

S T Å R G Å T E

H O R I Z O N

PROPHET'S RISING

Episode: 4.09

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TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

We see an establishing shot of the great space station with a VORIAN CIVILIAN SHIP approaching one of the ramps.

INT. DANIEL'S OFFICE

It's morning. We find DANIEL here with CHRISTINE. They're working together. A couple of new ARTIFACTS are sitting on the desk. Daniel is visibly tired, not having slept too well.

DANIEL

(skimming over a note
pad)

Well, this last batch has been sorted.
So all we gotta do now is categorize
them.

CHRISTINE

I actually spent some time last night
going over that carbon analyses data.

DANIEL

Another late night at the lab?

CHRISTINE

(smiles)

Not that late. Anyway, looks like
these new artifacts are about five
thousand years older than the ruins
in which the first batch was found.

She hands Daniel another note pad. Daniel takes it, but he can't help but YAWN.

DANIEL

(taking the pad and
yawning)

Thanks.
(re: the yawning)
Sorry.

Christine can't help but smile.

CHRISTINE

Looks like I'm not the one who's
been having late nights around here.

(joking)

What happened? Another wild party
at Chuck's?

DANIEL

No, it's not that. Just a... late
night poker party.

CHRISTINE

(playful)

Oh, and I wasn't invited?

Daniel smiles playfully. But then his expression turns more serious, as he considers for a beat.

DANIEL

Truth is, I just haven't been sleeping too well lately. I keep having this strange dream... it's been going on for weeks now.

CHRISTINE

What kind of dream?

DANIEL

It has something to do with my time as an ascended being. I keep seeing myself, standing in that tent with Oma, and it's like... like I'm looking at the part of myself that holds all the knowledge that I've been trying find. And no matter how hard I try, I just... can't quite get to that knowledge. Despite the fact that it's right in front of me.

CHRISTINE

(understanding)

You mean your knowledge about the Keepers.

DANIEL

The Keepers... and god knows what else.

Daniel considers a beat. Then shakes his head.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

Sorry, it's, uh... it's a little frustrating.

CHRISTINE

Well, maybe the fact that you're starting to dream about it is a good sign.

(off his look)

It could mean that you're getting closer to remembering more.

Daniel thinks about that for a moment.

DANIEL

(thoughtfully)

Yeah, and for some reason it just feels... unsettling.

There's a beat, as Christine understands how he must be feeling. Then we go to...

INT. COMMANDER'S OFFICE

where we find CALLEN sitting at his desk, doing some paperwork, when the door slides open and SIVEA ENTERS. With her are two men, both wearing Vorian civilian clothing. Their clothing is a little more ornate than what we're accustomed to seeing. One of them is JAHLESH, an elderly man in his late sixties with white hair. The younger man is in his mid fifties, and we'll come to know him as RE'CAHN. Callen's been expecting these two men.

SIVEA

Commander... our guests are here.

Callen puts his work aside, as he stands to greet them.

CALLEN

Ah, yes. Please, come in.

Sivea does the introductions.

SIVEA

(gesturing)

This is Veh'strahl Jahlesh... and his assistant, Re'cahn.

CALLEN

Gentlemen, welcome aboard Horizon.

Jahlesh nods, pleased by the warm welcome.

JAHLESH

Thank you, Commander Callen. We were extremely happy when we heard that you had granted our request to visit your station.

CALLEN

(smiles)

Anytime, Veh'strahl. Even though, I have to admit... we usually don't tend to get many civilian visitors.

RE'CAHN

(all business)

I would assume that under ordinary circumstances your security protocols would prohibit un-authorized civilians from visiting your station.

SIVEA

Fortunately we were able to make an exception...

(re: Jahlesh)

... knowing of the Veh'strahl's reputation throughout Vorian.

JAHLESH

(to Sivea, warmly)

You're too kind, my dear. But... it's certainly something I can live with.

Sivea smiles at that. We may notice that while Jahlesh has a natural warmth and a love for people to him, Re'cahn seems more reserved, and so far we have yet to see him smiling.

JAHLESH (CONT'D)

And I must say that this station far exceeds my expectations.

(looking around)

What a truly magnificent place.

SIVEA

Just wait until you see the observation lounge.

JAHLESH

I look forward to that.

CALLEN

To be honest, I'm just a little curious.

(off reactions, to Jahlesh)

When I spoke to you it sounded like you had urgent matters to address, but I could tell you were reluctant to go into it over subspace.

Jahlesh nods slightly -- that's all very true.

JAHLESH

And I suppose we should get to those matters sooner rather than later...

(beat)

The truth is, Re'cahn and I are here to speak to one of your people.

Callen and Sivea are curious.

SIVEA

Who did you need to speak to?

RE'CAHN

A Doctor Daniel Jackson.

Callen's and Sivea's expressions now show slight confusion.

CALLEN

I don't understand.

JAHLESH

(friendly)

Please -- we only ask that you allow us to see Doctor Jackson... You will understand soon enough.

Off Callen's and Sivea's expressions, as they wonder what to make of this...

INT. BRIEFING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Daniel and Christine are here now, having been called. Christine looks at Daniel curiously.

CHRISTINE

You have any idea what this is about?

DANIEL

You mean why a Vorian priest that I've never met before wants to see me? Nope.

CHRISTINE

Just checking.

And then, the door to the commander's office slides open, and Callen and Sivea ENTER with Jahlesh and Re'cahn.

CALLEN
(introducing)
Doctor Jackson... These are Veh'strahl
Jahlesh... and Re'cahn.

Daniel's a little caught off guard, not sure what this could be about.

DANIEL
Hi, there.

There's a beat as Jahlesh and Re'cahn exchange a look, like they're both asking themselves the same question -- could this really be him?

And then, Jahlesh steps forward until he stands directly before Daniel. The elderly man studies Daniel a beat.

DANIEL (CONT'D)
(confused)
I was told you wanted to see me...
To be honest, I don't understand.

But Jahlesh only continues studying Daniel in silence.

JAHLESH
(more to himself)
Yes... This is him...

And suddenly, without warning, Jahlesh bows before Daniel. Re'cahn stares at Daniel hesitantly for a moment, but then he follows the gesture of the older man. He also bows.

JAHLESH (CONT'D)
(with reverence)
The Prophet has finally returned to
Vorian. And we welcome him with all
our heart.

It's clear that Jahlesh and Re'cahn seem to be worshipping Daniel. And as our people react to this strange and unexpected sight, and we PUSH IN ON Daniel...

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

STÅRGÅTE
HORIZON

KIEFER SUTHERLAND

ASHLEY SCOTT

CARLOS BERNARD

RACHAEL LEIGH COOK

DION JOHNSTONE

with
DENNIS HAYSBERT
as De'van Callen

MICHAEL SHANKS
as Daniel Jackson

and
ANDREW J. ROBINSON
as Doctor Lenori

Created by
ALEX RUBIT

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

(NOTE: Episode credits fall over opening scenes.)

INT. BRIEFING ROOM

Moments later... Callen, Sivea, Daniel and Christine are now sitting at the table with Jahlesh and Re'cahn.

JAHLESH

(to all of them)

Please forgive us for our spontaneous reaction, but... I'm sure you'll understand once you realize what an honor it is for us to witness the Prophet's return.

DANIEL

All right, why don't we just back up here for a second?

(shaking head)

Just -- what are you talking about?

Jahlesh and Re'cahn exchange a look. They're not surprised.

RE'CAHN

(re: Daniel)

He doesn't remember. Just like you suspected.

SIVEA

He doesn't remember what?

Jahlesh considers a beat. Then, he speaks as if it's self-explanatory.

JAHLESH

He is the Prophet.

(to Callen and Sivea)

Surely you must be familiar with the Spiritual Texts.

DANIEL

Well, I'm not. So...

Callen and Sivea exchange a look. Callen is a little hesitant as he explains, not really sure where this is going.

CALLEN

The Spiritual Texts are religious documentations... written over the course of several generations, more than two thousand years ago. They're the foundation for modern Vorian religion.

DANIEL

(confused)

Okay, and... what does that have to do with me?

JAHLESH

The Prophet was a Vorian man who lived about two thousand years ago... he was part of the generation following the Cai'nan Wars.

DANIEL

(recognizing)

That was when a group of Cai'nan tried to achieve world domination.

RE'CAHN

(matter of fact)

Our planet nearly destroyed itself in the process.

Jahlesh eagerly continues his explanation.

JAHLESH

The Prophet's name was Noh'lahn Grell. He was a... messenger, a religious leader who would inspire billions of Vorians. He helped our people to... embrace the Originators, seek their guidance.

Jahlesh pauses, as if waiting for Daniel to understand.

DANIEL

Well, I'll admit, that's all very interesting. But, sorry, I... still don't see the connection.

Re'cahn turns to Jahlesh.

RE'CAHN

We should not pressure him further. If he really is the Prophet, which is doubtful... his memory will return in time.

JAHLESH

(reminding)

Do not doubt your faith, Re'cahn.

SIVEA

(to Jahlesh)

What makes you think that Daniel could be the Prophet?

JAHLESH

(ruefully)

The fact that you don't understand only tells me that you're not serving the Originators the way you're supposed to.

Sivea pauses at that. She can't deny that she's never been very religious.

JAHLESH (CONT'D)

(gently)

But the Originators will forgive you for that.

Re'cahn seems eager to end this conversation.

RE'CAHN

(to Jahlesh)

Veh'strahl, we should no longer occupy their time.

DANIEL

Well, now that you've gotten started, I'm... kinda curious to hear the rest.

A beat. Jahlesh smiles slightly, pleased by that. But Re'cahn seems almost concerned.

JAHLESH

When Noh'lahn Grell died, he promised that he would return one day, that he would never abandon the Vorian people. And several of his closest followers witnessed a bright, white glow that surrounded his body after his death... the body then disappeared, and the glow had risen to the skies.

CHRISTINE

(quietly)

Sounds familiar...

JAHLESH

Noh'lahn's spirit had joined the Originators... and Vorian has been awaiting his return for two thousand years now.

DANIEL

So you're saying that Noh'lahn ascended...

JAHLESH

Promising his return.

DANIEL

Listen, I'm sorry, I don't know how else to say this, but... you've got the wrong guy.

JAHLEH

I'm not so sure of that.

(explains)

It is said that the Prophet would return after a great tragedy would strike Vorian... obviously that happened six months ago when the rogue Kih'Andari attacked the capital. It is also said that the Prophet would be reborn into another shell, live a life away from Vorian... perish, and then return to Vorian, coming from across the stars.

(beat)

I ask you, Doctor Jackson... is that not precisely what happened to you?

Daniel doesn't like where this is going.

DANIEL

No offense, but... I don't think that's any of your business.

(not trying to sound rude)

I mean, don't get me wrong, but...

(shaking head)

... how did you even find out about this?!

JAHLESH

Some Vorian crewmembers on this station found out about your ascension... they started talking. And one of them resides in the town in which we live. When he returned home, and attended my sermon... he told me about you.

There's a beat. Then Jahlesh looks at Daniel intently, asking as if though he already knows the answer:

JAHLESH (CONT'D)

Let me ask you a question, Doctor Jackson... Does your memory from your time as an "ascended being" elude you? If so, is it not possible that the revelation of your true path... lies hidden in those lost memories?

Daniel is growing decreasingly uncomfortable with all of this.

DANIEL

I don't want to talk about this. I'm sorry.

Daniel stands, making it clear that he's not interested in continuing this conversation.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

Now, if you'll excuse me.

Jahlesh's seasoned features seem a little disappointed, but he does accept Daniel's words.

JAHLESH

As you wish, Doctor Jackson.

Without any further words, Daniel EXITS, feeling very uncomfortable with all this.

Hold on Callen, Sivea and Christine a beat. None of them is quite sure how to respond to this. And off that...

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

Re-establishing the great space station.

INT. COMMANDER'S OFFICE

Callen is sitting at his desk, focused on reading something on his desk monitor, when LENORI ENTERS, carrying a report pad.

LENORI

Commander, I have the first round of results from the quarterly crew check-ups.

Callen's focus remains on his screen, as he takes the report pad.

CALLEN

Thank you, Doctor. Anything I should know of?

LENORI

Nothing worth mentioning. A minor cold here and there. Oh, and Lieutenant Sen'rel dislocated his shoulder as he was attempting to play squash at the gym. Nothing serious, though.

(smiles)

I did volunteer to give him some lessons, as I've been told I'm quite a respectable player myself.

Callen nods his slight acknowledgment, but he's clearly distracted by what he's reading. Lenori notices, and puts two and two together.

LENORI (CONT'D)

Refreshing your mind on the Spiritual Texts, I take it?

Callen nods.

CALLEN

It's been a while since last I've read through them...

LENORI

Noh'lahn Grell... the parallels between his proposed return and Doctor Jackson are rather remarkable.

Callen looks up with some surprise.

CALLEN

You're familiar with the Spiritual Texts?

LENORI

I had a chance to read them during my time on a Vorian science base nearly seventy years ago.

Callen considers that.

CALLEN

You have a good memory.

Lenori acknowledges with his trademark smile. Callen glances over his screen again.

CalLEN (CONT'D)

It does say that Noh'lahn Grell will be "reborn" into the body of someone who will not be from Vorian... but that this someone's path will ultimately lead him back to Vorian when the time came.

LENORI

A rather fascinating prophecy.

CalLEN

(thoughtful)

You know, I never drew a connection between this and Doctor Jackson...

LENORI

And now?

Callen takes a long and thoughtful beat to consider his reply.

CalLEN

Like you said... the parallels are remarkable. And while I do believe in the Originators...

Lenori knows what Callen is saying.

LENORI

... it seems unlikely to you that Doctor Jackson would be the reincarnation of Noh'lahn Grell.

CalLEN

I can understand Jahlesh's interpretation and his belief. But that's all it is -- one man's belief.

LENORI

And that's ultimately what it boils down to, wouldn't you say?

(off Callen's look)

At the end of the day, the most important thing is really not so much whether or not one's beliefs are true or false... what matters is that one can find a way to hold onto those beliefs.

And as Callen considers those words...

INT. DANIEL'S QUARTERS - LIVING ROOM

Daniel is packing a few things into a little TRAVEL BAG. He seems pensive and grim. After a moment his door CHIMES.

DANIEL

Door's open.

Christine ENTERS, not surprised to find him packing.

CHRISTINE

Hey. I heard you were heading to Vorian for a couple of days?

DANIEL
(distracted with
packing)
Yup. Veh'strahl Jahlesh invited me
to uh... to visit his town.

CHRISTINE
(surprised)
And you agreed to go?

Daniel nods.

DANIEL
To talk him out of thinking that I'm
some sort of religious messenger.
(beat)
You wanna tag along?

Christine smiles at that. Truth is, she came here to ask
specifically to join him.

CHRISTINE
Well... since you're asking...

But Daniel remains serious. More than that, he looks a little
grim.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)
You okay?

Daniel considers his words.

DANIEL
You know, it's difficult enough as
it is, knowing I've got this...
Ancient knowledge in my head that
could possibly help us defeat
Nosah'trah. The last thing I need
is to have those people thinking
I'm... related to their gods.

CHRISTINE
I can see how that would make you
feel a little uncomfortable.

A silent beat. Christine notices that there may be something
he's not telling her.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)
You sure that's all it is? It seems
like there's something else on your
mind.

Daniel holds a beat. Christine's observation is right, but
he tries to sound as convincing as he can.

DANIEL
Well, there isn't.

Without saying anything further, he continues his packing.
We HOLD ON Christine for a moment, as she considers him,
knowing that something's eating at him.

And off her thoughtful look, we...

CUT TO:

EXT. SPACE

We see a DEEP SPACE SHUTTLE cruising by.

INT. SHUTTLE

DAVID is piloting the shuttle, as TOM ENTERS from the back compartment. He's carrying a mug, as he joins David at the front console.

TOM

(re: his drink)

Well, I gotta tell ya... I'm starting to get the hang of this jah'cahma.

DAVID

You better be careful with that. Too much coffee, and you'll just end up getting even more jittery.

Tom laughs as he sits down.

TOM

Good one.

Tom takes a sip, and then leans back in his chair comfortably, studying David for a beat. There's something Tom's been looking forward to discussing:

TOM (CONT'D)

By the way... I noticed you stopped by that tourist store before we went back to the shuttle.

David is a little hesitant. He was hoping Tom wouldn't have noticed.

DAVID

Oh, I was just... checking to see what they have. You know, doing some browsing...

Tom knows he's got David in a corner already, and he's about to enjoy this.

TOM

We were there to deliver supplies, to help that colony get on their feet again after the war...

DAVID

(so what?)

Yeah, I know.

TOM

("trying to understand")

And you just happen to browse through a tourist store to... help them get their business going again?

David shakes his head, annoyed.

DAVID

Why do you always have to know everything?

TOM

(smiles)
Natural curiosity.

DAVID

All right, if it's really so important to you... I was checking to see if they had something nice -- for Julia and Caitlin.

TOM

That's my man.

DAVID

Since they spend most of their time living with me on the station, I kinda... feel obligated to bring them something whenever I come home from an off-station mission. You know, maybe something cute for Caitlin... or some flowers for Julia.

TOM

(smiling)
Absolutely.

DAVID

And most planets we go to don't have tourist stores.

TOM

But this Vorian colony did.

DAVID

Exactly.

TOM

Gotcha. After all, you're a family man.

DAVID

Yes, I am.

TOM

You definitely are.

Beat. Silence.

TOM (CONT'D)

So -- found something nice?

DAVID

(an annoyed sigh)
As a matter of fact I did.

TOM

Great.

Beat. More silence.

TOM (CONT'D)

Mind if I check it out? You know, make sure it's okay. I'd be more than willing to give you my advice -- for free.

David gives him an annoyed glare, and Tom can no longer keep a straight face.

TOM (CONT'D)
(cracking up)
I'm just kidding. Relax, just kidding... Sometimes you're just such an easy target.

DAVID
I guess I was right...
(off Tom's look)
All that coffee is starting to get to you.

Tom laughs, and David can't help but also smile. Then, David's attention is caught by something on his readouts. Tom notices...

TOM
What is it?

DAVID
(off console)
I'm picking up a subspace distress signal.
(worried)
It's from a Vorian colony in the Borlek system.

TOM
Can you tell what's going on there?

DAVID
No... they're just requesting assistance.

Tom checks his own readouts.

TOM
(off readouts)
If we jump back into hyperspace, we can be there in about ten minutes.

David nods.

DAVID
Well, we better go take a look.

And as he alters their course...

EXT. SPACE

We see the shuttle veering off, as it disappears into a hyperspace window.

INT. SHUTTLE

A short time has passed...

DAVID
(off console)
We're arriving in the Borlek system.
(works his controls)
Raising shields. Never know what to expect.

And then...

EXT. SPACE - THE SHUTTLE

A hyperspace window opens again, and this time we see the shuttle emerging into normal space.

INT. SHUTTLE

David and Tom react with worry. Something concerning out the front window has caught their attention.

TOM

That doesn't look too good...

Hold on their reactions for a beat, and then...

ANGLE OUT THE FRONT WINDOW

to see that TWO DRAQUE MARAUDERS are hovering over the planet on which the Vorian colony is located.

TOM (CONT'D)

(off readouts)

They have their weapons charged.

As Tom and David exchange a look of concern...

EXT. SPACE

We hold on the Draque Marauders hovering over the Vorian colony threateningly, as we can see the shuttle in the distance, moving closer.

And off that, we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE

We see THREE VORIAN FIGHTER CLASS SHIPS approaching the Marauders. The Vorian ships OPEN FIRE immediately, hitting the Draque Marauders' shields.

INT. SHUTTLE

Tom and David at the front console.

TOM

Looks like the Vorians aren't wasting any time. They're attacking at full force.

DAVID

(working his controls)
I'm taking us in to lend a hand.

Tom acknowledges.

EXT. SPACE

CLOSE ON the Draque Marauders, as they take a few hits. But then it becomes clear that whoever's on those enemy ships isn't interested in combat. The Marauders just veer off, and jump into hyperspace.

INT. SHUTTLE

Tom and David are both surprised.

TOM

Okay... I'm all for things going smoothly, but... that was a little too easy, if you ask me.

David's grim expression is enough to let us know that he agrees with Tom. And off their looks of worry...

CUT TO:

EXT. VORIAN TOWN - DAY

We see a small Vorian town, located in a beautiful mountainous region. From the architecture we can tell immediately that this town is Vorian; we see the traditional dome shapes all over the place. The town is similar to the one we saw in "What Comes Before The Dawn..." -- it's very idyllic, showing less signs of technology than the larger Vorian cities do. It's a very beautiful place underneath a clear, blue sky.

INT. VORIAN CHURCH - DAY

The town's small community church. The interior is similar to the cathedral we saw in "Together We Stand," but it's smaller. Most of the church is wooden, and we catch the sense that this is a small and friendly community. Basically this is a small, Vorian country town, where life seems simpler compared to the large cities. Most of the people here know each other.

There's no benches in here. Much rather do we find a decorated, reddish carpet laid out in front of a STAGE, where we see Veh'strahl Jahlesh giving his sermon. MANY VORIAN TOWNSPEOPLE are assembled here, sitting on the carpet, enjoying the sermon. Standing on the stage with Jahlesh is Re'cahn. And behind them on the wall we can see a CIRCLE with a unique symbol inside of it -- it's a SHA'MAHAL, the symbol of Vorian religion.

Re'cahn remains in the background, as Jahlesh is reading from the Spiritual Texts which he has on his PODIUM.

JAHLESH

And that night De'sya stayed awake,
remaining on top of the great
mountain... waiting, and hoping that
the Originators would reveal
themselves to her.

We PAN OVER the crowd listening to Jahlesh, as we can see Daniel and Christine ENTERING in the back. They quietly move forward, attracting some attention, as they're both wearing their Horizon uniforms. Above that, we continue hearing Jahlesh.

JAHLESH (O.S.) (CONT'D)

But nothing happened. So, the
following morning De'sya began to
pray again... asking the Originators
for guidance, asking for hope.

CLOSE ON JAHLESH

as he reacts to Daniel's arrival, pleased. He goes on with the sermon.

JAHLESH (CONT'D)

De'sya would end up staying on top
of the mountain for four days and
four nights, before returning to her
village.

ON RE'CAHN

also reacting to Daniel's presence. But he does not seem very pleased. He was hoping Daniel wouldn't show up.

JAHLESH (O.S.) (CONT'D)

On her way back, she found a
beautiful, marvelous stone. She had
never seen anything quite like it.
She picked it up, hoping it may bring
her good fortune.

ON DANIEL AND CHRISTINE

as they look around, remaining in the back of the church.

JAHLESH (O.S.) (CONT'D)

But when De'sya returned, she couldn't
understand why the Originators hadn't
revealed themselves to her. After
all, she had always been faithful...

JAHLESH (O.S.) (CONT'D)

She even took it upon herself to travel to the great mountain on which Noh'lahn Grell lived... and where he died.

Daniel seems a little torn. Part of him is fascinated by gaining insight into another culture like this, but he's also visibly uncomfortable, hearing Jahlesh speaking of Noh'lahn Grell.

JAHLESH (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Only few people had claimed to have experienced visions of the Originators on the great mountain... But despite of what had happened, De'sya reminded herself to not lose faith.

A woman in her mid fifties walks up to Daniel and Christine. She is LA'VIENNE. She greets them with a warm smile, speaking quietly, as to not disturb the sermon.

LA'VIENNE

The Originators welcome you to their home.

(gesturing)

Please, have a seat.

CHRISTINE

Thank you.

As Christine and Daniel seat themselves on the carpet...

JAHLESH (O.S.)

And so many weeks would pass, during which matters seemed hopeless... But then, one day... everything changed. Despite all odds, her son recovered from the terrible illness, and De'sya learned that the stone she found when returning home from the great mountain... was a sacred stone, containing a rare material.

ON JAHLESH

turning the page, as he goes on.

JAHLESH (CONT'D)

Being exposed to this rare material was what ultimately cured her son from the illness... it was what ultimately saved his life, and restored joy on De'sya's path.

Jahlesh holds a beat. Then he closes the book with the Spiritual Texts, now reciting from memory.

JAHLESH (CONT'D)

Years later -- now a grandmother -- De'sya did have a vision of the Originators. And when she thanked them for having brought her the stone... they told her that they had not brought the stone to her. What they did bring, was the courage and the strength she needed to walk her difficult path, which ultimately led her to a place of happiness. But the stone was always in her path... a path she would not have been able to walk, had it not been for her faith.

(MORE)

JAHLESH (CONT'D)

(beat)

Now let us pray to the Originators,
so that they may guide all of us on
our own paths, and give us the
strength that they gave De'sya.

And with that, everyone begins to pray. They extend their arms, like embracing their gods. Then their heads sink down, as they move their hands in front of their chests with their palms facing inwards.

ON CHRISTINE AND DANIEL

as they watch the ceremony respectfully, also lowering their heads.

TIME DISSOLVE TO:

INT. VORIAN CHURCH - LATER

The sermon is over, and most of the townspeople have already left. Daniel and Christine are still here, waiting to talk to Jahlesh. We see La'vienne standing at the exit, saying goodbye to the last people heading out; a young family.

LA'VIENNE

(smiling)

May your day be a blessed one. And
we look forward to seeing you here
again soon.

The family acknowledges as they EXIT.

NEW ANGLE

as Jahlesh and Re'cahn walk up to Daniel and Christine.

JAHLESH

(warmly)

Doctor Jackson and Doctor Summers...
We are pleased that you decided to
accept our invitation.

DANIEL

Well, I have to say, the... sermon
was pretty interesting.

JAHLESH

(a slight bow)

Your words honor me.

There's an uncomfortable beat, as the two men are hesitant to address the matters on their minds. Then, Jahlesh smiles as La'vienne walks up.

JAHLESH (CONT'D)

Please, may I introduce my wife --
La'vienne.

They exchange a friendly nod.

LA'VIENNE

We were pleased to have you as our
guests today.

CHRISTINE

Well, like Daniel said, it definitely was interesting.

(passionately)

I've never really gotten that much insight into Vorian religion.

LA'VIENNE

You won't believe how much joy it gives my husband to hear that.

They acknowledge. Jahlesh hesitates a beat, before going on. Slowly peering into uncomfortable territories.

JAHLESH

(to Daniel)

I haven't mentioned to anyone other than my wife who you are... as I know you're still struggling with accepting your role here.

Daniel knows there's no gentle way of saying this.

DANIEL

Jahlesh, I wanna be clear with you... the only reason I came here, the only reason I accepted this invitation was to convince you that I'm not who you think I am.

(with finality)

I don't have a role here, and it's important that you see that.

JAHLESH

(friendly)

Perhaps we can discuss these matters further over dinner.

DANIEL

(hard)

Dinner isn't gonna change the facts!

Jahlesh is a little caught off guard by Daniel's edgy tone. Christine tries to prevent this from turning into an argument.

CHRISTINE

(to Jahlesh)

But -- we'd still be happy to accept your invitation.

(to Daniel, easing the tension)

I don't know about you, but I'm hungry.

There's a beat. Jahlesh nods, happy to hear that, but also a little disappointed by Daniel's persistence. And Daniel seems both frustrated and worried.

CLOSE ON RE'CAHN

as he seems worried himself. He studies Daniel thoughtfully, pondering something that he has yet to share. And off that...

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

Re-establishing the great space station.

INT. COMMANDER'S OFFICE

David and Tom are back, and we see them assembled around the COUCH AREA in the office with Sivea and GRANT. Callen is in the background, standing at his desk, wrapping up a subspace communique.

SIVEA

(concerned)

We got a report from another Vorian colony... it was a similar incident. Nosah'trah's people were paying them a visit, but they were trying to stay out of sight.

GRANT

Whatever they're up to, they're trying to keep a low profile.

SIVEA

The fact that they're sneaking around Vorian space like that is more than concerning. For all we know, they might be plotting for an invasion.

DAVID

(grim)

I had the same thoughts.

TOM

Yeah, but Vorian space is pretty big. Nosah'trah's forces wouldn't be strong enough to take over all of the Vorians' territories.

GRANT

Unless... he's been making some progress lately.

Sivea knows what Grant means, and she doesn't like it.

SIVEA

You mean he's been using that Draque cloning facility.

(with disdain)

Remind me to thank Sivok for that.

Callen walks up and joins them.

CALLEN

I'm afraid the Command Council didn't have any good news either. It seems there's more of Nosah'trah's ships in Vorian space. A civilian freighter spotted two other Marauders outside the Gwen'lek system before they jumped into hyperspace. It seems they were taking scans of the habitable planets in that system.

GRANT

That doesn't make any sense. If they are planning for an invasion, why would they jump in and out of hyperspace like that, knowing there's a chance they could be spotted?

CalLEN

It's starting to seem like they're looking for something.

TOM

(realizing)

The gateway... Think about it -- Nosah'trah may have strengthened himself. But the fact that he's still forced to take a host indicates that he's far from having regained his true strength.

SIVEA

The gateway's being kept at an undisclosed location.

DAVID

They should have destroyed that thing months ago.

SIVEA

I agree.

(disapproving)

But the Command Council seems to think it warrants further scientific studies. They're convinced Nosah'trah won't be able to find it... I wish I could share their confidence.

CalLEN

(with determination)

The bottom line is -- whatever Nosah'trah's people are doing in our space, I intend to find out.

(beat)

One of our ships was able to determine the heading of those Marauders when they jumped into hyperspace. It seems they're going to the Mo'kara system next.

TOM

(remembering)

Mo'kara... That's not too far from here, is it?

Callen nods.

CalLEN

Which is why we'll be waiting for them by the time they arrive. We're leaving right now.

And as they acknowledge that, sharing Callen's determination, we go to...

EXT. VORIAN TOWN - JAHLEH'S HOUSE - NIGHT

An idyllic house, featuring the typical Vorian building style. Its corners are rounded, and its roof is dome shaped.

INT. JAHLEH'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Daniel and Christine are having dinner with Jahlesh and La'vienne.

They're seated around the dining table in the homely and inviting house. They're in mid-conversation:

JAHLESH

(to Daniel)

I was hoping that perhaps tomorrow I could introduce you to some of the people in our community... Needless to say, they've been eager to meet you.

Daniel considers a beat. Christine knows how uncomfortable he feels.

DANIEL

Jahlesh, can I ask you a question?

(off Jahlesh's nod)

You believe that the Nebulan are the Originators, right?

Jahlesh nods.

JAHLESH

And they have finally blessed Vorian by revealing themselves.

DANIEL

You see, the thing is... I've been studying Vorian culture quite a bit lately. And I know that a couple of years ago the common belief was that the ascended Ancients were the Originators.

Before Jahlesh can reply, La'vienne speaks.

LA'VIENNE

With all cultures, inaccuracies in some accounts of history are to be expected. But the truth is the Spiritual Texts leave the matter of who the Originators are up to interpretation. The only thing that's clear is that they exist.

JAHLESH

And the... Nebulan, as you call them, do possess all the traits associated with the Originators. I'm aware that they even revealed themselves to Commander Callen last year. And I'm also aware that they've helped the people from your space station on more than one occasion.

(hopeful)

It stands to reason that the fact that they chose to reveal themselves at times so crucial for the Vorian people... means that days of great importance lie ahead for us all.

DANIEL

Well, I guess what I'm getting at is... if the Ancients are not the Originators, how could someone who's ascended like the Ancients have any connection at all to them? You see, that doesn't make any sense.

There's a beat. Jahlesh is aware that Daniel is trying to question his faith. He's slightly offended by that.

JAHLESH

Ascended beings exist on a higher plane of existence, similar to the Originators.

DANIEL

Similar, but not the same. And definitely not god-like.

JAHLESH

Of course not. One could never ascend to the level of the gods.

(humble)

It is said that the Originators exist outside of time, that they created this universe, space and time, for all of us to exist in... None of us could ever ascend to their level of existence. But some have been known to come close. Such as the ascended Ancients, as you call them.

(beat)

And the fact remains -- you are the one who's returned from having been to this higher plane... and you have come to us from across the stars.

Daniel realizes that he's hitting a brick wall here. There's a beat of silence, as both Jahlesh and La'vienne seem disappointed once again by Daniel's unwillingness to see it.

CHRISTINE

(keeping an open mind)

It does kinda make sense, if you look at it that way.

DANIEL

(incredulous)

What are you saying?! That I'm the reincarnation of some Vorian who lived two thousand years ago?!

CHRISTINE

Okay -- sounds a little weird if you word it like that.

JAHLESH

Doctor Jackson, regardless of whether or not you share our beliefs, I would like to ask you to understand one thing... Vorian has a lot of healing to do, a lot more than is obvious.

(MORE)

JAHLESH (CONT'D)

(beat)

Following the war and the devastating rogues' attack... the arrival of the Prophet would give a lot of people hope. A sense that -- despite the terrible times we've been through -- Vorian's future is a bright one.

Daniel considers Jahlesh's words, noticing the older man's deep concern for his people.

JAHLESH (CONT'D)

Please at least bare that in mind... before completely denying the possibilities.

There's silence in the room, as Jahlesh lets those words sink in. And off Daniel's thoughtful features...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. JAHLESH'S HOUSE - LATER THAT NIGHT

Re-establishing the house.

INT. JAHLESH'S HOUSE - GUEST ROOM - NIGHT

This is a small and cozy room with TWO BEDS lined up against the wall. Sleeping in these beds we find Daniel and Christine. However, after a beat we realize that they're not both sleeping after all. Daniel is wide awake. He's twisting and turning, his mind clearly occupied.

CLOSE ON DANIEL

as we can see that he's feeling frustrated... helpless, in a way, due to him not being able to recall the memories that might shed some light into matters. Finally, he's had enough. He gets up, deciding to go for a late-night-walk.

As he heads off, we MOVE TO:

CHRISTINE

to see that she's still awake as well, having noticed Daniel heading off. But she decides not to say anything, knowing he needs some time to himself.

EXT. JAHLESH'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Daniel emerges from Jahlesh's house, wearing his vest above his uniform again. He remains on the porch for a moment, looking around.

ANGLE DOWN THE ROAD

to see that it's empty, looking abandoned. It gets very quiet around here at night.

BACK ON DANIEL

as he starts walking down the road. We follow him for a few beats, as he walks around, passing by the dark shadows.

Then --

NEW ANGLE

to reveal that the street isn't all that abandoned after all. Daniel is being watched by an UNKNOWN, SHADOWY FIGURE, standing in the dark. The figure is wearing a HOOD.

ON DANIEL

as he glances around the village. He walks up to a FOUNTAIN, where he stops.

THE UNKNOWN FIGURE

slowly starts moving closer, sneaking onto Daniel.

DANIEL

is standing at the fountain, looking thoughtful.

Suddenly --

ON THE UNKNOWN FIGURE

sneaking up from behind. The figure advances silently, suddenly revealing --

A KNIFE

The figure raises the knife, moving closer towards Daniel, clearly intending to attack him, as we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. VORIAN TOWN - NIGHT

Where we left off.... The Unknown Figure advances on Daniel, ready to attack him. And for the longest time it seems Daniel doesn't notice the other person coming. But then --

CLOSE ON DANIEL

as he can HEAR the sound of steps. He turns to see --

THE FIGURE ATTACKING

Daniel quickly avoids a blow from the knife. He GRABS the figure's arm, trying to take the knife, when the figure tries to take him out again. But then, Daniel dodges and gives the figure a HARD HIT. The figure DROPS the knife, but doesn't give up that quickly. Whoever the other person is, continues attacking Daniel, and gives him a HARD PUNCH.

The figure tries to pick up the knife, but Daniel reacts quickly, and attacks the figure again. Daniel now gives the figure a PUNCH, and as the figure retaliates, the two plunge on top of each other, wrestling on the ground for a few moments.

But then --

DANIEL

pulls his 9 mil from underneath his vest, and aims it down at the figure. And at this point, Daniel's overcome with surprise, as he sees the figure's face...

REVEAL:

the figure is no one less than Re'cahn.

He glares at Daniel with a stare of conviction in his eyes, yet he doesn't move, as Daniel's got his gun aimed down at him.

DANIEL

Re'cahn?!

Re'cahn just keeps staring.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

What the hell is going on here?!
Why did you attack me?!

But it's clear that Re'cahn has no intentions of talking.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

All right, fine. I have a feeling
security's gonna wanna talk to you.

And off Re'cahn's unsettling stare...

CUT TO:

EXT. SPACE

where we see the BELLEROPHON hanging in space. We then MOVE TO REVEAL two VORIAN SPACE COMMAND CRUISERS that are nearby. In the background we can see a PLANET.

INT. BELLEROPHON - BRIDGE

Callen, Grant, Sivea, David and Tom are present; the mood is tense, the ship on alert. COLONEL LOGAN is in command; PERCIVAL is manning his station, with additional N.D. CREWMEMBERS manning the other consoles. Grant checks his watch.

GRANT

(they're taking their
time)

Well, it's been over an hour now.

TOM

(not entirely convinced
himself)

Maybe they won't show up.

Just then --

PERCIVAL

(off console)

I'm picking up something.

(beat)

Two Draque Marauders are exiting
hyperspace.

DAVID

(to Tom)

You were saying...

LOGAN

(to Percival)

Where are they?

PERCIVAL

Bearing two seven five, mark seven
six nine. They're entering visual
range.

They look to see --

ANGLE OUT THE FRONT WINDOW

as the two Marauders enter view, slowly and threateningly moving forward. After a moment, they come to a complete stop.

RESUME

as everyone's looking tense.

SIVEA

I bet they didn't expect us to be
waiting for them.

Callen turns to Percival.

CALLEN

Tell the Vorian ships to remain on standby. I want to see what they've got to say first.

Percival proceeds. Then --

LOGAN

Hail them.

Percival nods and works his console for a beat.

PERCIVAL

Channel's open.

CALLEN

This is Commander De'van Callen onboard the Bellerophon. We request that you state the purpose of your presence here.

There's a beat. And then...

INCLUDE MAIN VIEWER

as it comes online, and YERUK appears. He's the Enoly Alpha we saw in "Eden." He's standing on the bridge of his vessel, clearly the one in command. In the background we see a couple of DRAQUE SOLDIERS.

YERUK

(brusque)

I am Kor'Étan Yeruk. Stand down your weapons. We are not here to fight you ...

(adding threateningly)

... not yet, anyway.

Everyone's a little caught off guard by those words.

CALLEN

Oh, is that a fact?

(firm)

Then perhaps you'd care to elaborate on just why you are here? Because in case you haven't noticed -- this is Vorian space you're in.

YERUK

(matter-of-fact)

We are here to carry out a mission for our master.

CALLEN

I'm afraid you'll have to be a little more... specific than that.

Yeruk scowls at the reply.

YERUK

The only thing you need to know, Commander... is that Nosah'trah is aware of your disrespect. And very soon the day will come, on which you will pay the price for it.

Sivea pipes in, unable to keep quiet while the safety of her people is at stake.

SIVEA

(with an edge)

Why don't you spare us all the speech... and instead get the hell out of our space?

(tense beat)

After all, I thought you just said you weren't here for a fight.

Yeruk was truthful; he is not here for a fight. However, he also did not anticipate this confrontation. The Alpha considers briefly.

YERUK

I am under orders from my master. And I would recommend you stay out of our way.

And with that, the transmission deactivates.

GRANT

(grim)

Well -- that was cryptic.

Percival reacts to his console.

PERCIVAL

The marauders are scanning the planet's surface.

LOGAN

(quietly, more to herself)

What are they looking for?

SIVEA

(urgent)

Whatever they think they're doing, we can't just sit back and watch them.

CALLEN

I agree.

(to Logan)

Colonel.

Logan acknowledges, and turns to the WEAPONS OFFICER.

LOGAN

Fire a warning shot. Let's show them that we're not messing around.

As the Weapons Officer proceeds...

EXT. SPACE

The Bellerophon fires a white LASER BEAM, only barely missing one of the two Draque Marauders.

INT. BELLEROPHON - BRIDGE

Percival reacts to his readouts.

PERCIVAL

Looks like that got their attention.
They're changing their position...
they're heading towards us.

DAVID

Looks like they changed their minds
about not wanting a fight.

LOGAN

(to Percival)

Signal the Vorian ships -- tell them
to coordinate attack maneuvers.

Percival proceeds. But just then, Grant reacts to something
out the front window.

GRANT

(to Logan)

Mac...

As everyone turns to the window again...

INCLUDE THE FRONT WINDOW

to see that the two Draque Marauders are veering off now,
not attacking after all. Instead, they jump back into
hyperspace.

RESUME

to see everyone's reactions of surprise.

TOM

Well -- just when you thought the
bad guys couldn't surprise ya.

Callen considers the situation a beat.

CALLEN

We need to bring the Command Council
up to speed.

(worried)

Something tells me this wasn't the
last we've heard of them.

Sivea nods grimly, sharing Callen's concern, as we go to...

EXT. VORIAN TOWN - MORNING

Re-establishing the idyllic Vorian town. We can see the sun
rising above it now, as a new, beautiful day begins.

INT. VORIAN TOWN - HOLDING CELL - MORNING

This is a small cell at the town's security office. The
walls are grey and plain, and there's a WINDOW separating
the cell from a room in front of it. The style of this cell
is similar to the one we saw on Pelios in "The Syndicate,"
but it's considerably smaller.

Re'cahn is in here, slightly pacing. He seems calm,
convicted. After a beat, Daniel ENTERS the little room in
front of the cell. Re'cahn considers Daniel coldly, as Daniel
steps up to the window.

DANIEL

(wry)

Hi, there. How's it going?

(beat)

You ready to talk, or... you want me to come back... ?

Re'cahn only stares a beat. Then he slightly paces again.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

Okay.

(beat)

You know, I've been talking to the security people here... and they're telling me you're about to be charged with assault... maybe even attempted murder. Might be in your best interest to at least explain why you tried to kill me.

Re'cahn is silent for another beat. Then, finally he speaks up. His voice is quiet, perhaps filled with the very slightest traces of regret.

RE'CAHN

I had no choice...

DANIEL

Ah -- of course. That explains it.

RE'CAHN

Matters aren't as simple as you think, Doctor Jackson.

(without any doubts)

I have a higher purpose.

DANIEL

Well, that's quite a mouthful.

(beat)

I'm listening.

Re'cahn struggles with himself for a moment, but finally decides that at this point he might as well talk.

RE'CAHN

When Jahlesh first told me about you, I was unsure what to make of it. Part of me wanted to believe that you were really the Prophet. That the time of salvation had begun... But part of me also knew that, considering the Ancient knowledge you possess... you could pose a very serious threat.

DANIEL

What's that supposed to mean?

RE'CAHN

There is a very real possibility that one day you will recall the knowledge the Ancients gave you. Be it another year, another five years, another ten years, it really doesn't matter.

Daniel studies Re'cahn a beat. He sees the certainty in the Vorian man's eyes.

DANIEL

And just how would you know that?

There's a beat. And then, Re'cahn decides to share this with Daniel.

RE'CAHN

Because I too have been where you once were...

(off Daniel's look)

I was once ascended... a long time ago.

Re'cahn dwells on the memories that seem so distant for a beat.

RE'CAHN (CONT'D)

I perished when I was a young man... but constant mental and spiritual training had prepared me, it allowed me to shed my corporeal existence, and rise to a higher plane. And I would exist as a non-corporeal form for over a century.

There's a beat as Daniel takes in this revelation.

DANIEL

Let me guess... Jahlesh doesn't know about that.

RE'CAHN

No one does. And it will stay that way.

DANIEL

(trying to understand)

What do you want? Why did you come back?

Re'cahn considers his words, facing the decision he once made.

RE'CAHN

Because I felt the need to... return to my duties, my responsibilities. I was unable to carry them out while being one of the ascended. Their rules prevented me from intervening in the matters of the corporeal.

(soft)

But what I was destined to protect in the corporeal world... was too important to just let it go.

Daniel's starting to put the pieces together.

DANIEL

You're one of the Keepers...

Re'cahn lowers his head slightly, not verifying it. But also not denying it.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

It's the only thing that would make sense. Why else would you be so worried about me remembering the knowledge of the Ancients? Unless, it's the kinda knowledge you're trying to keep a secret...

Re'cahn looks at Daniel, knowing they're both reasonable men, and hoping that Daniel can understand his actions.

RE'CAHN

You must understand, Doctor Jackson... I was raised, knowing that my responsibility is to guard and protect this knowledge -- under all costs.

(beat)

Granted, there's many amongst the Keepers who believe that... my ways are too extreme. It's ultimately the reason I became... exiled. But to this very day I remain convinced that the knowledge and the technology we know of... are too dangerous to allow them to fall into the hands of people who are not ready.

(with conviction)

If that means taking one life to protect the galaxies... you'll have to forgive me if I consider it an acceptable compromise.

Off Daniel, as he considers Re'cahn's conviction...

EXT. VORIAN TOWN - JAHLESH'S HOUSE - DAY

Re-establishing the idyllic house.

INT. JAHLEH'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - DAY

Daniel and Christine are here with Jahlesh and La'vienne. Jahlesh looks devastated by what's happened, and he can't help but feel responsible.

JAHLESH

I'd again like to express my deepest apologies to you, Doctor Jackson. In all the years that I've known Re'cahn, I... I would have never thought that he'd be capable of such action.

DANIEL

It's all right, Jahlesh. It's not your fault.

La'vienne is struggling to find an explanation.

LA'VIENNE

Did he tell you what could have possibly driven him to do this?

Daniel knows this won't be easy to explain.

DANIEL

Yes, he did, and it's kinda...
complicated.

Christine catches that there's something Daniel doesn't want to say in front of Jahlesh and La'vienne. Then:

GRANT'S RADIO VOICE

Doctor Summers, Doctor Jackson.
This is Grant -- do you read?

Daniel and Christine are surprised, wondering what Grant is doing here. Christine hits her radio.

CHRISTINE

This is Summers. Go ahead.

GRANT'S RADIO VOICE

(urgent)

Sorry to interrupt your trip. But I
need you and Daniel onboard the
Bellerophon, Chris.

Both Christine and Daniel notice the urgency in his voice.

CHRISTINE

What's going on?

GRANT'S RADIO VOICE

Let's just say there's been an
incident. I'll explain once you
guys get here.

And as Christine and Daniel exchange a look, both unsettled by the concern in the colonel's voice, we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE - THE BELLEROPHON & TWO VORIAN SHIPS

We see the Bellerophon along with two Space Command Cruisers, as they're orbiting Vorian.

INT. BELLEROPHON - OFFICER'S MESS

The room is similar to briefing rooms we've seen onboard Earth ships before; i.e. in "Prometheus Unbound." Assembled at the table are Callen, Grant, Sivea, David, Tom, Christine, Daniel and Colonel Logan. The mood is calm, but filled with tension and urgency.

CALLEN

Just under an hour ago, the Space Command has assumed a sector-wide Condition One. We're proceeding under the assumption that Nosah'trah's people could be strategically preparing for a full scale attack.

SIVEA

The Space Command's mobilizing their fleets, and the Governing Chamber contacted the Kih'Andari -- they're willing to assist us if push comes to shove.

LOGAN

What about the Ascendant Empire?
(with sarcasm)
Aren't they supposed to be our allies these days?

CALLEN

(out of the question)
We're not about to call them for help just yet.

Logan nods. She's glad to hear that. Then, Grant shakes his head.

GRANT

I'm still not completely sure what to make of this, to be honest...
(explains)
The behavior of those ships still seems a little odd. Even if they are planing for a large scale attack, you'd think they'd be a little more concerned with trying to keep a low profile. Also, why would Nosah'trah be interested in invading Vorian space right about now?

TOM

Well, there is still a chance that he might be looking for the gateway.

And just then, something occurs to Daniel.

DANIEL

No, I don't think it's the gateway...

GRANT

Daniel?

DANIEL

The Keepers...

This catches them off guard.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

There's a good chance that Nosah'trah knows about them as much as we do.

DAVID

(confused)

But what would make Nosah'trah think that he could find the Keepers in Vorian space?

DANIEL

(more to himself)

Re'cahn...

Daniel realizes he has some explaining to do.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

Sorry... While Chris and I were down on Vorian, Re'cahn tried to kill me because... he was worried that I could remember more from when I was ascended, recall the knowledge of the Ancients. It's a long story, but I talked to him, and even though he probably wouldn't admit it... I found out that he's one of the Keepers.

CALLEN

(surprised)

What...?

DANIEL

Believe me, I was as surprised as you are. Apparently his methods weren't met with approval... which is why they exiled him.

CHRISTINE

(to Daniel)

I had a feeling there was something you were reluctant to go into in front of Jahlesh.

DANIEL

(nods)

Re'cahn made a life for himself on Vorian, but... obviously he never gave up his responsibilities.

GRANT

And you're thinking that there's a good chance that more of the Keepers are somewhere in the area.

DANIEL

That's right. And what if Nosah'trah somehow found out about that?

SIVEA

(realizing)

He could have gotten the information from that man he was interrogating a couple of months ago. It probably just took him a while to gather enough forces to start his quest through our space...

DAVID

But if that's true, how would scanning a couple of planets help him find what he's looking for?

DANIEL

Well, from what we know, the Keepers have access to powerful Ancient technology... it's possible that that's what those ships are scanning for.

Sivea considers that, but shakes her head.

SIVEA

I don't know, Daniel. That seems like a long-shot to me. After all, you said these Keepers go to great lengths to conceal the technology they have access to.

DANIEL

Yes, and that's true, but... we also know that they may hold the key for defeating the Sentinels... and that may be what this is about -- Nosah'trah might simply be afraid.

GRANT

(understanding)

He knows the chances of him finding the Keepers and eliminating the threat they pose are small... but he has to try, nevertheless.

A beat as they consider that theory.

DANIEL

I think I should talk to Re'cahn again... try and see if I can get some more information out of him.

And as that hangs in the air...

INT. VORIAN TOWN - HOLDING CELL - DAY

Daniel is back to talking to Re'cahn. They're in mid-conversation, and Re'cahn isn't buying Daniel's words just yet.

RE'CAHN

I must say, Doctor Jackson... your timing is impeccable.

DANIEL

What's that supposed to mean?

RE'CAHN

It means I find it curious that Nosah'trah would happen to find out about the Keepers' presence in Vorian space just now. And that you would come here... asking me to reveal their location to you.

Daniel sighs, but tries to be patient.

DANIEL

Re'cahn, listen to me... Right now the only thing I care about, is making sure that Nosah'trah doesn't get his hands on the very same things that you're trying to protect. Now, correct me if I'm wrong, but... doesn't that kinda put us in the same boat?

Re'cahn takes a beat to think about it. He's not ready to cooperate just yet, but he can sense that Daniel may be sincere.

RE'CAHN

Even if you're right... all that means is that we'll need to have faith that with the Originators' guidance, the Keepers will be able to fulfill their task.

Daniel shakes his head at that.

DANIEL

(with some frustration)

You didn't seem to have too much faith in the Originators' abilities to handle things when you decided to attack me.

Re'cahn holds a beat. He doesn't waver.

RE'CAHN

I believe that the Originators will understand my reasoning. They're aware of the gravity of my responsibility.

DANIEL

I'm just curious about something.
(off Re'cahn's look)
There's a couple of people who think that I'm this prophet of yours.

RE'CAHN

What's your point?

DANIEL

My point is that your actions don't make sense. You say you serve the Originators, but you try to kill their messenger?!

Re'cahn regards him intently.

RE'CAHN

I thought you didn't believe you were the Prophet.

DANIEL

I don't. But that's not the point.

There's a long beat, as Re'cahn considers. His expression softens slightly, as he starts seeming a little more torn.

RE'CAHN

I never wanted to harm you. And maybe you are the Prophet... maybe you're not. The truth is -- I don't know.

(beat)

What I do know is that my responsibility as a Keeper... is more important than anything else.

DANIEL

Well, then maybe you better start assuming that responsibility... before it's too late.

There's a long beat as Re'cahn considers. Then, he makes his decision.

RE'CAHN

Very well. I will tell you where the others are... under one condition.

DANIEL

And what's that?

RE'CAHN

You let me come with you.

(beat)

If the Keepers need to be warned about Nosah'trah... I'll be the one to do that.

And as Daniel considers the man before him...

EXT. HYPERSPACE - THE BELLEROPHON & TWO VORIAN SHIPS

We now see the Bellerophon with the two Space Command Cruisers, as they fly through the bright hyperspace tunnel.

INT. BELLEROPHON - OFFICER'S MESS

Daniel is sitting alone at the table, reading over something on a LAPTOP. Behind him we can see the white glow of hyperspace. Daniel seems deeply immersed in what he's reading. He snaps out of it, when Christine ENTERS.

CHRISTINE

Let me guess... catching up on the Spiritual Texts.

Daniel nods, as she joins him at the table.

DANIEL

Yeah, it's actually quite
fascinating...

There's a silent beat as he keeps reading, and Christine
sits at his side. She looks over his shoulder for a moment.

CHRISTINE

(casually)
How many pages?

DANIEL

(distracted)
Couple of thousand.

CHRISTINE

(lightly)
You plan on finishing that today?

DANIEL

(eyes still on the
screen)
I'm just, uh... just focusing on the
chapters about Noh'lahn Grell.

CHRISTINE

And... ?

Daniel shakes his head thoughtfully.

DANIEL

I don't know... Under ordinary
circumstances I'd be fascinated by
all this. I just... I just wish
they'd keep me out of it.

There's a beat.

CHRISTINE

You know, I've been thinking...
Maybe it doesn't really matter what
you or I believe.
(off his look)
At the end of the day, they're the
ones who believe in this prophet.
No one's forcing them to -- it's
their own free will.

DANIEL

What are you saying?

CHRISTINE

(shrugs)
Why not just let them believe?

Daniel considers a beat. He sighs, as he stands and stares
out at hyperspace for a moment. He finally decides to share
with her what's been on his mind this entire time:

DANIEL

When I was growing up, I... I used
to go to this church. I got close
to the pastor there, a man named
Jennings. I thought he was an
incredibly wise and humble man...

(MORE)

DANIEL (CONT'D)

(struggling with the
memory)

When I was eight years old, I got to witness how my parents were killed in an accident... right in front of my eyes.

CHRISTINE

(a little solemn)

I know... I read that in one of your biographies.

DANIEL

Suffice to say, it was a difficult time.... But I remember always going to this particular church, listening to the pastor. And he would inspire me, encourage me to... look at the world in a positive way. Despite of what happened to my parents, I was able to... keep my faith. Something I wouldn't have thought possible for the longest time.

Beat.

CHRISTINE

Then what happened?

Daniel dwells on the memories for a moment, something he hasn't thought about in ages.

DANIEL

One day -- I must have been seventeen or eighteen -- me and my foster parents were on our way to church... and when we got there, we got to see the police taking Jennings into custody... it was an image I'd never forget. This was a man I looked up to, a man I admired, and... that day I realized that... he never was the kind of man I thought he was.

(beat)

It turned out that he was... involved in several criminal activities... last I heard, he's still in jail.

CHRISTINE

(quietly)

I see...

DANIEL

(still feeling the
anger)

I remember just being angry... thinking that no one should be allowed to abuse religion the way he did. Pretend to be something that they're not... And I had sworn to myself that I wouldn't let that happen again.

(beat)

I'm not gonna do it, Chris.

(MORE)

DANIEL (CONT'D)

I'm not gonna let these people treat me like something that I'm not. The Goa'uld, the Ori, Jennings... at the end of the day it's all the same ...
(soft)
... and I wouldn't be any better than any of them.

Christine thinks about that for a beat, now understanding how he really must be feeling about this. She considers her words.

CHRISTINE

To tell you the truth, Daniel... I don't know if I agree with that. This is out of your control... you never showed up, claiming that your this prophet. They just happen to think so.
(beat)
Maybe you just have to accept it.

Daniel thinks about her words for a long beat.

LOGAN'S INTERCOM VOICE

All hands -- this is the captain.
We're about to drop out of hyperspace.

Off Daniel and Christine...

EXT. SPACE

Three hyperspace windows open, as the Bellerophon and the two Space Command Cruisers emerge.

INT. BELLEROPHON - BRIDGE

All our people are present, as well as the Bellerophon's bridge crew: Logan, Percival and various Supernumeraries. Once again, the ship is on alert, and the bridge is filled with the dark combat lighting.

LOGAN

Report.

Percival works his controls for a moment.

PERCIVAL

(off console)
I'm picking up two Marauders orbiting the third planet.

TOM

(knowing the answer)
Isn't that exactly where Re'cahn said the Keepers are...?

GRANT

(dry)
Well -- talk about screwy timing.

And off their concerned looks...

EXT. SPACE - THE BELLEROPHON & THE VORIAN SHIPS

We see the three cruisers flying by. And as we MOVE WITH THEM we REVEAL the planet in the distance, with the two Draque Marauders hovering over it.

And as our ships close in on that sight, we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

INT. BELLEROPHON - BRIDGE

Moments after we left off... Everyone is having tense expressions on their faces, knowing what may be at stake here.

PERCIVAL

(off console)

Enemy ships are breaking off their scans, and assuming attack formation.

LOGAN

Coordinate defensive maneuvers with the Vorians. But wait for my command.

PERCIVAL

Yes, ma'am.

GRANT

What do we know about this planet?

CALLEN

It's an abandoned colony world. According to our records, no one's been there in over fifty years.

CHRISTINE

Sounds like the perfect place for a group of Keepers to settle down.

DANIEL

Re'cahn said he'd give us the exact coordinates of their settlement once we'd arrive.

(urgent)

We need to beam down there and warn them.

LOGAN

I'd rather not drop our shields right now, Doctor.

DANIEL

(persuasively)

The Vorians can cover us. We only need to drop our shields long enough to beam Re'cahn and me to the surface.

There's a beat as Logan considers that.

GRANT

(to Logan)

I think it's worth the risk, Mac.

Logan turns to Percival.

LOGAN

What's the status of the Draque ships?

PERCIVAL

(off console)

They're holding their position.
Looks like they're waiting to see
what we'll do.

Logan makes her decision.

LOGAN

(to Daniel)

All right, you have a go. But I
can't guarantee you that we'll be
able to beam you back onboard. Once
you're down there, you'll be on your
own.

Daniel acknowledges confidently. Then, Grant chimes in.

GRANT

We'll be all right.
(off Daniel's look,
re: Horizon-1)
We're coming with you.

As they exchange a nod...

EXT. SPACE - THE BELLEROPHON & THE VORIAN SHIPS

The two Vorian cruisers are now slowly assuming their
positions in front of the Bellerophon, effectively covering
the Earth cruiser.

INT. BELLEROPHON - BRIDGE

Callen has remained here with Logan and the bridge crew.

PERCIVAL

(off console)

Transport complete.

WEAPONS OFFICER

(working)

Shields back up.

Callen and Logan exchange a look -- so far so good.

PERCIVAL

(off console)

We're being hailed by one of the
Marauders.

LOGAN

Let's see what they have to say.

Percival works his controls, as Callen and Logan turn to
face --

THE MAIN VIEWING SCREEN

as it switches to once again showing Kor'Etan Yeruk, standing
on the bridge of his vessel. The Alpha has an evil looking
grin on his scaly face.

YERUK

Commander Callen... what an interesting surprise. Who would have thought that we would run into each other again this quickly?

Callen plays along, putting on his best poker face.

CALLEN

You never know what to expect in Vorian space, Kor'Etan.

YERUK

Very true. However, I am curious... our scans show that you've beamed several of your people down to the planet's surface.

CALLEN

The planet in question is Vorian territory. I don't have to explain myself to you.

YERUK

No. But your actions are rather self explanatory. They lead me to believe that by now you are probably well aware what my orders are... what we are doing in your space.

CALLEN

(poker face)

Please -- enlighten me.

Yeruk plays along.

YERUK

We are searching for something. Something that will give our master even greater power than he already has. And I must say, I was not expecting to find much on this particular world.

(with a grin)

But your actions lead me to believe that I may have been mistaken.

And as Callen remains firm, not about to show that Yeruk is accurately putting the pieces together...

CUT TO:

EXT. ABANDONED RUIN SITE - DAY

We find ourselves in the ruins of an old, small town. To a certain degree the architecture here used to be similar to the town back on Vorian, which we can tell by the shapes of some of the ruins. But it's also obvious that this town has been decimated to ruins a very long time ago. The sun is seen on the clear, blue sky, and gusts of wind are blowing some of the sand on the grounds. In many ways this appears almost like an old ghost town.

As we PAN OVER the sight, we find Christine, Daniel, Re'cahn as well as Grant, Sivea, David and Tom carefully walking through the ruin site.

They have their rifles trained, and Re'cahn is the only one who's unarmed. They glance around, taking in the sight.

GRANT

Well -- I think it's safe to assume that no one's been out here in a very long time.

Sivea is using her Vorian scanner, inspecting the area.

SIVEA

(off scanner)

I'm not picking up any life signs.

CHRISTINE

Any signs of Ancient technology?

Sivea shakes her head.

SIVEA

No. There's nothing at all... This place is as abandoned as it looks.

Re'cahn is as surprised as our people, as he glances around.

DANIEL

(to Re'cahn)

I thought you said this was where we'd find the Keepers.

Re'cahn is trying to make sense of it.

RE'CAHN

And that's what I believed, I... I was sure that they'd still be here.

David regards Re'cahn distrustfully.

DAVID

What are you saying -- that they left this place?

RE'CAHN

Look around. That is what it would appear like.

DAVID

(with an edge)

You mean that's what you want it to appear like.

Re'cahn doesn't like the tone of David's voice.

RE'CAHN

If my intention was not to lead you to the Keepers, then why would I have even come with you?!

SIVEA

You tell us.

It's clear that no one here is trusting Re'cahn. But just then --

ON DANIEL

as he spots something in the distance.

DANIEL

Wait a minute... Guys?

They turn in the direction that he's pointing. And they immediately realize what's caught his attention.

CHRISTINE

We might be getting somewhere after all.

They head towards one of the ruins which had been previously out of sight.

NEW ANGLE TO REVEAL:

a large WALL filled with ANCIENT WRITING. It's located in what once may have been the center of this town.

SIVEA

(recognizing)

That looks a lot like Ancient...

DAVID

(to Christine and
Daniel)

I take it you guys can read this?

CHRISTINE

(nods)

It's of the same dialect as the writings found in the second chamber in Malaysia.

Something catches Grant's attention.

GRANT

I don't need to be able to read Ancient to recognize this symbol.

As he points at it, we can see that there's a KEEPERS' SYMBOL in the midst of the writing. It's the same distinct symbol that we saw in "The Gateway of the Gods."

CHRISTINE

The symbol of the Keepers.

TOM

Leading to the obvious question of... where are they?

Suddenly, a realization hits Re'cahn.

RE'CAHN

Of course... they must have gone back.

SIVEA

Gone back where?

But Re'cahn isn't about to answer the question.

RE'CAHN

All that matters is... they're not in this space sector anymore.

(MORE)

RE'CAHN (CONT'D)

And they'll have made sure to not leave anything behind that would point to their whereabouts.

(beat)

It seems that all your concerns were for nothing.

And off that...

INT. BELLEROPHON - BRIDGE

As before. Yeruk is on the screen, and Callen is facing him with a firm expression.

CALLEN

To be honest, Kor'Etan, I couldn't care less what it is that you're looking for. The way I see it, you have two options right now... you can either retreat, or face the consequences.

There's a tense beat, as Yeruk just glares at Callen.

YERUK

(threateningly)

As you wish -- Commander.

And the transmission deactivates. Callen and Logan exchange a look.

LOGAN

Something tells me he's not about to choose option A.

Suddenly --

PERCIVAL

(off console)

Colonel, one of the Marauders just beamed several of their people to the surface.

(beat)

And they're charging their weapons.

Off Callen and Logan...

EXT. ABANDONED RUIN SITE - DAY

Our people and Re'cahn are standing before the wall filled with writing, when:

CALLEN'S RADIO VOICE

Callen to Grant.

GRANT

(taps his earphone)

This is Grant.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. BELLEROPHON - BRIDGE

CALLEN

You better brace yourselves down there, John. Several Enoly and Draque just beamed down to the surface. They're closing in on your position.

Immediately, our people are alert and train their weapons.

GRANT

Thanks for the heads-up.

CALLEN

Did you find anything?

Grant looks at Daniel and Christine, and as they both shake their heads...

GRANT

From what we can tell, the Keepers aren't here. It's starting to look like they left this place a long time ago.

Callen is surprised, but there's no time for details.

CALLEN

Understood. Be careful down there.

GRANT

Will do.

Just then --

PERCIVAL

(off console)

Colonel, the Marauders are opening fire!

LOGAN

Evasive maneuvers!

(to the Weapons Officer)

Bring the array online. I'm tired of kidding around.

And as the Weapons Officer proceeds...

EXT. ABANDONED RUIN SITE - DAY

Our people take cover behind some nearby ruins. They've got their weapons trained, as they're waiting for the Enoly.

INT. BELLEROPHON - BRIDGE

The ship is ROCKED, as the Draque ships continue their attacks.

PERCIVAL

(off console)

Direct hit. Forward shields holding at ninety percent!

EXT. SPACE

CLOSE ON the Marauders, as they unleash several weapons blasts.

ON THE BELLEROPHON

as she's now got her weapons array "online," utilizing her upgraded weapons (as seen in "Gateway" and "Fighting Ground").

She's firing several LASER BLASTS, as well as SHORT and CONTINUOUS bursts of ENERGY from her wing-like weapons array.

ON THE DRAQUE MARAUDERS

as they take evasive action, and keep firing.

EXT. ABANDONED RUIN SITE - DAY

Everyone's covered behind the ruins here, waiting tensely.

Sivea's keeping an eye on her scanner. There's a long and tense moment of silence, then... Sivea gives Grant a slight nod -- they're coming.

Grant acknowledges and gives his team a hand signal, telling them to wait for his command. And then... Sivea puts her scanner down, as she points down in a specific direction. As Grant glances at where she's pointing --

GRANT'S P.O.V. - LOOKING DOWN THE RUINS

to see movement. After a moment, we make out two ENOLY ALPHAS leading SEVERAL DRAQUE SOLDIERS.

RESUME

as our team exchange a nod. Then... they OPEN FIRE.

ON THE ENOLY AND DRAQUE

as one of the Alphas takes a HIT and is blasted to the ground. The others immediately take cover behind some other ruins.

VARIOUS ANGLES

as the shootout begins. Phasial Discharger blasts, P90 blasts and Draque as well as Enoly energy blasts whiz through the air, hitting ruins on both sides.

Off that...

INT. BELLEROPHON - BRIDGE

The ship is ROCKED as it takes a hit.

PERCIVAL

(off console)

Another direct hit. Forward shields are down to eighty percent.

LOGAN

All weapons -- keep firing at will.

Callen steps up to Logan.

CALLEN

Colonel, let me talk to them again.

(off Logan's look)

The Keepers aren't down there -- this is getting us nowhere.

Logan considers that notion, as we go back to...

EXT. ABANDONED RUIN SITE - DAY

The shootout continues, and it seems that neither side is gaining a clear advantage over the other.

VARIOUS ANGLES

as some Draque Soldiers begin to advance forward, keeping their cover behind the ruins.

ON SIVEA

as she fires her weapon, while still keeping her scanner in eyes' reach. Suddenly, she reacts to some readouts.

SIVEA

(to Grant, off scanner)

Some of them are regrouping behind those ruins.

GRANT

acknowledges, giving David, Tom, Christine and Daniel a hand signal. They slightly change their positions, as they continue fighting off the attackers.

The shootout continues for a few moments.

But then --

NEW ANGLE

as suddenly several Draque Soldiers emerge from a new corner. Our people turn to face them, train their weapons on them, but just then --

ENOLY ALPHA (O.S.)

Stand down!

Our people turn to see --

MORE DRAQUE

approaching from the other side. With them is the ENOLY ALPHA -- their leader.

The team react quickly, and before they know it, they've got their weapons trained on various of the enemy, while the Draque have their weapons trained on them.

It's a scenario that could come straight out of a John Woo movie -- everyone has their weapons trained on someone here, and everyone's got a weapon pointed at themselves.

As it's just a matter of time until someone will fire the first shot...

INT. BELLEROPHON - BRIDGE

We can spot some minor damage to some consoles in the back, but nothing too serious.

PERCIVAL

(off console)

They're responding.

LOGAN

Put it up.

And as he proceeds...

INCLUDE THE MAIN VIEWER

as it again switches to the image of Yeruk standing on his bridge. His ship has taken some damage, as we can see smoke rising from some consoles in the back.

CALLEN

Yeruk, we need to put an end to this.

The ship is ROCKED.

YERUK

(aggressively)

If you want to end to this, you will stand down!

CALLEN

The Keepers aren't here anymore.

Yeruk is surprised by Callen's words.

CALLEN (CONT'D)

According to our information, they've left this planet a long time ago.

(off the Alpha's stare)

We both know that's what this is all about.

(tense beat)

I suggest you speak to your people on the surface, and verify what I've just told you... Because right now, we're fighting over absolutely nothing.

And as the Alpha stares at Callen, unsure whether or not to trust him...

EXT. ABANDONED RUIN SITE - DAY

As before -- everyone has their weapons trained on everyone. The unarmed Re'cahn is right in the middle of it. There's a long and tense beat.

GRANT

Well -- now what?

ENOLY ALPHA

Lower your weapons.

GRANT

You go first.

Beat. Everyone's feeling the enormous tension, knowing that any of them could go down any second.

And then --

YERUK'S COM VOICE

This is Kor'Etan Yeruk. What is your status?

The Enoly Alpha speaks into his wrist communique.

ENOLY ALPHA

We have discovered a ruin site. But there is no sign of Alteran technology... it appears this site is abandoned.

INT. BELLEROPHON - BRIDGE

Callen, Logan, Percival and the others can hear the conversation through the viewing screen.

CALLEN

(to Yeruk)
I told you.

Yeruk still isn't convinced. But one of his DRAQUE SOLDIERS steps into view briefly, telling Yeruk something that we can't hear. Yeruk considers a beat, and then speaks to Callen again.

YERUK

Our scans seem to verify that there is nothing in the vicinity of the ruins... but that could be a deception.

Callen steps forward a little, as he goes on firmly.

CALLEN

Yeruk -- you said it yourself, you're not here to fight us, not yet. So just ask yourself a simple question... do you think you're ready to go up against the entire Vorian Space Command?

(tense beat)

What do you think your "god" will say, when he finds out you've gone against his orders?

The Alpha on the screen glares at Callen for a long beat. He doesn't like it, but he knows that Callen is right.

YERUK

I will order my troops to stand down. But I will complete my scans of this star system.

CALLEN

By all means... but all you'll find is that you're wasting your time.

Yeruk grunts at Callen's confident reply.

YERUK

Know this, Commander Callen -- your people may escape battle today. But very soon, we shall return ...

(a promise)

... and then we will conquer your world.

Leaving it at that, he deactivates the transmission.

EXT. ABANDONED RUIN SITE - DAY

As before. But then --

YERUK'S COM VOICE

All forces, this is Kor'Etan Yeruk.
Stand down, and prepare to return to
the ship immediately.

There's a beat, as the Draque Soldiers and the Enoly Alpha are somewhat surprised. But then, slowly... everyone does start to lower their weapons, never taking their eyes off of their enemies.

INT. BELLEROPHON - BRIDGE

Percival looks up from his console.

PERCIVAL

(with some relief)
They transported their troops back
to their ship.

A moment as everyone's visibly relieved.

GRANT'S RADIO VOICE

Grant to the Bellerophon.

CALLEN

Go ahead, John.

GRANT'S RADIO VOICE

I don't know what you told those
goons, but it must have been good.

Callen slightly smiles at those words, clearly pleased to see that his people on the surface seem to be all right.

And off this moment, we...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

We see the by now familiar shot of the Bellerophon returning to Horizon. And as the ship docks at one of the station's ports...

INT. COMMANDER'S OFFICE

Callen ENTERS with Grant, Sivea and Christine.

CALLEN

We've still got ships on patrol,
keeping an eye out for more marauders,
but... it seems that Nosah'trah's
people have realized that they're
not about to find anything here.

GRANT

So they all retreated?

CALLEN

It seems that way. We're still
remaining at a heightened state of
alert, however... Condition One's
been called off.

CHRISTINE

That's good to hear.

SIVEA

What still concerns me is just how easy those Marauders were able to infiltrate our space.

(worried)

Just imagine what could happen once they've got some more forces... which is what I'm sure they're working on right now.

GRANT

(agrees)

The one thing that Nosah'trah's shown us, is that he's as much a threat to this galaxy than he is to Triangulum.

CALLEN

(to Christine)

Do we have any indication at all where the Keepers went?

CHRISTINE

I'm afraid not. Just like Re'cahn said... there's no mention of their location in those writings. It does say that they lived among the Vorians for several generations... before heading off for their new home.

GRANT

A good old fashioned mystery.

And as they ponder those words...

EXT. VORIAN TOWN - DAY

Once again, re-establishing the idyllic town.

INT. VORIAN CHURCH - DAY

A new sermon is about to begin, and we see people ENTERING the church, and taking their seats on the carpet. La'vienne is on the stage, preparing her husband's sermon, when Daniel ENTERS. They exchange a friendly nod as she spots him. Daniel takes a moment to glance around, part of him can't deny that he's extremely curious to learn more about this culture's religion.

JAHLESH (O.S.)

Doctor Jackson...

NEW ANGLE

as Jahlesh walks up to Daniel.

JAHLESH (CONT'D)

I'm pleased to see that you're joining us again. I heard about recent events, and... I was concerned. I'm so relieved to see that things have gone well.

Daniel considers Jahlesh a beat. He's here to once and for all settle matters, and he knows this won't be easy.

DANIEL

(with some regret)

Jahlesh... I'm sorry. But I can't accept any of this.

(explains)

It took me a while to come to terms with it, but... I realize that your beliefs are your beliefs. And I won't be able to change them -- nor should I.

(beat)

But... nothing that you say or do is ever going to convince me that I'm who you think I am.

Jahlesh can tell that Daniel is serious -- he won't be able to change his mind. And the elderly man can't hide his disappointment.

JAHLESH

I'm... sorry to hear that.

(beat)

And I hope that it's not because of what Re'cahn did. Because if it is, I can assure you --

DANIEL

This has nothing to do with him.

This has to do with me.

(soft)

You're asking me to pretend to believe in something that I just don't believe in. And that kinda defeats the whole purpose, doesn't it?

There's a long beat. Jahlesh had hoped that Daniel would come around, but finally there's nothing he can do but accept his decision.

JAHLESH

(soft)

I understand.

(maintaining hope)

Then perhaps in time... you may yet change your views.

It pains Daniel having to be this direct, but he knows it's for the best.

DANIEL

No -- I won't.

Jahlesh is hurt by those words. Daniel is aware of it, and feels bad about it. He gently places his hand on Jahlesh's shoulder.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

You're a good man, Jahlesh.

(soft)

Never lose your faith... and one day you'll find what you're looking for.

And Daniel turns and EXITS.

ON JAHLESH

to see the disappointment in his eyes. But Daniel's words also give him hope. Hold on his features for a beat...

EXT. OUTSIDE THE VORIAN CHURCH - DAY

Daniel pauses for a beat. He turns back to look into the church for a moment... a look of unsettlement and concern is on his features, as he turns and heads off.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE

THE END

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And now, make sure to head on over to the GateWorld Episode thread to share your thoughts on tonight's episode!