

POOR BASTARD

Written by

Ryker Piccard

FADE IN:

INT. SPACESHIP HALLWAY

Frantic footsteps clang and echo. Huffing and puffing.

Human screams and inhuman screeches get louder and louder. Pulse rifles fire in the distance. Sirens blaring.

CAPTAIN  
(under breath)  
C'mon, c'mon!

\*BEEP\* \*BOOP\* \*BEEP\* \*BEEP\*

ROBOTIC FEMALE VOICE  
Blast door closing in 3...2...1

Large metal slam. It's quiet.

ROBOTIC FEMALE VOICE (CONT'D)  
Cafeteria blast door now closed.

Captain sighs in relief.

CAPTAIN  
Poor bastards...

A tinny metallic banging from the other side.

BINK BINK BINK

CONTROL PANEL VOICE  
(static-y)  
Please! If there is anyone on the  
other side of this blast door.  
PLEASE! Open it, dear God open it!

Captain groans- hesitant throat sounds. The two-way intercom beeps.

CAPTAIN  
I have very strict orders to-

CONTROL PANEL VOICE  
CAPTAIN!? Is that you? Can't you  
override official orders? Please! I  
have a wife and kids, I'm gonna be  
killed in here.

CAPTAIN  
That life-form can mimic human  
speech and movement!

(MORE)

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

You understand, don't you? If I open this blast door I could potentially damn the rest of the crew!

CONTROL PANEL VOICE

Captain... This... organism rips into your skin and wriggles through your entire body! It's the most painful death I've ever seen. Have mercy on me!

CAPTAIN

I... I just can't. I'll stay with you as long as I can. What's your name?

CONTROL PANEL VOICE

Rikard. Private First Class.

CAPTAIN

Rikard. Stay strong, soldier. Your sacrifice won't be made in vain.

RIKARD

So you've condemned me, is that it?

CAPTAIN

I just can't take the risk Rikard. I could damn all of humanity. Remember your wife and kids? What if they were assimilated? Think about them. Stay strong, the rest of the bridge and I are gonna gather our resources and hopefully assemble a rescue party.

RIKARD

(dejected)

Do you have a pulse rifle?

CAPTAIN

Why?

RIKARD

Perhaps if you just opened the blast door a little bit and shot through...

CAPTAIN

The organism isn't neutralized with just one or two shots.

RIKARD

Not the organism, shoot me. Or what if you opened it a little bit, and I stuck just my head through.

CAPTAIN

You want me to kill you? A fellow crewmate?

RIKARD

Have you seen this thing assimilate and multiply? It's a fate worse than death.

The sound of a far-off generator powering down.

CAPTAIN

What was that?

RIKARD

It got into the generator room. The lights just went off here.

CAPTAIN

Are you a religious man?

RIKARD

I'm not.

Rikard gasps and cries.

RIKARD (CONT'D)

(whisper)

It's here. Right behind me. Save me, please.

CAPTAIN

Heavenly father. Commit brother Rikard's body to the deep.

Rikard screams. The sound of flesh tearing.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

To be turned into corruption. Until his soul flickers in stardust.

More screaming and tearing.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in the heavens as it is in heaven, amen.

Metallic footsteps trot away. Captain huffs and puffs.

We follow Captain down the corridor.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)  
Hello, bridge command? Open this  
blast door, I closed off the  
cafeteria.

CONTROL PANEL VOICE  
Captain! We're sorry! You took so  
long we thought you were  
assimilated!

CAPTAIN  
It's fine, just open the doors now.

CONTROL PANEL VOICE  
We can't... We're detaching the  
bridge from the rest of the ship.  
Don't worry, we'll send a rescue  
party in the next day or two. Stay  
strong!

The sounds of the bridge detaching from the ship can be heard  
over sirens.

FADE OUT.