

OPENING MONTAGE

A series of flashes shows the destruction of a large space colony orbiting a barren planet, in a barrage of violent explosions.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE - DEEP SPACE

GALLA awakes with a start in the pilot seat. She is a humanoid of an alien species. She is disoriented and her brow is dappled with sweat. She looks around and discovers she is naked. Her expression changes to bewilderment and confusion.

GALLA leans forward and attempts radio communication via the control panel.

GALLA

Colony, can you read me? This is Galla! Can you read me, Colony?

GALLA is answered with silence.

GALLA looks out the front windows.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE - DEEP SPACE

The shuttle floats disabled in the void.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE - DEEP SPACE

GALLA attempts to get the engines to start but they are dead. However, the shuttle still has power. GALLA looks around.

GALLA

Tarquin? Tarquin?

GALLA rises from the pilot seat, cups her arms around her shoulders, and exits the module.

INT. PASSENGER MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE - DEEP SPACE

GALLA enters the passenger module and immediately sees something ahead. Her face contorts into shock and revulsion.

The body of TARQUIN lies chest-down on the floor against the far wall of the module. The lower half of his space suit has been torn open and his body is contorted into a strange pretzel shape. His head is turned to the side, staring forward with wide, dead eyes.

GALLA cries out and looks away in horror. She notices something else nearby.

A different space suit lies in shreds upon the floor.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE - DEEP SPACE

GALLA, now wearing another space suit, returns to the pilot seat, her face hollow with terror and confusion. She tries once more to start the engines before breaking down and lowering her head in despair.

After a moment everything goes silent. GALLA looks up and around as a pinkish light begins to envelope the pilot module. It has the effect of calming GALLA's anguish.

As GALLA slowly calms, a soothing genderless VOICE begins speaking to her from an unknown source, as if GALLA is hearing THE VOICE inside her head.

THE VOICE

Balance your feelings, Galla.

GALLA

Where are you?

THE VOICE

It is enough that I am here with you. I have been guiding you, as best I can.

GALLA

Why me?

THE VOICE

I have taken an interest in you, Galla. You are most remarkable.

GALLA

Remarkable? How?

THE VOICE

You absorb the emotions of others, and manifest them in physical form. Quite extraordinary.

GALLA

It is not extraordinary! I am a monster, set apart from others!

THE VOICE

It is the folly of others' fears which has made them shun you.

GALLA

Do you know what happened to Tarquin? I - I can't remember what happens when I change . . .

THE VOICE

Dampen your desire to know, Galla. You bear no shame.

GALLA

You make no sense!

The pinkish light continues but there is momentary silence.

GALLA

My colony was destroyed, wasn't it?

THE VOICE

You must put that behind you now.

GALLA lowers her head again and quietly weeps.

## THE VOICE

I am glad to have known you, Galla.

The pinkish light fades and the hum of the shuttle's systems is once more audible. GALLA looks up and around as the light fades. She notices something out the front window.

As seen from within the pilot module, a larger ship is coming up alongside the shuttle.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE AND HAULER - DEEP SPACE

The alien ship (a hauler) sidles up alongside the shuttle and positions itself in front and to the right of the shuttle.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE - DEEP SPACE

GALLA attempts to hail the alien ship by radio.

GALLA

Hello? Alien vessel, are you receiving this?

GALLA waits for a response. She sighs and tries again.

GALLA

Alien vessel, can you understand me? Are you receiving my transmission?

GALLA is jolted as something rocks the shuttle. She looks out the window in shock.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE AND HAULER - DEEP SPACE

A bright thin intense light, akin to a laser beam, has shot out from the hauler and has attached itself to the shuttle. The hauler uses the beam to tow the shuttle through space.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE - DEEP SPACE

GALLA once more attempts to hail the alien vessel by radio with increasing desperation.

GALLA

Hello, alien vessel, can you hear me? This ship is occupied! Where are you taking me? Please acknowledge!

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE AND HAULER - DEEP SPACE

The hauler tows the shuttle quickly through space.

INT. PASSENGER MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE - DEEP SPACE

GALLA emerges into the passenger module, affixing her helmet to her breathing apparatus. She glances up.

TARQUIN'S body continues to lie against the wall, mangled with wide dead staring eyes.

Closing her eyes, GALLA steels herself for what she is about to do.

GALLA opens a compartment and removes a kind of portable guidance system or jet pack.

GALLA pulls the jet pack around herself and hooks it in place.

GALLA attaches an EVA cable to her suit. She then touches a pulse button on the pack.

The pack lifts GALLA gently off the floor. She bends forward until she is horizontal.

GALLA reaches over and presses the door release.

The door opens with a whoosh as the gravity and oxygen spill out into space.

TARQUIN'S body gets sucked out of the passenger module, along with debris and other unsecured items.

GALLA looks away as TARQUIN'S body flies past her out into the void, along with the shredded space suit on the floor.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE AND HAULER - DEEP SPACE

GALLA uses the jet pack to guide her way towards the hauler, the tether keeping her from falling behind into space. Throughout her excursion, GALLA'S breathing can be heard on the soundtrack.

Pulsing her way across to the hauler, GALLA struggles to stay between the two ships as they speed through space.

With difficulty, GALLA gets closer to the hauler until she is ready to reach out and grab a piece of its hull.

EXT. HAULER - DEEP SPACE

GALLA grasps onto the outer hull of the hauler. She notices what appears to be a sealed door or entry portal a few meters away.

GALLA struggles hand over hand along the hull of the ship until she arrives at the door. She pounds furiously on the door, though the sound is not audible in the vacuum of space.

GALLA grimaces in frustration. She looks upward towards the front of the vessel.

The towing beam emanates from beneath what looks like the front cockpit of the vessel. There are windows which look inside.

GALLA makes her way laboriously along the hull to the front of the alien ship.

INT. COCKPIT, HAULER - DEEP SPACE

GALLA'S helmeted face emerges around the edge of the window and peers inside.

EXT. HAULER - DEEP SPACE

As seen from outside, two ANDROID PILOTS are steering the vessel. They are constructed to resemble bipedal humanoids. They are dressed in black outfits and their heads and faces are concealed behind dark helmets.

GALLA knocks on the window and waves at the ANDROID PILOTS, attempting to get their attention. Her knocking is not heard within the cockpit.

INT. COCKPIT, HAULER - DEEP SPACE

GALLA can be seen knocking on the glass and waving to the two ANDROID PILOTS.

EXT. HAULER - DEEP SPACE

GALLA continues to try and get the attention of the ANDROID PILOTS; either they do not see her, or they are ignoring her.

Grimacing once more in frustration and fear, GALLA looks down at the towing beam.

The beam, a bright thin powerful light, projects from some fixture in the hull beneath her.

Pulsing her jet pack, GALLA attempts to reach the beam.

As GALLA gets close to the beam she reaches out to try and disrupt it with her hand.

As her glove touches the beam it sears the thick fabric.

GALLA immediately pulls the glove back and looks down at it.

The glove is blackened but still intact; her skin has not been exposed to the vacuum.

In the process of yanking her hand back, GALLA loses control of the jet pack and tumbles head over heels in the vacuum between the shuttle and the alien ship.

GALLA laboriously reaches out to the jet pack control panel and manages to press a button a few times.

The pulsing of the jet pack brings it back under control.

GALLA turns and pulses her way back to the open door of the shuttle.

INT. PASSENGER MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE - DEEP SPACE

GALLA enters back inside the shuttle. She turns, presses the door mechanism, and shuts the door.

After gravity is restored and the cabin repressurizes, GALLA removes her helmet and jet pack and casts them aside.

GALLA sits down in one of the passenger seats, breathing heavily from exertion and stress. Behind her on the rear wall is a smear of dried blood which had been obscured by TARQUIN'S body.

GALLA begins to weep again, and cries out to THE VOICE.

GALLA

Are you there? Hello?

GALLA waits a moment but no answer is forthcoming; no pinkish light descends upon her.

GALLA

You say you take an interest in me, but that interest appears momentary. Is this what the grand design has contrived for me - cast adrift, left to the void? Am I to simply expire when the air is depleted? Where will you guide my dead husk then? Hello? Is any of this reaching you?

GALLA shakes her head.



GALLA

This is madness, Galla. As if a disembodied voice could speak to you. You are a scientist - you should know when your harried brain is tricking you.

GALLA glances back once more at the rear of the passenger module.

The blood is an ugly red stain upon the wall.

GALLA turns back around.

GALLA

Let's see - the shredded suit means I must have killed him in another form. I changed into a monster, and violated and killed him.

GALLA winces, lowers her head, and beats her fists against her temple.

GALLA

Oh, why must my memory flee me when I transform? I would never have done such things to Tarquin.

GALLA raises her head in horrified realization.

GALLA

Unless . . .

Insert: A momentary flash memory of TARQUIN lustily grabbing a screaming GALLA from behind.

GALLA begins sobbing and covers her face.

GALLA

No! Tarquin, why?

After a moment, GALLA regains her composure as best she can. She looks up and addresses THE VOICE once more.

GALLA

Right, very well, then - be you a specter, or a phantom of my own mind, hear me now: I will take my chances with my captors. I have survived this far. If I alone survived my colony's obliteration - then I can survive this.

GALLA nods her head decisively, closes her eyes, and lowers her head.

Fade out.

INT. GALLA'S QUARTERS, COLONY 1 - PLANETARY ORBIT

Dream flashback:

GALLA opens her eyes, as if coming out of a deep sleep.

DEMETRIUS comes into focus, bending over GALLA with a benevolent smile. Despite his smile, DEMETRIUS is a large imposing man with black and gray hair and beard surrounding a stern but calm face. His voice is deep, powerful, but also calm and gentle, for the moment.

DEMETRIUS

Awake, gentle sleeper, awake. I command you.

GALLA smiles with childlike joy in her eyes, and laughs lightly.

GALLA

Oh, father, you always were the prankster, weren't you?

GALLA sits up as DEMETRIUS alights gently on the bed next to her. As seen through the window behind them, the barren planet turns with the Colony's orbit.

DEMETRIUS

It charms me to see you laugh, Galla. Now then - tell me about your dreams.

GALLA looks down and grows solemn.

GALLA

They were vague, monstrous.

DEMETRIUS gently touches GALLA'S head, but his words lack depth of feeling.

DEMETRIUS

Oh, no.

GALLA

There were souls in pain. They were being made to suffer - I don't know why . . .

GALLA holds her head as she tries to remember.

DEMETRIUS

Horrible. You poor thing, to have such nightmares.

GALLA

They were left to die, and -

GALLA looks up suddenly.

GALLA

The colony! Yes, they were here! They were being brutalized here! My friends . . .

DEMETRIUS affects a slight condescending manner.

DEMETRIUS

You have no friends, my sweet one. You know you can't have friends. You must be kept away from others, Galla - so they don't change you.

GALLA looks at DEMETRIUS with sudden horror.

GALLA

You, father! It was you! I saw it!

DEMETRIUS

Now-now, shh, don't get excited. You're awake now and  
-

GALLA

How could you, father? How could you? I trusted you!  
I loved you!

DEMETRIUS grows enraged.

DEMETRIUS

Galla!

GALLA begins crying and beats her fists against DEMETRIUS.

GALLA

You murdered them! Murdered them!

DEMETRIUS pushes GALLA away roughly. He stands up and glares at  
GALLA with fury in his eyes.

DEMETRIUS

No, you wretched monstrosity, you murdered *me*!

GALLA, in response to DEMETRIUS' fury and hatred, has  
transformed into a terrifying monster. The monster emits a  
high-pitched shriek and vomits shafts of molten flame from a  
gaping mouth.

DEMETRIUS screams out in agony, waving his arms around as he is  
engulfed in flames.

INT. PASSENGER MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

GALLA sucks in air as she awakes with a start from her  
nightmare. She looks around in confusion as the ship around her  
shudders and creaks.

GALLA grabs up her helmet and stumbles towards the pilot module.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

GALLA stumbles into the module and falls into one of the pilot seats.

GALLA looks up and gazes out the window with a startled look.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE AND HAULER, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

The shuttle and the hauler emerge up onto an enormous brightly lit platform in space via a large lift. Encased in a clear dome, the platform is littered with hundreds of spaceships of varying size, like an enormous junkyard. In the distance, a large, tall tower-like structure stands in the middle of the platform. Atop the structure is an observatory.

The laser light towline connecting the two ships abruptly disappears.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

GALLA gazes up with fearful eyes as a shadow crosses the window.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

A large magnet is attached via a chain to a tall winch crane, of which there are many throughout the platform. The crane lowers the magnet down until it attaches to the top of the shuttle.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE - DEEP SPACE

GALLA is jostled backwards into the pilot seat as the magnet attaches to the top of the shuttle with a loud clanking sound.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

The crane raises the shuttle into the air. It maneuvers it around and sets it down in an empty space in the middle of a dense conglomeration of other ships.

Once the shuttle is set down, the magnet detaches from the shuttle.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

GALLA shuts down power on the shuttle. She alights from the pilot seat and heads back to the passenger module.

INT. PASSENGER MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

GALLA attaches a cable to her belt like before. Her belt also contains a pair of portable devices.

GALLA places her helmet on and connects it to her breathing apparatus. She presses the door release. This time, there is no loss of air or gravity.

GALLA detaches the cable and steps warily out of the shuttle.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

GALLA slowly steps out of the shuttle and looks around.

An artificial gravity field of some kind holds all the various spaceships in place. Most look like damaged or abandoned relics.

GALLA unclips one of the devices from her belt and measures the air around her.

A light flashes green on the device.

GALLA clips the device back on her belt. She then carefully removes her helmet. She takes a few deep breaths. She turns and sets her helmet down inside the shuttle door. She unclips the other device from her belt to shut the door to the passenger module behind her.

GALLA furtively makes her way around the side of the shuttle. As she gets close to the rear of the ship, she looks up suddenly.

The two ANDROID PILOTS are approaching up ahead.

GALLA ducks behind the shuttle's engines.

The ANDROID PILOTS march silently by. They either do not see her, or are indifferent to her presence.

The ANDROID PILOTS disappear behind another ship.

Once GALLA is assured of the ANDROID PILOTS' departure from the vicinity, she turns to the hull of the shuttle surrounding the engines. It is scarred and blackened, as if the vehicle had been struck or attacked.

A panel hangs open beneath one of the engines. GALLA reaches up and looks inside the compartment.

Within the compartment, two large cables have been sheared away.

GALLA comes back down on her heels and thinks a moment. She then hurries off in search of something.

EXT. JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

GALLA emerges furtively from behind a large vessel when she notices something up ahead.

An automated machine is busy harvesting one of the derelict spaceships.

GALLA thinks for a moment, and then gazes upwards.

In the distance stands the large tower, looming above the surrounding ships. Light emanates from within its windows.

GALLA begins sneaking towards the tower, making her way around the automated harvester.

INT. ENTRANCE CHAMBER, TOWER, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

The door opens, revealing GALLA. She glances around warily.

The entrance chamber is devoid of lifeforms, or anything else.

GALLA steps into the chamber. The door swishes shut behind her. GALLA steps forward with caution.

GALLA steps up to what looks like a glass elevator. As she nears the door, it opens automatically.

GALLA pauses a moment, and then steps inside the elevator.

The door to the elevator immediately shuts and the elevator ascends, taking GALLA with it.

INT. OBSERVATORY, TOWER, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

An ugly humanoid alien peers through a large telescope within the observatory at the top of the tower. This is THE CONTROLLER.

As viewed through the telescope, THE CONTROLLER focuses its attention on a particular quadrant of space.

After a moment, THE CONTROLLER pulls back from the telescope and waddles over to a kind of radio device. It picks up a microphone and presses a switch. It speaks in a guttural alien language, which is subtitled parenthetically in English.

THE CONTROLLER

(Large derelict spotted in orbit around third planet in System 8, quadrant 11.23. Despatch.)

THE CONTROLLER sets the microphone down. It grimaces and grunts, holding its side.

EXT. JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

A large aperture opens in the base of the solid curved substructure of the platform. Out of it flies a hauler, shooting out into space.



A moment later, another hauler approaches, towing a derelict ship with its bright laser beam. The pair enter the aperture.

INT. CONTROL CENTER, TOWER, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

A different glass elevator descends from the observatory, bringing THE CONTROLLER with it. The door opens and THE CONTROLLER steps out into a large central control room. Windows run the entire circumference of the room and look out upon the platform, the hundreds of derelict spaceships, and the various winch cranes and harvesters. The room itself is cluttered with machine and ship parts, but also a variety of tools.

Continuing to hold its belly with discomfort, THE CONTROLLER waddles quickly over to a large enclosed closet. THE CONTROLLER opens the door to the closet, and we can just see what looks like a toilet inside. THE CONTROLLER enters and shuts the door.

A moment later, the elevator carrying GALLA arrives at the control center. The elevator door opens automatically and GALLA steps out. The door closes and the elevator descends.

GALLA turns her gaze to the descending elevator with consternation. She then turns her gaze to her surroundings.

Beneath the windows, a control bank runs the entire circumference of the room.

GALLA approaches a nearby table.

The table is littered with various tools.

GALLA takes up a clamping device. She studies it a moment before turning back to the table.

GALLA reaches over and takes up an implement.

GALLA studies the implement. She presses a button on it. The narrow end quickly heats to red-hot. GALLA presses the button again and the implement cools. For the first time since the beginning of her ordeal, GALLA smiles.

Suddenly the sound of water flushing emanates from the water closet.

GALLA drops the tools on the table and turns around with a start.

The door to the cabinet opens and THE CONTROLLER emerges, adjusting its clothing.

GALLA freezes as her eyes dart back and forth.

The CONTROLLER looks up, sees GALLA, and pauses in surprise.

GALLA manages a weak smile and addresses THE CONTROLLER.

GALLA

If you would be most generous as to lend me these tools, I would like to mend my ship and be on my way -

THE CONTROLLER

(Who the fuck are you? How did you get in here?)

GALLA

You took my ship by mistake. Please -

THE CONTROLLER takes a communication device from one of its voluminous pockets and speaks loudly into it.

THE CONTROLLER

(Security breach in control center! Security breach!)

GALLA

Please, I will not harm you or your installation. If you'll just -

THE CONTROLLER puts the communication device away and takes out a kind of baton. It begins brandishing it at GALLA, yelling at her in fury.

THE CONTROLLER

(Get back in that corner! Get back there!)

GALLA begins backing away from THE CONTROLLER.

GALLA

Please, I beg you, contain your emotions -

THE CONTROLLER starts swinging the baton, which makes a loud whirring sound, as it advances on GALLA with fury.

THE CONTROLLER

(I said, get back in that corner! Now!)

GALLA

Oh no -

GALLA convulses and her eyes roll back. She suddenly transforms into a large, violent bipedal creature, shredding her spacesuit. The creature howls back at THE CONTROLLER.

THE CONTROLLER screams and drops his baton.

The creature, a manifestation of rage, thrashes around at the various cluttered parts, knocking tables over, before advancing on THE CONTROLLER.

THE CONTROLLER cries out enraged as it runs around attempting to avoid being attacked by the angrily howling creature.

THE CONTROLLER

(Mutant! Security!)

After scurrying around, THE CONTROLLER runs over and hits the button for the elevator. In the moment it takes for the elevator to arrive, THE CONTROLLER runs behind the elevator shaft.

The creature thrashes at THE CONTROLLER around the elevator shaft which stands between them.

THE CONTROLLER circles around as the elevator arrives and the door opens. THE CONTROLLER manages to duck into the elevator, the door swishing shut just as the creature narrowly misses grabbing THE CONTROLLER. The elevator immediately descends, carrying an enraged CONTROLLER with it.

The creature starts to look around as if dazed. It collapses onto the floor and passes out. A moment later, the creature transforms back into a nude GALLA.

INT. ENTRANCE CHAMBER, TOWER, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

The elevator arrives on the ground floor. THE CONTROLLER emerges from the elevator in a state of fury and panic, barking into its communication device.

THE CONTROLLER

(Security! Security to the tower, for fuck's sake!)

As the door swishes open, THE CONTROLLER waddles frantically out onto the platform.

INT. CONTROL CENTER, TOWER, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

An indeterminate amount of time passes before GALLA wakes up. She looks around in confusion. She looks down and sees that she is naked. She frowns and raises herself up.

GALLA gazes around in exasperation at the mess she caused in creature form. She hurries over to the remains of her spacesuit. She hunts around on the floor until she finds her devices still connected to the split belt. The devices appear unharmed.

GALLA once more considers her nakedness. She looks up and around until she notices something in one of the corners.

A silver android lies on a table in a state of disrepair. Next to the table hangs the outfit and helmet that the android pilots were wearing.

GALLA affects a decisive expression and runs over to the table.

EXT. TOWER, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

THE CONTROLLER is waddling hurriedly towards the entrance to the tower with two ANDROID GUARDS (all the android help is garbed and helmeted the same).

THE CONTROLLER

(Once the elevator door opens, it must be taken down by the orbs. Then we'll jettison it out into space before it wrecks any more of my tower!)

INT. ENTRANCE CHAMBER, TOWER, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

The door swishes open and THE CONTROLLER and the ANDROID GUARDS stumble back slightly in surprise.

Three more ANDROID GUARDS, fully clothed and helmeted, are standing at the entrance.

THE CONTROLLER motions for the three ANDROID GUARDS to exit, addressing them sternly.

THE CONTROLLER

(See to your patrols! There are mad mutants breaching my dome!)

The three ANDROID GUARDS bow mechanically and march past THE CONTROLLER as he and his two ANDROID GUARDS enter the building.

EXT. TOWER, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

As the door swishes shut behind them, the three ANDROID GUARDS march on their way together until two of them turn abruptly to their left and march away. The remaining guard, which is GALLA in disguise, continues marching for a few meters before breaking into a quick run.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

GALLA removes the black helmet as she arrives at the open panel on the rear of the shuttle. She pulls out the tools she stole from the control center.

GALLA uses two clamps and the heating implement to solder the sheared cables back together.

Once the repairs are completed, GALLA closes the panel as best she can. She is about to come around the side of the shuttle when a loud noise and a shock wave occurs nearby, distorting the air.

GALLA pulls back behind the engines, holding her ears, and peeks around the corner.

Two ANDROID GUARDS are approaching. They each brandish a weapon comprising an orb atop a short thin staff. One of the ANDROID GUARDS activates their weapon. A distortion in the air, accompanied by another loud noise, projects from the orb and hurtles in GALLA'S direction.

Still holding her ears, GALLA ducks back behind the engine as the distortion and shock wave land nearby.

GALLA hurriedly turns and retreats around the corner to the other side of the shuttle. As she runs along, she glances down underneath the fuselage.

The boots of the two ANDROID GUARDS march by mechanically in unison.

GALLA comes around the front of the shuttle and stops. She slowly peers around the corner and sees the ANDROID GUARDS marching around the back of the shuttle.

GALLA quickly comes around to the shuttle door. She pulls out the portable device used earlier and opens the door with it.

GALLA hurries inside, shutting the door behind her just as the two ANDROID GUARDS emerge around the front of the shuttle.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

GALLA hurries into the pilot module and jumps into one of the seats. She straps herself in and activates the power.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

The two ANDROID GUARDS halt in their search and look up as the engines power up.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

GALLA laughs with joy as the engines come back to life. She gazes down at the fuel gauge.

The gauge shows the fuel banks are half-empty.

GALLA thinks for a moment. She activates the periscope.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

The periscope rises up out of the top of the shuttle. The periscope extends and begins turning.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

GALLA scrutinizes a monitor screen while operating a manual control.

Images of the various derelicts of the junkyard can be seen on the monitor screen as the periscope searches the platform. After a moment, the gaping shaft for the lift can be seen in the near distance.

GALLA moves in on the image.

The monitor screen homes in on the lift shaft.

GALLA takes the controls and commences lift-off.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

*As the shuttle rises in the air, the nearby winch crane can be seen turning towards the shuttle.*

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

As GALLA continues to take the shuttle up, she jerks forward as something disrupts take-off.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

The magnet on the end of the winch crane is directly above the shuttle and is attempting to capture it.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

GALLA struggles with the controls as her vehicle shudders, groans, and creaks around her.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

The shuttle continues to battle with the magnet.

INT. CONTROL CENTER, TOWER, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

With an angry, vicious look on its face, THE CONTROLLER glares out the window, working a series of levers on the control bank. It is flanked by two ANDROID GUARDS.

THE CONTROLLER

(Mutant thinks it can take my property away . . .)

As seen over THE CONTROLLER'S shoulder, GALLA'S transport shuttle struggles in the distance in mid-air, the magnet directly above it. The magnet turns and twists on the end of the chain.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE



The sound of the engines straining can be heard along with the creaking of the shuttle. GALLA reaches over and presses a large button.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

Powerful energy emits from the engines as they grow brighter within.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

GALLA is thrust back into her seat as the shuttle jerks forward.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

The shuttle pulls away from the magnet and flies forward towards the dome enclosure.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

Light reflected on the dome shows it zooming closer as the shuttle careens out of control towards it.

GALLA, pinned back against the seat, closes her eyes and turns away.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

The shuttle careens towards the dome.

INT. CONTROL CENTER, TOWER, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

THE CONTROLLER gazes in horror at the sight of the shuttle careening towards the dome.

THE CONTROLLER

(Oh, my dome . . .)

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

The force of the engine turbo-thrust allows the shuttle to burst through the dome, shattering it and smashing up the front exterior of the shuttle in the process. The oxygen in the dome goes whooshing into space after it.

The shuttle flies away from the platform and back out into deep space.

INT. CONTROL CENTER, TOWER, JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

THE CONTROLLER looks on at the carnage in horror, its large bottom lip trembling.

In the distance several large cracks can be seen quickly trailing away from the hole in the dome.

THE CONTROLLER'S eyes follow the progress of the cracks, its mouth hanging open.

EXT. JUNKYARD - DEEP SPACE

Once the cracks reach the edge of the dome, the entire enclosure shatters and tumbles in enormous shards onto the platform, and all it contains.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE - DEEP SPACE

GALLA struggles to reach her hand over to the engine controls.

After much effort, GALLA is able to deactivate the turbo engines.

GALLA pulls her arm back as the G-forces subside, and her breathing begins to relax.

After a moment, GALLA removes the seat straps, leans forward, and scrutinizes the control panel.

The gauge shows that the turbo thrust has depleted the fuel by a third.

GALLA looks up out the windows.

The vastness of space is empty, but for the distant stars.

GALLA'S gaze grows hollow. She turns to another area of the control panel.

GALLA activates a long-range scanner.

GALLA stares intently at the screen.

The scanner tracks in all directions but nothing is visible within range.

GALLA leans back in her seat and begins to tremble.

Cross-fade.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE - DEEP SPACE

The battered shuttle coasts through space without direction.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE - DEEP SPACE

Looking weak and wan, GALLA sits in the pilot seat and stares out at the stars. She is still garbed in the android outfit.

GALLA leans forward and activates the radio. She then leans back, gazing out the window, and addresses the radio.

GALLA

To any who may receive this - I am Galla, adopted daughter of Demetrius, and the last survivor of the First Colony. It is - doubtful I shall arrive at the next frontier; my food is depleted, and my water, air, and fuel will soon follow. Therefore, I wish to make testament. Should this transmission find its way to any of the outer colonies, I would prefer not to dwell upon the actions of my father; yet - let it be known that, in another form, I attacked and murdered my fellow colonist Tarquin San. I fear I cannot control

my transformations, nor do I retain memory of what occurs during the process. Please know that - know that I - I am *not* a monster. I did not choose this ability for myself, nor do I know of its origin or cure, if any. It matters not - I am alone now; and would I had the means of survival, it would be blissful solitude indeed. Transmission ends.

GALLA turns her head to the side, gazing forlornly. After a moment, DEMETRIUS is heard in voice-over.

DEMETRIUS (v-o)

Oh, do not fear, gentle one. You will always be loved.

INT. GALLA'S QUARTERS, COLONY 1 - PLANETARY ORBIT

Flashback:

GALLA, as a child, sits on the edge of her bed. Behind her, through the window, the barren planet turns with the Colony's orbit. The CHILD GALLA sits attentive with her hands folded, listening to DEMETRIUS with a look of perplexity as she tries to understand him.

DEMETRIUS (o-s)

Yes, always. You must believe that, no matter your circumstances.

CHILD GALLA

But if I'm loved, I'll change, and I'll forget.

DEMETRIUS sits in a chair facing the CHILD GALLA with a placid expression, his hands folded as well.

DEMETRIUS

Yes, that is true. And that is why you must be shielded from the feelings of others. What that means is - you will not be able to experience love yourself. But it's not that terrible a burden to bear.

The CHILD GALLA fidgets a moment. After a pause, she turns to DEMETRIUS.

CHILD GALLA

Do you love me, father?

DEMETRIUS

It would be my dearest wish to say yes, my sweet one; but you know what would happen if I did that.

The CHILD GALLA gazes upon DEMETRIUS with a hollow stare.

DEMETRIUS (o-s)

Which is why it is important for you to know that, regardless of this strange talent that chance has given you - you will always be loved.

DEMETRIUS smiles upon the CHILD GALLA.

DEMETRIUS

You just have to trust in my word.

The CHILD GALLA begins to tremble.

CHILD GALLA

I don't want to be this way, father.

DEMETRIUS

Now, don't fret, dear one. There's no reason to be sad. You shall live, and flourish. I will see to it. I will train you myself in all the sciences; and you can spend all your days exploring the secrets and mysteries of time and space -

CHILD GALLA

Alone.

DEMETRIUS gazes upon the CHILD GALLA with benign pity.

DEMETRIUS

Yes, my dear. Intelligent beings are emotional creatures. Their feelings allow them to cope with the vagaries of external life. And if you are exposed to those feelings, you become - well, you know.

CHILD GALLA

I become something like those feelings.

DEMETRIUS

Exactly. Therefore, you must harness your courage, and accept a future in solitude.

DEMETRIUS affects a smile devoid of sincerity.

DEMETRIUS

Blissful solitude.

The CHILD GALLA gazes upon DEMETRIUS, and a solitary tear trickles down her cheek.

Cross-fade.

INT. PILOT MODULE, TRANSPORT SHUTTLE - DEEP SPACE

GALLA continues to gaze forlornly into space, a solitary tear trickling down her cheek. Just then THE VOICE is heard, in a whisper.

THE VOICE

You will always be loved, Galla.

GALLA looks around, startled. Her eyes then fix on something out the window.

As seen through the window, something artificial shines in the far distance up ahead.

GALLA leans forward with hope in her eyes.

As the object gets closer, it appears to be a giant installation of some kind. Smaller craft move to and fro, exiting and entering.

GALLA glances down at the control panel.

The fuel gauge clearly shows that the shuttle is running on fumes.

GALLA turns her gaze back to the object in the distance.

The object now looks like a giant space station, or transit station, with all manner of spaceships moving in and out of it.

Elation comes over GALLA. Then, suddenly, DEMETRIUS is heard again in voice-over, as if in her head.

DEMETRIUS (v-o)

You must be kept away from others, Galla - so they don't change you.

GALLA'S face grows fearful.

EXT. TRANSPORT SHUTTLE AND TRANSIT STATION - DEEP SPACE

The shuttle moves on towards the enormous, crowded space terminal, as myriads of ships containing other intelligent lifeforms enter and depart.