

**BOOM!**  
STUDIOS

**3**

WE ONLY FIND THEM  
WHEN THEY'RE  
**DEAD**



# WE ONLY FIND THEM WHEN THEY'RE DEAD™

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The year was 2337.  
The ship was wreckage.



That morning, it had been  
the *Escort Four*.  
An escort ship...



...with a crew of one.

YOU'RE  
VERY *LUCKY*,  
OFFICER  
RICHTER.

YOU'RE  
GOING TO  
*LIVE*.



IN FACT, YOU'RE THE **ONLY SURVIVOR**. THE OTHER CRAFT SUFFERED MASSIVE **EXPLOSIVE DECOMPRESSION**-- THE OCCUPANTS DIED WITH THE SHIP.

I UNDERSTAND YOU **KNEW** ONE OF THEM. I'M... SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS.

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT THE **OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE** REVIEWED YOUR CASE FROM THE AVAILABLE **FOOTAGE**. YOU'VE BEEN **CLEARED OF MISCONDUCT** IN THE EVENTS LEADING TO... THE **ACCIDENT**.

IT WAS **NOBODY'S FAULT**. AN ACT OF **GOD**.

I'M SURE THAT'S A WEIGHT OFF YOUR...

...I'M SORRY-- OFFICER **RICHTER**? ARE YOU **FOLLOWING**?

CAN YOU **HEAR** ME?



CAN  
YOU *HEAR*  
ME?

PAULA?

YOU  
CAN STOP  
*FOLLOWING--*  
YOU CAN  
KRRZZTT

JUST  
KRRZZZ DROP  
OUT OF *WARP*, TURN  
AROUND WHILE YOU  
CAN--IF YOUR ENGINE  
*BURNS OUT*, YOU'LL  
DIE AS SURELY AS  
KRRZZKL

PAULA, I  
*CAN'T* BE WORTH  
THIS--*REVENGE*  
CAN'T BE WORTH  
KRRZZZTT

PAULA?

PAULA,  
CAN YOU  
*HEAR*  
ME?

The year is 2367.

The ship is the *Vihaan II*.

NO  
RESPONSE,  
CAPTAIN.

An autopsy  
ship, with a  
crew of four.

NO, SHE  
WON'T STOP.  
OR TURN  
BACK.

IF WE  
DROP OUT OF  
**WARP**, SHE WILL  
**FOLLOW**. UNTIL  
THEN, IT'S A GAME  
OF CHICKEN WITH  
THE **WARP**  
**ENGINES**...

SHE'S FLYING  
AN **ESCORT**  
**CRAFT**--HER ENGINES  
ARE A LOT **SMALLER**  
THAN OURS. WOULD  
THAT MAKE A  
**DIFFERENCE**,  
JAY?

SMALLER  
**ENGINES** FOR  
A SMALLER  
**RIG**, ELLA. IT  
EVENS OUT.

PLUS  
ESCORT SERVICE  
ENGINES ARE  
**STURDIER** THAN  
COMMERCIAL.

UNLESS  
YOU'VE WORKED  
FOR A **CORPORATE**  
**FLEET**, I GUESS. DID  
THE *VIHAAN II* EVER  
GET **UPGRADES**,  
OR...?

HA!



A  
DOWNGRADE,  
PERHAPS. THIRTY  
YEARS OF **HARD**  
WEAR.

I'VE SERVED  
ON THIS SHIP SINCE  
GEORGES AND  
I WERE **YOUNG**.  
I KNOW OUR  
**LIMITATIONS**.

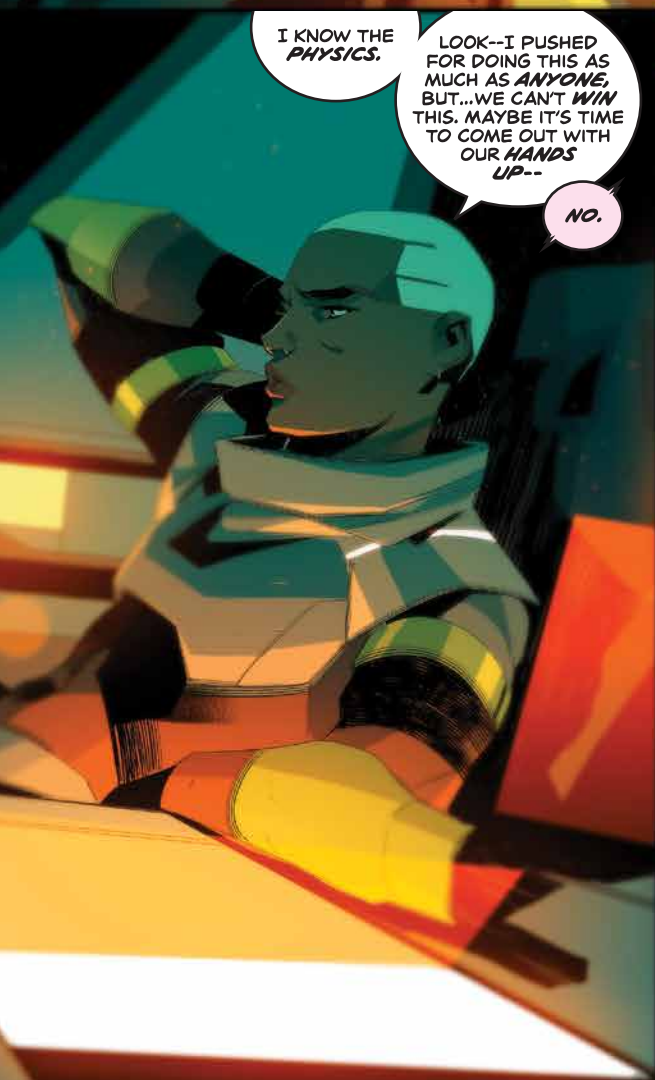
IF IT IS  
A CONTEST  
BETWEEN **HER**  
ENGINES AND  
**OURS**--WE  
WILL **LOSE**,  
I THINK.



WITHIN THE  
HOUR.

THE WARP  
ENGINE IS **ALREADY**  
OVERHEATING. SOON,  
ONE OF THE COMPONENTS  
KEEPING US **STABLE**  
IN WARP SPACE WILL  
**OVERLOAD**, AND  
**FAIL...**

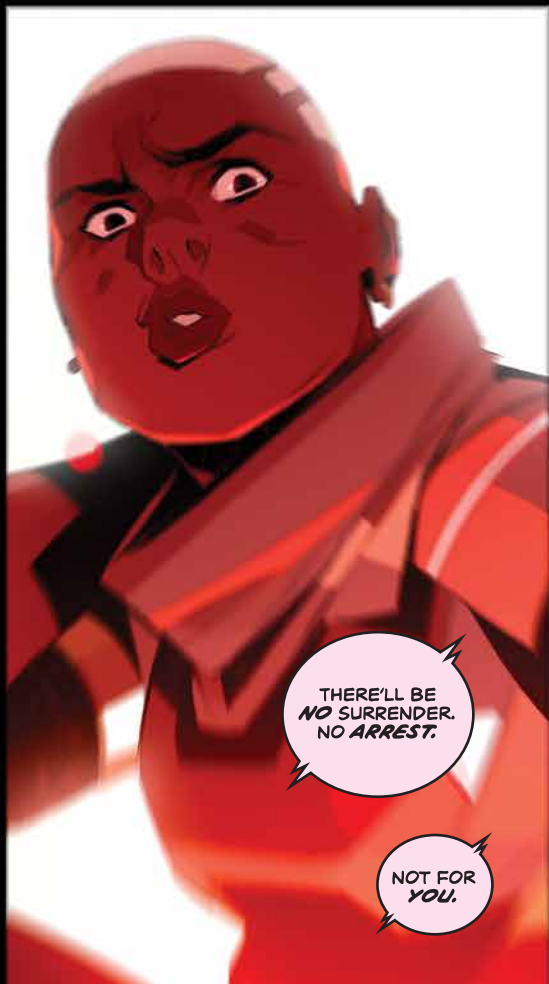
...AND **THEN**  
WE BEGIN EXCITING  
NEW CAREERS  
AS **MINIATURE**  
**BLACK HOLES**.



I KNOW THE  
**PHYSICS**.

LOOK--I PUSHED  
FOR DOING THIS AS  
MUCH AS **ANYONE**,  
BUT...WE CAN'T **WIN**  
THIS. MAYBE IT'S TIME  
TO COME OUT WITH  
OUR **HANDS**  
**UP--**

**NO.**



THERE'LL BE  
**NO SURRENDER**.  
**NO ARREST**.

NOT FOR  
**YOU**.



I KNOW  
WHAT IT *MEANS*  
WHEN A MALIK  
FLIES THE *WHITE*  
*FLAG*. I KNOW  
WHAT COMES  
*NEXT*.

AND I KNOW  
WHAT *YOUR*  
WORD IS  
*WORTH*.

WE'RE OUT  
IN THE *BIG DARK*,  
CAPTAIN MALIK. THERE'S  
NOBODY BUT *YOU AND*  
*ME*--THERE'S NOBODY  
TO *ADJUDICATE*,  
TO PRETEND IT'S  
*NOBODY'S*  
*FAULT*.



GO  
AHEAD.  
*TEST*  
ME.

DROP OUT  
OF WARP AND  
SEE WHAT  
*HAPPENS*.



YOU LEFT  
THE CHANNEL  
*OPEN...?*

I-I WASN'T  
*THINKING*--I'VE  
BEEN LEAVING THE  
ESCORT CHANNEL  
OPEN SINCE MY  
*FIRST DAY OF*  
*TRAINING*--

IT'S  
CLOSED  
*NOW--*



OPEN THE  
*SCANNERS*.  
WIDE ANGLE.

SHE'S RIGHT.  
IF WE DROP OUT  
OF WARP IN THE VOID  
BETWEEN *GALAXIES*,  
IT'LL BE HER, AND US,  
AND NOTHING  
BESIDES.

HER  
ADVANTAGE.



AN  
AUTOPSY SHIP  
NEEDS A LOCAL  
*GRAVITY WELL*  
TO MANEUVER  
IN. A FRAME OF  
*REFERENCE*.

WE NEED  
A PLACE TO  
MAKE OUR  
*STAND*.



MAKE A STAND?  
*HOW?* GEORGES,  
SHE'S FLYING A  
*FIGHTER*. WE MINE  
*CORPSES*--WE  
DON'T HAVE  
A *HOPE*--

YOUR  
*SECOND* ERROR  
OF THE DAY.  
WATCH AND  
LEARN.

*ALICE*--  
YOU REMEMBER  
THE SKIRMISH  
WITH THE *SILVER*  
LINING BACK  
IN '52?



HA!

WE HAD A  
FULL HOLD  
*THEN*,  
TOO...

EXACTLY.



ALL  
RIGHT. THERE'S ONE  
LARGE MASS AHEAD--  
SOMETHING WITH  
*GRAVITY*, CLOSING  
FAST. A *ROGUE*  
*PLANETOID*,  
MAYBE.

DROPPING  
OUT OF WARP  
IN *THREE*...  
*TWO*...



OH.

NO, OF  
COURSE.



The background is a dark, almost black, space filled with organic, flowing patterns of green and yellow light. These patterns resemble smoke, mist, or perhaps the movement of leaves in a forest. A single, bright pink line enters from the bottom left corner, curving upwards and towards the center of the frame. The line is thin but vibrant, creating a sharp contrast with the dark background and the green/yellow light patterns.

WHAT  
ELSE *COULD*  
IT BE?

# WE ONLY F WHEN T DE

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*Book One: The Seeker*

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# FIND THEM THEY'RE ROD

— Issue Three: All Of Us Together —



...  
THEY *LOSE*  
SOMETHING...

WHAT?



THIS  
ONE...IT SEEMS  
*LARGER, MORE  
THERE.*

I THOUGHT  
I KNEW WHAT  
THEY WERE.

I  
THOUGHT  
I'D *SEEN*  
THEM.



BUT...  
THEY *LOSE*  
SOMETHING ON  
THEIR WAY TO  
US. ON THE  
*JOURNEY.*

WE  
CAN'T *FIT*  
THEM IN OUR  
WORLD UNLESS  
SOMETHING  
*LEAVES*  
THEM.

CAPTAIN...



WHAT  
IF THEY  
CAN'T *BE*  
ALIVE?

WHAT IF  
THEY CAN'T  
*BE ALIVE*  
AND *BE*  
*REAL?*

*CAPTAIN.*

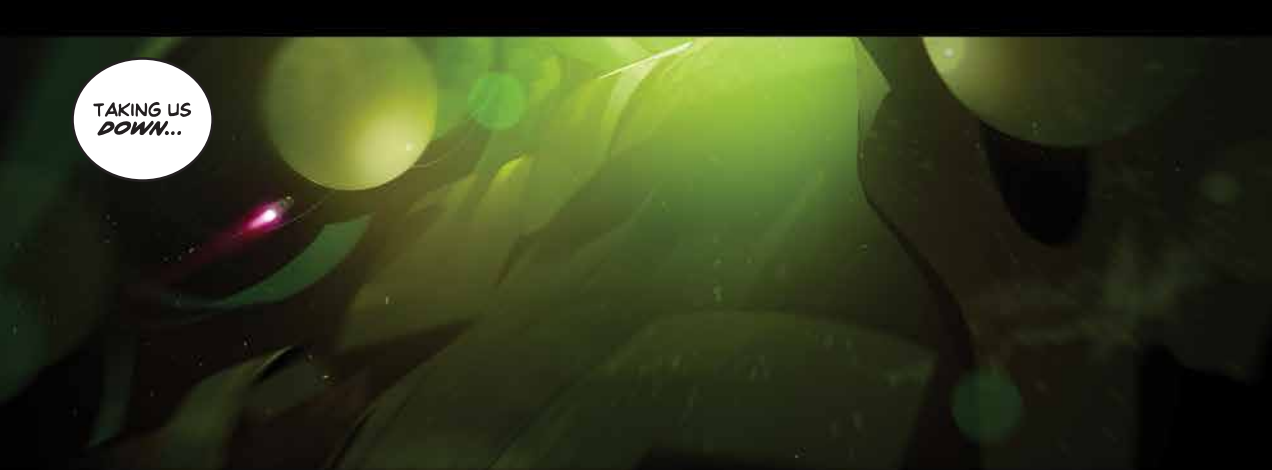
WE  
GOT *LUCKY.*  
SHE DIDN'T  
DROP OUT *WITH*  
US--BUT THAT'S  
BOUGHT US  
*SECONDS.*



*FLY THE  
SHIP.*

OF COURSE.  
NO *TIME.*

OF  
COURSE.



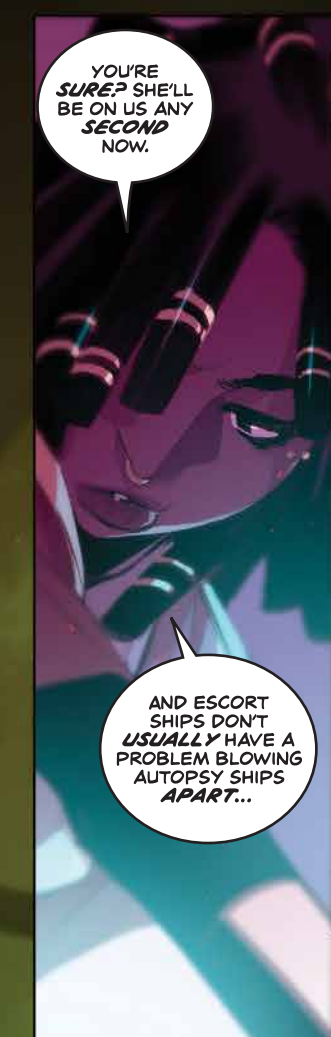
TAKING US  
*DOWN...*



GENERATIONS  
OF AUTOPSY SHIPS  
HAVE ADAPTED TO  
*MANEUVER* IN THE  
UNIQUE GRAVITY  
OF A *GOD*.

ESCORT SHIPS ARE  
BASED ON *MILITARY*  
*FIGHTERS*, AS YOU  
SAID. *GENERALIZED--*  
NOT *SPECIALIZED*.

SO, HER  
ADVANTAGE  
IS *GONE*.



YOU'RE  
*SURE?* SHE'LL  
BE ON US ANY  
*SECOND*  
NOW.

AND ESCORT  
SHIPS DON'T  
*USUALLY* HAVE A  
PROBLEM BLOWING  
AUTOPSY SHIPS  
*APART...*



BECAUSE  
THEY'RE USED  
TO AUTOPSY  
SHIPS THAT  
*RUN*.

A FOOL'S  
GAMBIT.



NOT  
*OURS*.

OPEN  
*COMMS* AGAIN,  
MR. HAUER. NO  
*INTERNALS--*  
JUST WHAT WE  
*WANT* TO  
SEND.



WE'RE GOING TO  
*SURRENDER.*



WHAT...?



AS FOR  
*ME...* I'LL  
SHOW OUR  
*BELLY* A  
LITTLE.



TRUST  
ME.

THERE SHE  
IS. BROADCAST  
A STANDARD  
*DISTRESS*  
*SIGNAL,*  
PLEASE.



SHE'S  
TAKEN THE  
BAIT.

SHE'LL WANT  
TO GET IN  
*CLOSE...*



...CONFIRM  
THE KILL.

ALICE? HOW  
ARE THINGS ON  
YOUR END?

MY  
ARMS ARE  
**STRONG**,  
CAPTAIN  
MALIK.

MY  
**REACH** IS  
**LONG**.

A SHAME  
SHE CAN'T **HEAR**  
US NOW--WE'RE  
MAKING THIS GIFT  
TO **HER**, AFTER  
ALL.

JUST A LITTLE  
**SOMETHING**, YOU  
UNDERSTAND.





FOR HER  
TIRELESS  
WORK.



IT'S THE TRICK  
WE LEARNED WHEN  
THE *SILVER LINING*  
AMBUSHED US.



...AND IT'LL  
STAY RED, WET,  
AND RAW WHEN  
IT HITS YOUR  
ENEMY'S *ION*  
*INTAKE*.



WE WERE  
HAULING MEAT  
*THEN*, TOO.  
BLOOD AND  
PROTEINS.

IN OPEN  
SPACE, MEAT  
*FREEZES*--BUT NOT  
IMMEDIATELY. HURL  
IT FROM THE HOLD  
WITH ENOUGH  
*FORCE*...



RAW MEAT  
IS NOT *GOOD*  
FOR AN ION  
INTAKE.

NOT GOOD  
FOR A SHIP'S  
*POWER*  
*SUPPLY*.



IT'LL TAKE HER...*FIVE MINUTES* TO FLUSH HER SYSTEM, PERHAPS.

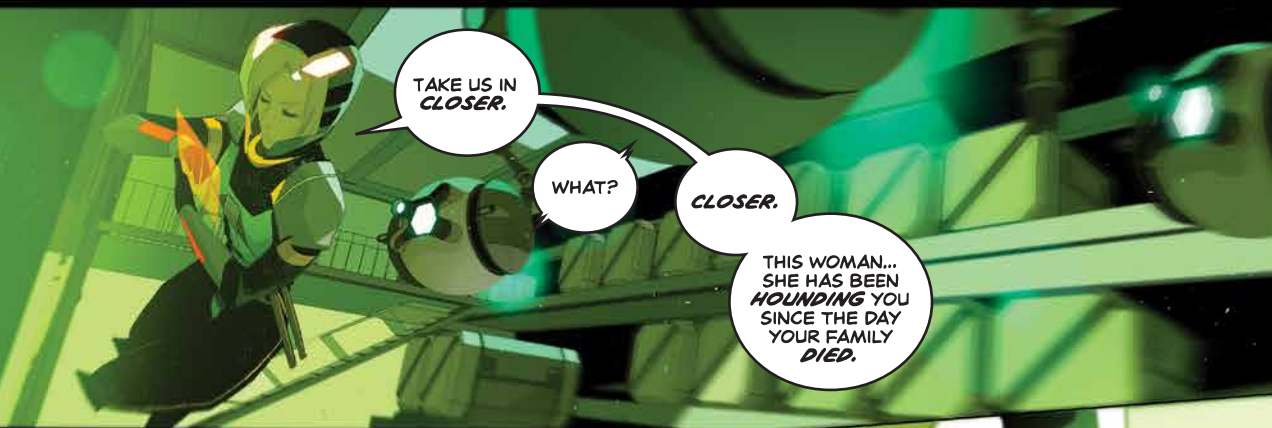
WE NEED *TEN*. OUR WARP ENGINES ARE STILL IN THEIR *COOLING CYCLE*. IF WE FIRE THEM UP *NOW*...

...WELL, IT'LL BE LIKE POURING *BOILING WATER* ONTO A BLOCK OF *ICE*. THEY'LL CRACK IN *HALF*.

THEN WE NEED SOMETHING *ELSE*. ANOTHER *DELAYING TACTIC*--OR SOMETHING TO STOP HER *COLD*.

WE'VE COME *TOO FAR*, JASON.

TOO FAR TO *DIE* STARING AT ANOTHER *DEAD GOD*...



TAKE US IN  
*CLOSER.*

WHAT?

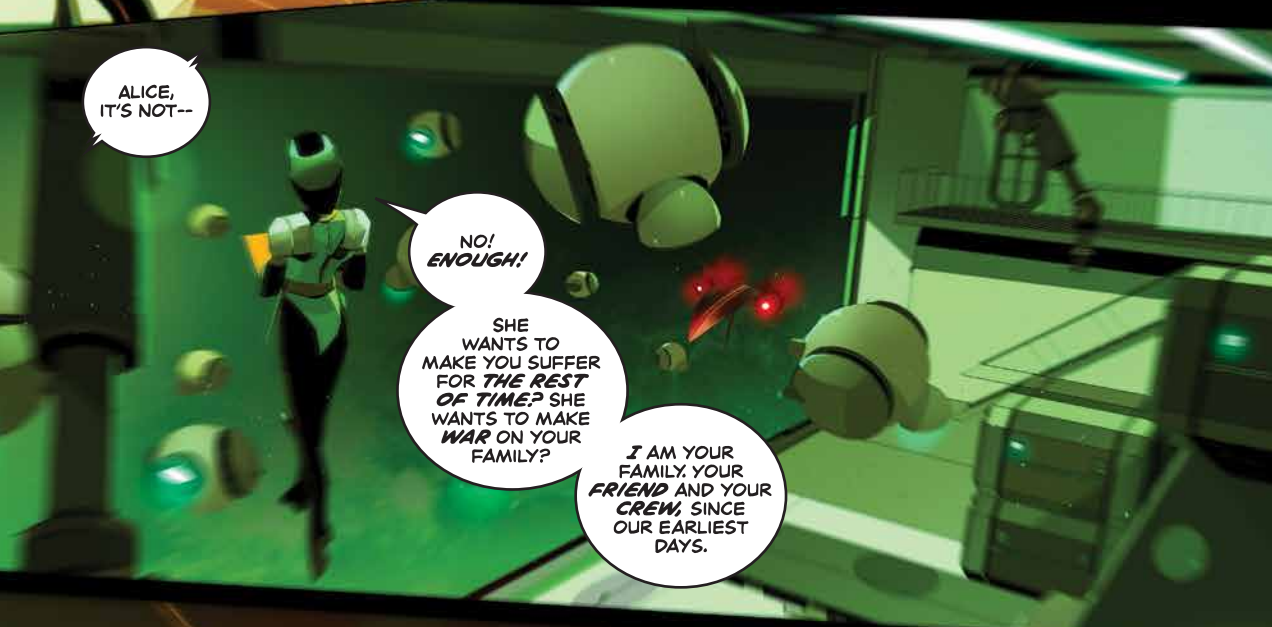
*CLOSER.*

THIS WOMAN...  
SHE HAS BEEN  
*HOUNDING* YOU  
SINCE THE DAY  
YOUR FAMILY  
*DIED.*



AS IF *YOU*  
DID NOT SUFFER.  
AS IF YOU LOST  
*NOTHING.*

IT'S  
*ENOUGH,*  
GEORGES.



ALICE,  
IT'S NOT--

NO!  
*ENOUGH!*

SHE  
WANTS TO  
MAKE YOU SUFFER  
FOR *THE REST*  
OF *TIME?* SHE  
WANTS TO MAKE  
*WAR* ON YOUR  
FAMILY?

I AM YOUR  
FAMILY. YOUR  
*FRIEND* AND YOUR  
*CREW,* SINCE  
OUR EARLIEST  
DAYS.



SHE CAN  
MAKE WAR ON  
ALL OF US  
*TOGETHER!*

YOU'RE  
COMMITTING THE  
*DRONES--?*



Alice--  
they're not  
designed  
to hold a  
ship--

I  
don't **need**  
to hold her!  
I just need  
to **move**  
her!

**ella!**  
when she  
is in place,  
use the  
**knife!**

that'll  
cut her  
**open--**

she  
had her  
chance! **it**  
is her or  
us!

**do  
it!**

**wait,  
not yet!**

I  
need to  
get her  
into--

--position.







AAAHH--



I--I  
CAN FEEL  
IT--

I CAN FEEL  
IT THROUGH  
THE GLASS--



WE...WE  
WOKE IT  
UP.

WE  
WOKE IT  
UP.

IT'S STILL  
ALIVE...



SUIT IS  
SEALED.

OUTER  
CANOPY--

--EMERGENCY  
RELEASE.



ROOM TO  
MOVE, AND  
ROOM TO  
*SEE.*

THAT  
WAS A VERY NICE  
*MURDER ATTEMPT,*  
QUARTERMASTER  
WIRTH.



RICHTER...?



MY  
TURN.

RIFLE--  
*RAPID  
FIRE.*



*Continued...*