

STÅRGÅTE

HORIZON

"A Matter of Faith, Part Two"

Ep: 3.24

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STARGATE: HORIZON

"A Matter of Faith, Part Two"

TEASER

FADE IN:

STARTS WITH 90 SECOND RECAP WHICH TAKES US INTO --

INT. CORRIDOR

A lift door opens and ZACH storms into the corridor. The journalist rushes down the halls with urgency, and in the process nearly runs into an N.D. CREWMEMBER. As he just barely avoids a head-on collision --

ZACH

(between heavy breaths)

I'm sorry! I'm -- I'm in a -- I'm
in bit of a -- bit of a rush! Gotta
get to the -- to the -- to the --
Sorry!

And Zach continues rushing down the corridor at full speed.

INT. CONTROL ROOM

CALLEN is pacing slightly, while the VORIAN TECHNICIAN is seated at his console. The background is filled with Supernumeraries. The mood is tense and urgent.

CALLEN

Any news from Vorian?

VORIAN TECHNICIAN

No, sir. Last we heard the planetary
defense forces are on standby, and
ready to open fire once the Kih'Andari
arrive.

Callen tries to be positive.

CALLEN

Let's hope they'll be able to deal
with Der'ash before he has the
opportunity to discharge the biogenic
weapon.

And just then --

ZACH (O.S.)

Am I too late?

Callen turns to find Zach, who's just stormed into the control room. Zach is working on catching his breath, as Callen regards him.

CALLEN

Mister Hoffmann?

Zach tries to speak up, but he's still too breathless from his long run. He takes a couple of deep breaths, tries to regain his strength. It seems like he might faint.

CALLEN (CONT'D)

(worried)

Are you all right?

ZACH

(between breaths)

Sure -- I'm fine -- it's just --
just -- big station.

(catching his breath)

If you don't mind, I -- I'd rather --
rather follow things from up here...

(explaining)

You know, emotional attachments to
the material... that kinda stuff.

Callen remembers his conversation with Zach earlier. And the Commander gives him a slight nod.

CALLEN

I have no problem with that.

Zach acknowledges. Steps closer. Still working on catching his breath. And after all the running his mouth is starting to feel a little dry.

ZACH

This is gonna sound strange, but...

Callen looks at him curiously.

ZACH (CONT'D)

...you wouldn't happen to have a
glass of water?

And off that...

EXT. HYPERSPACE - KIH'ANDARI SHIPS

Der'ash's Kih'Andari Cruiser is flying through the bright hyperspace tunnel, escorted by a squadron of Kih'Andari fighters and additional cruisers. As the formation of ships move forward, they have something threatening to them. Something imposing. An armada moving towards their destination with a single goal -- to destroy it.

INT. KIH'ANDARI SHIP - BRIDGE

In the dimly lit command center we find DER'ASH, standing before the center chair. LECIA is standing at his side. VU'RAN and the KIH'ANDARI HELMSMAN are manning their respective consoles. Supernumeraries are in the background as needed.

KIH'ANDARI HELMSMAN

We will arrive at Vorian in a matter
of minutes, High Council.

A great sense of anticipation lies in the air, as Der'ash seems pleased.

DER'ASH

(to himself)

Then it is about to happen...

(MORE)

DER'ASH (CONT'D)

(a beat, to Vu'ran)

I want the weapon deployed the moment
we exit hyperspace.

VU'RAN

Understood.

Lecia moves closer towards Der'ash. She speaks with the
sweet joy of victory in her voice.

LECIA

How many days have we spent looking
forward to this moment? And now
it's finally here...

Der'ash and Lecia exchange a look. They both recall the
doubts they've experienced regarding this. But right now,
all doubts have been pushed aside. This is their moment.

Then, Der'ash moves to his chair. He hits the COM PANEL on
the chair's armrest --

DER'ASH

(in com)

All hands -- this is Der'ash!

(a beat)

As we are moving towards our goal,
my fellow Kih'Andari, you shall
know... that regardless of the
resistance we will be facing... we
will be victorious because this is
our destiny -- the path the
Originators have chosen for us.

A beat. Der'ash has the attention of everyone on the bridge.
This is a great moment for them, as they listen to their
fearless leader -- the man whose vision they've been
following.

DER'ASH (CONT'D)

Let it be known that this is our day
of glory, my friends. We shall all
pride ourselves for being part of
this great crusade. For our people
will speak our names for centuries
to come. It will be them who will
make all of us immortal, as we give
birth to the great new world in which
they shall live.

(a beat)

May the Originators be with us all!

And as Der'ash lets those words hang in the air, feeling the
victory just within his grasp, we:

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

(NOTE: Episode credits fall over opening scenes.)

EXT. LANDSCAPE ON VORIAN - DAY

Establishing the forested landscape with the large mountain in the background, as seen in part one.

INT. UNDERGROUND CAVERN

START ON GROVIN's dead body, lying on the ground and staring to the ceiling lifelessly. He's sporting a bloody bullet wound in the middle of his forehead.

CHASE (O.S.)

Well -- now what?

ADJUST to INCLUDE GRANT, SIVEA, CHASE, CHRISTINE, LENORI and ADAMS, still looking at the Book before them.

CHASE (CONT'D)

I mean, do we just read it, or...?

Lenori's eyes are on his scanner, as he's taking a scan of the Book.

LENORI

It is distributing a highly unusual energy signature.

GRANT

A "highly unusual" energy signature?

But Lenori shakes his head.

LENORI

The only thing I can say with certainty is that this is unlike anything even I have come across. Suffice to say despite its appearance -- this is more than merely a book.

They look at the Book before them for a beat. Grant is starting to be overcome by a feeling of uneasiness.

GRANT

We have to destroy it. Knowing what this thing can do... we can't risk keeping it around.

CHRISTINE

I'd love to get a chance to take a closer look at it... but I agree.

Suddenly, Sivea finds herself overcome by a WAVE OF PAIN. Her head feels like someone's sticking a thousand needles into it. The others react with worry --

CHASE

Sivea? You okay?

SIVEA
(in pain)
Not exactly...

Immediately everyone's attention is on Sivea. Lenori examines her with his scanner.

LENORI
Have you been experiencing any more
of these visions?

SIVEA
Not in a while.

LENORI
(re: his scanner's
readouts)
That's good -- your brain activity
seems to be returning to normal.

CHRISTINE
Which is what we were hoping for,
right?

Lenori nods, but he's also got reasons to be concerned.

LENORI
(to Sivea)
Unfortunately, it also means that
you could still start experiencing
aftereffects from the injuries you've
sustained.

SIVEA
What kind of aftereffects?

LENORI
(concerned beat)
I'm afraid if not treated properly,
you could still experience anything
from cerebral swelling to renewed
internal bleeding.
(bottom line)
We need to get you back to Horizon,
where I'll be able to ensure that
doesn't happen.

SIVEA
(trying to bear the
pain)
Now that we've found the Book... you
won't hear any arguments from me.

A moment as Lenori acknowledges.

LENORI
I am pleased to hear that.

ADAMS
Aren't we still overlooking something?
How do we get out of here?

Grant looks at the Book again.

GRANT

Once we take the Book from the pedestal... there's really no reason for the transporter system not to take us back.

A beat as they consider that notion.

CHRISTINE

Sounds simple enough.

And with that, Grant moves towards the Book. And as he reaches for it --

A BRIGHT FLASH OF LIGHT SURROUNDS THE COLONEL, as we:

MATCH-CUT TO:

INT. NEBULAN DIMENSION - HORIZON GATE ROOM

Grant finds himself standing in the celestial representation of the gate room on Horizon. The room is bathed in a blue shimmer, and a WHITE LIMBO can be seen through the dome behind the Stargate. Grant looks around for a moment, catching his bearings, when suddenly --

NEBULAN WOMAN (O.S.)

Your quest was successful.

Grant turns to see the NEBULAN WOMAN. She's standing in front of the stairs leading into the Stargate. When she looks at him, her eyes feature the mysterious flair we've come to know from her.

NEBULAN WOMAN (CONT'D)

But your journey is far from having reached its end, John.

Grant considers her a beat.

GRANT

What does that mean?

NEBULAN WOMAN

The minions of evil are still trying to procure the Book, even as I stand here before you. You cannot allow them to succeed.

GRANT

(understanding)

The Enoly...

(a beat)

Well, I don't intend to let them succeed. I intend to destroy the Book.

But the Nebulan Woman's features seem almost a little solemn this time.

NEBULAN WOMAN

That may be more difficult than you know.

GRANT

What's that supposed to mean?

NEBULAN WOMAN

The Book cannot be destroyed by means available to your realm. To destroy it, you must first walk the path further.

GRANT

Well, I'm sure if we'd strap a healthy amount of C4 to it --

But she steps forward with urgency, as she interrupts.

NEBULAN WOMAN

You must take the Book to a secure location... take it away from the world on which it was discovered, and whatever happens... ensure that it is never opened.

Grant realizes that the mysterious woman seems more unsettled than she normally is. And that's something that causes the Colonel to feel greatly worried.

GRANT

What happens if the Book is opened?

The Nebulan Woman's head lowers slightly.

NEBULAN WOMAN

The plan of Evil would be allowed to come to be... and you would face a trial greater than any of those that already lie behind you.

A moment as Grant takes that in. Then he pushes his feelings of uneasiness aside. Tries to stay positive.

GRANT

Well, then tell me what to do to prevent that from happening. You said that finding the Book would save Vorian -- tell me how that's gonna work.

NEBULAN WOMAN

(solemn)
I cannot.

GRANT

(hard)
Yes, you can. You of all people know what's at stake here.

But the Nebulan Woman starts pacing around very slightly. Her features remain solemn.

NEBULAN WOMAN

With the discovery of Nosah'trah's Book... your realm has reached one of its most crucial crossroads.

(MORE)

NEBULAN WOMAN (CONT'D)

Right now matters are more uncertain than ever, John.

(a beat)

What I see is an infinite number of possibilities. All of them could come to be... or none.

GRANT

(realizing)

Possible futures...

Grant feels startled by those words.

GRANT (CONT'D)

(quietly)

Then what am I supposed to do?

NEBULAN WOMAN

Listen to your own free will.

Grant isn't willing to just accept that.

GRANT

(frustrated)

You could at least give me some pointers. Tell me what these possible futures are, and maybe I'll be able to avoid the bad ones.

But the mysterious woman regards him sadly for a moment.

NEBULAN WOMAN

My kind cannot and will not interfere with free will.

(a beat)

All I can and always have done is... show you the significance of your path. But the choices that have led you to where you are today... were always yours alone.

GRANT

(frustrated)

I'm sorry, but I'm gonna have to say that's a load of crap! You've been interfering with our matters ever since I first met you! At one point you even gave us access to your people's technology!

The Nebulan Woman nods slightly. And before she replies, Grant already knows what she will say. He's come to know her well enough to get a grasp of how she thinks.

GRANT (CONT'D)

But that was just your way of testing us, wasn't it? Which is why you took it away from us again.

(with calm anger)

What if I told you I'm tired of these games?

They hold a beat. The mysterious woman speaks up reassuringly.

NEBULAN WOMAN

(reassuring)

You must have faith... that even if
times of darkness lie before you...
there is still a way for you to
prevail.

GRANT

(angry)

I'm sorry, but that's just not good
enough anymore! You said you wanna
be my guide, show me the right path.
Well, then fine! But you're gonna
have to start doing a better job.

The Colonel stops himself. Allows his frustration to calm a
little.

GRANT (CONT'D)

(calmer)

Don't get me wrong -- I'm grateful
for everything you've done for me in
the past.

(softly)

But right now I just... I just don't
know what to do.

Beat. She steps a little closer.

NEBULAN WOMAN

You must do what you always have
done, John.

(beat)

And whatever happens... never give
up faith.

They hold a beat as Grant looks at her. Finally, the Colonel
nods slightly. Understanding what she's trying to tell him.
And suddenly, the Colonel is surrounded by the BRIGHT LIGHT
again, as we:

MATCH-CUT TO:

INT. UNDERGROUND CAVERN

CLOSE ON Grant, still reaching for the Book. He stops, reacts
to what's just happened. He looks around and realizes that
no time has past here. To everyone else he was never gone.

PULL BACK as the others notice his hesitation.

CHRISTINE

What's wrong?

Grant's expression now features a frown of concern.

GRANT

A great deal...

And off this moment, we go to...

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

Establishing the great space station.

INT. CONTROL ROOM

A great sense of urgency, as everyone's eagerly awaiting word from Vorian. Callen stops his pacing, as he turns to the Vorian Technician.

CALLEN
Lieutenant?

VORIAN TECHNICIAN
Still nothing, sir. Der'ash isn't there yet.

CALLEN
Any word from Colonel Grant?

VORIAN TECHNICIAN
I'm afraid not, sir.

Callen sighs. Continues pacing. Zach -- a GLASS OF WATER in his hands -- is looking as worried as all of them.

ZACH
Are they confident at all that they can stop that lunatic once he gets there?

VORIAN TECHNICIAN
We have several ships orbiting the planet, ready to open fire the moment Der'ash exits hyperspace.

ZACH
Yeah, but... what's to stop him to exit hyperspace say... inside the planet's atmosphere?

Callen reacts to that. Looks at Zach. Zach's not sure how to interpret the Commander's look.

ZACH (CONT'D)
All right, if that's impossible for some complicated, technical reason... just forget I even brought it up.

But Callen's look just keeps boring into Zach.

ZACH (CONT'D)
(worried)
What?

Callen turns to the Vorian Technician.

CALLEN
Put me through to President Adari.

VORIAN TECHNICIAN
(proceeding)
Yes, sir.

ZACH
(unsettled)
Was it something I said?

INT. PRESIDENTIAL BUNKER - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

A continuous sense of urgency, as we find PRESIDENT ADARI here with MINISTER KALOS, AMBASSADOR CA'VEL and several ADDITIONAL STAFF MEMBERS. This is a conference room with a center table (similar to the briefing room table on Horizon) and a VIEWING SCREEN on one of the walls. As this is underground, there are no windows. Adari and her staff are assembled around the table, as a SUPREME COMMANDER (the Vorian equivalent to a General), is giving them a heads up.

The Supreme Commander, a typical military man in his fifties, is standing at the viewing screen, which is showing a GRAPHIC of the Vorian homeworld and the various ships surrounding the planet.

SUPREME COMMANDER

... Our ships have established a blockade that surrounds the entire planet.

(pointing at the screen)

If Der'ash tries to break through from any direction, we're confident we'll be able to stop him before he can discharge the weapon.

CA'VEL

Could this biogenic weapon be used on one of our ships?

The Supreme Commander's features grow concerned, as he nods.

SUPREME COMMANDER

We estimate that if the weapon is fired on a ship... the toxin could very well enter the vessel... and kill all of its crew. According to Council Vahret... the toxin kills instantaneously if one is directly exposed.

A beat. Faces fall across the room. Kalos weighs in positively:

KALOS

However, let's not forget that the alternative would be far more devastating. Considering Der'ash has only one cruiser and a hand full of fighters... he won't stand a chance against our ships.

Adari doesn't feel comforted by that.

ADARI

Let's hope you're right, Minister.
(a beat, to the Supreme
Commander)
What about civil unrest?

SUPREME COMMANDER

Needless to say, we have reports of fear and panic throughout the entire planet. But it seems that --

Just then, the PRESIDENT'S AIDE ENTERS.

PRESIDENT'S AIDE
Your eminence. Forgive the
interruption...

ADARI
What is it?

PRESIDENT'S AIDE
We're receiving a transmission from
Commander Callen. He says it's
urgent.

ADARI
I'll take it in here.

PRESIDENT'S AIDE
Yes, your eminence.

The President's Aide EXITS. And there's a moment as everyone
in here exchanges looks in silence. They all share the
feelings of uneasiness.

After a few moments, the graphic on the viewing screen is
replaced with an image of Commander Callen, standing in the
Horizon control room.

CALLEN
(on screen)
Your eminence.

ADARI
I was told you have something urgent
you wanted to address, Commander?

Callen nods.

CALLEN
(on screen)
I have a feeling I know what Der'ash's
attack plan is going to be. Which
is why I recommend that you establish
a defensive perimeter of ships
directly around the capital city.

Before the President can reply, Kalos speaks up in a somewhat
condescending manner:

KALOS
We appreciate your concern, De'van,
but rest assured -- we don't intend
to let Der'ash get anywhere near the
capital. We'll stop him before he
can make it that far.

CALLEN
(on screen)
You won't if he exits hyperspace
directly above it.

CA'VEL
Our experts say that his ship's hull
wouldn't be able to take that kind
of a pounding.

CA'VEL (CONT'D)

And aside from that, he'd risk crashing into the capital before he could launch his attack.

CALLEN

(on screen)

One thing I've come to learn, Ambassador, is that fanatics tend to be resilient... I have a feeling Der'ash will have found a way to work around technical inconveniences. He knows we'll be throwing everything we've got at him, which means he'll proceed accordingly.

A beat of silence. Everyone's eyes are on the President -- it's her call.

ADARI

I agree...

(to the Supreme
Commander)

Have some of your forces regroup above the capital.

The Supreme Commander nods. But Kalos doesn't like that idea.

KALOS

Your eminence -- if we do that, we'll be effectively creating an opening in our blockade. No matter how small that opening may be... it could very well be all that Der'ash needs.

ADARI

(after a beat)

Your concern is noted, Minister.

Kalos relents. But his features make it clear that he's not happy. He turns to Callen on the viewing screen again.

KALOS

(soft)

Let's hope this is not a mistake.

And off that...

EXT. HYPERSPACE - THE BELLEROPHON & VORIAN SHIPS

The vessels cruise through hyperspace in formation.

INT. BELLEROPHON - BRIDGE

The same sense of urgency. COLONEL MACKENZIE LOGAN is seated in the captain's chair. To her right we find LIEUTENANT AMARO, and to her left we find LIEUTENANT PERCIVAL. DAVID is manning the console behind Logan, and VAHRET is pacing uneasily. The ship is on alert, and the lighting dim.

PERCIVAL

We're closing in on Vorian, ma'am.

(MORE)

PERCIVAL (CONT'D)

But even at our top speed we'll still arrive at least thirty seconds after Der'ash.

Logan acknowledges. Vahret speaks quietly, half to himself.

VAHRET

If this attack succeeds... it will take the combined efforts of the Vorians and the Kih'Andari for Vorian to rebuild.

DAVID

Well, with any luck... the attack won't succeed.

It's clear that Vahret is being haunted by his guilty conscious.

VAHRET

All I'm saying is if it does, Major...
(soft)
...I will do what I can to help our people get back on their feet.

A beat as David reacts to those words, realizing that Vahret seems to be having a change of heart regarding his feelings about the Vorians being "his people."

Then, David's snapped out of his thoughts by --

TOM (O.S.)

Did I miss anything?

And we reveal TOM, stepping onto the bridge. His wounded shoulder has been bandaged, and he's wearing an ARM SLING.

LOGAN

I doubt you've already been discharged from the infirmary, Doctor.

TOM

Well, I may have been a little stubborn, I won't deny that... but I don't intend to lie around down there, while all hell is breaking lose.

A moment as everyone acknowledges. A slight smile forms on Logan's face.

LOGAN

Well, in that case... welcome back.
(a beat)
Resume your station.

TOM

Yes, ma'am.

And as Tom joins David at his side again --

DAVID

(wry)
Didn't wanna miss the show, huh?

Tom acknowledges his friend's words. Then there's a moment of silence between them, but their expressions are enough to convey the notion: David is glad to see that Tom wasn't seriously wounded, and both of them are concerned, knowing very well that they might not be able to prevent Der'ash's attack.

And off this moment between the two friends...

INT. KIH'ANDARI SHIP - BRIDGE

CLOSE ON the Kih'Andari Helmsman --

KIH'ANDARI HELMSMAN
We're arriving at our destination,
High Council. Preparing to drop out
of hyperspace.

RACK FOCUS to see Der'ash seated in his chair behind the helmsman.

DER'ASH
(to Vu'ran)
How long will it take to deploy the
weapon?

VU'RAN
Once we're out of hyperspace... a
couple of seconds.

Hold a tense beat. Der'ash smiles. He stands, and once more takes a few steps forward with Lecia at his side. The two of them reach for each other's hands, ready to experience this moment together.

They hold each others hands, ready to do the unthinkable.

Then --

CLOSE ON DER'ASH

as he gives the order:

DER'ASH
Take us out of hyperspace.

And we:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE

START CLOSE ON VORIAN'S OUTER ATMOSPHERE...

...where we hold for a few beats. Then, without warning --

A HYPERSPACE WINDOW opens inside the atmosphere, above a couple of clouds, as the Kih'Andari ship exits hyperspace.

ANGLE CLOSE ON THE KIH'ANDARI SHIP

as it moves downwards at enormous speed, and flying through the atmosphere like this is causing FLAMES to appear on the shields surrounding the vessel.

INT. KIH'ANDARI SHIP - BRIDGE

CONSTANT MINOR SHAKING as the ship is moving through the planet's atmosphere.

KIH'ANDARI HELMSMAN

We're on approach for the capital city. We'll be in weapons range in ten seconds.

VU'RAN

Shields holding at seventy percent.
(working controls)
Deploying biogenic weapon now.

Off Der'ash...

EXT. THE KIH'ANDARI SHIP

CLOSE ON the lower side of the ship's hull. While the cruiser is still heading down towards the planet's surface at full speed, a section of its hull retracts, revealing the SILVER CYLINDRICAL DEVICE we've seen in parts from the ship's weapon room. It's the biogenic weapon which is being deployed.

As the weapon is prepped for use...

INT. PRESIDENTIAL BUNKER - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Adari, Kalos, Ca'vel and the others are assembled around the table. The Supreme Commander is looking up from a console with urgency --

SUPREME COMMANDER

We have confirmation -- Der'ash just dropped out of hyperspace above the capital. Our fighters are on intercept course, and our ships in orbit are redeploying.

Everyone shifts uncomfortably. Off Adari's tense expression...

EXT. SPACE - ABOVE VORIAN

The SPACE COMMAND CRUISERS that are surrounding Vorian are now redeploying, as they head off to also enter the planet's atmosphere.

But suddenly --

SEVERAL HYPERSPACE WINDOWS open, and the KIH'ANDARI FIGHTERS and CRUISERS that had been seen accompanying Der'ash's ship, now enter the mix. They immediately unleash a rain of Phasial Discharger blasts onto the Vorian ships, effectively distracting those closest to the Vorian capital.

THE VORIAN SHIPS

take a couple of surprise hits, before they return fire.

INT. HORIZON - CONTROL ROOM

The Vorian Technician reacts to his console --

VORIAN TECHNICIAN

We have confirmation, sir. Der'ash just exited hyperspace.

Callen's expression tightens. Everyone's faces convey just how much is at stake here.

VORIAN TECHNICIAN (CONT'D)

Looks like you were right... Der'ash's ship is inside Vorian's atmosphere.

Off the tense reactions of Callen, Zach and the Vorian Technician...

INT. KIH'ANDARI SHIP - BRIDGE

Vu'ran looks up from his console --

VU'RAN

Weapon is ready, sir.

Der'ash is just about to give the order to fire...

...when suddenly --

KIH'ANDARI HELMSMAN

Sir -- several Vorian ships are approaching from the capital.

EXT. THE KIH'ANDARI SHIP

CLOSE ON the Kih'Andari cruiser as it heads by, and we --

REVEAL:

The VORIAN CAPITAL CITY -- looking at it from the skies like we've never seen it before. It's an amazing sight, but the beauty of the image is overshadowed by the threat that's literally racing towards the city.

SEVERAL VORIAN SHIPS (fighter class) are heading upward from the city, approaching the Kih'Andari ship and opening fire.

The Kih'Andari ship takes some hits, and is forced to fly an evasive maneuver.

ANOTHER ANGLE

as we follow the Kih'Andari ship heading off into the skies. The vessel passes through a few clouds, before it turns back towards the city below from a new direction.

The Kih'Andari ship fires its Phasial Dischargers, but the vessel's main focus is on evading the attacking Vorian ships, as they make a new attack run.

INT. KIH'ANDARI SHIP - BRIDGE

The ship is ROCKED as it takes a hit. Der'ash reacts with anger --

DER'ASH

I want that weapon discharged, Vu'ran!

The ship is ROCKED again.

VU'RAN

We're taking damage to some of the weapon's power systems.

Another SHAKE.

VU'RAN (CONT'D)

(confident)

But it's nothing that can't be worked around.

DER'ASH

Then do it!

Vu'ran nods and proceeds as the ship ROCKS again.

EXT. SPACE - ABOVE VORIAN

Here the Kih'Andari fighters are attacking the Vorian ships at full force, but the Vorians naturally have the higher numbers -- several Kih'Andari fighters take fatal hits and EXPLODE, when suddenly --

A FORMATION OF KIH'ANDARI FIGHTERS

head straight towards one of the Space Command vessels. The Vorian ship is firing all its weapons at the fighters, but it becomes clear that these fighters are on a collision course. While one of them is destroyed by weapons blasts, the others just continue their path of destruction, when --

CLOSE ON THE SPACE COMMAND CRUISER

as the fighters crash straight into it, causing a MASSIVE EXPLOSION, ripping parts of the cruiser away. The cruiser drifts to the side, having taken heavy damage, when --

MORE KIH'ANDARI SHIPS

target the burning vessel, and with their combined efforts...

...the Space Command Cruiser is destroyed. It EXPLODES in a giant ball of fire, as almost simultaneously we see --

MORE HYPERSPACE WINDOWS forming before the vastness of space, when...

...the Bellerophon and several Vorian cruisers exit hyperspace.

INT. BELLEROPHON - BRIDGE

CLOSE ON Logan's expression of determination --

LOGAN

(to Amaro)

Let's take out as many of those Kih'Andari ships as we can.

(to Percival)

Take us into the atmosphere, Lieutenant.

PULL BACK as as Amaro and Percival proceed.

EXT. SPACE - ABOVE VORIAN

CLOSE ON the Bellerophon as she cruises towards Vorian, targeting and taking out several of the Kih'Andari fighters along the way. We follow the Bellerophon as she cruises past the debris of the destroyed Space Command cruiser, before we go to --

EXT. ABOVE THE CAPITAL CITY - DAY

We're close on the Kih'Andari ship as it's now flying directly above some of the Vorian buildings below. It's an astonishing sight to see the vessel maneuver through the capital city like this.

WIDER

to include the Vorian ships above Der'ash. They're all firing their weapons, but it becomes clear that Der'ash is using some of the Vorian buildings as cover. This makes it very difficult for the Vorians to target Der'ash's ship without hitting some of their own buildings.

VARIOUS ANGLES

following Der'ash's Kih'Andari cruiser as it flies above some Vorian streets, close enough so that we can even make out some tiny looking people down on the surface.

FOLLOW THE VORIAN SHIPS

closing in on Der'ash, as they open fire again. The Kih'Andari cruiser does take a few hits, but we realize that the Vorians are careful to not hit the buildings below.

Then --

THE BELLEROPHON & ADDITIONAL VORIAN SHIPS

break through the skies and join the battle.

FOLLOW THE BELLEROPHON

as she cruises down towards the capital city. The view is a rather impressive one, as we stay behind the vessel, as she moves closer towards the surface, giving us the feeling that we're heading down with the ship.

INT. BELLEROPHON - BRIDGE

David reacts to his console --

DAVID

We're in weapons range of Der'ash's ship. Sensors indicate that he's about to discharge the biogenic weapon.

TOM

He's staying directly above the capital -- every shot that misses Der'ash, will be hitting some buildings down there. And taking into account his evasive maneuvers, that might be something we won't be able to avoid.

As Logan considers her options --

AMARO

Ma'am?

She realizes they have no choice.

LOGAN

(soft)
Do it.

A moment as we see expressions of sorrow all around the bridge. They don't like how things are unfolding so far.

AMARO

Yes, ma'am.

And we go to --

INT. KIH'ANDARI SHIP - BRIDGE

The ship is ROCKED MASSIVELY, and a console EXPLODES in the back.

KIH'ANDARI HELMSMAN

Shields are down to twenty percent!

And once more, the ship is ROCKED MASSIVELY. The lighting FLICKERS as parts of the ceiling start CRASHING DOWN, and --

CLOSE ON LECIA

as she's suddenly HIT by a crashing down bulkhead, and buried underneath a tone of debris and sharp metallic objects.

DER'ASH

reacts with concern, as he rushes to her side.

DER'ASH

Lecia!

The ship is ROCKED.

Der'ash checks to find that Lecia is severely injured. A sharp metallic object has bored its way deep into her abdomen, and one of her legs has been twisted into an unnatural position; it's a painful and bloody sight that causes Der'ash to wince. Lecia is still alive, but she can feel the life slipping away from her.

The ship is ROCKED AGAIN. SPARKS crack behind Der'ash, as he speaks softly:

DER'ASH (CONT'D)

(soft)

Lecia... Lecia, can you hear me?

She looks up to him, but she's unable to speak. She realizes that it seems her time may have come; even with her Cai'nan powers she might not be able to survive this.

The ship is ROCKED again. Der'ash takes Lecia's hand. Holds onto it tight.

DER'ASH (CONT'D)

(soft)

Your services will not be forgotten.
History will remember your role in
today's events.

The young Cai'nan woman looks up to him. Takes in his words with contempt. The ship is ROCKED and SPARKS crack in the background. And when Lecia finally speaks, it's barely audible. Nothing more than a whisper.

LECIA

(soft)

Thank you... for everything...

Der'ash takes in those words. He knows what she means. And he gives her a slight smile. They hold an emotional beat.

Then, Der'ash speaks to Vu'ran without taking his eyes off of Lecia.

DER'ASH

Vu'ran?

The ship is ROCKED again, and more SPARKS crack in the background. But Vu'ran has a pleased look on his face.

VU'RAN

The weapon is ready to be discharged.

CLOSE ON DER'ASH

as a slight trace of relief falls upon his face. A moment as he and Lecia look each other into the eye.

CLOSE ON THEIR HANDS

holding each other tight.

THEIR REACTIONS

as they exchange a smile, both feeling their victory has arrived. Then, Der'ash turns to Vu'ran.

CLOSE ON DER'ASH

as his voice is soft, and we catch that he's not happy with killing all these people. He's a man who's doing what he must, but he knows his guilty conscience will haunt him for the rest of his life:

DER'ASH
(almost a whisper)
Fire.

CLOSE ON VU'RAN

as he nods... and discharges the weapon.

EXT. ABOVE THE CAPITAL CITY - DAY

The Kih'Andari ship is taking some more hits, and it's clear that it's only a matter of seconds until the Vorians and the Bellerophon will be able to finally destroy it.

But just then --

CLOSE ON THE BIOGENIC WEAPON

as it starts making an unsettling sound, and we realize that this is leading up to the unthinkable.

INT. BELLEROPHON - BRIDGE

CLOSE ON Tom, as he looks up with an expression of shock.

TOM
Oh, my god...

LOGAN
Doctor?

Everyone already knows what Tom's about to say before he speaks it out loud:

TOM
They're doing it...

EXT. ABOVE THE CAPITAL CITY - DAY

CLOSE ON the Kih'Andari ship, as the biogenic weapon is discharged.

WIDER as a wave of consistent energy is fired from the Kih'Andari ship. We come to realize just how powerful this weapon is, as the energy immediately encompasses a huge area of the city. And due to the Kih'Andari ship being this close to the surface, the energy also spreads out directly behind the vessel, encompassing a handful of Vorian fighters.

The energy/toxin looks just like it had in Sivea's vision of the future, as the yellowish wave starts spreading throughout the capital city.

INT. HORIZON - CONTROL ROOM

The Vorian Technician looks up with sorrow and shock --

VORIAN TECHNICIAN

The weapon... it's been... it's been
discharged.

The same reactions of horror.

ZACH

(quietly)
Oh, no...

VORIAN TECHNICIAN

The toxin is spreading through a
highly populated area of the
capital...

EXT. VORIAN CAPITAL CITY - DAY

We see the toxin spreading throughout the area, covering an
endless amount of buildings. We don't need to see it to
know that all people inside those buildings are dying a
painful death.

ANOTHER ANGLE

to see some Vorian fighters that had been hit by the toxin,
as they're now spinning down towards the surface, the pilots
presumably already dead.

The fighters crash into the capital city, where they EXPLODE.

INT. KIH'ANDARI SHIP - BRIDGE

Everyone is all smiles here. Despite of how devastating his
actions, Der'ash knows he's won. And that fills him with
pleasure.

VU'RAN

(pleased)
We have fired a successful first
shot, High Council. The toxin is
spreading.

DER'ASH

Then let us continue.

But suddenly --

A MASSIVE SHAKE rocks the ship. SPARKS CRACK in various
corners, and the lighting begins to FLICKER. It may not be
obvious at first, but this is not the result of weapons fire.

DER'ASH (CONT'D)

What's happening?!

CLOSE ON VU'RAN

as his look suddenly changes into one of urgency and surprise --

VU'RAN

There's a problem with the weapon!

Another MASSIVE SHAKE.

DER'ASH
(with an edge)
What kind of problem?

Vu'ran's eyes are on his readouts for a tense beat. Then, he's hit by realization:

VU'RAN
The component we've received from
the Enoly... It's overloading!!

DER'ASH
I thought we worked around the Enoly
coding?!

VU'RAN
And we did...
(realizing)
They must have rigged it so that it
overloads as soon as the weapon is
discharged.

A sparkle of anger is in Der'ash's eyes. He realizes he should have seen this coming; things were going far too easy.

DER'ASH
(it sinks in)
They were planning to double-cross
us all along...

The ship ROCKS AGAIN, this time as it takes some more hits from the Vorians.

Der'ash looks over to --

LECIA

to find that her eyes are just staring to the ceiling with a look of victory. Knowing that they've succeeded with the attack was the last thing she experienced before she died.

ON DER'ASH

as he has a moment of acceptance.

DER'ASH (CONT'D)
Nevertheless, the victory is ours.
Regardless of what happens to us...
(foreboding)
...our people will see to it that
our vision is realized.

Der'ash allows himself a brief moment to prepare himself for the inevitable. He takes a deep breath. Then --

DER'ASH (CONT'D)
(calmly)
Fire another shot.

Vu'ran looks up. Meets Der'ash look -- one final time. They both know what this means. Finally, Vu'ran nods and proceeds --

VU'RAN
(with conviction)
Yes, sir.

EXT. ABOVE THE VORIAN CAPITAL - DAY

While more and more parts of the capital are being clouded in the deadly toxin, Der'ash's ship is attacked by a huge wave of Vorian ships and the Bellerophon. They fire their weapons, as --

DER'ASH'S SHIP

takes several severe hits, as well as the capital city below; various of the Vorian weapons blasts hit buildings of the city, but a majority of the weapons fire does hit Der'ash's ship. And before the Kih'Andari ship can discharge the biogenic weapon again --

INT. KIH'ANDARI SHIP - BRIDGE

CLOSE ON Der'ash as he closes his eyes gently. He's not afraid, but much rather embraces what awaits him. And as he does so...

...the bridge around him EXPLODES, IMMERSING HIM IN FIRE. As the flames surround him, the Vice Council can feel that he's burning alive. It's the last thing he'll ever feel, as we go to --

EXT. ABOVE THE VORIAN CAPITAL - DAY

where the Kih'Andari ship is ripped apart in a MASSIVE BALL OF FIRE. Its burning debris head off in various directions, but ultimately they all CRASH into several Vorian buildings, causing MORE EXPLOSIONS as they do so.

CLOSE ON SEVERAL BUILDINGS

as they are in flames, and the yellowish toxin is still spreading. Black clouds of smoke rise from some areas of the city.

And looking at that troubling sight, we:

SMASH TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO

VORIAN TECHNICIAN (CONT'D)

(a beat)

Right now we're looking at a casualty figure of at least six million.

CALLEN

(quietly, his voice filled with emotion)

Six million people dead...

VORIAN TECHNICIAN

(solemn)

More than three quarters of the city's population...

A long and solemn beat. Then the technician brings up what might be at least some good news.

VORIAN TECHNICIAN (CONT'D)

We've... we've heard back from Colonel Grant and his team. They're on their way back to the station... they've got the Book.

Callen hardly reacts to that. It seems almost as if he's a little frustrated with this matter, as he finally turns to face the technician.

CALLEN

(bitter)

The Book was supposed to prevent this from happening... But it didn't.

(a beat, calm)

Anything else?

VORIAN TECHNICIAN

Ambassador Ca'vel will be coming to the station as well. He wants to speak to you.

This surprises Callen.

CALLEN

Ca'vel? What for?

VORIAN TECHNICIAN

From what I've been told he'll be here on behalf of President Adari... to discuss further proceedings regarding our alliance with Earth.

(off reaction)

It seems that after what's happened... there is debate over whether or not to continue our alliance with the humans for the time being.

Callen pauses at this for a moment. As he lets the thought settle in he's not really too surprised anymore.

Finally, the Commander gives the Vorian Technician a nod. The technician acknowledges. They hold for another solemn beat. And then the technician EXITS.

HOLD ON Callen's thoughtful features for a few moments. We slowly push in on his expression, as he knows that the struggles aren't over just yet.

And off that, we...

CUT TO:

EXT. SPACE

We're in the midst of the vast tapestry of twinkling stars.

Hold for a few moments... Then --

A DRAQUE MARAUDER

The small but menacing looking vessel cruises by, and as it moves past us we can see that it is approaching a SPACEGATE, which is floating before the stars.

The Marauder slows down, and stops before the gate, holding its position there.

INT. DRAQUE MARAUDER - DUREG'S CABIN

DUREG is standing at a window, staring out into space, lost in thought. The former Mediator's hands are behind his back, and the convicted stare of his eyes has something haunting to it. He's had the opportunity to regenerate, and his skin color is slowly starting to return to normal. No more veins can be seen in his face, which is starting to feature the familiar blue color again. The darkly lit cabin features the traditional Draque design and uncomfortable interior; we can only spot a single rack and a table in the background.

After a few moments, the door behind Dureg slides open and FERAK steps in. A quiet beat as Dureg doesn't acknowledge the entry of his second in command. Then, Ferak breaks the silence --

FERAK

We have arrived at the Mel'var.

(a beat)

We are holding our position, as you have ordered.

Dureg nods slightly. But his voice is distant as he speaks.

DUREG

Very good, Ferak.

We start to notice that something seems to be worrying the Alpha.

FERAK

We have heard from our sources on Enola. According to the Regent's intel... the booby trap installed in the component has been set off. At this point it is reasonable to assume that... Der'ash has perished.

Beat. Dureg's haunting stare is unbroken.

DUREG

That was to be expected.

FERAK

We have no way of knowing if Horizon has already found the Book. And even if they have, we know that we cannot break through the shield that is protecting their Mel'var.

(considers his words carefully)

I am beginning to fear, Mediator... that we may not be able to fulfill the gods' wishes after all.

Hearing those words, Dureg slowly turns his attention away from the stars. The former Mediator looks at his second in command with a cold stare.

DUREG

Are you losing faith again, Ferak?

The Alpha stiffens slightly. Knowing that what he said may have come out wrong.

FERAK

Of course not, sir.

Dureg's stare once more has something haunting to it, as he speaks calmly -- with the sound of conviction.

DUREG

Ever since the gods have sent me back to my corporeal form... I have known that once the time comes, things will happen the way they were meant to happen.

(a beat)

Whether or not we can understand how we get to our goals is not important. What is important... is that we believe.

Ferak takes those reverent words in for a moment. Dureg's unwavering faith is contagious.

FERAK

Those are wise words indeed, Mediator.

DUREG

(faithfully)

Then let us wait, my friend... until the gods reveal what they wish for us to do next.

Ferak nods his acknowledgment. And as the two of them savor their approaching victory...

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

Re-establishing the great space station. The BELLEROPHON is now docked at one of the ramps.

INT. INFIRMARY - EXAMINATION ROOM

CLOSE ON Sivea, who's sitting on the center table. She's only wearing her sleeveless underwear shirt at this point, having gone through a series of treatments. And she's looking a little saddened. She's lost in thought. Her personal experiences, the tragedy on Vorian... it's all a lot to cope with.

Finally, she snaps out of it as Lenori speaks up from o.s. --

LENORI (O.S.)

Well -- I'm pleased to say that the treatments are starting to show effect.

ADJUST to INCLUDE Lenori, who's doing yet another medical scan on her.

LENORI (CONT'D)

The risks of renewed internal bleeding or cerebral swelling have subsided. Once again I must say it is remarkable at what quick pace you've recovered.
(smiles)
Quite impressive, if I may say so.

Sivea nods slightly. But her mind is still somewhere else. Lenori can read off her expression. There's a beat as he knows that she's got a lot to cope with. He turns to the entrance of the room, where we reveal --

COLONEL GRANT

He's just walked in a few moments ago, and it seems Sivea hasn't even noticed him yet. Grant and Lenori hold a moment. They exchange a slight nod, and Lenori turns back to Sivea --

LENORI (CONT'D)

Just to be on the safe side -- I would like to see you twice a day for the next two weeks.

She acknowledges. A beat. And with that, he EXITS.

ANGLE ON GRANT & SIVEA

as the Colonel steps closer, and Sivea now notices him for the first time. There's a silent moment between the two of them. These are two people who are very close to each other, who care for each other a lot. But just what exactly their relationship ultimately will be, none of them is really sure of. And that is something that we notice underneath the surface throughout their entire exchange.

GRANT

(soft)
Hey...

She brings up a very faint smile.

SIVEA

Hey...

Beat.

GRANT

The Book is under guard in science lab four. Chris and Tom are trying to see if they can access some of its information -- assuming there actually is some kind of information inside of it.

Beat. Sivea takes this in calmly. Her expression doesn't give away what she thinks about this. And finally... she slightly lowers her head.

SIVEA

(somber)

I'm sorry I couldn't be of more help.

Grant is a little caught off guard and surprised by those words.

GRANT

What are you talking about? If it weren't for you, we would have never found the Book.

But Sivea doesn't feel comforted by that.

SIVEA

And nevertheless... six million Vorians are dead.

GRANT

(somber)

I know...

Beat.

GRANT (CONT'D)

I'm trying to figure out... what we could have overlooked. What we did wrong.

(off her questioning look)

According to the Nebulan... finding the Book should have saved Vorian.

Sivea considers that for a moment.

SIVEA

I think my people are going to need more than the empty promises of some aliens, if they're ultimately to be saved.

Grant nods slightly. While it's clear where Sivea stands regarding the Nebulan, the Colonel is a little more uncertain regarding things. But after another silent beat, he decides to switch the subject --

GRANT

(gently)

So how are you holding up?

She looks at him. Sees his concern. And after a moment, she speaks softly. Sharing her true feelings with him -- something she doesn't do with a lot of people.

SIVEA

The truth is... I'm a little scared.

(uneasily)

I've... I've never heard of a Cai'nan being able to see the future.

Beat. The moment between them just hangs in the air. Grant knows there's nothing he could say that would really make her feel better.

GRANT

(soft)

Sometimes it can be frightening to learn what one's capable of. In your case... that would be quite an understatement.

SIVEA

(sadly)

And that's exactly why -- after all that's happened -- I wish I could just forget I even have these abilities... The last thing I want to know is what else I'd be capable of doing.

(off his look, explains)

All my life I've been led to believe that Cai'nan are dangerous, that I would have to suppress what I'd be capable of doing because of the risk that... it could become a threat to others...

(softly)

And whenever I get to a point where I can make myself believe that just maybe... Cai'nan abilities aren't as dangerous as our people would like to believe... I'm reminded the hard way of just how dangerous they are.

Beat. Grant lowers his head slightly, feeling with her.

SIVEA (CONT'D)

Cai'nan can't be trusted. Because for every Valen... there's a Lecia... or a Me'vel.

She shakes her head. Her eyes are on the verge of becoming moist, and her voice is emotional.

SIVEA (CONT'D)

No, I'll have to keep suppressing what I'd be capable of doing. I have to... I have to finally put it behind me. Because I couldn't justify it if... if anything ever happened to someone because of me.

There's a long beat of silence, as Grant takes in her words. And his eyes reveal once more that he feels with her as he looks at her compassionately. He wishes he could say something to make her feel better, but he knows only time will be able to heal these wounds.

INT. COMMANDER'S OFFICE

Ambassador Ca'vel is seated on Callen's couch, as the Commander approaches with two mugs filled with steaming Jai'camah. He hands one of them to Ca'vel, before he joins the ambassador.

CA'VEL

President Adari is meeting with Council Vahret as we speak. The one good thing that seems to have come out of all this is that both our government and the Kih'Andari seem to want peace.

CALLEN

I only wish we could have been this reasonable without paying such a steep price first.

Ca'vel nods slightly. But the ambassador's thoughts seem somewhere else. He looks concerned.

CA'VEL

To be completely honest... I don't think this is the right course of action.

CALLEN

(caught off guard)
Excuse me?

CA'VEL

Vahret's shown that he's always had his own agenda. I think it's dangerous to assume he's suddenly had a change of heart.

Callen thinks about that for a moment.

CALLEN

I don't know about that. I've dealt with Vahret a number of times. And one thing that was always consistent... is that he wants what's best for his people.

CA'VEL

His people -- not the Vorian people.

CALLEN

Ambassador, I think it's time we start to accept the fact that the Vorian and the Kih'Andari people are really one and the same.

A slight smile appears on Ca'vel's face.

CA'VEL

Exactly the words I would expect from a Callen.

Callen can't help but return the smile, hearing that. But then, Ca'vel takes on a serious look again as he gets to what he's here for.

CA'VEL (CONT'D)

And on that note... what is De'van Callen's take on how to proceed from here? With regards to our alliance with Earth? As I'm sure you've been told, there's some disagreements regarding that matter. Some of us think it's time we close our borders for good... remain on our own for a while, at least... until we've had time to recover.

CALLEN

I think it would be a grave error to blame the humans for what's happened.

CA'VEL

Well, the fact remains -- it was the humans' arrival that triggered the rise of the Kih'Andari.

Ca'vel pauses at his own words, perhaps realizing that he's sounded more accusingly than he had wanted.

CALLEN

I think it's dangerous to allow oneself to think like that. If we did, we'd run the risk of making the same mistakes the Kih'Andari have made. Because one thing's for sure -- the Kih'Andari believed in a prophecy about Vorian facing destruction at the hands of its own lost brethren. And that prophecy -- at least to an extent -- seems to have come true.

(a beat)

Only that these lost brethren weren't the humans.

They hold a beat. Ca'vel nods thoughtfully for a moment.

CA'VEL

For what it's worth, I agree with that.

(a beat)

But regardless, I think the President is more concerned that with all the focus that will be going into recovering and trying to find a way to avoid further conflicts with the Kih'Andari... devoting time and energy into maintaining off-world alliances could run the risk of distracting our attention from the bigger picture.

But Callen doesn't agree. The Commander speaks firmly.

CALLEN

The bigger picture is that we don't stand nearly as strong on our own as we do with our allies at our side, Ambassador. That much should be obvious.

(MORE)

CALLEN (CONT'D)

(a beat)

Humans and Vorians have been through a lot together these past three years. And with everything that's happened, I can understand that there's doubts on our peoples minds about how to proceed from here... But I think now it's time to put the past behind us... and start focusing on what the next three years will bring.

Ca'vel thoughtfully takes in that statement for a moment. And as a slight frown of concern appears on his face, we...

CUT TO:

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

Re-establishing the space station with the Bellerophon docked at one of the ramps.

INT. GUEST QUARTERS - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Standard guest quarters, featuring the basic inventory, consisting of a couch area and a dining area. In here we find --

CA'VEL

He slightly paces around. The look of concern is still featured on the ambassador's face, following his conversation with Callen.

Finally, he sighs. Approaches a table on which we find a Vorian COMPUTER TERMINAL. He starts hitting some controls on the terminal. And as it comes ONLINE we can't see who the ambassador is talking to, but we can HEAR a calm and confident MALE VOICE:

MALE VOICE

Is this frequency clean?

CA'VEL

Of course it is. Otherwise I wouldn't have contacted you.

MALE VOICE

(matter of fact)

Good.

(pointedly)

I was waiting to hear from you, by the way.

CA'VEL

I know, I know. And I'm sorry I had to keep you waiting this long, but I had to be sure I'd get a chance to talk to you privately.

(a beat)

I'm on Horizon now... they've brought the Book here.

And we now see who's on the viewing screen.

REVEAL:

a mysterious and unknown VORIAN MAN!

He's male, in his thirties, a charismatic face, black hair and dark eyes. He's wearing ELEGANT VORIAN CIVILIAN CLOTHING -- similar to what Vorian politicians tend to wear. His features are sinister. He's a man not willing to accept defeat.

MAN

(taking it in)

Then it's true... Der'ash is dead...

Ca'vel nods. And his voice is filled with urgency.

CA'VEL

Yes -- he is. Which means it's up to us to ensure we retrieve the Book of Nosah'trah before they find a way to destroy it.

The man acknowledges. His mind is already contemplating their next step.

MAN

It was always your task to retrieve the Book in the event any of this ever happened.

CA'VEL

(confident)

And I don't intend to disappoint Der'ash...

(adding)

...or you.

MAN

Good for you.

(a subtle threat)

Because you know how the syndicate tends to handle disappointments.

A beat as Ca'vel frowns at that comment. But he forces back a reply; it's clear which of the two men is in charge here.

Then, the man switches the subject:

MAN (CONT'D)

You should know that we've been... discussing our next step.

CA'VEL

Meaning what?

MAN

Meaning that since Der'ash's attack on Vorian wasn't nearly as successful as we'd all hoped, the syndicate is considering a backup plan. We haven't spent all that time manipulating the Vorians and the Kih'Andari into war just to give up now.

(MORE)

MAN (CONT'D)

(with conviction)

It's clear that we won't be able to rebuild a working biogenic weapon, however... what we can do is continue hitting Vorian hard. Right now they're more vulnerable than ever -- which means we need to take action soon.

CA'VEL

What did you have in mind?

MAN

You will see it when it happens -- that much I can guarantee you.

(foreboding)

It's being set into motion as we speak.

Ca'vel is still curious, but he's not digging any deeper. The less he knows, the better.

CA'VEL

Very well. And I'll concentrate on getting back the Book.

MAN

(an order)

Inform me once you have.

And with that, the transmission deactivates.

HOLD ON Ca'vel, as he's contemplating his next move. And as this unsettling development sinks in, we:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. SCIENCE LAB

A standard Horizon science lab with a center table and various computer consoles surrounding it. Sitting on the center table we find the BOOK OF NOSAH'TRAH. And standing before it are two people, dressed in blue scientist uniforms.

TOM (O.S.)

And...?

ADJUST to REVEAL Tom and Christine. Both of them are armed with scanners, studying the Book (Tom's still wearing the arm sling). Christine has just taken another scan, and she shakes her head.

CHRISTINE

No change. Looks like while the energy signature was slightly fluctuating at first... it just seems to be staying on a consistent level now.

TOM

Well, the only thing that's clear to me is -- whatever's distributing that energy... it's coming from inside the Book.

CHRISTINE

(playfully)

Oh, how did you figure that out?

Tom smiles. They've both been at it for a while, and they're both tired.

TOM

Well, I think I'm calling it a night. Some of us are getting together in the mess hall later on -- you wanna join us?

Christine's focus is still very clearly on the scanner in her hand.

CHRISTINE

Oh, sure. I'll just see if I can make some more progress here first.

TOM

(nods understandingly)

In other words, you'll spend the night locked up in this lab. And no one's gonna see you until sometime tomorrow afternoon.

CHRISTINE

(defensively)

Hey, I didn't say that.

TOM

(grins)
No need to.

Christine shakes her head with a smile, playing along.

CHRISTINE

Well, while that is a considerable possibility... I'll try and force myself to step away eventually.

TOM

Good luck with that.

CHRISTINE

Thanks.

They share a smile, before Tom heads off and EXITS. And as Christine devotes her attention back to the Book and the scanner, we go to --

INT. GUEST QUARTERS - LIVING ROOM

where Ca'vel is slightly pacing once again. This time he's speaking into a DRAQUE COMMUNICATION DEVICE.

CA'VEL

(in com device)

I'm about to proceed -- I've been able to determine where they're keeping the Book. I just need your reassurance that you can transport me off of the station once I have it.

COM VOICE

Everything is prepared. We will initiate transport at your signal.

Ca'vel nods. Pleased to hear it.

CA'VEL

Good. Stand by.

He deactivates the com, and places it back into his garments. Then he crosses to the table, on which his SUIT CASE is placed. He opens it, revealing a PHASIAL DISCHARGER PISTOL.

The ambassador looks at his weapon for a moment. He lets out a sigh -- he's not looking forward to what he's forced to do. But he has no choice.

He holds a beat. Straightens up. And then he heads for the door with determination, ready to do what's necessary.

And as Ca'vel exits his quarters, we...

CUT TO:

INT. SCIENCE LAB

As before, Christine is here, focused on the scanner and the Book. We hold for a few moments, as she's there alone and unarmed.

Suddenly --

The SOUND of the door opening!

Christine -- not expecting any trouble -- doesn't turn her attention away from the Book.

CHRISTINE

I know, I know... I'm still here.
But as I was telling Tom -- I'm not
planning on staying here the whole
night. In fact, I'm almost done.

And as the new arrival steps into view, we --

REVEAL CHASE

He joins Christine, shaking his head with a smile.

CHASE

Yeah, and you actually expect me to
buy that?

She turns to look at him. Shakes off his comment with a smile.

CHRISTINE

To be honest -- there's really not
much more I can do here. All I've
been running into is dead ends.

CHASE

Not making too much progress, I take
it? Just a guess.

CHRISTINE

Not even close.

Chase nods thoughtfully. He eyes the Book for a moment,
then he shakes his head.

CHASE

You know, we might have to consider
the possibility that just perhaps
we'll never be able to find out what
kind of information's inside of this
"Book-thing."

(adding)

Unless we open it, which is what
we're not supposed to do.

Christine is aware of this. But she can't hide that she's a
little disappointed by that.

CHRISTINE

I know...

There's a beat. Then she looks at him --

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)

So what are you doing here?

Chase smiles. He's been eager to get to this.

CHASE

Well, the guys and I were just talking... and we all agreed that -- as soon as matters calm down a little -- we should all go take some time off.

(with a grin)

Head for the Connors' backyard for some barbecue and beer.

(adding)

...and vegetarian cuisine, for those of us who prefer that over a juicy steak.

CHRISTINE

Don't tell me David agreed to that.

CHASE

He sure did.

(realizing)

That's kinda amazing, isn't it? I remember a time when he wouldn't talk to anyone about anything other than work and... weapons.

CHRISTINE

Yeah, I guess he's really warmed up a little, hasn't he?

(smiles)

Well -- just let me know when we're planning on doing this, and I'll be there.

And we go to...

INT. CORRIDOR

where the threat in form of Ambassador Ca'vel is moving closer. Ca'vel approaches a corner. He stops. Looks around, making sure no one's in the area. Then he goes on, and approaches --

INT. DIFFERENT CORRIDOR - SCIENCE LAB ENTRANCE

where he finds TWO VORIAN SECURITY GUARDS. The guards react to Ca'vel's approach. They're surprised but not suspicious of him. He's got a well known reputation amongst their people.

SECURITY GUARD

Ambassador Ca'vel...?

Ca'vel walks up to them.

CA'VEL

I've been told that the Book of Nosah'trah is being kept in this lab?

SECURITY GUARD

Yes, sir.

(a little hesitant)

However... you'll need special clearance from Commander Callen to --

CA'VEL

(cutting in)

Don't worry, I have no intentions of making you disobey your orders.

And before the Security Guard gets a chance to reply...

...Ca'vel pulls his Phasial Discharger pistol, and FIRES two precise shots, taking out both security guards before they get a chance to train their weapons or sound alert.

CLOSE ON CA'VEL

as he takes a deep breath. He's a little apprehensive about what he's doing, but he's moving closer towards his goal.

INT. SCIENCE LAB

Chase and Christine are standing before the Book, as before.

CHASE

(lightly)

All right. I guess we're done here.

Christine looks at him. Then she looks at the Book, and realizes that it's time to finally let it go for a while.

CHRISTINE

I guess you're right.

And with that, they're just about to head for the exit, when --

THE DOOR SLIDES OPEN

and Ca'vel marches in with his weapon trained.

CHASE

What the hell?!

The door shuts behind the ambassador.

CA'VEL

I would recommend you not make this any more difficult than it already is.

A tense beat. Ca'vel's eyes immediately move to the Book on the center table.

CA'VEL (CONT'D)

(taking it in)

So I take it this is it... the Book of Nosah'trah.

Without further words, Ca'vel starts moving towards it. Tension is high as Chase and Christine exchange a look, trying to figure out what's happening here.

CHASE

(to Ca'vel)

And just what do you think you're doing?

Ca'vel is now standing before the Book, but his weapon is still trained on Chase and Christine.

CA'VEL

What does it look like, Major? I'm returning the Book to where it belongs. You should have never taken it in the first place.

A moment as Chase and Christine realize:

CHRISTINE

Returning the Book to where it belongs?

(concluding)

You're working for Der'ash...

Ca'vel considers them briefly.

CA'VEL

All you need to know is that the people I work for, want the Book returned to a safe and secure location, where it will remain... until the day Nosah'trah returns.

(accusingly)

You had no right to take it. This doesn't concern your people.

CHASE

(hard)

Well, I'm sorry, but you got that wrong.

(off Ca'vel's look)

If Nosah'trah returns -- as you so nicely put it -- it'll concern not only your people or our people... but this whole galaxy.

CHRISTINE

(quietly)

Not just this galaxy...

Chase considers that notion. He looks at Ca'vel again, telling him:

CHASE

Not just this galaxy.

CA'VEL

What are you talking about?

CHASE

Come on, don't tell me you haven't heard the news -- ol' Nossy is a Sentinel!

(a beat)

The only thing he'll bring, if he comes back, is a whole load of crap!

CA'VEL

(offended)

That's blasphemy...

CHASE

Call it whatever you want -- I really couldn't care less.

(MORE)

CHASE (CONT'D)

But the fact remains... we can't let
you get away with that Book.

Ca'vel's features darken.

CA'VEL

Then it's a shame... that you have
no choice.

With that, Ca'vel simply FIRES A SHOT.

CHASE

takes a HIT, and is blasted to the ground.

CHRISTINE

reacts with great worry --

CHRISTINE

Chase!

But before she can do anything, Ca'vel has his weapon pointed
at her.

CA'VEL

(threatening)

Don't make a move.

The ambassador reveals his DRAQUE COM DEVICE, and it's clear
that he's about to transport out.

But Christine slowly steps forward. She speaks calmly, trying
to talk some sense into Ca'vel.

CHRISTINE

You don't know what you're doing...

(a beat)

If you take the Book, there's a good
chance that the Enoly will be able
to track down its location. And we
can't let that happen -- I think you
know that yourself.

But Ca'vel's confidence is unbroken.

CA'VEL

Seems to me, you underestimate our
abilities to keep its location a
secret.

They hold a beat. Christine looks him into the eye. Hopes
that he might still come around.

CHRISTINE

(soft)

Please... just put down your weapon.

CLOSE ON CA'VEL

as he looks at Christine, taking in her tone of voice. It
seems he may be considering changing his mind. But then,
his features darken again --

CA'VEL

Give your people a message -- stop
getting involved in matters that
don't concern you.

And with that, he GRABS the Book... hits his communication device (like Lecia had done it in "The Higher Plane"), and suddenly --

The flash of a DRAQUE TRANSPORTER is seen. Christine can't do anything but watch as it seems Ca'vel's about to be beamed away, but then things happen very quickly, as...

...something is interfering with the transport!

The beam begins to DISTORT, and Ca'vel looks around, realizing what's happening.

CLOSE ON THE BOOK IN CA'VEL'S HANDS

as it begins to dematerialize for a moment.

But then the Book seems to be drawing energy from the transporter beam, as RED FLASHES OF ENERGY start to appear around the Book, streaming out from behind its cover.

A split second later the Draque transporter beam subsides, leaving both Ca'vel and the Book still here.

ON CHRISTINE

as she reacts to the red energy, and her face takes on a look of shier horror --

CHRISTINE

(realizing)

Oh, my god...

ON CA'VEL

He looks at the Book with confusion, as suddenly --

The RED ENERGY SHOOTS UPWARD, THEREBY OPENING THE BOOK. And on its path, the energy HITS Ca'vel, who's BLASTED back against the nearest wall.

THE BOOK

falls to the ground, where it remains OPEN... revealing BLANK PAGES.

THE RED ENERGY

which seems to have been trapped inside the "book," moves upward... And what we may notice is that this energy is identical in appearance to the red energy we saw in "Trepidation."

It's a haunting, red glowing cloud... a non-corporeal being!

CHRISTINE

reacts to what she sees before her. She quickly hits her radio --

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)

Summers to control room. We need a security detail in science lab four on the double!

The sound of the ALARM is heard, as suddenly --

THE RED ENERGY

shoots towards the ceiling behind which it disappears.

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL ROOM

The station is on alert and the control room is once again overcome by a great sense of urgency, as crewmembers move quickly and professionally.

Callen ENTERS from upstairs and approaches Stargate operations --

CALLEN

(to the Vorian
Technician)

What's going on, Lieutenant?

The Vorian Technician is seated at his post.

VORIAN TECHNICIAN

(off console)

I'm picking up a high level of energy in science lab four. And Christine Summers requested a security detail.

Callen's reaction is a professional one. He doesn't know exactly what went wrong, but he knows he hasn't got time to dwell on that question right now; he needs to focus on taking action. He turns to a crewmember at OPS --

CALLEN

Have Colonel Grant head down there as well.

Suddenly --

VORIAN TECHNICIAN

(off console)

This is not good!

CALLEN

Feel free to elaborate, Lieutenant.

The technician's face features a look of confusion at this point.

VORIAN TECHNICIAN

It's the Spacegate, sir... it's opening... but it's being dialed from our side...

CALLEN

How is that possible?

VORIAN TECHNICIAN

I don't know... But it's not
responding to my controls.

And off Callen...

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

CLOSE ON the Spacegate, as its final chevron locks and the
gate KAWOOSHES OPEN.

INT. CONTROL ROOM

CALLEN

(to the technician)
Raise the shield.

As the technician proceeds...

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

The shield is raised before the octagonal Stargate. But
just then --

NEW ANGLE

as we can see the RED FORMATION OF ENERGY emerging from
Horizon's central core, and heading straight for the
Spacegate. The energy penetrates the protective shield
without effort, and we...

CUT TO:

EXT. SPACE

where we find the Draque Marauder, positioned before a
Spacegate in the Triangulum Galaxy. Only this time the gate
is ACTIVE.

INT. DRAQUE COMMAND CENTER

A familiar Draque command center like we haven't seen since
"Parti Pris." There's various consoles where we find both
DRAQUE SOLDIERS as well as ENOLY ALPHAS. Ferak is standing
in the center of the bridge, when Dureg ENTERS.

Ferak gives Dureg a nod --

FERAK

Mediator.

DUREG

What is happening?

FERAK

It is the Mel'var -- it suddenly
opened. Our shields are raised.

Dureg stares out the front window, frowning and wondering
what this could mean. Then --

DRAQUE SOLDIER

(off console)
Something is emerging from the
Mel'var.

ANGLE TO INCLUDE FRONT WINDOW

as we see the red glowing cloud moving out of the Spacegate's puddle.

RESUME ON DUREG

as he stares at what he's seeing... and suddenly a look of recognition falls upon his scaly face --

DUREG
(in awe)
This is it...

Ferak turns to his superior.

FERAK
Sir?

But Dureg just smiles.

DUREG
The plan of the gods...

Ferak isn't sure what to make of this, but the Alpha is starting to feel unsettled.

And suddenly --

CLOSE ON DUREG

as he hasn't got a care in the world, and he finds himself surrounded by a BRIGHT AND RED LIGHT. Then we:

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. SENTINEL DIMENSION - NOSAH'TRAH'S CAVES OF FIRE

Dureg finds himself inside a FIERY CAVE, where FLAMES are rising all around the former Mediator. In a way this looks very much like what a typical representation of hell might look like. But it also has a very surreal feel to it, as we see everything through a slight, red blur. The fact that Dureg isn't bothered or even feels hot by the flames surrounding him adds to the surreal and haunting feel these moments have. This is the Sentinel version of communicating with a corporeal being -- the Sentinel version of what the Nebulan Woman usually does with Grant.

Dureg looks around, tries to catch his bearings. He doesn't look worried or confused, but much rather do his features reveal traces of recognition -- he's been here before!

DUREG
(with familiarity)
I knew that ultimately you would return... I have been doing what you've asked of me... I have been carrying out your wishes to the best of my abilities ever since you've sent me back.

There's a beat as the Enoly looks around, seemingly looking for something or someone. And then, A LOUD, DARK AND VERY HAUNTING VOICE is heard.

This is the voice of a Sentinel, echoing through the flames --

ENTITY (O.S.)

You have been a loyal servant!

And Dureg reacts with awe, as we reveal:

A SCARY LOOKING ENTITY

that forms inside the flames before Dureg. This looks almost as if the flames have formed into a somewhat humanoid face. Its eyes are glowing red, and its voice continues to echo when it speaks:

ENTITY (CONT'D)

Sending you back to your corporeal form has proven to be a wise choice.

CLOSE ON DUREG

as he's facing what he perceives to be his god, and immediately he gets down on his knees.

DUREG

(lowering his head
with humility)

Nosah'trah...

ENTITY

(with satisfaction)

The time has finally come -- our
time!

Dureg remains on his knees before the entity, as it hits us:

THIS IS THE REAL NOSAH'TRAH!

No longer merely a hologram that was made to appear human/Vorian.

NOSAH'TRAH ENTITY

The Book has been opened... the age of captivity is over... and the passage into my realm is established.
(a beat)

However -- there is one more task that I will ask of you.

DUREG

Whatever task I can carry out to serve you, I will greatly do so.

The "face" inside the flames smirks with satisfaction.

NOSAH'TRAH ENTITY

Of that I am sure.

And suddenly --

The flames around Dureg begin condensing, moving in closer towards the former Mediator. And after only a few moments...

...the flames shoot into Dureg's body!

DUREG

cries out in pain, as his body is immersed in flames. It's a terrifying sight as he seems to be burning alive.

However, on second sight it becomes clear that what's happening is the flames are boring their way into the former Mediator's body.

CLOSER ON DUREG

as the flames seem to burn his skin, but at the same time they don't. Yet his skin is CHANGING, slowly morphing as his APPEARANCE CHANGES SLIGHTLY. New ridges and edges form on his face. And then --

the final flames disappear inside Dureg's body, and we...

MATCH-CUT TO:

INT. DRAQUE COMMAND CENTER

where without warning, Dureg is STRICKEN by some kind of invisible force. The former Mediator is catapulted halfway across the command center, before he's smashed against a wall, and lands on the ground.

FERAK

Mediator --

Ferak quickly rushes to Dureg's side with a couple of additional Alphas.

FERAK (CONT'D)

Mediator...?

ON DUREG

as he stirs and slowly sits up. And as his face moves into view, we reveal that his appearance is altered in the way we've just seen it:

His scaly face features a couple of new ridges, and as his eyes pop open we find that they now feature a BLOOD-RED GLOW.

And when he speaks he does it in his own, calm voice, but it's very clear that there's something different about him:

DUREG/NOSAH'TRAH

There is no reason for concern, my children...

(a victorious smirk)

Everything is happening as I have planned it.

HOLD A MOMENT as Ferak and the others react to the change in their leader.

And off their stunned looks, we:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

INT. SCIENCE LAB

We resume as Christine is checking on Chase, who's slowly but surely regaining consciousness.

CHRISTINE

Chase...?

Chase groans, holding his head.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)

Chase...

CHASE

(groaning)

Crap... I hate getting shot.

CHRISTINE

Hey, who doesn't?

As Chase sits up, he glances over to --

CA'VEL

who's lying on the ground, motionless.

CHASE

What the hell just happened?

Christine can't help but have a bad feeling.

CHRISTINE

I'm not so sure about that myself.

And suddenly...

...AN EERY GUST OF WIND sweeps through the room. The lighting begins to FLICKER -- something haunting is happening here.

Chase and Christine both look over to the Book that's lying on the ground, open. Its blank pages are moved by the wind.

They have the same thought --

CHASE

The Book...

CHRISTINE

... Right.

Christine moves over to the Book with the intent of closing it. But as she steps before it --

CLOSE ON CHRISTINE

as she's STRUCK by an invisible and extremely powerful force field that now surrounds the Book. Christine is BLASTED backward, and lands on the ground. Now she's the one who's unconscious.

CHASE

Chris --

Chase rushes to Christine. He checks her pulse... and reacts with relief. But just then --

THE BOOK

begins projecting a BRIGHT GLOW OF LIGHT, which is coming from its blank pages. We begin to hear a HAUNTING CHORUS MUSIC, as the bright glow suddenly projects what appears to be a --

DOORWAY

It appears in thin air, and leads into a WHITE LIMBO.

At the same time the lighting FLICKERS again, and then...

The lighting goes down. The room is clouded in DARKNESS; the only source of light is now coming from the white limbo behind the doorway.

CLOSE ON CHASE

as he doesn't believe what he's seeing --

CHASE (CONT'D)

"Oh, crap" doesn't quite cut it this time...

INT. CONTROL ROOM

Here the lighting is also down, as the Vorian Technician reacts to his console --

VORIAN TECHNICIAN

We've just lost power all over the station.

CALLEN

What about our shields?

VORIAN TECHNICIAN

Nothing, sir... we're completely defenseless.

Callen's feeling of worry grows, as he hits his radio.

CALLEN

John, what's your position?

GRANT'S RADIO VOICE

We're on approach for the lab! We're almost there!

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. DARK CORRIDOR

where Grant and David are rushing down the corridor along with SEVERAL S.F.s. They have their respective P90s trained.

CALLEN'S RADIO VOICE

Be careful. We don't know what we're dealing with.

GRANT

Acknowledged.

And as they continue rushing down the hallway with urgency...

INT. SCIENCE LAB

Chase is standing before the DOORWAY LEADING INTO THE WHITE LIMBO, and his features reveal his concern.

He hits his radio --

CHASE

Major Reynolds to --

He's interrupted as another GUST OF COLD WIND blows through the dark room, and suddenly --

DUREG/NOSAH'TRAH (O.S.)

I suggest we not waste time with such futile actions, Major Reynolds.

And we reveal --

DUREG/NOSAH'TRAH

as he suddenly steps out of the limbo. His eyes are glowing blood-red, and a haunting smirk is on his face. Chase is speechless, trying to fathom what on Earth is happening before his eyes.

CHASE

Dureg...

DUREG/NOSAH'TRAH

(filled with contempt)

Not quite.

They hold a tense moment. Chase might just be realizing what that means. Then --

ON DUREG/NOSAH'TRAH

as he raises his arm, and RED ENERGY TENDRILS emerge from the palm of his hand.

ON CHASE

as the tendrils hit him, slowly moving into his body, thereby causing great pain.

ON DUREG/NOSAH'TRAH

as he glares mercilessly at Chase.

DUREG/NOSAH'TRAH (CONT'D)

Did you truly believe that you could defeat the Sentinels? That you could defeat... me?

CHASE

can literally feel the life being sucked out of him as the energy tendrils keep boring into him. He sinks down on his knees.

DUREG/NOSAH'TRAH (CONT'D)

(grinning)

Yes... Yes, bow before me -- as all
of your kind shall very soon!

At this point, Chase's face is starting to lose the sparkle of life. Whatever exactly is happening to him, it's clear that he's on the verge of death, and completely helpless. There seems to be no way out; he's at the mercy of a powerful being that's inhabiting Dureg's body.

But suddenly --

NEW ANGLE

as the door to the science lab SLIDES OPEN, revealing Grant and David. The S.F.s are behind them, and we also spot the two Security Guards that Ca'vel had stunned earlier. They've just gotten back on their feet.

DUREG/NOSAH'TRAH

reacts to the unexpected difficulty. He scowls, lets go of Chase, and focuses on the new arrivals.

ON GRANT

as his look falls on Chase, who's sunk to the floor.

GRANT

Chase...

Then his look falls on the unconscious Christine, lying next to Chase. But the Colonel pulls himself together. Focuses on the threat.

GRANT (CONT'D)

(to David and S.F.s)

Take cover... and SHOOT HIM!!

With that, they rush behind nearby tables and consoles to take cover as they FIRE their respective P90s.

ANGLE ON DUREG/NOSAH'TRAH

as the bullets don't make it all the way to where he is standing. Much rather they hit a FORCE FIELD that's being projected around his body.

ON GRANT

as he realizes what Dureg/Nosah'trah is here for.

ON DUREG/NOSAH'TRAH

as he smirks at the Colonel. And then his attention moves to the open Book that's still lying on the ground.

ON CHASE

as he stirs, and slowly sits up once again, slowly catching his bearings. He's very weak and still in great pain.

ON DAVID

as he knows they have to come up with a new way of trying to stop Dureg.

And just then --

Dureg/Nosah'trah PICKS UP the Book. He glares at it, holding it like a treasure. And suddenly MORE BEAMS OF ENERGY pour out of the Book, moving into Dureg/Nosah'trah's body. Dureg/Nosah'trah smiles, enjoying his victory as his strength is growing.

GRANT (CONT'D)

(realizing)

He's gaining strength from the Book...

CLOSE ON CHASE

who's the closest to Dureg/Nosah'trah. He realizes what's going on... looks over to Grant.

GRANT

reacts to Chase's look... and there's a silent moment between the two friends as they look at each other. Chase slightly motions towards the doorway leading into the limbo... and Grant is aware what Chase will try to do. Hold a beat. The Colonel's eyes are suddenly filled with great concern... he shakes his head, not willing to accept what Chase considers their only way out.

DUREG/NOSAH'TRAH

glares at our people one more time, his look letting them know that he's won.

GRANT

not willing to accept this, FIRES another round of P90 blasts. But they don't do him any good.

CLOSE ON DUREG/NOSAH'TRAH

as his smirk grows. Suddenly, he raises his arm and next thing we now... the P90s Grant, David and the S.F.s are armed with are SWEEP AWAY by an invisible force.

Dureg/Nosah'trah glares at them, and this time it becomes clear that he's about to put an end to things. He steps forward very slightly, ready to eliminate his enemies, when --

CHASE

uses the moment as Dureg/Nosah'trah's focus is on the others... the Major leaps to his feet... storms towards Dureg/Nosah'trah... and then --

CHASE TACKLES DUREG/NOSAH'TRAH

which causes the Book to DROP to the ground.

CLOSE ON THE BOOK

as it hits the ground in SLOW MOTION. And as the Book bounces on the floor... it bounces... and bounces... and bounces... until finally... it closes... by what appears -- at first sight -- like a mere stroke of good fortune.

At the same time --

DUREG/NOSAH'TRAH

reacts to the Book closing before his eyes --

DUREG/NOSAH'TRAH

No...

And then --

CHASE

(weakly but with
resolve)

I think it's about time someone showed
you to the door.

With that --

CHASE TACKLES HIM AGAIN

and the Major purposely pushes them both STRAIGHT INTO THE
LIMBO BEHIND THE DOORWAY.

GRANT

reacts to Chase disappearing into the limbo --

GRANT

CHASE!!!

And just then --

THE DOORWAY

collapses magnificently, and finally it IMPLODES. And next
thing we know --

IT'S GONE

And so are Chase and Dureg/Nosah'trah.

Within a heartbeat the lighting comes back on, and everything
seemingly returns to normal. But it's clear to everyone
here... that things aren't quite back to normal.

HOLD ON Grant and David as they exchange a look, taking in
what's just happened, before we go to...

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

Re-establishing the great space station with the Bellerophon
docked at one of the ramps.

INT. CONTROL ROOM

Some time later. Assembled here are Grant, Sivea, David, Tom, Callen and the Vorian Technician. Tom is looking over a console next to the technician. Everyone looks on hopeful for a few moments. But then... Tom shakes his head.

TOM

Nothing...

GRANT

What do you mean -- nothing?!

TOM

(referring to his
readouts)

There's no indication as to where
that doorway was leading. My guess
is that it functioned almost like a
wormhole -- which would explain how
Dureg managed to get aboard the
station.

VORIAN TECHNICIAN

And apparently it was the "Book"
that somehow opened the doorway.

CALLEN

(hopeful)

So this would mean that Chase is
still somewhere out there.

TOM

Most likely. But right now it's
impossible to determine where.

A beat as they absorb this mixed news.

DAVID

(grim)

Our problems might be greater than
we all know...

(explains)

From what we've seen, that was
definitely not the Dureg we're
familiar with.

GRANT

It looked like some kind of entity
was controlling him. I don't know
about you guys, but my money's on
Nosah'trah.

SIVEA

(realizing)

The Book must have been what was
keeping Nosah'trah captured for all
this time.

A moment as they all react to this realization. It sinks in
that this is the only thing that would make sense.

TOM

In other words -- the book wasn't so much a book, but much rather some kind of prison.

GRANT

It would definitely explain the energy signature, and why we weren't supposed to open it.

The Colonel shakes his head with frustration.

GRANT (CONT'D)

Dammit... If the Nebulan would have told us about this, this whole thing could have been avoided.

CALLEN

(grim)

The way I see it, there's a lot the Nebulan haven't told us.

Beat. Both Grant and Callen may be starting to develop more negative feelings towards the Nebulan.

TOM

Including the question of why would Nosah'trah still be trying to get the Book?

GRANT

(worried)

We saw first hand that it supplied him with more power.

SIVEA

Which means we were lucky...

(off looks)

If he had been able to get his hands on it, there's no telling what he'd be capable of doing.

CALLEN

But without the Book, his powers are limited.

GRANT

At least so we hope.

A moment as that sinks in. Then --

NEW ANGLE

as Lenori ENTERS and joins them.

CALLEN

Doctor... How's Christine doing?

LENORI

She will be feeling a little groggy for two to three days, but... she will be fine, fortunately.

TOM
(relieved)
At least some good news.

LENORI
Ambassador Ca'vel, on the other hand,
is in a coma. It is too soon to
tell when he'll regain
consciousness... if ever.

TOM
(considers)
Ca'vel trying to beam the Book off
the station must have been what
supplied the Book with additional
energy... enough for the entity inside
of it to break free.

DAVID
(with calm frustration)
I'd only like five minutes with the
son of a bitch. What the hell was
he thinking?

To Callen there's only one explanation:

CALLEN
He was Der'ash's backup plan.
(a beat)
In the event that we'd get the Book,
Der'ash had him in place to take it
back.
(grimly)
Which means we have to assume that
he wasn't working alone.

They all take that in, knowing they may very well still be
facing some very dark and troubling times, and we...

CUT TO:

INT. UNKNOWN LOCATION - A DARK ROOM

We're in a room that features VORIAN DECORATION. But we
cannot make out where we are. There's no calm humming sound
of an engine, which would suggest we're not on a ship.

START ON a door, as it slides open... and someone walks into
the room. We don't see who this is. We only watch this
person's feet, as they step before a table.

Then, a FEMALE VOICE --

FEMALE VOICE
There has been a complication.

REVEAL:

The charismatic man, who had been speaking to Ca'vel earlier.
He's standing behind the table, looking at an accomplice: a
WOMAN in her thirties, also dressed in elegant Vorian civilian
clothing.

WOMAN

When our people attempted to transport Ca'vel off of Horizon... something interfered with the transporter beam.

(a beat)

Ca'vel never re-materialized.

The man takes this in for a moment. His features are sinister.

MAN

So the Book is still on Horizon.

WOMAN

And we have to assume that now they'll have it even more severely guarded.

MAN

That makes matters difficult.

WOMAN

(confident)

But not impossible. We can still take back the Book. Even if we have to find a way to board their station ourselves. After everything Der'ash has done for us -- after what he's done for the syndicate -- we owe it to him.

A slight smile dances on the man's face.

MAN

I've always admired your determination... as did Der'ash.

(a beat)

Rest assured -- he would not be disappointed with us.

The woman picks up on the confident demeanor of her male colleague.

WOMAN

So I take it everything is in place...

The man's smile verifies this.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

I didn't expect things to be moving this quickly.

The man now steps forward until he stands directly before the woman. He gently reaches for her hand. He holds it as he looks her into the eye --

MAN

Do not worry about the Book of Nosah'trah.

(with confidence)

With the chaos we're about to incite, Vorian will be in turmoil more than ever... and suffice to say this peace treaty with the Kih'Andari is not going to happen.

(MORE)

MAN (CONT'D)

(a devious smile)

Very soon they will be too busy trying
to annihilate each other... and we
will be able to retake the Book.

And as the two look at each other, both featuring a victorious
smile on their faces, we...

CUT TO:

EXT. VORIAN CAPITAL CITY - DUSK

The toxin has dissipated. Yet the shattered buildings in
some areas of the city are left as a reminder of the terrible
events that have occurred here. That, and the general feeling
of sorrow and grief that's ever present.

ADARI (V.O.)

The past year has seen sorrow for
all of us.

INT. PRESIDENT ADARI'S OFFICE - DUSK

Opposite to the President's desk TWO PODIUMS have been set
up. Standing behind them are President Adari and Council
Vahret respectively. Standing before them are SEVERAL VORIAN
JOURNALISTS and PRESIDENTIAL STAFF MEMBERS, including Minister
Kalos. Adari is giving her statement --

ADARI

And while we spent day and night
working vigorously to defeat one
another, we forgot one important
thing -- that all of us, regardless
of whether we're part of the Coalition
of Colonies or if we're citizens of
the Independent Kih'Andari Nation...
all of us have suffered terrible
losses.

(a beat)

Brave men and women, who gave their
lives in service of their people.

She lets that sink in for a moment, as everyone's thoughts
are with those who've fallen.

ADARI (CONT'D)

And while today we mourn the latest
casualties of this war... let it
also be known that they will have
been the final casualties. What
lies before us now is the effort to
rebuild.

(gesturing at Vahret)

And I can assure that Council Vahret
and myself will work together
vigorously to see to it... that both
Vorians and Kih'Andari will recover
from the tragic events that have
swept across our stars.

(a beat, to Vahret)

Council.

Vahret takes this as his cue. He's now the one who's addressing those assembled here, and those watching from elsewhere.

VAHRET

First, let me begin by reaffirming everything that President Adari has just told you. And I too am saddened and shocked by the actions of those who once served under me. But I can tell you with absolute confidence and reassurance... that no such tragedy shall occur again.

ON ADARI

as she suddenly shifts uncomfortably. She starts to find it a little hot in here, and we notice that she's beginning to perspire. She takes a sip of water from a glass on her podium, hoping it will make her feel better. But it's not having the intended effect. Above that Vahret continues:

VAHRET (CONT'D)

The President and I have spent several hours earlier today working out a plan for how to see to it that peace will be maintained between our peoples. And the first step of this plan will be to --

Vahret stops as suddenly...

...COMMOTION is starting to sparkle up amongst those assembled here. Everyone's attention moves to --

PRESIDENT ADARI

as it becomes clear that something's very wrong with her.

ON KALOS

as he steps forward.

KALOS

(concerned)

Your eminence? Are you all right?

CLOSE ON ADARI

as she tries to respond, but as she tries to speak no words are coming out of her mouth -- she seems to have lost her voice. Her hand reaches for her throat, as suddenly --

SHE'S KNOCKED TO THE GROUND BY A VIOLENT SPASM. She begins to SHAKE EXTENSIVELY.

The commotion gets greater, as Kalos shouts over to a nearby staff member.

KALOS (CONT'D)

We need medical attention immediately!

ON ADARI

as she's shaking on the ground with people gathering around her. She looks up to Kalos, and once more tries to speak... but she can't. And suddenly, Kalos notices the reason for that:

KALOS (CONT'D)

(shocked)

In the name of the Originators...

REVEAL:

that the FLESH ON ADARI'S THROAT IS STARTING TO DISINTEGRATE FROM THE INSIDE, as if acid were eating it up. It's a terrifying sight, as this effect begins spreading throughout the President's body.

ON VAHRET

as he realizes with horror:

VAHRET

It's the toxin... from Der'ash's weapon... somehow she must have been exposed...

A moment as everyone's faces go pale, as they're hit by shock and realization. Then, Kalos' features darken --

KALOS

(to Vahret)

You... you did this...

VAHRET

(outraged)

What?! I had nothing to do with this!

But Kalos won't hear it.

KALOS

(calling)

Security!

Two Security Officers step forward.

KALOS (CONT'D)

Place this man under arrest!

VAHRET

You're making a mistake!!

But no one's willing to listen, as the Security Officers take Vahret into custody.

KALOS

(shouting)

Where are those medics?

CLOSE ON KALOS

as he looks down at the dying President --

KALOS (CONT'D)

Your eminence? Your eminence, can
you hear me?

But Adari's not responding. She continues shaking, as the
life is slowly and painfully drained from her...

...and dying with her seems to be the last hope for peace in
Vorian space.

CLOSE ON THE WATER GLASS ON ADARI'S PODIUM

The mere image of the glass is enough for us to know how the
President was poisoned.

PULL BACK SLOWLY

as MEDICS rush into the room and gather around Adari, while
Security Guards are detaining Council Vahret.

And looking at that image... we CONTINUE PULLING BACK SLOWLY
until we MOVE THROUGH THE WINDOW out into --

EXT. VORIAN CAPITAL CITY - DUSK

We move out of the PRESIDENT'S RESIDENCE, which is a beautiful
and idyllic looking building. And we continue to PULL BACK...
further and further and further and further... until
eventually... we're looking at the large capital in its
entirety. The sun is setting in the background as night is
once more falling over the Vorian city.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE

THE END