You're still my Peach, Anna.

DUALLA
Don't call me that, not right now.

DAVIDAN
Some day I'll try to make it up to you. Someday we'll get those bastards for good... then maybe we can...

He goes to hug her. She stiffens, then relents. In another smooth aikido-like move he turns her to the side, sliding past her, he grabs one of the last marine guard's gun, puts the guard in a choke hold and points it at his head.

DUALLA
Dave!

STARBUCK
Don't do this!

DAVIDAN
Sorry, Anna.

DUALLA
But!...

STARBUCK
Put the gun down.

DAVIDAN
My orders supersede all regulation Colonial dictates. I'm not trying to hurt you, we just have to win this war.

Dave backs out the hatch with the hostage. Daula tries to follow.
DAVIDAN (CONT'D)
When this war is over, maybe then...

DUALLA
Dave? No...

DAVIDAN
Forgive me...

He pulls a piece of the notepad paper from his pocket and slips it to Dualla.

He slides out the door while shoving the marine back in. The hatch is locked.

INT. GALACTICA - PASSAGEWAY

Billy blocks Davidan's path, but stands back when he sees the gun.

BILLY
Don't do this to her.

DAVIDAN
I'm doing this for her, she's all I've got left.

BILLY
Me too.

Davidan turns, then runs down the passageway. Billy turns to work on the hatch.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Billy OPENs the hatch and hugs Dualla. Starbuck runs out.

STARBUCK
He's going for the Scorpion. Tell Tyrol I'm coming.

INT. REPAIR BAY - MOMENTS LATER

Tyrol and the Scorpion are surrounded by FIFTEEN MARINES.

Davidan peaks around a corner and sensing no option here
charges down a different passageway.

INT. GALACTICA - CIC

ON DRADIS SCREEN: Green blip "Scorpion 1" heads away from Galactica.

    GAETA
    Scorpion launched Sir.

    ADAMA
    Who is it?

    GAETA
    I don't know Sir-

    STARBUCK (WIRELESS)
    Galactica. Starbuck. I have the Scorpion.
    Copy.

    GAETA
    Copy that Starbuck.

    ADAMA
    Mr. Gaeta. I want every available deckhand searching for Mr. Dualla.

    GAETA
    Yes Sir.

INT. SCORPION COCKPIT - CONSOLE POV

Starbuck, wide-eyed looking at everything. She hits the TURBOS and is pushed back into her seat.

    STARBUCK
    Wha-hoo! What's the matter guys? Your rides got no giddy-up?

EXT. SPACE - VIPERS & SCORPION - WIDE SHOT

Starbuck's Scorpion and Apollo and Hot Dogs' Vipers fly in formation.

Starbuck does a few barrel rolls and sharp turns which the
Vipers can't mimic.

The other Scorpions UNFOLD again, this time closer.

INT. STARBUCK'S SCORPION - OVER THE SHOULDER CAMERA

Starbuck's cockpit DRADIS lights up.

    STARBUCK
    Got you now.

ON DRADIS SCREEN: Shows all four green blips, identified as "friendlies" - Scorpions Two, Four, Five and Seven.

Starbuck's scrambled wireless comes to life.

    WIRELESS VOICE (WIRELESS)
    Back Door, Back Door. This is Drive-By, come in.

EXT. SPACE - STARBUCK'S SCORPION - WING CAMERA POV

Starbuck's Scorpion approaches the other Scorpions.

    STARBUCK (WIRELESS)
    Hello, you have reached the cockpit of Lieutenant Dualla. He's not in right now. If you would like to leave a message, you can do so at the tone and he'll get back to you as soon as possible. BEEP.

No response.

INT. STARBUCK'S SCORPION - CONSOLE POV

Starbuck scanning the space-field.

    STARBUCK
    Drive-by? Come in.

No response.

    STARBUCK (CONT'D)
    Aw, C'mon guys. I know you're out there.
EXT. SPACE - STARBUCK'S SCORPION - OVERHEAD COCKPIT VIEW

The Scorpions turn toward Starbuck and the Vipers.

    STARBUCK (WIRELESS)
    Oh Frak!

Starbuck tries to turn the ship, but before she can the four Scorpions buzz her ship and disappear.

    DAVIDAN (WIRELESS)
    They won't talk to you.

    STARBUCK
    Who is this?

INT. RAPTOR 2 - CONSOLE POV

Davidan flies the Raptor.

    DAVIDAN
    You're flying my ship.

    STARBUCK (WIRELESS)
    Why don't we meet back on Galactica so I can give it back to you.

    DAVIDAN
    I'd love to, but you know I can't...

INT. STARBUCK'S SCORPION - CONSOLE POV

Starbuck looks for the disembodied voice...

    STARBUCK
    What about D?

INT. APOLLO'S VIPER - CONSOLE POV

Apollo listens in.

    DAVIDAN (WIRELESS)
    She'll understand. Someday.

    STARBUCK (WIRELESS)
    Dave?
INT. STARBUCK'S SCORPION - CONSOLE POV

Starbuck summoning courage to ask:

    DAVIDAN (WIRELESS)
    Go ahead.

    STARBUCK
    Why did they choose you?

    DAVIDAN (WIRELESS)
    Personality.

INT. STARBUCK'S SCORPION - OVER SHOULDER CAMERA

Through Starbuck's cockpit a Raptor flies overhead, waggles its wings, FOLDS IN and JUMPS away.

    STARBUCK
    (chuckles)

Cockpit alarm SOUNDS in the Scorpion.

    STARBUCK (CONT'D)
    Apollo, I've lost my number two engine. Looks like this test is over.

    APOLLO (WIRELESS)
    Roger that. We'll follow you back to the barn.

INT. HANGAR DECK

Apollo meets Starbuck at the Scorpion cockpit.

    APOLLO
    (excited)
    Well, what do you think?

    STARBUCK
    (pensive)
    She's fast.
APOLLO
What's the matter with you? You've wanted to fly something like this your whole career.

She doesn't respond.

APOLLO (CONT'D)
(figuring it out)
Oh, I get it. You're sore because they never chose...you.

She turns to walk away. He follows.

APOLLO (CONT'D)
The famous Starbuck was never chosen to fly the best planes in the fleet and that chaps your ass doesn't it?

STARBUCK
They could've asked.

APOLLO
They had their reasons.

STARBUCK
Like what? I was the perfect candidate. The only reason they didn't take me has to be my flying.

APOLLO
You don't know that.

STARBUCK
Yeah, well if that wasn't it, what was?

INT. BUNKROOM - DUALLA'S BUNK

Dualla is back in bed with a compress on her head. Billy sits next to her.

Adama ENTERS.
BILLY
Commander.

DUALLA
(trying to rise)
Sir!

ADAMA
(moving to her bed)
Stay, don't get up. I just wanted you to
know I am sorry your brother left. I know
it brought up a lot of old feelings.

DUALLA
So, the tests?

ADAMA
He's your brother.

Dualla looks down, happy and sad at the same time.

BILLY
I think it's good just knowing he's
alive.

ADAMA
That it is.

DUALLA
Why? I just wish he could've warned
us...somehow.

ADAMA
I know of these projects. Extremely top-
secret. If he had warned your parents he
could've put their lives at risk long
before the Cylons did.

Adama places his hand on her forearm.

BILLY
What about the Scorpion squadrons? Are we
going to contact them somehow?
ADAMA
Not right now. They don't want to be contacted and I don't think they are going to come out of the shadows until this war is over, whenever that is.

DUALLA
Will I ever see him again?

ADAMA
Someday. And that little present he left us could come in handy.

Adama goes to the door.

DUALLA
Commander.

ADAMA
Yes, D.

DUALLA
Dave gave me one more thing...

She reaches into her pocket and hands him the note.

Adama looks at it.

ADAMA
What do you think?

DUALLA
I think we should check it out.

ADAMA
(smiling)
Take care of her. I need her back in CIC as soon as possible.

BILLY
Yes Sir.

Adama EXITS.

EXT. SPACE - CYGNUS - WIDE SHOT
A Raptor UNFOLDS followed by the Scorpion piloted by Starbuck.

INT. RAPTOR 1 - CONSOLE POV

Apollo is piloting with Helo as C.O.

HELO
Scanning third moon. Nothing. Wait a minute. Contacts!

APOLLO
Whadda you got?

HELO
One big, man she's a moose... fifteen smaller craft, all Colonial signals.

STARBUCK (WIRELESS)
I've got the same readings. Definitely Colonial transponders.

BARGE PILOT (WIRELESS)
Colonial Raptor this is the Hercules class long haul tug Sisyphus, come in.

APOLLO
Read you loud and clear, Sisyphus. Where'd you come from?

BARGE PILOT
A mutual friend of ours from Caprica sent us to these coordinates...said you could use some supplies and a little manpower.

EXT. SPACE - CYGNUS - WIDE SHOT

Out of the moon's shadow appears the Hercules with 15 Viper Mark Twos.

APOLLO (WIRELESS)
Roger that.

BARGE PILOT (WIRELESS)
I've got a Sandhog construction crew and
fifteen Vipers from the Battlestar Valiant. Whaddaya say, can you use the help?

STARBUCK (WIRELESS)
Can we use the help?

INT. RAPTOR 1 - CONSOLE POV

Apollo laughs.

APOLLO
Aw, geez, I don't know.
(to Helo)
Launch the drone and contact Galactica.
Tell them to set out some extra plates--
we're bringing company to dinner.

EXT. SPACE - SCORPION & VIPERS - CHASE CAMERA POV

The fifteen Vipers (mark two) fly out to meet the Raptor and Scorpion as the Sissyphus hovers in the background.

WIRELESS VOICES
(Laughing/chuckling/etc.)

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR