

"STRANGE HORIZONS: SURVIVING
ESPERANCE!"

"BY ANY OTHER NAME"

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Teaser

INT. EARTH. RED GLOBAL DE RADIODIFUSION DE MEDIOS. HQ.

DIABLO

(with Puerto Rican accent)
This is Francesco Diablo for Red Global de Radiodifusion de Medios, with breaking news. In a shocking development on Esperance Mars, a saboteur, Corporal Jonny Chang, nearly cost the colonists their lives, by cutting power, and thus heat, to the colony. He is naturally being deported from the colony to Earth, leaving the fleet heading for Mars, needing to trade off one qualified and balanced officer for a criminal, so as to meet the return to Earth weight-requirements. This decision is definitely going to cause friction between Earth Vi Spatium and Mars Vi Spatium, which seems to have been renamed, at least by Contraalmirante Martinez, Mars Flota Estelar. For Red Global de Radiodifusion de Medios. This is Francesco Diablo, signing off.

INT. EARTH. KIEV. MISSION CONTROL. BRIGHT.

SANKA

(with Jamaican accent)
Sometimes, I think that Francesco Diablo is trying to cause trouble. There is no reason for this to cause friction.

ЕЛЪЧИН|YELCHIN

(with Russian accent)
The news always make it controversial, that's how they sell the news.

SANKA

It is exciting enough that someone turned off the heat on Mars, practically freezing the colony! What more does he need?

ЕЛЪЧИИ|YELCHIN

Maybe he truly thinks it will
cause friction.

SANKA

I want to know where he is
getting his information and how
he is coming to his
conclusions.

ЕЛЪЧИИ|Yelchin nods.

ЕЛЪЧИИ|YELCHIN

Then you need to contact
global media. Maybe arrange for
an interview with Francesco
Diablo. So you can interview
him.

SANKA

I will think about it.

ЕЛЪЧИИ|Yelchin nods, as Robertson comes in.

ЕЛЪЧИИ|YELCHIN

There's one reason it would
cause friction.

ЕЛЪЧИИ|Yelchin points to Robertson and walks away.

INT. STOCKHOLM. INFIRMARY. BRIGHT.

Abigail is sitting in a chair, knitting, in the
infirmary, as the doctor is going down the line.

DOCTOR

Now just wait here, until I
call your name. Then it will
be your turn for the light
therapy.

He moves off.

SERENA|ΣΕΡΕΝΑ

(with Greek accent)

Excuse me.

The Doctor turns around.

SERENA|ΣΕΡΕΝΑ (CONT'D)

I have to either be seventh
or twelfth.

DOCTOR

Mrs. Lakatos|Λάκατος, you are
going to be going in the

position you are in on my
chart. That is sixth.

He turns, walking away.

ABIGAIL

(with New England accent)
If you don't mind my asking,
why do you have to be seventh
or twelfth?

SERENA|ΣEPENA

Because those are my lucky
numbers on this ship. Six is
a very unlucky number for me,
here. When were you born?

ABIGAIL

What I put on my file or the
actual date?

SERENA|ΣEPENA

Oh, the actual date of course.

DOCTOR

Gerhard Schultz.

ABIGAIL

November twelfth nineteen forty-
three.

The other woman opens a bag and takes out a big book
and then starts flipping through the pages, Abigail craning to
read its cover.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

Numbers in you.

SERENA|ΣEPENA

Eight is your lucky number
here.

ABIGAIL

I've never noticed a pattern.

Abigail looks at what she's knitting, seeing she's out
of yarn, then starts unraveling it.

DOCTOR

Maxwell Steinberg.

SERENA|ΣEPENA

What are you doing?

ABIGAIL

I was making a sweater for my
granddaughter, 'cause I hear

it's cold on Mars, but I ran out of yarn, so then I started making a baby blanket for her child, but this yarn is too heavy for that. So then I started making a scarf. But it was the wrong color for a scarf. So I tried to turn it into a shrug, but I just didn't like that, either. Then I started making it into a blanket, but I just ran out of yarn, again. I'm thinking maybe I'll try a couple pot-holders.

SERENA|ΣEPENA

It's a good thing you didn't go the last time. Horrible disaster. I could've told them. In fact I tried.

Abigail looks over at her.

ABIGAIL

The dust storm?

SERENA|ΣEPENA

Yes.

DOCTOR

Wen Cho.

ABIGAIL

I know. Phil said they were going to have one.

SERENA|ΣEPENA

Well you don't have to worry about that, this trip. Of course the whole problem was Earth was going in retrograde.

Abigail looks over at her.

ABIGAIL

I thought the problem was Mars' surface was heating, sooner than expected.

SERENA|ΣEPENA

Oh, not really. Really the problem was Earth going into retrograde. Mars heating may have been the consequence.

ABIGAIL
(politely dubious)
I...
(beat)
...see.

The doctor comes out.

DOCTOR
Abigail McGuillycuddy.

ABIGAIL
That's me.

SERENA|ΣΕΡΕΝΑ
Oh, no. You can't go, yet.

ABIGAIL
Ah, yes. Seven is your lucky
number.

SERENA|ΣΕΡΕΝΑ
Yes, but this is number five.

Abigail nods.

Serena|Σερένα turns to the Vi Spatium officer beside her.

SERENA|ΣΕΡΕΝΑ (CONT'D)
You can go.

ABIGAIL
I'll go. It's my assigned time.

Abigail gets up, heading for the compartment, leaving her knitting on the seat, then goes in. A man comes in with coffee and picks up the knitting, then sits down, placing the knitting on his lap then spilling coffee down himself and the knitting.

SERENA|ΣΕΡΕΝΑ
Ahh. I tried to tell her.

Credits

EXT. SPACE. (OPTICAL)

A thousand stars in a galaxy.

SANKA (V.O.)
Space holds many questions.

EXT. SPACE. MARS. (OPTICAL)

Mars is being shown, growing larger.

SANKA (CONT'D)
But the question that must be

asked, in order for us to
explore this newest frontier,
is...

EXT. MARS. VALLES MARINERIS. (OPTICAL)

The Enterprise flies into Mars' atmosphere, exploding.

SANKA (CONT'D)
...can humans survive on an
alien planet?

INT. EARTH. KIEV. MISSION CONTROL. (OPTICAL)

General Sanka Doug is standing in Kiev Mission Control,
the IFSE logo on the wall behind him.

SANKA (CONT'D)
This question is exactly what
those of us here at IFSE are
testing...

EXT. MARS. SURFACE. VALLES MERINERIS. COMPLEX. DAY.

A sprawling complex with fifteen towers, all but one
about twenty-six stories, the central tower close to a hundred
stories, made of sleek metal standing against the red sand of
Mars, the sun hanging in the red sky.

SANKA (CONT'D)
...by putting a colony on Mars.

ALL COLONISTS (V.O.)
(in Russian)
ДОБРО ПОЖАЛОВАТЬ НА МАРС.

(CREDITS CONT'D)

INT. MARS COLONY. PROMENADE. MEDIUM BRIGHT.

ДМИТРИЙ|Dmitri is looking in horror at the uneven slightly
cracked floor.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI (V.O.)
Это один большой эксперимент.

INT. PIONEER. BRIDGE. BRIGHT.

Sammy, wearing a space-suit, is sitting at the helm of
the Pioneer.

CUT TO BACK VIEW.

INT./EXT. PIONEER. MARS COMPLEX. (OPTICAL)

Sammy, wearing a space-suit, is sitting at the helm of
the Pioneer, watching the Mars dust swirl, blotting out nearly
everything on the view screen.

ДМИТРИЙ | DMITRI (CONT'D)
НЕКОТОРЫЕ ИЗ НАС - ОФИЦЕРЫ, ВЫПОЛНЯЮЩИЕ
СВОЙ ДОЛГ...

INT. MARS COLONY. COMMUNITY ROOM. BRIGHT.

Bobbie stands up, reading from Shakespeare in the community room.

ДМИТРИЙ | DMITRI (CONT'D)
ДРУГИЕ ХРАБРЫЕ ВЫЖИВШИЕ.

EXT. EARTH. SAHARA. VI SPATIUM. H.Q. DAY.

Chelsea is standing on the scale, being weighed in.

ДМИТРИЙ | DMITRI (CONT'D)
НЕКОТОРЫЕ ИЗ НАС БЕГУТ ИЗ НАШЕГО
ПРОШЛОГО НА ЗЕМЛЕ.

INT. MARS COLONY. COMMUNITY ROOM. BRIGHT.

Fredrick, Wanda, Charity and Jeremiah Tanner are in a corner of the community room, praying.

INT. MARS COLONY. COMMUNITY ROOM. BRIGHT.

فابيو | Fabio, أيو | Ayu, طه | Taha and المروة | Marwah are in a corner of the community room, praying.

INT. MARS COLONY. COMMUNITY ROOM. BRIGHT.

肖 | Xiào, 楚華 | Chǔ huá, पुर | PANTUR सूर्य | SURYA, 明 | Ming and Phạm Đổ Tài are sitting in a corner of the community room, meditating.

ДМИТРИЙ | DMITRI (CONT'D)
Даже горстка из нас считает,
что эта поездка на Марс - это
божественный сальватион.

INT. MARS COLONY. STAIR WELL. BRIGHT.

Ashley is walking down the stairs, the door above opening, Albert barreling out, running passed, with Max and Jeremiah, Tragg trying to keep up, Ashley yelling something, the door opens again, most of the colony pouring in, Ashley flattening herself against the wall.

ДМИТРИЙ | DMITRI (CONT'D)
Но одно мы имеем вместе,

INT. MARS COLONY. BASE OPS. BRIGHT.

Danny hits a siren, blue lights flashing along the ceiling, then the air vents shut mechanically.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI (CONT'D)

Что знание о том, что наше
выживание теперь зависит

INT. MARS COLONY. PROMENADE. BRIGHT.

The majority of the colony is entering the promenade from the stair well.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI (CONT'D)

на этот пестрый ассортимент
колонистов

INT. MARS COLONY. COMMUNITY ROOM. BRIGHT.

The community room is now decorated with colorful quilts and blankets hung around, restaurant tables set up holding food, several suitcases making up a stage in one corner, another pile making a stand for a laptop, Darice putting in a CD, then pressing play, music starting, Albert sitting off in a corner with Max and Jeremiah, all three looking moody.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI (CONT'D)

становится сообществом пионеров.

EXT. SPACE. CALGARY. MARS. (OPTICAL)

The Calgary is heading for Mars' atmosphere, deploying its drag-fins, looking like a cross between flying saucer and spider.

SOPHIA

(with Mexican accent)

We are blazing our Space
Trails, putting Life on Mars.

INT. MARS COLONY. LOADING RING. AIRLOCK. DIM.

The airlock rolls open.

SUPERIMPOSE:

Strange Horizons:
Surviving Esperance!

"By Any Other Name (Part One)"

Act I

INT. MARS COLONY. ASTRONOMY TOWER. BRIGHT.

肖|Xiào is looking through the telescope seeing clearly the fleet, 肖|Xiào then going over to the com-panel and touching it.

INT. RESTAURANT. DAY. BRIGHT.

肖|XIÀO (.V.O.)
(with Chinese accent)
The next fleet is coming!

INT. MARS COLONY. LOADING RING. BRIGHT.

Sophia is in the corridor outside the airlock, as is a crowd of nearly everyone, Thomas going over using his bulk to clear a path to near the airlock, pushing a couple people back.

THOMAS
(with Australian accent)
Back it up! Back it up! They
need room to get off!

Raul|رائول, Fredrick, Tragg and 大夏|Dà xià are also making their way over to get in front of the airlock, as Sophia and José are also making it there.

SOPHIA
(with Mexican accent)
We need more room. Back up.
Continue back!

Darice is running in.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI
(with Russian accent)
You will have to wait here.
Everyone is here. There's
not enough room for the
whole colony in this loading
ring!

DARICE
(with Jamaican accent)
Well for some reason the
walkie-talkies aren't working.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI
I wonder why?

DARICE
I need to find Medi. There's
a message.

BRAD

(Native American)

What's the message? I hear
you, Darice!

DARICE

There is a woman on the
Stockholm, who has not had any
UVB in the entire six-months!

BRAD

Wonderful! I'll have to take
her to the Pioneer, give her
at least an hour treatment
there! Thanks for the notice!
Hopefully this shipment's got
François! Otherwise, we're gonna
be down a chief medical, while
I'm gone!

SOPHIA

Did the Dux specify why she
did not get her treatments?

DARICE

No. He just wanted Doc Sellers
to be aware.

SOPHIA

Noted.

DARICE

Maybe Charity can give her the
treatment!

BRAD

Yes! Charity! Help with the
woman's treatment!

CHARITY

(with Midwest American accent)

Alright.

FREDRICK

(with Midwest American accent)

She's a girl!

BOBBIE

(with Midwest American accent)

Nothing gets passed you!

BRAD

She's already chief medical at
night and besides, she's at
the airlock!

SABRINA
(with Midwest American accent)
Here they come!

ANIKA
(with Midwest American accent)
Here they come!

There is a lurch then a pause.

THOMAS
Alright, now everyone back up.
Let the patient come through.
Clear a way to the Pioneer!

JESSICA
(with Irish accent)
But we want to see what they
brought.

SOPHIA
Martinez to Stockholm. Do not
open any airlocks until this
loading ring is clear!

The airlock door rolls open, a man standing there.

DUX (V.O.)
Sorry. We got your message,
too late.

SOPHIA
Other ships do not let them
open, until this bay is clear.
Martinez out.

Sophia turns off her walkie-talkie.

Charity is coming forwards.

DOCTOR
Patient for Doc Sellers!

The doctor comes off, holding Serena|Σερένα by the arm,
as they confront the crowd.

SERENA|ΣΕΡΕΝΑ
You don't have to pull me
along. I'm perfectly capable of
walking.

THOMAS
Not through this crowd! Back
up! Let us through. Sick
patient, coming through! Out of
the way. Just walk behind me.

Stay close! This is Charity.
She'll be treating you.

Charity nods.

CHARITY
We're going to the Pioneer.

The woman pulls out the book, then looks through it, then closes it, nodding, as Darice is making his way through the crowd.

SERENA|ΣEPENA
I can be first.

CHARITY
Ah. Good. This way, then.

DOCTOR
(incredulous)
That was your whole problem?
You didn't like the name of
the ship?

SERENA|ΣEPENA
On the Stockholm, I had to be
seventh or twelfth. I told you
that, but you kept insisting,
I had to go sixth. And look
at what happened to poor
Abigail. Every treatment she
lost yarn, because you wouldn't
let her go eighth!

The Doctor shakes his head, walking away. As they get to the end of that segment.

CHARITY
I think I can take her from
here.

THOMAS
Agreed. And I'd better keep
crowd-control up here.

Thomas is heading back for the airlock, the civilians backing up to clear a way.

DARICE
What did my cousin give you?

DUX
All we have are possessions.
No shipments.

DARICE

Yes but my cousin. He gave you some of my possessions?

DUX

Not me. All the possessions we have are owned by the occupants.

Abigail is coming off the UFO, as Carla is managing to get there, Darice heading for the next airlock.

CARLA

(slightly out of breath)
(with German-American mix accent)
Welcome to Mars. I'm President Carla Dietrich.

ABIGAIL

President, you say?

CARLA

One of them.

ABIGAIL

It doesn't seem large enough to need two presidents.

Carla is looking around.

CARLA

Somewhere here...

Carla keeps peering.

CARLA (CONT'D)

...my counterpart will be showing up. We have to agree in order to make any decisions.

ABIGAIL

Well I'm staying.

CARLA

As far as I'm aware, no one can leave. There's not enough fuel. Though we have made a breakthrough that may help with that. Although actually one of ours is going back, because he committed a crime. But that's beside the point.

ABIGAIL

Then what decisions do you

need to make? Where to put everyone?

CARLA

Oh, yes. That was not my decision. Thanks to Chelsea, you're gonna end up sleeping in the same corridor as people who are from every nation except your own. Unless we end up on the promenade, again!

ABIGAIL

Well I'll be sleeping with my granddaughter.

CARLA

Granddaughter? I didn't realize...

(beat)

...I was under the impression there was an age limit.

ABIGAIL

I'm fifty one.

SOPHIA

A fifty one year old would not have crossed six months of space to look out for a granddaughter's interest.

Thomas is moving the crowd back.

THOMAS

Let's let through the heads of departments. Sellers, Mmorosa, ~~the~~ Surya, Rothschild, Ivanov| ИВАНОВ, McBride, Koffee! I see the Presidents are already here.

A wheelbarrow is being brought out of the UFO, full of seeds with the Honeycut family, Benjamin, Helen, Asher and Mia, as Khanyisile is arriving.

KHANYISILE

(with Ghanaian accent)

What is this?

HELEN

Seeds. Are you in charge?

SOPHIA

I am Contralmirante Sophia Martinez. I am in charge of the Flota Estelar officers. Presidents Dietrich and

Heartford are in charge.

Khanyisile nods.

ABIGAIL

Heartford? Chelsea Heartford?
President?

Sophia looks over.

SOPHIA

You find that surprising,
Señora?

ABIGAIL

Well yes. Chelsea never had
any ambition to be a leader
of any kind.

CARLA

Chelsea's your granddaughter?

SOPHIA

To answer your question, Señora
Seeds, Khanyisile is our
agricultural expert.

ABIGAIL

Yes, she's my granddaughter and
I'll just wait here, until she
arrives. Although with the
baby, maybe she's not coming.

CARLA

Well she didn't say she wasn't
going to be here.

HELEN

Oh. Well then you'll be
interested in these seeds, Ms.
Mmorosa. We're the Honeycuts.

Khanyisile nods.

KHANYISILE

I was expecting plants, this
shipment.

ABIGAIL

So much for nothing going
wrong because Earth was not in
retrograde.

Carla looks at Abigail, perplexed.

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

One of my fellow passengers
was an astrologer.

HELEN

We weren't expecting to leave
for another month. But...

(beat)

...the family with the plants...

(beat)

...had to be delayed? We
weren't told much. All of
these seeds are organic,
heirloom. We saved the best.

SOPHIA

Good.

KHANYISILE

But we don't have enough dirt.
Did you bring compost or
topsoil?

Asher holds out a container.

ASHER HONEYCUT

Our worms and we've been
composting everything...

(beat)

...everything that we were able
to on the way. But they're
probably pretty hungry.

Khanyisile nods.

VI SPATIUM OFFICER 5

If you want manure, just wait
'till the DeVinci gets here.

KHANYISILE

We'll add the worms to the
mounds, then.

MIA HONEYCUT

Oh, no. These are our worms.

JOSÉ

(with New Mexican accent)
Señorita, we only have the
mound gardens. That is the
only place we are growing food
at present. In order for us
to survive, we are going to
need to do a little more
sharing.

Mia looks at her mother.

MIA

You promised. Feeding the worms
is my job and you promised.

Khanyisile smiles, indulgently.

KHANYISILE

You can still feed the worms,
child.

PETE

(with Midwest American accent)
Back up! Comin' through!

MIA

But if you take them, how can
I feed them?

There is another lurch, as Pete, Andrew, Dennis and
Chelsea are making it through to the circle around the
airlock, Chelsea wearing her son in a sling.

CHELSEA

(with Midwest American accent)
Welcome to Mars, I'm...
(beat)
...Grandma?

Act II

INT. MARS COLONY. LOADING RING. BRIGHT.

KHANYISILE

You can add the scraps to the mounds. The mounds are just going to be in the promenade.

Mia looks at Helen, who is looking a little haggard.

Abigail goes over and gives Chelsea a hug and kiss.

CHELSEA (CONT'D)

What are you doing here?

HELEN

I'd like to get settled, before I worry about it.

Helen looks at Khanyisile, who nods.

ABIGAIL

I came to see you. And my great grandchild.

Abigail pulls back the sling, peeking in.

HELEN (CONT'D)

Can we just keep these worms in this container for a few more days?

KHANYISILE

Certainly.

CHELSEA

Adam.

Abigail looks at Chelsea with an amused expression.

ABIGAIL

I never knew you to be so religious.

Dennis snorts.

ASHER

Well then you'd better show me where the kitchen is.

MIA

I have to go, too, so I can feed them!

DENNIS

For the first two months, we
were living in the church,

KHANYISILE

This way.

DENNIS (CONT'D)

(with Midwest American accent)
with one corner for
Thunderbolt's--Fredrick's-- Bible-
study, one corner for افايو
Fabio's Quran study...

(beat)

...you get the picture.

HELEN

You take care of the seeds,
Ben. I'll go with the children.

CHELSEA

It seemed fitting for the
first child born on Mars to
have the name Adam.

JOSÉ

So where are you going to put
those seeds?

ABIGAIL

Well it's good to see that
you've come through the
pregnancy and birth alright. I
wish I'd been here all along,
though.

BENJAMIN

I really don't know. I thought
I'd be putting them in the
ground. I guess in our...

(beat)

...wherever we're gonna live,
for now?

CHELSEA

It was alright. Actually I
think I was better taken care
of here, than in a New York
hospital. Khanyisile, Rita, Ling.

Chelsea looks amused at Carla.

CHELSEA (CONT'D)

Even Carla were helping. As were
these three.

JOSÉ
Quarters. Alright. Дмитрий|Dmitri
will show you the way.

Chelsea indicates Pete, Andrew and Dennis.

CHELSEA (CONT'D)
Of course we had just
evacuated the upper levels
again, so the whole colony was
there.

ABIGAIL
Oh, how horrible!

CHELSEA
I've kind of gotten used to
it. It was better than when
we were without power and were
all in the promenade in the
small tent.

The other airlock rolls open, as Thomas is asking Darice.

THOMAS
So what are we watching
tonight?

DARICE
I don't know. There was
nothing on the Stockholm. It
depends on what Kareem managed
to get onboard the Bonaparte.

MANNIX
(with Midwest American accent)
For one thing, my reputation.

Gabriel Mannix heads over to Darice.

DARICE
They must have enlarged the
UFO. Just joking.

THOMAS
(to himself)
Doubt he'll pass a maturity
test.

Gabriel Mannix hands Darice a stack of paper.

MANNIX
That's all the paper I was
allowed to take and you are
going to have to be my camera

man.

Gabriel Mannix hands Darice a camera cell-phone.

Darice looks at the paper, looks at the phone and looks at Mannix.

DARICE

You want me to give you only one piece of paper a day?

MANNIX

Find a way that I can have a real paper. Enough to print a full news article a day for every colonist. You're the miracle worker, I'm told. You can handle it.

Mannix pats Darice on the shoulder, then heads for Sophia.

MANNIX

Ah, Commodore. I trust my accommodations have been made?

Sophia takes out her walkie-talkie activating it.

DARICE

Not, yet! There's still some people that are camping out in the cargo bay and there's no quarters large enough for you.

SOPHIA

I disagree, Señor Koffee. Señor Ivanov|Иванов, see to Señor Mannix's quarters personally. Martinez out.

Sophia turns off the walkie-talkie.

Darice turns to Thomas.

DARICE

You wait here and see what Kareem sent for me.

Darice waves the camera.

DARICE (CONT'D)

I want to document his expression, when he sees his quarters.

THOMAS

And his boss.

Darice heads after Mannix and Ivanov|ИВАНОВ as quacking comes from the ship, Thomas' eyes going wide as a duck flies out, Thomas ducking.

THOMAS

What the...?

Brad is making his way over, as are Carla and Chelsea, with Abigail, Pete, Andrew and Dennis.

BRAD

François, you made it!

Thomas looks at Brad, like he's grown another head.

THOMAS

(dubious)

This is your pet duck?

Thomas bends down, picking up the duck.

BRAD

Oh, no. François, said he was bringing his ducks!

CARLA

(alarmed)

Plural?

François is coming out, carrying two ducks.

FRANÇOIS

(with French accent)

Bon jour.

BRAD

Bon jour, mon ami. English is the most common language here. Although Chinese and Russian are the close seconds.

FRANÇOIS

Oui, oui. That is fine.

BRAD

This is Docteur François Macron.

FRANÇOIS

You will forgive me if I do not shake the hand.

Charlotte Macron is coming out, carrying two ducks as are Vi Spatium officers.

THOMAS

KHANYISILE!

CARLA

She already headed down to the promenade.

THOMAS

Great. Ah. Ducks. Not sure where we're gonna put 'em.

FRANÇOIS

In the tub.

THOMAS

Tub? All our tubs are fiberglass.

FRANÇOIS

No, no. I brought a cast iron tub.

CARLA (CONT'D)

You brought iron? How did it meet the weight limit?

François shrugs.

FRANÇOIS

I am a doctor. I was given extra weight.

CARLA

Let me get this straight.

Chelsea cracks up.

CARLA (CONT'D)

Our doctor brought herbs, plants, some of the stuff Darice couldn't get on with the people who wanted to bring it. You brought ducks. Did anyone bring medical supplies?

FRANÇOIS

Oui. I have scalpels, needles, thread.

BRAD

Excellent!

FRANÇOIS

And I have herbs that can be used to create sedatives.

CARLA

Why didn't you just bring sedatives?

FRANÇOIS

They would expire, before we would need them. I understand there is a chemist. Or is that incorrect?

BRAD

Her husband's the chemist.

FRANÇOIS

Well then. He can create the sedatives from the herbs.

BRAD

He'll be glad to have something to do, besides sit around on his backside and carbon date the occasional lost note.

The duck is trying to escape François' hands.

FRANÇOIS

So now you have a surgeon. But we need to get these ducks settled.

THOMAS

Take 'em to the promenade. That's where we put everything we don't know what to do with. No. We can't.

FRANÇOIS

Ducks will eat whatever is available.

THOMAS

Well then where can we put them?

FRANÇOIS

They will have to have their own living area.

CHELSEA

Can they stay in your quarters, for now, while we find a place?

ABIGAIL

You should give them the quarters, next door. No one would really want to live with ducks.

VI SPATIUM OFFICER 4

Tell me about it!

There's another lurch.

CHELSEA

Alright. You'll be in corridor
thirteen section forty-one.

JEROME

Why don't I show you?

Jerome takes the duck from Thomas, then heads down the corridor, the duck flapping and escaping, taking off, flying back into the ship.

CHELSEA

This way!

FRANÇOIS

Do you have some kind of ah...

François pauses, thinking.

FRANÇOIS (CONT'D)

Something with wheels to carry
the tub?

THOMAS

Wheelbarrows, that's about it.

A couple of Vi Spatium officers are coming out with a tub that has a little bit of water in it and a duck sitting inside.

THOMAS

Right, mates. I'll ah...

(beat)

...give you a hand with that.

The third airlock is rolling open, Carla already heading for it, Chelsea following, with Pete, Andrew and Dennis, Abigail following, Jerome going with the Macrons and their ducks towards the elevator.

INT. MARS COLONY. CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

Дмитрий|Dmitri is leading Mannix up to a door, as Darice is running inside ahead of them.

MANNIX

I thought that at least the
entity in charge would have
sense. I'm sure as the
architect you can find me an
ideal set of quarters.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI

Da. This is ideal for you.

Дмитрий|Dmitri opens the door Darice went in, showing Mannix in.

INT. MARS COLONY. MANNIX' QUARTERS. BRIGHT.

MANNIX

This is your idea of quarters?

Darice clicks the picture.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI

Da.

Darice gestures to the quarters, with an amused expression.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI (CONT'D)

You have no running water, a bottle with your allotted drinking water for the next week and a mattress. Unfortunately we do not have any frames ready. First class accommodations.

DARICE

I didn't have any toilet paper for here. Maybe I should give you a few sheets of your paper.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI

The only functional toilet is the outhouse on the promenade. There is no reason to stock this place, with toilet paper.

DARICE

Ah. I would've liked to see him try to use it.

MANNIX

This is totally unacceptable.

DARICE

It was worse, during the sandstorm.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI

Da. This is a vast improvement over when we first arrived. You have a problem with that, go back to Earth. पंतुर|Pantur सूर्य|Surya will conduct your

maturity test. Good-day.

Дмитрий|Dmitri heads out.

MANNIX

Maturity test?

DARICE

Oh, yes. Everyone here is a child, unless पूर|Pantur सूर|Surya says you have passed!

MANNIX

This is crazy! I certainly have my first story!

INT. MARS COLONY. LOADING RING. BRIGHT.

Sophia is standing at the airlock as people are backing up from it, covering their noses. Chelsea, Carla, Pete, Andrew, Dennis and Abigail arriving.

CARLA

What is that smell?

DUX 3

Manure!

Salvatore Giovanni is coming off the ship, with Francesca Giovanni, Antonio and Kathrine and all the Vi Spatium Officers.

PETE

Where's your other passengers?

DUX 3

They're still onboard.

CARLA

With that smell?

ANTONIO

(with Italian accent)
They don't mind. They are goats!

Carla's eyes go wide.

CARLA

Goats?

SALVATORE

(with Italian accent)
Si.

PETE

Spanish?

SOPHIA

(stern)

Italian.

PETE

Si is 'yes' in both languages?

SALVATORE

Si. We are the Giovannis.

CHELSEA

President Chelsea Heartford,
this is President Carla
Dietrich. Welcome to Mars.

SALVATORE

So were are the goats going?

SOPHIA

We do not have pastures. We
are not ready for goats. The
field-strut is large enough to
contain them, however. Or we
could fence in a section of
the promenade. We will need to
seed the field-strut. Make it
grazing land.

CARLA

But then...

(beat)

...then we're going to not
have a sports-field! पंतुर|Pantur
सुर्या|Surya told me they plan to
play sports there. You can't
play sports with goats.

SALVATORE

That is true. Perhaps we could
have the grazing land on the
promenade.

SOPHIA

In that case, we should keep
them on the field strut, now.
And move them later.

Sophia indicates José.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)

José can give you directions.
The Honeycuts and Montgomeries
are homesteaders. They can give
you assistance.

SALVATORE

Grazie.

Sophia nods, turning to पूर|Pantur रूया|Surya.

SOPHIA

Get the students to help move the manure.

CARLA

You want my daughter to shovel manure?

SOPHIA

The children have the time, energy and can be learning about goats in the process.

CHELSEA

I think it makes sense.

CARLA

I don't agree!

Abigail pats Carla's arm.

ABIGAIL

Quite right, dear. The handling of manure should be done by those who are more responsible.

Chelsea presses her lips together.

CARLA

My daughter is very responsible. She's actually an adult actually. That doesn't have anything to do with it.

ABIGAIL

Oh, but I thought you were saying you should do it, instead of your daughter?

Chelsea bursts out laughing.

CHELSEA

Carla can give a speech, make a public appearance. But can't do anything Pioneer related.

CARLA

I think I'm learning.

ANTONIO

It is alright, Señora. Shoveling manure is easy to learn. I teach.

CHELSEA

I guess you'll be picking up
a shovel.

Carla glares at her.

Fleur is heading over to the woman hanging in the doorway of the Stockholm with a few heavy bags, Colonist 4, Colonist 3, Colonist 2 and Colonist 1, all rather stone faced, with slightly reddish skin taking their bags through.

FLEUR

(with Australian accent)
What are you?

COLONIST 4

We are new colonists.

FLEUR

Well what's the matter with
your skin?

COLONIST 4

Nothing is the matter with it.

FLEUR

It's unnatural. That's what it
is. What happen? Someone get
red paint on all o' you?

COLONIST 4

We do not need to take this
abuse.

FLEUR

What abuse? I'm only being
social.

COLONIST 4

Your remarks are unwelcome. We
need living assignments.

FLEUR

Go down to the med-ward, for
the doc to check you.
Ivanov'll find all the new
colonists there. He's busy
assigning quarters. Told me to
have everyone go to the med-
ward.

Colonist 4 nods and the four leave.

Fleur looks over at Georgina Claremont, the woman still standing there.

FLEUR (CONT'D)

It's alright, love. We don't bite.

GEORGINA

I need to speak to whoever's in charge.

FLEUR

I'll save you the trouble. There's no one in charge. It's a mess. That Iranian thinks he runs everything. He's in charge o' security but seems to think that gives him the authority to tell everyone what to do about everything. Just yesterday, he came into my salon to tell me, that talking to my clients was a violation of confidentiality. Then there's Martinez. She's the Vi Spatium Commodore. Contraalmirante she calls herself and we call her Count. She acts like she's in charge and everyone in Vi Spatium does what she says. You know it as Vi Spatium, we renamed ours. Even General Doug, I think, Sophia doesn't recognize implicitly. But he's supposed to be her superior. Anyway, then there's 'Saucers' McBride, who's in charge of all our technology. He keeps to himself a lot, tinkerin' so I don't know if anyone would jump when he says to, 'cause he doesn't say it. Similar with 'Spacey' Rothschild the aeronautics (though he calls it spacialistics) expert. Then there's Koffee.

GEORGINA

Coffee?

FLEUR

Supply Sergeant.

GEORGINA

A person.

FLEUR

That's right, love. Singer we call him. He doesn't give any

(MORE)

FLEUR (CONT'D)

orders, but he always seems to get his way. A lot like me, I guess, in that respect. Then there's the two presidents over there at airlock three. Both Yanks, well Carla was born in Germany, but she's Senator of New Hampshire, but definitely more Earthling, why we call her that. The other one, the younger one, with the baby, seems more inclined to make herself Martian, why we call her that.

GEORGINA

I didn't know you had any babies.

FLEUR

We got two right now. Though mind you, the Fujian baby's closer to a year old, now. Halfway there about. At least in Earth years. Don't know about Mars. Want some 'elp with your things?

GEORGINA

Yes, thank you. I'll take this one.

Fleur nods.

GEORGINA (CONT'D)

Can you arrange a meeting with...

(beat)

...well I don't know who. I need security and aeronautics and engineering.

FLEUR

Don't worry. I can have it all arranged! What's your name, love?

GEORGINA

Georgina Claremont.

FLEUR

I've got your appointment.

Act III

INT. MARS COLONY. RESTAURANT. BRIGHT.

Chelsea is leading Abigail into the restaurant, with Carla, Pete, Andrew and Dennis, getting their food from Елизавете|Yelizaveta, Mannix taking a tray over and sitting down at someone's table, taking out his phone and turning it on.

MANNIX

Gabriel Mannix, R.G.R.M.

РУСЛАН|RUSLAN

Руслан|Ruslan Афанасьевой|
Afanasieva.

MANNIX

Are you happy here?

РУСЛАН|RUSLAN

We are building something. In Russia I was a banker. Here. I am nobody. Am I happy? NO. But...

MANNIX

Good. Tell me all about it. What has you most dissatisfied? Unhappy?

РУСЛАН|RUSLAN

The fact NASA did not tell us everything! We were told this complex was sound. It had cracked concrete. The doors stuck! We had to take out half the doors, to make the floor of the promenade! There is no variety of food. No business district is ready to be opened. I am a banker. How can I open a bank, without a business location to keep the money? Everyone keeps what little money they brought on their person. And it is all a mess of money. Vi Spatium did not tell them all to bring only one type of currency.

MANNIX

And what about the living arrangements? I mean. No running water.

РУСЛАН|RUSLAN

That was because of the sandstorm. We were supposed to have running water. But we had to provide water for too many Vi Spatium officers.

Руслан|Ruslan shakes his head.

РУСЛАН|RUSLAN (CONT'D)

And I am sure you did not bring extra. Because you had already left, when we had that problem.

MANNIX

I'm not a supply sergeant. I'm news.

РУСЛАН|RUSLAN

I am referring to your three UFOs.

MANNIX

Oh. So you think IFSE has mishandled this entire thing?

Руслан|Ruslan shrugs.

РУСЛАН|RUSLAN

All I know, is that now we are making progress. A government, a foundation that works.

MANNIX

A government? What kind of government?

PYCJAH|RUSLAN

We have two presidents.

MANNIX

So...

(beat)

...there's not unity among the colonists. Interesting.

PYCJAH|RUSLAN

There is unity.

MANNIX

Well you've already split into two factions. Can you point out someone from the other faction?

PYCJAH|RUSLAN

I have two Presidents.

MANNIX

You have two presidents? One's not enough?

PYCJAH|RUSLAN

They both have to agree.

MANNIX

That's worse than congress!

Mannix gets up, heading over to a different table.

MANNIX (CONT'D)

Well I'd better introduce myself to someone else. If there's anything you want broadcast, let me know.

Chelsea, Pete, Andrew, Dennis, Carla and Abigail are sitting at the table.

CHELSEA

This is not Russian, not
Jamaican, not American, not
Australian, not African, not
Japanese and not Arabic. It's
Martian.

ABIGAIL

Martian?

DENNIS

Yeah take a little bit of
everything and toss it together.

ABIGAIL

Ah. You're alright.

DENNIS

Thanks, I think.

PETE

What did you mean by that?

ABIGAIL

Just that he shouldn't have a
problem, no matter what it is
he decides to do. He has the
intelligence and, I think, the
ethics.

Andrew snorts.

ANDREW

About ninety percent of Earth
would disagree.

ABIGAIL

Really? Oh, well. It wouldn't
be the first time that a lot
of people told me I was wrong.

CHELSEA

These three got here by
hijacking a plane.

Carla spits out her water.

CARLA

Hijackers?

Abigail puts down her tray and looks at Carla.

ABIGAIL

(reasonably)

The United States was founded
by terrorists.

Pete points to her.

PETE

She's got a point. Put what's his name. Boston teaparty, nowadays...

(beat)

...you've got a terrorist.

ABIGAIL

Quite right. They didn't want to pay the tax on the teas. They tried sending it back, but they were told that they had to take receipt of that tea and if they took receipt of the tea, they had to pay the tax. So...

(beat)

...they climbed onboard the ship in the middle of night and dumped it overboard. No more tea and no more tax. But. It was an act of terrorism. Whether something is noble or terrorist...

(beat)

...well it's usually decided by who wins, isn't it?

Carla is considering.

CARLA

When you put it that way, that kind of makes sense. But I was under the impression this was not going to be a camp of terrorists or war-heroes.

ABIGAIL

Oh, dear.

Abigail sits down.

ANDREW

Oh dear, what?

ABIGAIL

Naive.

CHELSEA

That's what I tried to say. But ah...

(beat)

...Grandma. Why are you here?

ABIGAIL

Well I came to see you, of course. And once I found out you had gone to Mars, it was quite apparent you weren't gonna be coming to see me, anymore. And if you thought that I was just gonna sit around waiting for them to kill me, then you're mistaken.

CHELSEA & CARLA

Kill you?

PETE

Whoa, whoa, whoa. Kill you?

ABIGAIL

Quite right.

Abigail starts eating, calmly.

CARLA

Why would they kill you? Who would kill you?

ABIGAIL

You know. This is an unusual combination. But I kind of like it.

ANDREW

It's what's palatable of what everyone brought.

CEHLSEA

Grandma, who was going to kill you and why?

Abigail puts down the fork and looks thoughtfully at Chelsea.

ABIGAIL

The who was very obvious but the why. The why has always eluded me. I can understand it with some of the residents. Some of them were difficult, others had willed their life-savings to the employees, having no other family.

CARLA

(disbelieving)

The rest-home is killing people?

ABIGAIL

Well who else? I said they had no other family. But even the ones that had nothing. Nothing to leave behind, they also died.

PETE

It's obvious, isn't it?

ABIGAIL

What am I missing?

PETE

If they had no family and no money, who would be paying the bill?

ABIGAIL

Oh, well the state.

Dennis rolls his eyes.

DENNIS

Yeah. The state that decided to medicate the tap-water with anti-depressants.

ABIGAIL

In our case it was the rice pudding.

CARLA

I can't believe all of this is going on in my own country.

CHELSEA

You're in your own country. It's America, now.

CARLA

It's the country in which I was a Senator.

PETE

Home country.

DENNIS

We need a name.

CARLA

What about Mars?

CHELSEA

The Chinese call it something different. But what about

(MORE)

CHELSEA (CONT'D)

that...

(beat)

...if they're killing people...

(beat)

...what can we do about it?

PETE

From here?

DENNIS

I figured it out.

ABIGAIL

What dear?

DENNIS

Those who didn't have money
had to be eliminated for those
who did.

ABIGAIL

Oh, very good.

ANDREW

The question is what can we
do about it, from Mars?

ABIGAIL

I don't know.

CHELSEA

But why didn't you leave,
sooner?

ABIGAIL

Well there was no need. As
long as you were visiting me
I was safe.

ANDREW

So it's only the ones who
don't have visitors.

ABIGAIL

Quite right. And you know your
mother. She only comes when
she wants something. It's just
not frequent enough.

CHELSEA

Speaking of Mother does she
know you're here?

ABIGAIL

I left an envelope with Phill
(MORE)

ABIGAIL (CONT'D)

to give to her. He's alright.
He has four grandchildren that
come and visit him and two
children.

PETE

Then how come he's not living
with his children?

Abigail shakes her head.

ABIGAIL

He doesn't get along with the
spouses. It's his choice to
live there.

CHELSEA

Ah, ha. Speaking of that,
Tony's still on Earth in case
you were wondering.

ABIGAIL

Good riddances.

PETE

I gather the father?

Chelsea nods.

CHELSEA

You're not going to say I
told you so?

ABIGAIL

We both know I said it.
There's no reason to rub it
in.

Chelsea nods as Brad is coming in, going over to Abigail's
table.

BRAD

I'm Medicine Man Bradley
Sullers. Everyone calls me Medi.

ABIGAIL

Abigail McGuillycuddy.

BRAD

I'm checking over all the new
additions and would like your
age, considering you're not
fifty-one.

CHELSEA

Grandma!

ABIGAIL

If I had told them I was seventy-two, do you think they would've let me onboard?

CARLA

No. The cutoff is sixty five.

ABIGAIL

Then, like the hijackers, I had to do what was necessary.

CHELSEA

Grandma, you know you're seventy eight.

Abigail sighs.

ABIGAIL

At my age, I would think you would let me get away, with a little fib, now and again.

BRAD

Well actually here, you don't have an age.

CARLA (IN TANDOM NEXT)

What?

ABIGAIL (IN TANDOM PRIOR)

Good. Then I can be thirty six.

CHELSEA

Why doesn't she have an age?

BRAD

Mars year is six hundred eighty seven days long. So basically take your age and divide in half to have an accurate age on this planet.

Chelsea's brow furrows.

ABIGAIL

Thirty nine. I was close!

CHELSEA

Then if I'm dividing it in half. I'm nine?

ABIGAIL

And a half. At your age those half years are important.

DENNIS

(emphatic)

On *Mars* those half years are important.

INT. PIONEER. UVB THERAPY. BRIGHT.

Mrs. Lakatos|Λάκατος is talking animatedly, Charity listening, politely.

INT. MARS COLONY. FLEUR'S HAIR SALON. BRIGHT.

Georgina is entering the hair salon, carrying a case, going over to the seats, sitting down, next to Sammy, who is next to Raul|رائول, who is next to Danny, Fleur trimming Sophia's hair.

DANNY

(with Irish accent)

Ya' don't need all your luggage to get your hair-cut.

SOPHIA (IN TANDOM NEXT)

How long does it take to trim a couple inches off the end?

GEORGINA (IN TANDOM PREV)

Uhm...

(beat)

...I'm aware. I just didn't want to leave it, unattendant

FLEUR

Oh, you Vi Spatium officers don't appreciate the artistic integrity of hair-styling.

Raul|رائول gets up, exasperated.

RAUL|رائول

(with Iranian accent)

I don't know why you scheduled us all at the same time. I will be back, when you are free. And if you are afraid of it being stolen, there is nowhere to sell it here, where it will not end up back in your possession.

FLEUR

You won't have an appointment, then, Ostovar Raul|محمودی|رائول|Mahmoudi.

Fleur tilts her head at Raul|رائول, while looking at

Georgina.

GEORGINA

You're security, aren't you?

Sophia holds up a hand to Fleur.

SOPHIA

You can end the charade,
Señora Preston.

Raul|رائول looks over at Fleur, eyebrows raised, turning from the door.

RAUL|رائول

This was all to get her a conference with me, because she fears her bag being stolen in a place, where nothing can get stolen? At least for any length of time?

GEORGINA

Not just stolen.

SOPHIA

No, Madeye. All five of us.

FLEUR

Well she needed aeronautics, engineering, security and wanted to see who was in charge. Now you're all here, so you can have the meeting. And it'll be a lot more believable, if you're getting your hair done, Commodore.

DANNY (IN TANDOM NEXT)

But was the ruse necessary?

SOPHIA (IN TANDOM PREV)

Contraalmirante.

Georgina is nodding her head, eyes wide.

RAUL|رائول

I would like the details, before deciding that. What are they?

GEORGINA

I have something that I think can help the colony. It's something I invented.

DANNY

Here's engineerin'. What is it?
Do ya' have it on ya'?

GEORGINA

In this case.

DANNY

Well let's see.

Georgina opens up the case.

GEORGINA

What I'm most afraid of is
it'll be destroyed and I'll be
killed. Someone's already tried.

RAUL|رائول

When, where, why?

Georgina starts taking out the pieces, putting them
together.

FLEUR

Looks like something my Albert
would try out.

GEORGINA

It's a personal transportation
device. That flies. Ideal for
the terrain, outside.

SOPHIA

Understood.

GEORGINA

And to answer your question...

Georgina turns to Raul|رائول.

GEORGINA (CONT'D)

I took it to go see General
Doug, when he was in Egypt.
And after I demonstrated it,
well I was on my way back to
the hotel, (sigh) when someone
tried to run me off the road.
I ended up in a ditch.

RAUL|رائول

What did the vehicle look
like? Distinguishing marks,
features?

GEORGINA

It was a truck. Green. Like a camouflage, but it didn't make any sense in Egypt, surrounded by sand.

رائول|RAUL

Logo?

GEORGINA

There were markings on the door. Writing in kind of a circle, with a gun in the middle.

رائول|RAUL

Could you read any of the writing?

GEORGINA

I was too busy trying to stay on the road. He left me in a ditch.

رائول|RAUL

This is important did the driver make any hint of amusement at your predicament?

GEORGINA

I couldn't see the driver. High. High. It was high at the top, then there was the gun and then there was something underneath and I didn't catch the underneath part.

رائول|RAUL

Caliber.

GEORGINA

Could be.

SOPHIA

High Caliber is one of our investors.

Act IV

INT. MARS COLONY. HAIR SALON. BRIGHT.

GEORGINA

Why would one of your
investors want to run me off
the road? There.

Georgina has finished putting it together.

DANNY

How does it work?

Georgina takes out a vest and puts it on, wires hanging
down, from the vest which she takes and plugs into the
machine.

GEORGINA

Well you stand on it, like
this and...

Nothing happens.

GEORGINA (CONT'D)

I guess there's not enough
light. It worked alright in
the desert.

SOPHIA

Unfortunately outside the
complex is too hazardous for
us to experiment there. There
is the field strut, but
currently it is home to goats
which do not mix with
technology, well. Can you give
it an alternative power-source
for a demonstration?

GEORGINA

Well I don't have one with me.

DANNY

I'll work on it.

FLEUR

Wait!

Fleur goes over to a wall with a large light on it,
then activates.

FLEUR (CONT'D)

Doc Sellers updated this so I
could give light-therapy as
well as tanning. That should
be enough.

Georgina turns her back to it, the sound of a moter starting, the scooter rising up a few inches.

DANNY

Well I'll be. How does it work?

GEORGINA

Well, you steer it with the right foot. Of course...

(beat)

...left footed models could be made.

Georgina moves her foot, the machine moving, some, Georgina jumpng off as she is about to run into a wall.

GEORGINA (CONT'D)

There's really not enough room in here.

SOPHIA

With an alternative power-source this could be helpful. How fast does it go?

GEORGINA

Not very fast. Only about ten miles an hour.

SAMMY

(with British accent)

The rover's faster, if that's what you were thinking, Ma'am.

SOPHIA

That was what I was thinking, Sr.

GEORGINA

Well I've never pushed it.

SOPHIA

Getting to and from Durban Deep is important here, now that we know of its existance. It is too long a rover ride. Cutting down the time is very important. We are going to need a fast way there, if we are going to dig up those pipes.

GEORGINA

Well you should ride a cable.

Sophia looks over at Georgina, raising an eyebrow.

SOPHIA

Señora or Señorita?

GEORGINA

I'm not married, if that's what you're asking.

SOPHIA

Señorita, even without this, I think you are going to be helpful to this colony.

GEORGINA

If I can stay alive.

RAUL | رائل

Why do you believe you will still die?

GEORGINA

Because he's here. Gabriel Mannix.

Raul | رائل uncharacteristically almost snorts, laughs.

RAUL | رائل

Gabriel Mannix a murderer? He does not have the stomach to pull the trigger, himself. Hire an assassin, but not commit the murder.

GEORGINA

He's the only one, besides General Doug, who saw this, before I was run off the road and I'm sure it was his voice, I heard on the phone.

RAUL | رائل

Let's start with that phone-call.

FLEUR

You're done, Contraalmirante.

Sophia gets up.

SOPHIA

I will have Ivanov | Иванов see to your quarters. As for that. Señor McBride. I believe you have a large compilation of

(MORE)

SOPHIA (CONT'D)
parts. I think you just
accumulated some more. If you
are right, they will be
looking for it in your
possession, not his.

FLEUR
Just a minute.

Fleur goes over and unplugs the hair-dryer.

FLEUR (CONT'D)
Put this in your case. Then
everyone else takes one of the
parts, from your machine and
I'll keep one.

GEORGINA
Alriight.

Georgina takes off the vest, unplugging it, then hands
it to Fleur, Raul|رائول intercepting.

RAUL|رائول
It would make sense for me to
cary this, but not anything
else.

GEORGINA
But why? It's clothing, fashion?

RAUL|رائول
Have you never heard of a
bullet proof vest?

GEORGINA
That's clearly not bullet-proof.

RAUL|رائول
I am working on electricity
proof.

GEORGINA
Oh. Alright. You wanted to
know about the phone-calls.

Georgina starts taking it apart.

FLEUR
I'll get Darice.

Fleur goes over to the com-panel.

RAUL|رائول
Yes, I want to know about the
phone-call.

GEORGINA

Well. Fortunately another car came along, after I was left in the ditch.

رائول|RAUL

I do not believe in coincidence. Who was it?

GEORGINA

Oh, I don't know. It was just a nice couple.

رائول|RAUL

They inquired about your device?

GEORGINA

No. But they did ask how I ended up off the road.

رائول|RAUL

Did it lead to a conversation about your device?

Georgina pauses, thinking.

GEORGINA

I was quite upset, you know. Yes, I think I might have mentioned it. Anyway, the woman used her cell-phone to call for the police, who came with a truck to pull me out of the ditch. I would've died in the heat out there, if it hadn't been for them.

رائول|RAUL

Was that the only phone-call she made?

GEORGINA

No. No. She had to call...

(beat)

...their son, daughter. To say they were going to be late for dinner. They insisted on staying with me, until help arrived. You think?

Raul|رائول nods.

رائول|RAUL

Did the message to the son seem normal? Or stilted like a code?

GEORGINA

Well I didn't listen. I didn't want to eavesdrop, they were nice enough.

رائول|RAUL

American? In Egypt?

GEORGINA

Well, yes.

رائول|RAUL

Americans willing to travel that far are rarely curteus.

GEORGINA

But they were there to visit the child. Son, daughter. Worked in the university, I think.

رائول|RAUL

And the conversation took place in Arabic?

GEORGINA

English.

رائول|Raul nods.

رائول|RAUL

It is inconclusive, but it means most likely they were plants. A professor teaching at a university in Egypt, teaches students who speak Arabic. He must pick up the language.

GEORGINA

Yes, but that doesn't mean his parents would. And it might have been a daughter.

رائول|Raul nods.

رائول|RAUL

They go out of their way to visit a child in a foreign country, a child who speaks a foreign language. And they don't bother to learn the child's new language. Unless he has a special ring for their number on his cell-phone and they called his cell-phone, he

(MORE)

RAUL | رائل (CONT'D)
would've answered in Arabic,
the phone at the university.

Georgina considers.

GEORGINA
I'm not sure he answered.
There was no conversation. She
left a message. Yes. There was
no...
(beat)
...no exchange.

Raul | رائل considers.

RAUL | رائل
That both adds to the validity
and detracts from it. I am
from Iran, not Egypt, but I
know from Tragg that in
America, the number of people
who still have home answering
machines is small. Most people
have switched to the cell-
phone. Why not answer a cell-
phone? Was it during school
hours, when he might be
teaching? Or she?

GEROGINA
It was around four-thirty in
the afternoon. There might have
been classes.

RAUL | رائل
Alright. You were pretty sure
it was Mannix's voice on the
phone.

GEORGINA
Oh, no. That's not the phone-
call I'm talking about.

RAUL | رائل
I'm aware. I'm moving on.
Letting my other questions
simmer in your mind. Now.
About the Mannix phone call.
That came second.

GEORGINA
Well, third, actually.

SOPHIA
Then what did come second,
Señorita?

GEORGINA

That night, while I was sleeping, someone broke into my hotel room.

Darice is coming into the room.

FLEUR

Good, you can take this and find excuses, to distribute the rest. Have them all come here to pick it up. Only those you trust mind you.

DARICE

My cousins are all back in Jamaica.

FLEUR

You haven't figured out who to trust here in all these months?

DARICE

I am joking. I will be...
(beat)
...no. I will not be back. I will send someone. Several someones.

Darice heads out.

GEORGINA

Can you trust him?

RAUL | رائل

Yes. If there is one person here who is trustworthy it is the Singer Darice Koffee.

GEORGINA

How do you know? I mean I thought I could trust General Doug but...

SOPHIA

General Doug is trustworthy. General Doug also is a General. Everything he does, he has at least ten aids or underlings who know about it. Can every single one of them be trusted? Unlikely. Even if he tried to keep it secret, there are countries who I am sure are spying on him, to

(MORE)

SOPHIA (CONT'D)
find out what he is doing.
General Oscar Robertson of
America for one, who I suspect
bugged his office.

Sophia shakes her head.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)
Darice Koffee is a supply
sergeant. He's low enough down
that only those who know him,
know what he's capable of.

رائول|RAUL
Not even all those who know
him. I am not certain Fredrick
Tanner believes he is capable.

INT. MARS COLONY. CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

Darice is walking along the corridor, being spotted by
Gabriel Mannix.

MANNIX
Ho, ho. What do you have,
there?

DARICE
This is my bicycle! I am
tired of walking.

Mannix laughs.

MANNIX
That doesn't look like a
bicycle.

DARICE
Not, yet. A few more
shipments. You'll see. I'm
hoping next time, a wheel will
be sent.

MANNIX
Yeah, right. So what do you
do here, aside from assign
people quarters they don't like?

DARICE
I did not assign you quarters.
Had it been left up to me, I
would've put you in the church.

MANNIX
I'm not religious.

DARICE

It is the only room big
enough for your ego.

MANNIX

I can ruin your reputation,
Sergeant. Just for that you
should show me a little
respect.

Darice shrugs.

DARICE

It is too late. Do you really
think that if I had a good
reputation, I would be assigned
to here?

Darice laughs.

MANNIX

(insulted)

You're saying I don't have a
good reputation! Well I never!

Mannix storms off, Darice continuing to walk, pretending
like he's peddling, holding the handle-bars.

INT. MARS COLONY. HAIR SALON. BRIGHT.

رائول|RAUL

So then housekeeping ruined'
the fingerprints.

GEORGINA

Yes. I had the do not disturb
sign on. I'm positive. If only
the police had come that night.

رائول|RAUL

Do you know why they did not?

GEORGINA

They said they had a higher
priority.

رائول|RAUL

I wish I knew what that
higher priority was. I am not
familiar with Egyptian police
procedures.

Raul|رائول considers.

رائول|RAUL (CONT'D)

But it would be interesting to
(MORE)

RAUL|رائول (CONT'D)

know if a crime was committed,
just to give them a higher
priority.

GEORGINA

You mean...

(beat)

...you mean they might have
killed someone, just so...

(beat)

...just so. Oh, well that's
awful.

RAUL|رائول

Awful or not, criminals
sometimes resort to such
tactics. But you never got a
look at the burgler?

GEORGINA

No. It was dark. And as soon
as whoever it was realized I
was awake, he left. I think
it was a he. I don't know.

Raul|رائول nods.

RAUL|رائول

Now what about this Mannix
phone call?

GEORGINA

Well after I got done having
the police yell at me for not
putting on the do not disturb
sign and letting the maid ruin
the fingerprints, they left.
And it was about five minutes
later, I think, when the phone
rang.

RAUL|رائول

Conveniently after the police's
departure as though they were
watching the hotel.

GEORGINA

Well that's what I thought. I
thought it was just nerves.
Anyway, he said he had gotten
pictures of me naked and was
going to post them on the
internet, unless I turned over
my prototype.

SOPHIA

If that is Sr. Mannix, that is blackmail.

رائول|RAUL

Earth will have to extradite him, Contralmirante. Mars has no laws against black-mail and it is not covered in the Vi Spatium handbook, either.

SAMMY

Wait a minute. You're saying this is...

(beat)

...virtually lawless?

SOPHIA

We have two presidents. I think it is time they start passing more laws.

رائول|RAUL

Do not spook Mannix. I will talk to them. Somehow. Inconspicuously.

GEORGINA

Well after that phone-call, I called General Doug. Told him I needed to speak to him, quickly and privately. So he sent a car to pick me up.

FLEUR

Did you by any chance talk to the driver?

GEORGINA

Well, yeah.

رائول|RAUL

Did you discuss details with the driver?

GEORGINA

I think I said something about being stalked and having somebody...

(beat)

...after me.

SOPHIA

Then if the stalker approached and successfully bribed the

(MORE)

SOPHIA (CONT'D)
driver, he would have an
automatic spy.

GEORGINA
I didn't think of that.

RAUL|رائول
As an inventor you may be
quite intelligent, but a
detective, you are not.

FLEUR
I'd like to know what
happened, when you met with
General Doug.

GEORGINA
Well he told me that I should
go to Mars, immediately. Show
Sophia what I had. So I...

(beat)
...have my two cases. The one
that has my prototype. The
other that has all my clothes
for Egypt. Everything else I
left at home.

FLEUR
Most of us left most of our
stuff at home.

GEORGINA
Well. We were already a month
on our way, when I overheard
a couple of the officers
talking in the observation
lounge. They were complaining
about Gabriel Mannix. I've
hardly slept well, since.

RAUL|رائول
I think I'd like to meet
Gabriel Mannix, again. The last
time I met him, Darice kept
him from coming to Mars.

GEORGINA
How?

RAUL|رائول
He implied his ego was too
heavy for the UFO.

Fleur bursts out laughing.

FLEUR

I never heard that one, before.

رائول|RAUL

I think I'd like to know how
he got on this UFO even with
all of his media equipment
putting him over the limit,
again.

The door is opening, Gabriel Mannix coming in, Fleur
closing the case.

FLEUR

Here for a haircut?

MANNIX

No. I'm looking for the
Commodore.

SOPHIA

I have not seen a Commodore,
Sr. Not a single one of us
is American.

Sophia walks out, Mannix following.

MANNIX

I'm talking about you!

Mannix walks out the door.

MANNIX (O.S.)

Do you know you have an inept
supply sergeant?

GEORGINA

Do you think he saw it?

Act V

INT. MARS COLONY. HAIR SALON. BRIGHT.

رائول|RAUL

No. Gabriel Mannix has tunnel vision. He only sees what he is looking for. He was looking for the Contralmirante and she gave him a moving target. I don't think he noticed any of the rest of us.

GEORGINA

Then he's not much of a reporter, is he?

رائول|RAUL

If he was a good reporter, why would RGRM be willing to give him up?

INT. MARS COLONY. CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

MANNIX

And then...

(beat)

...he came right out and said that I was a bad reporter. And that's why I was sent here. Now...

(beat)

...I don't expect you to do anything about that. But I want to know...

Mannix starts recording.

MANNIX (CONT'D)

How do you plan to make this a success, when your supply sergeant is the worst supply sergeant there is on the entire planet of Earth?

SOPHIA

I have no comment on that issue as your statement is inaccurate in many ways. If you want know how I plan to make this colony successful, I will answer that question.

MANNIX

You're going to do the supply job, yourself?

SOPHIA

Negative Sr. I am a
Contraalmirante. I coordinate, I
do not the jobs, myself. I
choose thebest of the best.
There is not a position on
this colony manned by an
incompotent.

MANNIX

But he admitted. He bragged
about it.

SOPHIA

Darice Koffee often clowns, Sr.
I would not take anything
Darice says at face value.

MANNIX

Clowns? And you think that's a
good quality to have in a
supply sergeant? I am beginning
to question your mental
abilities.

SOPHIA

As Sergeant Koffee relates well
to the children he is an
asset as supply sergeantas the
children's needs are most
important being the future of
this colony.

MANNIX

Oh, the children being the
future, that's just a...

SOPHIA

Truth, Sr.

MANNIX

...platitude.

SOPHIA

Incorrect, Sr. The children
have first dibs on the food,
water and supplies.

MANNIX

You're serious.

SOPHIA

I was assigned to make this
colony successful, Sr. I know
how to do that. And
sacrificing the future for the
present is never the answer.

Sophia turns, starting to head back down the corridor, again.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)

Do you have any other questions?

MANNIX

Not for you. I'll find someone more competent. What did she not want me to see in that case?

Mannix heads back to Fleur's.

INT. MARS COLONY. RESTAURANT. BRIGHT.

Sophia is entering the restaurant, going over to Chelsea and Carla's table, with Pete, Andrew, Dennis and Abigail.

SOPHIA

Gabriel Mannix made it.

CARLA

What? He's a pest!

CHELSEA

Who's Gabriel Mannix?

ABIGAIL

I'm sure I have no idea.

CARLA

A snooping, irritating novice reporter who thinks he's the greatest thing in newscasting.

SOPHIA

He did not look like a novice, Señora. He looked rather seasoned.

CARLA

He's been a novice for his entire career. If one of his stories is printed, it's usually in the tabloids.

ANDREW

Ah. We don't have reliable news, much less tabloids. How does he plan to print his stories? Send em in supply pod to Earth?

SOPHIA

I wonder who and how he plans to report to. But we are keeping an open mind. Also. What is the law regarding blackmail?

CHELSEA

We haven't gotten around to it. So far it's just been executive running of the colony, still holding to the Vi Spatium rule book for laws.

SOPHIA

Think about it.

Sophia heads to get her tray.

PETE

Looks like we've got another mystery.

ABIGAIL

What does Gabriel Mannix look like?

CARLA

A little on the heavy side. Aging, balding. Greying, but not all of it. Sound familiar?

CHELSEA

Grandma, what are you planning?

ABIGAIL

Well if he's looking for a story, I'll give him one. Now don't you worry about me, dear.

DENNIS

This I'd like to see.

CHELSEA

I think we'll come with you.

INT. MARS COLONY. HAIR SALON CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

Mannix is entering the hair-salon, Tragg coming out, with Hector.

HECTOR

(with African American accent)

Sir.

Hector heads down the corridor.

TRAGG

She doesn't have any appointments left for today. We're gonna have to come back, tomorrow.

MANNIX

Well that's alright. I don't want to get my haircut. Is there a young woman in there with a case?

Hector shakes his head, Tragg looking surprised.

TRAGG

No. There's Fleur, Sammy and Raul|رائول. But Fleur's almost done with Raul|رائول.

MANNIX

Well why can't you get your hair done? It doesn't sound like it's too many people.

TRAGG

Because Fleur wants to spend some time with her son. Look. This is a colony. On Mars.

Raul|رائول is coming out of the hair salon.

RAUL|رائول

I know there is no law against it. But it is common sense not to loiter.

MANNIX

What happened to the girl?

RAUL|رائول

She is probably in school.

Raul|رائول heads down the corridor as Mannix goes in.

INT. MARS COLONY.HAIR SALON. BRIGHT.

Mannix enters the hair-salon, Fleur doing Sammy's hair now.

FLEUR

I don't have anymore open appointments. Can't you read the sign?

Fleur points to a sign hanging over the chairs, with a circle with a line through it, of a person sitting in a chair.

MANNIX

I'm not here to get my hair cut. I want to know what was in the case that that girl had, that she didn't want anyone to see.

FLEUR

Well if she didn't want anyone to see it, then I guess I can't tell you.

MANNIX

Yes, but it was open. So you could see it. Who was she, anyway?

SAMMY

New colonist.

MANNIX

Name?

SAMMY

She didn't mention it.

MANNIX

And why was she dragging around her case?

FLEUR

She didn't have quarters, yet. She came straight here to my salon.

MANNIX

Really?

FLEUR

After six months, without a proper hairdresser, she wanted to get her hair done right. Yours looks atrocious by the way. What you get for using a Vi Spatium, I'm sorry, Vi Spatium barber.

MANNIX

It's out of my eyes.

FLEUR

Why all the questions, anyway? Who are you?

MANNIX

Gabriel Mannix, of RGRM.

FLEUR

Well if you're going before a camera, you need a better cut.

MANNIX

You're probably right.

FLEUR

Tellyou what. I'll book you for tomorrow morning, blue sky sharp.

MANNIX

When?

FLEUR

Blue sky. Sunrise. Oh what time is that?

SAMMY

Roughly oh-nine-hundred, or ten-hundred hours depending, since Mars day is a little longer than Earth.

FLEUR

I'll give you a free trim, to make up for the invonvenience. There you go, Lieutenant. You're done.

MANNIX

How much do you typically charge?

Fleur shrugs.

FLEUR

Whatever the client has to offer here. Back in St. Kildare, I would charge ten dollars for a simple cut. Australian Dollars. But I think my family's the only one who took any real money. I've been most consistently paid in varying countries military script.

MANNIX

And how long is that gonna last? Do you use that script to buy things, so it circulates?

Fleur shrugs.

MANNIX (CONT'D)

Alright. Are you happy here?
Is this what you expected?

FLEUR

No. I expected to be able to focus on cutting hair, today. Answering twenty questions, while doing styling work is liable to ruin my reputation. I would ask you to ask your questions elsewhere.

MANNIX

Well you're done. I suggest we go elsewhere. And you can answer my questions.

FLEUR

I'm heading home to a family dinner.

Fleur is starting to close up.

MANNIX

Well it surely can't take you that long to tell me whether or not you were disappointed with what you got here.

FLEUR

Well I haven't gotten it, yet. So how can I know?

MANNIX

You've been here for...

(beat)

...how long? How many weeks?

FLEUR

A month or two Earth calendar.

MANNIX

Well that's plenty of time for you to make up your mind as to whether you're disappointed, or you feel that everything has been what you expected.

FLEUR

You think that we can get a colony fully established in a month? Now I know why they sent you to Mars. And I think it's unlikely you'll pass पूर| Pantur सूर्य|Surya's maturity test.

Fleur heads out.

MANNIX

Another colonist being evasive.

Mannix turns off the recording, Fleur turning around.

FLEUR

I'm not being evasive. There's not enough information to make any decision on. Only an idiot would make a decision, right now.

Mannix turns it back on.

MANNIX

Would you say that again?

FLEUR

It's only been a couple months. It's going to take hundreds of years, maybe thousands.

MANNIX

No, no. The part about the idiot.

FLEUR

Fine. Only an idiot would think any of the colonists are ready to make a decision now.

MANNIX

That's not what you said.

FLEUR

What I said, was that you were an idiot. I really didn't think you'd want me to repeat that on camera!

Fleur turns, heading down the corridor.

MANNIX

That's not what you said either. She called that Russian an idiot. But I don't have it recorded. Great!

INT. MARS COLONY. CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

Дмитрий|Dmitri is coming down the corridor, running into the four colonists.

COLONIST 4

You are Ivanov?

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI

Da. I'm Ivanov. Have you been checked?

COLONIST 4

Yes. All we need now is our living assignments.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI

This way. You are going to be on four different floors, in four different sections.

COLONIST 3

Why? We expected to be together.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI

Law of Mars Colony number one. The first law passed by our presidents. If you came on the same UFO you will be scattered in quarters to encourage unity among all colonists.

The three look at Colonist 4 who nods.

COLONIST 4

Very well.

Дмитрий|Dmitri is leading them down the corridor.

COLONIST 4 (CONT'D)

Are we forbidden to interact with each other?

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI

No. This is a free colony.

COLONIST 4

Then this will work.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI

What happened to your skin?

COLONIST 4

We were told it was a reaction.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI

I'm certain Doc Sullers told you the right remedy.

Дмитрий|Dmitri is arriving at one of the quarters, then types opening the door.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI (CONT'D)
Set the open code from the inside. Any of you can have this one.

One goes inside and sets the code, then comes back out.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI (CONT'D)
Not dropping off your belongings?

COLONIST 3
I would like to know where my comrades are going to be.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI
(slightly suspicious)
This way.

INT. MARS COLONY. MED-WARD. BRIGHT.

Brad is counting on his fingers.

BRAD
We had the manifest. We're short. By seven. I know where one is, on the Pioneer! Where's the other six?

INT. MARS COLONY. CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

Mannix is catching up to Hector in the corridor.

MANNIX
Gabriel Mannix. R.G.R.M.

HECTOR
Chaplain Hector Warner.
Lieutenant. Regular Army.

MANNIX
How did you get this assignment?

HECTOR
I asked for it.

MANNIX
Why did you want to come to Mars?

HECTOR
I knew just how important a Chaplain would be here.

MANNIX

And you thought you were the
best man for the job?

Hector shrugs.

HECTOR

I knew we would be mixing
many religions. Sunni, Shia,
Psybyterian, Catholic, Luthrin,
Buddhist, Confuciast, Hindi...

(beat)

...the list is very extensive.
And too many Chaplains who are
Catholic enough to be
authorized to be Chaplain also
do not have the tolerance
needed to practice all those
religions.

MANNIX

Rather egotistical for a
Chaplain, don't you think? Next
thing, you're going to be
calling yourself the savior of
Mars.

Mannix chuckles at his own joke.

HECTOR

No. I'm not. We do have one.
But she's not me.

Hector turns.

MANNIX

She? She? That hairdresser?

Hector chuckles.

MANNIX

What was in that case, anyway?

HECTOR

I'm a Chaplain.

Hector walks down the corridor.

MANNIX

That means your eyes don't
work?

HECTOR

What I learn in confidence, I
keep in confidence.

MANNIX

So who's the other fellow with you? Or is that confidential too?

HECTOR

He's one of our deputies. Dylan Tragg. A licensed Private Investigator on Earth.

MANNIX

(intrigued)

Really?

HECTOR

This is Mars, Mr. Mannix. The most exciting thing that ever happened here, is when everyone thought Sammy was a Martian. or the loss of power recently, due to the saboteur.

Hector turns the corner, stepping over the ropes, Mannix going the other way.

INT. MARS COLONY. MED-WARD. BRIGHT.

Georgina is entering the med-ward with her suitcase.

BRAD

Finally. One of the ghosts shows up.

GEORGINA

Ghosts?

BRAD

About a half dozen all from the Stockholm, except one from Bounapart have yet to show up for their physicals!

GEORGINA

Please tell me that Gabriel Mannix has been here already.

BRAD

I can't. He hasn't.

GEORGINA

Then I need quarters, quickly. I don't want to be here, when he shows up.

BRAD

For that you'd need
(MORE)

BRAD (CONT'D)

Дмитрий|Dmitri. François and Jerome are still helping out François set up his ducks. So I'm here alone and I can't leave.

GEORGINA

Well can you contact someone? I really don't want to be here when he arrives?

BRAD

I can contact Falk.

Brad goes over to the console.

BRAD (CONT'D)

Falk. Where's Gabriel Mannix and where's Дмитрий|Dmitri Ivanov? Please tell me the sensors have been installed by now.

FALK (V.O.)

(with Swedish accent)
Sensors have been installed, but it doesn't tell me the person's name.

BRAD

Great. And we haven't given out locators to the civilians yet.

FALK (V.O.)

No.

BRAD

Can you tell where Ashley Parker is? She's civilian, too. Isn't Ivanov|Иванов going in and out a bunch of odd quarters?

FALK (V.O.)

There's a group of five that have been walking around in the quarters section.

BRAD

Going to unused quarters?

FALK (V.O.)

Correct.

BRAD

That's Ivanov.

FALK (V.O.)

Well apparently he's having a hard time finding quarters that are acceptable to the group.

BRAD

Contact him. Tell him to come to the med-ward, quick. We have a rapid move-in that we need to engage. Why it needs to be rapid, I don't know. But it has to do with Gabriel Mannix.

MANNIX (V.O.)

Hi there. Gabriel Mannix. RGRM. I'm looking for the private investigator Dylan Tragg?

Act V

INT. MARS COLONY. MED-WARD. BRIGHT.

BRAD

Try the promenade. Med-ward out.

INT. MARS COLONY. BASE OPS. BRIGHT.

MANNIX

Promenade?

FALK

Yes.

Falk pulls up a map on the console.

FALK (CONT'D)

You're here. The promenade is here. Just watch out for the goats, there.

MANNIX

Right. What about you?

FALK

I'm here.

MANNIX

I mean. What is your impression of this...

(beat)

...project?

FALK

The colony in general?

MANNIX

That is what I asked. What's your name?

FALK

Falk. Swedish Science Officer.

MANNIX

Swedish? Do you have a first name, officer Falk?

Falk hides his mirth, well.

FALK

You can call me Fänrik.

MANNIX

Fänrik Falk, very well. So are you satisfied with this

(MORE)

MANNIX (CONT'D)

project? Everything is to your expectation?

FALK

It is too early to say. There is still much work to do.

MANNIX

I see. And how do you feel about the political system? Two presidents?

FALK

I like them both.

MANNIX

Do you know anything about a case?

FALK

A case of what?

MANNIX

I don't know yet. Were you expecting a shipment to be delivered to the hairdresser?

FALK

If you want to know what shipments were expected, you need to talk to the supply sergeant, Darice Koffee. He is usually wandering around somewhere.

MANNIX

The only delivery he expected was the handlebars for his bicycle.

FALK

Ah! That is how he plans to solve the problem of the blisters on his feet.

MANNIX

Blisters on his feet? I am an investigative reporter. I am not interested in blisters on your supply officer's feet.

FALK

Then don't ask about them.

MANNIX

Thank you for your time.

Mannix gets up, heading out. Mannix stops and turns back around.

MANNIX (CONT'D)

Actually I'm looking for the private investigator, Dylan Tragg. Do you know where he is?

FALK

There's someone in the Sheriff's office, without a locator. It is either Tragg or 大夏|Dà xià.

MANNIX

Well how do I get to the Sheriff's office?

INT. MARS COLONY. SHERIFF'S OFFICE. BRIGHT.

Tragg is in the Sheriff's office, Raul|رائول sitting at the desk.

RAUL|رائول

You went to the hair salon, after I left. Was Mannix still hanging around?

TRAGG

Yes. He left but then came back as Hector and I were leaving.

Raul|رائول nods.

RAUL|رائول

Then Georgina Clairement seems to have reason to be worried.

INT. MARS COLONY. MED-WARD. BRIGHT.

Дмитрий|Dmitri is poking his head into the med-ward.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI

Doc. Did you get any of the four strangers?

BRAD

I have five patients yet to show up. One is that reporter, Mannix. Who are the other four.

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI

The red-skinned beings who are
(MORE)

ДМИТРИЙ|DMITRI (CONT'D)
acting like CIA spies, but
using KGB codes!

SUPERIMPOSE:

TO BE CONTINUED...

Credits/Teaser

INT. EARTH. RED GLOBAL DE RADIODIFUSION DE MEDIOS. HQ.

DIABLO

This is Francesco Diablo for Red Global de Radiodifusion de Medios. Newest reports from Mars are that our own Gabriel Mannix has arrived with the latest batch of colonists. As he has only just begun to set up shop on the colony, we do not expect an in depth report for another week or so, which according to Gabriel Mannix is when he will finally get the chance to be declared an adult. He also reports the colony has not moved, indicating the name Esperance has been given to this structure. The pandemonium of new colonists settling in has once again caused a temporary communications hold on transmissions from the colony. As this has happened for the second time now, we are pretty certain the colonists are still alive and only busy. For Red Global de Radiodifusion de Medios, this is Francesco Diablo, signing off.

INT. MARS COLONY. MED-WARD. BRIGHT.

Brad is in the med-ward as François is entering with Doug, Дмитрий|Dmitri still in the doorway.

The console gets an alert.

CHARITY (V.O.)

Mrs. Lakatos|Λάκκατος is ready for her room assignment.

Brad goes over, activating the panel.

BRAD

Understood, Charity. Uh...

(beat)

...out of curiosity. What have you dreamt of, recently?

CHARITY (V.O.)

Recently? Actually I dreamt

(MORE)

CHARITY (V.O. CONT'D)
about a conversation with Mrs.
Lakatos|Λάκκατος. Why?

BRAD
Just checking. Med-ward out.

INT. PIONEER. INFIRMARY. BRIGHT.

SERENA|ΣΕΡΕΝΑ
You're a psychic?

CHARITY
No.

SERENA|ΣΕΡΕΝΑ
But you told him you had
dreamt of a conversation with
me. That's impossible, unless
you're psychic. We never met
'till today. So unless you
dreamt of me, while I was in
there. But we were talking the
whole time. And the
conversation made sense, so
don't tell me you were sleep-
walking.

CHARITY
Are you ready to see your
room?

SERENA|ΣΕΡΕΝΑ
Of course. So what do you see
in my future?

Charity just rolls her eyes.

SUPERIMPOSE:

**Strange Horizons:
Surviving Esperance!**

"By Any Other Name (Part Two)"

Act I

INT. MARS COLONY. SHERIFF'S OFFICE. BRIGHT.

Mannix is entering the sheriff's office as Raul|رائول is heading out, Mannix stopping him.

MANNIX
Gabriel Mannix. RGRM. You are?

RAUL|رائول
On urgent business.

Raul|رائول heads passed.

MANNIX
Rude.

Mannix goes all the way in, finding Tragg.

MANNIX (CONT'D)
Gabriel Mannix, RGRM. Are you
Dylan Tragg?

TRAGG
I am.

MANNIX
Ah, good. Then I trust you do
know what was in that case.

TRAGG
What case?

MANNIX
Come on man. The case. No
self-respecting man of any kind
would go to that woman to get
their hair-cut.

TRAGG
If you mean Fleur, well then
I guess I have no self-respect.

MANNIX
Your hair doesn't look recently
cut, either. Either she's that
bad or you were not there for
a haircut.

Tragg picks up a book and opens it.

MANNIX (CONT'D)
Are you ignoring me?

TRAGG
I see no point to this

conversation. Do you need my assistance with something?

MANNIX

As a matter of fact there is one thing.

Mannix takes out his camera.

MANNIX (CONT'D)

Can I get your statement, regarding how you are liking this colony. If this what you're expecting.

TRAGG

No.

MANNIX

Can you tell us why you don't like the colony and what aspects you find surprising?

TRAGG

I said 'no' you could not have my comment.

MANNIX

I have your comment. You said that you found this not acceptable.

TRAGG

What I'm finding not acceptable is your reporting style. Do you have a police matter?

MANNIX

I have one. What is the police system? I understand you're a deputy. I feel it important to know, who is in charge here of the police?

TRAGG

Raul|رائول is in charge.

MANNIX

Arab, eh? How do you feel about reporting to a superior who may have been part of ISIS?

Tragg works hard not to smile.

TRAGG

I thought ISIS was long dead.

MANNIX

These things die slow. It was many years in America before a German or Russian actor could get a job playing anything other than a villain, after World War II.

Tragg is nodding while Mannix speaks, but says nothing.

MANNIX (CONT'D)

Too afraid of his wrath to comment Understood.

TRAGG

Now hold it! Don't you go putting words in my mouth.

MANNIX

Then can you give me a comment?

TRAGG

I have far more respect for Raul|رائول, than I will ever have for you.

MANNIX

I think this interview is over.

Mannix turns, heading out, running into Albert who's heading into the sheriff's office.

ALBERT

(with Australian accent)
Where are you goin'?

MANNIX

Gabriel Mannix. RGRM.

Mannix sticks out his hand.

ALBERT

Albert Preston. Everyone calls me Watson. P.I. in training.

Albert shakes Mannix hand.

Mannix leans down so he can talk quietly in Albert's ear.

MANNIX

Have you managed to find out what's in the case...

ALBERT

(quiet)

How much if I have?

MANNIX

So in other words...

(beat)

...you haven't. Well that's
alright. You're still young.

Mannix pats Albert on the shoulder.

MANNIX (CONT'D)

There's still time for you to
learn. You might make it as
an investigator someday.

ALBERT

(defiant)

I am an adult. I don't see a
pin on you, so you must not
be. But I can find out, now.
But I don't do favors for
free. I'm not stupid.

MANNIX

What makes you think I want a
favor?

Albert takes out of his pocket his cell-phone, then
presses play.

MANNIX (V.O.)

Have you managed to find out
what's in the case?

Plays, very quietly.

Albert winks, then turns to walk away, putting away the
phone.

ALBERT

You should introduce yourself
to the Pres. She's residing
down in the promenade.

MANNIX

Thanks for the tip.

Mannix heads down the corridor, then Albert goes down
the corridor, after Mannix, poking his head into the Sheriff's
office.

ALBERT

Mannix wants to know what's in
the case. Want me to tail him?

TRAGG

Yes!

INT. MARS COLONY. QUARTERS. BRIGHT.

Brad presses the alert on the quarters, the door then opening.

BRAD

Medicine Man Bradley Sellers.
You never came to the med-ward
for your physical.

COLONIST 4

I'm healthy.

BRAD

It's not about being ill or
healthy. It's about being
documented.

COLONIST 4

Documented?

BRAD

Where all your bones are
if/what surgeries or operations
you've had before.

COLONIST 4

I have the same skeletal
structure as every other human.
I've never had surgery. There.
You have your information.

BRAD

I also need to perform some
scans.

COLONIST 4

Scans?

BRAD

Ultrasound to be specific. And
also need your presence so as
to administer your light-therapy.

COLONIST 4

I am immune from the effects
of insufficient light.

He starts to close the door, Brad catching it.

BRAD

You're human. That means you're

not immune.

COLONIST 4

I assure you, I am immune.

BRAD

That's not possible. If it is true, then I *definitely* want to examine you to find out why.

COLONIST 4

I cannot allow that.

Colonist 4 pushes Brad's hand off the door, the door closing.

BRAD

Ivanov's right. Something's wrong with that guy. Either that or I've been on Mars, too long.

Brad heads down the corridor.

INT. MARS COLONY. PROMENADE. DIM.

Khanyisile, her two children, ~~पूर~~PANTUR ~~सूर्य~~SURYA, several of the students are working on carefully moving the mounds out of the wheelbarrows into the planting section, Mannix coming out of the elevator, Albert slipping out of the stairs, over to the main group of students to blend back in.

MANNIX

Oh, ho. What do we have here?

Mannix starts to film, Anika seeming confident.

ANIKA

I'll handle it.

Anika goes over to Mannix, adopting a very refined and expert persona of being a knowledgeable authority.

ANIKA (CONT'D)

This is the first Mars class project. As this is going to be a self-contained, sustainable eco-system, we are putting the gardens in the promenade, so they will be easily accessible. That's Khanyisile Mmorosa, our agricultural expert.

Anika points.

MIA

But we're not putting my
worms, here.

MANNIX

Why not?

Anika says more conspiratorially.

ANIKA

She doesn't want anyone else
feeding them.

MANNIX

But you should share. Didn't
your mother ever teach you to
share?

MIA

I share. We'll share the worm
poop. But I get to feed them.

MANNIX

So what are you going to do
with your worms then? You're
going to go fishing?

ANIKA

We don't have any water.

MANNIX

We just brought a whole bunch
of water.

ANIKA

Now we have a good amount of
water. But still not enough
for a pond, lake, stream and
especially not ocean. We might
be able to have some running
water, now, though. The worms
are for recycling.

MANNIX

Really?

Mannix kind of pats Anika's shoulder, while looking
dubious.

MANNIX (CONT'D)

Well thank you for sharing.

ANIKA

In order for Earth to continue
supporting this colony, Earth
has to understand Mars. Here,
come this way.

MANNIX

You do know that Earth is a planet and not...

(beat)

...Oh, never-mind. Get back to your project.

Mannix starts to walk away.

ANIKA

You're just gonna have to come back here, Mr. Mannix.

Mannix stops and looks back.

MANNIX

You know me?

ANIKA

You've interviewed Mom, enough.

MANNIX

Where is your mother?

Anika shrugs.

ANIKA

I'm not sure. She's around somewhere. She's President, now.

MANNIX

So she's in her office. Where would that be?

ANIKA

Дмитрий|Dmitri hasn't confirmed our tower's stable enough, yet.

Anika points to the conglomeration of beds.

ANIKA

That's the Presidents office.

MANNIX

Funny office.

ANIKA

Well that's where Chelsea sleeps, since she's had the baby. And since she and Mom are both Presidents, they have to be in the same place. But you should really show how the mound farms work.

MANNIX

And you are?

ANIKA

Anika Dietrich-White.

MANNIX

I'll come back later about
the...

(beat)

...mounds.

Mannix starts walking away.

MANNIX (CONT'D)

(muttering)

Carla Dietrich was not
considered qualified enough to
lead the colony alone and
colonists are expecting Earth
to give enough water to
establish an ocean. Obviously
they are not taking into
consideration the devastating
effect that that loss of water
would have on the citizens of
the Earth.

INT. MARS COLONY. SHERIFF'S OFFICE. BRIGHT.

Brad is entering the Sheriff's office, finding Tragg.

BRAD

What do you know about the
colonist in corridor twenty-
eight door A, corridor eighty-
one door C, corridor eleven
door F...?

TRAGG

The Martians?

BRAD

Excuse me?

TRAGG

The crew of the Stockholm
referred to that group as the
Martians. Haven't you noticed
how their skin is a little
redder than the rest of ours?
Not...

(beat)

...not a natural skin-color
from Earth, but a...

(beat)

...an unusual skin-color.

BRAD

You're saying they're the
aliens we were warned about?
What are you saying?

TRAGG

They wouldn't let the Stockholm
doctors examine them. They
didn't undergo light therapy
for the entire six months, but
unlike the astrologist, they
didn't show any signs of ill
effect. There's just something
not natural about them.

Brad shakes his head.

TRAGG (CONT'D)

And their strength, according
to the crew was superior.

BRAD

This has one of two things
written all over it! One,
Genetically Modified Organism.

TRAGG

Human? Genetically Modified?

BRAD

Well the second possibility
seems too farfetched. Alien.
Can you think of a third
explanation?

TRAGG

No. But I'm not really
comfortable with either one of
those two.

Act II

INT. MARS COLONY. SHERIFF'S OFFICE. BRIGHT.

BRAD

Four years before this mission,
America gave approval to
genetically modify humans. So
what is this? An invasion
force? Or someone's idea of
being 'helpful'?

TRAGG

I don't know.

Brad shakes his head.

TRAGG (CONT'D)

Raul|رائول's come up with
excuses to check on them. I
haven't heard back from him,
yet.

INT. MARS COLONY. CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

Raul|رائول is entering one of the quarters.

RAUL|رائول

Your security camera's out of
alignment.

Raul|رائول goes over to the corner of the room.

COLONIST 4

It is perfectly aligned and
you know it.

RAUL|رائول

You are keeping secrets from
me. And I know it.

COLONIST 4

And that bothers you?

Raul|رائول goes over to the camera, then turns around,
facing the colonist.

RAUL|رائول

This colony if we are to
survive has to go up against
everything stacked against us
and win. That is not possible
with secrets. Not secrets that
require you to sequester
yourself entirely.

Colonist 4 just looks at Raul|رائول, who is just looking

back.

COLONIST 4
Is it aligned to your
satisfaction, now?

Raul|رائول crosses his arms, looking at Colonist 4,
without saying anything.

The door opens, another of the reddish beings, Colonist
3 coming in.

COLONIST 3
It is time...
(beat)
...What is he doing here?

RAUL|رائول
We were having a chat. I will
let you return to your
clandestine operation.

Raul|رائول heads out, then turns around.

RAUL|رائول (CONT'D)
Be warned. No matter how good
you are, arrogance will defeat
you.

Raul|رائول heads down the corridor.

COLONIST 3
He must be stopped.

COLONIST 4
No. We are not The Keo.

COLONIST 3
I believe The Keo would want
him destroyed.

COLONIST 4
It is not our place to think
we know what the keo wants.
Send a signal. Wait for a
response.

Colonist 4 takes something out of a pocket.

COLONIST 4
Your perchlorates.

Colonist 3 holds her hand out and takes the sprinkles
and swallows them.

INT. MARS COLONY. CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

Mia is pausing in the corridor, seeing sprinkles on the floor as the class is running ahead, Mia bending down, scooping up the sprinkles, checking to ensure no is looking, then eats them.

INT. MARS COLONY. RESTAURANT. BRIGHT.

Mannix is entering the restaurant, Abigail waving to him.

ABIGAIL

Are you that Gabriel Mannix?

MANNIX

Yeah. Gabriel Mannix. RGRM. You are?

ABIGAIL

Abigail McGuillycuddy. You don't know me. But I've seen you on RGRM a few times. You're that investigative reporter, aren't you?

MANNIX

That's right.

Mannix grabs a chair and sits down.

MANNIX (CONT'D)

(shrewd)

I bet you know all kinds of interesting things.

Pete kind of snorts into his glass.

MANNIX (CONT'D)

How would you like to have dinner with me? Just the two of us?

ABIGAIL

Sounds lovely. If you'll excuse us.

CHELSEA

Have fun, Grandma.

Abigail gets up, leaving with Mannix.

CARLA

I don't know which one to feel sorry for. I've been a politician long enough to know that they're playing each other and I don't know which one's better at it.

CHELSEA

Grandma.

Albert is coming over to their table, sitting down, at Abigail's empty seat.

ALBERT

(projecting)

I have a political matter to talk to you about.

CARLA

(a little skeptical)

You do?

ALBERT

(quiet)

Actually I'm tailing Mannix,
but I want him to think I
have a legitimate reason to
sit here.

(loud)

But seriously. We need a name.
And you two are the
Presidents. You can think of
one.

CARLA

A name?

ALBERT

Well how long can we be...

(beat)

...Mars colony? Doesn't that
sound kind of dumb?

CARLA

What about Colonie de Mars?

ALBERT

That's French. I mean a name,
like Australia, New Zealand.
America!

CARLA

Why don't you school children
think of a name and suggest...

(beat)

...and suggest four or five.

ALBERT

(hiss)

Because then I wouldn't be
lookin' at Mannix.

(loud)

Well I thought that the
politicians would want to
choose the name. And you both
know why America was named
America, since you're both
Yanks.

CARLA

Ah, wasn't it named after an
explorer that discovered it or
something?

CHELSEA

Yes, it was.

ALBERT

Well who discovered Mars?

CHELSEA

I haven't the faintest idea.

CARLA

Oh, that astronomer guy. I can't remember.

PETE

Galileo?

CARLA

I think so, yes.

ALBERT

Hmm. Welcome to Galileo. I don't think so.

大夏|Dà xià who is heading passed, stops.

大夏|Dà Xià

(with Asian accent)

Welcome to Galileo?

PETE

We're trying to name the colony.

大夏|Dà Xià

What about 火星|Huǒxīng.

ALBERT

What's that?

大夏|Dà Xià

The name of the planet.

CHELSEA

Not in English.

ALBERT

But that's already the whole world. We need a name for the colony.

大夏|Dà Xià

(in Chinese)

新世界|Xīn shìjiè.

ALBERT

What does that mean? I got new.

大夏|Dà Xià

New Earth.

ALBERT

No. And well that's a problem too. We need a name that no one group knows more about than any other.

Albert's eyes light up.

ALBERT (CONT'D)

Ay! Ay! Montgomery!

BOBBIE

What?

RITA

(with American Midwest accent)
Don't shout. Go over and talk to him.

BOBBIE

(resigned)

Fine.

Bobbie goes over, passing Mannix and Abigail, Mannix saying.

MANNIX

Well that's enough about the nursing home. What about *here*? The colony *here*? What do you know about things *here*?

Bobbie is chuckling as she gets to the table.

CHELSEA

Well you're amused. I gather Mannix is just discovering Grandma just arrived.

BOBBIE

The conversation hasn't left Earth, yet.

Chelsea chuckles, nodding.

ALBERT

How many people 'ere know Shakespeare? I know I don't.

BOBBIE

Me, my father. My mother.

ALBERT

There. Three people know it. That's a mighty small country. You get to name the colony.

BOBBIE

What?

ALBERT

We need a name. A real name.
Not like New Earth. Or
anythin' like that. Somethin'
that means somethin'.

BOBBIE

Hmm. Like what? What do you
want it to mean?

CHELSEA

Maybe a new beginning. After
all we're all starting to try
to create a new Earth, now
that Earth is hopeless. Pretty
hopeless.

BOBBIE

Alright. I'll think about it.
I'm sure I can come up with
something. Yeah.

Looking pensive, Bobbie heads back for her table, passing
Mannix, who is trying to not show his annoyance.

ABIGAIL

Well enough about me. Tell me
about yourself. Surely a man
of your stature in the news
organization has many stories
to tell and I'm sure they're
all very fascinating.

INT. MARS COLONY. BASE OPS. BRIGHT.

Raul|رائول is at his console in base ops, watching it
as Tragg comes in.

RAUL|رائول

Are you alone?

TRAGG

Yeah.

RAUL|رائول

Good. Gabriel Mannix of RGRM...

TRAGG

Young Preston is trying to
tail him.

RAUL|رائول

Can he keep a secret?

TRAGG

Not sure.

رائول|RAUL

Then don't trust him, yet.

TRAGG

It sounds serious.

رائول|RAUL

We have to investigate Gabriel Mannix for black-mail, the evidence being on Earth. The scooter you have a part of.

TRAGG

Right.

رائول|RAUL

Gabriel Mannix was after it.

TRAGG

Why would a reporter want a scooter?

رائول|RAUL

It can fly. Not high, but hover.

رائول|Raul shrugs.

رائول|RAUL (CONT'D)

Mannix is in his quarters, in his bed. We are clear for today.

رائول|Raul heads out of the room.

TRAGG

It just doesn't fit with his personality.

رائول|RAUL

Unless he was paid to do it? True?

TRAGG

Possibly. Mannix seems more like the type who likes to destroy people's reputation. I don't know that he would know what to do with an invention.

رائول|RAUL

Ah, but he can destroy her
(MORE)

RAUL|رائول (CONT'D)
reputation. There is allegedly
a nude photo of her that is
going to go up on the
internet unless she turns over
the invention.

TRAGG
Then he must have an
accomplice back on Earth.
Because he's here, she's here.

RAUL|رائول
Correct. Unless he foolishly
thinks we are connected to
Earth's internet, which I can
see him believing. Now we just
need to find a way to make
an inquiry about that phone-
call and the black-mail, from
here. But that is tomorrow's
problem.

Raul|رائول hits the switch, dimming|明 the lights as he
heads out, Tragg going with him.

INT. MARS COLONY. CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

Raul|رائول nods to another officer who's heading in.

INT. MARS COLONY. RESTAURANT. BRIGHT.

Bobbie is standing in the doorway of the restaurant as
Владимир|Vladimir is coming in.

BOBBIE
Good morning.

ВЛАДИМИР|VLADIMIR
(wary)
Morning.

BOBBIE
I'm doing a poll. A survey?
Asking a question?

ВЛАДИМИР|VLADIMIR
Ah. Ask.

BOBBIE
Which name do you like better
for our colony? Darraign,
Darraign Fence, Esperance,
Clinquant or Skill?

ВЛАДИМИР | VLADIMIR

(prompt)

Esperance!

МИХАИЛ | MIKHAIL

Agreed.

АНАСТАСИЯ | ANASTASIA

Skill seems good.

СЕРГЕЙ | SERGEI

(in Ukrainian)

ЯКІ БУЛИ ІМЕНА, ЗНОВУ?

SUPERIMPOSE:

What were the names, again?

BOBBIE

Darraign, Darraign Fence,
Esperance, Clinquant or Skill.

СЕРГЕЙ | SERGEI

Skill or Esperance.

Сергей | Sergei heads in with the rest of Роскович, as
Bobbie makes a note on her phone, 한솔 | Han-sol coming in.

BOBBIE

Good morning. I have a
question.

한솔 | HAN-SOL

(with Korean accent)

Ask question.

BOBBIE

Which do you like as a name
for this colony?

INT. MARS COLONY. BASE OPS. BRIGHT.

Sammy is sitting at com as Tragg is coming in.

SAMMY

Who is it?

Sammy turns around.

SAMMY (CONT'D)

Ah, Sherlock. Hope I'm not on
your list of suspects.

TRAGG

No. But I am here on official
business.

SAMMY

Alright. What business is that?

TRAGG

I need to somehow find out who on Earth is an accomplice.

SAMMY

Accomplice to what? Does this have to do with the scooter?

TRAGG

Yeah, she's being black-mailed.

SAMMY

I heard.

TRAGG

So someone has to be on Earth to put up the pictures. Now if the pictures have gone up, the accomplice doesn't know that she left for Mars. But if the pictures never did go up, then that accomplice knows a lot more than I'm comfortable with that accomplice knowing. But I don't have anyone back on Earth

(MORE)

TRAGG (CONT'D)

that can...

(beat)

...that can check.

SAMMY

And for that matter, we don't know if it's going to be under her name.

TRAGG

I doubt they would've been posted under her name.

SAMMY

So then it could be anyone you have to look for. I'll see if I can think of anyone. I do have contacts back on Earth.

TRAGG

Well we have to be careful. All our communication to Earth is monitored.

SAMMY

So I have to do it in code.

TRAGG

Ideally.

SAMMY

Well give me the information,
first, while I think about the
code.

TRAGG

Right. So I want to know if
six months ago someone posted
naked pictures of a woman in
a hotel room.

SAMMY

Chances are there will be at
least one who did.

TRAGG

And then somehow I need to
see those pictures. It would
be a woman alone.

SAMMY

Hair color, skin color.

TRAGG

Caucasian. Brown hair. Long.

SAMMY

Straight? Wavy? Curled?

TRAGG

Not curled. Straightish.

Sammy nods.

TRAGG (CONT'D)

Now people are probably gonna
want to get some kind of
compensation for this. And
they're gonna need to know how
to get in touch with us. This
just has more problems than
solutions.

Sammy scratches his head.

TRAGG (CONT'D)

What we need is our own
internet connection.

Sammy sighs.

SAMMY

We aren't set up for that.
Not to mention, this is a...

(beat)

...was a, Vi Spatium base. We
are prohibited from having
direct contact to the internet.
That was true back on Earth.
The military was not authorized
internet connections. Too easy
to tap.

TRAGG

And that makes sense. But it
makes this...

(beat)

...almost impossible. Well we'll
just have to put the request
out there and hope that a
good Samaritan helps us out.
But how can they get a signal
back to us?

SAMMY

Questionably. The only way to
guarantee it...

(beat)

...is to send a laser
transmission, which means going
through IFSE, which may be a
part of the problem.

Sammy considers, then snaps his fingers.

SAMMY (CONT'D)

What books did that teacher
bring?

TRAGG

I don't know. Why?

SAMMY

Have you ever been graced by
watching a performance written
by one of the most talented
writers of all time, William
Shakespeare?

TRAGG

I never had much patience for
Shakespeare.

SAMMY

I doth think you shalt consider
it, once more. For in the
ambiguous terms long since

(MORE)

SAMMY (CONT'D)
dropped from the English
language you have a code
source.

TRAGG
But the person at the other
end would have to understand
the same code. Do you know
someone who fits that
description?

SAMMY
Of course. My college English
teacher. Oxford.

Sammy types on the console.

SAMMY (CONT'D)
The only question is the exact
wording. I don't have the
meanings of Shakespearean words
memorized.

TRAGG
Maybe one of those
homeschooling families would
have a Shakespearean dictionary.
I'll check and be back.

Tragg heads out.

SAMMY
(call then mutter)
I think they'd be more
likely...
(beat)
...to have a bible than a
dictionary.

TRAGG
You haven't gotten breakfast
this morning!

Sammy turns around.

SAMMY
What?

Act III

INT. MARS COLONY. RESTAURANT. BRIGHT.

CHELSEA

So, Grandma. How went dinner
with Mannix, last night?

ABIGAIL

Oh it was very interesting. I
don't think he's going to do
anything about the nursing home
problem, though.

PETE

I doubt it. Not controversial
enough for him.

ABIGAIL

Well it was worth a try.

CHELSEA

True.

ANDREW

Hey. Maybe we can use Mannix.
The tap-water.

DENNIS

Worth a shot. If he's digging
for stories.

PETE

He's probably not gonna buy
that one, either. But...

(beat)

...it'll keep him busy.

Andrew and Dennis both get up, heading for Mannix' table.

INT. MARS COLONY. RESTAURANT. BRIGHT.

TRAGG

You said all those words that
you're considering for names,
came from Shakespeare.

BOBBIE

That's right. That's Albert's
idea. Hardly anyone knows
Shakespeare. There were a lot
of words I could've used, but
I picked words that aren't
being used anymore. So these
are all...

(beat)

...old words. Why?

TRAGG

And you have all these words memorized?

BOBBIE

Oh, goodness, no! We brought a Shakespearean dictionary. It's enough trying to learn the languages I'm gonna have to use. Why would I bother filling my head with a bunch of words no one wants?

TRAGG

Right. Is your father back at your quarters?

BOBBIE

(wary)

Yeah.

TRAGG

Thanks.

Tragg heads out, पूर|PANTUR सूर्य|SURYA walking over.

पूर|PANTUR सूर्य|SURYA

(with Indian Hindi accent)

Correction. Filling your head with words few want.

INT. MARS COLONY. RESTAURANT. BRIGHT.

Andrew and Dennis are sitting down at Mannix' table.

DENNIS

Dennis McCain.

ANDREW

Andrew Mitchell.

MANNIX

Gabriel Mannix, RGRM. Do you boys want something?

DENNIS

We hear you're in the market for an especially interesting story.

MANNIX

I'm listening. Is it about the red people, or is it about the woman in her case?

ANDREW

How about political corruption
on Earth?

Mannix makes a face.

MANNIX

What would you here know about
corruption on Earth? And pretty
much the whole planet's
corrupt, anyway. It's hardly
news. What about corruption
here? That Commodore isn't
willing to give up authority.
The presidential election was
rigged?

DENNIS

This place was set up by the
people running from the
corruption on Earth. And you
think there's gonna be
corruption here?

Dennis looks over at Andrew, dubiously.

DENNIS (CONT'D)

You don't have the courage to
take on Earth.

Dennis gets up to leave.

MANNIX

What are you talking about?

DENNIS

Well the only people who leave
Earth...

ANDREW

Are running from something. So
what are you running from?

MANNIX

I...

(beat)

...have an opportunity to be
the exclusive news authority.

Andrew snickers.

ANDREW

Bobbie Montgomery is your
superior.

Andrew points.

MANNIX

That child?

DENNIS

Until you're an adult.

MANNIX

I'm already an adult. What is it with people, mentioning this adult thing? Is this some kind of joke?

DENNIS

One of the early laws. Since the majority of the colonists have radically different ideas of an age of adulthood, we don't have one.

MANNIX

(dubious)

You don't have an age of adulthood?

ANDREW

Nope. We have a maturity test.

MANNIX

(dubious)

A maturity test. Uh huh.

ANDREW

And until you pass it, you're not allowed to work any adult jobs, you can be a protégé. But not...

(beat)

...in charge.

MANNIX

Then I'll be my own protégé.

Dennis looks over at Andrew.

DENNIS

I don't know if there's a law covering that?

ANDREW

Actually there is. If you're working in a field we have an adult in, you are required to be that adult's protégé. Bobbie passed, you're her protégé. 'Till you pass.

MANNIX

She's a journalist? Because I
am a journalist?

ANDREW

She is chief editor, writer
and journalist of our news.
Also publisher. And reporter.

MANNIX

Really? Well I'd love to see
some of her writing.

DENNIS

Stay around long enough you
will. Now do you want that
story about how New York was
medicating the entire
population, or not?

MANNIX

(patronizing)

Alright, boys. Tell me your
story.

Dennis and Andrew sit down.

MANNIX (CONT'D)

Is that New York City?

ANDREW

Correct. That's where we were.

MANNIX

And there was some...

(beat)

...some law that required you
to take medication?

ANDREW

Nope. Some medication slipped
into the tap-water! Anti-
depressants.

Mannix looks a little dubious.

MANNIX

Spiking the tap-water, with
anti-depressants? You think
that's a bad thing?

ANDREW

We weren't depressed. Until
taking medication that has
depression as a side-effect.
Yeah!

MANNIX

Hmm.

INT. MARS COLONY. MONTGOMERY QUARTERS. BRIGHT.

William is letting Tragg into their quarters.

TRAGG

Do you have a Shakespearean dictionary?

WILLIAM

Why, yes. We do. Why do you want it?

TRAGG

We need to send a coded message.

WILLIAM

Unusual use of Shakespeare. Alright.

William goes to a box or bag and comes back with a book, holding it out to Tragg.

TRAGG

Thanks. I'll bring it back, when we're done.

WILLIAM

Good. Good luck with your code. I hope the person on the other end knows Shakespeare.

TRAGG

Sammy thinks so. We'll find out. Thanks, again.

Tragg heads out.

WILLIAM

Of all the things I expected to lend, I never thought that dictionary would be one of them.

INT. MARS COLONY. RESTAURANT. BRIGHT.

Bobbie is coming over to Chelsea, Pete and Abigail's table, Andrew and Dennis also coming back.

PETE

Success?

DENNIS

No. He's not convinced it was
a bad idea!

CHELSEA

What about the name?

BOBBIE

Well. I'm figuring that out,
now. Most like Esperance.

CHELSEA

Then I think Esperance it is.

Chelsea flags down Carla, who comes over.

CARLA

What is it?

PETE

Poll results are back.

CHELSEA

Most of the colony likes
Esperance.

PETE

What does it mean?

BOBBIE

Hope.

PETE

I like that.

CHELSEA

So do I.

CARLA

I think...

(beat)

...that works.

Chelsea goes over to the com-panel, then activates.

CHELSEA

Base ops, you should let
everyone know the colony has
been named Esperance.

SAMMY (V.O.)

Understood. Alerting, now.

Com cuts, loudspeakers activating.

SAMMY (CONT'D)

All hands, this is Flight Lieutenant Samuel Rothschild, we are now formally known as Esperance Mars. While the name has been selected, the flag still needs design. Rothschild out.

CARLA

Flag?

CHELSEA

I gather not something you're used to doing as a politician?

INT. MARS COLONY. BASE OPS. BRIGHT.

Tragg is entering base ops as is Raul|رائول.

RAUL|رائول

I got your message.

TRAGG

I've got a Shakespearean dictionary.

SAMMY

Excellent!

RAUL|رائول

Why?

TRAGG

We're going to send a coded message asking someone to look for the girl's picture.

RAUL|رائول

In Shakespeare?

TRAGG

That's the idea. You have a better one?

RAUL|رائول

Very few Vi Spatium Officers in Kiev are of Arabic descent. Arabic should work as a code. Although Vi Spatium Officers may know how to translate Arabic. And in Egypt there are a lot of Vi Spatium officers who speak Arabic.

TRAGG

That's right. But Shakespeare.
Shakespeare's pretty dead. Even
though it's English, I think
it's more dead than Latin.

SAMMY

Certainly among military
officers. Latin's used for Vi
Spatium. If it wasn't for the
fact I was drafted, I would've
entered possibly theater or
some other more literary
occupation, using my English
degree over my piloting skills.

Sammy takes the dictionary, opening it.

SAMMY (CONT'D)

Let's see. Abide is to follow.
Abide these...

Sammy flips through the book.

SAMMY (CONT'D)

(satisfied)

...impositions! Abide these
impositions... (beat)
...with charact. Rough, but
conveys what I'm trying for.
Description, description. The
lakin abroad...

(beat)

...What. Abide these castiliano
vulgo impositions of thine
chare, with charact. The gentle
wench abroad who jacks taste
to baffle. Be a bawd and
quest for the seal of the
gentle wench abroad. Acheive
knowledge of the picture by
mere want of livery, unbolt by
the jack, backward days of two
centuries. I crave present post
retort, a pattern for us of
the thine's picked gentle wench
images imbared.

Sammy looks up.

SAMMY (CONT'D)

I can't think of a way to
say in code, 'thank you'. I
think I'm going to have to
say that in English. Which
means I will be talking to

(MORE)

SAMMY (CONT'D)

him about how I am continuing
my Shakespearean studies here
on the colony.

He looks at Tragg.

SAMMY (CONT'D)

Think that'll work?

TRAGG

I think it'll work. It all
seems like total gibberish to
me. A string of random words,
with no meaning.

Sammy nods.

SAMMY

Alright, then.

Sammy opens com.

SAMMY (CONT'D)

Dear Professor Seymour. This is
Mr. Samuel Rothschild. I am
currently on Mars, however I
am still keeping up my English
studies. I am considering
putting on a Shakespeare
performance for the colonists
and am interested in your
opinion. I am going to read
an excerpt.

Sammy starts putting full emotion into his speaking.

SAMMY (CONT'D)

(dramatically)

*Abide these castiliano vulgo
impositions of thine chare,
with charact. The gentle wench
abroad who jacks taste to
baffle. Be a bawd and quest
for the seal of the gentle
wench abroad. Acheive knowledge
of the picture by mere want
of livery, unbolt by the jack,
backward days of two centuries.
I crave present post retort, a
pattern for us of the thine's
picked gentle wench images
imbared.*

Sammy looks back at the screen.

SAMMY (CONT'D)

As it is difficult to thank you after the fact, given the long transmissions, thank you professor. I look forward to your critique of my performance. Mr. Rothschild out.

Sammy cuts com.

رائول|RAUL

No spy in their right mind would've wasted their time on that.

رائول|Raul looks at Tragg.

رائول|RAUL (CONT'D)

Or would any of the Americans translate it?

TRAGG

(emphatic)

No! Most Americans hear Shakespeare and run for cover. Except for the showoffs.

رائول|RAUL

Would they go into the business of being spy?

TRAGG

I think they would be more likely to be fooled into thinking this was a performance and try to tell you how to rewrite your words. I think we're safe. The question is, will the professor understand?

SAMMY

Castiliano vulgo, means in code. I think he will.

رائول|RAUL

If one of those America show-offs know it's in code, will they get it?

TRAGG

Fifty fifty. The reference was so fast, it would probably be missed.

SAMMY

Unless if that person spent
(MORE)

SAMMY (CONT'D)
their whole lives studying
Shakespeare.

TRAGG
And someone who spent their
whole lives studying Shakespeare
is not likely to be a spy.

Sammy nods.

SAMMY
Precisely.

رائول|RAUL
I think we're safe. Especially
since I don't think many
Americans are gonna be in Kiev.

TRAGG
True.

SAMMY
The only question is will
General Doug relay the message?

INT. MARS COLONY. FIELD STRUT. BRIGHT/DAY.

पंतुर|PANTUR सूर्या|SURYA is going over to Salvatore in the
field strut.

पंतुर|PANTUR सूर्या|SURYA
I have done much research into
goats.

SALVATORE
Be careful of that one. Yes,
you're the one I'm talking
about. He likes to test all
the newcomers. And to him, you
are a newcomer.

पंतुर|PANTUR सूर्या|SURYA nods, holding out the maturity button.

SALVATORE (CONT'D)
What is this?

पंतुर|PANTUR सूर्या|SURYA
Given my research into goats
and my own eyes today. Being
able to work with goats,
proves you are mature. That is
your badge of adulthood.

ANTONIO
See Papa, I am an adult!

पंतूर|PANTUR सूर्य|SURYA

Can you work with any of the goats?

ANTONIO

I can milk the ladies, most days.

पंतूर|Pantur सूर्य|Surya folds his arms, considering, glancing at Salvatore.

SALVATORE

It is true. He is a very big help.

पंतूर|Pantur सूर्य|Surya hands Antonio another button.

सूर्य|SURYA

I suspected as much. On this colony there are children younger than him, who have passed maturity tests, with flying colors. And adults older than him, who have barely scraped by. But the goats seem a good one.

ANTONIO

Then I will not need to go to school.

पंतूर|PANTUR सूर्य|SURYA smiles, then says in perfect Hindi.

पंतूर|PANTUR सूर्य|SURYA

(in perfect Hindi)

यह बिल्कुल सही है। (Yah bilkul sahee hai.)

SUPERIMPOSE:

That is absolutely correct.

ANTONIO

What?

पंतूर|PANTUR सूर्य|SURYA

(in Italian)

Vieni a scuola se vuoi scoprire cosa ho detto.

SUPERIMPOSE:

Come to school if you want to find out what I said.

पंतूर|PANTUR सूर्य|SURYA walks out, Salvatore smiling.

SALVATORE

He is a good teacher, that one! But you will have to help me with the goats, for another week, before you can go to school!

ANTONIO

Oh, Papa!

पंतुर|PANTUR स्मै|SURYA turns around.

SALVATORE

We need to get them settled.

पंतुर|PANTUR स्मै|SURYA

I believe my class would be of great assistance in that endeavour and they need to learn about goats.

ANTONIO

We can teach them?

पंतुर|PANTUR स्मै|SURYA

Would that be acceptable?

SALVATORE

(dubious)

We can try it.

पंतुर|PANTUR स्मै|SURYA nods, then walks out.

INT. EARTH. KIEV. MISSION CONTROL. DAY.

Sammy is on the Kiev viewscreen.

SAMMY (V.O.)

...thank you professor. I look forward to your critique of my performance. Mr. Rothschild out.

ЕЛЧИН|YELCHIN, looks over at another officer there.

ЕЛЧИН|YELCHIN

Copy the transmission and forward it to England. And I agree with General Doug. Jamaica needs a laser transmitter receiver. Let that interfering cousin handle all these requests for critiques, movies and other trivial matters. These colonists are obviously bored out of their skulls!

INT. MARS COLONY. MED-WARD. BRIGHT.

Brad is in the med-ward as Khanyisile and Adofo are coming in.

BRAD
Is there a problem?

ADOFO
I cannot run.

KHANYISILE
The plants are just getting sickly, too.

Brad turns to the chem-lab.

BRAD
JEROME! Get a soil-sample. The plants are sick.

Jerome comes out, nodding, as he gets his supplies, as Helen is coming in carrying Mia.

HELEN
She can barely stay awake.

Brad goes over and examines Mia.

BRAD
I'll need to do a blood-test. On someone. The symptoms seem comparable.

Brad looks over at the door, where François is coming in.

FRANÇOIS
I think there is a problem.

BRAD (CONT'D)
Let me guess. Fatigued.

FRANÇOIS
Oui, oui. Even my ducks.

BRAD
Do these symptoms seem comparable to any disease you encountered?

FRANÇOIS
The symptoms seem like a disease, I studied before coming here.

BRAD

Perchlorate poisoning?

FRANÇOIS

Oui, oui!

Brad nods.

BRAD

I have been feeling tired recently. I thought I just haven't sleep well, considering what Tragg and I talked about, plus the cold night we spent recently.

Brad shakes his head.

KHANYISILE

Then if the plants are poisoned...

(beat)

...but where are the perchlorates coming from?

BRAD

That's what I'm hoping Jerome can tell us. But I have a theory.

FRANÇOIS

I heard that the foundation was damaged, when you first arrived.

BRAD

Yes. But none of us got tired. Vi Spatium officers worked on the promenade, without masks, putting down the metal. They would've been exposed back then to high levels. And they haven't come in. Ever. I've seen them in the restaurant and they seem fine.

François picks up a needle, jabbing Brad.

BRAD (CONT'D)

Ow!

FRANÇOIS

Forgive me, my friend. But I wanted to get a sample from someone who would understand.

BRAD

Wise. Because if it is...

HELEN

Is Mia gonna die?

Act IV

INT. MARS COLONY. MED-WARD. BRIGHT.

BRAD

We're gonna do everything in
our power to prevent that.

Brad goes over to the chemistry section, then takes the
syringe from François.

BRAD (CONT'D)

I've been watching Jerome, so
I could run some of the
tests, myself.

FRANÇOIS

Very well. And I will contact
the Contraalmirante. We need to
take some kind of precautionary
measures.

François goes over to the panel.

BRAD

And bring Chelsea and Ling.
They've both got young children.

Brad looks over at Mia.

BRAD (CONT'D)

They should've been here,
first. They've been here,
longer.

HELEN

Everyone said this was safe.
Now my Mia might die.

BRAD

(realizing)

You brought the perchlorates.

HELEN

How dare you accuse me of
that?

BRAD

Not, you, personally. Your
ship, Mia's had longer exposure
than those on the colony,
because we have two babies and
they're not here, yet. That
means Mia's been exposed for
longer, because she's older, so
it would happen slower.

FRANÇOIS

Were you tired on your journey?

HELEN

Well, yes. It was a very fatiguing journey. Having to keep the children entertained and educated.

Then very resigned.

HELEN (CONT'D)

And eating pemmican.

FRANÇOIS

Oui. We all had that problem.

BRAD

But you didn't start feeling fatigued, until you got off the Bonaparte.

FRANÇOIS

Oui, oui. And my ducks were fine the whole trip.

Brad looks at the test results.

BRAD

That's perchlorate.

François activates the com-panel.

INT. MARS COLONY. BASE OPS. BRIGHT.

Danny is sitting at the console, going over plans for the scooter, the com-light flashing.

DANNY

Base ops.

FRANÇOIS (V.O.)

There is a medical emergency. We must establish a quarantine, immediately.

DANNY

Quarantine. You mean lockin' the air filters?

FRANÇOIS (V.O.)

Oui, oui.

DANNY

Understood. What sections?

FRANÇOIS

Currently I believe the entire complex.

DANNY

Understood, sir. Medi?

BRAD

Confirm.

Danny hits a siren, blue lights flashing along the ceiling, then the air vents shut, mechanically.

INT. MARS COLONY. FIELD STRUT. BRIGHT.

The blue lights flash along the field-strut, the vents closing, the goats getting skittish.

SALVATORE

Calm down, calm down.

CARLA

That's a medical alert.

Carla drops the handles of the wheelbarrow she's pushing.

ANIKA

That means a quarantine. We need to get plants here for the goats to breathe.

पंतुर | PANTUR सूर्या | SURYA

Montgomery. Go get plants.
Saeed. Go find out the source.
To the med-ward.

تاه | Taha nods, then heads out as does Bobbie.

BOBBIE

Plants. Go get plants. How am I supposed to go get plants? And how am I supposed to get plants that the goats will breathe that they won't eat?

INT. MARS COLONY. BASE OPS. BRIGHT.

Sophia is entering ops, looking grim.

SOPHIA

I want an explanation.

Danny is looking over Falk's console, then turns to face Sophia, looking grim.

DANNY

We've got perchlorate poisonin'.
And there hasn't been breach
of airlocks.

SOPHIA

What are you saying?

DANNY

The highest concentrations are
in corridor twenty-eight, room
A.

SOPHIA

Poison?

Danny nods.

DANNY

The question I have. Is how
come that man in corridor
twenty-eight, room A hasn't
gone to the med-ward, yet,
without keelin' over.

Sophia takes out her pistol, taking out a blank,
replacing with a bullet.

SOPHIA

I intend to find out! Have
Thunderbolt and Madeye meet me
there. This is one case where
Fredrick (God's Thunderbolt)
Tanner is going to be an ally!

INT. MARS COLONY. MED-WARD. BRIGHT.

Chelsea, Abigail, Pete, Andrew, Dennis, Ling and 肖|Xiào
are entering the med-ward with 叶|Taha.

BRAD

We'll need to do comparative
blood-draws. I'm sorry.

CHELSEA

I don't understand.

BRAD

Helen, you can give blood for
Mia and Chelsea, you can give
blood for your son, Ling, you
can give blood for your son.

ABIGAIL

What's going on?

ط|TAHA

(with Egyptian accent)

That's what I came to find out.

François is getting out the syringes.

BRAD

We've got perchlorate poisoning. We need to determine if the Stockholm brought the perchlorates, or if it was an accumulative affect and for some reason Mia got a high dose. If I'm right and Helen's levels are higher than yours, then the Stockholm brought it. If I'm wrong, the children will have to give blood, for comparative testing, but I'd like to avoid that.

PETE

I've been exposed to everything they have.

Pete indicates Chelsea and the baby.

Abigail is rolling up her sleeve.

ABIGAIL

What are the symptoms?

BRAD

Fatigue. Loss of appetite.

ABIGAIL

At my age, you have to be a little more specific. That describes every day.

François puts the little cotton ball in the spot and puts her arm up, then puts a label on it, passing it to Brad.

FRANÇOIS

That is why it is easier to see it in children. What ship did you arrive on?

CHELSEA

She arrived on the Stockholm.

François starts to draw blood from Pete.

FRANÇOIS

And how was your appetite the whole trip?

DENNIS

Ravenous.

PETE

Not us!

François puts the cotton ball in place and puts the arm up, labeling and handing the syringe to Brad, who takes it over to the chemist area.

ABIGAIL

Well as the trip went on, I didn't feel like eating as much. But it was so boring.

CHELSEA

Pemmican!

ABIGAIL

Too much of it.

Brad is studying the samples as Jerome is coming back in.

JEROME

I got those samples. Just from eyeballing it, I'd certainly guess perchlorates. I researched how to identify it in plants, before we went.

Brad nods, then turns around.

HELEN

What are we gonna do if it is perchlorates?

BRAD

Well we have to figure that out, because it is. And you, Miss McGuillicuddy, have the highest levels. It's not Mars perchlorates. The perchlorates came with the Stockholm.

Jerome looks confused.

JEROME

Why would the Stockholm bring perchlorates?

Helen starts crying.

HELEN

Someone on Earth is trying to kill us.

ANDREW

Mannix has his story.

ABIGAIL

hat I'm wondering dear, is what's gonna happen to the Stockholm crew on their way back?

BRAD

Stop that ship!

Brad runs over to the console, then types on it.

BRAD (CONT'D)

Saucers, call the Stockholm back! Now. Say it's the Count's orders. If they don't, they're dead. They can't last six months, without medical care.

Brad blows out, turning around.

BRAD (CONT'D)

(under his breath)

And even with medical care, we're not guaranteed survival.

HELEN

So what's the treatment?

BRAD

It won't matter, unless we can eliminate the source. That has to be our top priority.

INT. MARS COLONY. BASE OPS. BRIGHT.

Danny types on the console, then turns to face the view screen, the hail-light flashing, Danny going over and hitting com.

BRAD (V.O. CONT'D)

Saucers, call the Stockholm back! Now! Say it's the Count's orders. If they don't, they're dead. They can't last six months, without medical care.

Com cuts, Danny whistling, then hits a button on the console and steps to the center of ops.

DANNY

This is Leifteanant Daniel McBride, of the Royal Irish Regiment, serving Vi Spatium on Esperance Mars, contacting Stockholm with your most up to date orders from Contraalmirante Martinez. You are ordered to return to Mars, your ship has been compromised with perchlorates. You will not survive the return trip to Earth. We are workin' on the issue. McBride out.

The Stockholm Dux appears on screen.

DUX

We already left behind the DeVinci. There's only two of us. Are you saying the Bonaparte should go back alone?

DANNY

(to himself)
Not this again.

DANNY (CONT'D)

(aloud)
If necessary the Bonaparte should return as well, unless you have a way to purge your ship o' perchlorates. Your ship carried perchlorates from Earth, to Mars.

There is a pause, the Captain just looking back.

DUX

We have an electrostatic air filter. I'm gonna give that a try.

DANNY

If that works, Godspeed. If not...
(beat)
...we'll be expectin' ya' back.
McBride out.

Danny goes over and cuts com, then types, then goes over and stands in the center of base ops.

DANNY (CONT'D)

This is Leifteanant Daniel McBride of the Royal Irish
(MORE)

DANNY (CONT'D)
Regiment, serving Vi Spatium on
Esperance Mars, contacting
General Sanka Doug at Vi
Spatium H.Q. Kiev. The
perchlorates brought by the
Stockholm have been identified
and we are working on a
solution. The entity responsible
for the perchlorate's presence
had better not come to Mars.
Because if they do, General...

(beat)

...I think the threat can be
left unspoken. I doubt I'm the
only one they'd have to answer
to. McBride out.

The com-light flashes.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Now what?

Danny activates com, just waiting.

SANKA

(unconcerned)

This is General Sanka Doug. I
have a message for Samuel
Rothschild.

DANNY

He's unavailable, but all
messages on this colony are
public. You may transmit,
anyway, sir.

SANKA

What? You moved the colony?

DANNY

Whatever gave ya' that idea?

SANKA

How did you have the supplies
to build a new structure? What
was wrong with the other one?

DANNY

Nothin' sir. We didn't move.

SANKA

Perchlorates?

DANNY

Ah, you just finally got me
last message.

SANKA

I see why you had to move.

DANNY

But we didn't.

SANKA

Please keep me informed.
Especially if there's any
fatalities. How do you know
they came from the Stockholm?

DANNY

No breach of airlocks and the
highest concentrations are in
quarters occupied by a civilian
the Stockholm brought. And he
hasn't keeled over dead,
either. There's somethin' wrong
with him.

SANKA

Where is the Contraalmirante?
Have her contact me, as soon
as she gets back.

DANNY

Aye, sir.

SANKA

End transmission.

DANNY

Wait a minute! What happened
to Sammy's?

INT. MARS COLONY. CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

Sophia is heading down the corridor, meeting Raul|رائول
and Fredrick.

SOPHIA

Madeye, Thunderbolt.

FREDRICK

What's going on?

SOPHIA

The colonist in corridor
twenty-eight room A brought
perchlorates.

FREDRICK

(incredulous)
Brought?

SOPHIA

Sí, Sr.

Fredrick pulls out his weapon.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)

Not, yet.

Sophia heads down the corridor, walking up to the door of corridor twenty-eight, room A, knocking.

SOPHIA

Contraalmirante Sophia Martinez.

Sophia types on the panel, then takes out her electricity gun, aiming it at the panel.

RAUL|رائول

No. We need Ivanov.

FREDRICK

We're wasting time!

SOPHIA

You have a better idea, Thunderbolt?

FREDRICK

Can't you just override this, somehow?

SOPHIA

I tried.

FREDRICK

We should go through the quarters next door.

RAUL|رائول

They're not connected.

FREDRICK

We can make a hole.

SOPHIA

If we are going to make a hole, we can blast the door out. That's easier to fix.

Sophia aims at the door, as do Raul|رائول and Fredrick, the door next door opening, the being taking off.

FREDRICK

That's not Ivanov!

Raul|رائول races after, as does Fredrick, Sophia activating her walkie-talkie.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)
(in multiple languages)
Martinez contactando
basoperationer. Almthm alharib på
väg korridoren tjugoåtta. Toda
la al'aman héli.

SUPERIMPOSE:
Martinez calling base ops.
Pursuant enroot down corridor
twenty-eight. All security
converge. Code!

Sophia cuts com, then hastens down another corridor,
turning there and running a different way, flat out.

INT. MARS COLONY. FIELD STRUT. CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

Bobbie is struggling to reach to the button for opening
the field-strut door, around the wheel-barrow.

INT. MARS COLONY. FIELD STRUT. DAY.

There is a thump from the door, Charity turning and
yelling.

CHARITY
Look out!

Jeremiah immediately drops down.

INT. MARS COLONY. FIELD STRUT. CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

Bobbie then manages to get it, the door sliding open,
goats running for the door, one knocking Salvatore onto his
face, Charity going over to help Salvatore up, Jeremiah
rolling out of another goats' way.

JEREMIAH
You didn't tell me about that
one!

Charity looks around.

CHARITY
What?

JEREMIAH
The goat that nearly trampled
me.

CHARITY
Sorry. I didn't see that.

JEREMIAH
You mean before or now?

CHARITY

Neither.

ANTONIO

Do not let them eat the
spines!

BOBBIE

I'm a little busy making sure
they don't get out!

Antonio and Salvatore come over as do some other
students.

INT. MARS COLONY. CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

Falk, Sammy, Thomas and Damian are converging from two
different corridors, Colonist 4 running towards them, Sammy
aiming and firing the air-dart gun, Colonist 4 ducking, then
running the other way, Sammy holstering his gun, as Thomas
leaps the ropes at the corridor, landing on the other side,
taking off after him.

THOMAS

Thought you could take on
Martians, eh mate?

Another door opens, one of the other beings knocking
Thomas down, Thomas grabbing him and rolling, starting to
wrestle him on the ground, Falk stopping and trying to get a
clear shot as Damian jumps them, landing on the other side.

Thomas rolls, so the being is on top of him, Falk
shooting and hitting him with a dart, the being startling.

COLONIST 2

Clever.

Colonist 2 collapses.

Thomas rolls him over then starts frisking him as Sammy
runs past.

INT. MARS COLONY. CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

Raul|رائول and Fredrick are taking off, through the
corridors, coming to a cross-roads, Raul|رائول seeing one of
the ropes swinging.

RAUL|رائول

There!

Raul|رائول heads after, Fredrick following.

INT. MARS COLONY. CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

COLONIST 4 is turning a corner, running along the corridor, then down and jumping down the stairs, Sammy opening the door, then vaulting to land on Colonist 4, Colonist 4 throwing Sammy off, Sammy hitting the wall, hard, Colonist 4 jumping over the rail, then jumping over the rail, going down, as the doors burst open, Raul|رائول and Fredrick running in.

SAMMY

He's no human! That was too strong even for a fresh Earthling!

Raul|رائول nods in passing, running after, Fredrick also jumping down, just not quite as high up, cutting the corners off.

INT. MARS COLONY. ELEVATOR. BRIGHT.

Sophia is typing on the elevator panel.

DANNY (V.O.)

(in multiple languages)
TJ siad ṭɣtulo ṃɔlə.

SUPERIMPOSE:

He's going down!

SOPHIA

(in multiple languages)
Ibi ipade irin ajo. Entendido.

SUPERIMPOSE:

The promenade! Understood.

INT. MARS COLONY. PROMENADE. BRIGHT.

Bobbie is pushing another wheel-barrow of cacti, across the promenade, as the stair doors burst open, Colonist 4 running out, Bobbie shoving the wheel-barrow at him, Colonist 4 leaping it, landing on the other side, Bobbie's eyes going wide, as Fredrick bursts out of the elevator.

FREDRICK

Get out of my way!

Bobbie pulls the wheel-barrow back as Colonist 4 is running for the airlock, Fredrick going after him, the door to the elevator opening, Sophia stepping off, as Colonist 4 gets the airlock open, going in, Fredrick grabbing the door before it closes and working his way in.

BOBBIE

He's crazy!

SOPHIA

Sí. But he's going to either
get that saboteur or kill him
in the process!

Act V

INT. MARS COLONY. PROMENADE. BRIGHT.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)

Either way. We have what we're
after!

There is a tense pause, then the airlock rolls open, no one coming out, Sophia drawing her pistol, then carefully approaching the airlock, Bobbie kind of going up, behind, pushing the wheelbarrow, Sophia looking in to see Colonist 4 lying on his face, Fredrick leaned up against the wall, holding his throat, a dart sticking out of Colonist 4's back, Fredrick's holster smoking.

BOBBIE

You need the doc!

Bobbie runs off, leaving the cacti.

Sophia goes over and inspects Colonist 4, frisking him, coming up with packets, Sophia then pocketing them.

SOPHIA

I'm glad you're both alive.

Raul|رائول comes running in, as Fredrick points to Colonist 4.

FREDRICK

Shot.

Sophia looks him over, seeing a small amount of blood near the crotch area.

SOPHIA

I'd say this is definitely a
patented being. The minimal
blood-loss is not natural. Get
him to the infirmary. Find out
who owns him! Con rapidez!

Raul|رائول nods, taking one side, as Sophia holsters her gun, taking the other.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)

You look to be throttled, Sr.
Tanner. Can you walk?

Fredrick nods, then gets up as they head out.

رائول|RAUL

Can you get this wheelbarrow
out of the way?

INT. MARS COLONY. CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

Sophia and Raul|رائول are bringing Colonist 4 towards the
med-ward with Fredrick, Brad meeting them in the corridor,
Mannix coming the other way.

MANNIX

Why have the air vents shut
down?

Brad is checking over Colonist 4.

BRAD

He's a GMO alright.

MANNIX

So you were suffocating him,
but did you have to suffocate
the rest of us?

BRAD

There's no way that this is
natural humanoid anatomy.

Brad motions them towards the infirmary, ignoring Mannix.

BRAD (CONT'D)

Any idea why they're here?

FREDRICK

Perchlorates.

SOPHIA

In my pocket are the packets
of what I suspect are
perchlorates he had on him.
His quarters had the highest
concentration, yet he did not
drop over, dead.

BRAD

Genetically engineered to rely
on perchlorates.

Mannix' eyes widen.

Brad takes the packet out of Sophia's pocket, as they're
entering the med-ward, Brad handing the packet to Doug.

BRAD (CONT'D)

Unless I miss my guess, that's
(MORE)

BRAD (CONT'D)
full of perchlorates.
Nutritional supplements.

JEROME
You're kidding.

BRAD
This man was genetically
engineered. To cope with
perchlorates.

Jerome just stares.

BRAD (CONT'D)
Well check it. Securely.

JEROME
Right. Sorry.

Jerome goes into the lab, the door closing and sealing.

MANNIX
So how did they get the
perchlorates into the colony?

SOPHIA
I intend to find out! And
ensure it does not happen,
again!

RAUL | رائول
There is only one way.
Everyone entering the colony
must be thoroughly searched,
before exiting the airlock.

Sophia nods.

SOPHIA
Unfortunately you are right.

Brad turns to François.

BRAD
Looks a lot like a shrapnel
wound we had...

INT. MARS COLONY. BASE OPS. BRIGHT.

SANKA
This is General Sanka Doug. I
have listened to your message,
again. I am...
(beat)
...I am for once in my life,
(MORE)

SANKA (CONT'D)
speechless We will be looking
into the matter from this
side. You are in our thoughts
and prayers. Keep me posted.

DANNY
(relieved)
Aye, sir.

SANKA
End transmission.

The hail light flashes, Danny going over and opening com.

DANNY
Stockholm. Are your perchlorate
issues alleviated?

DUX
Not alleviated. But...
(beat)
...the levels are lessening.
Estimates are it will take
five hours of running our
electrostatic filter. And even
then it might not be one
hundred percent, but it might
be enough to get to Earth. We
owe you our lives.

DANNY
Someone on your ship brought
perchlorates. Findin' out who
that was and findin' a way to
make them pay, would be plenty
towards repayin' it. McBride
out.

There was another flash, Danny activating com.

DANNY (CONT'D)
McBride.

SOPHIA
This is Contraalmirante
Martinez. We have identified
that the being we pursued is
a Genetically Modified Organism
designed to eat perchlorates as
a necessary nutrient.

DANNY
They gotta be nuts.

SOPHIA

No, Sr. McBride. They are Genetically Modified. Like all Genetically Modified Organisms inferior. They had superior strength, superior tactics, superior coping skills with the Martian terrain. By the logic of their creator, the two beings we captured should have been able to defeat us, alone. No. The flaw in thinking is that any contingency can be planned for. I got this assignment because I can cope with what I do not understand. These...

(beat)

...are just as naive as their creator. With superior arrogance. Martinez out.

INT. MARS COLONY. MED-WARD. BRIGHT.

SOPHIA

You wanted a story, Sr. Mannix. You have it!

INT. MARS COLONY. PROMENADE. BRIGHT.

Darice is walking through the promenade, seeing the open airlock and the wheelbarrow in front of it.

DARICE

What...

(beat)

...is going on here?

INT. MARS COLONY. MED-WARD. BRIGHT.

Colonist 4's eyes are opening, Raul|رائول putting his pistol to the side of his head.

RAUL|رائول

No one's that fast. Talk!

COLONIST 4

I have nothing to say to you.

RAUL|رائول

You have two choices, colonist. I kill you. Or you tell me who it is who sent you and we will let you live. The choice...

(MORE)

RAUL|رائول (CONT'D)
...is yours.

Two women of matching skin tone to the Colonist 4 and 2 are entering.

COLONIST 4
(alert)
What are you doing in here?

Brad goes over to them.

BRAD
Showing responsibility. Getting
a baseline reading.

COLONIST 3
We are dying.

Brad feels the forehead, then takes out a stethoscope and listens for the heartbeat.

Brad nods.

BRAD (CONT'D)
Heartbeat is weak. Fluttering.

Brad shakes his head.

COLONIST 1
We have obeyed The Keo. Why
is this happening to us? We
have lost our babies and now
we are dying!

PETE
Babies?

COLONIST 4
Quiet!

COLONIST 3
The Keo has abandoned us.

RAUL|رائول
Who is The Keo? A name.

COLONIST 3
He is Keo!

CHELSEA
(to herself)
Keo.

Chelsea takes out her cell-phone, then types on it, showing the screen to Colonist 3.

CHELSEA (CONT'D)

(knowingly)

Is that how to spell Keo?

COLONIST 3

Yes. You know Keo?

CHELSEA

C.E.O. It's a position.

RAUL|رائول

Now we've gotten somewhere.

ABIGAIL

Where does Keo live?

COLONIST 3

Keo has gone to Genlutions.

RAUL|رائول

Genlutions. That is helpful.

COLONIST 4

Keo will kill you for sure,
now!

RAUL|رائول

Since I have no more use for
you, what is to stop me from
killing you now?

Raul|رائول cocks the gun at his head.

COLONIST 3

Who's going to save us?

François is examining them as is Brad.

FRANÇOIS

I do not think there is
anything we can do.

Brad shakes his head, going over to Colonist 4, then
takes out a piece of glass, Colonist 4 starting to look
older.

Brad takes a drop of blood from the surgery, then goes
over to a microscope, looking through, then turns around.

BRAD

You're designed to age quickly.
You mature rapidly and die
young. That's how you were
designed. There's no cure. Your
life-span is just naturally
short. Too short for child-
bearing.

HELEN

(furious)

You deserve it! My Mia might die!

Asher is coming in with Benjamin.

BENJAMIN

Whatever it is, we both have it, too.

François helps him to a bed.

FRANÇOIS

It is not contagious.

BRAD

No just poisonous. Perchlorates.

FRANÇOIS

It was on your ship.

The air vents open, then start activating.

SOPHIA

Martinez to McBride! What are you thinking?

DANNY

I'm thinkin' if it worked for the Stockholm, it can work for us. We also have electrostatic air filters. We'll have to populate the entire complex with plants, 'cause the whole complex has been contaminated, until we get a shipment of microbes. But it'll at least stop the spread.

SOPHIA

Understood. I have some garbage to dispose of.

Sophia turns, heading out, taking out of her pocket, the remaining packets, Colonist 1 and 3 starting to cry, looking old, Abigail patting them on the shoulders.

The panel beeps, Brad going over and activating.

JEROME (V.O.)

This is definitely perchlorates.

BRAD

Danny's trying to use the
(MORE)

BRAD (CONT'D)
electrostatic filters to purge
the complex.

JEROME (V.O.)
I'm running mine in here as
well.

BRAD
We'll need to put plants,
everywhere.

Bobbie smacks herself in the forehead.

BOBBIE
The wheelbarrow! I left it by
the airlock!

Bobbie runs out, Colonist 4 then collapsing back, Brad
going over, then listening for a heartbeat.

BRAD
Dead.

INT. MARS COLONY. CORRIDOR. BRIGHT.

Falk and Thomas are carrying Colonist 2 almost to the
med-ward.

FALK
(with Swedish accent)
I don't think he's breathing.

Thomas looks over.

THOMAS
His hair's white. It was dark,
before.

Thomas lifts his hand which is wrinkled, with signs of
arthritis.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
(surprised)
He aged!

FALK
And I think he died! Curare's
not supposed to do that.

THOMAS
Curare doesn't make you age,
it paralyzes you.

Thomas starts inspecting the guy, more carefully, then
shakes his head.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
Check below his hair. Under
the right ear.

Falk does.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
There's a number tattooed there?

FALK
Yeah. How did you know?

THOMAS
GMO companies use those tats
to identify their property.

FALK
Well what are we gonna do
with him, now?

THOMAS
He'll need a burial.

INT. MARS COLONY. MED-WARD. BRIGHT.

Raul|رائول is frisking all four corpses in the med-ward,
coming up with the transmitter, then smiling.

Raul|رائول heads out.

INT. MARS COLONY. CLOSET. DARK.

Raul|رائول opens the door of a closet, entering, then
activating the transmitter.

RAUL|رائول
This is Ostovar Naja Yekomn
Raul|رائول محمودى|Mahmoudi of
Esperance Mars, calling
Genlutions. Your spies are
dead. If you send more, you
will be like them.

Raul|رائول then smashes it into the wall, before walking
out.

RAUL|رائول (CONT'D)
Now to see who gets outraged
and backs out of supporting
this colony!

INT. MARS COLONY. BASE OPS. BRIGHT.

DANNY
General, this is Leifteanant
Daniel McBride of the Royal
(MORE)

DANNY (CONT'D)

Irish Regiment currently serving
Vi Spatium on Esperance Mars.
We are currently using the
electrostatic filters to try to
remove the perchlorates, so the
situation is as stable as
possible at this stage. Now,
you said Spacey, I mean Sammy,
got a transmission. Can we
have it?

INT. MARS COLONY. MED-WARD. BRIGHT.

Brad is watching Mia, carefully, Mia coming to, Helen
stroking her forehead.

BRAD

Feeling any better?

MIA

A little. What's wrong, Mommy?

BRAD

You ate something you shouldn't
have.

Mia looks dejected.

MIA

You always told me candy would
make me sick. I didn't know
how sick.

HELEN & BRAD & JEROME

Candy?

HELEN

Where did you get the candy,
sweetie?

MIA

I found it.

BRAD

Where did you find it?

MIA

On the floor.

BRAD

Were they sprinkles?

Mia nods, somberly.

BRAD (CONT'D)

No wonder she got it so bad.
She got pure. No wonder she
was throwing up.

HELEN

Why didn't you tell me about
the candy, sweetie?

Mia shrugs.

MIA

I didn't want to be in
trouble.

BRAD

If you told us sooner, we
might have been able to avoid
the throwing up.

HELEN

Next time you find candy or
anything that looks good. Take
it to someone. Me, or...

(beat)

...or doc Brad. Or Sophia.
Someone. That candy was
poisoned.

MIA

Why?

Helen looks at Brad, not knowing what to say.

BRAD

There were people who thought
that creating, artificially,
forcing a certain group of
people...

MIA

Is this like Halloween?

HELEN

(decisive)

Yes! Just like with Halloween,
when there are sometimes mean
people who want to make people
sick.

MIA

I thought we were leaving all
the mean people behind.

BRAD

Not all. And some of those
(MORE)

BRAD (CONT'D)

mean people are mad that we left. Just because they're not here, doesn't mean they can't hurt us.

HELEN

That's why it's so important that you bring whatever you find to someone. Some adult.

MIA

Alright.

BRAD

Now I'd like to do regular tests as best I can to make sure that Mia's thyroid is back on track. But I don't have the resources and it would be traumatic.

Brad hands Helen a book.

BRAD (CONT'D)

I brought that, knowing it was possible we'd encounter this issue if the airlocks failed. Read it, thoroughly. How to counteract under-active thyroid.

HELEN

Right.

Benjamin takes Jerome aside.

BENJAMIN

Is she gonna be alright?
What's the truth?

JEROME

We don't know. No human has ever actually eaten that much raw perchlorate. But she threw it up. It's questionable, very questionable. All we can do is watch.

BENJAMIN

If I ever get my hands on whoever did this...

JEROME

This is one case, where I think I'd be in support of the death penalty.

Epilogue

INT. MARS COLONY. RESTAURANT. BRIGHT.

Fredrick is sitting at a table in the restaurant.

FREDRICK

He thought he could subdue me,
but he was no match for me!
I had him stopped, just like
that.

Fredrick snaps.

WANDA

I don't know what we would
do, without you.

Charity is gripping her fork very tightly.

CHARITY

We're proud of you, father.

SOPHIA

Charity, I need a refill of
my water glass.

FREDRICK

She's not working, tonight.
She's celebrating. We all are.

SOPHIA

The whole colony ought to be
celebrating.

CHARITY

I'd like something more to
drink, too, Father.

FREDRICK

Then have the Count get it
for you!

Sophia gets up, going over to the counter, taking out a small post-it note, then writing on it, in Chinese, tacking it to a cup, then taking it over to Charity's table, setting it down, holding one, herself.

CHARITY

Thank you.

Charity mouths to Sophia, 'sorry' her other hand up to her mouth, so Fredrick can't see.

Sophia nods, heading over to the other table.

SOPHIA

You realize, Sr. Tanner...

Fredrick looks at Sophia, Charity taking off the post-it note and taking a drink

SOPHIA (CONT'D)

...that this means when I apprehend the quarry, you will be my waiter.

She heads for her table.

FREDRICK

Certainly!

Fredrick turns back to his family, chuckling.

FREDRICK (CONT'D)

Like she could ever apprehend anyone.

Charity looks at the post-it note, below the table, reading it.

SOPHIA (V.O.)

Your father is selfish about everything except his life.

Fredrick gestures to someone else.

FREDRICK

Oh, that desert looks good. Bring some over, for us.

FLEUR

I'm not a waitress. I'm a hairdresser!

FREDRICK

I saved your life. You owe me.