

**Battlestar Galactica**

"The Frog & The Scorpion"

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TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE - GALACTICA - DEBRIS FIELD

Galactica (sotto) passes through a debris field. The various metallic pieces in the debris field TWINKLE in the light of a nearby star.

EXT. SPACE - RAPTOR 1 & VIPERS - CHASE CAMERA POV

Far ahead of Galactica surveying the debris.

INT. RAPTOR 1 - CONSOLE POV

C.O. operating console and PRESSING buttons.

RAPTOR 1 C.O.

There's a lot of charring on this metal...I'm getting heat and radioactive isotope readings...at least one fifty megaton blast sometime in the last three hours.

INT. GALACTICA - CIC - CONTINUOUS

Gaeta finishes typing on a keyboard and walks to Adama and Tigh.

GAETA

The field contains Cylon-utilized metallic alloys and best calculations put the equivalent mass around two basestars.

TIGH

Two basestars?

ADAMA

Equivalent mass? I need to know if it was two basestars.

Gaeta nods and returns to his station.

TIGH  
What could take out two basestars?

INT. BUNKROOM - DUALLA'S BUNK

Duala lies flat in the shadows of the bottom bunk, her head propped up with a number of pillows. She flinches at the bright light and positions herself in a way that uses Billy, sitting on the bed next to her, as a shield from the brightness.

ANGLE ON: DUALLA

Her face is green. Her eyes are puffy and sweat pours off of her face and hands.

DUALLA  
Ugh! I hate this! I can't--

BILLY  
You just need your immune system to kick in. Doc said a few more days. Until then, I'll be here to take care of you.

He lifts her head and gives her water.

DUALLA  
I'm not thirsty.

BILLY  
Drink, or you won't get better and you'll just be stuck in bed longer.  
(tipping cup into her mouth)  
Now don't be such a difficult patient.

DUALLA  
(sipping)  
If I wanted a nurse I would have stayed in sick bay.

BILLY

And if you stayed in sick bay you  
wouldn't get to see me as much.

A smile forms through the creases of her mouth.

EXT. SPACE - DEBRIS FIELD

A few GLIMMERS and SHIMMERS at the edge of the debris field.

INT. RAPTOR 1 - INNER BAY

RAPTOR 1 C.O.

Contact. Bearing twelve carom four.

RAPTOR 1 PILOT

I see it. Galactica. Raptor 1.  
Something's moving out here.

INT. GALACTICA - CIC

Tigh grabs a handset.

ADAMA

Mr. Gaeta. Set condition one. Launch the  
alert vipers.

GAETA

Aye sir.

ON HANDSET

GAETA (CONT'D)

Action stations, action stations. Set  
condition one throughout the ship.

ACTION STATIONS KLAXON SOUNDS.

INT. LANDING BAY - CONTINUOUS

Pilots run to their Vipers.

INT. BUNKROOM - DUALLA'S BUNK - CONTINUOUS

Billy looks deep into D's eyes, strokes her hair, but the  
klaxon interrupts.

DUALLA  
(attempting to rise)  
I gotta go.

The bright room lights disorient her.

BILLY  
You aren't--

She wobbles and falls back to her bunk.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
--going anywhere.

DUALLA  
But my station--

BILLY  
--will be fine.

He places her back into her bunk.

EXT. SPACE - GALACTICA - FLIGHT POD

Vipers BLASTING out of launch tubes.

INT. GALACTICA - CIC

Adama & Tigh view the monitor.

ADAMA  
Mr. Gaeta, what do we know?

GAETA  
(into headset)  
Raptor 1. Do you have visual  
identification?

RAPTOR 1 PILOT (WIRELESS)  
That's a negative Galactica. It's hard to  
see anything out here. Just some sporadic  
movement at the edge of the debris field.  
Some minor secondary explosions. Moving  
(MORE)

RAPTOR 1 PILOT (CONT'D)  
in for a closer look.

GAETA  
(on console)

Dradis reports 5 contacts. No transponder readings. No recognizable Cylon heat signature. Ship size and energy output match nothing in the database. The computer has never seen these before.

EXT. SPACE - RAPTOR 1 - OVERHEAD COCKPIT POV

Vipers & Raptor 1 approach the edge of the debris field. The unidentified ships appear as slight shimmers in the starfield, camouflaged black on black.

INT. RAPTOR 1 - INNER BAY

The C.O. works the Dradis console.

RAPTOR 1 C.O.  
Apollo. Raptor 1. I'm getting 5  
intermittant contacts.

APOLLO (WIRELESS)  
Got'em. 5 contacts. Listen-up people.  
Spread out. Containment formations.  
Tallyho...whoa!

EXT. SPACE - DEBRIS FIELD - WIDE SHOT

Four of the ships FOLD IN on themselves and JUMP away.

APOLLO (WIRELESS)  
Galactica. Apollo. Four of the ships just  
jumped away.

INT. GALACTICA - CIC

Tigh leans into Adama's ear.

TIGH  
Think they left a nuke?

ADAMA  
Maybe. Mr. Gaeta. Order them to investigate, but to keep some distance. It could be a trap.

GAETA  
Yes Sir.

INT. APOLLO'S VIPER - CONSOLE POV

Lee strains to see what's in the distance.

GAETA (WIRELESS)  
Apollo -- you are ordered to investigate, but keep your distance.

Apollo  
Roger that.  
(mumbling sarcastically to himself)  
Get in close, but stay back...right.

INT. HOT DOG'S VIPER - CONSOLE POV

Hot Dog listening to Apollo.

Apollo (WIRELESS)  
Hot Dog, you're with me. The rest of you stay here.

HOT DOG  
Affirmative.

EXT. SPACE - APOLLO & HOT DOG'S VIPERS - CHASE CAMERA POV

Apollo & Hot Dog thrust ahead of the group.

EXT. SPACE - APOLLO'S VIPER - WING CAMERA POV

Apollo and Hot Dog closing fast. The ship grows bigger, though still hard to see clearly. It is sleek black, and still in dark shadow.

Intermittent thrusts from the ship's engines move it helter-skelter, but the ship goes nowhere fast.

EXT. SPACE - WOUNDED SHIP - WING CAMERA POV

The Camera, though spinning and wobbly, shows Apollo & Hot Dog's Vipers fast approach.

EXT. SPACE - DEBRIS FIELD - WIDER SHOT

The engine bursts continue, intermittently FLASHING, until all 3 engines IGNITE (in the same configuration as a Viper) and the ship BLASTS away.

HOT DOG (WIRELESS)  
He's running!

Apollo & Hot Dog TURBO after. The ship has breakaway speed with all three engines operating and accelerates away from the pursuit.

INT. HOT DOG'S VIPER - CONSOLE POV

Hot Dog slack-jawed.

HOT DOG  
Do you see those engines?

APOLLO (WIRELESS)  
I Do. Keep on him!

EXT. SPACE - CHASE CAMERA POV

Follows the three ships.

The engines of the bogie FLAME OUT one at a time, forcing the ship to drift out of control, slowly spinning. For the first time, as if coming out from behind an eclipse, it catches the light of a nearby star, revealing what looks like a cross between a Cylon Raider and Colonial Viper--sleak, black and smaller than both. If a Mark 2 Viper is comparable to a Ford Mustang, this is a Ferrari.

EXT. SPACE - APOLLO'S VIPER - WING CAMERA POV

Closes on the ship.

Apollo (WIRELESS)  
Galactica. This is Apollo. I've got a  
visual on the bogie...

GAETA (WIRELESS)  
Go ahead Apollo...Apollo...go ahead.

Apollo speechless.

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE - APOLLO'S VIPER - OVER SHOULDER CAMERA

Apollo & Hot Dog are close enough to see into the cockpit except the tinted windows allow only the view of a human-shaped silhouette.

Apollo

Unidentified aircraft. This is Viper  
105...do you read? Unidentified aircraft.  
This is Colonial Viper 105 come in.

SCORPION 3 PILOT (WIRELESS)

I read you loud and clear Viper 105. I  
heard you two systems away...ANYONE could  
hear you two systems away with your non-  
stop wireless chatter.

Apollo

(slightly taken aback)

Really...

EXT. SPACE - WIDE SHOT

Apollo & Hot Dog's Vipers orbit the wounded ship.

SCORPION 3 PILOT (WIRELESS)

How about just giving me a quick jump and  
I'll be outta your hair.

Apollo (WIRELESS)

Sorry, can't do that.  
What...uh....exactly are you?

SCORPION 3 PILOT (WIRELESS)

Well I'm not a Cylon if that's what you  
mean. Anything more personal and you're  
gonna have to buy me dinner.

INT. APOLLO'S VIPER - CONSOLE POV

Apollo searches for direction.

Apollo

If you can stomach 2 year old K rations.

(beat)

Power down all of your systems. We're gonna reel you in.

SCORPION 3 PILOT (WIRELESS)

Roger that Viper 105.

Apollo

Raptor 1, come in.

RAPTOR 1 PILOT (WIRELESS)

Heard you loud and clear, Captain. Moving in.

INT. RAPTOR 1 - CONSOLE POV

The Pilot operates the console.

SCORPION 3 PILOT (WIRELESS)

Powering Down.

RAPTOR 1 C.O.

No radiological weapons detected. Ship is venting fuel.

RAPTOR 1 PILOT

Let's reel it in.

EXT. SPACE - RAPTOR 1 - HULL CAMERA POV

Raptor 1 positions itself over the Scorpion, enveloping it in shadow again. A claw extends from Raptor 1 and attaches to the hull of the Scorpion.

RAPTOR 1 C.O. (WIRELESS)

We've got a lock.

RAPTOR 1 PILOT (WIRELESS)  
Galactica. Raptor 1. Trailer is hitched.

GAETA (WIRELESS)  
Raptor 1 you are cleared into the port  
landing bay.

RAPTOR 1 PILOT (WIRELESS)  
Roger that Galactica.

Raptor 1 and Scorpion slowly turn and thrust toward the  
Galactica.

INT. GALACTICA - PASSAGEWAYS/GANGWAYS

Tigh & Adama hustle.

ADAMA  
I always wondered if the rumors were  
true...but I thought they were just that,  
rumors.

TIGH  
What rumors?

ADAMA  
Remember the stuffy ship commander  
conferences, the ones at the big hotels  
on Picon?

TIGH  
I remember the nights you said were only  
for ship commanders...

ADAMA  
Long after the speeches, and after most  
of the men had too much to drink, some of  
the officers would talk about seeing  
things, things you don't talk about...  
Unidentified flying objects, advanced  
design ships appearing, then  
disappearing, propulsion systems faster  
and more advanced than anything in the  
(MORE)

ADAMA (CONT'D)  
fleet.

TIGH  
Things you don't say...

ADAMA  
If you want to keep your job....

TIGH  
...and stay out of the loony bin.

INT. GALACTICA - PORT LANDING BAY - DECK CAMERA POV

Raptor 1 flies the Scorpion into the bay and drops it onto the magnetic lift.

INT. REPAIR BAY - CONTINUOUS

MARINES surround the battle-scarred ship. MECHANICS stare wide-eyed at what appears to be a snub-nosed Viper with the skin of a Cylon Raider. It is stark black, with no insignias, lettering, or identifying marks of any kind. DECKHANDS and Chief Tyrol stand at the perimeter.

DECKHAND  
Have you ever seen anything like that?

TYROL  
Only in my dreams.  
The canopy slowly OPENS.

MARINE SERGEANT  
(face on rifle stock)  
Hands up! Step out of the cockpit. Keep your hands where I can see them at all times.

Rising out of the Scorpion cockpit is DAVIDAN. Black, early 30s, he's wearing a flight suit similar to the Colonials, only it is pure black with no visible rank or other insignias.

DAVIDAN

I won't make any sudden movements either,  
Sergeant.

Apollo APPROACHES.

DAVIDAN (CONT'D)

(cocky and informal)

Captain Apollo. I'm Davidan. Call sign  
Back Door. Caprica Scorpion Squadron  
Romeo. Friends call me Dave.

Apollo doesn't quite know how to respond.

APOULLO

There's no such squadron on Caprica...

DAVIDAN

There was, and still is.  
Apollo looks at him in complete  
disbelief.

APOULLO

You have a lot of questions to answer.  
Sergeant. Take Mr. Davidan to  
Interrogation.

MARINE

Yessir.

DAVIDAN

(to Apollo)

I'll answer your questions...

(to Marines)

I just need to make one stop.

INT. BUNKROOM - DUALLA'S BUNK - MOMENTS LATER

Duala is propped up in her bunk. Billy feeds her soup.

DUALLA

(sipping)

Aach! Where'd you learn to cook?

BILLY  
It's my mother's recipe. It tastes  
terrible, but it does the job. Now eat!

Dualla sighs. She takes a big swig and has to close her eyes to swallow. Slowly opening them again, her eyes practically explode as they widen, tears forming in the corners and her mouth falling open.

Billy puts the spoon of soup to her mouth. Not seeing the spoon she attempts to speak, but nothing comes out, and soup dribbles down her shirt.

DUALLA  
D...D...D...Dave???

Billy turns. At the door, coming out of the shadow of the passageway, surrounded by Marine guards, is Davidan.

Dualla gets up shakily from her bottom bunk, ignoring her dizziness. She blows past Billy and into Davidan's arms.

Confused and defeated, Billy stands up, surveying the scene of two people holding each other out of deep love and affection. The pain on his face is obvious.

Billy nervously begins tidying up the area.

DUALLA (CONT'D)  
You're alive...how? You should be dead!

DAVIDAN  
I'm very much alive Peaches.

DUALLA  
(gurgly)  
I've missed you so much.

DAVIDAN  
I'm here now Anna.

DUALLA  
(pulling back a bit)  
How did you survive the attack? Where  
(MORE)

DUALLA (CONT'D)  
have you been all this time? What about  
Mom & Dad?

Adama and Tigh appear in the hatchway, observing the scene.

DAVIDAN  
(looking over his shoulder)  
It's a long story and I think I'm going  
to have to explain that to these guys  
first. Then we can talk...

Holding her by the shoulders he puts her at arms length and looks her over.

DAVIDAN (CONT'D)  
In the meantime, you don't look so good  
kiddo.

DUALLA  
Just a little virus.

Billy, cleaning up, drops the spoon from the soup onto the floor.

DUALLA (CONT'D)  
(remembering)  
Billy, uh, Dave. Dave, Billy.

They shake hands awkwardly.

DUALLA (CONT'D)  
Billy...Dave's my brother.

Billy's face registers relief.

DUALLA (CONT'D)  
(to Davidan)  
Billy's my...friend. He's been taking  
care of me, like you used to.

Billy shrugs.

ADAMA  
(losing patience)  
Sorry to break up the family reunion...

DUALLA  
Yessir. Sorry.

DAVIDAN  
We'll catch up later.  
(to Billy)  
Take care of my Anna.

BILLY  
(smiling)  
Will do.

The Marines take Davidan by the shoulder and EXIT.

ADAMA  
(to Dualla)  
You'll get time to catch up. Right now we have some questions for him.

DUALLA  
Yessir...sir?

ADAMA  
Yeah, D?

DUALLA  
How did he get here?

ADAMA  
That's what we're going to find out.  
Adama and Tigh EXIT.

INT. GALACTICA - PASSAGEWAYS/GANGWAYS

Starbuck catches up to Apollo, who is following behind Adama and Tigh.

STARBUCK  
I hear some ship blew your ass away and the only reason you caught up to it was  
(MORE)

STARBUCK (CONT'D)  
because it broke down.

Starbuck makes engine-choking NOISES.

Apollo  
Ha. Ha. Ha.

Adama and Tigh stop and turn to Apollo.

TIGH  
How did it look, Apollo?

Apollo  
That thing was fast. With all three engines working it did blow us away.

STARBUCK  
Cylon?

Apollo  
Close-up it looks Cylon. Well, what the Cylons would build if they built a Viper.

ADAMA  
So it's a Cylon ship?

TIGH  
And he's a Cylon?

Apollo  
...I can't say.

ADAMA (CONT'D)  
Starbuck. I want you to take a look at that ship. Give it a good once-over, then go over it again. I want you to find out everything about it. I need to know if it is Cylon.

STARBUCK  
Yessir.  
(to Apollo)  
(MORE)

STARBUCK (CONT'D)  
Leave this to the experts...

Apollo  
That's funny. I reel 'em in so you can  
clean and gut 'em.

Starbuck EXITS.

Tigh  
Do you think the Cylons have made a  
Viper?

Apollo  
Why not? They've made nearly perfect,  
hard to destroy, upgraded copies of  
people, why not Vipers?

Adama  
I think the three of us need to have a  
word with this Dave.

Apollo  
You don't think...I mean he really seemed  
to be Dee's brother.

Tigh  
Dee hasn't seen anyone in her family in  
over two years.

Adama  
We're not taking any chances.

INT. GALACTICA - INTERROGATION ROOM

The room is dark. Davidan sits stationed at one side of the room, behind a table. Four marines man the corners of the room. On the table is a glass of water and a notepad.

Adama, Tigh and Apollo ENTER.

ADAMA  
(as he enters and to the  
point)  
(MORE)

ADAMA (CONT'D)  
Are you a Cylon agent?

DAVIDAN  
Boy, you cut to the chase, don't you?

ADAMA  
Let's just say I've had it up to here  
with Cylons that look like humans.

DAVIDAN  
No.

ADAMA  
No what.

DAVIDAN  
No, I'm not a Cylon agent.

ADAMA  
(unmoved)  
I need you to prove to me you're not a  
Cylon agent.

Davidan laughs. Tigh gives a look to Adama.

ADAMA (CONT'D)  
What's so funny?

Davidan leans forward into the light a bit.

DAVIDAN  
I should be interrogating you.  
Your little rag-tag fleet has so many  
holes in it that you could fly a  
Carrillonian freighter in here full of  
Cylon agents and you would never be the  
wiser.

ADAMA  
Whether or not that is true, it doesn't  
give you a workable alibi from my  
perspective.

DAVIDAN

My group is the ONLY remaining Colonial entity not contaminated by Cylon agents.

TIGH

Poof! You appear out of nowhere. The only things in this universe that appear out of nowhere are Cylons. What reason do I have to believe you're not one of them?

Davidan leans back again on his chair into the shadows.

DAVIDAN

I don't know what I can prove to you except that I'm Lieutenant Davidan Dualla, Anna's brother, and a Colonial Scorpion pilot, Caprica Squadron Romeo.

TIGH

There's no such frakking Colonial ship!  
Or squadron!

Apollo

That ship you were flying...it looks like a Viper...but it also looks Cylon.  
Davidan leans back further and rests one of his legs on the table.

DAVIDAN

The Scorpion has the same basic design as a Viper. Launch tube capable, similar mechanics and redundant systems configuration. It's actually called the Viper, Mark Eleven. The lead designer was Leonin, so we changed the name to honor the small, agile and incredibly deadly desert scorpions of Leonis.

TIGH

Mark Eleven, my ass. I've seen the schematics for the Mark Eight. That was just on the drawing board at Picon fleet  
(MORE)

TIGH (CONT'D)  
headquarters when the Cylons attacked.

DAVIDAN  
(to Tigh)  
Come on Colonel, don't be so naive. The fleet is generations behind what we have.

Tigh scowls.

ADAMA  
We?

DAVIDAN  
Special ops group, Operation Phoenix. Carprica Squadron Romeo. There are multiple Scorpion squadrons, but each operates independently, as an individual cell. No overt contact between groups is allowed and no networked communications. Encrypted transmissions are sent regarding Cylon movements in the Colonies, but for protection of the cells, no open contact is allowed.

ADAMA  
Who's your commanding officer?

DAVIDAN  
Admiral Montgomery.

TIGH  
Montgomery's dead...he was killed four years ago in that reactor explosion on the Agamemnon.

A slight smile grows in the corner of Davidan's mouth.

Adama sits on the edge of the table.

ADAMA  
You're telling us he never died.

As Adama sits, Davidan sits up and replaces his foot on the ground.

DAVIDAN

I'm telling you nothing except that my superior officer is Admiral Montgomery. You connect the dots in whatever way you see fit.

INT. REPAIR BAY - SCORPION

Starbuck and Tyrol are going over the hull of the ship.

TYROL

A lot of this scoring is pretty old. This ship has seen plenty of action.

STARBUCK

Yeah but which side has she been fighting on?

Starbuck OPENS the canopy.

The cockpit resembles the Viper cockpit, but this one is more advanced and sleek black, like the outside.

Looking over the displays she sees a picture and picks it up.

STARBUCK (CONT'D)

Oh my Gods, she's just a baby.

ON PICTURE: Dee as a teenager with her Mom, Dad (scowling) and Davidan (in a regulation Colonial cadet uniform, not his black ops uniform).

TYROL

Who?

He grabs the photo.

STARBUCK

D.

TYROL

Do you think this guy could be her real brother?

STARBUCK

yeah, maybe. Gods, I hope he's not a  
Cylon like...

TYROL

Like Sharon?

STARBUCK

Yeah. That would really be hard on D.

TYROL

(quieter)

It would be hard on anyone.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM

Adama is pacing, eager.

ADAMA

So, Operation Phoenix, this was some kind of "black op"?

DAVIDAN

Operation Phoenix is a special ops group, used to test advanced weapons systems, ships...things that must not be seen in the light of day for reasons of Colonial security.

Apollo

But your ship has Cylon technology.

DAVIDAN

The Cylons use the most advanced polymer skins for fighter craft, absorbing fire and flak much better than any Colonial material. It was only logical to incorporate this into the design of the next generation Viper.

Adama takes a new approach.

ADAMA

You knew we were out here. Why haven't you attempted to make contact with Galactica.

DAVIDAN

This is a guerrilla war. We use guerrilla tactics. On our board the Galactica fleet is just another resistance cell, one which has been infiltrated by Cylon agents, negating any chance of open contact. If we made overt contact with  
(MORE)

DAVIDAN (CONT'D)  
you, the Cylons who've contaminated your little fleet could bring down a world of hurt on us.

ADAMA  
If this is so top secret, why are you telling us all of this.

DAVIDAN  
Because we've been fighting the Cylons every day since the attack. Our existence and relative numbers are no secret to them. It's our isolation that will protect us from full scale attack.

TIGH  
So if your ship hadn't been damaged, we still wouldn't know you exist.

DAVIDAN  
The debris field we're flying through-- that was a Cylon trap waiting for your fleet, and you flew directly into it.

TIGH  
We would've jumped.

DAVIDAN  
Possibly. But maybe this time Galactica's FTL drive doesn't work, or maybe they get a nuke placed in the middle of the fleet before you jump. The point is this isn't the first time we've been there for you.

TIGH  
(chuckling)  
What're you saying...you're our guardian angels or something like that?

DAVIDAN  
In a manner of speaking. Why do you think the Cylons haven't come down on you with  
(MORE)

DAVIDAN (CONT'D)  
everything they have? Because THEY KNOW  
you aren't the last humans...and because  
we sometimes help out a bit.

ADAMA  
Our computers estimated two basestars  
worth of metal in that debris field.  
Apollo, standing in the shadow of the  
doorway steps forward, this is his first  
clue to the composition of the debris  
field.

APOLLO  
You took out two baseships and all of the  
Raiders?

DAVIDAN  
I can't take credit for the Raiders. Once  
we took out the basestars most of the  
Raiders bugged out.

TIGH  
Two basestars--the frak you did!

Davidan leans forward bracing against the table.

DAVIDAN  
So why don't you give me your theory.

TIGH  
I think you're a Cylon agent, put in the  
middle of a debris field with a great  
story, left to be picked up by us, so you  
could infiltrate the Galactica.

DAVIDAN  
Right, I'm a Cylon and we, the Cylons,  
blew up 2 of our basestars so we could  
infiltrate the Galactica resistance  
cell...which has already been infiltrated  
for some time now.

ADAMA

We don't know exactly what motivates the Cylons, but they have sacrificed assets like basestars for tactical reasons before...

Adama shutters and freezes as he FLASHES BACK to Boomer SHOOTING him in the chest.

Tigh looks at Adama frozen in mid-thought.

TIGH

(completing Adama's thought)

...and they would do it again. All we know about the debris field is that it contains the debris equivalent of 2 basestars, we don't know if the debris is 2 basestars.

DAVIDAN

Well, then I think you should figure that one out.

TIGH

(ready to punch Davidan)

I think we should.

Adama, coming to, places himself between Tigh & Davidan.

ADAMA

(pushing the notepad toward Davidan)

In case you think of anything else you would like to tell us.

Adama, Tigh and Apollo EXIT.

INT. BUNKROOM - DUALLA'S BUNK

Dualla, bracing herself against the wall, grabs her towel and shower pail and moves toward the door.

DUALLA

I've got to clean this sickness off of  
me.

BILLY

You're not going to be able to see him...

DUALLA

I'm just going to take a--

She stumbles at the door. Billy rushes over to help her.

DUALLA (CONT'D)

I can do it!

BILLY

D... what if he's not your--I mean what  
about Sharon? Nobody could tell.

DUALLA

He is. I can feel it.

She puts her head on his chest and stares  
into the distance.

INT. ADAMA'S STATEROOM

Tigh and Adama sip coffee. Adama shells nuts with a  
nutcracker, picking the meat out with his forefingers.

NUT-CRACKING SOUNDS.

ADAMA

I want him tested.

TIGH

Baltar's stuck back with the fleet. We  
could send a Raptor...

ADAMA

I don't want Baltar to do the test and I  
want no contact with the fleet until  
we've figured out who this guy is and  
what's in this debris field.

CRACK!

TIGH  
How should we test him then?  
Doorbell SOUNDS.

ADAMA  
Enter!

Gaeta ENTERS.

GAETA  
You wanted to see me sir?

ADAMA  
Mr. Gaeta, you've worked on the Cylon  
detector with Doctor Baltar. Can you run  
the test?

GAETA  
I don't think so.

ADAMA  
You don't think so? What were you doing  
all those hours with him?

GAETA  
I never completely understood how the  
test worked, how it was structured, the  
complete testing protocol...

Tigh looks at Adama. CRACK!

ADAMA  
Too complicated?

GAETA  
No, not really. He would just have me  
work on different sections of code and he  
would never explain the whole test. But,  
the parts I did work on didn't seem to  
make much sense...it seemed like a lot of  
busy work to me.

TIGH  
Busywork?

GAETA  
First Dr. Baltar claimed the test parameters were one thing, then another. I'm not sure he ever tested the same criteria twice.

TIGH  
(to Adama)  
I told you that son-of-a-bitch was shifty.

Gaeta smirks. CRACK!

ADAMA  
We've got to try something--at least make D's brother, or whoever that is, think we can detect whether or not he is a Cylon.

TIGH  
Put a good scare into him.

GAETA  
I could run the test using the parameters from the last time Doctor Baltar ran the program. It should still be in memory. After that we could have Doc Cottle run a full body scan. At least then we could detect any metal alloys, microchips, or other foreign objects.

ADAMA  
Set it up and report to me as soon as you're ready.

GAETA  
Yes Sir.

Gaeta EXITS.

ADAMA  
(to Tigh)  
I want you there during those tests.

CRACK!

TIGH  
I'll watch him like a hawk.

INT. REPAIR BAY

Starbuck and Tyrol, covered in grease, work on the underbelly of the Scorpion.

Adama, slowly, but deliberately, approaches the Scorpion. He circles it once and lightly touches the back of one wing.

Starbuck notices and stops working.

Starbuck's POV: Following Adama circle the Scorpion.

STARBUCK  
(hesitant)  
Creepy, isn't it...sir?

Adama, deep in thought, doesn't immediately respond.

STARBUCK (CONT'D)  
...if it's actually Colonial, that is...

Adama, still distant, looks down to Tyrol.

TYROL  
(needing to say something)  
It's a Viper...well, essentially. Same engine design, just much more efficient-- stronger composite metals throughout the manifold allow for increased power in a slightly smaller package.  
(pointing to the guns, then the underbelly)  
Same ammo package, but these barrels receive thrust assistance from the power plant making the bullets travel 25%  
(MORE)

TYROL (CONT'D)  
faster and doubling their explosive force. Same missile racks, except for these two hidden mounts, protected by thin lead shielding, which appear to be capable of carrying two small nuclear missiles. The ship has its own FTL drive, integrating Colonial technology, which is far more advanced than Galactica's, with Cylon technology.

ADAMA  
Is it Colonial then?

STARBUCK  
We don't know for sure. It has a similar skin to the Raider we captured...

TYROL  
... set on top of a Colonial skeleton. The computers, the weapons, the engines, the avionics, they all seem to be of Colonial design, just highly modified with Cylon technology.

ADAMA  
Thank-you chief.

Adama runs his hand down the hull. Starbuck looks up again.

ADAMA (CONT'D)  
Starbuck. As soon as you and the Chief get this up and running, why don't you take her for a spin.

Starbuck gets a shit-eating grin on her face and turns to Tyrol.

STARBUCK  
Yes Sir! You heard the man Chief. Get to work!

TYROL  
(to Adama)  
Thanks. Sir.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM

Adama ENTERS. Davidan is jotting something on the notepad in the shadows.

ADAMA  
Grocery list?

DAVIDAN  
I could use some fresh vegetables and a case of ambrosia now that you mention it.

ADAMA  
Couldn't we all?

DAVIDAN  
Did you know that feral wheat and corn, some wild fruits, berries...are growing everywhere on Caprica?

ADAMA  
No I didn't.

DAVIDAN  
Sometimes you want to run out and eat it right in the field--except for the radioactivity. In some areas the plants glow at night. It is the most beautiful and deadly thing I've ever seen.

Adama pauses, but moves ahead with his questioning.

ADAMA  
(leaning in)  
Something's been bothering me. How did you integrate what you've said is Cylon technology into the Viper design so quickly with all the manufacturing capacity of the Colonies destroyed?

DAVIDAN  
The Skunkworks on Picon isn't dependent on private manufacturing capacity. It is the secret division of the Colonial Corps  
(MORE)

DAVIDAN (CONT'D)  
of Engineers. Self-contained, isolated.

ADAMA  
So they produced these fighters in less than a year under war conditions with limited access to resources?

DAVIDAN  
The Skunkworks did produce the Scorpion, as well as a few other ships...for much longer than a year.

ADAMA  
How long?

DAVIDAN  
(leaning in)  
I've been flying my Scorpion for over two and a half years.

ADAMA  
The Scorpion squadrons existed before the Cylon attack...how?

DAVIDAN  
The Cylons appeared a little over four years ago. A ship here, a ship there, we knew...

ADAMA  
Who knew?

DAVIDAN  
Phoenix intelligence. We knew they were watching us. We were gathering data on them when we got a gift from the Gods.

ADAMA  
A gift?

DAVIDAN  
A Raider jumped into the upper atmosphere of Geminon, smashing right into a weather  
(MORE)

DAVIDAN (CONT'D)

satellite. A Phoenix patrol picked it up and we spent the next 3 months reverse engineering the ship, then slowly we began integrating the best design elements into our ships. We knew we were in trouble and our only chance was to adapt enough technology before they could strike--if they would strike. We were never sure.

ADAMA

And you didn't tell anyone?

DAVIDAN

Of course we did! The Quorum oversight committee, President Adar, they all knew.

ADAMA

I can't believe they kept this a secret from the fleet.

DAVIDAN

Like the location of earth?

Adama busted.

DAVIDAN (CONT'D)

They probably felt that if the fleet knew, and the Cylons found out, the Cylons would attack. They figured if we could keep it quiet, develop the technology, eventually we'd be able to create a strong enough defense before the Cylons figured out we'd stolen their technology.

ADAMA

Pretty big gamble...and now 12 billion dead.

DAVIDAN

That wasn't my call. I was just following orders.

ADAMA

Why didn't you get the advanced fighters out to more of the fleet?

DAVIDAN

The last Phoenix squadron was put in place only three weeks before the Cylon attack. There was no way the Quorum would have approved the increase in the military budget necessary to produce greater numbers of Scorpions for the regular fleet.

ADAMA

But, if the public knew about the Cylons...

DAVIDAN

Like I said, that wasn't my call, but I understand the conundrum.

ADAMA

What would you have done?

DAVIDAN

I don't know...The rear-view mirror always has perfect focus. Where you've been is clearer than where you're going.

ADAMA

Welcome to my universe.

INT. GALACTICA - ENGINE ROOM

This is the dark, dirty and hot part of Galactica. The bowels of the ship. It is loud. Everyone working here wears grease-coated long-faded blaze orange jumpsuits and has earmuffs and protective goggles on.

Some sealed compartments and access ports have noise suppression allowing crew members to speak.

An ENLISTED CREWMAN (without earmuffs) is on the floor working on an access panel when two other enlisted MECHANICS enter, removing their earmuffs to communicate.

MECHANIC 1

Where did it come from?

MECHANIC 2

Nobody knows. Four other ships jumped away as our Vipers reached its location.

MECHANIC 1

Is it really shaped like a Viper?

MECHANIC 2

That's what they say. It's a Viper, but with a Cylon skin.

The Enlisted Crewman stops working. Slightly tilts his head to hear better.

MECHANIC 1

Do you think it's a Cylon ship?

MECHANIC 2

I don't know. Why would the Cylons waste time making a Viper knockoff? Seems pretty inefficient to me.

MECHANIC 1

Let's finish that coupling maintenance and see if we can take a look at the ship.

MECHANIC 2

I'm with ya.

They EXIT, closing the hatch behind them.

On their exit the Enlisted Crewman sets down his tools, stands up and turns to REVEAL that he is another copy of the Cylon agent SIMON. He has a beard and is covered with oil and grime, a blue-collar Cylon.

On Simon's stare...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. BUNKROOM - DUALLA'S BUNK

Duala is cleaning up, trying to put fresh clothes on. The room is brighter.

BILLY

D, where are you going?

DUALLA

I don't know...outta here!

BILLY

But, you need to rest. You can speak to Dave later.

DUALLA

I don't know if I want to speak to him, but I would like to do some things to him.

She trips as she puts her pants on and falls face first into her bunk.

BILLY

You can barely walk.

DUALLA

I can do this William!

BILLY

Fine. But, I'm not helping you.

DUALLA

Fine.

She tries to get out of bed, gets dizzy and falls back down.

DUALLA (CONT'D)  
(saccharine sweet)  
Biillly...damn it!

Billy looks over his shoulder at Dualla, frozen, conflicted.

INT. MEDLAB

Gaeta fumbles around with different computers and machines as Tigh, Apollo and the Marines bring in Davidan.

GAETA  
I'm just about ready. Please sit down.

Tigh nervously eyes Gaeta's fumbling. It doesn't appear that Gaeta has a clue what he's doing.

DAVIDAN  
(still cocky)  
So, this is your 100% guaranteed or your money back Cylon detector.

TIGH  
It's worked before.

DAVIDAN  
I'm sure it has, but can you be sure it will work now?

GAETA  
(not looking up)  
Doctor Baltar has added a number of fail-safes.

Davidan chuckles. The marines sit him behind a bank of computers.

Gaeta stops typing and looks up.

TIGH  
What's so funny?

DAVIDAN

It was through his program that the Cylons infiltrated the Defense net.

APOLLO

We know.

Gaeta picks up a syringe and takes a sample of Davidan's blood.

DAVIDAN

Did you know that Doctor Baltar was commissioned to write his code from scratch, but instead he used the old Defense mainframe O.S.? He used old, corrupted code to reduce his development costs. Essentially, he just patched new programs onto the old system, leaving all the old wormholes and virus susceptibilities behind.

Gaeta finishes taking the blood sample.

GAETA

I'm going to scan this sample for traces of certain rare elements and precursors.

Dualla STORMS in and almost falls down. Billy, following close behind, holds her steady.

DUALLA

What did Dad say to you just before you left for the last time?

Tigh, Apollo and Gaeta stand back, aware of her fury.

DAVIDAN

(pleading)

Anna...

DUALLA

Well?

DAVIDAN

(slightly embarrassed)

He said that I was a patriotic fool for joining up in the first place and I was an incompetent moron for flunking out.

Gaeta goes back to the computer.

Apollo

(puzzled)

Flunked out?

DUALLA

(first to Apollo, then Dave)

...of the academy. What was Mom's favorite color?

DAVIDAN

Seafoam blue.

DUALLA

Where did Mom & Dad spend their twenty-fifth anniversary?

DAVIDAN

The Quartz Islands. Anna, don't do this. I remember everything we've ever done together.

TIGH

You flunked out of the academy?

DUALLA

(to Davidan)

Just up until you disappeared.

DAVIDAN

I had to go.

DUALLA

You ran away. You left us...

DAVIDAN

That's what I had to say.

DUALLA

Dad was furious when you were accepted, but they both were so destroyed when you got kicked out. Dad couldn't stand his only son being both a fool and a failure.

DAVIDAN

That's why I didn't have to 'die.'

DUALLA/APOLLO/TIGH

Die?

DAVIDAN

Most Phoenix recruits have to 'die.' From timely heart attacks, rare diseases, in freak accidents. Because of Dad's history of hatred for the military and the fact that Mom couldn't face a washout it was plausible that I could just run away, disappear--that I was so embarrassed I could never come home again.

DUALLA

Mom was bad when you washed out, but when you ran away--she would keep the phone by her all day waiting for you to call. You never did.

Billy helps D sit.

DAVIDAN

If I could've told her the truth she would've been so proud. Dad wouldn't've been happy, but knowing I was flying with the best...he could've lived with it. But, I could never tell anyone. I was chosen to fly ships so secret only 500 people in the entire Colonies knew of their existence.

Apollo  
Five hundred?

Dualla  
Mom would've been proud of you no matter where you ended up, as long as she could see you and brag to her friends about you.

Davidan  
I looked for her after the attack.

Dualla  
Well?

Davidan  
Nothing.

Dualla  
Home?

Davidan  
Gone.

Dualla gulps, tears of closure stream down her face.

Dualla  
They both loved you so much. They never deserved to be abandoned like that and now they're dead. And you knew the Cylons were watching the Colonies.

Davidan  
I'm sorry. I couldn't, they wouldn't let us...even our families...

Dualla  
After you left, he couldn't talk to me anymore. He was so bitter when he looked at me...like he was seeing you...and then I enlisted--I guess to try to make up for your failure and...

DAVIDAN

...Anna, I'm sorry. I joined Phoenix because in the end I believed it would make them proud. I didn't do it just for me, Gods I wanted so bad to call them...and you.

Computer BEEPS.

ON SCREEN: "Inconclusive-not enough data"

DAVIDAN (CONT'D)

(turning on a dime to Gaeta)

How's your test coming along?

Gaeta looks at Tigh. Tigh walks around to view the screen.

GAETA

(fidgety)

Ah, the computer's having some problems interpreting the scans. It'll take some more time...

TIGH

Meanwhile, we'll take you back to holding.

Dualla, tears in her eyes, looks at Davidan, stands up shakily using Billy as a crutch, 180's and exits.

DAVIDAN

(to Apollo)

She just needs some time...

APOLLO

...and honest answers from...

DAVIDAN

...her brother. If I really am her brother, right?

APOLLO

(grunts)

Something like that.

INT. REPAIR BAY

The Scorpion's engines look better, repaired. Tyrol and Starbuck are covered in a thicker layer of grease and grime.

Apollo ENTERS.

STARBUCK

How'do you like our new toy Apollo?

APOLLO

Toy is not the word I would use to describe what this thing can do.

Tyrol wipes his hands off.

TYROL

I'll have the engines ready in an hour or so, then she'll be good enough for a flight test. Weapons will be offline, though.

APOLLO

(to Starbuck)

That's why you're so excited. You think you get to...

STARBUCK

Frakkin' right I'm drivin'. The old man said I could. And if there was space, Chief would get the first ride for getting her to fly again.

Tyrol smiles out of the corner of his mouth.

TYROL

There is no way I'm getting in any ship with you, sir.

STARBUCK

(smiling, then to Apollo)

How's "D's brother" doing upstairs?

Apollo  
Inconclusive.

In the background Simon ENTERS, and watches the Scorpion from a distance, measuring...plotting.

SIMON'S POV: The ship, Starbuck, Apollo and Tyrol, as well as ten or more Marine guards. Too many to rush.

Starbuck  
Inconclusive?

Apollo  
Gaeta ran Doctor Baltar's Cylon Detector and the results came back inconclusive.

Tyrol rolls his eyes, Starbuck follows with a snort, and Apollo laughs.

Starbuck  
That could mean anything.

Apollo  
D's pretty shaken up.

Starbuck  
That happens when you see a ghost.

Simon looks around, grabs a Marine riot (ammo) belt off of a mechanics case and EXITS.

INT. DOC COTTELE'S MED LAB

Doc and Tigh watch on monitors. Davidan is in the dark in the MRI machine in the next room. Doc talks with Tigh.

Adama ENTERS.

DOC  
There appears to be a subdermal device of some kind on the upper back by the shoulder blade...here.

ON SCREEN: Doc points to a spot above the shoulder blade.

ADAMA  
What do you think it is?

DOC  
I'm not sure, but it's right underneath  
the skin. It'll be no problem taking it  
out...

ACTION STATIONS KLAXON SOUNDS.

GAETA  
(intercom)  
Commander Adama. Report to CIC  
immediately.

ADAMA  
(to Doc)  
Call me as soon as you figure out what  
that device is.

Adama and Tigh RUN OUT.

INT. GALACTICA - CIC

Adama and Tigh ENTER.

ADAMA  
Whadda we got?

GAETA  
Intermittent Dradis contacts. Ships  
jumping in and out.

TIGH  
Identification?

GAETA  
None.

TIGH  
Scorpions?

ADAMA  
Launch Apollo and the alert fighters.

INT. LAUNCH TUBES

Vipers launch.

EXT. SPACE - GALACTICA - FLIGHT POD

Vipers BLASTING out of launch tubes.

INT. GALACTICA - CIC

Gaeta hangs up the phone.

GAETA

Alert fighters away.

APOLLO (WIRELESS)

Galactica. Apollo. Thirty seconds to intercept.

GAETA

(looking at screen)

Contacts gone!

ON DRADIS SCREEN: Blips disappear.

TIGH

Where'd they go?

GAETA

Hold on...

ON DRADIS SCREEN: Blips reappear on the other side of the monitor.

GAETA (CONT'D)

Contacts reappeared at eighty one carom seven.

Adama picks up a handset.

ADAMA

(on handset)

Hangar Bay, give me Starbuck.

TIGH

Mr. Gaeta, get all of the pilots to their ships. With all this jumping around we're gonna need some cover.

GAETA

yessir.

Gaeta picks up a com link.

GAETA (CONT'D)

(on handset)

All pilots, man your Vipers. Repeat, all pilots, man your Vipers.

INT. REPAIR BAY

Pilots RUN past Tyrol and Starbuck.

STARBUCK

(on handset)

yessir.

Starbuck replaces the handset.

STARBUCK (CONT'D)

Gotta go, chief.

TYROL

No, no, no--we haven't even tested...

STARBUCK

That's what I'm about to do.

Starbuck RUNS out of the Repair Bay to get her flight gear.

TYROL

(mutters)

And that's why I'll never fly with you.

EXT. SPACE - APOLLO & HOT DOG'S VIPERS - CHASE CAMERA POV

Apollo and Hot Dog chase the intermittent flashes.

Apollo

Galactica. Apollo. We're getting nowhere.  
Everytime we approach, the bogies jump  
and reappear somewhere else. We're  
playing cat and mouse.

HOT DOG (WIRELESS)

Squeak.

INT. GALACTICA - CIC

Doc saunters in.

DOC

The device is definitely Colonial--it's  
an identification chip. The fleet was  
toying with putting these in every pilot  
for emergency identification and  
encrypted critical information storage...

ADAMA

So he's not a Cylon.

DOC

No. Not unless he's one by choice.  
Adama looks at Doc.

INT. GALACTICA - PASSAGEWAYS/GANGWAYS

Dualla, dazed, holds on to Billy and wanders.

At a junction she sends Billy away and ventures in the  
opposite direction.

Starbuck RUNS past Billy and Dualla.

STARBUCK

Make a hole!

Ahead at another junction Starbuck stops cold.

STARBUCK'S POV: From the back she sees an engine-room  
mechanic, somewhat out of place in a flight pod, walking up  
the passageway away from her.

Starbuck changes her path and begins to follow.

Rounding a bend she sees his familiar, if scruffy profile.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

## ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. GALACTICA - PASSAGeway/GANGWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Starbuck shakily starts chasing.

STARBUCK  
(almost choking)  
Simon.

**She RUNS FASTER.**

STARBUCK (CONT'D)  
(gaining courage)

Approaching the interrogation room Simon picks up his pace, takes a flash-bang grenade from the riot belt and tosses it at the hatch where TWO MARINES stand guard.

Starbuck dives to the side as the grenade EXPLODES with a blinding FLASH, sending smoke everywhere.

Starbuck, shaken, rises to see the two guards stabbed to death on the floor, and Simon ENTERING the hatch.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Simon knifes the two closest guards with lightning-quick moves, then goes for Davidan, who parries the attack, knocks the blade away and kicks Simon backwards.

Simon, startled that a human has that kind of skill, comes at Davidan again, who spin-tosses him aikido-style over his shoulder and onto his back on the floor where the two remaining guards PUMP him with 15 rounds each.

Starbuck RUNS in and sees blood pouring out of Simon's mouth.

The Marines turn their aim to Davidan.

STARBUCK  
(eyes on Simon)  
He's a Cylon.

DAVIDAN  
I know. We've seen him a lot on Caprica.

STARBUCK  
(to one of the Guards)  
Get someone to clean up this mess!

GUARD 1  
Yessir.

Guard 1 EXITS. Dualla stands in the brightly lit doorway.

DUALLA  
He's a Cylon?

STARBUCK  
He's the model I met on Caprica.  
Dualla nods, looks at her brother.

DUALLA  
Sounds like your friends are out there.

DAVIDAN  
They don't like to leave anyone behind...

DUALLA  
Why didn't you try to contact me...just  
let me know you were okay? Why didn't you  
warn us?

Davidan is silent for once.

DUALLA (CONT'D)  
Mom and Dad are gone and I never got to  
tell Dad how much...

Dualla can't look at him.

DAVIDAN

I know you blame me for Mom and Dad's  
death...and their unhappiness before.

He moves toward her, coming out of the shadows. She starts  
tearing up.

DAVIDAN (CONT'D)  
You're still my Peach, Anna.

DUALLA

Don't call me that, not right now.

DAVIDAN

Some day I'll try to make it up to you.  
Someday we'll get those bastards for  
good... then maybe we can...

He goes to hug her. She stiffens, then relents. In another  
smooth aikido-like move he turns her to the side, sliding  
past her, he grabs one of the last marine guard's gun, puts  
the guard in a choke hold and points it at his head.

DUALLA

Dave!

STARBUCK

Don't do this!

DAVIDAN

Sorry, Anna.

DUALLA

But!...

STARBUCK

Put the gun down.

DAVIDAN

My orders supercede all regulation  
Colonial dictates. I'm not trying to hurt  
you, we just have to win this war.

Dave backs out the hatch with the hostage. Dualla tries to  
follow.

DAVIDAN (CONT'D)  
When this war is over, maybe then...

DUALLA  
Dave? No...

DAVIDAN  
Forgive me...

He pulls a piece of the notepad paper from his pocket and slips it to Dualla.

He slides out the door while shoving the marine back in. The hatch is locked.

INT. GALACTICA - PASSAGEWAY

Billy blocks Davidan's path, but stands back when he see's the gun.

BILLY  
Don't do this to her.

DAVIDAN  
I'm doing this for her, she's all I've got left.

BILLY  
Me too.

Davidan turns, then runs down the passageway. Billy turns to work on the hatch.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Billy OPENS the hatch and hugs Dualla. Starbuck runs out.

STARBUCK  
He's going for the Scorpion. Tell Tyrol I'm coming.

INT. REPAIR BAY - MOMENTS LATER

Tyrol and the Scorpion are surrounded by FIFTEEN MARINES.

Davidan peaks around a corner and sensing no option here

charges down a different passageway.

INT. GALACTICA - CIC

ON DRADIS SCREEN: Green blip "Scorpion 1" heads away from Galactica.

GAETA  
Scorpion launched Sir.

ADAMA  
Who is it?

GAETA  
I don't know Sir-

STARBUCK (WIRELESS)  
Galactica. Starbuck. I have the Scorpion.  
Copy.

GAETA  
Copy that Starbuck.

ADAMA  
Mr. Gaeta. I want every available  
deckhand searching for Mr. Dualla.

GAETA  
Yes Sir.

INT. SCORPION COCKPIT - CONSOLE POV

Starbuck, wide-eyed looking at everything. She hits the TURBOS and is pushed back into her seat.

STARBUCK  
Wha-hoo! What's the matter guys? Your  
rides got no giddy-up?

EXT. SPACE - VIPERS & SCORPION - WIDE SHOT

Starbuck's Scorpion and Apollo and Hot Dogs' Vipers fly in formation.

Starbuck does a few barrel rolls and sharp turns which the

Vipers can't mimic.

The other Scorpions UNFOLD again, this time closer.

INT. STARBUCK'S SCORPION - OVER THE SHOULDER CAMERA

Starbuck's cockpit DRADIS lights up.

STARBUCK

Got you now.

ON DRADIS SCREEN: Shows all four green blips, identified as "friendlies" - Scorpions Two, Four, Five and Seven.

Starbuck's scrambled wireless comes to life.

WIRELESS VOICE (WIRELESS)

Back Door, Back Door. This is Drive-By,  
come in.

EXT. SPACE - STARBUCK'S SCORPION - WING CAMERA POV

Starbuck's Scorpion approaches the other Scorpions.

STARBUCK (WIRELESS)

Hello, you have reached the cockpit of  
Lieutenant Dualla. He's not in right now.  
If you would like to leave a message, you  
can do so at the tone and he'll get back  
to you as soon as possible. BEEP.

No response.

INT. STARBUCK'S SCORPION - CONSOLE POV

Starbuck scanning the space-field.

STARBUCK

Drive-by? Come in.

No response.

STARBUCK (CONT'D)

Aw, C'mon guys. I know you're out there.

EXT. SPACE - STARBUCK'S SCORPION - OVERHEAD COCKPIT VIEW

The Scorpions turn toward Starbuck and the Vipers.

STARBUCK (WIRELESS)  
Oh Frak!

Starbuck tries to turn the ship, but before she can the four Scorpions buzz her ship and disappear.

DAVIDAN (WIRELESS)  
They won't talk to you.

STARBUCK  
Who is this?

INT. RAPTOR 2 - CONSOLE POV

Davidan flies the Raptor.

DAVIDAN  
You're flying my ship.

STARBUCK (WIRELESS)  
Why don't we meet back on Galactica so I can give it back to you.

DAVIDAN  
I'd love to, but you know I can't...

INT. STARBUCK'S SCORPION - CONSOLE POV

Starbuck looks for the disembodied voice...

STARBUCK  
What about D?

INT. APOLLO'S VIPER - CONSOLE POV

Apollo listens in.

DAVIDAN (WIRELESS)  
She'll understand. Someday.

STARBUCK (WIRELESS)  
Dave?

INT. STARBUCK'S SCORPION - CONSOLE POV

Starbuck summoning courage to ask:

DAVIDAN (WIRELESS)  
Go ahead.

STARBUCK  
Why did they choose you?

DAVIDAN (WIRELESS)  
Personality.

INT. STARBUCK'S SCORPION - OVER SHOULDER CAMERA

Through Starbuck's cockpit a Raptor flies overhead, waggles its wings, FOLDS IN and JUMPS away.

STARBUCK  
(chuckles)

Cockpit alarm SOUNDS in the Scorpion.

STARBUCK (CONT'D)  
Apollo, I've lost my number two engine.  
Looks like this test is over.

Apollo (WIRELESS)  
Roger that. We'll follow you back to the barn.

INT. HANGAR DECK

Apollo meets Starbuck at the Scorpion cockpit.

Apollo  
(excited)  
Well, what do you think?

STARBUCK  
(pensive)  
She's fast.

Apollo

What's the matter with you? You've wanted  
to fly something like this your whole  
career.

She doesn't respond.

Apollo (CONT'D)

(figuring it out)

Oh, I get it. You're sore because they  
never chose...you.

She turns to walk away. He follows.

Apollo (CONT'D)

The famous Starbuck was never chosen to  
fly the best planes in the fleet and that  
chaps your ass doesn't it?

Starbuck

They could've asked.

Apollo

They had their reasons.

Starbuck

Like what? I was the perfect candidate.  
The only reason they didn't take me has  
to be my flying.

Apollo

You don't know that.

Starbuck

Yeah, well if that wasn't it, what was?

INT. BUNKROOM - DUALLA'S BUNK

Duala is back in bed with a compress on her head. Billy sits  
next to her.

Adama ENTERS.

BILLY  
Commander.

DUALLA  
(trying to rise)  
Sir!

ADAMA  
(moving to her bed)  
Stay, don't get up. I just wanted you to  
know I am sorry your brother left. I know  
it brought up a lot of old feelings.

DUALLA  
So, the tests?

ADAMA  
He's your brother.

Dualla looks down, happy and sad at the same time.

BILLY  
I think it's good just knowing he's  
alive.

ADAMA  
That it is.

DUALLA  
Why? I just wish he could've warned  
us...somehow.

ADAMA  
I know of these projects. Extremely top-  
secret. If he had warned your parents he  
could've put their lives at risk long  
before the Cylons did.

Adama places his hand on her forearm.

BILLY  
What about the Scorpion squadrons? Are we  
going to contact them somehow?

ADAMA

Not right now. They don't want to be contacted and I don't think they are going to come out of the shadows until this war is over, whenever that is.

DUALLA

Will I ever see him again?

ADAMA

Someday. And that little present he left us could come in handy.

Adama goes to the door.

DUALLA

Commander.

ADAMA

Yes, D.

DUALLA

Dave gave me one more thing...

She reaches into her pocket and hands him the note.

Adama looks at it.

ADAMA

What do you think?

DUALLA

I think we should check it out.

ADAMA

(smiling)

Take care of her. I need her back in CIC as soon as possible.

BILLY

Yes Sir.

Adama EXITS.

EXT. SPACE - CYGNUS - WIDE SHOT

A Raptor UNFOLDS followed by the Scorpion piloted by Starbuck.

INT. RAPTOR 1 - CONSOLE POV

Apollo is piloting with Helo as C.O.

HELO  
Scanning third moon. Nothing. Wait a minute. Contacts!

APOLLO  
Whadda you got?

HELO  
One big, man she's a moose... fifteen smaller craft, all Colonial signals.

STARBUCK (WIRELESS)  
I've got the same readings. Definitely Colonial transponders.

BARGE PILOT (WIRELESS)  
Colonial Raptor this is the Hercules class long haul tug Sisyphus, come in.

APOLLO  
Read you loud and clear, Sisyphus.  
Where'd you come from?

BARGE PILOT  
A mutual friend of ours from Caprica sent us to these coordinates...said you could use some supplies and a little manpower.

EXT. SPACE - CYGNUS - WIDE SHOT

Out of the moon's shadow appears the Hercules with 15 Viper Mark Twos.

APOLLO (WIRELESS)  
Roger that.

BARGE PILOT (WIRELESS)  
I've got a Sandhog construction crew and

fifteen Vipers from the Battlestar  
Valiant. Whaddaya say, can you use the  
help?

STARBUCK (WIRELESS)  
Can we use the help?

INT. RAPTOR 1 - CONSOLE POV

Apollo laughs.

Apollo  
Aw, geez, I don't know.  
(to Helo)  
Launch the drone and contact Galactica.  
Tell them to set out some extra plates--  
we're bringing company to dinner.

EXT. SPACE - SCORPION & VIPERS - CHASE CAMERA POV

The fifteen Vipers (mark two) fly out to meet the Raptor and Scorpion as the Sisyphus hovers in the background.

WIRELESS VOICES  
(Laughing/chuckling/etc.)

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR