

ALIENS: PATHOGEN PROTOCOL

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FADE IN:

1 EXT. ABANDONED CITY - ZONE RED 5 - DAY 1

A desolate skyline. Cracked buildings lean like dying beasts. The air hums, thick with static and ash.

SLOW PUSH IN on a half-buried human skull, sun-bleached and eroded. Sand swirls across it—then suddenly *melts into its sockets* like acid.

DISTANT VOICES filter in, distorted by radio interference.

DREW (V.O.)
(filtered, calm)
We're two klicks from entry point.
Stay within line. Myria, status?

CUT TO:

2 EXT. MAIN STREET - ZONE RED 5 - CONTINUOUS 2

Three figures in hazmat suits tread cautiously through toxic air. Their boots crunch glass and charred debris.

One of them, DR. MYRIA RANE, 40s, calm but alert, holds a scanning device. Her suit is sleeker, reinforced with medical-grade seals.

Next to her is DR. LEE ABARO, late 30s, confident, a bit cocky even behind the mask.

MYRIA
Readings are peaking... Something's
alive under this.
(beat, reading monitor)
Temperature spike. Organic heat
signature—thirty meters.

LEE
A rat? Or you think it's your
miracle again?

MYRIA
If it's real tissue, it's
replicating. Not decomposing.

Behind them, TESS and NAVI follow in silence, only visible through shadow and shifting sand.

Their presence is felt but not yet revealed.

A gust of wind blows.

Orange sand slaps against their suits like embers. Myria shields her visor.

DREW (V.O.)
(filtered)
Keep moving. You've got three
minutes of safe air left.

They stop.

Up ahead, a hunched figure stirs in the debris-human silhouette, coughing.

Myria slowly raises a hand.

MYRIA
Lee... tell me you see that.

Lee unslings his ion rifle, nods. They move forward—carefully.

CLOSER NOW, we see the figure is a MAN—ELIAS—covered in lesions, black veins bulging, holding a boy.

The boy is unmoving.

A WOMAN crouches near them, *glaring silently at the team—eyes sunken, mouth twitching.*

LEE
Eyes up. This might be bait.

MYRIA
We're not at war.

LEE
(cold)
Yet.

They step closer. The woman suddenly convulses, screaming gutturally. She lunges—

SPITS BLACK FLUID—it sprays across Myria's visor.

She stumbles back.
Lee fires a single shock pulse—BZZT—the woman drops dead.

MYRIA
Shit—she got me!

Lee grabs her, wipes the fluid off her visor with his gloved hand.

LEE
Doesn't look like breach. You okay?

MYRIA

(shaken)
Yeah. I think so.

Elias looks up now—*bloody and terrified*.

ELIAS
Don't... don't touch the boy... He's
not what he seems...

SMASH CUT TO:

3 INT. UNDERGROUND LAB - QUARANTINE BAY - LATER

3

STROBE LIGHTS. DECONTAMINATION SPRAYS.

A sterile chamber.

Myria steps out of a chamber.

Her mask is off.

Her eyes are glassy.

Tess and Navi begin to appear, removing gear. Drew stands
beyond the glass, watching.

DREW
Bring them in. And lock the door.

HARD CUT TO BLACK.

TITLE CARD: *PATHOGEN PROTOCOL*

4 INT. UNDERGROUND LAB - INTAKE CORRIDOR - MOMENTS LATER

4

Steel walls groan under pressure. Lights flicker above a
decontamination chamber.

The door hisses open as TESS and NAVI guide a hover-gurney
carrying Elias and his son, both restrained and twitching.

Waiting for them is DR. ANDREW "DREW" VOSS, 50s, the mission
commander.

His eyes are clinical, unreadable.

DREW
Any sign of breach?

TESS
The woman died before we entered.
Myria got hit—no suit damage.

DREW
Quarantine the boy. Separate bay.
Elias goes to Isolation 2.

Navi nods and types into her tablet. Automated doors hiss open ahead.

5 INT. UNDERGROUND LAB - DECONTAM SHOWER BAY - SAME TIME 5

MYRIA, stripped down to a sterile bodysuit, scrubs her face under high-pressure mist.

Her hands tremble slightly.

RAUL TEMBE, late 20s, clean-shaven and idealistic, waits just outside the shower pod, awkwardly trying not to stare.

RAUL
You sure you're good?

MYRIA
Not the first time something tried
to melt my face.

RAUL
I was supposed to be in pediatrics.
Ended up babysitting mutants.

Myria chuckles, dries her face, then looks at herself in the mirror—a flicker of black under her eye.

She blinks.

It's gone.

MYRIA
Let's get to work.

6 INT. HALLWAY - STORAGE DOOR - SAME TIME 6

DR. LEE ABARO walks briskly, holding a sealed chrome box with biohazard markings.

From the opposite corridor, JO TAZUMA, 30s, bold and sharp-eyed, intercepts him.

JO
What's in the box?

LEE
Piece of her. The one who spit on
Myria.

JO
(dry)
How romantic.

Lee smirks, presses his badge to the door lock. It slides
open into—

7 INT. UNDERGROUND LAB - REC ROOM / TEMP STATION - CONTINUOUS 7

A wide, sterile space repurposed with folding tables, coffee
dispensers, and portable terminals.

The mood is heavy.

Everyone watches as Lee steps in.

DEAN HARROW, 40s, rugged and quiet, nods at Lee. Their gaze
lingers a beat too long.

He quickly turns away as MARIN DOYLE, calm and focused,
scrolls through data on her monitor.

At the far end, TALIA QIN, 20s, young IT genius, sits
nervously beside her colleague, FELIX NYOKA, steady and
observant.

LUKA BRANDT, in his 40s, intense and strangely fascinated,
scribbles notes while watching Elias through a live feed on
screen.

JO
(to the room)
Welcome to day one of dying slowly
underground.

MARIN
That's optimistic. We could die
very quickly.

LUKA
If the parasite gestates through
temperature, we'll know soon.

Everyone quiets.

Lee opens the chrome box carefully. Inside: a sliver of muscle tissue, black-veined and slightly pulsing.

LEE

What the hell are we dealing with?

Silence.

Drew walks in, eyes sweeping over the team.

DREW

Elias spoke. Said the antidote is at *Usine*. But warned we'd be ambushed getting there.

He looks at Luka.

DREW (CONT'D)

Test that tissue. Dean-help Marin coordinate comms with satellite.

He turns to Jo and Felix.

DREW (CONT'D)

We split by morning. If something is gestating in that boy, we'll need a sample before it ruptures.

SMASH TO:

8 INT. ISOLATION CHAMBER - SAME TIME

8

Elias's son lies unconscious on a gurney.

The room hums.

The heart monitor BEEPS... then skips a beat.

A small shadow slithers under the bed.

9 INT. MEDICAL BAY - EXAMINATION ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

9

ELIAS lies unconscious, wrists strapped to the table, breathing uneven.

His skin is discolored-veins like black roots crawling under paper-thin flesh.

DR. DREW VOSS stands over him with a calm, almost reverent gaze.

TESS preps tools while NAVI assists, scanning Elias's vitals on a monitor.

DREW
(to himself)
He's been exposed longer than
anyone we've seen.

He lifts Elias's shirt—deep lacerations, *healed from the inside out*.

Organic material glistens beneath the skin—almost metallic.

DREW (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
This isn't just infection... it's
evolution.

TESS
What do you mean?

DREW
(quiet)
Get Luka down here. Tell him I need
a full bio-compatibility analysis.

Tess nods and exits. Navi hovers near the wall—watching Elias twitch, her finger hovering near the panic button.

10 EXT. LAB TERRACE - UPPER PLATFORM - SAME TIME

10

LEE stands in his suit, partially unzipped, on a rusted lookout deck.

A mounted long-range scanner/telescope faces the ravaged horizon.

He notes readings into his device.

Behind him, TALIA QIN, hoodie over her hazmat undersuit, steps up, sipping nutrient water.

TALIA
Wow. You spying on ghosts now?

LEE
Movement northeast. Something's
circling the rail line. Could be
scavengers—or worse.

TALIA
Could be wind and your paranoia
again.

She smirks, leaning close to the screen.

TALIA (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
 Why not just wait for the scream?
 Always easier to confirm danger
 with a corpse.

Lee doesn't reply. His gaze lingers a bit too long on a signal glitch blinking in the distance.

11 INT. OBSERVATION ROOM - NEXT TO QUARANTINE - SAME TIME 11

MYRIA stands before a reinforced glass window, looking into the adjacent chamber where Elias's son lies unconscious on a med-bed.

Dark bruises and vein patterns bloom across the boy's neck and arms.

RAUL sits beside her, logging vitals.

RAUL
 No fever. Vitals dropping. But
 there's no internal bleeding.

MYRIA
 It's subdermal necrosis... like the
 flesh is dying, but he's alive
 through something else.

She adjusts the feed, zooming into the bruises—they twitch, slightly, in rhythmic motion.

RAUL
 You think he's still conscious?

Before she answers, a voice behind:

DEAN (O.S.)
 You never blink when you look at
 patients like that.

They turn.

DEAN stands near the doorway, arms crossed, watching Myria.

DEAN (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
 You always loved puzzles more than
 people.

MYRIA
 (without looking)
 People are the puzzle.

Dean smiles faintly, steps closer—but Myria doesn't look away from the boy.

Her eyes are lit—not with fear, but *curiosity*. Professional obsession. The kind that ignores the world around her.

CAMERA PUSHES IN on the boy's bruises.

They pulse again—like a heartbeat. But deeper. Alien.

12

INT. MEDICAL ANALYSIS BAY - LATER

12

DREW stands over a sterile tray where a portion of Elias's tissue—taken earlier—is secured in a containment glass cell.

The skin piece twitches faintly, as if reacting to the environment.

LUKA BRANDT enters, pulling on his gloves, eyes gleaming with scientific curiosity.

LUKA
You called for a miracle?

DREW
I called for a dissection. Don't romanticize it.

LUKA
(grinning)
What's the difference?

He leans in and begins scanning the tissue under the molecular microscope.

LUKA (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
Hmm. Multiple protein chains. Self-repairing membrane.
It's not dying... it's *building*.
This is hive behavior.

Drew's eyes tighten.

DREW
Don't share findings with the rest.
Not yet. Especially not Jo or Myria.

LUKA
You're afraid of panic?

DREW
I'm afraid of distraction.

13

EXT. TERRACE PLATFORM - UPPER DECK - SAME TIME

13

LEE is seated now, his gloves off, examining a discolored human finger from a sealed container.

It's from Elias's wife.

The fingernail has mutated—*splitting into fine ridges like antennae*.

He takes a scan, frowning.

TALIA walks back over and sits beside him, a little too close. She nudges his shoulder, teasing.

TALIA

You always this serious when
holding a woman's hand?

LEE

(half-smiles)
That's not a hand. It's a warning.

She leans closer, brushing her fingers on his arm.

TALIA

You ever think of breaking ranks?
Doing what you want, not what Drew
tells you?

Lee stiffens, pulling slightly away.

LEE

He's my uncle. You don't cross
Drew. Not even with a whisper.

Talia raises an eyebrow, voice softening.

TALIA

Sounds like you already crossed
him... in your head.

Lee doesn't answer. He seals the finger sample back in its container, stands.

LEE

Get some rest. Tomorrow's not built
for flirting.

He walks off, the container under his arm.

Talia watches him go, her smirk fading into something unreadable.

CUT TO:

14 INT. OBSERVATION ROOM - SAME TIME 14

The boy's body convulses—once. No one sees it.

The heart monitor skips... then resumes.

15 INT. EXAMINATION ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT 15

MYRIA and RAUL work silently beside the boy's body, now pale and still.

A cold blue light pulses from the scanner above.

Raul applies gel to a handheld probe and gently presses it against the boy's abdomen.

The screen flickers.

RAUL

There's movement. Sub-dermal. Non-cardiac. It's rhythmic, though.

MYRIA

Parasite nest or centralized infection cluster?

RAUL

Could be both. Or... neither.

Myria leans in, studying the screen. Her eyes narrow.

MYRIA

That's not a heartbeat.

She zooms in.

The image shows something spindly, segmented, and pulsing inside—like a fetal form.

MYRIA (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

Whatever's in him... it's growing.

They exchange a look—unease settling between them.

16 INT. BUNK ROOM - LATER 16

Each team member lies in their assigned metal bunk, dim red lights pulsing along the ceiling.

Jo reads from a digital tablet.

Marin sleeps with her headphones in. Felix and Tess are back to back, dozing.

Talia types quietly on a wrist pad before shutting her eyes.

17 INT. COMMAND ROOM - CONTINUOUS 17

LEE sits across from DREW, who reviews Elias's audio log from earlier.

ELIAS (V.O.)
(distorted)
...Usine... old grid-beneath reactor
lines. But they wait there. They
don't want you to leave...

LEE
There's a corridor here, northwest
utility tunnels.
(points to map)
Matches what he described--collapsed
rail system leads to an abandoned
refinery. Could be "Usine."

DREW
He was half-dead when he said that.

LEE
Still gave more intel than command.
If there's a chance something's
there, we go.

DREW
We prepare the team for daylight.
And if we're not back by nightfall,
no one comes looking.

Lee nods, checking his weapon.

18 INT. DECONTAMINATION CLOSET - LATER THAT NIGHT 18

Dim green light. Myria opens the narrow door, steps inside.

Dean waits for her, already stripped of his hazmat undersuit.

They stand face to face in silence for a moment—then collide in a hungry kiss.

Their clothes hit the floor in quiet urgency. She presses him against the wall, breath ragged.

This moment isn't romantic—it's desperate.

A release between people who think they might die tomorrow.

Their breath fogs up the small glass window.

19 INT. QUARANTINE ROOM - SAME TIME

19

The boy's body lies perfectly still... until a single jerk ripples through his limbs.

His chest rises unnaturally, almost inflating—like something inside is testing its shape.

The veins on his neck darken... then start to branch out, thin and sharp under the skin like roots of a tree.

His fingers twitch.

Then—

CUT TO BLACK.

20 INT. UNDERGROUND LAB - COMMON AREA - EARLY MORNING

20

Dim lights brighten into sterile white.

The facility hums back to life.

DREW, already suited up in base gear, walks through the main corridor and stops at a small data terminal, where TALIA scrolls through logs.

She doesn't look up when he approaches.

DREW

You didn't sleep.

TALIA

(coolly)

Not tired.

DREW

You don't have to come with us. I'd prefer if you stayed here. It's not safe.

TALIA

Then why are you going?

DREW

Because no one else has clearance
to decide what happens if we find
the source.

Talia finally looks at him—no affection in her eyes, only distance.

TALIA

You didn't bring me to learn, Drew.
You brought me to obey.

She walks off, strapping her gear bag tighter.

21 INT. EQUIPMENT BAY - CONTINUOUS

21

LEE inventories weapons, radiation scanners, and comm devices. FELIX finishes calibrating a sensor pack nearby.

Lee calls out to Drew as he enters.

LEE

We should split the ITs. Felix with
us, Talia stays here with Jo. They
can keep lab comms open.

Drew glances around—but Talia is already approaching, locking her sidearm into place.

TALIA

I'm going. I can patch the
satellite uplink and monitor
seismic pressure if we get close to
the tunnels.

Lee and Drew exchange a look—Lee shrugs. It's clear she won't be stopped.

22 INT. DECONTAM CLOSET - EARLY MORNING

22

MYRIA wakes up alone, still in the corner of the closet. She slowly sits up, sore and flushed.

Dean is gone.

She wipes her face, tightens her uniform, and exits quietly.

23 INT. MEDICAL BAY - MOMENTS LATER

23

MYRIA joins DREW and TESS, who are prepping injection kits and emergency supplies.

Jo monitors Elias through a screen nearby.

MYRIA
Has he moved?

TESS
Not since 0400. Still unstable, but
no flatline.

DREW
We don't have time to wait for a
miracle. The boy stays under full
lockdown.

Myria walks to the screen—Elias's body looks thinner. His eyes flutter behind shut lids.

MYRIA
I should be the one who stays.

DREW
You're not.

MYRIA
I can study him. I've already seen
the symptoms.

DREW
That's exactly why you're coming.
If we find a second subject—or a
hive—you'll need to recognize it
fast.

DEAN enters, avoiding Myria's eyes.

Drew gestures to the group as the others begin to gather:

DREW (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
We leave in twenty. Dean, Lee,
Talia, Felix, Luka—gear up.
Jo, Marin, Raul, and Tess stay
behind. If something goes wrong,
you know what to do.

Everyone silently nods.

CAMERA PANS TO:

The boy, on the screen, eyes still shut... but his lips part slightly.

FAINT GROWL—non-human, guttural.

CUT TO:

24 EXT. LAB COMPOUND - SURFACE EXIT PLATFORM - MORNING 24

The sky is now gray-green, swirling with electrostatic clouds and dense acid fog.

A sudden gust of wind slams against the exterior hatch as it begins to open.

The exploration team stands suited up at the exit bay:

LEE leading, weapon slung across his shoulder

DREW, calm and watchful

DEAN, quiet, eyes occasionally drifting toward Myria

FELIX, checking his handheld scanner

TALIA, adjusting her earpiece

LUKA, wide-eyed, carrying a bio-sample kit

Lightning flickers in the clouds overhead.

FELIX

Radiation's jumping. Storm's pulling chemical debris from the upper layers.

LEE

We can't cross surface without suits cracking. Underground's our only shot.

DREW

Then we go through the drainage tunnels. Loop around and exit near the old metro shaft.

Lee bangs twice on the steel door, signaling.

Jo, Marin, and Raul appear briefly behind the glass, watching.

25 INT. UNDERGROUND LAB - CONTROL ROOM - SAME TIME 25

MYRIA watches the departure feed on the monitor. She squints, swaying slightly.

Her hand grips the table. Her pupils dilate for a moment—a wave of dizziness hits her hard.

MYRIA
(whispers)
Not now...

She exhales, steadies herself, then turns to Raul and Marin, who are still nearby.

MYRIA (CONT'D)
Raul—check the boy again. I want a second scan. Full-body, not just vitals.

RAUL
On it.

MYRIA
Marin—go with him. I don't want him in there alone.

Marin grabs her gloves and follows.

26 INT. IT CONTROL BAY - MOMENTS LATER 26

TESS walks into the IT module, where rows of glowing monitors hum and flicker.

She settles in front of the main panel, entering the tunnel access grid and activating the team's body cam feeds.

DREW'S VOICE crackles through her headset.

DREW (V.O.)
Tess, do you copy?

TESS
Got you, Commander. You're patched in. I'll guide your descent to the main tunnel.

DREW (V.O.)
Good. Keep the route clean and the door sealed behind us.

TESS
Already done.

The steel blast door to the IT room seals shut with a loud hiss.

A red light pulses above—*LOCKED FROM INSIDE*.

Tess leans forward, glancing at the biosign monitors, unaware that behind her, one feed—labeled: SUBJECT 02 (BOY)—*begins flickering*.

27 INT. SERVICE TUNNELS - SAME TIME

27

The exploration team descends into a tight, concrete tunnel system.

Their lights slice through dripping walls and graffiti-covered bulkheads.

LEE

Stay close. Tunnel narrows past
Sector C. No echo, no fallback.

Talia's breath fogs her visor.

TALIA

Anyone else feel like we just
entered something's throat?

No one laughs.

CUT TO:

28 INT. QUARANTINE OBSERVATION ROOM - SAME TIME

28

Raul steps into the quarantine bay with Marin. They approach the boy's body—still motionless.

RAUL

Alright, little man... let's see what
secrets you're hiding.

He places the scanner against the boy's chest.

THUMP.

Marin freezes.

MARIN

Did you hear that?

Another THUMP, heavier this time.

The scanner begins to spike.

29 INT. LABORATORY HALLWAY - EARLY AFTERNOON

29

MYRIA walks briskly through the corridor.

Her face is pale, and sweat beads at her brow.

She grips her arm tightly under her coat sleeve.

She enters a supply room, closes the door behind her.

30 INT. SUPPLY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

30

Dimly lit. Myria steps to a mirror above the wash station. She slowly pulls up her sleeve.

Her forearm twitches—a slight bulge ripples just beneath the skin.

She breathes heavily, rolls her eyes back toward the mirror. Her pupils are dilated, the veins under her eyes faintly darkened.

MYRIA
(whispers to herself)
No... not now.

A KNOCK on the door—then it creaks open.

JO stands in the doorway, cautious.

JO
Hey. Thought I heard someone in here.

Myria quickly rolls her sleeve down and turns.

MYRIA
Just grabbing something. I need to check on Elias.

JO
You okay?

MYRIA
(beat)
We might be dealing with a parasite. That could be what's replicating in them.

Jo studies her face.

JO
You sure you're okay?

Myria nods quickly and exits before Jo can ask more.

CUT TO:

31 INT. QUARANTINE BAY - ISOLATION ROOM - SAME TIME

31

RAUL leans over the boy's body, the scanner blinking erratically.

MARIN, across the room, adjusts a microscope mounted to the counter.

RAUL
His vitals are... rising. But the
heart's not beating. Something's
moving in there.

THUMP.

MARIN looks up.

MARIN
What was that?

RAUL
(quietly)
Inside his chest.

A LOW GROWL bubbles from the boy's throat.

Raul backs away slightly.

BZZZZZT- The monitor flashes red.

THUMP. THUMP. THUMP.

Then-

SPLAT!

The boy's belly explodes outward in a spray of black and pink viscera-something breaks through the skin, wet and alive.

MARIN stumbles backward, screams, slipping on the floor.

A long, sinewy parasite-alien-sleek, bone-white with twitching limbs and razor-thin claws-leaps out of the cavity, hissing.

RAUL dives aside, narrowly avoiding it.

RAUL (CONT'D)

SHIT!

MARIN is crawling backward on all fours as the creature darts around the room at inhuman speed.

They both yell, disoriented and panicked.

MARIN

CLOSE THE DOOR!

The parasite slams into the glass, then sprints through the side hatch into the corridor.

32 INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

32

MYRIA hears the scream—just as she's approaching Elias's room. She freezes.

From the opposite side, the parasite darts past her field of view, too fast to process.

Her eyes go wide.

She turns and bolts—knocking on the IT room door.

MYRIA

(screaming)

JO! LOCKDOWN! LOCK IT NOW!

33 INT. UNDERGROUND SERVICE TUNNEL - SAME TIME

33

THE TEAM (Drew, Lee, Talia, Dean, Felix, Luka) moves carefully, headlamps cutting through the dark.

The air is thick, quiet except for soft metallic drips.

FELIX's monitor crackles—faint interference.

TALIA

(checking earpiece)

Something's up. The signal from the base is jumping.

Lee halts the group, raising a hand.

LEE

Everyone hold. Try to raise Tess.

DREW

If we lose visual, we pull back. No cowboy moves.

34 INT. UNDERGROUND LAB - HALLWAY - SAME TIME 34

JO runs down a dim corridor, holding her walkie to her mouth.

JO
(breathless)
Marin—do you copy? The thing's
loose. I'm headed for the main
alarm panel.

35 INT. QUARANTINE ROOM - SAME TIME 35

MARIN, covered in blood and panting, grabs her own walkie.

MARIN
Jo! The boy's gone—Raul's—he's
looking at something else. It—it
burst out of him.
(to Raul)
Raul, get away from there!

RAUL doesn't answer.

He's across the room, staring at the boy's partially
collapsed body, now oozing black fluid.

He sees something—something pulsing inside the chest cavity
again.

RAUL
(whispers)
There's more... it didn't leave
alone.

A faint creak echoes above him.

He looks up slowly.

VENT SHAFT.

It hisses, a loose grate swinging.

RAUL (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
It might come back...

But he doesn't tell Marin. He just starts stepping back—eyes
locked on the vent.

CUT TO:

36 INT. PRIVATE LAB ROOM - SAME TIME 36

MYRIA sits beside a metal table, trembling.

Her shirt is ripped at the sleeve.

A small shard of transparent glass protrudes from her forearm.

She grits her teeth and cuts around it with a scalpel.

Blood drips.

She winces as she pulls it out—it's a tiny vial, embedded like an implant.

She stares at it—then her eyes fall to something else beneath the skin. Movement.

MYRIA

No... no...

She fumbles for a sedative, injecting herself just as twitches ripple up her neck.

In front of her, the mirror fogs—she breathes harder, lifts the scalpel.

Wants to remove it.

Her hand trembles.

Behind her is Elias's room—*his eyes now open*, watching her through the glass.

37 INT. HALLWAY - ALARM PANEL SECTOR - SAME TIME 37

JO turns a corner, nearing the red emergency alarm lever—but stops cold.

The alien parasite is there, perched mid-wall, saliva dripping from its jaw.

Its body tightens, like it senses her presence.

JO'S eyes dart—*the alarm's just a few steps away*... but a maintenance hatch is also open behind her.

JO (V.O., WHISPERING)

Go or hide... go or hide...

She backs slowly...

The creature's head twists toward her.

SFX: SHRIEK.

Jo makes her choice—

SMASH CUT TO BLACK.

38 INT. ALARM PANEL SECTOR - MOMENTS LATER

38

JO stares down the parasite, breath shallow. It tenses, ready to pounce.

In one sudden move—

JO LEAPS FORWARD, slams her palm on the alarm switch—

SFX: BWAAAAAM!! BWAAAAAM!!

Red lights flash. The parasite SHRIEKS in fury and lunges.

Jo doesn't run—she pivots and dives through a half-open blast door, slamming the emergency panel inside.

The door seals just in time, but not perfectly.

The alien SLAMS against it, claws slipping through the crack, screeching and writhing to reach her.

JO, pressed against the opposite wall, trembles, clutching a wrench defensively.

39 INT. IT CONTROL BAY - SAME TIME

39

TESS jolts upright as the alarm echoes through the facility. The screen with Jo's bodycam feed fractures into static.

TESS

No, no—Jo, come in! Jo!

The monitors flicker violently—then black out.

40 INT. QUARANTINE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

40

MARIN looks up from her corner, startled by the alarm. She scans the room—Raul is gone.

MARIN

Raul?

Only the drip-drip-drip of blood from the table where the boy used to be.

She walks to the corner—his scanner is on the floor, slick with black fluid.

A small smear of blood trails toward the side vent.

MARIN (CONT'D)

Oh God...

41 INT. TUNNEL PASSAGE - SAME TIME

41

THE FIELD TEAM (Drew, Lee, Talia, Dean, Felix, Luka) halt abruptly as Talia's wrist-link blares—the alarm notification hits her system.

TALIA

The lab just went full red.
Internal breach.

FELIX

We've lost Tess. Her channel's
dead.

Lee raises his rifle, tense.

LEE

We turn back now.

DREW

No. We're already in the blind
zone. We move to the exit point—
double time. We can't outrun what
we don't understand.

They press forward—but in the distance, a faint metallic *thud* echoes through the tunnel.

Something... just entered behind them.

42 INT. STORAGE CABIN - SAME TIME

42

MYRIA, now locked inside a tight metal cabin, paces in agony. Her skin is loose on one side of her abdomen, peeling from within like burned paper.

Beneath it: a faint shimmer of movement.

She injects herself with a nerve suppressant, her breathing slowing.

She leans over the sink, sweat pouring.

She stares at the incineration torch mounted in the far corner of Elias's medical room, just visible through the viewing window.

MYRIA (V.O.)
Burn it out... if I can cut deep
enough first.

She looks at Elias—he's sitting upright now, not restrained.

He watches her.

Doesn't blink.

Her breath catches. She reaches for the door controls—but hesitates.

MYRIA
(whispers)
If I go in... I don't come out.

The camera holds on her face—torn between fear and desperation.

CUT TO:

43

INT. BLAST-SEALED ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

43

JO sits on the floor, blood on her face, chest heaving. The metal door vibrates—the parasite on the other side now silent.

She clutches her walkie.

JO
(low, shaking)
Marin... come in.

MARIN (V.O.)
(static)
I—I'm here. Raul's gone. I think... I think it's still in the air ducts.

JO
Then don't speak loud. It hears everything.
(beat)
I'm locked in the south wing. If I make a run, I can loop through the secondary med hall—try to get to Myria.

MARIN (V.O.)
Copy. Watch the vents. It's...
hunting.

Jo grips the wrench and steels herself. Her eyes glance toward the red manual override lever for the door.

She waits... listening.

Nothing.

She slowly moves toward the lever—

44

INT. ELIAS'S MEDICAL ROOM - SAME TIME

44

MYRIA still stares through the window into Elias's room.

He's seated on the edge of the bed now, breathing steadily.

Then—

He turns his head—locks eyes with her through the glass.

ELIAS
(soft, raspy)
It doesn't want to kill you.

MYRIA stumbles back.

MYRIA
You're awake?

ELIAS
It wants... to live through you.

He smiles faintly.

Something shifts under the skin of his face—a twitch at his jaw, a flicker beneath the temple.

ELIAS (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
I saw you... cut it out.
You're like me now.

Myria's lips tremble. She steps toward the glass.

MYRIA
What is it?

ELIAS
A beginning.

Suddenly—he stands, hands twitching unnaturally.

MYRIA

Elias, stay where you are!

He doesn't stop. His neck stretches, cracking audibly. His left shoulder bulges as skin splits along his collarbone.

He smiles wider.

ELIAS

We all go back to the source.

He lunges toward the glass, slamming against it.

Myria SCREAMS and hits the room lock—her cabin door slams shut again.

45 INT. AIR DUCT - SAME TIME 45

A faint, wet slither echoes inside the vent system. Something is crawling toward the main hallway.

46 INT. BLAST-SEALED ROOM - SAME TIME 46

JO takes one deep breath—then throws the manual override.

The door begins to rise.

She ducks down, ready for the parasite.

But there's nothing there.

Silence.

She steps out carefully.

Behind her, a wet streak of slime leads into an adjacent hallway... toward the same direction as the expedition team.

CUT TO:

THE TUNNELS - THE TEAM - FLASHING LIGHTS AHEAD.

They've reached a section of the old railway. But from a dark vent near the ground, something moves silently out of view.

47 INT. MEDICAL HALLWAY - RETURN WING - MOMENTS LATER 47

JO rounds a corner, carefully tracing her steps back toward the quarantine sector.

She sees faint blood smears on the wall and signs of Myria's passage—discarded gloves, drops of fluid, a trail of dragging footprints.

She follows it...

48

INT. STORAGE CABIN - CONTINUOUS

48

MYRIA sits slumped in the corner, the room dim and claustrophobic.

Her body is partially exposed—her torso skin looks loose, blistered and wet with internal bruising.

JO enters, freezes in shock.

JO

Oh my God...

Myria doesn't look up immediately.

MYRIA

You shouldn't be here.

JO

What... what happened to you?

MYRIA

It's in me. I cut out the carrier glass, but... it's still there.

She slowly pulls up her shirt—the flesh around her ribs twitches, and something slithers just beneath the surface.

JO

Jesus, Myria...

MYRIA

I know how to burn it out. The tools are in Elias's room. But he's... changing.

Jo swallows hard. The alarm lights still blink overhead.

JO

We need to warn the others. We need to—

A sudden crash outside silences them both.

49

INT. UNDERGROUND TUNNEL - FIELD TEAM - SAME TIME

49

The expedition group reaches a rusted gate embedded into the tunnel wall.

Faint light flickers from cracked surface pipes.

TALIA adjusts her wristpad.

TALIA

Still no connection. Tess is gone—
system's dark.

LEE pushes the gate open—it creaks loud and long.

DEAN

We shouldn't go blind. We need a
fallback point.

DREW

You fall back, you die. You keep
moving, you adapt.

Suddenly—

LUKA—the scientist with the samples—stumbles back, confused.

LUKA

Did anyone hear that?

Everyone freezes.

A soft squelch echoes in the darkness.

Then—

LUKA convulses. His spine arches. He gasps and drops to his knees.

FELIX

Luka?!

Luka grabs his own throat, choking—something moves violently inside his abdomen.

LEE

He's infected—shit, get back!

TALIA SCREAMS.

Luka's stomach splits open in a wet rupture as a parasite explodes from his body, screeching, blood-soaked.

The others fire—but the creature disappears into the dark, leaving Luka's body spasming in the dirt.

DREW
FORM UP! Nobody moves alone!

Talia stares at Luka's corpse, trembling.

TALIA
It's in the tunnels now...

50 INT. STORAGE CABIN - SAME TIME

50

MYRIA stares at Jo, eyes tired but focused.

MYRIA
One is loose. The second... is inside me.

(beat)
If I don't do this now... I'll be what Luka just became.

Jo clenches her jaw.

JO
Then let's go get your tools.

They both rise, slowly, staring down the hallway.

Beyond them, Elias's door creaks open

51 INT. INNER LAB CORRIDOR - MOMENTS LATER

51

MARIN, blood smeared on her sleeve, moves frantically through the hallway, holding a scalpel in one hand, a flashlight in the other.

The alarms still blare faintly in the background—now muffled and irregular.

MARIN
Raul?

(beat)
Jo? Myria?

She stumbles forward, eyes wide with shock, pausing to catch her breath.

She reaches the junction where the ducts meet the lower corridor.

The flashlight flickers.

Then—

THUD.

She spins around.

The vent above her head bursts open, metal clanging to the ground.

The first alien, sleeker now, larger, and partially translucent, drops from the duct and hits the floor with a sickening squelch.

Marin screams.

She turns to run—but the alien slams her against the wall, pinning her.

52 INT. STORAGE CABIN - SAME TIME

52

MYRIA opens a metal locker and throws a sealed hazmat suit toward JO.

MYRIA

Wear it. No exposed skin. If it gets into you, it's over.

Jo hesitates.

JO

Are you sure you're still—
(off Myria's look)
Okay. Okay.

She starts pulling on the suit.

Myria grabs a flamethrower canister from beneath the sink, straps it to her shoulder, and loads a single incineration torch module onto the front.

MYRIA (CONT'D)

Once I start burning, there's no turning back. This isn't about survival anymore—it's about containment.

She pauses, looking toward the monitor where Elias's vitals flicker—his pulse, now erratic, *spiking*.

53 INT. ELIAS'S ROOM - SAME TIME 53

Elias now stands—fully awake.

His arms have split open from the wrists up, long slivers of bone stretching like blades.

His jaw distends unnaturally—his tongue bloated, flicking like a serpent.

He begins speaking—voice doubled, one tone human, the other inhuman, layered beneath.

ELIAS
You still think fire ends it?

54 INT. STORAGE CABIN / OUTSIDE ELIAS'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS 54

Myria moves to the door, hand over the lock.

MYRIA
When I open that door, I need you
to move fast. Get to the emergency
shaft near the mess hall. Climb up.
(beat)
If I don't follow in five minutes...
seal it.

Jo, fully suited now, grips her weapon tight.

JO
Don't do anything stupid.

MYRIA
I already did. I survived.

She hits the override. The door opens.

Myria steps into the hall.

55 INT. MAIN ENTRYWAY - OUTSIDE THE LAB - SAME TIME 55

THE FIELD TEAM pushes open the last underground hatch, stepping out onto the exterior platform.

Acidic snow drizzles down.

TALIA, wiping her lens, pauses.

TALIA
Wait... Luka's signal just flatlined.
Five minutes ago.

DREW
We keep moving. Get to higher comm
range and call evac.

DEAN
You think it's gone? That thing?

Drew stops.

DREW
I think it's already multiplying.

They look back toward the hatch... no one speaks.

56 INT. INNER LAB - SAME TIME

56

MARIN'S scream echoes from a hallway.

Jo hesitates, looking back—but Myria is already halfway
toward Elias's room.

Elias turns slowly, grinning.

ELIAS
We were made from them. And now we
become them.

MYRIA fires.

FLAMES erupt, engulfing the bed, the wall, Elias's body—his
scream becomes *otherworldly*, a layered, guttural wail.

Jo runs, glancing back once to see the hallway lit in fire.

CAMERA TRACKS:
The alien parasite escapes through
the burning wall, dashing into the
lower vents... toward the surface
connection.

57 INT. SERVICE TUNNELS - ABOVE GROUND - SAME TIME

57

A faint skittering noise echoes behind the field team—unheard
by them... for now.

58 EXT. WASTELAND TERRAIN - DAY

58

The fog rolls heavy across a cracked wasteland dotted with
shattered wind turbines and rusted pipelines.

The field team (Drew, Lee, Dean, Talia, and Felix) moves cautiously in formation, weapons raised.

TALIA stops, pulling up her pad.

TALIA
Tess's signal came back. Brief
flash—Room 3A, west corner of the
lab. She's still alive.

She starts walking ahead.

LEE
Talia—hold on.

She ignores him.

Lee strides up beside her, grabs her shoulder.

LEE (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
I know you want to prove yourself.
But running ahead isn't bravery,
it's recklessness.

TALIA

(defensive)
And letting them die while we play
soldier isn't leadership.

DREW steps between them, takes the walkie from Lee.

DREW
Tess, this is Drew. Do you copy?
We're outside. Blink twice if
you're receiving.

Only static.

Then—a low sound in the distance.

Something is running in the fog.

FELIX
...Did anyone else hear that?

The team forms a tight circle, scanning all directions.

A faint silhouette moves—too fast to be human.

DEAN
Contact—ten o'clock!

Weapons snap into position. But nothing's there now.

The fog thickens.

59 INT. ELIAS'S ROOM - SAME TIME

59

MYRIA, pale and trembling, slams open a cabinet, searching. Her skin now peels in wet patches—the parasite pressing outward.

She grabs a cringe tool—a heated extraction clamp—when she hears a wet *splurch* from behind.

Elias's torso, still smoldering, *shifts* again.

A second parasite, smaller and slick, squirms out of his ribcage.

MYRIA

No—no, no...

She activates the gas valve, flooding the room with volatile vapor.

She stumbles into the corner, fires up a small portable incinerator, and hits record on her personal recorder.

MYRIA (V.O.)

Dean... if you hear this... the parasite's replicating without full hosts now. It's airborne—fluid-based. I'm sealing the room.

(beat)

Don't come back for me. End it. Burn it all.

The small alien crawls slowly toward her, clicking.

Behind the glass, RAUL appears in the hallway—wounded, dazed.

He sees her inside, staring back.

MYRIA

CLOSE THE DOOR! IT'LL BLOW!

Raul doesn't move—he hears her just as he reaches the panel.

Too late.

BOOOOM!

The entire room explodes, flames ripping through the corridor.

Raul is flung down the hall. Smoke, fire, and debris blast outward—a wave of biological fluid and heat projecting through the ventilation shafts.

60 INT. LAB - IT ROOM HALLWAY - SAME TIME

60

JO reaches the sealed IT door, covered in soot and blood.

She bangs on it.

JO
Tess! Open the door—it's me!
Please!

Through the fogged glass, TESS appears—eyes wide, hands trembling. She looks at Jo—

But she doesn't open the door.

She hesitates.

Jo's breath catches.

JO (CONT'D)
Tess...?

SMASH TO BLACK.

61 INT. IT ROOM - SAME TIME

61

TESS stands frozen, her trembling hand just above the door control.

JO is staring at her from the other side—bruised, bloodied, desperate.

JO
Tess—open the damn door!

Tess hesitates, eyes darting to the contaminated warning flashing across her monitor.

TESS
You could be infected. I—I can't
let—

JO
You know me, Tess! If you don't let
me in, this place blows with both
of us in it!

Tess slams her fist against the console—then unlocks the door.

Jo stumbles in and collapses.

They both lock the room again behind them.

TESS (CONT'D)
Where's Myria?

JO
Gone. She torched Elias's room. The
blast went through the vents. We
have to go. Now.
(beat)
We need to find Marin and Raul.

Tess nods, grabbing a data core drive from the server bay and a compact EMP charge.

TESS
If we don't shut the main reactor
off before it breaches—this place
takes out half the valley.

They rush out.

62

EXT. WASTELAND TERRAIN - FIELD TEAM - SAME TIME

62

The BOOM from the lab echoes in the distance.

The team jolts—then chaos erupts.

A parasite launches from a nearby fissure in the ground—
tackling Drew, slamming him into the dirt.

TALIA
Drew!

The parasite tears at him, mouth unhinging.

FELIX raises his gun—but it's too late.

The parasite jumps onto him next, knocking him back, clawing
at his helmet.

LEE
HOLD THE LINE!

He grabs a portable firestick rifle, ignites it—flames shoot
in a cone, forcing the parasite off Felix.

It hisses—but before Lee can fire again—

BZZZZZT!

A flash of blue energy. The parasite convulses violently, then collapses in a smoking heap.

Everyone turns.

From the fog—two masked figures appear, dressed in slick, high-tech suits.

They hold electromagnetic rifles glowing with cold blue light.

No insignia.

No words.

They walk forward silently. One of them kneels over Felix—zaps him with a short, focused electric pulse. Felix screams—then goes limp.

TALIA

What the hell are you doing?!

MASKED FIGURE 1

Neural shock. He's been touched. It might slow conversion.

Drew groans—still alive but badly wounded.

LEE

Who are you?

The second masked figure doesn't answer, only gestures toward the horizon.

In the fog—a transport pod rises from beneath the sand, hovering just above ground.

MASKED FIGURE 2

Extraction's not optional. You leave now—or not at all.

63

INT. LOWER LAB HALLWAY - SAME TIME

63

JO and TESS move quickly with flashlights and backup power packs.

JO

MARIN! RAUL!

They pass a half-collapsed hallway—blood trails stain the floor.

They turn a corner—hear coughing.

Marin lies behind an overturned med-cart—alive, barely.

JO (CONT'D)

Marin!

They run over, but she holds up her hand, warning.

MARIN

Don't touch me. I don't know if it
scratched me.

TESS

Where's Raul?

MARIN

(shaking)

He... he opened the door. I don't
think he made it.

They help Marin up.

TESS

Reactor's unstable. If we don't
shut it down, we die in here.

They continue forward—racing against time.

64

EXT. WASTELAND RIDGE - DUSK

64

The two masked strangers lead the remaining field team to a clearing where two compact off-road hover cars wait, each just large enough for two.

DREW is barely conscious, blood trickling from his head.
FELIX lies still, shallow breaths.

LEE, weapon ready, steps toward the strangers.

LEE

You show up out of nowhere and
expect us to follow you?

One of them removes their helmet—it's a young man, late 20s, with pale scars near his jaw. His face is familiar.

YOUNG MAN

I'm Elias's son. The one who got
out.

TALIA
(shocked)
The boy...?

YOUNG MAN
I was taken early—escaped the first
hive breach. This is Leyna, my
partner. We've survived things you
haven't imagined.

The second masked stranger, LEYNA, nods calmly—armed and
hyper-alert.

LEYNA
Your team is contaminated. We have
counter-serums—but only at our QG.
You ride with us, or you bury them
here.

LEE
(to Drew, grim)
We don't have a choice.

YOUNG MAN
One hover takes the wounded. The
rest walk. We move now.

They load Drew and Felix into the first hover car.

Talia and Dean climb onto the second, which floats a few
inches above the rocky soil.

Lee walks beside them, scanning the horizon, tension
mounting.

65 INT. LOWER LAB - REACTOR ACCESS - SAME TIME 65

TESS and JO guide a limping MARIN through the debris-strewn
hall.

66 HER BREATHING IS UNEVEN. HER HAND SHAKES. 66

TESS
We're almost there. Just a little
more.

JO
Stay with us, Marin.

But Marin's voice changes—deeper, strained. Her head twitches
slightly.

MARIN
I can feel it in my spine...

(smiling oddly)
...like it's *teaching me something*.

Jo and Tess exchange a terrified glance.

TESS
Oh no... she was bitten.

Before they can react—

BANG!! The ceiling vent crashes open.

The first parasite alien, now more evolved, drops from above and grabs Marin, yanking her upward.

MARIN
AAHHHHH—!!!

Her arms thrash. One hand tightens on Tess's arm—holding her down as she's dragged up.

JO
LET HER GO!

Jo pulls Tess back just in time as Marin disappears into the shadows, her scream echoing through the vent system.

They collapse, trembling.

Suddenly—

RAUL STAGGERS INTO VIEW, one arm missing, his shirt drenched in blood, but eyes still burning with adrenaline.

RAUL
Jo... Tess... this way.

(gasping)
There's a car. We can make it.

TESS
Raul? You're alive—

JO
His arm—we have to stop the bleeding now or he won't make it.

CUT TO:

67 INT. SUBTERRANEAN GARAGE - MINUTES LATER

67

They reach an old escape hover cart, half-covered in dust.
Tess jumps into the driver's seat, rewiring controls.
Jo, using her medical kit, kneels beside Raul.

JO
Pressure... no pain meds, you'll feel
everything.

RAUL
Just keep me breathing till we're
out.

Tess smashes a fuse panel—the hover cart stutters to life,
blue light igniting underneath.

TESS
Jo—engine's live. Get in!

Jo loads Raul into the back, his head barely upright.

RAUL
If I don't make it—burn the rest of
it. Don't let it spread.

68 EXT. VALLEY EDGE - NIGHT FALLING

68

As the field team travels deeper into the wasteland with the
strangers, a thin black mist leaks up from a nearby crater.
Something follows them.
The parasite wasn't alone.

69 EXT. REMOTE QG OUTPOST - NIGHT

69

A minimalist concrete compound built into a canyon wall.
Weather-beaten solar panels, antenna towers, and a faint hum
of underground power.
The field team arrives at the outpost, led by Elias's son and
Leyna.
Felix, still unconscious, is carried inside. Drew groans as
he's lowered onto a medical cot.
Lee is not with them.

70 INT. QG MEDICAL BAY - MOMENTS LATER

70

The young man finally removes his mask.
Name: ENZO - lean, mid-20s, sharp-eyed, scarred by survival
but with an engineer's precision.

He injects Drew with a thick yellow compound.

ENZO
This'll slow the infection. You're
lucky.
(off Drew's look)
That wound's from the terrain-stone
shard. Not tissue breakdown.

Drew exhales, clearly in pain, but focused.

DREW
You've done this before.

ENZO
I've seen this before.

They share a look-recognition between men who've seen too
much.

71 INT. QG COMMON ROOM - LATER

71

TALIA sits cross-legged across from Enzo, sipping water,
watching him intently.

TALIA
How did you escape? When the lab
first fell?

Enzo leans back, arms crossed.

ENZO
My father locked us in a freight
pod. Only one made it to the
surface. Me.

TALIA
And the girl?

ENZO
Leyna? She pulled me out of the
snow. Taught me everything. We
don't rescue people—we just watch
them die smarter now.

TALIA
You still came back.

ENZO
You still haven't figured out why
he brought you.

72 INT. QG BACK ROOM - SAME TIME

72

DEAN rifles through their salvaged gear. The old walkie crackles.

A voice—Myria's—barely intelligible but clear.

MYRIA (V.O.)
(recording)
...if you hear this... they replicate
through heat. Don't let the gas
vents turn on. It's airborne now...
I'm sealing the room... Don't come
back. End it.

Dean's face drains.

He immediately calls out:

DEAN
Talía—come here. You need to hear
this.

She rushes in. As it plays, her eyes water—but her focus stays on one thing.

TALIA
Where's Lee?

73 EXT. QG COURTYARD - CONTINUOUS

73

LEYNA gears up silently and heads out.

ENZO (O.S.)
I'll stay. But if he's not back in
twenty, we mark him lost.

LEYNA
We don't leave people behind.

She vanishes into the fog.

74 INT. QG MISSION ROOM - SAME TIME

74

Drew, still weak, begins reviewing Elias's files. He circles one line from a recovered document:

"Usine = Deep grid sublayer. Artificial catalyst system."

DREW

He believed the cure was there. Or
the source.

ENZO (O.S.)

(scoffs)

Yeah. He also believed he was still
human.

Everyone looks at Enzo.

ENZO (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

Usine was shut down for a reason.

75

EXT. RUINED ROAD - NIGHT

75

TESS and JO, both geared up in survival suits, push through a
rusted emergency exit ramp and climb into a dusty utility
hovercar.

Tess drives. Jo holds a fluctuating GPS screen.

They move slow, no headlights, only terrain scans flickering
green in the dash.

JO

No contact. No response. No power
from the tower grid.

TESS

Reactor probably fried after
Myria's detonation.

Suddenly—the GPS flickers again. Signal lost.

JO

No, no—come on...

A faint beep.

Three dots appear on the radar—surrounding them.

JO (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

Tess... we're not alone.

TESS

I see them.

They stop the vehicle. Silence surrounds them.

A faint clawing sound outside.

Jo slowly unstraps her sidearm.

76

EXT. WASTELAND RIDGE - NIGHT

76

LEE moves alone through jagged rocks and dense fog, his rifle ready. The distant glow of the QG pulses faintly.

His breath echoes inside his cracked helmet.

LEE
(into walkie)
Talía? Anyone reading me?

Static.

He moves forward, cautiously.

A wet SNAP—he stumbles.

Something has grabbed his ankle.

He falls hard onto the rocks.

A sleek parasite alien lunges from beneath debris—teeth exposed, claws slashing.

LEE screams, fumbles his rifle, and fires point-blank—BOOM!

The alien writhes, dying.

Lee pants heavily, staring down at his suit—the side is torn. Exposed skin.

LEE (CONT'D)
(muttering)
No... no...

He grabs his walkie again.

LEE (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
Talía—I'm hit. I got one, but I'm exposed.

CUT TO:

77

EXT. ABOVE THE RIDGE - SAME TIME

77

LEYNA stands with her rifle drawn, watching Lee from above.

She hears his call—but doesn't respond.

Instead, she walks down the slope, slow and calculated.

LEE (O.S.)
I need extraction. Leyna?

She approaches, calm, almost... mournful.

Lee sees her silhouette, relieved—until she raises her gun.

LEE (CONT'D)
Wait... what are you doing?

LEYNA
You were touched.

LEE
I killed it—it's dead!

LEYNA
That's not how it works.

She fires.

Lee rolls, the shot grazing his shoulder. He fires back.

They fight—brutal and grounded, using fists, gun butts, dirt.
Lee knocks her mask loose—revealing her pale veined jaw—
subtly mutated.

LEE
(gasping)
You're one of them.

LEYNA
I'm what survives.

She grabs a short-blade, jams it under his ribs. Lee
crumbles.

As he bleeds out—a massive parasite emerges from the shadows.
Towering, bone-like armor along its back.

It leans down over Lee's twitching body.

LEYNA steps back and doesn't flinch.

The alien devours Lee, piece by piece.

TESS, JO, and RAUL drive through pitch-black terrain.
Headlights flick on—illuminating three parasite figures
rushing toward them.

JO
CONTACT LEFT!

Jo shoots—BLAM!—one alien drops.

The other two scatter—one leaping onto the hood, the other circling fast.

RAUL
They're surrounding us—go!

Tess accelerates, trying to ram one, but it leaps onto the windshield, clawing.

Jo fires again—boom!—wounding it.

The third alien crashes through the side window, tearing into the back seat.

Raul lunges from behind—grabbing it in a bear hug.

RAUL (CONT'D)
Drive!

TESS
Raul—don't!

He pulls the alien halfway out of the car—they tumble together into the dust.

JO
RAUL!

The alien tears into Raul—but Jo uses the last shot and executes the creature.

Tess drives back in reverse—Jo opens the door, but Raul waves weakly.

RAUL
(dying)
Go...

Jo slams the door. Tess floors it. They disappear into the fog.

79

EXT. RIDGE OVERLOOK - NIGHT

79

Leyna, now masked again, watches the horizon as the sound of gunfire and engines fade.

She speaks softly into her hidden comm.

LEYNA
Second wave initiated. They're
moving south.

Behind her, the massive parasite stares ahead—*waiting for command.*

80 INT. QG MEDICAL WARD - EARLY MORNING

80

DREW, bandaged and recovering, sits alone reviewing a recovered tablet—Elias's personal archive.

He flips through encrypted files—audio logs, diagrams, maps of substructures labeled "Usine", and one document tagged: PROJECT GENESIS_3R.

DREW (V.O.)
"Genetically Recoded... Rebirth."
(reading)
"Parasites were not alien. They
were ours. Designed as heat-
adaptive terraformers."

His hand slowly lowers. His face says everything.

DREW
(muttering)
We did this...

81 INT. QG COMMON ROOM - SAME TIME

81

JO sits in a corner, still wearing a partially unzipped suit. She holds a cracked photo: a younger version of herself and a smiling little girl—her sister.

Her thumb brushes over the face gently.

JO
(softly)
We were going to leave this place...
start over.

A faint smile, before the grief returns.

82 EXT. QG ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS

82

The gates groan open as TESS and JO arrive in the hovercar—dust-streaked, eyes hollow from the fight.

TALIA runs to them.

TALIA
You're alive—

They nod, exhausted. Jo limps out first, weapon in hand.

JO
Raul didn't make it.

ENZO appears beside her.

ENZO
You brought the last evac car. That
makes this place officially full.

83 INT. QG HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

83

LEYNA returns, boots muddy, face unreadable beneath her mask.
She approaches ENZO, who is already cleaning weapons.

ENZO
Where's Lee?

LEYNA
Didn't make it. Parasite got him
before I arrived.

A long beat.

ENZO
(quietly)
Damn shame.

He stares at her a little too long... as if searching for
something. But he doesn't press.

ENZO (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
The others are in. We're deciding
on the exit route.

Leyna nods once and walks on.

Enzo doesn't turn—but his jaw tightens. He *knows something's off*.

84 INT. QG STRATEGY ROOM - LATER

84

The survivors gather around a battered digital table map.

Drew, still pale, but sharp

Talia, seated beside him

Jo, silent but alert

Tess, cross-referencing satellite maps

Enzo, pacing

Leyna, arms folded behind them

DREW

We can't stay here. Reactor heat signatures will draw them in packs.

TALIA

What about *Usine*?

DREW

It wasn't a cure site. It was the *origin*.

(points to file)

Project Genesis_3R. Elias helped design the organisms—terraformers that evolved too well.

JO

We go to their birthplace?

ENZO

(grim)

No—we go *there* to shut it down. Permanently.

LEYNA

There's a service corridor beneath the canyon wall. It'll lead us to *Usine*. But once we're in, there's no signal. No backup.

Everyone goes quiet.

TESS

So it's suicide.

DREW

It's insurance. If we don't destroy the heart, they keep growing.

A long beat.

Jo slides the photo of her sister into her sleeve pocket.

JO

Then we burn it from the inside out.

85 INT. QG STORAGE BAY - EARLY MORNING

85

The survivors prep for the final push.

ENZO checks ammo belts, while DREW packs medical gear. JO loads torch canisters into a rucksack.

FELIX lies on a stretcher in the corner, fevered, barely conscious.

TALIA sits beside him, brushing damp hair from his forehead. She hasn't moved in hours.

TALIA
(softly)
You saved us more than once. You
don't have to do it again.

She stifles a sob, then stands—faces Drew.

TALIA (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
I'm not going. I'm staying with
him.

DREW
You don't have time for this,
Talia. We need your system access.
The interface at Usine—

TALIA
I don't care about Usine. I care
about *him*.

She walks past Drew, shoulders shaking.

86 INT. ARMORY - MOMENTS LATER

86

DEAN secures a pistol, but pauses—his hand shakes.

ENZO, watching, steps forward.

ENZO
You sweating through a cold zone?

DEAN
(snaps)
I'm fine.

LEYNA crosses behind him, scanning his vitals with a small wand. It beeps red.

LEYNA
No, you're not.

Dean draws his pistol—but Jo steps between them.

JO
Wait. He helped save us. Don't you
dare—

ENZO
We can't bring a half-infected into
the origin site.

DREW
We're not executing him.

A tense beat.

Dean slowly lowers the gun. His eyes—already distant—land on Jo.

DEAN
You'll have to finish what I
couldn't.

JO
(quietly)
I will.

87 INT. QG LOADING PLATFORM - LATER

87

DREW, JO, and ENZO stand ready in light terrain gear. The path to the canyon looms outside.

LEYNA loads a backup oxygen tank, then sets it down.

LEYNA
I'm staying.

Everyone looks to her.

ENZO
That's not the plan.

LEYNA
It is now. Felix needs someone
armed here. So does Talia.

A long pause. Nobody disagrees. Not yet.

She looks at Enzo.

LEYNA (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
You get inside, find the power
core, destroy the archive, and
torch the rest.

Enzo nods.

ENZO
If we don't make it—

LEYNA
Then I'll make sure they don't
reach the surface.

88 INT. QG COMM CENTER - SAME TIME

88

DEAN, bandaged and pale, sits watching them all through the glass.

He holds Jo's dropped photo in his lap, staring at her sister's face.

89 EXT. QG EXIT PLATFORM - MINUTES LATER

89

The small strike team:

Tess

Jo

Drew

Enzo

...step into the canyon fog.

The wind screams through the rocks, and down below, Usine's entrance looms—an ancient reinforced hatch sealed in rust and bone.

DREW (V.O.)
If this is where it started... it
ends here.

Enzo activates the breach tool. Sparks fly

90 EXT. CANYON FLOOR - USINE ENTRANCE - MORNING

90

The strike team—Jo, Drew, Enzo, and Tess—descend into the narrow canyon base, fog swirling low around their boots. Towering black walls close in around them.

They move cautiously, lit only by helmet beams.

Ahead: a reinforced vault door half-buried in sand and old bones. Ancient carvings on the steel read:

USINE - DEEP RESEARCH GRID - LEVEL 09

Enzo plugs in a breach key.

ENZO

Door's still wired. Whatever's
inside... no one's been here in
years.

A long pause.

DREW

Or they never made it out.

91 INT. QG MEDICAL BAY - SAME TIME

91

LEYNA watches the camera feed of the strike team progressing.

She speaks into her comm.

LEYNA

Confirmed breach. You're entering
Level 1. If you lose visual past
the core zone, switch to signal
compression.

TESS (V.O.)

Copy that. Canyon air is stable but
dense.

She flicks to another feed—Felix, sweating, breathing hard.
Talia beside him, wiping his forehead with a damp cloth.

TALIA

Stay with me, okay? We're not
leaving you.

Leyna steps back... and her eyes flick to the unlocked storage
locker nearby—filled with syringes and serums.

She pockets one without a word.

92 INT. QG AUXILIARY ROOM - SAME TIME

92

DEAN sits alone in a dim corner, pale and coughing into his
sleeve.

The lights flicker once.

A shadow appears in the glass reflection behind him—Leyna.

DEAN
You here to babysit the dying?

LEYNA
Not exactly.

She walks slowly, not blinking.

DEAN
You don't like me, huh?

LEYNA
I don't like *witnesses*.

Dean's hand twitches near his pistol, but he's slow-too weak.

DEAN
Wait... You're not here to-

She moves fast.

In one silent motion, Leyna jams a needle into his neck-sedative, dark green.

Dean collapses, eyes fluttering, breath fading.

She kneels beside him.

LEYNA
(whispering)
You weren't supposed to survive
Myria's fire. But I'll fix that
now.

Her eyes flick up to the ceiling-where a vent duct groans faintly above.

93 INT. USINE - LEVEL 1 - SAME TIME

93

The strike team enters the facility.

Walls are slick with moisture.

A faint hum still pulses deep within.

JO sweeps corners.

TESS checks her power feed.

DREW finds a discarded clipboard marked:

"Core incubation nearing collapse. Deployment unstable."

DREW
 They tried to pull the parasite
 into subzero control.
 (beat)
 They failed.

A faint noise from the back. Something crawling along the
 vent grid.

ENZO
 They're awake.

CUT TO BLACK.

94 INT. USINE - CORE LAB HALL - LATER

94

The strike team—Jo, Enzo, Tess, and Drew—move through a vast
 underground lab.

The facility is partially collapsed, vines of dark bio-tissue
 run across walls and floor.

The air pulses with low mechanical groans, as if the building
 itself breathes.

Enzo hacks into an old console, pulling schematics and
 decrypted logs.

ENZO
 This wasn't just research.
 (reading)
*"Genesis_3R was designed to
 terraform hostile biospheres using
 parasitic self-replicating units."*

He pauses. His face darkens.

ENZO (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
 They weren't aliens... They were
 ours. Failed weapons.
 (looks up)
 Usine is the source and the hive.

Jo stares at a massive display—genetic maps, photos of
 infected test subjects... some wearing military insignia.

JO
 They buried it all... and left people
 to rot above it.

Suddenly—a loud screech pierces the air.

TESS spins—too late.

A parasite drops from above, grabs her, and drives its claw through her back. Blood hits the screen.

TESS
HELP—!!!

Jo fires—but misses.

Drew freezes. Staring in horror.

JO
DREW! DO SOMETHING!

Instead, Drew turns and runs, disappearing into the shadows.

Enzo fires twice—BLAM! BLAM!—as the parasite kills Tess and drags her limp body into the vents.

Jo stands frozen, shaking.

JO (CONT'D)
(quietly)
You bastard.

95 INT. QG - COMMON ROOM - SAME TIME

95

Talia re-enters the room—Dean is gone.

The chair is overturned.

A faint trail of blood leads out the door.

TALIA
Dean...?

She rounds a corner—and finds Leyna wiping blood from her gloves, alone.

TALIA (CONT'D)
(sharp)
What did you do?

Leyna turns, calm, voice icy.

LEYNA
He was infected.

TALIA
You don't get to make that decision.

LEYNA
I already did.

Talia grabs the nearest wrench, breathing hard.

TALIA
You said you watched over us.
Protected us. You lied.

Leyna slowly pulls a short-blade from her belt—a familiar one.

LEYNA
I didn't lie. I just didn't tell
you what side I'm on.

Talia swings the wrench—Leyna blocks it. The two grapple, crashing into medical crates.

Just as Leyna raises the blade—

Felix, barely alive, grabs Leyna's ankle from the ground.

FELIX
Don't... touch her...

Leyna stumbles. Talia grabs a defibrillator panel from the floor and slams it into Leyna's chest.

BZZZZT!

Leyna flies back, dazed.

Talia grabs Felix's hand and runs, dragging him toward the generator hallway.

CUT TO:

96 INT. USINE - MAINTENANCE PASSAGE - SAME TIME

96

Jo and Enzo, breathless, covered in blood.

JO
We finish this. We torch the core.
No survivors. No history.

Enzo nods.

But above them—something huge crawls across the glass ceiling.

97 INT. USINE - INNER CORE CHAMBER - NIGHT

97

JO and ENZO move through the final corridor—walls slick with blackened resin.

The hum grows deeper, rhythmic, like a heartbeat pulsing through metal.

They stop at a massive chamber—the Hive Core.

In the center: a nest of twitching growth, wires fused with organic tissue. Suspended in the mass is a creature—the Apex Parasite.

It's enormous. Towering. Half-bone, half-bioengineered mass. It breathes through split ribs. And worst of all...

JO

It's awake.

The Apex suddenly drops from its perch, hitting the ground with a thunderous slam.

ENZO

MOVE!

They dodge just as a massive tail slashes toward them, slicing concrete.

Jo rolls and opens fire—BOOM BOOM BOOM—her bullets spark off its armored skin.

Enzo tosses an electromagnetic pulse grenade—it detonates, stunning the beast momentarily.

ENZO (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

Go for the brainstem! I'll draw it out!

98 INT. QG - POWER ROOM - SAME TIME

98

TALIA and a barely-conscious FELIX are locked inside the backup power hub, wires sparking around them.

She frantically rewires the transmitter, trying to get through.

TALIA

Come on... just hold frequency.

She gets a signal.

TALIA (INTO RADIO) (CONT'D)

Jo, Enzo—this is Talia. Do you copy?

A burst of static. Then Jo's voice comes through.

JO (V.O.)
We're in the hive—we found it. It's huge. We're engaging—

TALIA
 LISTEN! Leyna's one of them. I think she's linked to the parasite system—like a conductor.

JO (V.O.)
 (cutting in and out)
 Say again?

TALIA
 SHE'S CONNECTED TO THE HIVE. IF YOU KILL IT—SHE DIES.

Felix groans, trying to sit up.

FELIX
 She... she talks to them.

TALIA
 What?

FELIX
 I heard her whispering. Not English. Not human.

Talia looks toward the security monitor. The feed shows Leyna walking calmly toward the canyon, unharmed.

She's smiling.

99 INT. USINE - CORE CHAMBER - SAME TIME

99

The Apex Parasite roars, smashing Enzo against a wall.

Jo screams and lunges at it, stabbing into its exposed tissue with a heated blade.

It shrieks, dropping Enzo.

JO
 You want to control everything?
 Then DIE with it!

Jo and Enzo lock eyes.

ENZO
 Blow the core.

JO
Now?

ENZO
NOW.

100 INT. USINE - CORE CHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER

100

JO circles the monstrous Apex Parasite, its mass pulsating with breath.

Its outer limbs twitch independently.

The central eye follows her.

Across the chamber, ENZO rises, bloody and battered, clutching a broken pipe and an EMP blade.

JO
You distract it. I'll torch the neural link.

ENZO
With what?

JO
Rage and everything left.

Enzo screams, charging the creature, jabbing the EMP blade into its side—blue arcs spark across its body.

The Apex whips him into a wall, but it staggers, giving Jo the opening.

Jo sprints toward the control podium, sliding under a slashing tail.

She grabs a plasma rod, heats it with the torch, and hurls it into the Apex's exposed brainstem.

The monster convulses—*roaring in pure agony*.

101 INT. QG - HALLWAY - SAME TIME

101

LEYNA, walking with eerie calm, freezes mid-step.

Blood trickles from her nose.

Her hands clutch her skull.

LEYNA
No... no... what are you doing...?

She drops to one knee, twitching as if her nervous system is short-circuiting.

102 INT. OUTER GARAGE BAY - SAME TIME 102

TALIA, dragging FELIX, reaches the garage. She loads him into a dusty hovercar and rips open a locked panel.

TALIA
Come on... you've flown worse than
this..

She kicks the starter-engines sputter, then come to life. A navigation screen flickers on.

103 INT. CLIFFSIDE LAUNCH CHAMBER - SAME TIME 103

DREW, limping, eyes wild, stumbles into a rusted aerospace hangar.

A transport vessel—experimental—stands ready.

The cockpit lights flicker on.

DREW
Autonav's broken... damn it!

He tries the controls—but the ship demands biometric access.

COMPUTER VOICE
Pilot clearance required: Qin,
Talía.

DREW
(growling)
Of course it is...

He opens the side hatch and grabs a rifle—heading back into the facility.

DREW (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
I need her. Or I die here.

104 INT. USINE - CORE CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS 104

JO leaps off the podium just as the Apex slams it to pieces. The parasite limps now—half-melted, oozing fluid.

Enzo limps to her side, blood in his mouth.

JO
You still with me?

ENZO
Long enough to end it.

They both charge. Enzo throws his last EMP blade—Jo grabs the central rod, ripping it out and stabbing into the Apex's throat.

SPLASH!

A final screech.

The Apex shudders—and collapses, motionless.

105 INT. QG - OUTER HALLWAY - SAME TIME

105

Leyna, twitching and half-conscious, crawls toward the control console.

LEYNA
It was... supposed to survive us...

Then—a long shadow falls over her.

Talia, holding a plasma pistol, stands with cold resolve.

TALIA
So were we.

BLAM.
She fires.

Leyna collapses—dead.

106 INT. QG - INFIRMARY - EARLY DAWN

106

TALIA wipes sweat from her forehead, helping a weakened FELIX into a small med-pod in the hovercar.

She turns, grabs a data chip from the terminal—Myria's core drive.

TALIA
Whatever happens next... the truth goes with us.

She squeezes it into a pouch, pulls on her jacket, and moves.

107 INT. VENTILATION SHAFT - SAME TIME

107

Talia crawls through the narrow duct—steam and flickering lights surround her.

Beneath the grates: Dean's collapsed body.

She pauses—her eyes widen.

Dean's chest convulses.

Then bursts open—a small parasite creature crawls out, squealing.

Talia gasps—keeps moving fast.

108 EXT. CANYON EXIT - MINUTES LATER

108

Talia emerges beside the main hover-lift, loads Felix into the passenger seat, and speeds off.

She drives straight into the launch hangar, where DREW stands at the ramp of the vessel.

TALIA

Get him inside! We need to go!

Drew helps Felix up—then turns to the terminal.

DREW

It's waiting for your code. It knows you.

TALIA

What?

She steps forward—the screen changes instantly.

COMPUTER VOICE

Welcome, Talia Qin. Extraction path confirmed.
Initiating launch protocol.

Talia stares at Drew.

TALIA

(quietly)

Why would this ship be programmed in my name?

Drew doesn't answer.

109 INT. USINE CORE - SIMULTANEOUS

109

JO sprints down collapsing corridors, fire and debris all around. The Hive is burning from within.

JO
(into comms)
Talía—I'm on my way. Start the lift.

No answer.

Behind her, a massive steel pipe crashes—she dives, rolls, and keeps running.

110 INT. QG - DESTROYED BAY - SAME TIME

110

ENZO, bloodied, limps toward the old comm relay, expecting Leyna.

Instead—

Something massive crashes through the ceiling.

A horrifying creature—twice as large as any seen before—distorted and fused, Leyna's face melted into its chest like a twisted shrine.

ENZO
(whispers)
...She's inside it.

The beast roars.

Enzo runs.

The monster chases him—tearing through walls, shrieking.

CUT TO:

111 EXT. LAUNCH PLATFORM - FINAL MOMENTS

111

Jo bursts into the hangar, limping but alive.

She sees the vessel ramp closing.

JO
WAIT! HOLD IT!

Talia, at the top of the ramp, spots her and slams the emergency override.

Jo climbs aboard as explosions erupt behind her.

Inside, Felix coughs, strapped in.

TALIA
Where's Enzo?

Jo just shakes her head.

112 INT. VESSEL - COCKPIT - SECONDS LATER

112

The vessel powers up.

Outside, Enzo appears on the ridge—running, the massive parasite chasing him.

JO
(to Talia)
You have to lift now!

Talia hesitates. Her finger shakes over the launch button.

ENZO
(distant, yelling)
GO! BURN IT ALL!

Jo hits the panel.

The vessel launches, engines flaring as they rise into the atmosphere.

The canyon collapses beneath them—the creature falls into the fire below.

113 EXT. STRATOSPHERE - MOMENTS LATER

113

The vessel ascends.

Silence.

114 INT. VESSEL - COCKPIT

114

Jo stares out the viewport.

Talia inserts Myria's chip into the console.

JO
Do you think this ends it?

TALIA

No.

(beat)

But now they'll know it started
with us.

They sit in silence.

115 INT. VESSEL - CRUISING AT HIGH ALTITUDE - NIGHT

115

FELIX lies strapped into a padded recliner, pale and shivering, sweat beading along his forehead.

TALIA, in the cockpit, monitors the navigation screen—calm for the first time in days.

She exhales slowly.

116 INT. VESSEL - LOWER CORRIDOR - SAME TIME

116

JO walks through the narrow passageway, hand trailing along the cool metallic wall.

She pauses.

A strange clicking sound echoes ahead.

She rounds a corner—DREW stands at a locked panel, inserting a strange data key into the ship's emergency protocols.

A parachute escape capsule lights up beside him.

JO

You're leaving?

Drew turns, startled.

DREW

You shouldn't be down here.

JO

You knew about Leyna. You knew about Enzo. All of it—from the beginning.

DREW

I knew pieces. Nothing more than fragments.

JO

Don't lie to me. You used us to cover the truth.

DREW
I used what I had to survive. And
so did you.

She lunges for the console—he stops her, grabs her wrist.

Suddenly—ALARM BLARES.

COMPUTER VOICE
Lifeform breach detected in bay
two.

Drew hits a panel. The hatch beneath Jo flicks open—

WOOSH!!

Jo is sucked out into the atmosphere, her scream lost in the
wind.

A small oxygen burst unit deploys from her side.

She tumbles—alive, but falling.

117 INT. VESSEL - MEDBAY - SECONDS LATER 117

FELIX convulses, eyes rolling back.

Drew rushes in, injects something into Felix's arm.

His body stabilizes.

118 INT. COCKPIT - MOMENTS LATER 118

TALIA panics at the console.

TALIA
Jo? Where the hell are you? Jo?

The ship rattles—proximity alert.

Drew enters, covered in sweat.

DREW
The parasite was still in the cargo
hold. It mutated—escaped
containment.

Talia hits the external cam—a massive alien is clawing
through the rear wall.

DREW (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
You have to open the back hatch.
Let it out.

TALIA
And Jo?

DREW
She's gone. Trust me now, or we all
die.

Talia hesitates—then flips the rear lock override.

The vessel's tail hatch opens—the alien roars, wind sucking
it into the void.

It vanishes, spiraling into the clouds.

Talia sighs, frozen.

Drew gently takes her hand.

DREW (CONT'D)
(softly)
You did it. We're safe now.

He leans down—injects her neck with a clear fluid.

TALIA
What is that...?

DREW
Something to calm you.

She gasps. Her limbs twitch. She scratches her neck, then her
arm.

TALIA
It... it burns...

DREW
(gently)
You were exposed. I had to contain
it. But I'm here to protect you
now.

She collapses into the seat—breathing, but not speaking.

He straps her in—brushes her hair behind her ear.

CUT TO:

119 EXT. ATMOSPHERE - VESSEL FLOATING ABOVE THE CLOUDS 119

Calm.

Still.

Silent.

Then—

The vessel's lights flicker.

Inside the nav screen: AUTOPILOT ADJUSTED - DESTINATION:
UNKNOWN FACILITY_04

120 INT. ESCAPE POD - NIGHT SKY 120

JO, alive, her pod descending slowly by parachute.

She clutches a beacon in one hand... and Enzo's backup data
drive in the other.

Her eyes lock on a distant city skyline far beneath her—*still
alive, still unknowing.*

JO (V.O.)
It didn't end there.
It never does.

FADE TO BLACK.

121 INT. MEDICAL CHAMBER - FACILITY_04 - NIGHT 121

TALIA lies in a suspended sleep pod. Her hands twitch
occasionally.

A medical display shows normal vitals... but deep inside her
neural map, a small cluster pulses like a second heartbeat.

DREW, now clean-shaven, well-dressed, watches from behind the
glass.

DREW
(to assistant AI)
Begin Phase 2 compatibility.

AI VOICE
Subject Talia Qin - showing hybrid
stabilization.
Recommend moving forward with
Interface Protocol.

DREW
(smiling softly)
We failed to contain it... so we'll
evolve with it.

Behind him, a large window reveals a hangar of pods—each housing a survivor in stasis.

CUT TO:

122

EXT. RURAL LANDSCAPE - NIGHT

122

JO, hidden under a cloak, walks through a field toward a lone cabin.

Inside: a makeshift lab, a damaged drone, and Enzo's encrypted drive wired to an old terminal.

She plugs in the power.

The drive hums to life.

JO (V.O.)
I watched friends die for this
truth.
If the world burns, I want it to
see the spark first.

The screen lights up:

ACCESS GRANTED - PROJECT GENESIS 3R: DEEP CORE FILES

FADE OUT.