

~~GUARDIAN : X~~

Episode #1 (PILOT)

"SCUMRI"

BY

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Personal Draft 1

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FADE IN**EXT. PLANET SCUMRI-ESTABLISHING-DAY**

Our NARRATOR makes descriptions of the world and gives a brief history. The camera watches as the planet Scumri makes its rotations. There is a moon and a sun around it; that's it. The planet has three clear continents, aligned side by side.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Scumri was a beautiful world: a spawn point of shared creations, all going about their own internal and external systems.

EXT. SCUMRI CONTINENTS

Focus is set on the right island as the camera begins zooming across all three lands. Both colorful and bland landscapes are shown. Weird animals with similar silhouettes to real world creatures such as elk and birds are visible throughout the showcase. Humanoids are also seen. No different from us at first glance. There seems to be various types as shown by drastically differentiating silhouettes.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Not all are created equal, but when the power is shared, the strong may coexist with the weak.

The zooming has stopped and now three powerful humanoid figures stand atop a platform, looking down at the rest of life. The two at the sides bare glowing white eyes, while the middle figure has a shining silver glow to his. He is the most powerful. They all seem at peace and happy. The middle figure's smile fades after a while. Focus is set on the bottom half of his face as it continues to distort.

NARRATOR

But when the balance of the land is set
off by its own founder..

The two figures at the side are swiftly knocked to the side as the middle figure rushes towards their creation. Chaos quickly ensues. The skies of Scumri turn black. Fires and lightning scatter everywhere. Waters rush and wind blows at the trees. Structures crumble. The previous showcased creatures now silently shriek. Five other humanoid figures are seen attempting to ward off the MIDDLE FIGURE. They fail. The WHITE-EYED FIGURES come from the skyward platform.

NARRATOR

... Creation must face Creator.

Focus in on the MIDDLE FIGURE. His back faces us. He slowly turns his head to face his confronters. He now has a wide, toothy grin. His eyes glow a sinister pitch black. Cut to black.

Violin cues in, followed by cello and vocals from the previous encounter. Title fades in over the black: "GUARDIAN: X"

EXT. JERI CITY ALLEYWAY-AFTERNOON

KYD awakens in one of many alleyways. Crowds are heard in the back, followed by a light violin. We are shown his direct perception for this moment. He opens his eyes, looking back and forth, up and down, at the walls of the buildings he's between. He looks down at his hands, rotating his wrists, showing his tanned skin tone. He bears a lean build, and wears leather clothing: a navy-blue top, brown leggings, and black boots. He looks to his right side; sitting next to him is a distinct-looking blade. He grunts and thinks to himself.

KYD

(Where am I? Did I sleep with this?)

He notices not much light shines within the alleyway.

KYD

(What time is it?)

We now return to a third-person view of the man. KYD gets up, picking up the blade. As he stands, he feels the density of a sheath on his back. He seals the blade for now and walks out. As he walks, scrawny men sit on the ground against the walls of the buildings, some with children. They slowly look up to KYD with pitiful faces. KYD feels a sense of sorrow looking down on them. The second this occurs a low rumble begins usher into KYD's head, followed by a shriek-like noise. He grabs his scalp as VOICES begin to fill his psyche. One has a soft voice, the second is stern, but the third is vile. Cellos are heard.

VOICE 1

Save them.

VOICE 2

Leave them.

VOICE 3

SLAUGHTER them.

As VOICE 3 makes his remark, vocals are heard.

VOICES

KYD!!

KYD begins a fight-or-flight decision process. He quickly settles on leaving them. The second he makes his decision, the voices vanish. They seemingly merge back into the darkness of KYD'S mind. It is quiet once more. He speed walks out.

EXT. JERI CITY MARKETPLACE- CONTINUOUS

The marketplace is the talk of the city. What is this city? KYD looks to a board to be reminded. "Jeri City: The Home of Salvation." It's sandy and dusty, but still has a booming

feeling. People flood the streets, going about business. This place feels important. Paths and roads pathed over with chiseled greystone litter the area. Many surrounding buildings made of red sandstone have frames of sturdy wood. However, there seems to be a large structure farther on made of steel and other materials. KYD looks up. Big, looming walls surround the city, made of the same redsand and outlined in steel. It's seemingly protecting the city and its inhabitants from the outside.

KYD

(The light out here doesn't shine much brighter, huh?)

KYD looks back down and continues his inner monologues.

KYD

(That's right. I am Kyd. No surname, no family. I believe I'm a Scumrian. At least I look like all the others labeled "Scumrian." I don't know how long I've been conscious... alive, even. I simply know that whenever I'm awake, I drift. Whenever I'm asleep, I'm lost. And these voices... there's three. I don't know who they are, but they guide me through this "life." I like to call them my counselors.)

KYD laughs to himself, imaging the shadowy figures in robes and big specs, sitting around a table in big chairs. He gets a stare from a passing pot saleswomen, though he doesn't notice. KYD continues walking. All sorts of goods are being sold here. Foods, drinks, parts, cloths, bots, vehicles: you name it. As he walks into a mechanics section, a beeping catches his ear. The rest of the crowd is now muted to him. KYD looks around, trying to find the source of the beeping. As he begins walking towards where he believes the source is, the beeping gets... louder.

KYD

(It's getting loud... *Really* loud. Is it...
reacting to *me*?)

The beeping continued to get louder and more frantic. A path clears through the crowd as heads start to turn to the source. KYD finds it; it's a woman. HARP hides her burning passion under solid yellow eyes. She bears fair, long hair with a pink coloration to match her complexion. Her wardrobe consists of brown boots, black leggings, a white blouse covered by a pink coat with peculiar patches on it, and a yellow and white striped headband. She stands by a metals vendor, and carries a basket on her right forearm which seems to contain cloths and raw metals. In her left hand is currency she was about to give to the vendor. She's facing KYD from the moment the crowd parts, a puzzled expression with an open mouth on her face. Now even the beeping is muted to KYD.

HARP

(Audible, yet hesitant gasp)

The beeping and the crowd now come back into KYD's ears. Light strums of a harp are heard. HARP quickly and clumsily gives the money to the vendor and reaches deep into her coat pocket, taking out a rectangular device. She presses a button and silences the beeping, looking back up to KYD. Eyes were on both of them now. Some looked to HARP with admirable eyes. HARP pays no mind to them. She puts the device up, firmly walks over to Kyd, and raises out her arm, causing him to flinch, his hand going up towards his back.

HARP

I am HARP MIKWYE. And you are?

HARP nudges her hand further, reaffirming that she wants a handshake. KYD slowly reaches out his hand and shakes it.

KYD

Kyd.

HARP

Kyd...?

KYD

Just Kyd.

Throughout all of this HARP keeps a firm composure. Kyd is hesitant.

HARP

It's okay! Trust me, I'm strong, but not a brute! I think people would sooner mistake me for a pushover anyways.

Kyd becomes a little more loose. Harp now pays mind to the crowd around them, yet seemingly for an objective reason rather than out of shame. Mummies of the CROWD are barely head.

CROWD 1

That's her, isn't it?

CROWD 2

What's she doing here? Is she announcing some sort of new project?

CROWD 3

Why would they send their brand-new General out on an errand run?

Harp eyes back to Kyd.

HARP

Well... KYD, would you mind coming with me?

KYD hears whispers in his head.

KYD

What?

HARP

I can tell that you're a confused soul. You seemingly have no purpose and can't get a grasp on your surroundings. It's alright; I understand. Please, I'd like to help you. I have a facility that can help you find what you're looking for. You don't have to come with me. I want this to be your own decision.

The VOICES are back, full-fledge.

VOICE 1

Follow her.

VOICE 2

Leave her.

VOICE 3

END her.

KYD shakes his head. HARP shows visible confusion.

KYD

I'll come with you.

HARP lets out a warm, relieved smile. She looks down for a brief moment before looking back at him, still holding onto his hand.

HARP

I'm so glad.

HARP lets go of KYD's hand and guides both of them out of the marketplace. They walk away from the camera, a few members of the crowd still looking before going about their business. KYD turns around while walking, looking back at the walls. He hears the whispers. He turns back, continuing to follow HARP. The whispers cease.

EXT. RESISTANCE BASE OUTSIDE- EVENING

HARP and KYD walk side by side. Becoming aware of the looming silence, KYD decides to speak his mind. The two begin speaking while walking.

KYD

So what was the beeping coming from
that device in your pocket about?

HARP turns her head to him with a wondrous look.

HARP

Oh, you mean this?

HARP pulls the rectangular device from her pocket. Up close, KYD can now see its bulky nature and green undertone. There is a small light on its top, with buttons on its surface and speakers on its sides. KYD takes notice of the speakers in particular and chuckles.

KYD

Now I see why it got as loud as it did.

HARP gives a responsive laugh.

HARP

Yeah, she works wonders, doesn't she?

KYD

Who does?

HARP'S face squints a bit.

HARP
The... device?

HARP and KYD are silent for a moment, KYD face blushed and looking down.

HARP
Actually, yeah, no, it's not just the device. Forget this silly old thing!

She puts the device back in her pocket.

HARP
I guess I'm also talking about one of the great people you're about to meet! She made that, after all.

KYD looks back at HARP curiously.

KYD
Oh really?

HARP
Mhm! I promise you, everyone at the Resistance is as helpful as need be and more. You'll get everything you can need and want, Kyd.

KYD
The Resistance?

HARP gets flustered.

HARP

Oh, right! I should've tuned you in on *that* first. I apologize. I suppose it's a place, but it's more of a collection.

KYD looks intrigued.

HARP

We're a bunch of people with a bunch of passions... people with hope. We all have our talents, skills, and paths in life, but we share a common goal: we all wish to bring down Triox.

KYD's background fades to black for a moment as he violently shakes. He muffles a shriek of pain behind his mouth. Both him and HARP stop in their tracks.

HARP

KYD?

KYD takes a moment to find some composure.

KYD

Who is Triox?

Harp looks at Kyd like her world just shattered. She catches onto the situation.

HARP

Kyd... have you heard his name before?

KYD

No, but... It sounds so... I've never heard that name in my life, but it's so DAMN familiar. I don't understand...

HARP

It's okay, Kyd. Just keep calming
yourself down.

A hysterical laugh is heard for a moment in Kyd's head. It sounds as if it's VOICE 3. Kyd's pupil's shrink as he goes to hold his head. Harp goes to put her hand on Kyd's shoulder.

HARP

Kyd, it's okay. *I'm here.*

As Harp says this, a large boom is heard. It seems to come from the wall behind the two. Harp is the first to look up. Her eyes shrink in horror. Kyd reclaims his senses and stands from his hunched posture, turning to look towards the wall. In the wall is a giant, perfect circle of a hole.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. RESISTANCE BASE OUTSIDE-EVENING

KYD and HARP gaze upon the hole in the wall, struck with both fear and awe.

HARP

The wall. NOTHING can break through the wall. What the hell just happ--

Now Harp is the one panicking.

HARP

What DID that? Nothing's broke through the wall since I've been alive; not even during CONSTRUCTION.

KYD

Harp...

HARP

Such power... Accuracy..

Harp looks Kyd in the eyes.

HARP

It's intelligent.

Kyd is looking back at Harp, speechless. More explosions are heard, and now seen, in the distance. He turns back to the wall, Harp following his lead. He then begins to walk towards it.

HARP

Kyd?

KYD

I have to go.

The VOICES come back, whispering once more. They get louder with each step.

HARP

Kyd, what are you DOING?! The Resistance is just up ahead, just come with me to get help if you want to go so bad!

KYD

If that's the case, go back, Harp.

HARP

Huh?

KYD

We can talk later. Go back and get help.

He turns his head back with a smile.

KYD

Make sure I can come back and meet these great people.

He turns back to the hole and breaks into a sprint.

HARP

KYD, YOU...

Harp looks around for a moment before finally turning towards the Resistance base and rushing to get Kyd's backup as fast as possible.

EXT. JERI CITY STREETS AND MARKETPLACE

KYD is sprinting through the streets of Jeri City towards the hole in the wall. His stamina seems to be endless;

he's clearing the distance that took him and Harp ages to walk through. The VOICES are also screaming at Kyd at this point.

VOICE 1

KYD!

VOICE 2

KYD!

VOICE 3

KYD!

VOICES

KYD!!

Kyd speaks out loud to the Voices for the first time.

KYD

I've come TOO far to turn back. You guys aren't going to sway me to do ANYTHING right now!

Mustering a burst of incredible will, he shakes the Voices off. He looks back up to where he's sprinting. Running through the marketplace, men, women, and children scream and flee, away from whatever monster awaits towards the hole. Kyd is now in the front of the city, almost flat-out in front of the hole.

KYD

(I don't know what brought me to do this, but I'm glad it did. These people... they need help. I don't know what I can do, but I'll be damned if I don't do what I can.)

Kyd hears a scream louder from the others towards his left. He pivots and turns that direction to run down an alleyway. Coincidentally enough, it's the same alleyway he had awoken in.

The scrawny men were now hunched over on the ground in fear, covering their faces with their rags. Kyd runs and turns the corner. We don't see what he does at first; only his pupils shrinking once more. Kyd stops in his place to face the monster. Before him is a man in a suited armor. A violin cues in, much more aggressive in nature than Kyd's. His suit has a chest piece of a roaring lion's face; a scorpion's tail; a horned helmet. In addition to this, the helmet has a concealing visor, and on Y's back are thrusters fueled by his soul. Everything on the suit is either a carbon black metal or deep maroon glass. Kyd stands, his face showing off his sinking stomach. Y hovers, holding a screaming woman in his left claw by the throat. He notices Kyd and assumingly stares through his visor. The woman turns to Kyd as well. Sorrow, panic, and fear are the only things left in her pale blue eyes.

WOMAN

P-Please... help m--

In an instant he throws the woman to the ground and blasts her from the palm of the same hand. The woman is dead. Her pale, blue soul drips from the wound. With an unholy sensation Kyd's gears shift. His voice cracks as his pupils twitch.

KYD

She's... you...

Kyd's right hand darts for his blade and his legs move with matched swiftness.

KYD

YOU SCUM!

Kyd is moving against the flames of the burning buildings around him. He reaches a good distance from Y, and Y comes down to meet him. Kyd begins to slash away in blind rage, his arms fully going up and down with each strike. Y sways and dodges every slash, hardly moving at all and simply needing to go in a

"left-right" pattern. Kyd gets mildly worn out after a while. He stands defensively, panting.

KYD

Who are you?! ... What do you want?

No answer. There would be silence if it were not for the flames and violin.

KYD

ANSWER ME!

Kyd goes for more desperate, even more predictable strikes. He stops, panting.

KYD

Answer me... please.

(I'm weak, he's strong... what can I do?)

Kyd looks back to the body of the woman as the whispers try to come back. Looking upon the lost soul, Kyd's gears shift once more; his eyes get a gleam in them. A navy-blue energy, matching the coloration of Kyd's eyes, emits from the blade rapidly.

KYD

WHAT CAN I DO?

Kyd goes for one final slash on Y; this time, taking his left hand off the shaft, Kyd goes for a diagonal swipe that is noticeably rapid. The Voices stop as the hit connects, putting a slash all the way through Y's visor. All that is seen from under the scar of the armor is a sinister maroon eye, and half of a wide grin. A violin is struck. Kyd is taken back. Y jumps back quickly, still smiling. He speaks.

Y

It's you... it really IS you! I come for the Resistance and end up being reunited with YOU?! How exhilarating..

His voice is mild, challenging. But above all, it's vile. Kyd, still seething with rage, goes for a thrust. The power behind it easily closes the meters of distance that was between the two in an instant. This time, Y has no time to dodge, forcing him to catch the tip of the blade with both claws.

Y

So that's how it's gonna be... So be it! I don't have time to play like I used to, anyways. Too bad it seems like you have all the time in the world. I'm not even sure as to how you're alive.

Kyd is puzzled by this comment.

Y

No matter. From now on, you're on my clock. I'll work hard so that I can come back for you. I hope life treats you well. And don't worry...

Y laughs

Y

I'll give you plenty of time to cry for help!

Y jumps further back, fleeing. He vanishes into the smoke. Kyd follows pursuit into the smoke, soul-filled blade in hands, coughing the whole way through. When he comes out the other side, Y is nowhere to be seen. Kyd is now right underneath the hole. He stands for a moment, panting and looking up to the hole. After a while, he hears coughs approaching from behind. He turns to see multiple silhouettes. Appearing prominently

amongst the others are two distinct figures, one of which is HARP. The other is a man by Harp's side that is noticeably taller than anyone else there, and very much in shape. He's seemingly built to fight and has a determined gaze from neon-green eyes. OMEGA notices the navy-blue energy emitting from the sword. He makes an expression that parallels the one Harp made when first seeing Kyd.

HARP

Kyd! What happened? Are you okay?

The light fades from the blade as Kyd sheathes it. He looks to Harp with a blank expression. The VOICES whisper, but Kyd ignores them.

KYD

Yeah.

Kyd turns to face the hole in the wall once more.

KYD

I'm alright... Did you see the body?

OMEGA

There's many.

Kyd clenches his fists. The Voices increase their volume, and what they're saying is now clear.

VOICE 1

Join them, join them!

VOICE 2

Join them, join them.

VOICE 3

LEAVE them.

Kyd makes his decision.

KYD

If I join the Resistance, can we bury
them?

Harp's eyes begin to shimmer with a bitter-sweet expression.
She rhythmically nods to Kyd's back.

HARP

Mhm... Of course.

Longshot of the Resistance. The backups are to the left, all in uniform with holsters or sheaths of some sort. The man and Harp stand towards the middle of the shot, Harp's hands clasped to her chest. Kyd stands facing the wall, head up to the hole, hands still clenched. Grey outlines are on all of the members excluding Kyd, who is outlined and shaded with navy-blue. It looks as if light is shining both onto the Resistance members and into Kyd.

FADE OUT

EXT. UNKNOWN- NIGHT

Darkness absolutely covers this land. Crumbled remains of structures surround the area, looking as if it stretches for miles. A ginormous dome of light is in the center of it all, containing what looks to be a black blob. Not a single figure of what could be conventional life is seen. Cellos are heard.

VOICE 1

This game will end with time! There's
salvation within you; I know there is.
There has to be. Just turn back now
and this can all be over!

VOICE 2

You can't keep this up forever.
Scumrians out there are taking paths

that will lead to your eminent
downfall. Scumrians that you created,
Trix... They'll come with time.

The cello is struck as vocals rise. Teeth emerge from TRIOX'S
flaring blob of a form within the dome. They emerge as if
surfacing from a thick liquid, and soon form a smile.

TRIOX

We'll just have to wait and see, won't we?

The smile falls back, sucked into the blob once more.
Everything is black. Cut to rolling credits. (My placeholder
theme song that I'd place here and at the start of future
episodes is *BUMP OF CHICKEN* "Hello, World!" The lyrics serve as
a good precursor as to what's to come for this story).