

"Glass Stars"

Pilot

"In Inceptum Finis Est"

written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. OUTER SPACE - PRESENT

"Earth, 2152" appears superimposed over an exterior view of our once-beloved home planet.

Earth is sick.

Climate change has wreaked unfettered havoc upon the planet, leaving fierce storms churning across the Northeastern regions of the surface.

California lies decimated. The coast line is inundated by flood waters and burn scars, as well as what appears to be a large crack in the San Andreas fault line where a catastrophic earthquake has destroyed much of the state's infrastructure.

New York has been abandoned as it, too, has become inundated by flood waters.

EXT. LAS VEGAS - MOMENTS LATER

In the midst of the Nevada desert lies the last bastion of humanity: The Vegas Colony, which consists of a weather-controlled domed city.

As we proceed further underground, we discover a large and vast subterranean compound where most people reside in small apartments.

INT. SUBTERRA - MOMENTS LATER

Within the subterranean complex, we can see people in their individual apartments lying in pods, each one connected via special contact lenses to a simulated version of Earth called "E2".

EXT. FUTURA CODING LAB, LAS VEGAS - MOMENTS LATER

"Futura Coding Lab, Las Vegas" appears onscreen.

A tall skyscraper stands out against the backdrop of the Vegas skyline. This is the headquarters of the Earth 2 simulation.

INT. FUTURA CODING LAB - CONTINUOUS

A pair of grey doors sweep open to reveal a young woman, LILY RHODES, striding up a corridor.

As she walks, we notice the walls host screens with a news reporter relaying a breaking story. The ticker reads:

FUTURA SCRAMBLES TO SECURE E2 AFTER LATEST SECURITY BREACH

Earbuds in, she enters what appears to be a lab softly singing along to the song in her ear.

Her expression is one of deep consternation as she approaches the lab.

INT. FUTURA CODING LAB - MOMENTS LATER

She activates a console upon her entry and sits in the center of a small room.

A wall of flatscreen monitors, all displaying various streams of code and holo-data, rise up around her as she takes her station.

Lily begins to masterfully weave in string after string of pristine code as we begin to zoom into her eyes.

LILY  
Sheerin, transfer music to the lab  
and play at max volume.

An old WWII jazz song begins to play loudly through the speakers.

Lily sings along as she activates a virtual simulated Earth, which seems to float in front of her.

INT. CORRIDOR - MOMENTS LATER

An employee, LUCY, peaks into the room and then activates the comm alert.

INT. FUTURA CODING LAB

Lily ignores the comm alert.

INT. CORRIDOR

Lucy rolls her eyes and scoffs, tapping a button on the wall to reveal a slot she uses to drop off a thin chip-like device resembling a small iPad.

LUCY  
You're welcome.

She turns to leave and bumps into another employee, Mark.

Mark smiles.

MARK  
Let me guess. She blew you off  
again.

LUCY  
As usual.

Mark laughs.

MARK  
It's just her way.

LUCY  
It's rude.

MARK  
The secret is to catch her when  
she's leaving for the day.

LUCY  
Yeah except she's the one who asked  
for this like NOW.

Lucy taps on the window, but Lily does not respond.

LUCY (CONT'D)  
Ugh..!

MARK  
Don't worry about it....listen, you  
wanna grab lunch? Chino's has great  
manicotti...?

The two begin to walk away and their conversation trails off.

INT. FUTURA CODING LAB - CONTINUOUS

The voice of ELINOR GLASS rings out over the comma as we  
watch Lily perform diagnostic scans of the simulation.

ELINOR (V.O.)  
Hey.

LILY  
Hey.

ELINOR (V.O.)  
Have you seen the news?

Lily sighs.

LILY  
How can you miss it, it's  
everywhere...

ELINOR (V.O.)  
Feel like making some house calls  
today?

Lily half-jokes.

LILY  
Do I have to?

Elinor laughs.

ELINOR (V.O.)  
You don't have to, but it would...

She trails off.

LILY  
Yeah, yeah, I know...adds a  
personal touch...

ELINOR (V.O.)  
I love you.

Lily doesn't answer right away.

ELINOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Hey. Don't make me come down there.

Lily smiles.

LILY  
Fine! I love you, too, and I'll  
make a few appearances but then no  
one bothers me for the next eight  
hours. Deal?

Elinor chuckles.

ELINOR (V.O.)  
Deal.

Lily sighs, grabs her Specs, a halo-like device and links to  
the Earth 2 Simulation.

INT. FUTURA CODING LAB - MOMENTS LATER

From inside Lily's eyes, we enter this simulated environment full of avatars within a holographic mainframe.

EXT. JANE KINGSLEY'S QUARTERS

A door opens and suddenly, a woman who barely manages to duck out of the way just as a beam of hot light whistles past her, shouts to Lily.

WOMAN  
GET DOWN!

LILY  
What in the hell-?!

Another beam shoots out of the room, this time grazing Lily's shoulder as she goes to duck.

JANE  
Something's wrong with my bot!

LILY  
No shit!

A large tactical bot appears in the doorway, hovering overhead. It powers up another shot.

JANE  
Watch out!

Jane runs toward and grabs Lily as they both roll out of the way across the floor.

The door closes

LILY  
Sheerin, are you detecting this bot?

SHEERIN FIVE  
Scanning...

The bot continues to fire off shots from inside the room.

Lily, annoyed by Sheerin's slow response, cries out.

LILY  
Sometime today!

SHEERIN FIVE

There is no simulated bot detected  
within this matrix.

LILY

Fuck!

The two manage to slide into a nearby jet lift and close the doors.

INT. E2 JETLIFT - MOMENTS LATER

Lily recalls her screen device and manages to override and deactivate the bot.

After a moment or two of monitoring the system to make sure all is clear, Lily scolds Jane.

LILY

The safety protocols have been  
tampered with! Did you disengage  
them?

JANE

I...I just made a few modifications  
to my implant. I wanted a more  
realistic experience. But I didn't  
disengage anything. I wouldn't even  
know how...I'm still new to E2.

Lily sighs and stands up.

LILY

Only Futura Coders are authorized  
to make those modifications. I'm  
going to have to shut down your  
matrix for a day or two while I  
work to sort out what happened.

Lily scans Jane's lower parietal bone, which hosts an implant slot with a chip inside behind her ear.

JANE

So I won't be able to stay in the  
sim?

LILY

No, I'm going to deactivate your  
implant. If I don't, it could surge  
and cause permanent brain damage.  
Your lucky that bot didn't kill you  
first.

Jane swallows hard.

JANE

Shit.

LILY

You'll receive an alert to let you know when it's safe to reactivate the program. For now, stay off the grid.

INT. LIVING QUARTERS

Lily enters Jane's apartment, which houses virtual posters of people who appear to be various iconic Sim-sports players. begin to be installing new security patches to the mainframe as messages regarding a breach test begin to populate on the screen.

There are various bot parts scattered about the living quarters along with different types of implants.

Jane pipes up.

JANE

Jagger's the best, you know.

Lily sighs.

LILY

Look, I'm not here for small talk. I'm here to fix the thing you broke.

Jane, taken aback, begins to argue.

JANE

I'm sorry.

An alert rings out.

It's ELINOR GLASS's voice over the comms.

LILY

Go ahead.

ELINOR

How's it going with the new patch?



LILY  
 It'll be ready within the hour.  
 Fresh Avs are loading in as we  
 speak. Shouldn't have another  
 breach....I was...distracted.

Lily eyes Jane suspiciously.

Jane averts her gaze.

ELINOR  
 Well let's hope not.

LILY  
 Have I ever missed a deadline?

ELINOR  
 Never.

LILY  
 There. See...you couldn't possibly  
 be in better hands.

Jane scoffs.

A beat.

LILY (CONT'D)  
 Oh, and I'm confiscating your bot.

Just as Jane starts to argue again, everything blacks out.

Backup power returns moments later.

All matrices seem to reboot normally, except for Jane.

Half of Jane's face has begun to suddenly burn from a  
 localized area around the implant.

Lily begins to panic.

LILY (CONT'D)  
 Sheerin, we need a MEDEVAC for Jane  
 Kingsley right NOW!

SHEERIN FIVE  
 Alerting the MEDEVAC unit...stand  
 by.

Elinor's voice chimes in over the comm system.

Jane completely vaporizes, screaming as she dies.

LILY  
El, you've got to deactivate your  
matrix right now!

Just then, another surge rolls through and the simulation  
sputters.

ELINOR  
Get back to the Lab!

Lily nods.

LILY  
I'm on my way!

FUTURA CODING LAB - Moments Later

Lily scrambles across every console to regain control of the  
situation, feverishly tapping away but to no avail.

Elinor's voice crackles back to life over the intercom.

ELINOR  
Transferring in.

Elinor materializes within the holographic lab moments later.

The implant inside Elinor's neck whirs and lights up  
suddenly, then returns to a resting state.

ELINOR (CONT'D)  
What happened?

LILY  
I don't know, I'm poring over the  
code but I don't see anything  
obviously wrong. The patches were  
fine.

ELINOR  
I can articulate and move alright,  
but there's a delay in the signal  
somewhere--somewhere--

Elinor begins to break up.

Lily quickly moves to her backup mainframe.

LILY  
Can you hear me? El?

ELINOR  
(shaking her head)  
I-

Elinor's avatar begins to break down very quickly.

Lily rushes to find a fix for her, but it's too late.

Elinor vanishes.

INT. E2 SIMULATION - TRANSIT PORT

The mainframe becomes unstable. Suddenly half of the avatars in the system vanish.

INT. FUTURA CODING LAB - CONTINUOUS

Elinor's avatar boots but her voice warps as she speaks.

Lily works quickly to get her audio back, but instead decides to upload her construct into her own sub-frame.

LILY

I'm loading you into my frame, El,  
alright? Just hold on!

Elinor nods.

EXT. GLASS INDUSTRIES HEADQUARTERS - MOMENTS LATER

Avatars begin to vanish all over the world, flickering off for several moments before returning.

People begin to disconnect from their individual suites.

Suddenly, people randomly begin to completely disappear, phase-shifting in and out of space-time until they are gone.

INT. DAY - LAB

Elinor pops back in.

Lily sighs with relief.

LILY

I thought I'd lost you.

ELINOR

I'm here.

LILY

The patch is holding, but I still can't explain what happened to begin with. I want to lockdown all of the servers for at least a day.

ELINOR

Do it. I'll brief the Press.

LILY

Hey.

ELINOR

Hm.

LILY

This isn't your fault.

ELINOR

Don't be silly, of course it is.

LILY

It was my patch.

ELINOR

We don't know what it was, now don't go blaming yourself too, alright? We'll get this sorted. I've already rung Ava. She's on her way. Just make sure no one's missing.

LILY

Missing?

ELINOR

I'll explain when I get back.

Elinor flickers away.

Lily sighs as she rises from her console and heads over to the window.

EXT. STREET BELOW - CONTINUOUS

People continue to vanish left, right and center.

Screams can be heard from the streets below.

Suddenly, Naomi's voice pierces the silence.

NAOMI

Lil? Lily are you alright? I'm hearing the strangest things, Lil..

LILY

I'm...I'm not sure how to describe it...I'm calling the team to rally at the conference room. I'll meet you there, I'm just locking down the server.

NAOMI

Wait what?

Strange code begins to appear across every screen in the room, catching LILY off guard yet again as she notices people in the glass building all around her have begun to vanish in waves.

LILY

This...this doesn't make any sense....they're real!

Lily begins to break down.

A door opens swiftly as NAOMI STRAYER, a tall brunette, enters and sweeps Lily into her arms.

NAOMI

Lily...Lily, I'm here!

Lily looks up, but doesn't appear immediately to recognize Naomi.

LILY

Something..something's wrong.

Lily begins to seize up and she clatters to the floor.

An implant at the base of Lily's neck lights up as she collapses to the floor, accompanied by a shrill alert to signal her vitals dropping rapidly.

The environment around her begins to glitch in and out.

EXT. DESERT - DAYTIME - MOMENTS LATER

We spy a dilapidated research center.

EXT. OUTSIDE RESEARCH FACILITY - CONTINUOUS

Lily grips her head out of confusion, realising she is holding a Futura 9mm with the extended energy clip. The voices of millions of avatars begin to overwhelm her.

As she looks up, she is startled by Naomi's presence and does not immediately recognise her.

Naomi steps backward, shocked.

LILY  
MOVE!

Lily presses the muzzle of the gun into Naomi's cheek.

Naomi does not budge.

LILY (CONT'D)  
EVERYONE, MOVE. NOW.

NAOMI  
Lily, it's me...it's Naomi.

Everyone begins to advance forward slowly, with Lily bringing up the rear as the group approaches the ship.

Lily throws a curt nod to Naomi.

LILY  
Go on. Do it.

Naomi moves ahead and approaches a nearby console.

She taps a few buttons on the screen, which clearly displays a launch sequence being activated.

An alert chimes, and a computer voice activates.

Screens and systems spring to life.

COMPUTER  
Launch Sequence Initiated.

An automated countdown begins.

EXT. - ZZYZX RD - CONTINUOUS

A DC9 hurtles toward the complex with Elinor inside at breakneck pace.

Elinor taps a comms button and links with Naomi.

INT. LAUNCH BAY - CONTINUOUS

Naomi taps her comms panel.

ELINOR

Hey.

NAOMI

Elinor...please tell me you're not in Palm Springs...

ELINOR

I'll be there in a few minutes. They're off. I'll join you presently.

NAOMI

That's good news. I'll tell Lil.

ELINOR

No, let me tell her. She may not believe anyone else.

NAOMI

Good point. I'll try to hold her off til you get here, but there are some other people...staffers here...they're heading this way. What should we do?

ELINOR

There won't be enough space for more than a dozen people.

Naomi looks away briefly, then back again.

NAOMI

Understood. Anything else?

ELINOR

It's..it's good to see you..what you've done..for Lily..I'm so grateful. I was wrong...but everything at Palm Springs went off. He's ok. Everyone got out, I think...

Naomi leans forward.

NAOMI

It was the least I could do. Trust me. I promise you we're going to do our best to get everyone out of here alive-everyone.

Elinor nods.

INT. ELINOR'S DC9 - CONTINUOUS

ELINOR

Shit. I..they've got a tail on me-  
get to the ship as fast as-

Elinor's DC9 explodes.

INT. LAUNCH BAY - CONTINUOUS

The screen blacks out.

Alerts begin to chime in Naomi's chip.

NEURAL COMPUTER

Incoming Traffic Advisory. Would  
you like to hear it?

NAOMI

Negative, route it to my ticker  
instead.

Reports flood in about a collision on the screen in front of  
her.

Naomi tries to shake off her nerves as she quickly  
deactivates the ticker.

NEURAL COMPUTER

You will no longer receive traffic  
advisory alerts. Confirm action?

Naomi nods.

NAOMI

Confirmed.

The ship's computer pipes up.

COMPUTER

Countdown to launch: 2 minutes.  
Please clear bay of all redundant  
personnel at this time.

Lily lashes out again.



LILY

Elinor, this bullshit?! This bullshit that's happening is all your fault! You were told Astracaea's chances were astronomically unlikely! Many, many, MANY times!

COMPUTER

Please clear bay of all redundant personnel at this time...Countdown to launch: 1 minute, 30 seconds.

LILY

Naomi, for Christ's sake-literally, are you listening to me? The Earth is literally on FIRE!

Naomi suddenly flips around and lays into Lily with a haymaker.

COMPUTER

Countdown to launch, 60 seconds...Please clear redundant personnel at this time...

Lily sputters back as blood spits from her lips.

NAOMI

We really need to get the fuck out of here--what the--?

Naomi whirls around to find Elinor's holo-av right there.

ELINOR

Ava's on her way!

Lily scrambles back to her feet.

LILY

Everyone get onboard!

INT. ASTRACAEA CREW BOARDING DECK - MOMENTS LATER

Naomi and Lily enter the ship.

NAOMI

Computer, time?!

COMPUTER

30 seconds.

EXT. LAUNCH FACILITY - CONTINUOUS

A crowd begins to form around the facility.

INT. ASTRACAEA COMMAND CENTER

A proximity alert chimes.

COMPUTER

Proximity Alert. Proximity Alert.  
Please clear the launch bay  
perimeter.

EXT. LAUNCH FACILITY - CONTINUOUS

Ava staggers toward the facility from her vehicle.

She encounters the crowd.

Gunfire erupts.

Ava dives behind the building and makes her way toward a private entrance below ground.

Two men, CHARLIE AIKENS and BRUCE BOYD, break off from John Danley's mob and follow her.

INT. LAUNCH FACILITY

She makes it inside, but as she opens the door, a pulling sensation yanks her back outside.

EXT. LAUNCH FACILITY - CONTINUOUS

Charlie assaults Ava, pulling her by the hair and swinging her to the ground.

Ava, who stumbles backward as they pull her further away from the door, screams out but Bruce manages to wrap his arms around her face to block the sound.

Ava bites Bruce as he tries to squeeze his arms around her neck.

He lets go, blood gushing from his hand.

Ava hurries to her feet and begins to back away.

Enraged, Charlie rushes toward Ava again and slams her to the ground.

Bruce recovers long enough to assist with the pin.  
The Computer's alert echoes throughout the complex.

BRUCE  
Hear that?

CHARLIE  
There's a ship in there.

BRUCE  
Yeah, but it sounds like it's  
already about to launch.

CHARLIE  
Ya hear that?

Bruce grabs Ava by the throat.

BRUCE  
You're taking us with you!

Suddenly, Bruce's head explodes into blood, bone and brains.

More gunfire erupts as Ava manages to crawl away toward the door.

The door swings open.

Naomi's head pokes out from behind the door holding a shotgun.

NAOMI  
Are you alright?

Naomi helps Ava to her feet.

Charlie cowers near the corner of the building.

CHARLIE  
P-p-please...please don't...don't  
kill me!! Please!!!! Please!!!

Naomi notices a patch on Charlie's shirt. She seems to recognize him.

AVA  
There's dozens of people out  
there....

Naomi's eyes go wide.

NAOMI  
Shit...bring him with us.

She pulls out her Glock and hands it to Ava.

AVA  
Wait what, why?!

Naomi pushes Ava along.

Ava takes the weapon and drops the empty 9mm she's been holding.

Naomi stands Charlie up on his feet, pinning his arms to his sides. She ushers him into the Bay.

Ava goes to work right away on a nearby console.

Suddenly, the entire facility rocks violently.

Naomi and Ava both get knocked to the ground.

Bright beams of light tear brilliantly across the sky from every direction.

AVA (CONT'D)  
We've got to get to the Command  
Center!

Naomi nods, helps Ava to her feet, and they head to the Launch Bay together with Charlie in tow.

EXT. LAUNCH BAY - MOMENTS LATER

Ava, Naomi and Charlie make it into the complex as the launch bay doors spread fully open and the ship starts to power up its pre-launch sequence.

INT. MED BAY - MOMENTS LATER

Lily throws her arms around Ava and then abruptly realizes something.

LILY  
Faraday?!

AVA  
I think so...

Lily notices Charlie.

LILY  
Who the fuck is this?

AVA  
He attacked me..him and his  
buddy...

NAOMI  
More like...former buddy.

Lily's expression shifts as if to signal she understands.

AVA  
I know Faraday was with the team.

Naomi hands Charlie a kit and tends to his shoulder injury.

CHARLIE  
Ow! Gah!

Charlie recoils as Naomi pins him down and begins to sew up his shoulder.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)  
Goddamnit!

Lily ignores Charlie.

LILY  
If Elinor had anything to say about  
it, he made it. I know he did.

As Naomi teases the needle out of Charlie's skin, he howls again in agony.

CHARLIE  
Ahh! Goddamnit, ain't you got any  
anaesthetic or something'?!

Charlie jolts up, but Naomi forces him down again.

NAOMI  
Just relax, Charlie...it's all part  
of the grand lottery prize, right?

She continues to sew him up and then cauterizes his wound.

Ava offers a smile as she links up with her station.

AVA  
Assuming he's alive, he's with Mars  
team.

LILY  
Alright then, I'm going to the  
Command Center. Gonna see what I  
can find out...

AVA

Comm us when you get there. We need to sync the launch protocols before the ship can actually lift off. I'll meet you there in a few hours.

Lily nods.

LILY

Good plan. See you later.

AVA

Aye.

Lily heads for the Command Center.

Ava averts her attention back to Charlie.

Charlie, still in agony, rolls over and bumps his head on a nearby bulkhead.

Ava rolls her eyes.

AVA (CONT'D)

You know, we have anesthetics.

CHARLIE

What?

Charlie sits up, hitting his head once again on the same bulkhead as before.

The small room appears quite sterile, with only computer screens floor-to-ceiling and monitors reporting out system stats.

An open medkit is nestled between Charlie and the bulkhead.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Goddammit!

He manages to right himself, but his sling slips and he starts to hurt again.

Ava can't help but smile, though she tries to mask her amusement.

AVA

Here.

Ava reaches into a nearby kit and pulls out an injector labeled "Anaesthetic".

She tosses it to Charlie.

AVA (CONT'D)

Now shut it.

Charlie leans over to pick up the injector, struggling and whimpering as he reaches for it.

Charlie fails to grab the tube and stumbles to the ground.

Ava scoffs.

AVA (CONT'D)

You're pathetic!

She picks up the injector, then moves to Charlie, assisting him back up onto the bunk.

She injects him near the injury site with a hard, intentionally gruff press into his skin.

EXT. LAUNCH FACILITY - CONTINUOUS

The crowd makes its way toward then hangar and converges with a trio of men led by JOHN DANLEY, who's wearing a black bomber jacket and blue jeans and armed with an AR-15.

People begin panic all around the facility.

Gunfire exchanges break out between FASE security teams and John as John and his two henches approach the Launch Bay.

EXT. LAUNCH FACILITY - CONTINUOUS

Light and heat sear through the skin and vaporizes a woman entirely.

Bodies with bullet holes can be seen strewn about the complex.

Another pulse strikes.

Another man stumbles to the ground, screaming in agony as she vaporises into thin air.

John locates a console near the entryway and begins to tap at random buttons to try and stop the ship.

It works. The countdown pauses.

EXT. LAUNCH FACILITY

Another blinding pulse cascades across the landscape yet again.

INT. SHIP - CONTINUOUS

Elinor's voice crackles overhead.

ELINOR

Sheerin One!! If your Sheerin Five  
is still-in tact-let me speak with  
her!

SHEERIN FIVE, a female android, looks up from off Naomi's right shoulder with a smile.

SHEERIN FIVE

Elinor?

Elinor smiles back.

ELINOR

It's alright, Sheerin Five. Sheerin  
Five, stand by.

Sheerin's demeanour shifts abruptly from one of near-authentic sadness to one of blank, eerily dead emptiness.

SHEERIN FIVE

Standing by.

Elinor's demeanor shifts.

ELINOR

Sheerin Five, initiate Classified  
Special Programme Arcadia.

Sheerin pipes up again, her voice sounding more robotic and even less inflected like Elinor's this time.

SHEERIN FIVE

Intitiating....

EXT. SHIP

John continues to tinker with various consoles as he barks orders to BRUCE and CHARLIE.



JOHN

We've gotta find a way to shut down  
that ship, see if you can grab  
anyone who's been working here!

Bruce and Charlie fan out to seek out facility researchers  
and staff.

EXT. SHIP - MOMENTS LATER

The computer's voice rings out across the desert.

COMPUTER

20 seconds. Please clear all  
redundant personnel from the launch  
bay.

INT. SHIP - CONTINUOUS

Elinor turns to Naomi.

ELINOR

Naomi, I need you to listen to me.  
I'm transferring everything,  
everything we said we would do.

Naomi nods.

NAOMI

And Lil? Did you load her in, too?

ELINOR

I tried, but...she'd already begun  
to deteriorate. I'm not sure how  
stable her program will be.

NAOMI

Do you want me to tell her?

ELINOR

No, I will. It should be me.

Lily makes it clear she has overheard their conversation.

LILY

But none of it matters now. This  
Sheerin will have what you need to  
reach Arcadia—

COMPUTER

Launch sequence delayed--Safety  
Protocols Engaged--Launch sequence  
delayed--Safety Protocols Engaged-  
Securing Locking Moors Now.

Flabbergasted, the women all turn their attentions to the  
consoles.

NAOMI

Fuck, they're inside the complex--  
they've halted the launch  
sequence..

LILY

But how do they even know what  
they're doing?

Naomi begins scanning the security system.

John's face splashes on screen.

NAOMI

John Danley.

Elinor perks up but says nothing.

Lily begins to panic.

LILY

If we don't get this ship off the  
ground soon, we're all going to  
die.

The pounding of the crowd's panicked shouting as it bears  
down on them all interrupt her explanation.

LILY (CONT'D)

Elinor, the transfer is underway-  
HOW LONG?

No answer.

The ship and facility have begun to shake, rattle and jolt as  
the catastrophic waves or bursts persist.

Screams can be heard from outside the ship.

A man's voice, John, cries out.

EXT. SHIP

The crowd begins shouting even louder.

INT. SHIP - CONTINUOUS

ELINOR  
ETA to transfer completion?

Sheerin says nothing.

EXT. SHIP - CONTINUOUS

John opens fire on the crowd as it chants.

Bodies pummel to the ground, riddled by bullets and gushing blood.

INT. SHIP COMMAND CENTER

Lily feverishly works to try and regain control of the launch sequence.

INT. SHIP

Charlie watches the alert chime and the screens light up with images of everything outside.

Naomi turns toward him.

COMPUTER  
Time to launch: 30 seconds. Please  
clear all redundant personnel from  
Launch Bay at this time.

NAOMI  
Did you...?

Charlie looks away.

Naomi suddenly bolts from the facility and heads for the crowd.

John takes aim at Naomi.

She makes it to the facility before he can squeeze off another round.

Charlie eyes Naomi suspiciously, but he has no other choice.

CHARLIE  
You've gotta leave, clear the whole  
area, John...

JOHN DANLEY  
I won't do that...

Gunfire erupts again as John opens fire one more time.

Charlie, struck in the shoulder, falls, bringing Naomi down with him.

EXT. SHIP

John continues to put down survivors with his weapon as he approaches the Launch Bay.

INT. SHIP COMMAND CENTER

Lily breathes a sigh of relief as the ship's launch systems boot once again.

INT. SHIP

COMPUTER  
Time to Launch: T-Minus 30 seconds.

Naomi perks up.

NAOMI  
She just said that....

Another comms alert chimes.

INT. SHIP COMMAND CENTER

LILY  
We're back in business!

INT. LAUNCH BAY

NAOMI  
Good, make sure everyone's onboard  
and at their stations. Let's get  
this ship in the air!!!

INT. SHIP COMMAND CENTER

LILY  
Tracking!

EXT. LAUNCH FACILITY

The hoard of half-charred humans plead with Naomi for assistance.

Naomi hesitates.

Lily's voice rings out.

LILY  
Everyone's here, where are you  
Naomi? Are you onboard?

Naomi does not respond.

LILY (CONT'D)  
NAOMI?

Still no response.

EXT. LAUNCH FACILITY

Naomi manages to stagger back to her feet and address the crowd.

She fires several rounds into the air, which startles John.

NAOMI  
Everyone back-NOW!

The crowd moves backward.

None of them appear armed, only John.

Another young woman suffering a wound to her throat but still maintaining a solid grip on it with..something, coughs up blood beside her and tumbles to the ground.

Naomi turns to John.

NAOMI (CONT'D)  
How did you know about this place?

The woman presses her blood-soaked hypo-pak into her neck and glares at Naomi.

She grits her teeth and motions to John.

John does not say anything.

Cora screams out, blood spattering across the ground.

Little beads of sweat have now swollen beyond capacity and are now streaming one at a time, very slowly, down into the inner corners of Naomi's eyes.

The burning sets in, but Naomi continues.

NAOMI (CONT'D)  
Cora, right? It's Cora?

A brief expression of surprise flashes across Cora's face.

CORA  
You..you know my name?

Naomi finds herself gripping both of her bloodied, mangled hands.

NAOMI  
We have to go, Cora...do you understand?

Cora shakes her head.

CORA  
No...no...

Naomi struggles to continue.

NAOMI  
Alright...listen...listen to me,  
I'm taking you...alright?

Cora begins to weep uncontrollably.

CORA  
My...my sister, Rose...

A woman beside where Cora had been standing.

Naomi nods and goes to her.

NAOMI  
Rose?

Rose nods.

John then trains his AR-15 squarely on Naomi.

JOHN  
You're not taking them without me.

Cora's eyes brighten for just the right amount of time it takes to get this shitshow on road.

Naomi starts to move forward, but John gets in her way, the AR still pointed at her.

John raises his muzzle but Naomi shoots him before he can pull the trigger.

Naomi links with the ship.

NAOMI

I've got two with me, I'm bringing them aboard....the leader is down. Tell Sec to meet us at the Command Center.

Naomi manages to help the sisters aboard.

COMPUTER

20 Seconds Remaining Until Launch..

LARRY charges up to Naomi, but she brings him down to his knees with one shot to his right shoulder, and then she pins his face to the ground.

Naomi stands and plants her boot firmly on his cheek.

COMPUTER (CONT'D)

15 seconds...

Larry, cheek squirming beneath Naomi's boot, tries one final time to break free but Naomi's had it.

She steps back and allows him to lunge at her.

Man 1 advances.

Naomi puts 5 rounds into his face and that's that.

COMPUTER (CONT'D)

10....

NAOMI

Fuck!

COMPUTER

9....

NAOMI

Go!

EXT. LAUNCH FACILITY - MOMENTS LATER

A sudden, deep tremor rocks the facility, thrusting Naomi forward.

The countdown continues softly in the distance, echoing repeatedly and dimming as it spins off across time.

COMPUTER

8...

Naomi's eyes grow heavy and her weapon slips from her fingers.

Naomi suddenly feels a pull forward from deep within her abdomen and behind her ear.

A flash of brilliant light blinds everyone.

INT. SHIP COMMAND CENTER - MOMENTS LATER

A familiar female voice awakens Naomi.

SHEERIN FIVE

Naomi?

NAOMI

(to herself)

The ship...

Sheerin replies.

SHEERIN FIVE

You are aboard safely, Commander.

That voice again.

NAOMI

Sheerin...is...is that you?

SHEERIN FIVE

Yes, I am integrated into Astracaea, of course, but I am now integrated with your bio neural systems as well.

NAOMI

I...I don't understand.

SHEERIN FIVE

I am now linked to the neural implant that already resides within your body. The one you received at Atlantis when you reported for your last physical. I can pull the archive for you if you like?



NAOMI  
No..I'll..I'll look at it later.

SHEERIN FIVE  
This means I can communicate with  
you internally via telepathy.

NAOMI  
Great.

SHEERIN FIVE  
Transfer complete. All six bio  
signatures have all been synced  
with your implants.

The ragtag gang exchange more looks of bewilderment before an  
interface materializes before each one.

NAOMI  
Six?

SHEERIN FIVE  
Yes, yourself, Ava, Lily, Cora,  
Rose, and Elinor.

Everyone reacts.

NAOMI  
Elinor?? In the flesh Elinor??

SHEERIN FIVE  
Negative.

NAOMI  
I don't understand. Clarify.

SHEERIN FIVE  
Elinor was able to successfully  
upload her psychological construct,  
or profile, into my mainframe. She  
coexists within me now. Would you  
like me to extrapolate her profile  
so that you may speak with her  
independently?

Naomi nods.

NAOMI  
Yes.

Sheerin nods also.

A stream of photonic energy splits away from Sheerin and  
weaves itself into the figure of Elinor.

Naomi and Lily perk up.

SHEERIN FIVE

She appears to be in tact. Say hello.

Elinor smiles broadly at them all.

ELINOR

Hello again.

Naomi, taken aback, begins to weep.

Elinor's form takes on a gauze-like quality as she approaches Naomi.

She places a curled hand on Naomi's cheek.

ELINOR (CONT'D)

Are you alright?

NAOMI

Yes...yes, what about you?

Elinor laughs.

ELINOR

I suppose so...I..I'm not quite sure how to describe it. Right now, I feel hot and a bit jarred, almost dizzy.

Naomi laughs.

NAOMI

You sound like an overworked hard drive. I'm just glad to have you with us somehow...some way.

A thought hits Lily.

LILY

Look, I hate to be the wet blanket but...we've got more problems.

Elinor and Naomi turn back to face Lily and Sheerin Five.

ELINOR

You're right...

NAOMI

We've got to talk to those survivors.

Elinor takes the lead.

ELINOR  
I'll do that. They need to hear it  
from me.

NAOMI  
One of them, his name is  
Charlie...we had an altercation but  
I couldn't just...

Elinor nods.

ELINOR  
What do you want to do?

Naomi sighs.

NAOMI  
I'll talk to him. Right now, we  
officially have no idea what  
happened back there....

ELINOR  
Oh, I know what happened.

NAOMI  
Wait, you do?

Elinor nods.

ELINOR  
Something happened a day  
before...but this was a nuclear  
attack.

Lily nods.

LILY  
The breach...

Elinor continues.

ELINOR  
The breach occurred during the  
patch. It caused a cascade of hacks  
that caused the security system to  
attack itself. We lost nearly half  
our avs, but we managed to restore  
most of them.

Lily seems to understand.

LILY  
It wasn't my code.

Elinor shakes her head.

ELINOR  
No. There was a cyber attack, and  
then, well, you all know the rest.

Naomi adds another wrench to the proverbial machine.

NAOMI  
There were people disappearing, and  
the light was so bright and hot.  
People were vaporized...

Elinor presses her.

ELINOR  
What else did you see?

Ava finally contributes her part of the story.

AVA  
When I was on my way here, there  
were really bright beams of light.  
The Traffic System governing the DC  
I thought i was going to die...

NAOMI  
Once I saw Ava coming, and the  
crowd..and John...I knew it was  
going to be bad...but they'd  
already made it up to the bay.

Ava nurses her injuries.

Lily continues to work on extrapolating all the ship's sensor  
data pertaining to Earth.

LILY  
I'm trying to find out if the  
ship's got anything about their  
status now, but...it could be  
months before we even hear from  
Mars...

They all exchange concerned glances.

Elinor speaks.

ELINOR

I know Faraday, he's alright. It's Earth I'm worried about...what you're describing...

NAOMI

I was coming down to clear the ramp, and I saw the light..it was the most cobalt, ultramarine blue I've ever seen. People just vanished.

Elinor pauses to think about it for a minute.

Lily reports back in.

LILY

I've been able to pull out some readings.

Elinor smiles.

ELINOR

That's my girl.

Lily ignores her comment

LILY

There was something. But the computer isn't calling it a nuclear strike.

ELINOR

Casualties?

Lily nods.

LILY

Given the layout of the Earth 2 Sim, the avatars and implants linked that um, ceased functioning...

ELINOR

Lily, I'm sure no matter what you say it's going to be difficult for us to hear but we must know.

A beat.

LILY

Ninety percent.

A thick silence falls over the room.

Stunned, Naomi sits on a nearby bench.

Elinor consults the console beside her.

ELINOR

There's no way of knowing how many right now. We need to try and reach Artemis. They may know more.

Lily nods.

LILY

What about Arcadia?

ELINOR

The course is set; however, you will be able to override it.

LILY

On it.

A beat.

LILY (CONT'D)

Confirmed. Our course is now set for Artemis Base Camp.

EXT. SHIP - MOMENTS LATER

The ship breaks orbit and settles on its course toward the Moon.

INT. SHIP COMMAND CENTER

Naomi furrows her brow.

NAOMI

3 days to the Moon...97 days to Mars...we need a plan...

Elinor taps a few more buttons before turning back to face the group.

ELINOR

We need to calm them down, assure them everything will be alright and that we're going to take care of them.

NAOMI

What about Charlie?

ELINOR

Right now, until we hear from Artemis or Faraday, we have to presume we're all that's left.

NAOMI

He tried to kill her—if I hadn't gotten there in time—!

ELINOR

I'm going to call an assembly and make it clear how things are going to be. Will you go down and make sure the rest of the survivors are taken care of?

NAOMI

Yes, of course. Medics are with them already.

ELINOR

Wait. You're..you're right. Before we go down. Call him up here.

Naomi nods.

Sec teams arrive moments later with Charlie in tow.

CHARLIE

You gonna tell me what we're doing here?

ELINOR

I can see you're still upset.

CHARLIE

You gotta be kidding me.

ELINOR

Are you going to be honest with me, Mr. Aikens?

CHARLIE

Ain't never been nothing but honest, Elinor.

Elinor smiles.

ELINOR

That's good to hear.

CHARLIE

What about you?

ELINOR

It's very likely that you, myself  
and everyone onboard this ship are  
all that remains of Humanity.  
How's that for honesty, Mr. Aikens?

Charlie goes white.

ELINOR (CONT'D)

Did you attack her?

Ava comes into view.

Elinor move close to Charlie.

CHARLIE

You don't understand...he was  
killing people...we saw her running  
around the building...it was our  
only chance!

Naomi chimes in.

NAOMI

She's my sister!

CHARLIE

Look, you all were just gonna leave  
us to die! We had to do something!

Anguish strikes Charlie, and as he begins to understand what  
has happened, he slinks to the floor.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Bruce...

Naomi steps up to him.

NAOMI

You gave me no choice.

Charlie looks down.

ELINOR

As much as it pains me to say this,  
we need your help.

Charlie, stunned, changes his attitude.

CHARLIE

What?



ELINOR

As I've said, until we establish comms with Artemis, we've got a long way to go. I need your cooperation.

CHARLIE

That's...that's all?

ELINOR

Well, that and this.

Naomi injects Charlie with an implant, HARD.

CHARLIE

What the hell is that?!

ELINOR

It will link you with the comms systems.

Charlie nods.

CHARLIE

Ah...alright...

A beat.

Sheerin Five chimes in.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

I'm in, I, I think.

Sheerin confirms.

SHEERIN FIVE

Affirmative. We have Charles-

CHARLIE

Shit, just..please call me Charlie...

Sheerin nods.

SHEERIN FIVE

Very well, Charlie.

Charlie smiles weakly.

ELINOR

Well, now that's out of the way...let's go.

Ava and Naomi bring up the rear as everyone exits the Command Center and enters a tube with a runged ladder.

INT. DECK 4 CREW ASSEMBLY AREA

A group of about 25 people can be seen strewn about the bay as Ava, Naomi and Charlie enter.

Sec teams and medics assist various people.

Elinor, in Sheerin, enters as everyone quiets down.

Sheerin arrives last.

ELINOR

For those of you who don't know me,  
my name is Elinor Glass. This is my  
ship. Or at least, it was.

Whispers spread around the room.

ELINOR (CONT'D)

I know this has been a hard day. A  
very hard day. I appreciate your  
patience as we have worked to  
understand what exactly has  
happened. First, please rest  
assured that all who are aboard  
this vessel will be taken care of.

Elinor and Charlie exchange a long, tense glance.

Rose and Cora can be seen in a nearby corner.

CORA

What happened to the others?

Another man echoes her question, followed by still others.

ELINOR

We'll have a more definitive answer  
about everything within the next  
few hours. We are currently in the  
process of routing to Artemis.

More whispers.

ROSE

Is there any way to contact anyone?

ELINOR

Unfortunately, not at this time, but I promise you, my first priority is ensuring the safety of everyone onboard this vessel. For the next few hours, my staff I will do all we can to make you feel as comfortable as possible. If you have any skills you believe we may find beneficial, please let me know. Mr. Aikens?

Charlie speaks up.

CHARLIE

Elinor has agreed to let me be the civilian liason, so if there's anything you need, you feel free and talk to me and I'll make sure she knows.

NEIL CHANDLER, an African-American man in his 50s with a Daily Bread devotional in his hand, speaks.

NEIL

I'd like to offer myself as a chaplain here for anyone who may need a little spiritual nourishment right now.

Elinor smiles.

CHARLIE

That's very kind. What's your name?

NEIL

Neil, Neil Chandler. I was ministering to my congregants at the church nearby when everything happened.

ELINOR

It's a 3 day journey to the lunar colony. In the meantime, you will receive cursory training. This is the same training the FASE crew receives—just a bit more...succinct. Please do all you can to cooperate with my sec chief who will be running the training sim.

(MORE)

ELINOR (CONT'D)

In about a day and a half, we will attempt to establish comms with Artemis and alert them of our impending arrival. Captain?

NAOMI

Good evening. I wish we were meeting under better circumstances, but as a military veteran, I'm not afforded the luxury of rosier pleasantries. I'm Captain Naomi Strayer, the acting CO for the FASE detachment aboard the Astracaea—that's the name of this vessel. I will be assigning each of you to a training unit. Each unit will be designated as Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, Delta and so on in accordance with the standard phonetic alphabet. If you came aboard with a family member or you know someone here, let us know and we'll make sure you're in the same training unit. This ship simply was not designed for this many people.

The survivors react with surprise.

Rose adds a question to the mix.

ROSE

There's more, isn't there?

ELINOR DOESN'T ANSWER. MORE SURPRISED WHISPERS AND HUSHED EXCHANGES RIPPLE THROUGH THE GROUP.

NAOMI

We believe the best option we have right now is to head for Artemis.

This seems to allay the most precient concerns.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

We will be rationing out food and bedding supplies. Please share if you can. Once we reach the lunar colony, you'll be able to get a hot meal. Or at least..a hotter meal.

A few survivors smile grimly.

ELINOR

If there's nothing else at this time, I invite you to stand by for your training unit and cabin assignment. It's going to be a tight squeeze, but a temporary one.

Elinor leaves.

Naomi begins to assign people to their units.

INT. ELINOR'S CABIN - LATER

The doorbell alert chimes.

ELINOR

(voice)

Come.

Naomi enters the cramped quarters but does not see Elinor.

ELINOR (CONT'D)

(voice)

I'll be right there.

Elinor materialises as Naomi gets comfortable on a bench.

Sheerin remains working in the Command Center.

ELINOR (CONT'D)

Better?

Naomi smiles.

NAOMI

I suppose...

Elinor's pixelated brow furrows slightly.

ELINOR

What is it?

NAOMI

I'm worried.

ELINOR

Lily?

NAOMI

Lily, Charlie...the whole damn situation...but Lily, especially...

ELINOR

I keep thinking it's better for me to stay busy...we haven't been able to talk about what happened...

NAOMI

She's processing the fact that you're dead.

ELINOR

In a way, that's true. At least, it's a reasonable assumption to make, given the circumstances.

NAOMI

Should I bring her in here with me? I don't think she should be alone.

Elinor nods.

ELINOR

What about you?

NAOMI

Oh, I'll be alright. Like I said, soldier girl...she needs to be with someone she can trust.

ELINOR

Especially now we've got Charlie aboard.

NAOMI

Did you find something?

ELINOR

The computer identified his sec key as being active yesterday before everything went to shit. Him, along with John Danley and Bruce Boyd.

NAOMI

Fuck...

ELINOR

I need you to keep a close eye on him, Naomi. I saw some strange code in there, a mixture of several different languages, including Russian...that's why I want him implanted.

Elinor displays the code.

NAOMI  
You think it was another attack...?

ELINOR  
Look.

A new holographic screen materialises beside the previous display.

NAOMI  
Fuck.

ELINOR  
It's worse this time. Much worse.

NAOMI  
Lily's been at this nonstop since we left Earth...

ELINOR  
I know this isn't her fault, and she's already blaming herself.

NAOMI  
She won't believe it...

ELINOR  
I know, that's why I'm leaving this to you.

NAOMI  
I don't understand...

ELINOR  
I'm going to pair with Sheerin Five again when we arrive at Artemis. I don't want to make her feel uneasy...

NAOMI  
I'm sure she'll appreciate that. This whole situation is throwing everyone for a loop...

ELINOR  
Sheerin is working on a more stable stream for me to remain more...solid...for lack of a better term, but it could take quite some time. Please pass on my love to Lily. She should be here soon.

NAOMI  
Of course...you're not staying?

ELINOR

I'm still sorting out the sensor data from Astracaea's outdated FDR. I'll let you know more as soon as I have more to report. For now, the most important thing is to keep everyone safe and busy. See if any of them are engineers or coders. At least until we get to Artemis. Without a physical body, you'd be surprised at how exhausting it is to always be "on". The ship is barely hanging on to my matrix right now.

NAOMI

Really? Hm.

ELINOR

I'm sure Lily's already working on how to stabilize it. I'm going to shut down for a few hours. Ping me if anything happens.

Naomi nods.

NAOMI

Of course.

Elinor smiles grimly at Naomi as she dematerializes.

Naomi closes her eyes for a moment.

As her eyelids close, Naomi flashes back to the day's events before outside of the launch facility with John and the Zzyzx Staffers.

EXT. LAUNCH FACILITY - THE LAST DAY

We return to the scene with John Danley, who Naomi watches open fire on his former colleagues as she approaches him to talk.

We watch as Rose and Cora struggle to escape the hailstorm of bullets.

Rose gets struck in the back of her shoulder as she tries to aid Cora.

John fires indiscriminately into the crowd as he enters the bay.



INT. ELINOR'S CABIN - MOMENTS LATER

Naomi's eyes flutter open as she stirs from her nap.

Lily enters.

Naomi rises from the black bunk to locate an old photograph of Lily wrapped in Elinor's arms.

NAOMI

Look...

The photograph can be seen on a nearby cabinet.

Lily approaches the photograph and plucks it off the cabinet door.

LILY

She left this...

Naomi nods.

NAOMI

Been here ages...

Lily turns over the image to find a message written in Elinor's handwriting.

Tears well up in Lily's eyes as she reads the note aloud:

ELINOR

(voiceover)  
I lied. I saw you  
long ago before  
today, and I've  
loved you ever  
since.

LILY

(voiceover)  
I lied. I saw you  
long before  
today, and I've  
loved you ever  
since.

Naomi holds Lily as Lily cries in her arms.

FADE OUT.