

THE PROTAGONIST

Written by

Simba Dibinga

TITLE CARD:

10 YEARS AGO IN THE YEAR 3000...

EXT. SPACE/NEPTUNE DISTRICT

WAR!

Dozens of golden space ships battle in a large scale war. A plethora of more foreboding alien ships return fire.

The golden ships bear the EARTH GUILD's insignia, two hands embracing in front of a rising Sun. The armada's fire at each other with missiles and photon beams of energy.

One of the damaged Earth Guild ships maneuvers around attacks far better than the others.

The Earth Guild Flag Ship, THE PROTAGONIST. Explosions happen on either side of it as it darts through a space mine field.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST COMMAND CENTER - NIGHT

The ship's Command Center's manned by a 10 person CREW. They're seated in a large semi circle around GENERAL CAMERINIAN DIBINGA (Black, mid 40's).

He drips gravitas and he's never walked into a room he didn't automatically take over. He barks orders to a swashbuckling Black man (mid 20's). SPECIALIST FLOYD "PRIMETIME" FRAZIER. Flashback dialogue's bold.

**CAM**

**Shield status.**

**FLOYD**

**Down to 30 percent! We got a dozen more mines to go through befo-**

**CAM**

**-Primetime, I need this ship to last 10 seconds longer than the damn mine field. Can we do that, yes or no?**

**FLOYD**

**...Yes, sir.**

**CAM**

**Outstanding. Bring us about at 90 degrees starboard.**

**FLOYD**

**HUA, General.**

CREWMAN NAVIGATOR  
Navigation systems are off line!

CAM  
What the hell did they make 'em for  
if they're not going to work?  
Switch to manual. Transfer manual  
controls to Primetime.

FLOYD  
Sir? I haven't navigated manually  
in live action before. I-

CAM  
-Yes?

FLOYD  
Taking over controls, General.

CREWMAN NAVIGATOR  
Sir, the Zorn Alliance flagship  
"Roan" is in our sights. We'll be  
in weapons range in 90 seconds.

CAM  
What's our weapon's status?

CREWMAN TACTICAL  
All weapons banks completely  
depleted save our last torpedo.

CAM  
We damn well better not miss, then.  
What's the status of the "Roan"?

CREWMAN TACTICAL  
Their shields are down and they're  
evacuating an escape pod. They're  
sitting Neptunian razor ducks, sir.

FLOYD  
If we fire our last shot at the  
Roan and miss, WE'RE sitting ducks.

CAM  
I don't worry about missing a shot  
I haven't taken.

CREWMAN TACTICAL  
Weapons range in 30 seconds s-

FLOYD  
-Sir! The pod's damaged and their  
proto drive engine core is going to  
(MORE)

3.

(CONT'D)

overload. There's probably more damage to the ship than we thought if their escape pod was damaged before it was ejected.

CREWMAN TACTICAL

Weapons range in 20 seconds.

CAM

What's the read on the escape pod?

CREWMAN COMMUNICATIONS

We're getting hailed from General Commander Hamada. He's ordering you to take the shot on the Roan. The Enemy Alliance Commander is on board. Hamada says it could FINALLY end this war. But we WILL miss our offensive opportuni-

CAM

-What's the damn read?

FLOYD

15 Zorn life signs. They read too young to be soldiers.

CAM

That's a galaxy level vessel. They host civilians. Why bring civilians out here so close to the combat?

FLOYD

Sir, if we don't take the shot in 10 seconds now they will have time to raise their shields and we will miss our chance! Sir?...SIR?!

Cam's awash with determination. Determination and doubt...

END FLASHBACK

TITLE CARD:

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS TODAY

EXT. EARTH GUILD HEADQUARTERS - DAY

The city's a gorgeous representation of the most optimistic retro future of mankind.

The CITIZENS walk with a joyous purpose unburdened by day to day minutiae like paying rent or worrying about healthcare. Earth has returned to paradise.

4.

CAM (V.O.)

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." You ever hear that?

REPORTER (V.O.)

Martin Luther King, right?

CAM (V.O.)

...You really need to learn history. In essence that's really the point of my Parliament Address, isn't it?

INT. EARTH GUILD HEADQUARTERS/CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

A lanky journalist, JAKE MATTHEWS, holds a recorder. He's sitting across from the more distinguished General Dibinga, in his military dress uniform.

They're sitting at a small conference table next to a large window over looking the majestic city. ANNASETTE GELEBA, (Black, 50's), leans against the wall.

She wears mystery and regale like a cape. Her eyes bright golden color suggest she isn't quite human. She can't hide the sense of pride at her husband the General.

MATTHEWS

Let's unpack that a bit.

CAM

We've built this...this so called "paradise" here. We've expanded our civilization to Mars, Venus, Jupiter, Neptune and so many moons. We think because we've reached some sort of "pinnacle of humanity" or something we're perfect.

MATTHEWS

Aren't we? We share the galaxy with alien species that came to expand THEIR territories and look at what THEY do. Look at what THEIR worlds are like. None of them can hold a damn thing to the Earth Guild.

CAM

Arrogance. Pure arrogance. Do you know where the initial idea for The Earth Guild Alliance came from?

MATTHEWS

I guess just the natural progress-

5.

CAM

Star Trek.

MATTHEWS

"May the Force Be With You"!

CAM

...Uh, so yeess. 600 hundred years ago, a political leader from right here in Boston was inspired by a simple, what used to be called "television show", called "Star TREK". A work of art made more than 3000 years ago.

MATTHEWS

Seems a bit absurd, don't you think?

CAM

He was inspired by the idea of the world uniting and us exploring the universe to expand our knowledge AND our resources at a time when our world was falling apart. It was out of DESPERATION. Just like most of the other planets. We've lost our founding principles. Inspiration is never "absurd".

MATTHEWS

Ancient history, General.

CAM

We need to share this Galaxy through COOPERATION or it will lead to more conflict. Always has. ALWAYS will.

MATTHEWS

The "War of Worlds" is over. YOU won that war. Isn't galactic peace what you fought for?

CAM

"Peace" is just the BEGINNING. If a building is burning down, is the job done when you put out the fire? For a firefighter, sure, but the BUILDING needs to be rebuilt. The PEOPLE who maybe lived there need to be relocated until it is. THAT'S what defines our society. THAT'S what defines whole we are.

6.

MATTHEWS

Hmm. I guess I never thought of it like that. So how does a "United Galaxy Association" help us be that society you think we should be?

CAM

I believe it's the best way to prevent the NEXT galactic war. Agreeing to a treaty that strictly enforces complete non intervention is the dumbest thing we've done since going to war in the first damn place. We should have an assembly of representatives from each of the inhabited worlds to over see each other to hold each other accountable.

MATTHEWS

You're talking about the Zorn Empire specifically, aren't you? They think you're targeting them.

CAM

The Zorn Empire is committing genocide against it's own people! Emperor Zel-Zorn is a murderous dictator and he shouldn't be allowed to continue the massacre. If he feels guilty about that, maybe he should take better care of his people.

MATTHEWS

The Zorn would say it's a "Holy War". Who are we to-

ANNASETTE

-Sorry, we're going to be late if-

CAM

-No you're right-

ANNASETTE

-I mean no offense but he should probably save some of this for addressing the Parliament.

CAM

I was ranting again, huh?

ANNASETTE

You were getting there, yes.

7.

They stand up and instead of shaking hands they make a fist and touch the back of their fists together.

CAM

Well, I'll be sure to give you the exclusive interview after they approve my proposal.

MATTHEWS

Good luck, General. Ma'am.

Annasette nods and Matthews prances to the door. The door automatically opens sideways and lets him leave. The door starts to close again but gets stuck midway.

It unsticks itself and slams closed, making a loud "bang". Cam grips the table in a panic as if he was struck in his back. His eyes bulge as he grimaces.

ANNASETTE

CAM! Cam! It's me, Annasette. I'm here!

She shakes his shoulders trying to get him out of his trance.

CAM

What's the read?! Tactical, what's the read?!

ANNASETTE

Cam, you're here with me!

CAM

I...Anna? W-where are we?

ANNASETTE

Yes, Beloved. It's me. We're at the Earth Guild Headquarters in Boston. You're here to address Parliament.

CAM

Right...right.

ANNASETTE

Maybe we should resch-

CAM

-NO. It took so long to get commissioned for this Address. Grand Commander Russell won't let me get another chance. Let's go.

ANNASETTE

Cam, this just can't keep hap-



8.

CAM

-Please.

ANNASETTE

..Very well. Let's go.

He reaches over to a small table that has a long blue ceremonial cape adorned on it. He tries to attach it to his collar but his hand shakes.

Annasette's gently places her hand on the cape. He initially relents with his eyes but she responds with a sympathetic look. He acquiesces and she helps him attach his cap.

CAM

How do I look?

ANNASETTE

Like a dream.

CAM

Since when did you become such a romantic?

ANNASETTE

HA! Since I started following you across the Galaxy.

She plants a deep kiss on the blushing general.

INT. GUILD OF EARTH HEADQUARTERS/CORRIDOR - DAY

Cam's stalks down a long corridor, anxious. He's mouthing his speech to himself as he reads it from a tablet. He takes the time to return the salutes he gets from MILITARY PASSERSBY.

He marches towards a large double door that's guarded by two GUARDSWOMEN. They salute Cam by connecting the knuckles of their right fist to the open palm of their left hand.

GUARDSWOMAN #1

Commander General? Good morning, Sir. We uh, weren't expecting you.

CAM

Why not? I'm addressing the Parliament. It's been scheduled for a week. Sounds quiet in there.

GUARDSWOMAN #2

Sir, well, the thing is that-

CAM

-Why is a CADET guarding the assembled Parliament? Stand aside.

They stand aside and Guardswoman #1 types in a code on a keypad next to the door. The door slides open.

INT. PARLIAMENT HALL - DAY

The Parliament Hall is a large IMAX theatre sized room with a rows of empty seats. Cam's astonished. Astonished and PISSED. He focuses on the one person sitting high in the balcony row.

He's a Japanese man of similar age wearing a similar uniform to Cam's but red. He exudes military of the highest order.

He's either the most dangerous mofo you've ever met or the slickest S.O.B. in the Galaxy.

COMMANDER ADMIRAL 1ST CLASS ISAAC HAMADA. The hatred they have for each other could light a match. He arrogantly swaggers down towards Cam.

HAMADA

Hello Camerinian.

CAM

What the hells is goin on, Isaac?

HAMADA

"What the hells is going on", SIR.

CAM

Where's the Parliament?

HAMADA

The Grand Commander canceled your Address.

CAM

Why would she do th-

HAMADA

-Because I suggested it.

Cam fists clench. He shanks him with a dagger of a stare.

HAMADA (CONT'D)

You want to strike out at me, don't you? That's what you do, isn't it? You lash out. I mean you won't strike a superior officer because you don't want another court martial. So you stand here with

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

a fury and rage you don't even know what to do with. That's good. Now you're starting to get what I felt.

CAM

You're still upset I didn't open fire on "The Roan"?! That was ten years ago! Get over it! That act of mercy WON the war! This is bigger than you and me. The galaxy is falling apart!

HAMADA

We're not the armed forces of the GALAXY, Cam! The EARTH GUILD is our purview. You were LUCKY your disobedience HELPED end the war. We can't Govern by LUCK. Now your ego thirsts for the next war.

CAM

The next war will come to US! You see the atrocities going on in the Beta Sector of Aldanaar! The genocide being committed by the Zorn Empire under the guise of a "Holy War"! You're ok with us standing by and doing nothing?!

HAMADA

Cam, we can NOT impose OUR values across the galaxy! Your own wife is a product of genetic engineering. We made that illegal decades ago. Had we pressed our values on Veta Prime she never would have even been born. Is that what you-

CAM

-You know damn well that's not what I mean! I'm not advocating for changing any one else's core beliefs. What I'm advocating is for us not to lose OURS!

HAMADA

You can't have it both ways. Either you respect the rest of the galaxy's ways or you don't.

CAM

What I don't respect is letting atrocities against Space-kind go unchecked.

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

Even if you want to be self serving. It's best for OUR self interest if we quell these issues now BEFORE they spill out across the galaxy. You know as well as anyone that dictators and warlords are never content to just abuse THEIR own. They want more and they will come for us.

HAMADA

Then let them come! You see, THIS is exactly why I had your Address cancelled. You're a war monger, Camerinian. I'll give you credit though. You're charismatic enough to seduce the Devil. If I allowed you to get council with Parliament you would have started the next Galactic War. I did us all a favor.

CAM

No. What you did was ensure that history repeats itself.

They stare each other down and Cam starts to walk out.

HAMADA

You are NOT dismissed, General!

Cam freezes in his tracks and trembles with a fury of a thousand suns. He takes a breath and turns back to Hamada.

HAMADA (CONT'D)

You took your shuttle here. I assume you're going back to the Protagonist. Make sure you stay out of the Neptune Space Way.

CAM

And why would I do that...Sir?

HAMADA

Because you were ordered to. Dismissed.

Cam stalks out of the door. Hamada smirks to himself. Until he sits and ponders Cam's words.

EXT. SPACE SHUTTLE AIR FIELD - DAY

The air field has dozens of space shuttles. Annasette's being driven to a space shuttle by a SHUTTLE DOCK ATTENDANT in a golf cart. He drops her off in front of space shuttle RHANE.

INT. THE RHANE - DAY

Cam's sitting back in the command chair with his feet up. He's drinking a green liquid out of an ice cubed glass and listening to Quincy Jones' "Soul Bossa Nova."

He lifts his glass to take a sip but his hand's shaking. He angrily hurls the glass and shatters it against the wall.

He takes out a usb drive looking device from his pocket and slides it into a slot in the command center.

CAM

Mr. Brooks. Activate.

The shuttle responds. *Italic* represents a computer speaking.

MR. BROOKS

*Good day, General. How may I be of service?*

CAM

Status of the Protagonist?

MR. BROOKS

*The Protagonist is currently circling the Mars Collective doing training drills.*

CAM

Hail Lieutenant General Frazier.

A monitor on the command center powers on and Floyd Frazier appears on screen. A bit older but more dashing to the point that anyone would envy. He salutes Cam.

FLOYD

Afternoon, General! Wasn't expecting you already.

CAM

How's the training going?

FLOYD

Sir, these Cadets can barely put their uniforms on to standard much less manage a Galaxy Level vessel like the Protagonist. I wish you hadn't volunteered me for this.

CAM

That's exactly why I did.

(MORE)

13.

(CONT'D)

You have the potential to be one of the greatest leaders in Earth Guild history. You just need to step up and do it. Maybe...maybe it's time I stepped out of your way.

FLOYD

Sir? Because of the Address?

CAM

Hamada was worried I would be too convincing. HE convinced the Grand Commander to cancel. How about that?

FLOYD

Are you kidding me?! He's letting his personal hatred towards you interfere with the safety OF THE GALAXY?! What a selfish s-

CAM

-He's still your superior officer, Lieutenant.

FLOYD

Sigh. Yes sir. But I got you a congratulatory gift and everything.

CAM

HHAHA! Did you? Well where is it?

FLOYD

Mr. Brooks, please present the General with his gift.

Cam looks at the control panel and a slot opens up. It ejects a small metal container the size of a cigar box. Cam lifts it up and opens it.

CAM

Cigars?! Where the hells did you - They've been illegal for 50 years.

FLOYD

Hey you know me. I got a connection in New Brazil.

CAM

What's her name?

FLOYD

14.

So you just assume my contact is a...sigh. "Gertrude".

CAM

"Gertrude"? I didn't even know they made "Gertrude's" anymore.

FLOYD

Oh they do, sir. And they make them well.

Floyd's devilish smile makes Cam chuckle.

FLOYD (CONT'D)

You smell that?

Cam takes out a cigar and rubs it under his nose.

CAM

They even smell like real tobacco like in the museums.

FLOYD

That IS real tobacco, sir. And if you lift the panel there's an old school lighter there as well.

CAM

Outstanding. Hey thank you, man. I really appreciate this.

FLOYD

Well, one relic deserves another.

CAM

Thank you. I appreciate that.

He lights up the Cigar, smokes it and coughs wildly.

FLOYD

That's not synthetic, sir!

Annasette storms in. Cam's smoking the cigar better already.

ANNASETTE

That obnoxious, smug, sonofazeck! Hello Floyd. Did he tell yo-

FLOYD

-Yes ma'am he did. Now he's talking about resigning his Commission.

ANNASETTE

The hells you are. You need to fight them, Cam. Your message, your idea...you can save the GALAXY. They're damn foolish not to listen to you. How dare-

CAM

-Guys. I've put in my time. After all I've done, they know where I stand. Primetime, you're more than ready to command the Protagonist. It's high time I turn ALL my focus into you, Anna. You've been wanting to start a family for so long now.

ANNASETTE

I...I can wait.

FLOYD

I didn't know you guys were...but I thought-

ANNASETTE

-I wasn't engineered to produce offspring, yes. But I'm sure there are...other means. Anyhow, the Galaxy NEEDS your leadership, Cam.

CAM

I can't keep banging my head into a wall! The Galaxy's changing. The Guild's changing. We've become too comfortable. The Government won't listen. What am I supposed to do?

ANNASETTE

The PEOPLE, Cam. Go to the people.

CAM

No one's going to listen to an old soldier who doesn't even have the backing of his own Government. I-

ANNASETTE

-YOU'RE part of the problem.

CAM

Me? How so?

ANNASETTE

You speak about a possible greater future yet I don't think you truly believe that.

(MORE)



(CONT'D)

You don't speak about it with the same conviction you do with everything else. You still haven't totally gotten over your past decisions. You may think you believe what you're saying but you're much more cynical than you were before. Maybe you haven't even realized that. But no one knows you better than I do.

Cam leans back and ponders off.

CAM

Perhaps you're ri-

FLOYD

-SIR! Are you reading the chatter in the Commander's Channel? A Zornian Galaxy Class vessel has stolen a megaton of Cruzium X.

ANNASETTE

What's "Cruzium X"?

FLOYD

A nerve frying chemical agent. It lights up every cell of an organism like lightning. The Zornian Government is slaughtering their own civilians by the thousands. I Guarantee that Cruzium X is going to be used to slaughter them by the MILLIONS! We've heard reports about that potential for months.

Cam says nothing. He continues smoking his cigar then slams his hand on the command center.

CAM

Is the alien ship traveling the Neptune Space Way?

FLOYD

How did you know that?

CAM

He knew? HE KNEW!

ANNASETTE

Who knew what??

CAM

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

Admiral Hamada. He ordered me to stay out the Neptune Space Way.

FLOYD

Hamada's in on the theft?

CAM

No. Our Government might as damn well be aiding and abetting. They knew the Zornians were transporting the Cruzium X and they're not doing a damn thing about it.

FLOYD

Even if we wanted to intercept, I wouldn't be too confident going against a Zorn vessel with a bunch of Cadets. I don't thi-

CAM

-Mr. Brooks. Set a course to intercept the Zornian ship.

FLOYD

Sir you can't take on a ship THAT powerful with a shuttle!

CAM

You mean I can't WIN against a ship that powerful with a shuttle.

FLOYD

You're violating a direct order AGAIN! You're risking us going to war sir AND you're going to be destroyed. You know that?

CAM

What I DO know is that the Zornian Empire can NOT get that weapon.

FLOYD

Sir, please disengage this course of action! Hail Earth Guild and-

CAM

-I'm tired of talking! The Zornian citizens need our help, Primetime. This is who we are. Mr. Brooks, scramble audio.

Floyd's voice becomes staticky and the audio disconnects. Cam glances over his shoulder to Annasette. She nods her head.

(MORE)

(CONT'D)  
CAM (CONT'D)

Mr. Brooks. Flash Speed. Maximum.

EXT. THE RHANE - DAY

The shuttle darts down a long runway and takes off to the skies. Once it's high enough in the atmosphere it flies so fast it seems to be a beam of golden light and disappears.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - SPACE

Floyd's sitting in his office, looking at a large screen on the wall. The screen frizzes as Cam's image fades out.

FLOYD

General Dibinga, please! Disengage!  
General! GENERAL!

He grips his desk in frustration. The debate he's having in his mind is palpable. He whispers to himself.

FLOYD (CONT'D)

Damn you, General.

He taps a button on his bracelet.

FLOYD (CONT'D)

Protagonist training crew. Report  
to your stations immediately.

INT. THE RHANE - NIGHT

Cam's working on the control panel while looking at a space chart. Annasette's sitting at the secondary control panel and she's also working the keys.

ANNASETTE

We should be in sensor range of the  
Zornian ship in 20 minutes.

CAM

What's the ship's marker?

ANNASETTE

It's Zornian Vessel "War Hammer".

CAM

Grayger Null-Zorn's ship. He's a  
monster. A BRILLIANT monster.

ANNASETTE

You don't say.

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

CAM

You disapprove of this course of action.

ANNASETTE

Irrelevant. The course of action has been taken.

CAM

Humor me.

ANNASETTE

I don't believe in missions that have no chance of success.

CAM

You think it's a suicide mission?

ANNASETTE

Do you think ice is cold?

CAM

Winning isn't always the point. Some fights are worth fighting.

ANNASETTE

You would have made a terrible mercenary.

CAM

You know that's a COMPLIMENT to me, right?

ANNASETTE

Tell me you at least have a semi viable plan.

CAM

I need to get on that ship. My portable scanner can detect the chemical signature of the Cruzium.

ANNASETTE

What are you going to do once you secure it?

He stares at her sternly.

ANNASETTE (CONT'D)

...Yes. Yes I figured that.

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

CAM

Mr. Brooks, does the War Hammer still use a dirillium spectrum scanner to scan ships?

MR. BROOKS

*Yes, General.*

CAM

Perfect. Display star charts on the intercept course to the War Hammer.

A star-map appears on the screen with a large ship design showing amongst the stars.

CAM (CONT'D)

Display our position in relation.

A smaller ship design appears on the map.

CAM (CONT'D)

You ever wrangle a Zentarian Thunderbird, Anna?

ANNASETTE

Um no. No I haven't.

CAM

Well they snarl like a sonofazeck but they move so damn fast by the time you turn your head to see where the snarl is coming from they're already ahead of you.

ANNASETTE

We're not faster than the Zorn ship.

CAM

If we Flash Speed until we're four hundred yards off the ships aft, it will take approximately five seconds for them to detect a ship this small. We launch a hollow probe then Flash speed away.

ANNASETTE

You want to create a mirage.

CAM

Exactly.

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

Dropping out of Flash Speed then going back into Flash Speed will create an ionic trail that will confuse their sensors.

ANNASETTE

It will only confuse their sensors for what? 30 seconds? Why are we dropping a hollow probe?

CAM

Because I can hide myself inside it

ANNASETTE

Do you actually know what "viable" means?

CAM

No seriously. We cloak the probe for a minute. I will be secured to it wearing a harness attached to my space suit. That will confuse their sensors enough to not pick up my signature. I'll program the probe to navigate towards the War Hammer.

ANNASETTE

Then what?

CAM

Then you come back and hail them. Tell them you had a probe eject by mistake and you want their help in retrieving it. Hint that it's a science probe. They'll take the probe, thinking we were spying on them. That will get me on their ship. Then set course for the Protagonist after a minute.

ANNASETTE

Great plan that probably won't work. The innium engine field from going to Flash Speed will catch you up and rip you to shreds.

CAM

I will be out of range in ten seconds. We just need to time this perfectly.

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

I'll have to get in the probe mid space because I'll need a line of sight to equate the distance between ships.

ANNASETTE

I, uh...

CAM

I believe in you, Anna. There's no one I trust more.

She smiles slightly and nods her head.

MR. BROOKS

*"War Hammer" in sensor range.*

CAM

Let's do this.

INT. PROTAGONIST COMMAND CENTER - NIGHT

Nine Earth Guild CADETS are sitting at different consoles and talking amongst themselves. A geek chic Chinese man (early 20's), ZYLER CHU, is anxious.

ZYLER

Anyone know why we're summoned?  
Would love to finish my lunch.

CADET PIERCE

Where the's Leandra? Is she TRYING to get reprimanded?

CADET RAE

I don't know and I don't care. I just can't wait to get assigned to my real ship. This ship feels like a museum or something. I don't even want to touch the walls here.

CADET PIERCE

You're crazy. Lt. Frazier is a legend in his own right.

CADET RENNER

Cough, fan girl alert, cough.

CADET PIERCE

HAHA, maybe just a little.

Frazier swaggers in from his den. The Cadets, except for Zylar, stand to attention.

FRAZIER

I enter a room, you better damn  
well stand at attention, CADET.

Zyler hops to attention apologetically. LEANDRA SANCHEZ, a  
(Dominican, early 20's), hustles in on a wave of stylish  
arrogance and badassery.

She gets to her station and stands at attention. Floyd's  
visibly annoyed.

He looks at this sorry crew and you can almost see the gears  
turning in his head. *Can he go to war with THESE people?*  
*SHOULD he? What choice does he have?*

FRAZIER (CONT'D)

Set headings to Gamma 4 - Zetta 11.  
Recalibrate your universal  
translators. Neptune Way. Flash  
Speed level 4.

CADET PIERCE

HUA, sir.

Floyd hesitantly takes the command seat.

FRAZIER

Cut communications to Guild HQ.

The crew looks around at each other with confusion.

LEANDRA

Sir? Earth Guild Space Protocol  
states that-

FRAZIER

-Execute command, Cadet.

LEANDRA

...Yes. Sir.

Floyd takes a deep contemplative breath.

CADET PIERCE

Uuhhh...sir?

FLOYD

What, Cadet?

CADET PIERCE

Uh which way is Zeta 11?

Floyd sighs to himself and stares blankly into nothing.



INT. THE RHANE - NIGHT

Cam's standing by the escape hatch wearing a slim space suit. He's connecting a magnetic harness he's wearing to a robotic probe 20 feet high and wide.

Annasette walks in and they stare at each other passionately. She grabs him by his collar and she kisses him deeply.

He strokes her hair from her face and stands back. She places his helmet on his head. She walks out back to the command center and his helmet comes on.

MONTAGE: VARIOUS LOCATION

-Annasette's sitting at the control panels and sets a 60 second timer on the large monitor.

-Cam sets his timer on his watch for 60 seconds.

-The War Hammer's traveling through space.

-The Rhane drops out of Flash Speed on the ships aft. 40 Seconds.

-Cam ejects from the Rhane after the probe. It drifts towards the War Hammer. He presses a button on his space suit. The probe opens and his belt magnetically pulls him into it. The probe closes behind him.

-In the War Hammer commander center, a dozen multicolored feral type alien ZORN SOLDIERS are manning the massive and intimidating warship. There's a dot on their space map on the large command screen.

At the center of the command center sits GRAYGER NULL-ZORN. An intimidating dark cloud of viciousness and cunning.

-Annasette sets the Flash Speed.

20 Seconds.

-The probe door malfunctions and opens. Cam's pulled out violently into space.

He looks to the Rhane and notices the Flash Engines are powering up. He panics. The probe isn't out of the Protagonist's wave yet.

-Annasette sees a symbol for Cam on the monitor still caught up in the Rhane's Flash Speed wave. She grips the control panel, worried for Cam.

-Cam raises his hand and a thin long metallic cable shoots out from a small compartment under his wrist sleeve. The cable magnetically attaches to the probe. He frantically bangs the compartment on his wrist.

-The Zorn see the probe on their sensors.

-The Rhane glows.

-Cam whacks the compartment and the chord pulls him towards the probe as the Rhane's Flash Speed Wave is pulling him the opposite direction. He's being pulled apart.

He's finally, painfully, able to get back in the probe and closes the door. The Rhane "Flash Speeds" away. Cam's catching his breath inside the probe and under his helmet.

INT. THE WAR HAMMER - NIGHT

Bold italics represent Zornian language.

**ZORN LIEUTENANT**

*Grayger, there's what could be a cloaked probe off our aft. Well at least spacial distortions would suggest it's a cloaked probe.*

**NULL-ZORN**

*Show me.*

**ZORN LIEUTENANT**

*Our sensors are slightly distorted. We're...wait. The Earth Guild Shuttle "Rhane" is dropping out of "Flash Spee-*

**NULL-ZORN**

*-Secure the probe. Lock disruptors on the shuttle. They're clearly trying to disrupt our sensors. The Guild must be desperate to betray their beliefs of non interference.*

**ZORN LIEUTENANT**

*Yes, Grayger.*

EXT. ALIEN SHIP - NIGHT

The War Hammer extends a tractor beam and pulls the probe into a hatch that's opening.

INT. WAR HAMMER - NIGHT

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

**ZORN LIEUTENANT**

*Sir, we're being hailed.*

**NULL-ZORN**

*Show me.*

Annasette appears on the screen.

NULL-ZORN (CONT'D)

I know you. The mercenary assassin.  
Wife to the arrogant General  
Camerinian Dibinga.

ANNASETTE

Greetings Grayger Null-Zorn. I am  
Annasette Geleba. Here on behalf of-

NULL-ZORN

-What do you want, assassin?

ANNASETTE

You say that like its an insult.

NULL-ZORN

I'm very busy. So-

ANNASETTE

-My apologies. I was wondering, if  
in the spirit of cooperation with  
the Earth Guild, you could  
help me retrieve a science probe  
that mistakenly disembarked from  
the General's shuttle?

NULL-ZORN

A CLOAKED science probe?

ANNASETTE

A science probe. Yes.

NULL-ZORN

It so happens I've just secured a  
probe a moment ago. How about that?

ANNASETTE

How ABOUT that? Thank you for  
locating it. If you could release  
it to me I will gladly-

NULL-ZORN

-Why would I do that?

ANNASETTE

27.

Because it's ours.

NULL-ZORN

It was. Now it's mine.

Their automatic hatred for each other is almost palpable.

ANNASETTE

Well, then...

INT. WAR HAMMER TRACTOR BAY - NIGHT

Seven Zorn soldiers man the tractor bay. ZORN SOLDIERS #1 and #2 standby as the probe enters the ship. Once the door closes, the probe opens up to the Zorn's surprise.

Cam springs out of the probe holding two energy beam blaster pistols. He shoots down four of them before the rest of them draw their energy blasters. An epic shoot out ensues.

INT. WAR HAMMER COMMAND CENTER - NIGHT

ANNASETTE

Well I-

**ZORN LIEUTENANT**

**-Sir! Energy blaster discharge detected in the tractor bay!**

NULL-ZORN

**Treachery! Seal corridors Alpha through Gamma. Dispatch security to the tractor room. Neutralize the shuttle and secure the mercenary.**

INT. THE RHANE - NIGHT

ANNASETTE

Mr. Brooks! Raise shields!

EXT. SPACE - NIGHT

The War Hammer fires on the Rhane. The shuttle raises it's shields in time, however the force knocks the ship into a spiral. The Rhane spins until its stabilizing rocket blasts ignite and it jumps into Flash Speed.

INT. THE RHANE - NIGHT

ANNASETTE

Mr. Brooks! What are you doing?! I didn't order Flash Speed! Return to the War Hammer immediately!

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

MR. BROOKS

*Apologies, Annasette. General  
Dibinga ordered me to commence  
Flash Speed and rendezvous with the  
Protagonist when you command for  
the shields.*

ANNASETTE

Go back! Go back or I'll tear out  
your hard drive! I command you! Mr.  
Brooks! I command you!

She gets dizzy. She looks up to the vents and an orange gas  
is steaming from them.

ANNASETTE (CONT'D)

Mr. Brooks...cough...cough...cough...Cam...saa  
ave Caaam...

INT. WAR HAMMER - NIGHT

Cam gets close enough to the last two Zorn and disarms them.  
They engage in a brutal back and forth hand to hand battle  
but Cam is too skilled for them and knocks them both out.

The damaged and bruised General draws a small mobile device  
from his pocket and a small map appears on the screen.

He straps it to his wrist and opens the bay door. He  
painfully moves through the corridor, blasters in both hands.

The more he moves through the corridor the more the device  
beeps. He ducks energy blast fire as a gaggle of ZORN  
SECURITY GUARDS open fire on him.

He rolls out two flash grenades that temporarily blind them.  
He hustles towards them and shoots them down.

He tries to open a side door but there's a thin force field  
blocking it. He grabs a small device from one of the FALLEN  
ZORN and aims it at the force field.

The force field dissipates and the door opens. His mobile  
device beeps louder and louder. He looks down to his stomach  
and notices he's bleeding.

INT. WAR HAMMER SCIENCE ROOM - NIGHT

The door opens and a ZORN SCIENTIST is locking up a  
basketball sized metallic orb bomb.

CAM

You weaponized it already?!

Cam's shot in his shoulder and falls, wildly aiming his blasters and hits the bomb. The bomb glows.

ZORN SCIENTIST

The tritium casing is heating up!  
It's going to explode if we can't  
cool it down!

The ZORN SECURITY #1 that shot Cam grabs Cam by his arm. Cam jumps up, grabs his arm and they engage in a brutal, highly technical fight.

The soldier seems to have gotten the better of Cam as he mounts on top of him, raining down blows.

Cam grabs his face and headbutts him to hell. The scientist begins to run out of the room with the bomb until Cam aims his blaster at him.

CAM(CONT'D)

Y-y-you hold it right there, fella.

The scientist freezes as Cam limps over to him.

ZORN SCIENTIST

You are in violation of the-

Cam grabs the bomb and punches the scientist out. He presses a button on his mobile device and jets out to the corridor.

INT. WAR HAMMER CORRIDOR - NIGHT

He freezes when he's surrounded by a dozen more soldiers.

ZORN SECURITY COMMANDER

General. Welcome to the War Hammer.  
We hope you enjoy your stay. You'll  
be here for a while.

CAM

I don't plan on it.

ZORN SECURITY COMMANDER

You seem hurt. Doesn't seem like  
you can lift your arm there. Hand  
over the bomb so we can help you.  
It's heating up. If we don't cool  
it, it could explode. Is that what  
you want, General?

CAM

I kinda do, yeah.

ZORN SECURITY COMMANDER

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

That's unfortunate. We had hoped to bring you in alive.

CAM

Well...it's been that kind of day.

The bracelet on Cam's wrist beeps.

INT. WAR HAMMER TRACTOR BAY - NIGHT

The probe explodes.

INT. WAR HAMMER CORRIDOR - NIGHT

The explosion moves through the corridor as Cam jumps back in the science room. The Zorn security leader jumps in the science room as well, dodging the fire.

INT. SCIENCE ROOM - NIGHT

Cam's laying on the floor, holding the bomb and catching his breath. He looks over to his side and the Zorn Security leader is getting up.

Cam elbows him in his face, knocking him out. He struggles to pull himself up and limps out of the room, a bloody mess.

INT. TRACTOR BAY - NIGHT

He gets to the tractor bay. He notices the bomb's leaking orange and gold liquid on him.

Cam uses the mobile device he took from the Zorn security and opens the force field hatch. He's immediately pulled out into space with the leaky bomb.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

Floyd's contemplating in his command seat.

FLOYD

Why aren't we at the General's coordinates yet? We should've been there ten minutes ago.

Cadet Pierce shares a glance with Zyler. She shakes her head "don't do it". Zyler regrettably sighs.

ZYLER

Because we initially were going in the wrong direction sir.

FLOYD

I beg your pardon?

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

CADET PIERCE

I uhhh inadvertently went towards  
65 - 95 Gamma until I corrected-

FLOYD

-You took us the wrong way?! Of all  
the damn unprofessional, amateurish-

LEANDRA

-Sir! The Rhane's coming towards  
us. It's on auto pilot, sir.

Floyd darts a look to Pierce who drops her head in shame.

FLOYD

Display.

A damaged Rhane's approaching the Protagonist.

FLOYD (CONT'D)

Status?

LEANDRA

We're reading a life sign but it  
doesn't match the General's. The  
shuttle's severely damaged.  
It's engines are overloading. We  
can fix it if we get in in our  
shuttle bay immediately...Sir!

The War Hammer appears out of Flash Speed behind the Shuttle.  
The Protagonist's crew freezes at the pure menacing site of  
the behemoth ship. Except Floyd who's too damn furious to.

ZYLER

That ship...is HUGE. Uuuh shouldn't  
someone have been looking out for,  
oh I don't know, MASSIVE ALIEN  
WARSHIPS!?

LEANDRA

I was, uhh, I was getting there.

FLOYD

What's the marker?

Silence.

FLOYD (CONT'D)

The name! What the hell is the  
ship's name?

LEANDRA



Oh sorry, sir. It's the-the War Hammer, sir.

FLOYD  
Null-Zorn's ship. Great. Hail them.

LEANDRA  
They're not responding. They're charging their energy cannons towards the Shuttle.

FLOYD  
Extend tractor beams to the Rhane. Put us between it and the War Hammer. Fire a warning shot off their Starboard.

EXT. SPACE - NIGHT

The Protagonist grips the Rhane in a tractor beam and moves between it and the Zorn behemoth.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

FLOYD  
I said fire off the Starboard!

CADET RENNER  
Sorry, sir! I thought you s-

FLOYD  
-FIRE OFF THE DAMN STARBOARD!

EXT. SPACE - NIGHT

The Protagonist fires off the Starboard of the Zorn ship.

INT. PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

LEANDRA  
They're responding to our hails.

FLOYD  
Display.

Null-Zorn appears on the screen.

FLOYD (CONT'D)  
Grayger Null-Zorn. I am Lieutena-

NULL-ZORN  
- I want THAT shuttle and General Dibinga in my possession in ten  
(MORE)

(CONT'D)

Galactic units or I will blast the Protagonist into the next Galaxy. Comply. Quickly.

FLOYD

The General isn't here and that Shuttle is the property of the Earth Guild. So just what the hells is YOUR problem?

NULL-ZORN

Somehow the General used THAT shuttle, killed 20 of my soldiers blew a hole in the tractor bay, violated a treaty signed in good faith with honor and stole a very valuable...scientific experiment from us. Return IT and the General to me immediately so he can answer to his crimes.

FLOYD

Stand by.

Floyd nods to Leandra and she turns off the display.

FLOYD (CONT'D)

Is the Rhane secured?

CADET RAE

Yes sir.

FLOYD

If the General isn't on the Shuttle and the Zorn don't have him, where the blazes is he?

INT. SPACE STORM - NIGHT

Cam's floating through space, surrounded by the pouring chemicals from the chemical bomb. He's floating right to a massive galactic storm.

Lightning of various colors as well as clouds surround an oncoming purple vortex. Lightning strikes him. His eyes bulge and his teeth clench.

INT. PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

Annasette gets to the command center.

FLOYD

Annasette! What's g-

ANNASETTE

-Where is the General?

FLOYD

Why isn't he with you?

ANNASETTE

His plan was to board the War Hammer using a hollow probe. He was to secure the Cruzium before-

FLOYD

-Before exploding it in space.

ANNASETTE

They came after me looking for the Cruzium. They think Cam is here?

FLOYD

Why wouldn't they be able to detect the Cruzium residue near their ship. Why couldn't you?

ANNASETTE

He programmed Mr. Brooks to rendezvous with you and gas me to sleep so I wouldn't interfere. Mr. Brooks says that the chemicals might have interacted with a space phenomena detected near that area. Some sort of cosmic storm.

Floyd grips onto his control panel in despair.

ANNASETTE (CONT'D)

Frazier?

He regains his composure.

FLOYD

Null-Zorn wants the General immediately. They're not going to take "no" for an answer.

ANNASETTE

If we can't produce him?

FLOYD

Then we're going to war.

INT. SPACE VESSEL HARAMBE MEDICAL BAY - NIGHT

Cam's wearing just his trousers inside of a large tank of a chemical bath.

He's wearing a mouth breather and his vitals are on a connected panel. A group of HARAMBE SCIENTISTS are working on tablets in a hustle.

HARAMBE SCIENTIST #1  
These readings are incredible. The chemical bath is flooding out the Cruzium X. We've healed his injuries perfectly. I knew it. This is General Camerinian Dibinga!

HARAMBE SCIENTIST #2  
Fascinating! Alert the Grand Commander. I want him to know that WE'RE the ones who found him.

HARAMBE SCIENTIST #3  
Still want recognition, huh?

HARAMBE SCIENTIST #2  
This is the greatest discovery...I mean this will make us LEGENDS! To find the greatest general in the history of the Earth Guild?

Cam slowly opens his eyes, disoriented.

HARAMBE SCIENTIST #1  
Should we ask for his autograph or something? I'm nervous as hells.

HARAMBE SCIENTIST #3  
He's waking up! Is decontamination complete?

HARAMBE SCIENTIST #2  
Yes. We can open the bath now. Drain the tank.

The tank drains the liquid into a large pipe and the door to the tank opens.

Cam falls to his knees and takes off the breather. Scientist #1 puts a cloak around him and helps him up. Cam's shaking and walks slowly.

HARAMBE SCIENTIST #1  
Oh my goodness. I'm holding history right now! Good morning, General! Welcome back!

Cam's voice is shaky and weak.

CAM  
W-w-where's...Anna...Annasette?

They help Cam sit and they give him an orange beverage.

SCIENTISTS #2

Please drink up, sir. This will help you recuperate your electrolytes and vitamins safely.

CAM

Annasette...where is Annasette?

SCIENTIST #3

Are you talking about the terrorist leader? We don't know sir.

CAM

The what? Where am I?

SCIENTIST #1

Sir, you're on the Earth Guild flag ship "Harambe".

Cam jumps up, grabs Scientist #1 by his collar and throws him into Scientist #2. He grabs Scientist #3 and a sharp tool off the table simultaneously. He puts it to his throat.

CAM

The PROTAGONIST is the Guild flag ship. Who the hell are you?

SCIENTIST #3

Wait! The Protagonist was destroyed when they attempted to rescue you from the War Hammer! General, that was 50 years ago! You've been missing in space for 50 years!

CAM

I...what?

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

The crew's waiting for Floyd to make a decision.

ANNASETTE

We need to go back and search for the General.

LEANDRA

I agree, sir.

FLOYD

Cadets have opinions now?

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

Annasette, the Zorn aren't going to just let us leave. If we don't produce General Dibinga or the Cruzium, they are going to attack us. Cadet Sanchez, scan the Earth Guild communique. Have the Zorn communicated to Earth Guild Command about our predicament?

LEANDRA

Uh no, sir.

ANNASETTE

Frazier, we MUST go back! Cam needs us. He needs YOU now.

FLOYD

The General would never sacrifice the crew in order to save one person and neither will I. Let's make this clear to all of you. What we do in the next few minutes could decide whether or not another Galactic WAR begins. Literally BILLIONS of lives will depend on what we do here. My orders will be followed to a "T". Am I clear?

PROTAGONIST CREW

HUA, SIR.

FLOYD

Annasette, may I speak with you in private?

Floyd gestures to the door to the General's chamber. She nods and follows him to the room. The rest of the crew wait with Floyd's dire warning weighting on them.

INT. GENERAL'S CHAMBER - NIGHT

FLOYD

Annasette-

ANNASETTE

-what the hells do you think you're doing? You're Cam's only hope right now. We need to go back and to hell with the Zorn s-

FLOYD

-I need YOU here!

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

I can't trust these-these...piss poor excuses for soldiers! They can barely tell their starboard from their aft much less wage war against the War Hammer! Null-Zorn is a da-

ANNASETTE

-I'm not one of your toy soldiers, Frazier. I'm not part of the Earth Guild army. I don't take orders from you.

FLOYD

No you don't. But while you're a guest on THIS ship you will.

She stalks closer to him, intensely.

ANNASETTE

Watch yourself, Frazier. If you do not go back for the General I WILL kill you. You're aware of that, are you not?

FLOYD

The General has made me aware of your people's...values. I don't intend to cross you. But I need you to trust me. For the General's sake. We're the two people in the Galaxy he trusts most. We're on the same side here.

ANNASETTE

Are we?

FLOYD

Of course we are! Why do you think Null's letting us take some time to turn him in to them? You said the General set the probe to explode in their tractor bay? THAT'S where their communication relay is.

ANNASETTE

So the hells what?

FLOYD

That's why they haven't communicated with the Earth Guild demanding them to turn the General over to them. They can't! It will

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

probably take ten more minutes for them to repair it. He's stalling.

She draws a too damn long knife.

ANNASETTE

Get to your point quickly or you will get to mine.

FLOYD

Our first priority is to make sure they don't communicate what the General has done to the Guild. Honestly? We're going to have to hide the General's crimes...to prevent another galactic war.

INT. HARAMBE MEDICAL BAY - NIGHT

Cam's sitting on a med bench, drinking the orange liquid. The other scientists are doing readings.

CAM

I've been missing for 50 years?! How is that possible??

SCIENTIST #2

Please, sir. Continue to drink the Ambia. It will safely give you a day's worth of nutrients.

SCIENTIST #1

When you escaped the Zorn's captivity 50 years ago-

CAM

-“Captivity”? I wasn't hel-

SCIENTIST #1

-You drifted into what we now know was a Temporal Storm. The Temporal Lightning could've torn you apart but it interacted with the Cruzium X, allowing you to survive through the storm. It brought you here.

CAM

“Tempor-”? Time travel's impossible.

SCIENTIST #2

We thought so too, long ago.

(MORE)



(CONT'D)

But we were arrogant to think we understand all the wonders of the universe.

SCIENTIST #1

We're a scientific archeological team that studies space phenomena. The Temporal Storm appears on our side of the galaxy every 15 years.

SCIENTIST #3

15 years ago, debris from the War Hammer was found with a temporal energy signature. Since then, the Grand Commander has commissioned us to study temporal phenomena. Speaking of which.

Scientist #3 takes out a mobile tablet from his jacket and a hologram of a much older and dignified Floyd Frazier wearing a grander uniform appears. The Scientists salute.

SCIENTIST #4

Greetings Grand Commander.

OLD MAN FLOYD

I'm very busy, Professor. What do you want? What is this "history changing" discovery you won't leave me alone about?

Cam lifts his head at the familiarity of Floyd's voice.

SCIENTIST #4

Maybe you should see this for yourself, sir.

He nods behind the hologram and Floyd turns to Cam. The shock on his face matches the joy and awe on Cam's.

CAM

Oh my...it's true? This is the future? Primetime?!

OLD MAN FLOYD

...You...General Dibinga?!

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

Floyd and Annasette stalk onto the command center. Annasette continues to walk back out to the corridor.

FLOYD

41.

Cadet Chu, escort Lady Annasette to the brig. Display Grayger Null-Zorn.

Zyler looks around with a "Who? Me?" face. Leandra waves him off obnoxiously. He rolls his eyes and runs after her. Null-Zorn appears on the screen.

NULL-ZORN

You've come to your senses.

FLOYD

Prepare your shuttle bay. General Dibinga will be escorted to your ship immediately.

ZORN

Negative. Turn off your engines and we will attach a tractor beam to the shuttle.

FLOYD

Sure thing.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Zyler's walking in front of Annasette towards the holding bay. She slows down and turns a corner. He doesn't realize she's not behind him until she coughs loudly.

ZYLER

Hey get back over here!

He chases her down the hallway. He presses a communication button on his sleeve.

ZYLER (CONT'D)

Chu to Lieutenant Frazier! She's escaped custody! She's on her way to the Shuttle Bay! I'm in purs-

She quickly turns around, slams him to the floor and quickly wraps her arms around his head and shoulders until he passes out. She drags him to the Shuttle Bay.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST COMMAND CENTER - NIGHT

The crew's listening to Zyler's transmission and are looking to Floyd for guidance.

ZYLER (V.O.)

She's escaped custody! She's on her way to the Shuttle Bay! I'm in purs-

CADET RAE

Sir?

FLOYD

Release shuttles "Hannibal" and "Ava" from the dock.

CADET RAE

Sir?

FLOYD

Is there a damn echo in here?

CADET RAE

Aye sir. Releasing shuttles.

FLOYD

We can't fight two wars right now. If she wants to get off the Protagonist and search for the General then more power to her. Program the Ava to drift towards the War Hammer. Power out the Protagonist once both shuttles leave the bay. Take over for Cadet Chu, Sanchez. Get ready to go to Flash Speed on my mark.

LEANDRA

If we go from zero power to Flash Speed we could tear the ship apart.

Floyd glares at Leandra.

LEANDRA

Yes sir. Acknowledged sir.

INT. THE HANNIBAL - NIGHT

Zyler's coming to and sees Annasette working the command computers. She inserts Mr. Brook's A.I. device.

ANNASETTE

Mr. Brooks. Activate.

MR. BROOKS

*Greetings Lady Annasette.*

ANNASETTE

Are you able to recreate General Dibinga's space signature?

MR. BROOKS

*Of course.*

ANNASETTE

Please do so. Now also falsify the chemical signature of Cruzium X and recreate both readings on shuttlecraft Ava. Make it good enough to fool the Zorn's sensors.

MR. BROOKS

*Such readings will be able to fool the Zorn's sensors for 40 minutes.*

ANNASETTE

I need you to copy both signatures onto the Protagonist once it goes to Flash Speed.

MR. BROOKS

*Affirmative.*

ZYLER

I know what you're doing. The Zorn aren't idiots. They'll figure out what you're doing and then what? Why am I here?

ANNASETTE

Synchronize a 30 second timer with the timer of the Protagonist currently in motion and display.

A timer saying "26.00 seconds" appears on the monitor.

ANNASETTE (CONT'D)

Initiate Flash Speed at the 2 second mark simultaneously with the Protagonist. Set coordinates to the last known coordinates of the General's space signature.

Zyler looks on the screen. It shows a space map and the close positioning of the Protagonist and the Hannibal.

ZYLER

If you go Flash Speed simultaneously while both ships are this close you would create a

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

pocket of gravity. The Ava needs to be 2,000 meters further away or-

ANNASETTE

-Commander Frazier said you're above average intelligence. You will serve me. But please, for now, shut the hells up. Don't take this the wrong way but too much talking makes me want to kill things.

ZYLER

...Yes I can absolutely shut the hells up. Yes, ma'am.

ANNASETTE

Outstanding.

MONTAGE: VARIOUS LOCATIONS

-Shuttles Ava and Hannibal leave the Protagonist's cargo bay.

-The Protagonist powers down.

-Floyd's watches the timer in a dimly lit Command Center. 10 seconds.

-Annasette's watching the timer. 10 seconds.

-The War Hammer's tractor beam locks onto the Ava. 5 seconds.

**ZORN LIEUTENANT**

***The shuttle's set to self destruct!***

**NULL-ZORN**

***Cut the tractor beam!***

-The Hannibal starts to Flash Speed.

-0 Seconds.

FLOYD

NOW!

-The Protagonist powers on and revs up Flash Speed.

-The Ava explodes after the tractor beam retracts. The Hannibal and the Protagonist Flash Speed in different directions.

A gravity wave develops and moves the explosion towards the Zorn ship, damaging it.

END MONTAGE

45.

INT. HARAMBE/CAM'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

Cam's staring out of a window at the large Space Station Olurun, orbiting Earth. A computerized voice speaks.

HARAMBE

*Commander General Hayes is at the door, Commander General Dibinga*

CAM

Enter.

COMMANDER GENERAL BILLY HAYES (40's) enters the room. He salutes Cam.

HAYES

General Dibinga. I'm Commander General Billy Hayes, commander of the Harambe. I...

CAM

I'm going to need words out of that mouth, son.

HAYES

I'm sorry sir. It's just...actually my name is Billy Camerinian Hayes. That you're here right now...you're my idol, sir! When the Scientist were commissioned to study temporal phenomena in hopes of finding you, I jumped at the chance to help. You saved my grandparents on Mars Colony Alpha 60 years ago.

CAM

"60 years ago"...that was ten years ago for me. Outrageous...

HAYES

Sir if there is anything you need, anything at all please let me know and I will take care of it.

Cam nods out to the window.

CAM

What the hells is that?

HAYES

Oh that? Just the greatest space station in the history of the Galaxy. Space Station "OLURUN". Named after-

CAM

-The chief God of the Yoruba pantheon.

HAYES

Yes sir. We've moved the Earth Guild HQ to this station a decade ago after the "Great Siege". Grand Commander Frazier is there waiting for us to deliver you.

Cam whispers aloud to himself.

CAM

How can we lead the people if we're above them?

HAYES

Sir?

CAM

I'm out of uniform, General. I can't take counsel with the Grand Commander out of uniform.

HAYES

We did away with that protocol a long time ago. It's optional now. And please, call me "Billy".

CAM

Thank you. General.

Hayes shoots a look of confusion then smiles.

HAYES

HA! Very good, sir. Please enjoy the view.

Hayes salutes and turns to walk away. He peeks with a child's enthusiasm back at Cam looking out of the window. He sneaks out a small camera like device and takes a picture.

Cam turns to him and Hayes hustles out the door. Cam turns back to the massive space station.

CAM

Harambe. Produce a Command General's uniform to my specifications.

HARAMBE

*Affirmative.*

Cam shakes his head towards the door.

INT. SPACE STATION OLURUN - NIGHT

The Harambe's door's open in the Olurun docking bay. The HARAMBE'S CREW walk off of the ship in their dress uniforms.

Cam steps out last, wearing a futurist Commander General's dress uniform with his old cape.

He freezes in shock to the sheer size and scope of the station. There are hundreds of EARTH GUILD CITIZENS lined up on either side of a large corridor, waiting for him.

They cheer loudly at the site of him. In the middle of the corridor is the much older Grand Commander Frazier surrounded by several DIGNITARIES and a now much older Leandra.

Floyd's smiling through tears at the sight of his former General. Cam can't hide the pride on his face as he embraces his old friend.

CAM

WOW!! Look at you! Look at YOU!

INT. THE WAR HAMMER - NIGHT

The crew's working on repairs to the ship.

**ZORN LIEUTENANT**

*Sir, we're reading another shuttle disembarked from the Protagonist at the same time as the exploding shuttle. General Dibinga's space signature and the Cruzium X now read to be on the Protagonist.*

**NULL-ZORN**

*Follow the Protagonist. Hail the Earth Guild and Zorn Command when the communication relay is repaired.*

**ZORN LIEUTENANT**

*Yes, Grayger.*

INT. THE HANNIBAL - NIGHT

Annasette throws Zyler like a rag doll into the command seat.

ANNASETTE

Are you going to help me or am I going to kill you?



ZYLER

Hey! Just relax, ok?! You haven't even asked me to do anything yet!

ANNASETTE

I just did.

ZYLER

Well does that sound like there's a, I don't know, CHOICE there?

ANNASETTE

It does to me.

ZYLER

What do you need me to do, ma'am?

ANNASETTE

The General was captured by the Zorn. He hailed them to negotiate releasing a megaton of Cruzium X to us and the Zorn captured him. He fought them off and escaped the War Hammer by exploding their hull. Since then we haven't been able to make contact with him.

ZYLER

So that's why the Zorn attacked us. They think the General stole the chemical weapon?

ANNASETTE

Yes. Exactly. Mr. Brooks detected some strange readings over there before we Flash Sped out of there.

ZYLER

Mr. Brooks, display readings from General Dibinga's last location.

Silence.

ZYLER (CONT'D)

Mr. Brooks, display readings from-

ANNASETTE

-He heard you. He's programmed to take orders from the General, Lieutenant General Frazier or me.

ZYLER

Ok. Well can YOU ask Mr. Brooks to-

ANNASETTE

-Mr. Brooks comply. Give Cadet Chu standard access for his rank.

Zyler works the controls and studies the readings.

ZYLER

No way...Mr. Brooks, Do these readings match the Burnett theory of temporal physics?

MR. BROOKS

*To a proof degree of 95.*

ZYLER

No. Damn. Way. It's possible?

MR. BROOKS

*Affirmative.*

ANNASETTE

WHAT's possible?

ZYLER

Temporal Displacement

ANNASETTE

You mean time travel?!

ZYLER

Uuhhh yeah. Time travel.

ANNASETTE

Damn the hells...

INT. SPACE STATION OLURUN - NIGHT

The celebration of Cam's return is still going on. Soldiers, citizens and dignitaries alike keep shaking his hand, saluting or praising him.

He's growing more and more uncomfortable with all the attention.

He looks around for Floyd, clearly not comfortable with all the attention. He sees him further, away huddling with an OLURUN GUARD and a doggish looking alien scumbag, ZERK LERNA.

Zerk hands Floyd a signature pad. Floyd plants his hand on the pad and nods to the alien. The guards lead Zerk away.

Floyd rubs his brow in distress. Cam walks over to him to the relief of Floyd.

CAM

Hey how about getting me the hells  
out of here?

Floyd gestures to a distant room and they sneak away from the crowds. Before Floyd walks in the room he turns to look to Leandra. She approaches him and he kisses her.

Cam raises an eyebrow to that. She begrudgingly salutes Cam. Cam returns it and walks into the side room. Leandra gestures a head shake to Floyd. He nods and he follows Cam.

INT. SPACE STATION CHAMBERS - NIGHT

The room's a futuristic living room with a bar being kept by a ROBOT BARTENDER. Cam's taken aback as the robot salutes him. He looks bewildered to Floyd.

OLD MAN FLOYD

2 chalices of Neptunium Brandy. No  
chaser. Shaken.

ROBOT BARTENDER

*Coming right up, sir.*

CAM

How about that?

OLD MAN FLOYD

Pretty crazy, huh sir? Robots are  
pretty standard now. This one  
can make a damn fine Brandy.

CAM

You're older than ME now, Primetime,  
and you're the GRAND COMMANDER. I  
think you can call me "Cam".

The bartender finishes making the brandy and places the chalices on the bar. Floyd hands one of them to Cam.

OLD MAN FLOYD

Here you go... "Cam".

CAM

Ugh that sounded weird.

OLD MAN FLOYD

Yeah it did.

They toast.

OLD MAN FLOYD (CONT'D)

So how are you feeling?

CAM

Disoriented. Disoriented as all hells. I don't even know where to begin. Time travel? I mean, c'mon.

OLD MAN FLOYD

Did General Hayes get you up to speed on what you've missed?

CAM

No he was too busy trying to get my autograph. That woman. Are you married now?!

OLD MAN FLOYD

Is that so hard to believe?

CAM

Actually? No. You couldn't play the field forever.

OLD MAN FLOYD

I sure as hells tried my best.

CAM

HA! I'll bet you did. Who is she?

OLD MAN FLOYD

Ambassador Leandra Sanchez. Part of the training crew from the Protagonist when you disappeared. She's...she's the only person to survive the "War Hammer Conflict".

CAM

Floyd, what happened after I was brought here? What happened to the Protagonist and Annasette?

Floyd takes a deep sip of regret.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

The ship's rocking back and forth as it's being bombarded by energy blast from the War Hammer.

FLOYD

Shield status!

CADET RENNER

Shields are holding but can't take much more of this.

FLOYD

Trust me. She can take it.

CADET RAE

How did they catch up so fast?

LEANDRA

It would appear the Zorn have made some significant upgrades.

FLOYD

Cut the damn chatter, Cadets. Stay focused. Escape pattern "Zeta".

CADET PIERCE

Which one is "Zeta?"!

LEANDRA

The Z, dummy! Do a "Z" pattern in reverse then bring us up on the Zorn ships aft and return fire!

CADET PIERCE

Then why didn't he just say that?

LEANDRA

Sir, we're moving further and further away from communication range from the Guild.

FLOYD

I'm well aware of that CADET.

LEANDRA

Right. I'm just saying this is all kinda mysterious right now, Sir. It would be easier if were awa-

FLOYD

-Bring us about. There's an asteroid belt 20 Paysecs from the Achenar perimeter. Head there.

LEANDRA

HUA, sir.

FLOYD

I'll be in my chambers.

Floyd swaggers off the command bridge.

CADET RAE

Wow, Leandra, you really just can't shut the hells up, huh?

LEANDRA

You guys don't think all of this is kinda shanky?

CADET RENNER

Not our place to question orders. That's not how this works. You want to be top dog then get promoted.

LEANDRA

So you like putting yourself on the line without knowing what the hell's going?

CADET RENNER

I know what we're doing! Serving the greatest force for good in the damn GALAXY on it's flag ship. What else do we need to know?

LEANDRA

Well you can drink the company cactus juice all you want but I prefer to think for myself.

CADET RAE

I wish the General were leading us.

LEANDRA

Well, yeah. Who would you rather have leading us in a fire fight with the most powerful ship in the galaxy? The greatest military mind of all time...

INT. GENERAL'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT

Floyd's watching and listening to the crew on a monitor.

LEANDRA (V.O.)

...or some hot shot flyboy who's completely over his head?

INT. SPACE STATION OLURUN - NIGHT

Cam and Frazier are still at the bar enjoying their Brandy.

OLD MAN FLOYD

Sorry, Cam. I haven't spoken about the "War Hammer Conflict" in years.

CAM

There's a historical name for what happened? Wow.

OLD MAN FLOYD

It's not an exaggeration to say what happened that day changed the course of Galactic history.

CAM

The Zorn. What happened after I took the Cruzium?

OLD MAN FLOYD

Emperor Zel-Zorn was going to use it to wipe out a full colony that was harboring a platoon of Zornian rebels. The rebels heard what you did and they were inspired. They overthrew the government.

CAM

Outstanding!

OLD MAN FLOYD

However, after a decade, civil war broke out again and they've been locked in a world war ever since.

CAM

Because we did NOTHING to help them maintain the peace. Am I right?

OLD MAN FLOYD

It was complicated.

CAM

It's always "complicated", Primetime! You know damn well peace is hard to attain but often tougher to maintain. We should've been there mediating the peace process. They gave us the opportunity to help them and we did absolutely nothing? Seems like not much has really changed in 50 years. We're still hypocritical cowards.

OLD MAN FLOYD

Not wait a minute! We u-

CAM

-What happened to Anna? They called her a "terrorist".

OLD MAN FLOYD

Annasette sacrificed more than almost anyone in the Conflict.

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

She paid the price for Galactic peace. She allowed herself to be the scapegoat for the Conflict. Of course it made it easier...

INT. THE HANNIBAL - NIGHT

Annasette and Zylar are studying a star map.

OLD MAN FLOYD (V.O.)

...When she killed Cadet Chu...

ANNASETTE

So this is some sort of a cosmic storm, shooting lightning that moves people through time?

Zylar's staring and studying the readings more. She smacks him on the back of the head.

ZYLAR

Yes, sorry. Well, yeah. According to these readings and all known theory, this is a temporal storm. Time travel's possible. Crazy...

ANNASETTE

The General's big on quotes. He said Neil deGrasse Tyson once said "One of the great challenges in this world is knowing enough about a subject to think you're right but not enough about the subject to know you're wrong."

ZYLAR

Right. Ok...yes...that makes total sense...right...ook ok ok, right...

ANNASETTE

Are you mentally unsound?

ZYLAR

What?

ANNASETTE

Crazy. Are you crazy?

ZYLAR

HAHAHA no. We don't even use that word anymore. No. No. No. That quote. It's perfect. I'm unlearning what I learned. That's the only way any of this makes sense.

(MORE)



(CONT'D)

Could you please grant me access to Mr. Brook's scientific galactic database? It will take too much time to explain all of this to you.

ANNASETTE

Are you calling me dumb?

ZYLER

Noooo I wouldn't dare. It's just that I'm a twelfth level genius and it would cut down time considerably if I could just talk to the computer and not have to waste time explaining things to, uh, well, someone who's...not.

ANNASETTE

I really hope I don't kill you before this mission is completed.

ZYLER

Believe it or not I'm kind of hoping the same thing.

ANNASETTE

Mr. Brooks. Please comply with the Cadet's request.

Zyler types extremely fast on the keys.

ZYLER

Ok so Mr. Brooks is a GENIUS A.I.! He's way more versatile than even the Protagonist's computer. Who programmed him?

ANNASETTE

The General's previous mate. Shana Athi. She was brilliant. She sacrificed herself in Cam's mission to save me and the other genetically engineered slaves from a Zetian mine. I swore to her I would standby and look after Cam.

ZYLER

Interesting way you got there of "looking after" someone.

ANNASETTE

Well...there's no word for "love" on my planet. However there is a word for "honor".

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

As slaves, we were stripped of our pride, our freedom. Our well being. All we had that kept us united was our "Huram". Our honor. When we give our word, we swear by it with everything we have. SO believe this, Cadet Chu. If you fail in retrieving the general...I WILL kill you.

ZYLER

...Sooooo yeah. This storm hadn't shown up on our deep space scanners because it seems to move through different timelines. There was a similar energy signature detected by the Ravanios Empire 15 years ago. But it disappeared before they could study it properly enough.

ANNASETTE

Are you able to attain their data?

ZYLER

Yes. Taking the data they gathered, cross referencing it with all known temporal theories I would say that the different colored lightning represents different temporal energies. Or different time lines.

ANNASETTE

Nonsense. There are four different lightning colors. Silver, gold, blue and orange. Past, present, future and what?

ZYLER

Past, present, future...How much DON'T we know about the Universe?

INT. SPACE STATION OLURUN - NIGHT

CAM

Why are you being so cryptic? Why won't you tell me everything that happened to my ship? My wife! Why are you holding back?

OLD MAN FLOYD

Because I know you.

CAM

The hells is that supposed to mean?

OLD MAN FLOYD

The details of the Protagonist/War Hammer Conflict are classified.

CAM

It's MY ship!

OLD MAN FLOYD

It WAS your ship. Please, sir.  
Don't ask me about it anymore-

A buzz sound generates from the space station.

OLD MAN FLOYD (CONT'D)

Sigh. Yes, Olurun.

OLURUN

*Prime Minister Zerk is waiting for  
your signature of transfer.*

Floyd glances apprehensively to Cam.

OLD MAN FLOYD

Enter.

Zerk's led in by two OLURUN GUARDS. He's holding an electronic leash connected to a collar worn by an African American boy with golden eyes, 7. HURAM. Cam's incredulous. Floyd hangs his head in shame as he turns to Zerk.

OLD MAN FLOYD (CONT'D)

Prime Minister Zerk. Is everything in order?

ZERK

Yes Grand Commander. The clone is undamaged. The bandits who stole him have been dealt with. The Skalye Empire thanks you for your support and assistance in recovering our property.

Floyd can feel Cam's ire cutting through over his shoulder. Huram notices Cam and stares at him perplexed.

OLD MAN FLOYD

Excellent. The guards will escort you to Shuttle Bay Alpha to your shuttle. Safe travels.

Zerk glances with disgust towards Cam.

ZERK

You're the legendary General Camerinian Dibinga, are you not? An iconic hero to more than half the galaxy. A psychotic villain to the rest. Stay away from the planet Scayle. Or we tear you to pieces and feed you to younglings.

CAM

Is that a threat?

ZERK

It's the way things are.

CAM

Well...let's hope I never come across Scayle. For YOUR sake.

They stare each other down with venom. Floyd gestures to the guards and they lead Zerk away. Floyd braces for Cam's wrath.

CAM (CONT'D)

What. The. HELLS was THAT?!

OLD MAN FLOYD

THAT was Galactic LAW!

CAM

You turned over a child to slavery?!

OLD MAN FLOYD

Not exactly. That child is a renegade genetically engineered slave that somehow escaped Scayle. He was put on a shuttle that was programmed to come to our borders.

CAM

He was sent here for us to save him and we're handing him back?!

OLD MAN FLOYD

When a slave escapes Scayle, it's a capital offense by THEIR law. Cam...they're going to execute him.

Cam's awash with disgust and fury.

EXT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

The ship's floating through a slow asteroid field.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

Floyd enters the command bridge.

CADET RAE

Sir, the Zorn ship isn't scanning  
on our radar.

FLOYD

Target grid 2.9, 3.4 and 7.3. Fire  
energy blasters on my mark.

The crew looks around, confused as hell.

LEANDRA

Sir if we fire our energy blasters,  
the War Hammer will detect us.

FLOYD

Have you fired on the asteroids?

LEANDRA

No sir-

FLOYD

-Then fire on the damn asteroids!

The crew looks to Leandra, awaiting her action. She looks to  
them and back to Floyd.

LEANDRA

Lieutenant Frazier, you are putting  
the lives of this crew in danger!

FLOYD

Execute my orders immediately.

LEANDRA

...No. Sir.

She stands up and puts her hands behind her back.

FLOYD

Renner. Take over for Cadet Sanchez  
and execute my orders. Cadet Rae,  
escort Sanchez to the brig.

Cadet Rae hesitantly walks over to Leandra to escort her.  
Leandra whispers to her.

LEANDRA

Puppet.

Cadet Renner takes over her station and fires the energy blasters at the asteroids, destroying them.

Cadet Rae and Leandra stare each other down with venom. Leandra brushes by her and walks to the door.

She stares down Floyd who's purposely and stoically ignoring her. He shoos her away. She's escorted out of the command center. Floyd stares out to space.

FLASHBACK:

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

Floyd's manning the helm as the crew wait for Cam to decide their next course of action.

CAM

What's the read on the escape pod?

FLOYD

We're getting hailed from General Commander Hamada. He's ordering you to take the shot. Sir, we might miss our offensive opportuni-

CAM

-What's the read?!

FLOYD

15 Zorn life signs. They read too young to be soldiers.

CAM

That's a galaxy level vessel. They host civilians. What are they doing out here so close to the combat?

FLOYD

Sir, if we don't take the shot in 10 seconds they will have time to raise their shields! Sir? SIR?!

CAM

...Set course for the escape pod. Get ready to attach the tractor beam on my order.

FLOYD

Sir, we can destroy the Zorn flagship right now! We have to take the shot!

**CAM**  
**I wasn't aware that was a  
suggestion, Specialist.**

Floyd moves his hand toward the weapons system. He discreetly presses a button. Nothing happens. He presses it again and nothing happens.

**COMMAND SPECIALIST #1**  
**Sir, the Zorn's shields are up.**

**CAM**  
**Are we in tractor range?**

Floyd's failure to fire is louder than Cam's voice.

**CAM (CONT'D)**  
**Primetime! Are we in tractor range?**

**FLOYD'S**  
**Yes...yes...sir...**

END FLASHBACK

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

Floyd's still staring out to space.

**CADET RAE**  
**Sir. The War Hammer's back on our  
trajectory.**

**FLOYD**  
**Excellent. Prepare for battle.**

INT. THE HANNIBAL - NIGHT

Annasette's annoyingly watching Zyler working furiously on the computer.

**ANNASETTE**  
**Would you please hurry the hells  
up? We're wasting time!**

**ZYLER**  
**Cross referencing prominent  
metaphysical theories based on time  
travel and there's an old scientist  
named Korey Coleman that believes  
our concept of time itself is  
insignificant compared to-**

ANNASETTE

-Compared to what?

ZYLER

Compared to time's concept...of us.  
Of course...

ANNASETTE

"Of course" what?

ZYLER

Let's look at that...that "Time  
Storm" I guess, from a different  
perspective. We're looking at it  
like those lightnings represents  
OUR past, present and future.

ANNASETTE

You're saying what if the lightning  
represents the storm ITSELF'S  
position in time?

ZYLER

Exactly. Maybe the different  
lightning represents past, present,  
future. POSSIBLE future? If someone  
theoretically got snatched into the  
past lightning and altered history  
wouldn't they then theoretically  
creat a POSSIBLE future?

ANNASETTE

This storm's too powerful to exist.

ZYLER

I think this storm theoretically  
could've been around since the dawn  
of time. Absolutely possible. The  
data we're colle-

Annasette grabs him by his collar and slams him against a  
wall. She knees him in the stomach and punches him in the  
face, knocking him down. He spits out blood.

ZYLER (CONT'D)

WHAT THE ZECK WAS THAT ABOUT?!

ANNASETTE

I need you to focus. I don't care  
about scientific curiosity or your  
recognition by your peers. Tell me  
how we can bring the General back  
and I will let you live.



ZYLER

Ok...cough cough...ok...I'm sorry...I'm focused. I want to help. I'm a human being, ok?! I'm a SCIENTIST! You can't expect me not to be amazed by all of this. Please trust me that we're on the same side.

ANNASETTE

Why do people keep saying that to me?

ZYLER

Look, I know you're hiding something about this mission. I don't really care. I'm a member of the Earth Guild Army and I want to help you. I want to help the General. He inspired me to joined the Earth Guild for Ngolela's sakes! I will help but I can't work under these conditions!

ANNASETTE

I disagree. See, one thing I learned from working the slave mines is that there are levels a person can go to that even they may be unaware of. Provided they have the proper motivation. These conditions I provide for you will allow you to reach intellectual heights beyond what you could ever think of. If you survive this ordeal you will thank me. So...get to work. The General awaits our help.

INT. SPACE STATION OLURUN BAR - NIGHT

CAM

You're turning over a child that was sent to us for HELP over to a slaving colony to be EXECUTED?! Is that about right?

OLD MAN FLOYD

I prefer to look at it as we're following the LAW. It's not as simple as you're making it sound!

CAM

It is! I don't give a damn what you "prefer" to think. What it IS is a betrayal of EVERYTHING we're supposed to stand for.

OLD MAN FLOYD

YOU don't get to decide what's right and what's wrong for others, Cam! They live by their own laws. We have NO right to tell other worlds how to live.

CAM

No we don't but we have a moral obligation to help those who are suffering who can't help themselves. "Injustice anywhere-

OLD MAN FLOYD

- "Is injustice everywhere." Yes I read Dr. King as well. But even HE couldn't comprehend difficulties of keeping a GALAXY together.

CAM

Do you really think that makes a difference in what he said? You're being a coward right now.

OLD MAN FLOYD

And you're being a fool! You're wrong NOW and you were wrong THEN.

CAM

When?

OLD MAN FLOYD

When you didn't take the shot on the Roan. Hamada was right. You did the wrong thing for the right reasons and you were LUCKY to get the right outcome. You saving those civilians gave us the pause in the war we needed, allowing us to make peace. But you didn't know that was going to happen. We can't GOVERN like that! And you know what happened to Admiral Hamada? He HELPED me cover up YOUR actions against the War Hammer!

CAM

I never asked anyone to cover u-

OLD MAN FLOYD

-You didn't have to! You left us no choice! He despised what you did but he loved the Earth Guild and what we've accomplished so much, he was willing to put aside his pride and ego for the greater good. Are you even capable of thinking about the greater good or just what works for YOU?

CAM

Look at YOU, huh? You were out there with me in some of the toughest dogfights the galaxy has EVER scene. You were there supporting the tough calls I had to make out there every damn day. Now you're in the Grand Commander cushy seat. Nice and comfortable. You don't want to get your hands dirty. Well that's what LEADERSHIP is.

OLD MAN FLOYD

...I fired on the Roan.

CAM

You what?

OLD MAN FLOYD

I fired on the Roan! I knew you were wrong and I disobeyed your orders. The damn system locked or else I would've blasted that damn ship to hell. THAT was what Hamada ordered me to do and he was right!! I felt guilty about that for years.

CAM

You didn't need t-

OLD MAN FLOYD

-Please. I need to say this. I felt like I betrayed you. But now... sitting in this "cushy" Command chair...having this conversation with YOU? I know I made the right decision because there's no price not worth paying for peace.

CAM

What's the point of winning the peace if we lose ourselves?

Silence.

CAM (CONT'D)

I locked the Protagonist controls.

OLD MAN FLOYD

You what?

CAM

I locked the firing controls. You COULDN'T fire on the Roan.

OLD MAN FLOYD

Why would you do that?! Because you didn't trust your crew?!

CAM

No. Because I trusted YOU to do what you feel is right. You're a naturally gifted leader. You're a man of honor and integrity. I locked the controls because I know what was coming next was going to change the direction of the war and I wanted to let you off the hook. Maybe you're right. Maybe I was wrong about a lot of things.

Cam walks to the door.

CAM (CONT'D)

But I was right about YOU, Floyd. I was right about you.

Cam nods and skulks out of the bar. Floyd washes his face in his hands with regret. The robot bartender stares at Floyd then stares intensely at the door.

INT. OLURUN GENERAL'S CHAMBER - NIGHT

An OLURUN CADET escorts Cam to his guest chambers.

OLURUN CADET

These guest chambers are yours, General. If you need anything just ask Olurun.

CAM

Thank you Cadet. Dismissed.

Olurun Cadet salutes enthusiastically and turns to leave.

CAM (CONT'D)

Cadet?

OLURUN CADET

Yes sir?

CAM

I used to own a farm in the Jupiter Province of New Brazil. Is there a shuttle from here I can take there?

OLURUN CADET

Sir...New Brazil was destroyed during their Government's genocide and civil war a few years ago.

Cam's level of despair and anger drips from him.

OLURUN CADET (CONT'D)

Sir?

CAM

That genocide. Could we have prevented it?

OLURUN CADET

Well...sir. I mean there were things maybe we could've do-

CAM

-Thank you, Cadet. Dismissed.

Olurun Cadet leaves. Cam sits on the guest couch and ponders.

CAM (CONT'D)

Olurun.

OLURUN

*Greetings Commander Gener-*

CAM

-Display station map. Show me how to get to shuttle bay Alpha.

A display pops up on a large desk monitor.

CAM (CONT'D)

What are the updated protocols for shuttle departure of a foreign dignitary? Wait, dismiss inquiry.

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

What are the changes in protocol for shuttle departure of a foreign dignitary compared to 50 years ago?

OLURUN

*The foreign dignitary's personal guards inspect the shuttle controls and shuttle before the shuttle is scheduled to depart.*

CAM

When is the Zerk Prime Minister's ship scheduled to depart?

OLURUN

*20 Minutes from now.*

CAM

...Outstanding.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

CADET PIERCE

Sir, War Hammer's gaining on us!

The ship rocks back and forth as the Zorn launches it's attack as seen on the large display monitor.

FLOYD

Return fire!

CADET RENNER

Direct shot. They're still coming.

FLOYD

Set heading 349-5786.

CADET PIERCE

Sir that would bring us directly to Zorn air space.

FLOYD

Goodness damn gracious. I said "349-57...86" NOT "84".

CADET PIERCE

Uh apologies, sir. The computer shows a large nebula cloud in that area. Hell it looks like ten times the size of Old Texas.

FLOYD

Excellent. Let's see who fights better in the dark. We'll make our stand there.

INT. THE HANNIBAL - NIGHT

Zyler's leaning back and studying the Temporal Storm. He's trying to ignore Annasette pacing back and forth behind with that too damn long knife in her hand,

ZYLER

I know where the General is. Rather I know where he isn't.

ANNASETTE

Either the future or a possible future. Of course.

ZYLER

How are you doing that?

ANNASETTE

Doing what?

ZYLER

You keep predicting what I'm going to say or do. Are you a telepath?

ANNASETTE

Slightly. I was genetically engineered and trained to be a perfect specimen. My people, at our best, have the mind of a super computer. We process information so quickly at times it can seem like we can see the future or read minds. The General thinks I'm telepathic however. If so I have no agency over it. It just happens.

ZYLER

Wow that's annoying as hells.

ANNASETTE

Most people seem to think so. The General is the only person I've met that I can't predict.

ZYLER

I find that hard to believe. General Dibinga is a great man but he's not a genius like me.

ANNASETTE

True genius is gained through  
experience, Cadet.

ZYLER

Interesting. So anyway, if the  
General was in the past, he most  
likely would've made some changes  
that we would probably notice. If  
he was in the present he would show  
up on our sensors-

ANNASETTE

-So how can we determine which  
lightning brought him where?

ZYLER

Well hells if I know.

Annasette looks dangerously annoyed.

INT. SPACE STATION OLURUN - NIGHT

Zerk and Huram are being led to the shuttle bay by the same  
guards from earlier. Cam's stalking through the corridor  
towards them with righteous determination.

Until he's pulled into a side hallway by the robotic  
bartender. The bartender puts its hand on Cam's mouth.

ROBOT BARTENDER

*Greetings, General. It does my  
circuits well to see you in person  
again. Please don't bring  
attention. You're going to rescue  
the slave child. I'm here to help  
you. Annasette sent me. Do you know  
who I am, General?*

He moves his hand from his mouth. Cam stares intensely.

CAM

Mr. Brooks?!

MR. BROOKS

*Yes sir. Annasette figured out a  
way to transfer my A.I. via  
electronic pulse. I brought the  
slave child Huram here on a shuttle  
with local mercenaries.*

CAM

Huram? Anna...you know where she is?



MR. BROOKS

*Yes sir. She will explain everything to you. However if we are to take Zerk's shuttle, we need to move now.*

Mr. Brooks discreetly hands Cam an energy blaster.

CAM

What's the plan?

INT. OLURUN SHUTTLE BAY - NIGHT

Zerk's prances onto his shuttle with his guards and being observed by two Olurun guards. Cam walks up to the guards. They salute him and he returns their salute.

CAM

Mr. Zerk. Leaving already? I would speak with you.

ZERK

The "great hero of the galaxy." To what do I owe the honor?

CAM

I would ask you not to take the child with you. Leave him with me. I would consider it a favor.

Zerk wickedly laughs.

ZERK

"A favor"? I'm a Scaylene, General. Your government has more disdain for us then probably any other species in the galaxy. I know you personally find our values... distasteful. I know why you want this particular slave.

CAM

What do you know about me?

ZERK

You, hahaha, you really don't know this slave's origin?

CAM

Why don't we speak about it on your shuttle? I'd rather not discuss this out here.

Zerk suggests with his hand towards the shuttle.

Zerk's two SCAYLEIAN GUARDS are standing by Zerk's shuttle door. The guards lead Cam onto the shuttle.

Zerk pulls the leash on Huram and leads him on the shuttle and the shuttle door closes. The Olurun Guards turn towards the door as Mr. Brooks bum rushes them and knocks them out.

He injects a cable from his index finger into the shuttle doors. Zerk's shuttle doors reopens as Mr. Brooks runs onto it. It closes and flies out of the station.

INT. ZERK SHUTTLE - NIGHT

Zerk sits at the control panel as Huram is forced to sit by his side at his knee. Like a dog, angering Cam. The guards keep their eyes on Cam.

ZERK

We're on our way back to Skayle space. If your proposal pleases me I will let you live and drop you off on a Skayle prison colony. If not, well worse things have happened to foreigners on Skayle.

The guards stand on either side of Cam.

CAM

Ok. Here's my proposal. If you don't agree to release this child to my custody I will take him by force after commandeering this ship and throwing you slave revering bastards in your own brig.

Zerk laughs even louder than before.

ZERK

Wow you are just as arrogant as the history grams say. You'll catch me a good profit when I sell y-

CAM

-So you won't comply?

ZERK

Well, no. No I do n-

Cam attacks the guards with furious and tactical blows. Zerk draws his energy blaster and points it directly at Cam.

ZERK (CONT'D)

Are y-You have no jurisdiction over me, you arrogant zeck!!

CAM

Then maybe you should shoot. Make you feel better.

Zerk tries to pull the trigger but his hand's frozen. He's gritting hard, trying to shoot. Cam steps closer to him and whispers in his ear.

CAM (CONT'D)

C'mon. Pull the trigger. Do it!

ZERK

What did you...Why am I frozen?

MR. BROOKS (O.S.)

*That would be because of me.*

Mr. Brooks walks by him and extends cables from his fingers into the computer panels.

CAM

If you weren't so stupid you would've realized Mr. Brooks shot a neurotonic needle in your shoulder that freezes the synapses of a Skalye. I'm not a bad guy though. Hold this.

Cam knocks Zerk out with a fierce right hand.

CAM (CONT'D)

Have you taken control of the shuttle yet?

MR. BROOKS

*Yes. Navigating towards Annasette.*

CAM

Take care of this damn leash.

Mr. Brooks presses a button on the leash handle and it retracts. Hiram hugs Mr. Brooks tightly. He then walks over to Cam and bows.

HURAM

Hello...father.

Cam tries not to step on his own jaw.

EXT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

The Protagonist is drifting through a bright blue all encompassing fog.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

The crew quietly and nervously wait for their next move.  
Floyd sits in the command seat, observing the crew tension.

Some are sweating, others biting their nails or fidgeting.  
Floyd can hear his earlier conversation with General Dibinga  
as he observes his crew.

FLOYD (V.O.)

Sir, these Cadets can barely put  
their uniforms on to standard much  
less manage a Galaxy Level vessel  
like the Protagonist. I wish you  
hadn't volunteered me for this.

CAM (V.O.)

That's exactly why I did. You have  
the potential to be one of  
the greatest leaders in Earth Guild  
history. You just need to step up  
and do it. Maybe...maybe it's time I  
stepped out of your way.

FLOYD

Protagonist. Release Cadet Sanchez  
from the brig. Cadet Sanchez.  
Report to command center.

The crew looks to each other, surprised.

FLOYD (CONT'D)

Cadet Pierce, how far is the War  
Hammer from the cloud nebula?

CADET PIERCE

According to the sensor probe we  
left outside the nebula, the Zorn  
are ten minutes from it.

FLOYD

Carter, set space mines 1,000  
meters apart. Grids 9 through 30.

CADET CARTER

HUA, sir.

CADET PIERCE

Sir! My sensor readings were wrong!  
The War Hammer-

The Protagonist rocks as it's been fired upon by the Zorn.

EXT. THE NEBULA CLOUD - NIGHT

The War Hammer fires several energy blast at the Protagonist.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

Half the crew is on the floor. Floyd's holding on to his command seat.

FLOYD

Damn it, Cadet!! You don't know how to read a damn sensor?!

CADET PIERCE

Sorry, sir!

FLOYD

Escape pattern "Watts - Chelsea Alpha". Target photonic missiles.

CADET CARTER

The targeting systems are delayed!

FLOYD

Damn it, what the hell did they make them for if they're not going to work? Detonate space mines. On my mark set Flash Speed level 4.

CADET CARTER

Sir we're too close to the mines! We'll take some heavy damage!

FLOYD

DO IT!

Cadet Carter negotiates the panel.

EXT. NEBULA CLOUD - NIGHT

A series of large explosions set off around both ships. The force of the explosions set them apart a great distance. The Protagonist spirals and blast's off at Flash Speed.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

The ship shakes back and forth. Small bursts of electricity and damage to the commander center are taking hold as Leandra enters the command center. She grips onto the walls, trying to reach her station.

LEANDRA

What the...what's going on?!

Floyd looks above her and a large piece of ceiling debris is falling from the ceiling.

FLOYD

Sanchez! Look out!

He dives and tackles her. However the larger debris hits Floyd in his head and knocks him out.

LEANDRA

Lieutenant! LIEUTENANT FRAZIER!!

CADET PIERCE

Null-Zorn's hailing us! What should we do? Leandra, you're the highest rank here. What should we do?!

Leandra doesn't have a damn clue of what to do.

INT. THE HANNIBAL - NIGHT

ZYLER

Wait a minute. You said the Zorn are looking for the chemical weapon but they don't know where IT is or the General, right?

ANNASETTE

Correct. Excellent idea. If he interacted with the chemicals perhaps there's a trail leading to which lightning hit him. Brilliant.

ZYLER

Of course if he-

ANNASETTE

-Interacted with the chemicals finding him could be a moot point. That's very true. But I need you to act as if he survived the chemical interaction and we're going to save him. I need you to believe that. Like your life depended on it.

ZYLER

Well yes I can absolutely do that.

ANNASETTE

I'm going to space suit up while you search for the chemical trail. I'm going out there.

INT. ZERK SHUTTLE - NIGHT

Huram's sleeping on a bench.

Cam and Mr. Brooks are sitting at the shuttle controls. Mr. Brooks peeks over at a pissed off Cam.

Cam's ignoring him and looks back out to the space monitor. He peeks back at Cam again. Still pissed. Mr. Brooks focuses back on the monitor. He peeks back to Cam.

CAM

Can I help you, Mr. Brooks?

MR. BROOKS

*When Hiram called you-*

CAM

-I know what he called me.

MR. BROOKS

*Yes, well since then you haven't said a word. Would that imply that you are angry?*

CAM

Of course I am! Why would Anna tell that child I'm his father? What kind of game is she playing? You gotta give me some info, here.

MR. BROOKS

*She ordered me to not give you too much information. She says she would rather explain it her self.*

CAM

Seems like you answer to her now as opposed to me.

MR. BROOKS

*You could still over ride her programming, sir.*

CAM

I choose not to. I'm going to trust her. Hopefully she's still worthy of that. Are we there?

MR. BROOKS

*Yes sir.*

CAM

So where does an intergalactic genetically engineered "terrorist" hideout these days?

MR. BROOKS

*Earth.*

Cam can't catch his voice. He looks outside the view screen, astonished to see that they're entering Earth's atmosphere.

EXT. CONGOLESE JUNGLE - NIGHT

The cloaked Zerk shuttle is slowly descending to a large jungle. There are dozens of CONGOLESE CITIZENS standing by a large river. The shuttle lands next to it.

The shuttle bay opens and Mr. Brooks walks off the shuttle, holding Huram's hand. Cam steps off and takes in the sights. The people stare in awe of him.

They're dressed in traditional African garbs and cheer loudly when they see him. He awkwardly waves and walks behind Mr. Brooks through the crowd.

CAM

This place. It's beautiful.

MR. BROOKS

*There are a few places like this around the world. People who believe that the human race has become too detached from who they used to be.*

CAM

Is Earth not still a paradise?

MR. BROOKS

*I heard Annasette answer that same question a few weeks ago.*

CAM

What did she say?

MR. BROOKS

*"It depends on who you ask."*

They creep towards a large cave behind a 30 foot statue. Cam freezes in his tracks. It's a statue of him. He looks back the way they came and all of the citizens are saluting him.

He awkwardly salutes back. Mr. Brooks gently grabs his arm and leads him into the cave.

INT. CONGOLESE CAVE - DAY

They stroll through the cave towards melodic singing.



The cave's lantern lit well enough for Cam to see cave paintings on the walls. The paintings are of Annasette fighting soldiers.

Others are of the Protagonist fighting the alien ship and Cam in several battles. They trek further until they see her.

Annasette. She's even more regal now and has aged far better than she has any right to, save a few crows feet. She and Cam melt when they catch each other's eyes.

Their embrace says more than words ever could. Hiram runs up to her and hugs her leg. Cam steps back and sterns a look.

She puts her forehead gently on his and smiles. He relents and returns her smile. He puts his arm around Hiram. They embrace tighter.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

Leandra's trying to lift Floyd and get him into a seat.

LEANDRA

Carter! Get over here and help me get him up!

He runs over to her and helps her.

CADET PIERCE

What are we supposed to do? If we answer the hail they'll know Commander Frazier is hurt. They'll blow us out of space!

CADET RENNER

Where's the med-kit?

CADET RAE

How the hell would I know?

LEANDRA

Protagonist...PROTAGONIST!

CADET RENNER

Your voice hasn't been programmed to command the ship.

LEANDRA

Ok. Ok. Everyone get to your damn stations! Carter and Renner, help Lieutenant Frazier to station B. Pierce, put the Zorn on display. These bastards want to talk...they'll talk to ME.

The Cadets help Floyd to a different station. Leandra hesitantly takes the command seat. She takes a breath and poker faces the hell out of it.

LEANDRA (CONT'D)  
Display.

Null-Zorn shows up on the command screen.

LEANDRA (CONT'D)  
Hello Grayger. Surrendering?

NULL-ZORN  
Where is Lieutenant Frazier?

LEANDRA  
You're speaking to ME, Grayger.

NULL-ZORN  
Does the Earth Guild's disrespect  
have no end? A CADET addresses me?!

LEANDRA  
What the hells do you want, Zor-

NULL-ZORN  
-Before our sensors fried, we  
realized that you don't have the  
chemical weapon. I realize now  
you've been leading me away to buy  
time for something, yes?

Leandra's poker face is struggling.

NULL-ZORN (CONT'D)  
Thank you for confirming that  
you're an idiot and probably  
weren't even aware of that.  
SO since we've come all this way, I  
would rather not leave empty  
handed.

LEANDRA  
Grayger, I-

NULL-ZORN  
-You are to stand down and prepare  
for boarding. You will meet your  
punishment when we return to the  
Zorn Empire.

LEANDRA  
Grayger Null-Zorn! You-

NULL-ZORN

-Comply in 60 earth seconds or I will destroy your ship and claim self defense in an act of war.

LEANDRA

Now you ju-

Null-Zorn cuts communication.

LEANDRA (CONT'D)

Worthless zeck! Get him back on display, immediately!

CADET PIERCE

He uh, he's closed hail.

CADET RAE

What are we going to do? We can't take on the Zorn. We don't have the experience. Maybe we should just turn ourselves in and take our chances with the-

LEANDRA

-We can NOT let the Zorn get a hold of this ship much less us.

CADET RENNER

Maybe we jump to Flash Speed and-

CADET CARTER

-Null-Zorn will annihilate this ship before we can set Flash Speed.

LEANDRA

Guys will you just shut up for a minute? I need to think, Ok??

CADET RENNER

Sorry, we're just try-

LEANDRA

-I SAID SHUT THE HELL UP!!

The crew gets quiet and taken aback.

LEANDRA (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, guys. I didn't mean to lash out like that. It's just harder in the Command Chair.

CADET RENNER

Maybe you should tell that to  
Commander Frazier.

LEANDRA

Perhaps. Perhaps I will. Hail the  
Zorn. Tell them we're prepared for  
them to board.

CADET RENNER

You're joking, right?

LEANDRA

No not all. But before we hand them  
this ship we're going to flood the  
engines. We're going to rig it to  
self destruct.

INT. THE HANNIBAL - NIGHT

Annasette's wearing a sleek full space suit except for the  
helmet. Zyler's working the computers.

ZYLER

So there's a trail of Cruzium  
that's combined with a bit of  
organic matter. I believe that is  
the General's trail, concentrated  
towards the silver lightning.

ANNASETTE

So the silver lightning is either a  
possible future or THE future. He  
must be having a hell of a time.  
Cadet. Excellent work.

ZYLER

Thank you. I'll keep the Hannibal  
here as long as I can. There's a  
tracker in your spacesuit that-

She lifts him by his collar and slams him to the wall. She  
stabs her too damn long knife through his shoulder, pinning  
him to the wall. Zyler screams in pain until she puts her  
hand on his mouth.

ANNASETTE

Mr. Brooks. If I don't return in 3  
hours, return to the Protagonist.

MR. BROOKS

*Affirmative.*

ZYLER

What about me?!

ANNASETTE

If you could remove that blade you will bleed out too quickly for Mr. Brooks to patch you up. I need to make sure you stay put until I return.

ZYLER

I-I c-can't...three hours--there's no way I can survive three hours with a damn sword through my shoulder!

ANNASETTE

If we succeed in our mission, you won't have to. I also think you know too much about the real mission going on. You'll pass out momentarily, though so I at least gift you that. I thank you for your service, Cadet.

Zyler passes out. Annasette activates her helmet and walks to the shuttle bay.

An energy force field wall separates space from the main command center. She jumps out and activates her Jetpack. She daringly flies towards the unknown storm.

INT. CONGOLESE CAVES - NIGHT

Cam, Annasette and Mr. Brooks sit around a fire. Hiram's sleeping in Cam's lap. A WARRIOR hands them two chalices filled with a green liquid, and hustles off. Cam takes a sip.

CAM

Damn that's got some bite. Could use a little-

MR. BROOKS

*-Sir.*

He pulls two small liquid filled vials from a side component and pours them into their drinks. Cam takes another sip.

CAM

Wow you really CAN make a drink?

MR. BROOKS

*I learned much as a bartender.*

CAM

How did you get us past the Guild perimeter?

ELDER ANNASETTE

We cracked that code years ago.

The silence is more than awkward.

ELDER ANNASETTE (CONT'D)

So. I see you've taken to Hiram.

CAM

You cloned him from the saliva I left on those old cigars mixed with your genetically engineered genes, didn't you? Brilliant. I always loved your intelligence more than anything else.

ELDER ANNASETTE

Not just the cigars though. Other items from our quarters as well. I began the process even before the War Hammer incident. Honestly what prevented me from completing the process 50 years ago was that I knew you would object.

CAM

I would've. And I would've been wrong. Mr. Brooks explained your sacrifice to me.

ELDER ANNASETTE

What exactly did he tell you?

CAM

That you and Floyd covered up my actions. That you allowed yourself to take the blame for my attack on the War Hammer. That you sold me out supposedly and turned me over to Zorn for fortune. That you sabotaged the Protagonist to explode and take the Warhammer with it as a double cross.

ELDER ANNASETTE

It was the logical course of action. Clearly people think so little of my people it wasn't hard for them to believe. If the-

CAM

-You killed an Earth Guild Cadet!

ELDER ANNASETTE

I...regret that. Back then I was still learning all the...all the intricacies of humanity. When you were taken by the storm, I reverted back to my old self. I reacted the only way I knew how. But I also thought I was doing what Floyd and I agreed on.

CAM

Hiding my crimes. Floyd didn't tell me you two planned this out.

ELDER ANNASETTE

Well. Except for what I did to Chu. That's when he turned on me. If the Galaxy knew what you did, the Zorn would've waged war against the Guild and the Guild would've had no intergalactic support.

CAM

Why send Hiram to the Olurun now? You knew I would be there?

ELDER ANNASETTE

I understand the Cosmic Storm now. "Yande". That's it's name. It's alive.

CAM

That's INCREDIBLE. How do you know-

ELDER ANNASETTE

-It told me. When I traveled through it to find you. It communicated with me. You were right. I am telepathic. It kicks in in heightened stress situations. I've improved my agency of it though.

CAM

Can Yande send me back to my time?

ELDER ANNASETTE

With my help? Yes. Yes it can. Maybe. Most likely.

CAM

Oh I feel very confident now, thank  
you honey.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST BAY - NIGHT

The Protagonist crew is lined up on either side of the  
shuttle bay door. Except for Floyd and Cadet Renner. Leandra  
stands in front of the doors.

CADET PIERCE

We should at least be blasters  
ready when they board the ship.  
Leandra, are you sure this is the  
correct course of action?

LEANDRA

Yes. Yes I am. We're a bunch of  
Cadets with little to no combat  
experience. We would get  
slaughtered in a fire fight with  
the Zorn.

CADET PIERCE

Yes but-

LEANDRA

-We're the Earth Guild Alliance!  
The greatest force of good there is  
in all the Galaxy. This mission was  
forced on us but we will perform  
our duties as we swore to. I need  
you all to remember your training.  
Your oath.

She stares at Cadet Pierce who seems unsure. Pierce stiffens  
up when she locks eyes with her. She nods.

LEANDRA (CONT'D)

We will NOT let the Zorn get this  
ship and they will NOT use us as  
some-some Zorn propaganda to wage a  
war. Once the door closes behind  
the Zorn, the Protagonist will self  
destruct 10 minutes after. Now are  
you ready?

Silence.

LEANDRA (CONT'D)

Are you ready?!

CREW

HUA, SIR!



They stand at attention and the shuttle bay opens.

EXT. SPACE - NIGHT

The War Hammer is connected to the Protagonist shuttle bay with a large metallic corridor.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST BAY - NIGHT

Grayger Null-Zorn enters the ship with a dozen Zorn soldiers and a stack of bad intentions.

LEANDRA

Cadet Leandra Sanchez of Space Vessel "Protagonist" greets you Null-Zorn, Grayger of the "War Hammer".

NULL-ZORN

You are now prisoners of the Zorn Empire. Do not be too impressed that I am not using a universal translator. For your rudimentary language was so easy to learn, I mastered it in what you would call a weekend with two Earth concubines and a bottle of Saturnian Brandy.

He bathes in the contempt of the Protagonist crew.

NULL-ZORN (CONT'D)

Your loyalty and honor now belong to me. Your vessel is a gift to our greatness and a stain on your honor. You shall be escorted to your brig and be held under guard to ponder your failure. On behalf of Emperor Zel-Zorn I, Null - Zorn, Grayger of Space Vessel "Kul Nasi" what you know as "War Hammer", thank you for your cooperation. Where's Lieutenant General Frazier?

LEANDRA

Lieutenant Frazier. He...he sacrificed himself to save me, you bastard. I hope you-

NULL-ZORN

-Show me.

She nods and leads him out of the shuttle bay. Null-Zorn and WAR HAMMER SOLDIER #1 walk with her as the rest of the Zorn lead the Protagonist crew towards the brig.

Leandra discreetly presses a bracelet button underneath her sleeves and keeps walking down the corridor.

INT. CONGOLESE CAVES - NIGHT

CAM

How can you help?

ELDER ANNASETTE

When we were studying Yande 50 years ago, we figured out that each lightning bolt represented a different point in time. Yande travels back and forth between times. You were taken into an alternate future.

CAM

Why here? Why not the past or-

ELDER ANNASETTE

-Yande takes you to where you really want to go. You're a futurist. A dreamer. Always imagining the possibilities of the future. So Yande brought you to a possible future. Unfortunately it's a future where I...where I failed to bring you back.

Annasette signals Mr. Brooks to leave and he does.

CAM

So potentially I can prevent the Galaxy from becoming...this?

ELDER ANNASETTE

Yes. There's a past where I'm coming to get you. Hopefully I will succeed and Yande will allow young me to take you back to your time.

CAM

I already hate time travel.

ELDER ANNASETTE

It's best not to think too hard of it. Just trust me. Trust Yande.

CAM

So any organic being can just pass through the lightning storm like that?

INTERCUT: EXT./INT. CONGOLESE CAVE - NIGHT

The warriors outside the cave are standing watch throughout the forest. They start to get taken down quietly by stun blasters from EARTH GUILD SOLDIERS.

ELDER ANNASETTE

No. No most people would be torn apart. Believe it or not, the Cruzium X interacted with the electromagnetic energy of Yande and it protected you long enough for Yande to send you here. My engineering allowed me to withstand the punishment.

CAM

Does Yande CHOOSE whether or not to send someone throughout time? I mean do I have to be worthy or something? Why did you-

ANNASETTE

-Fail? I don't know. There are so many thing we don't understand about Yande and time travel. Frankly I still think Yande is too powerful to even exist. Perhaps ...perhaps because your mind was clear. You're always thinking about the possibilities of the future. I wasn't as iron focused as usual.

CAM

You? Not focused? I doubt that.

ANNASETTE

I'd never been in love before you, Cam. I was dealing with all types of feelings I wasn't accustomed to. I was off my game. Trying to be myself but honor your example. I'm not proud of that failure.

He strokes her hair from her face and kisses her like he hasn't seen her for 50 years.

CAM

No, darlin'. I failed YOU. You prevented another galactic War. Saving BILLIONS of lives. You're a hero. MY hero.

He kisses her again.

CAM (CONT'D)

I WILL make this right. I'll go back and take responsibility for my actions like I planned to. I thought I was going on a suicide mission. I never thought I wouldn't be held accountable for my actions.

ELDER ANNASETTE

I need you to do something for me.

CAM

You want me to bring Huram back with me.

ELDER ANNASETTE

I thought I was the telepath.

CAM

Is that even possible?

More rebel citizens are taken down as Old Man Floyd stalks through the forest with a gaggle of soldiers.

ELDER ANNASETTE

I don't know. I don't know what will happen to him or me if you go back and we stay here. He stands a better chance going with you. I'm going to put my trust in Yande that perhaps I've earned it's favor and it will help me. I hope.

CAM

How can we do this?

ELDER ANNASETTE

Yande's coming here. To Earth space. It's on it's way here now.

CAM

What do I do?

OLD MAN FLOYD (O.S.)

You surrender the child. General.

Cam turns to the cave entrance. Old Man Floyd's standing with a dozen Earth Guild Soldiers and Zerk. The soldiers are aiming their energy blasters at Cam.

OLD MAN FLOYD

Hello Annasette. I guess it's time to finish this game.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

Leandra leads Null-Zorn and his guards to the command center. Zorn's communicator "dings".

**NULL-ZORN**

**Speak.**

**ZORN LT. (V.O.)**

**Commander! Our ship's hook won't detach from the Protagonist! We're also detecting a power surge from the Protagonist's Brunarium engine!**

**NULL-ZORN**

**More Treachery!**

The Protagonist blares an alarm sound that hurts the Zorn's ears so much they put their hands on their ears.

Leandra almost floors Null-Zorn with a flying knee and runs through the guards, out of the command center.

INT. PROTAGONIST BRIG - NIGHT

The sound is there as well and the Zorn are holding their ears. The Protagonist crew brawl with the Zorn. Some of the Zorn draw blades and attack back.

INT. PROTAGONIST CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Leandra's darting through the corridor and to a different shuttle bay.

INT. PROTAGONIST SHUTTLE BAY BETA - NIGHT

Cadet Renner's finishing putting a spacesuit on the unconscious Floyd when Leandra runs in.

LEANDRA

Are you ready? Null-Zorn won't be that far behind me.

Floyd starts to come to.

CADET RENNER

Yes. The jet pack is functioning and we're good. The timer-

LEANDRA

-This ship is going to blow in less than 10 minutes. Open the bay!

He presses a button then is shot through the back by an energy blaster. Null-Zorn is standing in front of the main door with his guards.

Leandra turns around as Null-Zorn has his energy blaster in her face. He's shot through the stomach from a staggered Floyd who grabbed Cadet Renner's hand blaster.

Leandra tussles with ZORN GUARD #1 while Floyd tries to blast him. He misses and ZORN GUARD #2 attacks him.

He and Floyd fight at an extraordinary level. Guard #1 starts to get the better of Leandra. Floyd knocks Guard #2 out.

FLOYD

Get down!

Floyd turns on his jet pack and propels towards her. She ducks and he hits the Zorn guard with a rocket powered right cross through the door.

FLOYD (CONT'D)

Cadet, what the hells is going on?

LEANDRA

No time to talk! The Protagonist is going to explode, taking the War Hammer ship with us. My plan was to get you off before then.

FLOYD

What?! Why wou-

LEANDRA

-It's going to explode! Let's Go!

FLOYD

Wait! Tell me exactly what you did! Maybe I can-

LEANDRA

-There's no time! It's going to blow any minute now!

FLOYD

PROTAGONIST! Explain status!

LEANDRA

The Protagonist's voice transponder was damaged when we tried to override voice commands. It can't respond. The engines! We-

Null-Zorn punches her in the face, knocking her down and out. He grabs Floyd and throws him against the wall.

He rapidly punches Floyd in the stomach and face with an animals fury. A bloody Floyd bites him in his throat, causing Null-Zorn to let go and grab the wound.

Floyd sees a blaster on the floor. He jumps, rolls and grabs it. He blasts Null-Zorn in his stomach. Null grabs his stomach and passes out.

Floyd surveys the Protagonist. He takes his helmet and puts it on Leandra.

He takes off his jetpack, space suit and puts that on her as the ship begins to explode around him.

He picks her up and places her in front of the shuttle bay door. He shakes her rigorously and she wakes up.

LEANDRA

What's going - Lieutenant Frazier!

He tears off a wall panel switch and configures the wires. The shuttle bay energy shields raise between him and Leandra.

She gets up and bangs on it. He salutes her, just wearing his undergarments, and presses the button to open the bay door. She's pulled into outer space.

FLOYD (CONT'D)

Protagonist. Extend shuttle bay shielding around shuttle bay Beta. Repair anything that can keep the ship from exploding. I know you can't respond and that you require specific orders but I hope you can at least understand that command. If not, it's been an honor serving with you.

He drags the unconscious Null-Zorn closer to him and sits next to the fallen Zorn, waiting to see if his gamble works. He passes out.

INT. CONGOLESE CAVES - NIGHT

Old Man Floyd, Zerk and the Earth Guild soldiers continue their stand off with Cam, Annasette and Huram.

CAM

Put those damn blasters down immediately.

OLD MAN FLOYD

General...Cam. Please. You don't understand the stakes here.

CAM

Let me guess. The Skayle Government will wage war if we don't hand over this child. It will be an inter galactic incident or something if blah. Blah. Blah. Blah. Something like that?

OLD MAN FLOYD

The Skayle have captured 30 Earth Guild soldiers and are holding them prisoner on a Beta Trion prison colony. A supposed retaliation for our expanding our jurisdiction.

ZERK

RIGHTFUL retaliation.

OLD MAN FLOYD

We've slowed down our expansion but we also agreed to return this slave to them in exchange for our troops. You're putting them in danger by harboring this slave! You know damn well the needs of the many-

CAM

-should NOT be an excuse to abandon our values!! We can not keep discarding our values whenever we find it convenient.

OLD MAN FLOYD

We are not having this debate again right now! I am the GRAND COMMANDER of the Earth Guild Alliance. I came here myself out of my respect and love for you, General. You're the father I never had. But, sir, things are not as simple as you've always tried to make it. Your "cowboy diplomacy" risks too many lives. I need you to trust me here.

CAM

"Cowboy diplomacy"? I'd rather be the cowboy than the horse.



OLD MAN FLOYD

What does that even m-

ELDER ANNASETTE

-You talk about trust yet you place a tracker on your "father" figure? Where is your honor, Frazier?

CAM

You...what?

OLD MAN FLOYD

Like I said. I know you. I knew you couldn't help yourself and would attempt a rescue. So I put the tracker on Hiram. You just can't help yourself in playing the hero, huh? Damn the ramifications for anyone else. Thanks for leading us to this terrorist cell by the way. Couldn't have done it without you. Maybe now we can actually bring some sense of order back to the galaxy.

ZERK

Enough talk. Hand over my property now or we will take him by force.

Cam looks to Annasette and back to Floyd with fury.

CAM

You know who he is, don't you? You knew Annasette cloned him from me?

OLD MAN FLOYD

I...

CAM

SAY IT!

Floyd steps closer to Cam.

OLD MAN FLOYD

Yes. Yes I-

Cam furiously decks him to the floor. Floyd grabs his jaw as his soldier are itching to take the shot.

OLD MAN FLOYD (CONT'D)

Hold! Hold your fire! Cam! I-

He looks at a Cheshire Cat smiling Annasette.

OLD MAN FLOYD (CONT'D)  
What the hells are you smiling at?

ELDER ANNASETTE  
I forgot to mention I knew you were  
here the moment you landed in this  
jungle. Now, Mr. Brooks!

Mr. Brooks is standing behind the soldiers and is holding a large energy cannon.

He aims it above the troops and blasts the cave ceiling down in front of them. Cam pushes Floyd away before the rubble hits him. Annasette grabs Huram.

ELDER ANNASETTE (CONT'D)  
Let's go!!

Annasette and Huram dash in the opposite direction, further into the cave. Cam looks at a staggered Floyd and they trade looks of regret. Cam jets after Annasette.

EXT. CONGOLESE JUNGLE - NIGHT

Cam, Annasette and Huram are running towards a cliff at the edge of the jungle.

CAM  
Why are we running to a cliff?

ELDER ANNASETTE  
Trust me!

They get to the top of the cliff. She's shot in the back and falls. He turns angrily to the blaster wielding Floyd.

OLD MAN FLOYD  
It was set to stun, General. Now  
it's not. Please. Hand over the sl-  
child. Hand over the child. Those  
soldiers are counting on us.  
They're counting on YOU! Please,  
General! Please do the right thing!

Cam peeks over the cliff and back at Floyd. He grabs Huram and holds him close.

CAM  
Pull the trigger.

OLD MAN FLOYD  
...Excuse me?

CAM

Pull. The. Damn. TRIGGER! DO IT!  
You turning him over to the Zerk is  
sending him to execution because  
you don't have the set to do it  
yourself! So just do it, Primetime.  
Save Zerk the trouble. You pull the  
trigger now and you'll rid the  
Galaxy of TWO problems.

OLD MAN FLOYD

General...please...please don't ask me-

CAM

-SHOW ME WHO YOU ARE!!

Floyd slowly puts his hand down. Cam shows sign of relief until Floyd pick it back up with a shaky hand. He aims it square at Cam.

He throws the blaster over the cliff and falls to his knees. Cam smiles and jumps off the cliff with Huram.

OLD MAN FLOYD (CONT'D)

CAM!!

Floyd darts to the edge of the cliff. Mr. Brooks flies the Zerk shuttle up to the skies with Cam and Huram on the roof.

Cam salutes Floyd and Floyd returns it. Cam and Huram get in the shuttle and it takes off to space.

EXT. ZERK'S SHUTTLE - SPACE

Zerk's shuttle soars through to outer space. Towards Yande, the Cosmic Storm.

INT. ZERK'S SHUTTLE - NIGHT

Mr. Brook is piloting the shuttle as Cam, wearing a Skayle space suit, is putting on a Skayle space suit on Huram.

MR. BROOKS

*Approaching Yande now.*

CAM

Display.

The large Cosmic Storm is displayed on the large monitor.

CAM (CONT'D)

...Outstanding. I was barely conscious when Yande originally snatched me. It's...awesome

MR. BROOKS

*Grand Commander Frazier has ordered all Guild ships to give us passage.*

CAM

HA. Of course he did. That's my guy. Now what?

MR. BROOKS

*Annasette said you need to take Huram and fly towards the silver lightning in ten minutes.*

CAM

And she's sure about that?

Mr. Brooks stares blankly at Cam.

CAM (CONT'D)

Of course she's sure.

Cam holds Huram's hand and they walk to the shuttle bay. Cam stares at Mr. Brooks.

CAM (CONT'D)

You've served me well, Mr. Brooks. Shana...Shana would be proud, my friend. Thank you.

MR. BROOKS

*It's an honor to serve you General.*

Cam nods and he floats to outer space with Huram, towards the great cosmic storm.

EXT. YANDE - SPACE SHUTTLE DOCK

Cam and Huram fly jet packs towards the lightning. A younger Annasette reaches out from the lightning. She smiles brighter than ever when her eyes lock with Cam's.

She's perplexed when she sees Huram but reaches out her hand. Cam grabs it and she pulls him into the lightning.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

Floyd sits with the fallen Zorn. He jumps up when a flash of lightning strikes before him. Cam, Annasette and Huram appear from the lightning, barely conscious on the floor.

100.

FLOYD

General?! Annasette?! How is th-

CAM

Protagonist! Seal the engine room  
and eject main engine array!  
Disperse anti fuel ejector rays  
through out the ship!

INT. PROTAGONIST ENGINE ROOM - NIGHT

The large crystalline and steel engine is swelling to the point where it's clearly about to explode. A contraption under it unlocks itself from the engine.

The contraption door opens and the large engine jettison out of the Protagonist.

EXT. SPACE - NIGHT

It gets closer to the Warhammer and explodes, detaching the Zorn ship from the Protagonist.

Leandra's far enough away from the explosion but she watches it with awe and confusion. She redirects her jetpack handles toward the Protagonist.

INT. THE PROTAGONIST - NIGHT

Cam looks around at the damaged ship and the fallen Zorn and back to Floyd who's just wearing his underwear.

CAM

You're out of uniform, Primetime.

FLOYD

I...wait...what the hells?? Did you  
just appear from lightning?!

Annasette's staring confused at HURAM. He's confused by her look until he realized who she is. He hugs her tightly.

HURAM

Mother!!

Annasette's shock and awe competes with Floyd's.

FLOYD

Who's the kid?! Wait...where's Cadet  
Chu?

She flashes a confused look.

ANNASETTE

"Cadet Chu"? I don't know who th...  
shit.

TITLE CARD:

THREE MONTHS LATER...

INT. EARTH GUILD BRIG - NIGHT

Cam's sitting in a brig, reading the paperback Muhammad Ali biography "King Of The World" by David Remnick.

He has a full beard now and unkempt hair. Two BRIG GAURDS are standing by as a door opens. Annasette and Huram are lead in by another BRIG GUARD. Cam's eyes brighten up and he jumps up to the energy shielded brig.

CAM

Wow look at you! You're looking  
huge now, Huram. Hey darlin'.

ANNASETTE

Hey you. You look...well. I suppose.  
Will you be keeping the beard when  
we get you out of here?

CAM

Probably not.

ANNASETTE

Oh. Well that's unfortunate.

CAM

Damn I've missed you.

ANNASETTE

Of course. Is that a paperback?

CAM

Yes. The guards have been good to  
me and got it for me as a gift.  
Apparently I saved their colonies  
during the war. Did the Parliament  
approve my request?

ANNASETTE

They did. You're finally going to  
be able to address the full Earth  
Guild Parliament. Mr. Brooks, Cadet  
Chu and I have figured out a  
discreet way to broadcast your  
address for for the galaxy to hear.

CAM

Outstanding. How's Chu's shoulder?

ANNASETTE

It's still attached.

CAM

Well that's good. Thank you for appealing to the Parliament.

ANNASETTE

Thank Floyd. He pleaded on your behalf far more eloquently than I did. He staked his career on you. He and a few others were able to get your sentence down from three years to three months.

CAM

Maybe I have a lot more friends in the Guild than I thought.

ANNASETTE

But your Address may be the only thing that could get you reinstated into the Guild with full rank and a suspended sentence.

CAM

I don't really care about that.

ANNASETTE

Do you not want to return to the Guild? You still want to resign? I will admit there is a certain appeal to us spending more time together. I am getting used to this "mother" thing.

CAM

Trust me. If I get reinstated I will absolutely make sure we spend more time with each other. And no I won't resign. I would like to be part of the solution. How can things change if men and woman who want change don't stand to fight for what they believe in? I'm not going to cut and run.

ANNASETTE

You wouldn't be YOU if you did.

CAM

Agreed. I need to convince all the Galactic Governments to unite and form the United Galaxy Association. The future depends on it.

ANNASETTE

Ok. Ok then. You'll report to the Parliament at 0800 hours. You're being released on your own honor tonight. Self isolation. I'll see you in the morning.

CAM

I love you, Anna. Thanks for saving my life.

ANNASETTE

You're my world, General. You and Hiram, are my world.

He smiles and puts his hand to the energy wall. Annasette and Hiram put their hands to his.

EXT. EARTH GUILD HEADQUARTERS ARBORETUM - DAY

The arboretum is sprinkled with ARBORETUM CADETS jogging or going about their business.

Floyd's also jogging when he notices Leandra sitting next to a large tree staring out to nowhere.

He walks towards her but chickens out and starts to jog away. He stiffens up and slicks over to her. She sees him and begins to stand up to attention.

FLOYD

At ease, Cadet.

He gestures her to sit down. She does and he sits with her on the grass.

FLOYD (CONT'D)

So. How are you? Haven't seen you since the debriefing.

LEANDRA

I'm well, sir.

FLOYD

"Well"? That's good, right?



LEANDRA

I mean, it's not "great".

FLOYD

Right, right.

LEANDRA

What can I do for you, sir?

FLOYD

I just saw you over here. I...I wanted you to know you made the right play. When you took command of the Protagonist. Your plan of action was sound

LEANDRA

Tell that to Cadets Carter, Rae and Renner, sir. Oh wait, you can't. Because I killed them.

FLOYD

No you did not! The Zorn did. You followed Earth Guild protocols. We can't let our enemies capture our ships and technology. We damn sure can't let them take the Flagship.

LEANDRA

Sir-

FLOYD

-The Zorn have been itching to go to war again. If they captured the crew, they would have tortured you and used you for propaganda. You saved lives, Leandra.

LEANDRA

It doesn't feel like it.

FLOYD

...It never does.

She glances at him as if she's just realizing he's there.

LEANDRA

Thank you for giving me your space suit. That was-

FLOYD

-Basically what you did for me. What can I say? I wasn't done arguing with you.

He smiles which makes her hesitantly smile through tears. He puts his arm around her and they watch the people go about their lives.

MONTAGE: VARIOUS LOCATIONS

-Cam's shaving his beard in the mirror.

-The Parliament chambers are filling up with citizens, soldiers and several high ranking officials.

-Annasette's standing in the hallway adjusting Hiram's clothing. She looks down the hall and sees Hamada speaking to a SKETCHY SKAYLE ALIEN.

The Skaylene nods and creeps away. She stares suspiciously at Hamada as he speaks to other people.

-Cam's staring at himself in the mirror. He's wearing his dress uniform now. He looks over to the rack on the wall at his cape. He puts the cape on and stares in the mirror at the most determined man in the galaxy. *Showtime*.

-Floyd's wearing his dress uniform and is waiting outside Cam's quarters as Cam walks out.

They salute each other and they defiantly march through Earth Guild Headquarters corridor with honor and determination.

-Hamada walks in the grand conference room with the dozen EARTH GUILD PARLIAMENT MEMBERS.

The PARLIAMENT CROWD stands to attention when GRAND COMMANDER RUSSELL walks in with several GRAND COMMAND GUARDS. She sits in the middle of her colleagues.

INT. EARTH GUILD HEADQUARTERS COUNCIL - DAY

Cam and Floyd swagger into the room. They nod and Floyd sits with the rest of the supplemental Protagonist crew.

He sits next to Leandra and they share a passionate look. Cam steps up to a podium at the front of the chamber. Cam looks out to the crowd.

He smiles when he sees Floyd sitting with his possible future wife. He looks around for Annasette but doesn't see her.

INTERCUT: VARIOUS LOCATIONS

-The speech is broadcast on different planets to different ALIEN SPECIES.

CAM

I'd like to thank the Parliament and Grand Commander Russell for allowing me this address. Thank you to the Galactic governments that are also watching this, the first official address to be broadcasted to the ENTIRE galaxy.

High in the balcony shadows, a darkly CLOAKED FIGURE is configuring an alien sniper rifle.

CAM (CONT'D)

My name is General Commander Camerinian Said Dibinga. I'm the Commander of the Earth Guild Alliance flagship vessel "Protagonist". Serving the Earth Guild as the General Commander of it's flagship has been the honor of my life for I truly believe we are the greatest organized force for good the Galaxy has ever known.

-Null-Zorn is watching the address from the Zorn Emperor's throne room. He stands by the fantastically foreboding ZORN EMPEROR and several IMPERIAL GUARDS.

CAM (CONT'D)

The motto of the Earth Guild is "Our hand, extended."...Our hand. Extended. That means our purpose is to reach out with a hand of assistance and cooperation.

Cloaked Figure completes the rifle and sets his target.

CAM (CONT'D)

A hand to lift up those who can not lift themselves. To shake hands and greet others with honor, respect and a spirit of cooperation. I extend that hand out now to those who can hear my voice and those who can not. We MUST come together if this Galaxy is to thrive! We MUST come together if this Galaxy is to SURVIVE!

The audience cheers loudly. To Hamada's annoyance.

CAM (CONT'D)

Far too often we turn our backs to those in need when we know damn well we can help them. Far too often when we KNOW it is RIGHT and RIGHTEOUS to protect those who can not protect themselves we do NOTHING!

-Different aliens are shown from different worlds watching a large hologram of Cam speaking in the middle of large TIME SQUARE TYPE ALIEN crowds.

CAM (CONT'D)

Years ago, because we extended FISTS to each other as opposed to a welcoming hand, the Galaxy went to war. A war that lasted years and claimed MILLIONS of lives. A war that was ended not when each side bludgeoned the other and laid waste to their lands. The war ended because of a simple act. Of kindness.

-Hamada notices the Grand Commander listening intensively. He glances up to the rafters and back to Cam.

CAM (CONT'D)

An act of mercy. The war ended when I had a choice to make. A choice that has plagued those around me far more than I imagined. I disobeyed orders to fire on the enemy flagship which would have dealt a MAJOR blow to the enemy.

The Cloaked Figure readjusts his rifle.

CAM (CONT'D)

It would have given us a significant advantage that could have helped us win and end the war. That decision even plagued me. I used to get these P.T.S.D. flashbacks randomly. I've had them ever since.

Leandra looks to Floyd. Floyd glances back and slightly shakes his head. He clearly didn't know about that.

CAM (CONT'D)

Until recently. I realized that I had held on to so much guilt because I knew I would put millions more at risk if I chose wrong. It was the toughest command decision I've ever made in 30 years plus of military service.

The cloaked Figure's sniper rifle has blue crystals in the middle of it that begin glowing.

CAM (CON'TD)

Some would say I never understood the ramifications of that decision because they think I react without thinking. "Cowboy diplomacy" some say. Not true. NOT true. But I simply will NOT hesitate to do what I know is right and nor should WE!

Cam speaks through the targeting lense of the rifle as the crowd cheers.

CAM (CONT'D)

Recently I've been suspended because I and I alone attacked a Zorn ship. That action lead to the deaths of Cadets George Renner, Nancy Rae and Alejandro Carter. They sacrificed their lives to protect their fellow man and woman and everything the E.G.A. represents. We are diminished as a people and a Guild by their loss.

Leandra fights back tears. Floyd gently holds her hand.

CAM (CONT'D)

I and I alone destroyed a chemical weapon the Zorn Empire was obviously, at least to me based on their history and current actions, going to use against their own people. I knew damn well that this could be an act of war and I could again cost millions of lives. Starting with my own. But at least WE can defend OURselves.

Hamada shakes his head angrily and annoyed. Grand Commander Russell listens stoically.

CAM (CONT'D)

Doing what is right does not mean  
we do what's popular or convenient.  
Doing what's right means doing  
what's right! Saving lives is  
RIGHT! Inconveniencing ourselves to  
help others who can't help them  
selves is RIGHT! Forming a Unified  
Galactic Association is RIGHT!

The crowd cheers wildly, including Grand Commander Russell.

CAM (CONT'D)

I-

*BANG!* The dark figure shoots. Cam's eyes bulge as his speech is interrupted by the discharged energy shot. He looks down and he's holding a shot Annasette who jumped in front of him.

The crowd goes into a frenzy. Annasette barely whispers and points in the direction of the sniper. A SKAYLENE SNIPER.

ANNASETTE

Sk-sk-skayle...

CAM

It's a Skaylene assassin!!  
Primetime GO!!

Floyd and Leandra charge through the crowd and outside.

MONTAGE: VARIOUS LOCATIONS

-The Skaylene assassin's walking through a frenzied crowd.

-Floyd and Leandra charge through the hallways. Floyd points up to the balcony. Leandra runs to a side corridor.

-Cam's holding a bleeding out Annasette and crying.

-The Skaylene assassin notices that Leandra's not far behind him running towards him. He darts like a bat out of hell. He pulls out a hand blaster and shoots towards her.

Leandra ducks behind a wall and returns fire. The Assassin runs but runs into a swift right hand from Floyd.

-Hamada observes Cam holding Annasette and trying to help her. Regret washes his face as Cam screams to the skies.

END MONTAGE:

TITLE CARD: FOUR DAYS LATER

INT. EARTH GUILD HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Cam's staring out from the high up view overlooking the magnificent city. He's drinking a bright green beverage and smoking a cigar.

Hamada walks in. They stare each other down and Cam goes back to the view. Hamada pours himself a drink and joins Cam in enjoying the view.

HAMADA

So. How's Annas-

CAM

-She'll heal. We were fortunate that another genetically engineered person was around. They were able to use his enhanced cells to accelerate her healing. Our son saved her life. It's just that a Skayle Disruptor is an extremely powerful weapon. Would have toasted the hells out of ME. She saved me. Again. I don't know what I would do without her.

HAMADA

I'm glad she'll heal. She's quite the woman. You don't deserve her.

CAM

Yes. She is that and no. I don't.

HAMADA

Fortunate Hiram was able to travel back with you from the future. Had he not been here-

CAM

Fortune had nothing to do with it. Yande must have known what was going to happen and ALLOWED Hiram to come with me. Yande and Annasette formed a bond.

HAMADA

I wouldn't speak of Yande too loudly. Your future exploits are highly classified now. By the way, the assassin seems to have taken some sort of cyanide like pill. We weren't able to learn who paid him to assassinate you.

CAM

That's ok. Anyone too afraid to pull the trigger themselves isn't much worth my time anyway. Wouldn't you say?

HAMADA

...Perhaps. So you won. The Grand Commander agrees with you that we should start this so called "United Galaxy Alliance."

CAM

Maybe I should thank the coward who tried to assassinate me. He damn near made me a martyr. Maybe helped with the sympathy vote.

HAMADA

Well I-

CAM

-Thank you.

Silence. They simultaneously sip their beverages.

HAMADA

I must say I do respect you, General. You are the most determined, fool hearty, stubborn and brilliant person I've ever met. Don't make the mistake in thinking there aren't others who love the Guild and what we've built as much as you do. And they, like you, will do anything they can to protect it.

CAM

Trust me. I'm well aware of that.

HAMADA

So. You really went to the future. Why won't you tell us more details what the future's like?

CAM

Because it's up to US to make the future. I believe it's still being written. I-

HAMADA

-You're still a fool when it comes down to it, you know.



CAM

Am I?

HAMADA

Of course. You're willing to risk the peace and stability of the galaxy for what exactly? Some crazy kumbaya dream of unity that's never going to happen? It's a dream! A dream is not worth sacrificing BILLIONS of lives for!

CAM

I'm hoping THIS dream will SAVE lives. I suppose time will tell.

HAMADA

When Robert Meyer Burnett invented the terraforming technology to allow us to expand to the stars so long ago. Do you think he ever considered the sheer chaos that would be to come in the galaxy?

CAM

Probably. He knew better than most the chaos mankind has been responsible for. I heard he even thought about not sharing the technology. But he trusted us to be better.

HAMADA

So what's next?

CAM

What's next? We do the work for it. We fight for it. We give it our best. Because...because THAT's what our dreams deserve.

Hamada stares him down, regrettably admiring him. He lifts a glass to him. Cam looks at the glass with fury and venom. *The nerve of this mutha...* he taps his glass anyway. They both take another sip as they look out and dream of the future...

THE END