FADE IN:

INT LOUR'S WORLD- NIGHT

BRIAN, and RICK work alongside JOI. They are all in their mid to late 20s. All four wear professional business attire.

They are in a store: cases of health and beauty products,

The two guys lean over a counter of earrings and jewelry. Joi, on the other side of the counter, does a quick inventory.

    RICK
    Come on, it's getting late.

Joi types on her computer as fast as she can.

    JOI
    Almost done.

Brian looks at his watch. Rick lightly shoves his shoulder in a private joke.

    BRIAN
    I want to get drunk.

    RICK
    You are drunk.

    BRIAN
    I want to get more drunk.

    RICK
    Holding everyone up, Joi.

Joi signs off, puts her computer to sleep.

    JOI
    Where's the fire?

    RICK
    You could have wrapped it five minutes ago.

    JOI
    You guys can cut corners all you like, but I don't.
RICK
One time one night isn't going to kill you.

JOI
Yeah. Like the last time. Who saved your ass?

RICK
Did you save it again?

Joi flips him the bird.

BRIAN
Pretty finger.

Joi waves the finger at Brian.

BRIAN
Is that for both of -

A massive light overwhelms them. They turn to face it.

Whiteout.

INT. SPACE SHIP - DAY

Joi asleep next to Brian and Rick. On metal tables.

Plastic clear sheets over their clothes.

The room they are in: sterile white with three corners.

A MAN-SIZE SPACE ALIEN whose head is a mess of vegetable that holds together two partial upside down HUMAN SKULLS approaches. Thorns hang from his arms.

Plant-Alien observes the three bodies before him. His mouth drools. Carrot root-like fingers tap along the plastic sheets.

A low growl.

Joi's eyes open.

Plant-Alien cranks his head down, howls. Dribbles spit on her forehead.
Joi squirms. She can't get off the table.

Plant-Alien grasps a phallic syringe.

Giant bee stinger of a needle.

INT. SECTION B GREENHOUSE – DAY

Under the cover of giant mushrooms, a man decomposes into a leaf vegetation. The Spinach Man does not have an upside down double skull.

Cracks of small light between mushrooms.

Low illumination.

About two yards away:

Joi wakes up next to TED (30s). Both are battered, clothes torn and dirty.

Joi glances to the Spinach Man off in the distance.

Joi
He hasn't moved.

TED
Good.

Joi
We haven't moved

TED
Needed the rest. As long as we don't touch those things above–

Joi

TED
Alright. We're not going back to ask him.
JOI
No, I'm not suggesting that. But what I remember, bits and pieces. That thing over there helped jog my memory. Only-

TED
What?

JOI
It's different. It the thing I remember. It had these skulls-

SYD (O.S.)
(calls out)
Whatever you do, don't go back there and don't stand up!

JOI
Someone there?
(loud)
Who's out there? Where are you?

SYD (O.S.)
Keep moving forward, towards my voice. Don't touch the spinach men. Don't stand up.

ALEX (O.S.)
Do as he says! Please!

Ted and Joi crawl to the source of the voices.

JOI
Is that him up there? I see someone.
(loud)
I see you!

Far ahead: a man crouched low.

SYD (O.S.)
That's not me. Stay away from him.

As Ted and Joi get closer, the person before them is another Spinach Man.
TED
He's in the way!

SYD (O.S.)
Get around him!

JOI
How far ahead are you!

ALEX (O.S.)
When you get past the second spinach guy, keep moving! Me or Syd will let you know when we see you! We'll be at your right!

(beat)
I'm Alex!

The Second Spinach Man, eyeless holes stare back at Joi and Ted.

Ted lets Joi go first.

Joi carefully moves around the Spinach Man. The thing does not react to her.

Joi looks up. Dark umbrella over them all.

INSERT
Her right foot drags forward.

Inches away from the Spinach Man.

BACK TO SCENE

Ted advances.

Joi watches him. Her gaze falls on the back of the Spinach Man.

Merged with the thing: RICK, His face frozen in fear.

Joi kicks herself away.

Ted avoids the Rick-Spinach Man. Loose dirt spits on the body. Rick-Spinach Man comes alive. The heads turns around, the blank face zeroes on Joi.

The mouth opens. Alien high pitched howl.
ALEX (O.S.)
Move!

From above: a half decomposed body, half human, half plant falls behind Joi. She almost backs into it. She screams.

Joi And Ted scramble fast past the third Spinach corpse.

The Third Spinach Man shoots upright, vines and thorns dangle around him.

A human skeletal hand protrudes out of the Third Spinach Man's face as it delivers the same primal scream as the other.

ALEX
Right!

Between giant mushrooms: ALEX (20s) grabs Joi, pulls her in.

Ted follows.

MUSHROOM PATH

Alex and Joi keep low, as they zig-zag ahead of Ted.

SYD (20s) joins Ted, leads him forward.

SYD
Keep your head low, man!

Below them: a trail of candy and granola bar wrappers.

SYD
Just you two?!

TED
Yeah!

SYD
Crap!

JOI
We're going to lose them!
ALEX
No we won't! Follow the trail!

They head towards a bloody X over a vagina-like cave hole.

JOI
I'm not going in there!

ALEX
We all are!

He ducks in the opening.

INT. CAVE - MOMENTS LATER

It's five foot high and twenty feet wide. A small fire in the center.

A collection of cell phones, knick-knacks.

Syd and Ted enter. Alex lunges, hits Ted with a left hook.

Ted falls.

ALEX
Dumb son of a bitch! Nearly got us all killed!

JOI
It's my fault! One of those things. It had the face of someone I knew.

ALEX
Twitch just once on those guys, they'll snatch you up, take what they want and throw you back in Section A.

TED
How do you know that's where it starts?
ALEX
We don't. It's what we call it. Mushroom section is section B. We're on the edge of section C.

TED
Didn't need to hit me.

ALEX
Yeah I did.

JOI
Will they follow us?

ALEX
No.

SYD
They don't need to. You said you knew someone?

JOI
His name was Rick. I worked with him.

SYD
Rick. Know a Brian?

JOI
Yes.

Syd slaps a cell phone in her hand.

SYD
So I guess that makes you Joi with an I. This phone's Brian's. Battery's low, but it's informative.

JOI
He's alive?

ALEX
I don't think so.

JOI
Do you know what's going on?

ALEX
Not everything.
TED
What do you know?

ALEX
Alright. Whole bunch of people, different parts of the world, abducted by aliens all about the same time.

SYD
Not random either, as you noticed with your co-workers.

ALEX
But separated. Me and Syd, took us a day, I think. Two days to find each other.

TED
What do you mean?

ALEX
And that was over two days ago. But less than a week, that's for sure.

Syd nods.

SYD
Anyway, you can look at that video if you want, but I can tell you that the Spinach Guys are the aliens. Scavengers.

JOI
Scavengers?

SYD
We're fed to their pet plants here. After a period of time...

Picks up a dirty broken human femur.

TED
Seen bones all over. Sharpened up one, used it for walking around.
SYD
Good man. The aliens use them too. They just put them into themselves. The ones you saw? New arrivals, created by the mushrooms.

ALEX
Created?

SYD
Hey, I'm not a rocket scientist, I only know what I know.
(to Ted)
Sound like a fella who's been around.

TED
I was collecting phones, cameras.

SYD
Was?

JOI
He lost them.

ALEX
Nice going.

TED
Hey-

ALEX
Nevermind> I won't ask you go back to get them. Besides, if anyone else makes it this far, they might find your stash.

TED
You two pretty much stayed in this spot.

ALEX
We're a couple of trolls, pay the fine, cross over. At your own risk, of course.
JOI
Pay the toll to the troll.
Nice.

SYD
Fee is small. Spare granola bars, snacks. Even had one guy had Cherry frosted pop tarts. Any bones you collected will work too.

ALEX
Tattered clothes make good for the fires, sleeping.

TED
You're scavengers too.

SYD
No, we are survivors. Big difference.

INSERT: TITLE CARD
TO BE CONTINUED

FADE OUT.