Nebularian

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EXT. SPACE

Star light peeks over a massive earth-like planet. It has a ring just like Saturn, but this isn't space dust. It's space junk. Old spaceships, satellites, and everything in-between.

Snared in the middle of this twisted metal ring is a massive multilevel space station STARSEER.

From a distance and moving in fast, a small DRONE. It weaves it's way through the tangled mess and closes in on it's target; Starseer.

7AP

A massive laser blasts out of a canon under Starseer's cityscape.

It pierces the drone.

The drone sparks, buzzes around for a second then explodes adding even more junk to the junk.

A light pulses from a port window high up in one of Starseer's many towers.

INT. STARSEER, INNER SANCTUM - CONTINUOUS

Multi level. Hundreds of empty hibernation pods line the wall. The other side of the pods look out to a massive drop down to god knows where.

At the end of this long walkway rests a large door ajar.

INT. STARSEER, ROYAL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

It's the pulsing light from outside. It's strobing from a panel attached to a pod, but this pod looks elegant compared to the rest. It's marked with a glyph that looks like a CROWN.

COMPUTER (V.O.)
(Nebularian dialect)
Back up systems at seventy five percent.

INSIDE THE POD

ZORN, The Crown Prince of Nebulon. He's quite elegant with sleek green colored skin. Bubbles froth in the pink goo. They curl up into his bat like nostrils and over his closed almond shaped eyelids.

COMPUTER (V.O.) (Nebularian Dialect) Disengaging hyper sleep.

AT THE FOOT OF THE POD

The Pod door Swooshes open. Zorn falls to his knees with a sickening thud. Pink liquid spills out. Its slurry drains through the grated metal floor to the level below. Its collective dripping echoes into the darkness.

Zorn spits up a mouth full of pink liquid and rests his back up against his steaming pod.

ZORN

(Nebularian dialect)

Don't No!!!

Disoriented, Zorn flails his arms around. Hovering out of the shadows is a round egg shaped DRONE with a small screen as a face.

DRONE

(Nebularian dialect)
Intaking air will be difficult at first my lord.

ZORN

(Nebularian dialect)
Where am I? Who or what are you?

DRONE

(Nebularian dialect)
This is Starseer, your royal coach.
You are Zorn of Nebular, Crown

Prince and Duke of the Five Spires.

Zorn looks to his hands, they tremble. He heaves up more pink liquid, labors to his feet and grabs ahold of the fancy decorative railing, examines the room in disgust.

ZORN

(Nebularian dialect)
I can not recall a thing.

DRONE

(Nebularian dialect)

Your memory will return in time.

Zorn struggles to his feet. The lights fade up, we can see the full scope of the room.

Zorn stumbles over to the port window.

ZORN

(Nebularian dialect) What happened here?

DRONE

(Nebularian dialect)
My mainframe has been wiped clean
of all but one entry from the
captain's log, dated two hundred
and fifty solar cycles ago.

EXT. STARSEER - CONTINUOUS

Zorn peers out a small pinpoint of a window surrounded by Interstellar space littered with abandoned space craft. Resting below Zorn's chambers is a dead landscape of small cozy looking buildings, twisting rail systems and steaming pipes.

CAPTAIN ZARDOW (V.O.)

(Nebularian dialect)
This is Captain Sarden Zardow, Star date five thousand and one.
Remaining energy has been assigned to pod twenty three. I have abandoned Starseer to the planet below.

A rising sun peeks over the breathtaking planet, Starseer continues its cosmic ballet.

CAPTAIN ZARDOW (V.O.)

(Nebularian dialect)

If you ever awaken and hear this message please know the others wanted a worse fate for you, but that would not be fitting of a Duke of the Five Spires. Please forgive us.

Zorn falls to his knees, looks to his hands. They tremble. Zorn spits up more pink liquid.

DRONE

(Nebularian dialect)
Energy will help you regain your senses.

Zorn surveys the hallway, heads down the corridor.

Row upon row of empty pods. The drone the only source of light in this dark tomb as they both cautiously tour the hall.

ZORN

(Nebularian dialect) There is nothing here.

DRONE

(Nebularian dialect)
Not nothing my Lord, there is one thing.

INT. STARSEER, DOCKING BAY - LATER

Several large freighters sit in disrepair. The launch bay is covered in bright glowing tiles. Some are burnt out, some flicker.

A small purple ship rests in the middle of the bay with it's ramp extended. Service drones attach hoses and service the old rickety craft.

Clad in a full flight suit, Zorn strides down the ramp of the purple ship to meet the drone. He bites off a piece of green jerky, chews it up with vigor. He runs his hands along the joists of the ramp, studies the metal, tests it's sturdiness.

DRONE

(Nebularian dialect)
Time has compromised the integrity
of this Starcraft. You will not
survive re-entry. It is not
advisable to try and pilot it until
your memory returns--

ZORN

--As long as my aim is true I can guide this hunk of metal to any of the craft in this cursed place. Are any operational?

The drone projects a map of the immediate area.

DRONE

(Nebularian dialect)
I'm detecting a power source two kilometers from here.

The holographic map zooms in to a shuttle with a lot of character.

SHUTTLE WITH A LOT OF CHARACTER:

This is THE RAVEN, a terrestrial research class ship. It looks like a Nasa space shuttle with a paint job and a ton of mods.

DRONE

(Nebularian dialect)
My sensors are not fully
functional, what awaits you there
can not be determined.

ZORN

(Nebularian dialect)
I must acquire that ship.

INT. SCOUT SHIP - CONTINUOUS

Zorn loads up: holsters a sleek laser pistol, drapes himself in a string of proximity mines, straps on a pack of supplies.

The Drone floats out of the darkness for one last goodbye.

DRONE

(Nebularian dialect)
I have routed the rest of the stations energy to your scout ship to ensure your survival. For honor.

Zorn bows his head in a show of respect.

DRONE

(Nebularian dialect)
May the gods favor you on your journey my l...o...r...d...

The drone powers down. Zorn cradles the drone in his arms, carries it up the ramp.

EXT. SPACE

The shear size of Starseer is laid bare as the small purple ship darts over it's city scape and off into the distance toward the massive ring of derelict ships and twisting metal.

Zorn pilots the purple ship through the chaotic clutter to...

His target. A pin of warm light flickers from the windows of the Raven. A sliver of life in the darkness, it's the only thing in this sprawl of tumbling tumble weeds that is NOT tumbling.

INT. SCOUT SHIP - CONTINUOUS

A parade of mostly red flashing lights, some flicker, some pulse. Good lord. Ship systems beep and hiss, it won't hold together for long...

Looking through the massive cockpit window, Zorn closes in on the target.

ZORN

(Nebularian dialect)
Caught in my sight.

EXT. SPACE

The Raven is covered in white tiles, black soot and debris shoot into space as a large gun turret emerges from a trap door under the ship, it scans for a moment then locks on to the purple scout ship.

FOOMP...FOOMP

The turret kicks back as a barrage of energy blasts dart their way toward the target.

The purple scout ship takes evasive maneuvers, it sways, by one blast, two blasts, then... BANG, the last blast hits the side of the ship.

INT. SCOUT SHIP

Bathed in red light, Zorn looks out in horror as another flurry of blasts head straight for him.

He grabs anything within reach, his string of grenades, his pistol and hits a large red button.

EXT.SPACE

Zorn catapults out of his scout ship.

BANG

The ship is turned to space dust in a fiery explosion as Zorn hurtles toward the Raven.

FOOMP...FOOMP

Another flurry of blasts whiz by him.

Out of the turrets range now, He slides along the top of the Raven, clawing for any loose edge as he tumbles along, his suit scraping and tearing as he goes. Just before sliding off into oblivion, he catches the edge of a worn tile and holds on for dear life, but he's taken some damage.

He shimmies his way across the toasted white tiles to a docking bay door as air shoots out of his suit in a fine stream.

Zorn floats to the door and a frosty window.

He peeks in only to see a face looking back at him.

This is the face of the one and only LEEVON MOSS(55) A rambling snake oil salesman sporting a killer mustache. Looks like the kind of quy would have owned a ranch in 1978.

Leevon taps a large energy rifle on the glass.

Zorn returns the jest by holding up a string of grenades, presses a button down on his helmet.

ZORN

(Nebularian Dialect)
Open up or I'll send us to meet our ancestors!

Leevon looks down at the stream of air squeezing out of his space suit, steps away from the door.

Dead silence. Zorn looks around the corner for other options, then...

CLICK

The docking door hisses, jets of air shoot out from its seams.

Zorn cautiously grabs the handle and gives it a turn.

INT. THE RAVEN, HOLDING BAY - CONTINUOUS

Zorn falls to his knees as the air continues to shoot out of his suit.

From an intercom on the wall...

LEEVON (V.O.)

You've got five seconds to put that string of god knows what kind of hell you're packing on the floor!

INT. THE RAVEN, BRIDGE

Well lived in. Leevon sits in the Captain's chair looking into an old square screen. On the screen, Zorn is on his knees gasping for air.

Appearing over his shoulder is MAUDE MOSS(45) a street smart bookworm, her face full of concern. Draped around her neck is a thick leather cord with a metal whistle clipped to the end. Cradled in her arms rests a plushy pink fur-ball fast asleep. This is LU LU, looks like a cat and a badger had a baby.

LEEVON

Stay down.

INT. THE RAVEN, DOCKING BAY

Zorn drops his string of mines, close to unconsciousness now.

ZORN'S P.O.V.

We see a small camera mounted to the ceiling, it gets blurry then...

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. THE RAVEN, MEDICAL BAY - LATER

Zorn's almond shaped eyes shoot open as he flails around in a flurry of white linen and scoots up against a solid metal head board, darts his eyes around the room.

He's in a cell with an orange force field.

Maud appears and types a few digits into a console. The force field disappears.

MAUDE

Hmm, you look different in person.

ZORN

(Nebularian dialect)
Planning to throw me out into space?

MAUDE

You tried to blow us up.

ZORN

(nebularian dialect)

There was no time.

MAUD

You should be dead.

ZORN

(Nebularian dialect) Save your pity female.

Zorn comes to realize he's been communicating clearly since she arrived.

MAUDE

Nobody refers to us as females around here.

Zorn leans forward in interest.

ZORN

Rather formal, but you speak well enough, you must have a second tongue.

Maud holds up her wrist, a universal translator. Zorn looks to his wrist, he's been fitted with one.

MAUDE

It's the next best thing. We tracked you coming out of that space station up in that pile of junk out there. It's protected tighter than a pirates coin purse.

Maude pokes and prods Zorn to get a sense to his vitals.

ZORN

If you are going to destroy me or digest me, what ever it is you hairy things do, get it over with.

Maude grabs a frilly pink and purple housecoat out of a closet, chucks it at Zorn who catches it.

MAUDE

Eat you? Nah, we've got enough to eat. Things that shine and sparkle? Now that's another matter.

INT. THE RAVEN, BRIDGE

We follow behind Lu Lu, she runs under a table and chairs, through vestibule, up a small set of carpeted stairs and a circular lounge area.

Across the room an elevator door opens. Out steps Maud, then Zorn clad in Maud's frilly housecoat.

Leevon helms the ship in a large comfy leather recliner, his feet up on a large blinking and buzzing console.

LEEVON

I thought I told you to keep that damn thing off my bridge.

Zorn lags behind Maude, he examines the space.

MAUDE

You're the one who asked for him.

LEEVON

Not him, the rug with feet.

Lu Lu is cozying up on Leevon's leg.

MAUDE

Here girl.

Lu Lu runs to Maude and jumps in her arms. Leevon spins in his chair to face Maude and Zorn. He's holding the same laser rifle as before, it's never far away from him.

LEEVON

Have a nice nap princess? Cute robe.

ZORN

Quite honorable of you for not dispatching me into space.

LEEVON

Yeah well, my wife wanted to leave you in that cell, not me though.

ZORN

Your life partner is wise.

Leevon can't help but be enamored by Zorn's tenacity.

LEEVON

No one, and I mean no one has ever pulled a stunt like that on me before in my life. And I haven't heard a fart over any radio or frequency coming from that place until today.

ZORN

Starseer?

Leevon leans forward in his chair.

LEEVON

Starseer...

ZORN

What do you call it?

LEEVON

A gold mine, figuratively speaking. right doll?

MAUDE

The jewel of the ring.

LEEVON

I never thought it would fall right into our lap! What I mean to say is... You have access to whatever locks that place up or else you wouldn't be here. You scratch my back, I scratch yours. Unless you prefer the escape hatch? Should we be worried?

Leevon aims his laser pistol at Zorn.

ZORN

You make a good point, hairy one.

LEEVON

Call me Leevon, my friends call me Lee. The fastest man in the quadrant, bard of the south sea. So many names really. I also make a pretty mean pot roast, ain't that right?

MAUDE

The best.

ZORN

What is this scratch your back? Do you have epidermal irritation?

LEEVON

You help us and I'll get you down to the surface. You won't get that from the others.

ZORN

Are there more hairy ones like you on the ship?

LEVON

Not here no, but some of my former co-workers. Some real scoundrels. They've got all the fancy gadgets and they're closing in fast right doll?

MAUDE

As we speak.

LEEVON

Good thing we got to you first. You do NOT want to meet those guys, let me tell you. So what do you say? We gonna do this?

Zorn stands at salute, trying to remember exactly how it went, just making it up as he goes at this point.

ZORN

I am Zorn, Duke of the Five Spires, whatever that means, You seem honorable enough. I will help you on your quest, as long as you um, scratch my back.

LEEVON

Fantastic news! A Prince huh?

Leevon catches his excitement.

LEEVON

I think you were in stasis for too long...or you were dropped on your head.

ZORN

Dropped on your head? It sounds like a right of passage. Is this what you do hairy one?

LEEVON

I could get used to this.

Leevon rises to his feet and admires the brilliant mess of a kitchen on the other side of the large open space, and a mountain of dishes piled sky-high.

LEEVON

This does not look presentable at all, no sir. How are your hands?

ZORN

My hands?

INT. SHUTTLE, KITCHEN - LATER

Finishing up the last of the dishes, it looks like a completely different kitchen.

ZORN

--What about the hairy one? Does he help with these menial tasks?

MAUDE

Never, but now I have you to help me. We appreciate it, right Lu Lu?

Lu Lu jumps up on the counter and chirps a cute burble their way.

MAUDE

We always want the place to look nice for our guests.

ZORN

I'm flattered.

MAUDE

Not you, my boy. Well, Leevon's boy. He does a lot for us.

Maude points up to the wall, there mounted on the wall is a

FRAMED PHOTO

Leevon wearing a big smile with Maude and Lu Lu, beside him is WILLIAM MOSS(28) Caption of the football team douche bag.

MAUDE

It'a been tough since we've been stationed out here, on him especially. Our ship mates have been getting closer and closer so I need him here you know, just in case. Now that your here though, things are looking up.

Maude stacks the last of the plates in the cupboards, dries her hands.

MAUDE

That just about does it.

ZORN

Us Nebularian's require a certain level of comfort.

Lu Lu jumps out of Maude's hands and runs into the common area.

Then...

The interior buzzes a proximity alarm.

Relief washes over Maude.

MAUDE

She knows when her boy is home.

ON A MONITOR...

A decent sized ship approaches, it looks similar to the shuttle.

INT. THE RAVEN, DOCKING BAY

Leevon and Maude with Lu Lu in hand stand next to the docking bay door with big smiles. Zorn stands just out of sight.

Leevon operates the intercom.

LEEVON

You got anything nice for me?

Leevon presses some buttons, pulls a large analog lever. The Door HISSES and rolls open.

Bathed in a cloud of steam, William emerges. He's in full tactical gear, a little overkill for scavenging.

Lu Lu leaps out of Maude's arms and throws herself at Will, he catches her and playfully scratches her head, rubs her belly, he's surprisingly gentle with her.

Maude embraces Will in a warm hug. Leevon doesn't hug his son, he stands stoic, a playful punch to the shoulder.

Will doesn't have as much as he usually does, one bag. Leevon looks his son up and down with disappointment.

LEEVON

A little light?

WILL

It's just not what it used to be out there Pap. its'--

Zorn has caught Will's eye, they've become quiet. Zorn backs further into the shadow.

Will drops his bag and pulls his pistol, points it at Zorn. Leevon, as quick as a can be puts his hand over the pistol, forces will's aim towards the floor.

LEEVON

It's ok Zorn. He won't hurt you.

WILL

Zorn? Come into the light, let me have a look at you.

Zorn steps into the light, he's in full display. Will gets a full look at him and can't believe it.

LEEVON

(in a whisper)

Surprised?

WILL

(in a whisper)

Is that...

LEEVON

(in a whisper)

We hit the jackpot kid.

Will turns aways from them, a hint of a smile comes across his face.

INT. THE RAVEN, BRIDGE

Leevon takes up most of the sofa, sucks on a cigar, one of the few Will brought from his excavating. Maude's in the kitchen area looking through this weeks haul. Zorn plays with Lu Lu on his lap.

MAUDE

We've got enough for another week, maybe two.

LEEVON

It'll be enough for re-entry I
think.

Where's Will? The others are too distracted with the new shiny things to notice.

At the far end of the bridge we go, past the elevator, around a corner, we see Will heading into the darkness away from the rest of them, he takes a look around, and heads into...

INT. THE RAVEN, SUPPLY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Stacks of containers line the wall, a garbage chute occupies the corner, on the wall is large bulletin board with reminders and to-dos written in attractive hand writing, no doubt Leevon's.

Will looks to the board, there a a small run of keys. One in particular, a red colored key. Written on the key ring in big bold letters:

Security Override

FOOT STEPS grow louder and louder they stop at the door...

Will grabs the keys and pockets it.

WOOSH

The door opens. Standing in the doorway is Maude.

Will jumps to attention, turns to face her.

MAUDE

What are you doing back here?

WILL

Oh, just taking inventory for the next run.

MAUD

Uh huh. Lu Lu needs you.

INT. THE RAVEN, BRIDGE- CONTINUOUS

Lu Lu is still on Zorn's lap. Leevon blows a bit of smoke in Zorn's face, he recoils in disgust, tries to push the smoke away.

ZORN

I don't know how you can ingest that.

LEEVON

It's for celebration.

Will approaches Zorn, and grabs Lu Lu out of his hands.

WILL

Have you ever celebrated anything Demon?

7ORN

I do not like this word demon.

Will caresses Lu Lu's plushy pink fur.

WILL

Someone's hungry, yes! Yes you are!

Will takes Lu Lu down the stairs and out of site.

INT. DARK BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Darkness, except for a lit ember, it's flares to life as JACK ST. JAQUES sits in the captain's chair. Bathed in shadow, expect for his eyes, hooded, distinguished.

EXT. SPACE

From the shadow of the planet a menacing FRIEGHTER rises into view. It's lights pulse, flicker, then disappear. It's headed for the shuttle.

INT. THE RAVEN, SECURITY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Will sets Lu Lu down on a plushy carpet, a fancy porcelain bowl rests beside her, she GROWLS with excitement as Will pours a bag of food into the dish, she inhales it.

Will moves to a security console, he fires up the monitor. In the Monitor the menacing freighter is in site. With a sly grin Will pulls out the key and insert it in the console, turns the key. He types in a series of numbers.

ON MONITOR:

SECURITY PERIMETER DEACTIVATED.

EXT. SPACE

A small spacecraft shoots out from underneath the menacing freighter and disappears into the ring of debris. It dodges large pieces of space junk, in the distance the Raven's lights glow in the darkness, it's almost there.

INT. THE RAVEN, BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Will takes two steps at a time up onto the bridge.

WILL

Dad?

Leevon is busy looking over the rest of the spoils.

LEEVON

Where did you get these? I thought they didn't make them anymore.

WILL

Follow me, you too Maude, Zorn.

Leevon and Maude share a glance, what is he up to? Will zeroes in on Zorn.

WILL

(to Leevon)

Keep an eye on that thing will you?

LEEVON

What are you on about?

Confused, Leevon, Maude, and Zorn follow Will to...

INT. THE RAVEN, DOCKING BAY - CONTINUOUS

The lights turn and bath the area in a strobe. Will stops at the docking gate.

LEEVON

Why are the perimeter lights activated? Maude?

WILL

It'll be a couple minutes now.

Leevon moves over to the console on the wall...

On the console...

A graphic of a small ship approaches.

LEEVON

We are not expecting anybody...

WTT.T.

I am.

A chill washes over Leevon, He couldn't have.

The Docking bay fills with a PROXIMITY ALARM, the gate hissing as the small holes lining the gate shoot steam out in fine streams. It is chaos as the red light strobes in bands of thick of fog.

The docking bay door coils opens.

Stepping onto the ship...

the Scourge of the Cosmos, the one and only Jack St. Jaques, beside him are his number one and two, SAMMY TWO BARRELS and THE NIGHT

SAMMY TWO BARRELS, weapons expert, a wiry man wearing a double holster and two of the coolest laser pistols anyone has ever laid eyes on...

THE NIGHT, in heavy ninja gear, bathed in shadow, except for his eyes, glowing a brilliant purple.

WILL

I finally got my opportunity.

JACK

Leevon!

LEEVON

Get back!

Leevon pushes Maude and Zorn behind him and around the corner.

Leevon grabs his laser, aims true and fires, it's almost fully automatic.

A fire fight!

Maude and Zorn duck out of the way as lasers fly over their heads.

MAUDE

William! You are in big trouble!

LEEVON

You're breaking your mother's heart!

Sammy throws a pistol to Will.

WILL

She's not my mother!

He unloads on them.

JACK

Night, to shadow.

Night nods at Jack and cloaks, he completely disappears into the background, his only movements are slight temperature flux like hot radiating off of asphalt, he slithers across the docking bay and around the corner dodging Leevon's laser fire.

JACK

Give it up! You're cornered like the rat you are!

WTTıTı

Dad, please!

Two RUSTY CLAD MEN IN ARMOR rush on the shuttle take a garrison beside Sammy, lasers fly.

SAMMY

I taught you all your tricks amigo. Let's make this easy on everyone.

JACK

Nebularian! I finally found you...

Zorn looks to Leevon and Maude who share a concerned glance.

ZORN

What did you call me?

JACK

All we want is the Nebularian. My boys won't do a thing. You and the misses can be on your merry way.

Leevon keeps his rifle aimed high.

LEEVON

Never...

MAUDE (O.S.)

Um, dear?

Leevon turns to see Maude held by something, it's translucent, shimmering. It's The Night. He uncloaks revealing himself holding a dagger to Maude's throat.

Leevon lowers his rifle.

Zorn moves to restrain the Night, but he knocks him to the floor with one swift punch.

Jack lowers his rifle, Sammy does the same. Jack approaches Leevon, they are face to face now.

JACK

It didn't take much to get him on my side.

LEEVON

So, you never did go scavenging.

Leevon is devastated, as Will can't look him in the eye.

WILL

Do you understand how hard it's been out here for me while you and Maude play shut-in to the stars?

MAUDE

How dare you talk to your father like that!

LEEVON

No darling, that was good.

Will is still annoyed with his father over everything.

WILL

Can we just do this and get out of here?

Leevon looks to Will, utterly betrayed.

LEEVON

Get your freak off of my wife.

Jack nods at The Night, He lowers the blade and pushes Maude toward Leevon who catches her, they hold each other.

JACK

How long has he been on board?

LEEVON

--We're not telling you a damn thing (to Zorn)

Right?

Zorn turns his attention toward Jack with a new found determination.

ZORN

I do not know of what you speak pillager.

JACK

This is so stupid. Why are we fighting Leevon? It's so much easier if you don't fight. We can have it all, you and me. All of Starseer. Riches beyond our wildest imagination.

Leevon considers his offer, for not that long though.

LEEVON

You'll get your hands on Zorn over my dead body.

WILL

Dad, don't be stupid! This could work out great for you me and Maude.

LEEVON

You really don't know this guy like I do, do you?

Maude slowly runs her hand down the leather cord and grabs the whistle, with haste she raises it to her mouth....

SCREEEEE

A RUMBLE from the lower quarters, then large foot steps, closer and closer until a shadow envelopes them all. It's Lu Lu. She's morphed into a huge furry monster. Maude turns and points toward Jack and his henchman, all of them.

MAUDE

Get those damn dirty pirates off my ship!

Lulu jumps on the two rusty pirates, she incapacitates them. The Night moves quick but Lu Lu catches him in mid air and thrashes him against a metal wall.

LEEVON

I take it back! It can stay!

Sammy Two Barrels unloads on the creature, but the laser shots just bounce off, they ricochet all over the room and catch Jack in the shoulder who flies back.

He gets to his feet, grabs Will and they retreat into his small cruiser. Lu Lu blocks the door to the inside of the shuttle, there is no way they are getting in.

Maude grabs Zorn, turns to Leevon

MAUDE

Keep them busy will you?

In the chaos Maude and Zorn slip away.

The Night comes to and notices them escaping. He cloaks himself, rummages around the area until he find a grate in the floor, he pulls it up and disappears inside.

INT. THE RAVEN, ARMORY - CONTINUOUS

Maude and Zorn turn the corner, jump inside, Maude slams the door and bars it shut.

She heads to the rifle stand, grabs an unremarkable rifle and throws it to Zorn who catches it.

He examines the firearm, tests it's metal.

ZORN

You trust me with this female?

Maude grabs a rifle just as big as she is, pretty bad-ass.

MAUDE

Not really, but now's the time to prove yourself, Nebularian.

ZORN

By honor, I will try.

INT. THE RAVEN, DOCKING BAY- CONTINUOUS

Jack and Will peek through the glass.

Lu Lu is blocking the entrance into the shuttle.

Jack and Will are animated, hatching a plan of some kind.

Jack hands Will some food, they open the door.

Will steps out.

WILL

Oh Lu Lu?

Lu Lu pays no attention. Will reveals a nice big hunk of dried meat. Lu Lu gets a scent, she sticks her tongue out as he waves it around.

She approaches, slow at first then at a gallop, she jumps for the food, Jack and Will summersault out of the ship as Lu Lu flies right over them.

INT/EXT. JACK'S VESSEL - CONTINUOUS

She catches the food in her mouth and lands with the food, tears it to shreds, her attention is all on the food.

As she is busy eating, Sammy Two Barrels sneaks onto the vessel from behind her. He hits the button to close the door and jumps out just as the door slams shut.

Sammy rests his back up against the closed door, lets out a sigh of relief.

The two rusty pirates regain consciousness, slowly get to their feet, lasers up and ready, they continue the fire fight.

INT. THE RAVEN, DOCKING BAY - CONTINUOUS

Maude and Zorn Join Leevon at the door, they can't hold them off much longer.

From behind Zorn, Maude and Leevon. The Door Slams shut, then the other door. They are trapped.

From an intercom: a DEEP VOICE, unintelligible, electronic clicking. Jack looks up as if to study the noise, He understands it.

JACK Change of plans

Jack grabs on to something, the other pirates follow suit.

A sudden Jolt and everyone not bracing themselves loses their balance, the ship is taxiing to one side.

INT. THE RAVEN, BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

The Night has commandeered the shuttle. He's dodging all matter of ships and debris in the ring, he's headed toward Jack's Freighter.

INT. THE RAVEN, DOCKING BAY - CONTINUOUS

The Pirates pry the door open, they get the family and Zorn on their feet, Will, Sammy, and Jack all walk behind them.

Just before they are escorted out of sight Jack turns to the Rusty Pirates.

JACK

Watch her will you?

RUSTY PIRATE 1

RUSTY PIRATE 2
Anything for The Captain, my

Absolutely

Captain.

Jack rolls his eyes.

Behind the sealed door to Jack's small ship Lu Lu is still a massive frothing beast, she paws the window, a BANG, then another BANG, she created a large dent in the door, she continues to SMASH and BASH, it might just give way.

The two rusty clad men share a "holy shit" look.

INT. THE RAVEN, PRISON CELL - LATER

Will stands outside of the lock up cell. Maude's defeated and propped up against the cell wall. Zorn sits next to her, unsure how to proceed. Leevon faces his son on the other side of the orange force field, Will has his laser rifle drawn.

WILL

That whistle around your neck. It's a charm isn't it? I've never seen it before. Where did you get it?

MAUDE

The surface...

WILL

Where?

MAUDE

A woman is entitled to her secrets.

WILL

Hand it over.

MAUDE

You have a lot of nerve boy.

WILL

I can get Jack down here and pry it off you? It might as well be me,...mother.

Will puts his hand through the force field, opens his palm. Maude approaches and hands him the whistle. Will pockets it.

LEEVON

What happened to you down there?

WILL

I'm joining the Revelry. Your bounty will pay my way in. For what it's worth, I'm sorry.

LEEVON

Me too.

Zorn seethes with disappointment.

ZORN

You bring shame to your family!

Will bangs the side of the cell with his rifle.

WILL

You'd be best to watch your tongue.

INT. THE RAVEN, DOCKING BAY- CONTINUOUS

One of the rusty pirates approach the closed door

BANG BANG BANG

Lu Lu is going to get loose!

RUSTY PIRATE 1

Um, Guys?

SMASH

Lu Lu breaks out and lunges at the Rusty Clad Pirates.

His face fills with fear.

RUSTY PIRATE 1 For the Revelry!!

RUSTY PIRATE 2 For the Revelry!!

They aim to shoot but Lu Lu is on top of them too fast.

She tackles both of them, They shoot their laser rifles wildly, it ricochets through the room, into the main bridge area and hits a large box which sparks, the lights dim, then...

BLACK

Power has been lost.

INT. THE RAVEN, PRISON CELLS - CONTINUOUS

A RUCKUS from upstairs, SCREAMING, LASER BLASTS. All hell has broken loose. In complete darkness, the force field deactivates.

Leevon, Maude and Zorn jump out of the cell and make for the stairs. Will gets hold of his Dad and pushes Maude really hard Maude who flies down the stairs to the bottom and cracks her head on the solid metal floor. She's unconscious.

Zorn turns to run back...

Will grabs his father and pins him to the ground.

LEEVON

Get out of here Zorn! Get to the surface! You have to remember who you are!

Leevon's words hit him like a train.

Zorn disappears into the shadows. He leans down and tends to Maude.

LEEVON

Darling?

WILL

Save it! Let's go Dad.

Will Picks him up and carries him up the stairs with a rifle to his back, then...

The emergency power kicks in, everything is bathed in a red light. Will hurries up the stairs.

INT. THE RAVEN, BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Will enters the Bridge and throws his dad to the floor. The Night pilots the ship while Jack sits next to him.

Sammy busts onto the bridge as the last of the pirates are getting mauled by Lu Lu. Sammy tries to take her down but the lasers just bounce off. He falls to the floor. She turns and sees Will, she runs at him.

Will takes the whistle out of his pocket, puts it to his lips and blows

SCREEEEE

Lu Lu in mid air reverts back to the cute little fluff ball. Will catches her. Lu Lu gives him lots of kisses.

WILL

Someone has been a bad girl! Yes they have!

JACK

Where is the Nebularian!

WILL

He couldn't have gotten far.

JACK

If he gets away, I'll hold you personally responsible.

(to The Night)

How long until we are at my ship?

NIGHT

(bionoid dialect)

Fifteen, twenty minutes my captain.

JACK

Sammy?

Sammy throws his arms up holding two massive canons.

SAMMY

I'll find your Nebularian, no sweat. I'll even box it up for you.

LEEVON

You have no idea what you are dealing with do you?

Jack gives Leevon a knowing look.

JACK

He was locked away for a reason...

Sammy motions to his pride and joy, he holds up his cannons, Hate inscribed on the left cannon, and Love inscribed on the right one.

SAMMY

It hasn't met the Misses yet!

JACK

Bring him to my feet. Can you do that?

SAMMY

With pleasure my captain!

Sammy kisses his barrels and disappears into the elevator Leevon looks up at Jack

JACK

I never thought you'd find him before me.

Leevon gives Jack a smirk.

INT. THE RAVEN, CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Zorn appears rising from the floor of a access port ladder from the lower deck. He makes it to his feet, we see that he is carrying an unconscious Maude, he makes his way through down the corridor and an access door.

On the other side of the Door, Sammy strolls by, guns drawn. Zorn slows his pace and waits for him to pass.

Cautiously, Zorn pushes the handle and the door opens. He makes his way to...

INT. THE RAVEN, CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

At the far end of the corridor, a sealed door with a sign over it that reads:

Shuttle Bay Entrance

Just as Zorn gets to the door...

SAMMY (O.S.)

You disappoint me Nebularian.

Zorn turns to see Sammy, his canons pointed directly at them.

ZORN

She needs medical attention

SAMMY

Boo hoo. Turn around nice and easy, we're going to meet your savior.

ZORN

No

SAMMY

What did you say?

Zorn stands there a moment as if in a trance, he turns and faces Sammy. His eyes are pulsing with color.

Sammy tries to avoid his gaze it is inescapable.

They stand and stare at each other a moment, as if communicating telepathically. Sammy lowers his guns, gets in front of Zorn and escorts them down the hall towards the...

SHUTTLE BAY

The door STEAMS and rolls open into the metal wall. Sammy moves toward the shuttle bay, he stands guard as Zorn carries Maude towards the Jack's Vessel.

INT. THE RAVEN, BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Night scans the console, on one of the square monitors, Zorn is carrying Maude into Jack's ship as Sammy stands guard, his cannons raised.

NTGHT

(bionoid dialect)

We have a problem.

Jack jumps to his feet. Will looks on the monitor with terror, he self comforts by stroking Lu Lu's plushy fur.

Leevon looks to the monitor a slight smirk comes over him.

LEEVON

At a boy...

Jack grabs Leevon, a quick punch to the gut then picks him up.

JACK

Let's go old friend.

They all leave the bridge and hurry to...

DOCKING BAY

Jack labors up the dark hall. Leevon is pushed every few seconds in front as Will loiters behind them.

JACK

Where do you think you're going?

Sammy snaps to attention, without a shred of hesitation he opens fire on them, they jump out of the way as powerful lasers blacken and scold metal.

Zorn and Maude are almost all the way through the docking area and into Jack's ship.

JACK

(laughing)

You're an awful shot!

Jack motions to Will, get in there!

Will tries to sneak around the dark and out of sight as Sammy has his attention on Jack and Leevon.

JACK

Nebularian!

Zorn turns to face them, he is shrouded in darkness except for his strobing eyes.

JACK

Your crew!

This gets Zorn's attention.

JACK

I know where they are!

Zorn approaches them, He puts his hand up and Sammy stops shooting.

JACK

I can take you to them!

Just as Zorn goes to lower his guard he catches Will out of the corner of his eye, Will jumps toward Zorn. Zorn sees him at the last second. Zorn's eyes go funky again, the strobing has intensified.

Will stops, contorts for a second then, sullen. He is under Zorn's control. He walks towards Sammy who hands him one of his canons, they both start firing in the direction of Jack, he has two now!

Jack falls to the floor to avoid laser fire.

Leevon gets out of his grip and runs towards Zorn.

Sammy and Will aim at him, as if considering his threat level, they allow him to run past as they continue to blast lasers in Jack's direction.

ZORN

Keep him there.

Leevon approaches Zorn, looks him in the eye, waves his hand across his face.

LEEVON

Zorn?

Zorn ignores him, he's frightening.

ZORN

She's suffered a skull fracture.

Zorn hands Maude to Leevon who takes his wife in his arms, look on her with sadness.

ZORN

Get her inside hairy one.

Zorn looks to Leevon.

LEEVON

I was wrong about you Nebularian.

ZORN

Have I proven myself?

LEEVON

Get us outta here in one piece. All of us, Will included then yeah.

ZORN

I apologize for this Leevon.

Leevon and Zorn look to Will and Sammy who are thoughtless zombies turning the docking bay into scorched earth.

ZORN

He shouldn't remember a thing.

LEEVON

That's a shame.

Leevon looks around, he's missing his home in the stars already.

Leevon turns and heads into the Jack's Vessel, as something brushes up against his leg and jumps up on to Maude, It's Lu Lu. She licks her face, whimpers.

LEEVON

Me too fur ball, me too.

They disappear into Jack's Vessel.

Zorn releases Will from his mind control, he faints as Zorn grabs him. Sammy continues to lobs volley after volley of laser fire in Jack's direction.

JACK

This is your last chance Nebularian!

Zorn ignores him, turns and heads for Jack's Vessel.

The Vessel departs Jack struggles to get ahold of something. The damaged docking door will not close, Sammy continues to fire he puts up no fight and he's sucked out into space.

The Rusty Pirates try their best to hold on.

RUSTY PIRATE 1

RUSTY PIRATE 2

For the Revelry!

For the Revelry!

They lose their grip and are sucked out. Jack hangs on for dear life.

JACK

Nebularian!!

INT. JACK'S VESSEL - CONTINUOUS

Zorn lays Maude down on the floor, Lu Lu jumps up on her chest and lays down to sleep. Will is restrained in one of the seats, he's passed out cold.

LEEVON

Can you do that thing with your eyes?

Zorn's look says it all.

ZORN

Starseer has a medical bay.

LEEVON

Hang In there darlin'

EXT. SPACE - CONTINUOUS

Jack's Vessel turns toward Starseer.

INT. THE RAVEN, DOCKING BAY - CONTINUOUS

Jack inches his way to the door leading to the bridge, he gets past it and hits a big red button, the door closes.

EXT. SPACE - CONTINUOUS

The raven fires up and follows Jack's vessel.

FOOMP FOOMP

It blasts a round of lasers, the vessel dodges one of the volleys then..

FOOMP FOOMP

BANG!

A direct hit! The vessel smokes and sparks, it loses control and lists back and falls toward the planet.

INT. THE RAVEN, BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

The Night is tracking the vessel, He presses a couple of buttons, a few more blasts graze the vessel.

Jack barrels onto the bridge and get into the Night's business.

JACK

Stop firing you fool!

NIGHT

(bionoid dialect)

Apologies.

JACK

Follow them, but don't make it look like you are.

NIGHT

(bionoid dialect)

Affirmative.

EXT. SPACE - CONTINUOUS

The shuttle lays off. The freighter gains ground as it enters smoking and sparking into the atmosphere. The shuttle disappears as the sky turns from the darkness of space to a hazy blue.

INT. JACK'S VESSEL - CONTINUOUS

The cockpit is lit up like a Christmas tree, panels smoke, an annoying alarm is unrelenting.

LEEVON

Hang on to something!

The shaking of the ship awakens Will who looks likes he's completely lost. He jumps in his seat, he flails to loosen his ties, it doesn't work.

EXT. PLANET SURFACE, GRASSY PLAIN - CONTINUOUS

The vessel hits the ground. The collision peels back the earth and throws grass up, It rains back down as it flies across the plain digging itself deeper into the ground until it comes to a slow grinding stop at the foot of a large hill.

INT. JACK'S VESSEL - CONTINUOUS

Dust fills the space, bands of light come through the port windows. Will struggles in his seat. Leevon jumps out of his chair and sees to Maude.

Zorn towers over Will, gets in his face.

ZORN

Are you going to behave yourself young one?

Zorn's eyes start to change colour again, then back to how they were.

WILL

What did you do to me?

ZORN

(sotto)

Some minds are easier to control than others.

WILL

You are smooth, I'll give you that. Played my dad like a fiddle, didn't you demon?

ZORN

I know nothing, William Moss.

Zorn undoes his restraints, helps him up to his feet. He gives Will a smile, one that we haven't seen before, it's mischievous. Is he hiding something?

Leevon picks up Maude.

LEEVON

We have more important things to worry about.

Will looks on Maude with regret.

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

Zorn exits the vessel with Will who's in shackles. Leevon steps out next to him with Maude in his arms, Lu Lu sniffs and scampers around them.

The group looks to the large plain, an adventure awaits.

LEEVON

Hold on Darlin', we're going to go meet an old friend.

They venture forth.

TO BE CONTINUED...