

**S T Å R G Å T E**  

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**H O R I Z O N**

**SINS PAST**

**Episode: 4.15**

**Written by**  
**JAY WILSON**

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TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

We see an establishing shot of the great space station, as she slowly rotates. A couple of Vorian ships are coming and going, and the twin suns are shining brightly in the background.

INT. TOM'S LAB

We see a young, Vorian woman (late 20's). She's working at a computer console. Her name is KA'LEE, and she's a lab technician; her uniform is sporting the blue color code. She's completely caught up in what she's doing, having a strong passion for her work.

TOM ENTERS, and he is pleasantly surprised as he sees Ka'lee.

TOM

(smiles)

Morning.

Ka'lee smiles as she sees him. She seems to have a natural sweetness to her.

KA'LEE

Hey. Good morning.

Tom walks up and joins her at the computer.

TOM

You know, I always thought I was the first one to show up here in the morning.

KA'LEE

(smiles)

I just couldn't help it.

(re: the readouts)

I mean, this is amazing. The density of this nebula formation is a lot stronger than it seemed at first.

Tom skims over the readouts.

TOM

Yeah, it's quite a phenomenon. Hopefully we'll be able to head back in that region before long, get some more detailed scans of it.

(he knows she'll like this)

If I pull a couple of strings, I can probably get you to join the scientific expedition team.

Ka'lee's eyes widen.

KA'LEE

I'd love that! I still can't believe that I'm actually here.

(MORE)

KA'LEE (CONT'D)

It's always been a dream of mine to be assigned to Horizon. I've been waiting for this to happen for years now.

TOM

Well, I'm certainly glad you made it out here. And you're doing an amazing job.

Ka'lee smiles at the compliment.

KA'LEE

Why, thanks, Tom.

Tom acknowledges with a smile. Ka'lee focuses on the console again, as Tom watches her for a beat.

TOM

Well -- while this is all quite amazing, I do need my cup of morning coffee first. Otherwise I won't be able to focus on anything.

KA'LEE

I sure know what that's like.

Tom hesitates a beat. Then, decides to ask:

TOM

Would you like to... join me at Chuck's for a cup of jah'cahma?

KA'LEE

(surprised)  
You like Vorian coffee?

TOM

It's my favorite, as a matter of fact. Don't know how I used to get by without it.

She smiles again.

KA'LEE

It's the same with me. I couldn't be without my morning coffee. But I've already had two cups, and I think that'll suffice for a while.

(then)  
Sorry, had I known that you --

TOM

No worries.  
(beat)  
Well -- I'll be back in a little while.

She acknowledges, and there's a moment between them. A friendship seems to be forming here. And then Ka'lee gets back to work as Tom heads off.

ON TOM

as we can see a smile on his face. He seems to like this woman. And as he EXITS...

INT. INFIRMARY

DOCTOR LENORI is examining a concerned looking ZACH, who is very obviously suffering from a cold. Lenori is focused on his scanner, and Zach nervously and impatiently looks on. When he speaks, his voice sounds congested.

ZACH

And? Why don't you say something?

LENORI

I was hoping to complete my examination before jumping to a prognosis.

ZACH

It's all right. You can tell me. I'm a dead man, right?

Suddenly Zach SNEEZES. He reacts devastated.

ZACH (CONT'D)

Some kind of alien virus. I knew it was only a matter of time.

(forcing himself to be brave)

Let's just get it over with. Just... just tell me how much time I have left.

Lenori completes his examination. He puts the scanner away.

LENORI

Well, to be honest...

ZACH

What is it, weeks? Months?

LENORI

Not quite.

ZACH

(shocked)

It's not days, is it?

LENORI

Mister Hoffmann --

ZACH

I'll never be able to get all my stuff together in just a matter of days. There's so much left to do. I never even got around to putting together a will. I know I should have the moment I set foot on this station, but the mere idea of even thinking about ones own demise just always seemed so --

He's interrupted by another SNEEZE. Lenori uses this opportunity to reveal the news.

LENORI

From what I can tell... you're suffering from a simple cold.

This surprises Zach.

ZACH

A cold?!

LENORI

Indeed -- a cold.

ZACH

You mean I haven't caught a deadly alien virus?

LENORI

It wouldn't seem that way.

ZACH

(taking it in)

A cold...

(realizing)

Of course! It makes sense! I must have caught it when I was on Earth...

(on second thought)

But that was... more than two weeks ago...

LENORI

Very often the symptoms of a cold do not begin to show until days, sometimes even weeks after the initial contraction has occurred. A minor detail many people aren't aware of.

Zach takes a beat to let that sink in. He's overcome by great relief.

ZACH

Oh, my god, it's just... I'm just so... so relieved. I just always... I just always assume the worst.

LENORI

I would have never guessed.

ZACH

And there's no chance you might be mistaken?

LENORI

(comforting)

While I would consider myself far from being infallible... I would say it is highly unlikely, in this case.

ZACH

(glad to hear it)

That's good, that's good. I'm actually a bit of a hypochondriac, I'm not sure if you can tell. Whenever someone just starts talking about illnesses, I always find myself experiencing the symptoms.

(MORE)

ZACH (CONT'D)

It's really a little distracting at times, but I --

He's interrupted by another SNEEZE. Followed by another one, and another one. Lenori hands him a TISSUE.

LENORI

I would recommend you take it easy over the next few days, and try to get a lot of rest. If you like I can prescribe you something that will help you sleep.

ZACH

(quickly)

No, no, no. No pills.

(a concerning thought)

I don't like the idea of having some kind of chemicals manipulating my body.

Another SNEEZE.

LENORI

As you wish.

Then Callen's voice is heard on the intercom.

CALLEN'S COM VOICE

Callen to Doctor Lenori.

Lenori taps a nearby intercom panel.

LENORI

Yes, Commander.

CALLEN'S COM VOICE

Doctor, could you please join us in the control room? There's something here you'll want to see.

Lenori is curious.

LENORI

Certainly. I'll be right up.

He turns to Zach again.

LENORI (CONT'D)

If you do decide on taking those... "chemicals," you know where to find me.

Zach tries to answer, but all he can get out is another SNEEZE. And another one. And again. Then he manages to force out an answer...

ZACH

No chemicals!

... followed by another SNEEZE.

LENORI

I admire your persistency.

With that, Lenori EXITS. Zach calls after him.

ZACH

That's very funny, by the way.

And a SNEEZE once again. Zach is clearly suffering here. And as he blows his nose into the tissue...

CUT TO:

INT. GATE ROOM

The Stargate is open and the gate shield is covering the puddle.

INT. CONTROL ROOM

CALLEN is standing behind the VORIAN TECHNICIAN, who's seated at his console. Lenori ENTERS and joins them.

LENORI

You asked to see me, Commander?

CALLEN

Doctor, yes, we've just received a message from a place you're quite familiar with -- Zentaur Prime.

Lenori is very surprised by that.

LENORI

My homeworld...?

VORIAN TECHNICIAN

It's a woman by the name of Yienera... she says you know her?

Lenori is still caught off guard, but he nods slightly.

LENORI

Indeed, I do. I know her quite well actually. She's my tenth and most recent ex-wife.

Callen and the Vorian Technician exchange a look -- tenth ex-wife? Lenori glances over the Vorian Technician's readouts, looking at the identification code.

LENORI (CONT'D)

It's quite all right, Commander. We can safely lower the shield.

Callen acknowledges and gives the Vorian Technician a nod, as Lenori EXITS into --

INT. GATE ROOM

The gate shield is lowered, as Lenori ENTERS and steps before the gate. There's a beat as he waits, his face illuminated by the shimmering puddle. And then ...

... a Zentaurian man steps through the gate. It's our first look ever at a Zentaurian other than Lenori; this is M'ZATI. He's older than Lenori, and from the looks of it he'd seem like he'd be in his sixties (but in reality he's much older than that). He's wearing Vorian civilian clothing. His eyes have the same exotic, yellow color than Lenori's have.

Lenori reacts, not looking very pleased.

INT. CONTROL ROOM

Callen and the Vorian Technician aren't sure what to make of this.

VORIAN TECHNICIAN

Didn't he say it was his ex-wife?

INT. GATE ROOM

The gate shuts down as M'zati steps down the stairs, approaching Lenori. Lenori's looking downright shocked.

LENORI

M'zati...

M'zati looks like a man with a lot of worries. But he musters up a smile as he greets Lenori.

M'ZATI

I realize this must be quite a surprise for you, old friend.

LENORI

Where's Yienera?

M'ZATI

She is all right. She allowed me to use her identification.

(with traces of regret)

I know that... that you would have never let me come here. I realize you wanted to keep your distance.

Lenori regards M'zati, and suddenly a lot of forgotten emotions from the past begin to broil up.

LENORI

You're quite right. I do not wish to speak to you.

M'ZATI

All I ask is that you --

LENORI

No!!

In the control room Callen and the technician can't hear what's being spoken, but they can tell that Lenori is unusually angry. In fact, we see Lenori furious like we've never seen him before.

LENORI (CONT'D)

I suggest you leave this station. I have nothing to say to you!

(with anger and emotion)

As far as I'm concerned -- you're dead!

Leaving M'zati with those hurtful words, Lenori turns and EXITS.

Hold on M'zati for a beat, as regret over whatever bad blood there is between him and Lenori is written all over his face, and we...

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. INFIRMARY - LENORI'S OFFICE

Moments after where we left off in the Teaser... Lenori is pacing around his office, overwhelmed by rage. Something that he hasn't thought of in a very long time is suddenly front and center on his mind again, and he's having difficulty dealing with it.

CHRISTINE ENTERS, looking concerned. She's very clearly here to check on him.

CHRISTINE

Lenori...

LENORI

(out of it)

Yes, what can I do for you?

CHRISTINE

I heard what happened in the gate room... Are you all right?

But Lenori's not willing to discuss it.

LENORI

(harsh and emotional)

Please, do not take this the wrong way, but I would prefer to be left alone.

CHRISTINE

Really? I find that surprising.

(off his look)

I remember you once told me that Zentaurians don't like being alone. That you prefer company.

LENORI

Naturally that's not always the case. And before you begin wasting your valuable time, I would like you to know that I don't intend to talk about this. It's something that concerns no one.

There's a beat. Then he suddenly realizes how he's coming across, and he composes himself a little.

LENORI (CONT'D)

(calmer)

I... I do appreciate your concern. But... there is nothing to be worried about.

Christine knows that's not true, but she knows he doesn't want to talk about it.

CHRISTINE

Well, if you say so I'll take your word for it.

(soft)

But you've been there for me more times than I could even count... Just trying to see if I can return the favor.

Lenori nods, appreciating that. Christine is about to head off, when --

LENORI

Christine?

(as she stops)

Has... has M'zati left yet?

CHRISTINE

He asked Commander Callen to be allowed to stay. The commander agreed for the time being.

(beat)

Lenori, whatever history there is between you and this M'zati... maybe the two of you should talk. He claims it's important.

Leaving Lenori pondering that notion, Christine EXITS.

CLOSE ON LENORI

as his face is filled with painful emotions. He's going through a sudden burst of memories which had been buried in his subconscious a long time ago.

And off his expression...

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

Re-establishing the great space station.

INT. CHUCK'S

A busy afternoon. We find DAVID and Tom playing a round of pool. They're in the middle of their game, but Tom seems a little distracted. David is just making his play, and he observes it with satisfaction.

DAVID

(smiles)

Hmm. Not bad. I say another two strikes, and it'll be my second win for the day.

TOM

Hm? What? Oh, yeah, that was pretty good.

David can't help but smile, knowing very well what's going on here.

DAVID

(playfully)

All right. If you're gonna make it that easy for me...

TOM

What are you talking about?

DAVID

Well, it's pretty obvious that one of us is distracted with... other matters today.

Tom realizes it, smiles.

TOM

Oh... I guess it's true that I've been a little... preoccupied.

DAVID

A little, huh?

(then)

So have you asked her out yet?

TOM

Not yet.

But he can't keep the bright smile from his face.

TOM (CONT'D)

But you know, she's just great. I mean, we have so much in common.

DAVID

That's good to hear.

TOM

(glowing with joy)

You know, I think I may have finally found her -- the woman I've always been looking for. I knew she was out there somewhere, but... I just never really quite knew where.

DAVID

Oh, boy. Sounds serious.

Tom realizes that, but shakes it off.

TOM

I don't know if you can say that. I've only known her for two weeks.

DAVID

Trust me, you sound like a guy who's in love.

Tom isn't sure if he wants to go that far.

TOM

Well... there might be a certain... attraction.

DAVID

You want my advice? Just ask her out.

Tom thinks about that; his smile grows brighter.

TOM

You know what? I think I'll do just that. What have I got to lose, right?

David acknowledges. And just then, Tom spots someone behind David.

TOM (CONT'D)

Hey... check that out.

David turns to see...

ANGLE ON DOOR

M'zati ENTERS, glancing around. He's attracting quite some attention, as he walks up to the bar.

BACK ON TOM AND DAVID

They're aware of who he is.

TOM (CONT'D)

That's that Zentaurian who came here this morning... Did you hear about Lenori's outburst in the gate room?

DAVID

Yeah... I didn't know he was still here.

Tom considers for a moment. And then, he's got that boyish curiosity in his eyes.

TOM

Let's go talk to him.

DAVID

I'd rather not...

TOM

What are you talking about? We don't wanna be rude.

And with that, Tom heads over towards M'zati. David really doesn't want to, but he comes along... rolling his eyes in the process.

NEW ANGLE

M'zati is standing at the bar. An N.D. STEWARD is just heading off, indicating that M'zati just ordered a drink. Tom and David walk up, Tom naturally being the outspoken one, while David is the quiet one.

TOM (CONT'D)

(friendly)

Hello.

M'zati gives them a friendly nod. His way of nodding is similar to the way Lenori usually nods, which seems to be a common Zentaurian trait.

M'ZATI

Hello.

TOM

I'm Tom Galloway, this is David  
Connor. We're friends of Lenori.

M'zati isn't sure why they're here, so he remains cautious.

M'ZATI

I see...

TOM

Well, I just wanted to say...  
whatever's going on between you two,  
it's quite exciting for us to actually  
meet another Zentaurian.

M'ZATI

(sincere)

I'm glad I could satisfy your  
curiosity.

TOM

Well, actually, we were kinda hoping  
you could --

David chimes in.

DAVID

We have to get going anyway.

TOM

No, we don't. We've got all  
afternoon.

David sighs with annoyance. M'zati is just about to say  
something, when --

LENORI (O.S.)

M'zati?

NEW ANGLE

Lenori has walked in. He's looking troubled, but he's forcing  
himself to at least listen to what M'zati has to say. Tom  
and David exchange a look, feeling like they're getting caught  
up in something here, while M'zati is glad to see Lenori.

M'ZATI

Lenori... I'm... glad you decided to  
talk to me after all.

But Lenori's looking unusually grim. He has no good feelings  
for this man.

LENORI

I am merely here as a courtesy.

(beat, with a look at

Tom and David)

And I have no intensions to discuss  
matters with you in public.

M'zati glances at Tom and David, who are both feeling a little  
awkward now; they know they're out of place.

M'ZATI

Very well.

CUT TO:

INT. LENORI'S QUARTERS

Lenori and M'zati are here. M'zati is looking around, very obviously trying to let bygones be bygones. But Lenori regards him coldly.

M'ZATI

I must say -- this is an impressive station. And your quarters are very inviting.

Lenori still just stares him down. M'zati picks up on the ZENTAURIAN SCULPTURE nearby; it's the one that we first saw back in "Reunited."

M'ZATI (CONT'D)

(recognizing)

One of Grelani's designs... An original?

LENORI

(matter of fact)

Yes. It's been in my family's possession for several generations.

M'ZATI

I had no idea.

LENORI

I would suggest you get to the point. Otherwise you're free to leave.

M'zati looks a little saddened. He had hoped Lenori would come around eventually.

M'ZATI

I know you blame me for what happened to the Valkonians. And you have all right to.

(regretfully)

But after all these years... is it not fair to say that we both made our share of mistakes?

LENORI

Perhaps. But you're the one who talked me into tampering with their affairs in the first place. And then you convinced me to falsify the reports we submitted to the Science Network.

M'ZATI

(reminding)

And by doing so I saved your career.

LENORI

(hard)

That does not make up for all the years of guilt, knowing that not only did I have a hand in what happened to the Valkonians -- you made me lie to our own people!

M'ZATI

(raising his voice)

And in the process I've made sure no one other than the two of us ever found out what really happened.

(softer)

Isn't your guilty conscience a small price to pay... for the astonishing careers that both of us look back at now?

Lenori is appalled by M'zati's statement.

LENORI

I admired you at the time. I looked up to you.

M'zati lowers his head as Lenori goes on.

LENORI (CONT'D)

(emotionally)

But after what happened... after I saw the way you really were... how little you cared about values... I felt betrayed. I really did believe that we were acting in the best interest of the Valkonians... and I thought you had believed the same.

M'zati looks up at Lenori again, the saddens in his eyes is ever present.

M'ZATI

(soft)

Like it or not... none of us are infallible.

LENORI

That's not the point.

M'ZATI

But I think it is.

(growing a little angry)

Or is the point here that you are so filled with guilt and sorrow... that the only way you can live with it is to project all the blame towards me?!

M'zati's struck a nerve with Lenori.

LENORI

(enraged)

Get out!

But M'zati's not about to let it go.

M'ZATI

You should know that I am at peace with myself... perhaps it's time you did the same.

LENORI

(frustrated)

I've had enough of this, and I won't listen to any of your speeches.

M'ZATI

(ignoring his words)

Do you think it was easy for me? Is that really the way you see me?

(beat)

I've had nightmares for a long time. But eventually I realized that... no matter how much I'd like to... we could not go back and change what happened. So the only way to survive... was to move on.

But Lenori shakes his head, not willing to make this easy on himself.

LENORI

It cannot and should not be that simple.

There's a beat. The two men look at each other, and both are filled with sorrow.

LENORI (CONT'D)

(emotionally)

In the past hundred years... not one day has gone by during which those events were not buried somewhere in the back of my mind. Even now, I still mourn all the lives that were lost.

M'ZATI

(sincere)

I admire your ethics. But they won't bring back the dead.

LENORI

Perhaps not. But neither of us should live with a clear conscience.

Lenori turns away shamefully.

LENORI (CONT'D)

(lowering his head)

We got away with murder. It's as simple as that.

M'ZATI

(shaking head)

That's not true. You're twisting the facts.

LENORI

You can call it whatever you want.

M'ZATI

What happened was tragic. But it was never our intention. And yes -- I was acting in the best interest of the Valkonians.

Lenori still has his back turned towards M'zati. His voice is filled with the soft sound of emotion.

LENORI

(soft)

Why did you have to come here?

M'zati holds a beat, hearing that Lenori is emotional.

M'ZATI

Trust me, I would have preferred not to.

(his voice chocking)

Because I know that you... that you'd prefer not to see me again.

(beat)

Well, old friend... the reason I'm here is not to bring back old memories. But because I fear that our past is catching up with us.

Lenori's back is still facing M'zati, but he looks up now.

LENORI

Meaning what?

M'zati hesitates to say it.

M'ZATI

I believe that... someone on Zentaur Prime may have figured out the truth about what's happened.

(struggling with the thought)

I have reason to believe there's been an attempt on my life.

Lenori now turns to face M'zati again.

M'ZATI (CONT'D)

A few weeks ago... my vessel's engines nearly overloaded as I left Zentaur Prime to attend a science seminar. It was pure luck that the flaw was discovered on time. If we had jumped to hyperspace...

LENORI

(realizing)

You believe it was sabotage...

M'ZATI

I admit, it seemed like a stretch at first. However... during the past few days I have been... receiving anonymous messages.

Lenori starts looking concerned, realizing what it could mean if their secret would come out.

M'ZATI (CONT'D)

Whoever they're from... it's someone who claims they know who I am.

Lenori considers this a beat. He shakes his head.

LENORI

There's no evidence to suggest that this is related to the Valkonians.

M'ZATI

Oh, please -- is it not rather obvious?

LENORI

(accusingly)

Knowing you... I would not be surprised if you've made yourself more enemies in these past hundred years.

M'ZATI

(hard)

You don't understand!

(softer)

I came here to warn you, Lenori. If someone is onto me... there is a chance that they may know of your involvement as well.

Lenori holds a beat. Then he again lowers his head sorrowfully; the guilt is still overwhelming him.

LENORI

Perhaps it will be justice... if both of us finally get the punishment we always deserved.

M'ZATI

(sadly)

I already told you... guilt is not going to bring back the dead.

(beat)

I merely want you to be careful.

(hesitates)

And... I was hoping that perhaps... I could remain here for a while.

Lenori looks up at him.

M'ZATI (CONT'D)

(off the look)

Merely do some research... try and figure out who could be behind this.

LENORI

I'm sure you will be able to do that just fine on Zentaur Prime.

M'ZATI

Let's just say, I'd prefer to do it without constantly having to look over my shoulder.

Lenori's anger gets the better of him again.

LENORI

You're unbelievable.

(off look)

You didn't come to warn me. The only reason you're here is because you're looking for a place to hide.

M'ZATI

That's not true...

LENORI

(ignoring the reply)

Well, I don't intend to provide you with shelter.

(cold)

I'd prefer it if you'd left.

M'ZATI

Lenori, please --

LENORI

(hard)

That's enough!

(beat, softer)

There are other places for you to hide.

(with emotion again)

Please, just... just leave. And never come back.

With nothing more to say, Lenori turns his back to his old friend again. The gesture is clear. M'zati is heartbroken, having believed that Lenori, despite all, would have allowed him to stay.

The older Zentaurian is struggling with his emotions for a moment. But then he turns to leave. He hesitates. He looks to Lenori one more time.

M'ZATI

Lenori...

Lenori doesn't face him. And M'zati knows there's nothing more he could say.

M'ZATI (CONT'D)

(sincerely concerned)

Watch yourself, old friend.

M'zati EXITS.

CLOSE ON LENORI

as he stares out a window, an expression of despair on his face. Hold on his troubled features for a long beat, and then...

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

Re-establishing the space station.

INT. INFIRMARY

The next day... Lenori is just finishing treating an N.D. CREWMEMBER who's wearing sports clothing. It looks like he had a torn muscle that Lenori was able to fix.

Lenori puts away a medical instrument. He seems almost back to his usual self; but we do notice that his smile is not as bright as it normally is.

LENORI

Well, I believe that should suffice.  
Just try to be careful next time you  
lift those weights.

The Crewmember acknowledges and EXITS. After a beat...

CALLEN'S RADIO VOICE

Callen to Doctor Lenori.

LENORI

(taps a panel)  
Lenori here.

There's a beat. And we can hear in Callen's voice that something serious has happened.

CALLEN'S RADIO VOICE

I need to see you in my office,  
Doctor.

Lenori reacts with worry to the tone in Callen's voice.

INT. COMMANDER'S OFFICE

Callen is standing behind his desk as Lenori ENTERS. Lenori walks up, and Callen's eyes feature the look of a man who has the unfortunate task of being the bearer of bad news. Lenori notices this.

LENORI

What happened?

CALLEN

I'm sorry to be the one to tell you  
this. We just got word from Zentaur  
Prime.

Lenori braces himself for the bad news.

CALLEN (CONT'D)

M'zati is dead. He was murdered.

And as Lenori takes in this new blow, we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. COMMANDER'S OFFICE (CONTINUOUS)

Lenori is shocked, struggling with these news for a beat.

LENORI

How did... how did this happen?

CALLEN

From what we've heard, M'zati went straight to his office after he left the station last night. From there it's unclear what exactly happened, Zentaurian authorities are investigating the matter right now.

(knowing this is hard  
for Lenori)

He was found in his lab in the morning... shot by a Zentaurian energy weapon.

Lenori is overwhelmed by grief. He closes his eyes in sorrow for a moment, as he realizes:

LENORI

I should have listened to him.

CALLEN

Lenori?

LENORI

He tried to warn me... he was afraid someone was trying to kill him. But... I thought it was just his way of trying to gain my sympathy. I didn't take his concerns seriously.

Callen is feeling with Lenori.

CALLEN

I'm sorry.

Lenori nods slightly, barely registering those words.

CALLEN (CONT'D)

I don't know what Zentaurian customs are, but... if you want to return to your homeworld to attend some kind of funeral service... I don't need to tell you that you're free to stay as long as you'd like.

But Lenori's mind is elsewhere. A question suddenly comes to him.

LENORI

Why did they come to us?

(off Callen's look)

The Zentaurians... why did they contact us?

CALLEN

They were just tracking M'zati's last steps as part of their investigation. From what I'm told, this is the first time a homicide has been committed on the Zentaurian homeworld in quite a while.

Lenori's mind is racing, as he tries to digest all the troubling events. Without saying anything more, he's about to head out when --

CALLEN (CONT'D)

I wish there was something I could do.

Lenori stops. He looks at Callen. Shakes his head.

LENORI

I'm afraid no one can, Commander. Not anymore.

And Lenori knows that he has to live with this harsh reality, and with the guilt. He EXITS, and we stay with Callen for a moment. And off the commander's sympathetic features...

CUT TO:

INT. TOM'S LAB

Tom is here with Ka'lee, YUSUF and a couple of N.D. SCIENTISTS. It's the end of a regular day, and they're just about to call it a night.

YUSUF

(re: some readouts)

Well, ladies and gentlemen, if these latest studies are correct, then we may have found something that should blow the minds of quite a few people back on Earth.

A VORIAN SCIENTIST chimes in.

VORIAN SCIENTIST

(smiles)

Oh, I dare say not only some people on Earth.

TOM

Certainly sounds like a successful day to me. We'll pick up where we left off in the morning. Don't know about everyone else, but... my stomach says it's time for dinner.

They all share some chuckles, as the group starts to EXIT. However, Ka'lee is remaining at one of the consoles. She's still encompassed in what she's doing.

YUSUF

(to Tom)

Are you and David going to be at Chuck's tonight?

TOM

See ya there.

Yusuf acknowledges, and then he realizes that Tom's purposely staying in the lab. Yusuf glances at Ka'lee and smiles slightly -- he knows what's going on here.

And as Yusuf also EXITS, Tom heads over to Ka'lee. They're now amongst themselves.

TOM (CONT'D)

Well -- looks like it's just the two of us.

KA'LEE

I know. Sorry, but... I'm finding it hard just letting this go.

TOM

Oh, I know how you feel. Trust me, there were times when they had to kick me out of the lab every night.

KA'LEE

What changed?

TOM

Eventually my behind started to hurt a little too much.

Ka'lee laughs at that, and Tom smiles, pleased to see that his humor is working.

KA'LEE

I guess you're right. I mean, the computer's still gonna be here in the morning, right?

TOM

(smiles)

I'll make sure security keeps an eye on it.

Ka'lee acknowledges. She starts shutting things down. She has her back turned to Tom, and doesn't see as he's clearly preparing to ask the big question. He takes a few deep breaths, feels ready. Everything's great, and he's good to go, when Ka'lee turns around, facing him again.

KA'LEE

You know, Tom...

TOM

(a little nervously)

Yes? What? I mean... sorry. You were saying?

KA'LEE

I just wanted to thank you for all your help and support.

Tom does look a little nervous, as he's still planning on asking the big question.

TOM

Oh... no problem. I mean... I'm just --

KA'LEE

No, I'm serious. To tell you the truth, I didn't quite know how I'd handle the excitement of actually being out here. But you've made me feel comfortable from day one.

Tom starts feeling a little less nervous.

TOM

I'm glad you think so. And to tell you the truth, I've been thinking about --

KA'LEE

(smiles)

You're just such a great friend, and I appreciate that.

TOM

Yeah, I'm, uh...

Suddenly, he stops. He realizes what she's just said.

TOM (CONT'D)

... friend?

And that just doesn't sit right with Tom. He seems a little speechless, no longer sure what to say.

KA'LEE

(smiles)

I'm sorry, I didn't mean to interrupt you. You were saying?

Tom hesitates. Now the moment just no longer feels right. He looks at Ka'lee, who's waiting for him to say something.

TOM

What?

KA'LEE

You seemed like you wanted to say something.

TOM

Oh, uh... I was just... I, uh...

He shakes it off, tries to hide that he's disappointed.

TOM (CONT'D)

It's... it's nothing that can't wait until morning. I just had some ideas for those studies.

Ka'lee is caught a little off guard by that, finding his reaction a little strange. But she doesn't make much of it.

KA'LEE

Oh... okay.

There's a beat as neither of them says anything.

KA'LEE (CONT'D)  
(breaking the silence)  
Well... I'll see you in the morning.

TOM  
I'll be here.

KA'LEE  
Goodnight.

TOM  
Night.

And she EXITS. Tom watches her walk out, the disappointment is now written all over his face. And as he sighs...

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

We once more re-establish the great space station.

INT. LENORI'S BEDROOM

It's the middle of the night. Lenori is in bed, twisting and turning. This goes on for a few moments, and it's clear that he's definitely not going to be sleeping any time soon.

Finally, he's had enough. He sighs with frustration, as he sits up in bed. He ponders for a beat, and then decides to get up.

CUT TO:

INT. CORRIDOR

Lenori, now dressed in his uniform, is walking down the corridor. The corridor is empty, as it's still nighttime. He has a solemn look on his face, as he just keeps on walking.

But then, as he passes by a corner, Lenori suddenly stops. He reacts to something that surprises him. He walks forward, and we reveal...

CHRISTINE

She's standing in another corridor. She's not walking, just standing there, facing away from Lenori. Lenori walks up to her.

LENORI  
Christine...?

Christine turns around to face Lenori.

LENORI (CONT'D)  
What are you doing here?

When Christine speaks, it's with accusation.

CHRISTINE  
How could you do that?

LENORI  
(startled)  
What... what are you talking about?

CHRISTINE

Did you really think that we wouldn't  
find out?

Lenori realizes she knows about the dark secret in his past  
that he's trying to hide. He tries to explain.

LENORI

You have to understand... this...  
this happened a long time ago...

CHRISTINE

That doesn't make it any better.

(with great  
disappointment)

I believed in you. I thought you  
were a good person, someone who does  
the right thing, who helps people.

LENORI

But... but... I...

Suddenly --

CALLEN'S VOICE

She's right, Doctor.

Lenori turns around to suddenly find Callen standing behind  
him.

CALLEN

You're a criminal... a murderer.

LENORI

(panicked)

No...

CALLEN

You destroyed an entire civilization.

LENORI

(defending himself)

I never wanted for them to die.

He looks to Christine, hopes she'll understand.

LENORI (CONT'D)

Please, you have to realize that I --

CHRISTINE

You're such a hypocrite.

CLOSE ON LENORI

as suddenly the corridor starts getting longer and longer.  
Lenori is feeling lost, alone, abandoned by his friends.

And suddenly...

CUT TO:

INT. INFIRMARY

Lenori is standing in the infirmary. The lighting is  
unusually dark. Surrounding him are GRANT, SIVEA, DANIEL,  
Zach, David and Tom. They all stare at him, having already  
judged him. Lenori tries to plead with them.

LENORI

If only you'd allow me to explain  
what really happened.

LENORI'S P.O.V.

We're looking at Grant, as he looks at us (into camera).

GRANT

What are you trying to do, Doc? Put  
all the blame on M'zati? A dead  
man?

We move over to now look at Sivea, who's also looking at us.

SIVEA

I thought you were better than that.

Daniel now steps into our view, staring at us.

DANIEL

He's not. I'm not surprised. But  
then again, I didn't know him for as  
long as you guys did.

We look over at David and Tom, who also stare us down.

TOM

It's a shame... but the verdict can't  
be changed.

DAVID

He has to suffer for what he did.

And Zach now steps into our view, glaring at us.

ZACH

I can't believe that I came to see  
you. Do you know that I would have  
trusted you with my life?! And I've  
never trusted anybody with my life.

Zach SNEEZES.

CUT TO:

CLOSE ON LENORI

looking like all he wants to do is run like hell. But no  
matter how hard he tries, he can't get away.

INT. MAIN DECK

The lighting is dark. This is Lenori's execution. He's  
standing in the middle of the main deck, surrounded by Callen,  
Grant, Sivea, David, Tom, Christine, Zach and SEVERAL N.D.  
STATION INHABITANTS. Lenori has his hands tied behind his  
back, as he finds himself lined up against a wall. He's  
begging for his life.

LENORI

(desperate)

All I ask is that you listen to me --  
allow me to make myself heard.

M'ZATI'S VOICE

I'm sorry, old friend.

Lenori turns to find M'zati walking up to him. He has a cold expression on his face, as he's holding a ZENTAURIAN ENERGY WEAPON in his hands.

M'ZATI

But you allowed me to die... so it's only fair that I'm the one to kill you. It's actually not that painful.

LENORI

No...

M'zati trains his pistol at Lenori, while Lenori's closest friends look on with cold expressions in their eyes. And just as M'zati DISCHARGES a shot...

SHOCK CUT TO:

INT. LENORI'S BEDROOM

Lenori awakens from his nightmare. He's got sweat all over him, as he looks around with terror in his eyes. He needs a moment to catch his breath, a moment for the disorientation to settle. And then, he realizes that it was just a dream.

Off Lenori's tormented look...

INT. COMMANDER'S OFFICE

Callen is working at his desk, when his door CHIMES.

CALLEN

Enter.

The door slides open to let Lenori walk in. Callen can see it in Lenori's eyes that he's not doing any better.

CALLEN (CONT'D)

Doctor...

Lenori gets straight to the point.

LENORI

You said that I could return to my homeworld, if I chose to. I've decided to accept your offer.

(beat)

I must return to Zentaur Prime, and... put some things in order.

Callen doesn't know the details, but he completely understands.

CALLEN

Take as much time as you need.

LENORI

Thank you.

Lenori hesitates for a moment, looking almost like he's thinking about saying something more. But he decides not to, merely nods, and then EXITS.

Hold on Callen as he looks after Lenori, a little worried about him. But he knows that there's nothing he can do right now.

And off that...

WORMHOLE TRANSITION TO:

INT. ZENTAURIAN STARGATE TERMINAL - DAY

CLOSE ON the Stargate's puddle, as Lenori emerges. He's now wearing Zentaurian civilian clothing, carrying a small TRAVEL BAG. The gate shuts down behind him, as Lenori glances around, visiting his homeworld for the first time in years. The first thing we notice is that the lighting here has a PURPLE SHIMMER to it.

NEW ANGLE

to reveal the impressive sight. This is like a futuristic air port terminal, where the gate is being used as a public transportation device. There's some CONSOLES where Zentaurian Security Personnel as well as some Technicians are working, and we find VARIOUS ZENTAURIANS walking by; they're incoming or outgoing travelers, waiting to either travel by gate or ship. Through some WINDOWS we can see outside, where we find a seemingly endless amount of LANDING PADS FOR SHIPS; some are just taking off or arriving. Only vaguely do we get a glimpse of the actual city in the background. And what sticks out immediately is that the sky is PURPLE, giving this planet a unique, otherworldly and exotic look.

Lenori steps forward, glancing around. It seems he's looking for someone in the crowd, and after a moment --

YIENERA (O.S.)

Lenori!

Lenori turns around to find a ZENTAURIAN FEMALE walking up to him. She looks like she could be in her forties, but as we know when it comes to Zentaurians and their age, appearances are deceiving. Her eyes feature the exotic, yellow color that all Zentaurians have, and her skin is somewhat shiny. This is YIENERA, and despite the circumstances of his visit, Lenori is happy to see her.

LENORI

Yienera...

They both extend their right hands respectively, and move them forward so that their palms are touching each other. This is a Zentaurian gesture of intimacy. There's a beat, as Yienera smiles. She has the same cheerful mentality that Lenori usually tends to have.

YIENERA

It is, indeed, good to see you again.  
It brings up some rather fond  
memories.

Lenori musters up a smile.

LENORI

That it does.

(beat)

I only wish the circumstances of our  
reunion could have been better.

YIENERA

I know... I was shocked to hear about  
M'zati. I still have trouble  
believing such a crime could be  
committed in our city.

Lenori nods, sharing her feelings about that.

LENORI

I would suggest we retreat to a  
more... private place to discuss  
this matter.

Yienera nods her acknowledgment, nodding very much the way  
Lenori usually does. And as the two head off, we hold on  
the sight of the busy Stargate terminal for a beat, before  
we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. ZENTAUR PRIME - DAY

We see the large, metropolitan capital underneath the exotic purple sky. This is a very futuristic city, featuring a unique building style. The one thing we notice right away is that the Zentaureans build their cities a lot higher than what we're accustomed to seeing. There's various platforms above each other, each of the platforms serving as the streets on which various buildings are located. We do not see the ground level. There's some FLIGHT VEHICLES moving by. They are of a sleek design, and also unlike anything we've seen before.

INT. YIENERA'S APARTMENT - DAY

The apartment is located in a building at the upper edges of the city. It has a comfortable look to it, filled with Zentaurian furniture. Lighting is coming in through a window, and due to the sky, the lighting in most locations that we'll see on this world will have a purple shimmer to it.

Lenori and Yienera ENTER.

YIENERA

Well, here we are. Feel free to make yourself comfortable.

Lenori looks around. Being here brings back fond memories.

LENORI

I see you've made some decorative changes.

YIENERA

(smiles)  
What would life be without change?

LENORI

Indeed.

There's a beat, as they both know that they need to talk about the serious matter for which Lenori is here. But neither of them really wants to go there just yet.

YIENERA

Can I get you something to drink? I have fresh kava juice, and I know it must be ages since last you had one.

LENORI

Thank you.

Yienera heads off into a corner off screen, while Lenori looks around. Now we can see a nostalgic sadness in his eyes.

YIENERA (O.S.)

By the way, you won't believe it, but... Kenara has recently renewed her marriage for another twenty years.

LENORI

Isn't this their second renewal now?

YIENERA (O.S.)

It certainly is. The renewal ceremony  
is in four days.

Yienera comes back into view with two glasses filled with a  
THICK YELLOW LIQUID. She hands one of the glasses to Lenori.

YIENERA (CONT'D)

(curious)

So tell me -- how is it to live  
amongst the humans and the Vorians?

LENORI

It has its... interesting moments.  
There are so many aspects about their  
culture that I find fascinating, not  
to say a little... unusual.

(for example)

Did you realize that it is custom  
amongst them to get married for life?

Yienera is surprised.

YIENERA

Without having to renew the term?

LENORI

(nods)

In most cases, they tend to merely  
have one husband or wife throughout  
their entire lifetimes. Even though  
sometimes it doesn't work out that  
way.

YIENERA

Fascinating, indeed. I would assume  
their families are a lot smaller  
than ours.

LENORI

That would be a correct assumption.

There's a beat. Lenori takes a sip of the thick drink.

YIENERA

(the drink)

How is it?

LENORI

Just as I remembered it.

(with some sadness)

It... brings back a lot of memories.  
That appears to be the theme of these  
past few days.

There's a silent beat between the two, and Yienera's  
expression turns a little more serious.

YIENERA

Tell me, Lenori. Why did you come  
here?

Lenori pauses for a moment, for some reason hesitant to answer.

YIENERA (CONT'D)

Do you think it was wise? What if who killed M'zati will attempt to kill you?

Lenori puts his glass down, and a solemn look has once again fallen upon his features.

LENORI

Perhaps M'zati deserved what he got... and perhaps I deserve the same.

YIENERA

How can you say something like that?

LENORI

Because a hundred years ago, we were responsible for the destruction of the Valkonian civilization.

YIENERA

I know. You confided in me, remember? Which is why I also know that you were trying to help the Valkonians end their civil war.

LENORI

And by doing so we went against the Science Network's policy of not getting involved in the affairs of other cultures.

(angry at himself)

Supplying one side with advanced technology, being naive enough to believe that they would end their war with limited casualties -- that kind of reasoning alone deserves punishment!

YIENERA

(blunt)

It was a serious error in judgment -- there is no doubt about that.

(beat)

However, that does not justify having a Zentaurian killed on our homeworld. We always believed no Zentaurian would ever harm another, that we had put such barbaric acts behind us. A crime like this is something that will haunt our people for some time to come.

Lenori looks at Yienera, trying to understand just why she's still supporting him. Because truth is, he's not sure he deserves it.

LENORI

I never understood why you chose to not turn me in, knowing what I did.

(sadly)

Or why you chose to remain my wife until the end of our term.

YIENERA

(soft)

None of us are perfect, Lenori. A lot of our people tend to see themselves as such, but... I know that perfection does not exist amongst the mortal. We all have our flaws.

LENORI

I'd say calling this a "flaw" would be an understatement.

He sighs deeply for a moment.

LENORI (CONT'D)

You asked me... why I came here.

He holds a beat, before revealing it:

LENORI (CONT'D)

I'm here to finally turn myself in. To just come out with the truth, and accept the consequences.

Yienera is not too surprised, but she doesn't agree.

YIENERA

If you did that, there is a very real chance you could still go to prison. You'd destroy the reputation you've worked so hard at establishing.

LENORI

(bitter)

A reputation that's built upon a lie. I cannot even look into the eyes of my friends on Horizon anymore.

(beat)

I've been lying to them all these years... pretending to be someone that I'm not. Once they find out...

He doesn't finish that thought. Yienera looks at him for a beat.

YIENERA

(persuasive)

Turning yourself in will not help anyone -- not our people, not you, and certainly not your friends on that space station. What we need to do is look into M'zati's death. Try and determine who killed him. Because both you and I know that regardless of what M'zati and you did... it does not justify his death.

And as Lenori considers her words...

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

Re-establishing the space station.

INT. CHUCK'S

Yusuf is approaching from the bar with a large bowl filled with snacks. He walks up to a table where Tom, David and Zach are sitting, and joins them. The guys are spending one of their traditional nights at Chuck's. We may notice that Tom's mind is elsewhere, and Zach's still suffering from his cold; though it's no longer as extreme as it had been earlier.

DAVID

(to Yusuf; re: the  
snacks)

Thanks.

YUSUF

No problem.

(then)

So... has anyone heard anything about  
Lenori?

DAVID

No. He seemed pretty upset about  
what happened. But he didn't really  
say much before he left.

Zach's voice still sounds a little congested.

ZACH

Poor guy.

YUSUF

(to Zach)

Did you get a chance to talk to this  
M'zati?

ZACH

(shaking head)

Before I knew he was here, he had  
already left.

YUSUF

(jokingly)

How did that happen?

ZACH

Did you notice this cold? It tends  
to mess with your head. I was in my  
quarters with two good friends --  
some warm milk and my bed.

YUSUF

At least it's gotten better.

ZACH

There's no limits to what warm milk  
will do for ya.

Yusuf smiles at that. And then he remembers something.

YUSUF

(to Tom)

Oh, by the way, Tom... did you end  
up asking Ka'lee out? How'd that  
go?

But Tom's not in the mood.

TOM

I'd rather not talk about it.

YUSUF

Oh-uh.

(a little surprised)

She said no?

TOM

(a little annoyed)

No. She didn't. I didn't ask her.

She considers me a friend.

There's a beat as the other guys don't really see the problem.

DAVID

And... what's so bad about that?

TOM

She likes me because I've been so helpful, she even thanked me for it. If I go and ask her out now, she'll just think I'm taking advantage of her.

YUSUF

Don't you think you're being a little paranoid? She'd probably appreciate it if you asked her out.

TOM

(pointedly)

When's the last time you had a date?

YUSUF

We're not talking about me here, Tom.

Zach shakes his head, suddenly realizing something.

ZACH

Isn't it amazing how women play with men like that?

DAVID

What are you talking about?

ZACH

I'm saying that the man always has to be the one to make the first step, constantly. Not once did I have a woman come up to me and say: "I'd like to go out with you." They always rely on us to do all the work. They enjoy putting that kind of pressure on us, and I say we can't keep accepting it.

There's a silent beat. David, Tom and Yusuf give him perplexed looks -- is he serious?

ZACH (CONT'D)

(a brilliant idea)

I say that all men should stop asking women out -- a dating strike, so to speak. Put the ball in their cord for a change. I think that would work wonder.

And on that ground-breaking notion, Zach stands and EXITS, leaving David, Tom and Yusuf pondering his words.

YUSUF

Looks like that cold really has been messing with his head.

David looks at Tom, knowing that he really wants to ask this woman out.

DAVID

(an advice)

I say just get it over with. Just ask her.

And as Tom sighs, knowing that ultimately that's the only thing he can do...

CUT TO:

EXT. ZENTAUR PRIME - DAY

Re-establishing the Zentaurian capital underneath the ever exotic purple sky.

INT. M'ZATI'S LAB - DAY

A room with with ZENTAURIAN COMPUTER CONSOLES; some of the lab equipment in here resembles some of the things we've seen in Lenori's lab. Lenori and Yienera are here. While Yienera is working on a computer console, Lenori is glancing around the room. He feels uncomfortable being here.

LENORI

What makes you think we could actually find something here?

YIENERA

It seems like a reasonable place to start looking. It's possible that the authorities overlooked something, especially since they're not accustomed to investigating a homicide.

Lenori nods slightly, knowing she's got a point. He keeps glancing around.

LENORI

(sadly)

I remember working with M'zati in here... not much has changed about this place.

Yienera catches the somber tone in his voice. She looks up from the console.

YIENERA

You should know that M'zati always  
felt sorry about what happened...  
that it destroyed your friendship.

(beat)

He always looked at you like a son.

Lenori lowers his head, recalling his last conversation with  
M'zati; his last words to him.

LENORI

(soft)

I know...

There's a beat. And then, Yienera suddenly reacts to  
something on the readouts before her.

YIENERA

I think I may have found something.

Lenori joins her at the console.

LENORI

What is it?

YIENERA

(working the controls)

There seem to be numerous encrypted  
files in this computer. Both visual  
logs as well as written documents.

(explains)

They are hidden in the database,  
only few people know how to access  
files like these -- fortunately, I'm  
one of them.

She keeps working the controls for a beat. Then...

INCLUDE THE MONITOR SCREEN

as it fills up with ZENTAURIAN WRITING. While the symbols  
do not mean anything to us, they trigger surprised reactions  
from Lenori and Yienera.

YIENERA (CONT'D)

This is M'zati's personal diary...

LENORI

Why would it be encrypted?

Yienera points at a specific section of writing.

YIENERA

I believe that's the answer.

Lenori skims over it, suddenly realizing:

LENORI

This talks about what happened to  
the Valkonians...

Yienera nods.

YIENERA

It's a fairly detailed account of the events... how he first encountered the Valkonians... how the Science Network refused to allow him to set up a science base on the Valkonian homeworld...

LENORI

And how he decided to intervene and end their war...

YIENERA

This was a recent entry. And from what it sounds, he was so filled with guilt. But he was never able to talk to anyone about it... he must have decided that putting it down in writing would help him somehow.

LENORI

(realizing)

Someone must have discovered this diary, which is how they found out about the Valkonians.

YIENERA

(nods)

That's what I suspect as well.

LENORI

Can you see who accessed these files recently?

Yienera smiles -- that's easily done.

YIENERA

Of course, I can.

But just then --

Yienera is STRUCK by an energy weapons blast. She takes a good hit, and is knocked to the ground. Lenori looks up as MORE BLASTS come his way.

NEW ANGLE

to see that someone's firing from behind the door, armed with a Zentaurian Energy Weapon. Lenori has taken cover behind the counter, as the energy blasts destroy large portions of the lab equipment.

Lenori reveals his own weapon -- he's got a Phasial Discharger Pistol. He RETURNS FIRE. But the attacker is persistent, not giving up. Lenori realizes he's not getting anywhere like this. He glances over to ANOTHER CONSOLE, coming up with an idea.

And then --

LENORI

fires several quick shots in the attacker's direction, and while doing so he leaves his cover to rush over to the other console.

The attacker is returning fire, and only barely do the blasts miss Lenori.

As Lenori arrives at the other console, he resumes cover. But he hits a control first, which causes an ALARM to go off. The alarm blares through the lab.

There's a beat as suddenly the attacker stops, realizing that it won't be long until security arrives. And then... there's a long pause. Lenori glances to the door, realizing that the attacker must have disappeared down the corridor.

Lenori hits another control on the console.

LENORI

We need a med team in laboratory  
forty seven! Quickly!

Then he rushes over to check on Yienera, who's injured but alive.

LENORI (CONT'D)

Yienera! Yienera... a med team is  
on its way. Just hang in there, my  
dear.

Yienera looks up at him, giving him a weakened nod.

YIENERA

(weakened)  
Go... don't let him... get away...

Lenori doesn't want to leave her, but he knows it may be his only chance to capture the attacker.

LENORI

(soft)  
Just stay alive.

And then, he heads out into...

INT. CORRIDOR OUTSIDE M'ZATI'S LAB - CONTINUOUS

Lenori is moving down the corridor, looking for the attacker. The ALARM keeps blaring. And as Lenori crosses a corner --

MORE WEAPONS BLASTS EMERGE

They barely miss Lenori. And now Lenori finally gets a clear look at the attacker -- it's a Zentaurian man in his twenties (again, this describes him in human age terms; he's probably older than that). We'll come to know him as HANARI, and he disappears into a lift.

Lenori rushes down the corridor, but it's too late. The lift doors have already shut. Lenori glances at a nearby readout, catching that the lift is headed upstairs.

Lenori quickly disappears into a nearby stairwell...

EXT. ROOFTOP - DAY

We're on the top of one of the tall skyscrapers. The purple sky is illumining the area. We can see parts of the city in the background, as Hanari emerges onto the rooftop from a door.

He moves forward, and we can see that he's approaching a FLIGHT VEHICLE; it looks like the ones we saw in the air earlier.

Hanari approaches his vehicle. He's looking nervous, as things didn't go as expected. And suddenly --

LENORI (O.S.)  
Going somewhere?

Hanari freezes. He turns to see --

LENORI

as he stands before Hanari with his pistol trained on him.

LENORI (CONT'D)  
I would suggest you drop that weapon.

As Hanari doesn't react...

LENORI (CONT'D)  
(raising the pistol a  
little higher)  
Now.

Hanari realizes he has no choice. He drops his weapon.

HANARI  
I know who you are, Lenori. I know  
the truth.

LENORI  
(with anger in his  
voice)  
Is that why you killed M'zati!?  
Because you know the truth!?

But Hanari's not talking. There's a beat, as Lenori regards the other Zentaurian; he can feel the anger boiling up in him.

LENORI (CONT'D)  
Very well.

Lenori FIRES A BLAST. Hanari takes a hit and is blasted to the ground -- he's stunned. Lenori takes a few steps forward, glancing down at the unconscious Zentaurian.

And off Lenori's intense stare, we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

EXT. ZENTAUR PRIME - NIGHT

We see the futuristic city, now shining brightly in the night.

INT. ZENTAURIAN SECURITY BUREAU - NIGHT

Lenori is in a waiting room. He's pacing around uneasily. Through a window we can see the city shining brightly. The room is rather bare; only a few tables and some couches and chairs. Lenori looks worried, aware that Hanari knows about his secret.

Lenori starts a bit, as a ZENTAURIAN SECURITY OFFICER walks up.

SECURITY OFFICER  
Doctor Lenori.

Lenori looks at the Officer, tries to hide his worry.

LENORI  
Yes?

SECURITY OFFICER  
Hanari requested to speak to you --  
alone.

LENORI  
For what reason?

SECURITY OFFICER  
He would not say. But he would...  
like it to be a private conversation.

Lenori nods slightly. He's surprised, but still cautious.

LENORI  
Did he... say anything to you?

SECURITY OFFICER  
He did confess to having killed Doctor  
M'zati. But... he did not say why.

Lenori tries to hide his relief. He nods. Then:

LENORI  
Do we know who he is?

SECURITY OFFICER  
He was M'zati's lab assistant. We've  
checked the files. They had worked  
together for several years.

Lenori considers this a beat.

LENORI  
I will speak to him. But I want to  
be sure it really will be a private  
conversation.

The Security Officer nods; he has no reason not to trust  
Lenori.

SECURITY OFFICER

Of course.

As the Security Officer EXITS...

HOLD ON LENORI

as we slightly push in on his features. He's still hopeful that he will be able to prevent his secret from being exposed.

INT. ZENTAURIAN HOLDING ROOM

A small and bare room. No tables, no windows, and oddly enough no doors. The only thing we see is a small bench. Hanari is here, pacing slightly, when suddenly a DOOR APPEARS IN THE WALL.

Hanari turns to face the door, which had been previously covered by a hologram. After a beat, Lenori ENTERS. We see the Security Officer in the background, working a console, causing the holographic wall to appear again.

There's a beat as Lenori and Hanari are alone in the dark and confined chamber, facing each other.

LENORI

The listening devices have been deactivated. I've seen to it. We can speak privately.

Hanari regards him with calmness in his yellow eyes.

HANARI

I knew that your good reputation would allow us to do so.  
(with mock admiration)  
After all, you are the great Doctor Lenori -- you even were host to a Tok'ra symbiote once. I'm sure no one can match your knowledge... and your integrity.

Lenori doesn't flinch, as he stares him down.

LENORI

Why did you wish to speak to me?

Beat.

HANARI

How is Yienera?

LENORI

Her condition is critical. But the physicians are optimistic that she will make a full recovery. It seems you have done sloppy work.

Slight regret flashes in Hanari's eyes.

HANARI

I never wanted for her to get hurt.

LENORI

(not surprised)

Yes, of course. But we were about to discover your secret -- that you accessed M'zati's diary.

Hanari lowers his head slightly.

HANARI

M'zati brought this on himself... he should have been more careful. One night he made an entry in his journal, but he neglected to properly encrypt it. I discovered it.

(his regrets showing more)

I admired M'zati... just as you once did.

Lenori just stares at Hanari, waiting for more.

HANARI (CONT'D)

I knew I had no right to look at his private diaries, but... I was driven by curiosity.

(beat)

Next thing I knew I was shocked.

LENORI

You'll forgive me if that does not seem like a valid reason to kill him.

HANARI

It was not my intention... I wanted to... scare him, force him to come out with the truth.

There's a beat, as Lenori realizes:

LENORI

So that explains the anonymous messages.

HANARI

Suffice to say I was not successful. So I decided to confront M'zati... the night he returned from that Vorian space station. We got into a heated argument... and things got out of hand...

Lenori lowers his head. This is hard for him to hear.

HANARI (CONT'D)

(shocked by his own actions)

And before I knew it, I... I pointed my weapon at him... and I...

(almost a whisper)

... I pulled the trigger.

Lenori can't hide his shock.

LENORI

There has been no such crime committed  
amongst our people in generations.

HANARI

You have no right to judge me. You  
and M'zati were no better than me.

They hold a beat. Lenori chooses not to defend his  
involvement.

HANARI (CONT'D)

You and I both know that the real  
reason you supplied half of the  
Valkonians with advanced weapons...  
was because you wanted to set up  
that research base to study the unique  
Valkonian atmosphere. Make some  
kind of scientific breakthrough.  
(despising the thought)  
You did not care about helping the  
Valkonians... You were merely being  
selfish.

Lenori shamefully lowers his head again, feeling his past  
sins breathing down his neck.

LENORI

(soft)

Yes -- we made a mistake. And we  
probably should have come forward  
with it a long time ago. But we  
didn't. We chose to falsify our  
reports and bury the past.

He looks up at M'zati again.

LENORI (CONT'D)

But that still does not justify your  
actions. You should have gone to  
the authorities.

HANARI

I agree.

(beat)

Which is why I have a special offer  
for you. As of now the authorities  
do not know about the past. And I  
intend to keep quiet... if you help  
me get out of here.

LENORI

I could never do that.

HANARI

I'm well aware of your resources,  
the influence you have. You could  
come up with some kind of reason for  
why you'd need to take me to your  
space station. Once we're there...  
I will be able to request asylum...  
and disappear.

LENORI

(outraged)

You're asking me to help a killer  
escape.

HANARI

Yes...

(a slight smile)

... and I know you will. Because  
otherwise... you and I will both be  
facing justice.

Lenori stares at Hanari, knowing that he's been backed in a  
corner. And as he considers his options...

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

We again see the familiar space station hanging in the depths  
of space.

INT. TOM'S LAB - EARLY MORNING

Tom's here, alone, pacing around, waiting for Ka'lee to show  
up. After a few moments, Ka'lee does ENTER. She smiles  
brightly, clearly happy to see Tom.

KA'LEE

Tom! Good morning.

Tom smiles as well, albeit he seems a little tense.

TOM

Hey... I mean, good morning.

Ka'lee heads to her console, ready to throw herself into  
work.

KA'LEE

Well, let's hope today will be as  
productive as yesterday.

TOM

What?

She gives him a look.

TOM (CONT'D)

Oh, I mean... yeah... right.

KA'LEE

Are you feeling all right?

TOM

Oh, yeah. I'm good. I'm fine.

He forces himself to smile, but to say he seems uneasy would  
be an understatement.

KA'LEE

Are you sure?

TOM

Sure. I mean, I'm... sure.

She knows something's off about him, but she's not sure what  
it is.

KA'LEE

... Okay.

(beat)

I was thinking we could start with  
having a look at that --

TOM

Actually, you know... there is  
something I've been wanting to ask  
you.

KA'LEE

What's that?

TOM

Well, first, I... I don't want this  
to come off wrong. Because I know  
that there's a chance that it...  
could come off wrong.

KA'LEE

That what could come off wrong?

Tom hesitates for a long beat. Ka'lee looks at him, unsure  
what to make of this. Then, finally, Tom decides to say it.

TOM

It's just that... for a while now,  
I've been thinking that... maybe you  
and I could get together at some  
point. Maybe for dinner.

Suddenly Ka'lee realizes what this was all about. Her  
expression is hard to read, but it's clear that this was the  
last thing she was expecting.

KA'LEE

Oh...

TOM

(quickly)

Like I said, I don't want this to  
come off wrong. Because I do consider  
you a friend too.

Ka'lee is silent for a moment.

KA'LEE

I... I had no idea that you felt  
that way.

TOM

(worried)

All right. I guess now I should get  
ready for the bad news.

KA'LEE

It's not what you think...

She hesitates. She suddenly feels bad about this.

KA'LEE (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry. It's just that... I'm  
with someone.

This hits Tom unexpectedly.

TOM

Oh...

KA'LEE

He's... back on Vorian.

Tom suddenly feels like a fool... and he's hurt. But he tries his best to hide it.

TOM

I see. Well, I had no idea. I mean... obviously I had no idea.

There's a beat as they're both silent. They look at each other, and things suddenly seem a little awkward.

Then the private moment is interrupted, when...

ANOTHER ANGLE

Yusuf and several of the Scientists from earlier ENTER. Some of them are engaged in conversation with each other. Tom and Ka'lee both turn to face them, immediately they try to pretend in front of them that everything's okay.

YUSUF

(to Tom and Ka'lee)  
Morning, you two.

Tom and Ka'lee both muster up smiles. But we can tell that they're both struggling with their respective surprises. Then Tom heads off to another corner, as Ka'lee looks after him for a beat.

And as she tries to focus on her work, clearly a little distracted now...

EXT. ZENTAUR PRIME - DAY

We once again see the futuristic city.

INT. M'ZATI'S LAB - DAY

Lenori has come back here. He's standing alone in the room, glancing around solemnly. The broken lab equipment has been cleaned up. Lenori's mind is lost in memories for a beat. And then, he heads over to the computer console again.

He works the controls for a few moments, putting up M'zati's diary again. Lenori glances over it, suddenly finding something new. He works a few more controls, as --

INCLUDE THE MONITOR SCREEN

M'zati appears on the screen. He's sitting in his lab, speaking into camera, as he's recording his journal.

M'ZATI

(solemn)

It's undeniable... I have made mistakes in the past. And I am aware that I will be forced to live with them for the rest of my life.

Lenori watches with sadness as his old mentor goes on.

M'ZATI (CONT'D)

The one thing I am grateful for, though... is that Lenori was spared the consequences of what happened. Had it been only myself... perhaps I would have come forward with the truth. Who knows that for sure? But I was not willing to make Lenori pay for my mistakes, for him mistakingly having trusted my judgment. He deserved better.

Lenori's eyes turn moist, as he comes to realize that he may have misjudged M'zati all these years.

M'ZATI (CONT'D)

My only hope is that one day he might forgive me. But if he does not... I cannot blame him.

(chocking with emotion)

I know I've disappointed him... I know that the events weigh heavily on his conscious... and perhaps I should not be forgiven.

Lenori freezes the recording; he has tears in his eyes now. He stares at the image of M'zati.

LENORI

(soft)

You're wrong... old friend. I should have forgiven you.

(beat)

But now there is only one thing left for me to do.

Hold on Lenori's emotional features for a long beat. And then...

CUT TO:

INT. ZENTAURIAN HOLDING ROOM

Hanari is here, waiting impatiently. Then the HOLOGRAPHIC WALL disappears again, allowing Lenori to walk into the holding room with the Security Officer from earlier. Hanari isn't sure what to make of this.

HANARI

Lenori...?

Lenori only stares at him.

HANARI (CONT'D)

I trust you've... considered what we discussed?

LENORI

Indeed, I have. In fact, that is why I'm here.

Hanari regards him curiously.

CLOSE ON LENORI

as he doesn't waver, having firmly made up his mind.

LENORI (CONT'D)

I wanted for you to be there... when  
I turn myself in.

And off that moment, we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

INT. CHUCK'S

We find a miserable Tom, sitting at the bar. David is with him, providing moral support.

TOM

It was too good to be true, that's what the problem was. We had too much in common. She was attractive, she had a great personality, she shared my love for science... and above all...

(the number one clue)  
... we actually got along!

Tom gulps down a drink.

DAVID

Well, I don't know what to say, buddy. I'm sorry things didn't work out so well.

TOM

Things didn't work out so well? I'd say that's a bit of an understatement. There's no way for me to walk away from this... We're still gonna be working together. I'll be forced to see her pretty face every day. The only escape I'll have is when we go off-station.

David tries to make Tom feel better.

DAVID

Look, I know this is easier said than done, but... you'll just have to move on. This isn't the end of the world.

TOM

I'm such a fool... Just what on Earth made me think that someone like her wouldn't already be taken?

But David knows what the real problem here is.

DAVID

You're not a fool... You're just lonely.

Tom looks at him.

TOM

Lonely?

DAVID

It's understandable.

Tom considers this, and they both know there's some truth to it.

TOM

Well -- I've faced tougher challenges.

DAVID

(with a slight smile)

You know what they say... Going up against a couple of bad guys is easy; women, that's hard.

Beat. Then David checks his watch.

DAVID (CONT'D)

I gotta get going. Dinner time.

Tom nods. David is about to head off, when he thinks of something. He looks at Tom for a beat.

DAVID (CONT'D)

You wanna join us?

TOM

I appreciate that, but... I wouldn't wanna intrude.

But David puts on a serious look.

DAVID

What? Wait a minute, you don't think I'm trying to be nice or anything like that, do you? I mean, it's not like I'm inviting you to make you feel better.

(off look)

I'm just trying to get Julia to stop bugging me about never getting you to come over for dinner.

Tom nods slightly, playing along.

TOM

Oh... Well, if there's a friend in need... how could I refuse to help?

David acknowledges -- sounds good.

DAVID

Now, come on, let's get going. She's got a thing for punctuality.

Tom smiles at that. And with that the two friends EXIT together...

INT. COMMANDER'S OFFICE

A grim looking Callen is here, as Grant and Sivea ENTER.

GRANT

You wanted to see us, Commander?

CALLEN

We've just received a message from Lenori. It seems he... may not be coming back any time soon.

Grant and Sivea are unsettled by Callen's solemn demeanor.

SIVEA

What's going on?

CALLEN

I'm not sure. But he's been detained.

Grant and Sivea are visibly shocked.

CALLEN (CONT'D)

I don't know the details, but... it seems he's falsified some kind of reports a long time ago. Apparently it caught up with him.

GRANT

Can we go see him?

CALLEN

He said there's going to be a hearing. He's not allowed to have any more outside contact. It seems all we can do is wait.

And as Grant and Sivea digest this unexpected news...

EXT. ZENTAUR PRIME - DAY

Again we see the futuristic city underneath the purple sky.

INT. ZENTAURIAN COURTROOM - DAY

A darkly lit room. In some areas the purple light from outside is shining in, while other areas are covered in shadows. The walls are metallic, and there is a centered pathway that leads from the back entrance to a front podium where a ZENTAURIAN JUDGE is sitting. On the left and right of the pathway we see raised cubicles; but they are empty. Some Security Personnel is seen in the background behind the Judge. The Judge is an elderly Zentaurian; somewhere around M'zati's age.

The back door opens, and Lenori is being escorted in, now wearing the Zentaurian equivalent of handcuffs. Lenori is being led down the pathway by two Security Guards.

CLOSE ON LENORI

as he walks down the pathway. He keeps his head high, assuming responsibility for what he's done. But his eyes tell us that he is devastated.

ON THE JUDGE

as he watches Lenori being led before him. The seasoned Zentaurian has a grim expression on his face.

BACK ON LENORI

as he arrives in front of the podium, where he looks up, facing the Judge who will determine his fate. There's a beat, before the Judge speaks.

ZENTAURIAN JUDGE

I now formally open this hearing.

He looks down at Lenori, shocked about the recent revelation.

ZENTAURIAN JUDGE (CONT'D)

Doctor Lenori... The evidence that you have presented has been reviewed. Doctor M'zati's diaries and your confession are enough for this court to proceed on.

(beat)

I must say that I am very disappointed. You have always been a respectable member of our society. The deeds that you have done, the exchange of knowledge from your time with the Tok'ra... all of that has given you an admirable reputation. Now, however... now I look at you. And I see a great disappointment, a great failure for our people.

Lenori lowers his head in disgrace.

ZENTAURIAN JUDGE (CONT'D)

The tragic destruction of the Valkonians is no secret. But the mere possibility of allowing the public to learn what really happened... that two of Zentaur Prime's most esteemed citizens not only a hand in the events -- but that they actually caused the death of a civilization, and that they then destroyed all evidence of it... it would be devastating. The effects that would have on the public moral, and the way it would destroy our peoples' good name... that is something that cannot be allowed to happen.

(beat)

As Zentaurians we pride ourselves for our wisdom, our love of peace, but above all... our ethical and moral codes. You, Doctor Lenori, along with the late M'zati... have broken these sacred codes one hundred and three years ago. Is there anything you wish to add?

Lenori looks up at him.

LENORI

There is not. I accept responsibility for what I have done. And I am willing to pay the price.

ZENTAURIAN JUDGE

And that I do hold in your favor.

(beat)

The public need not know what happened here. They do not know the reasons for M'zati's murder. All they know is that Hanari will be spending the rest of his life detained. But you -- what shall I do with you?

LENORI

(shamefully)

I am willing to accept whatever you deem appropriate.

ZENTAURIAN JUDGE

I have thought about this for a very long time. Due to the fact that you were not in charge... that you were merely following M'zati's lead... I will be able to forgo detaining you for life.

(beat)

However, a severe penance must still be exacted.

Lenori tenses up a little, as he's about to hear the verdict.

ZENTAURIAN JUDGE (CONT'D)

After careful deliberation with my advisors... we have come to the conclusion that there can only be one verdict -- exile.

Lenori's heart breaks as the Judge goes on.

ZENTAURIAN JUDGE (CONT'D)

You will leave Zentaur Prime... and you will be never allowed to return -- for as long as you live. We all know that we Zentaurians value the company of our own above all that the universe has to offer... but you will be forced to live your life, knowing that you will never enjoy the company of your own kind again.

Lenori lowers his head, the devastation he's feeling is unbearable.

ZENTAURIAN JUDGE (CONT'D)

If you do ever set foot on Zentaurian grounds... you will be arrested, and taken to a detention facility, where you will then remain for the rest of your life. It is simple, Doctor... Never return to your home, and you will be free. Come back... and you will not be welcome.

The Judge gives Lenori an icy stare, before he rises to his feet.

ZENTAURIAN JUDGE (CONT'D)

This hearing is closed.

(to one of the Security Officers)

Give him time to gather his belongings... then escort him to the Stargate.

The Security Officer nods, and the Zentaurian Judge EXITS.

CLOSE ON LENORI

as he's shocked, saddened... and guilty. He lowers his head again. After a long beat, Lenori is escorted out of the courtroom by the Security Guards.

And as he's taken away to leave his homeworld one final time, trying to bear the immeasurable pain and sadness, we...

CUT TO:

EXT. SPACE - HORIZON

Re-establishing the familiar sight of the space station. We see the twin suns shining in the background.

INT. LENORI'S QUARTERS

Lenori is here, alone. And that's exactly how he feels. He's staring at his Zentaurian Sculpture, but his mind is elsewhere. There's a CHIME at the door. Lenori has heard it, but he closes his eyes, not wanting to see anyone.

Another CHIME. Lenori sighs, realizing he has no choice but to respond.

LENORI

Enter.

Christine ENTERS. She regards her old friend with a sympathetic look. He's got his back turned to her, and there's a long beat of silence.

CHRISTINE

Hey...

Lenori is feeling ashamed of himself.

LENORI

The only reason I came back here... is because I have no other place to go. It's that simple.

CHRISTINE

Why would you not want to come back?

Lenori is fighting back the emotions, not completely successfully.

LENORI

Is it not obvious? I've lost everything. I've been disgraced by my people... and I know that no one here will ever see me the way they used to.

Christine's compassionate nature is very apparent. She's hurting with Lenori. It's subtle but obvious.

CHRISTINE

No one here thinks any less of you.

LENORI

How could that be true?  
(MORE)

LENORI (CONT'D)

I've lived with this secret for a hundred and three years. I was always successful in concealing it from everyone, always making sure that my... positive nature would be all that people would get to see.

(beat)

But I'm not the way people thought I was. I am --

He stops himself, unable to continue. There's a beat.

CHRISTINE

Regardless of what you are... you've inspired a lot of people here. You've inspired me.

LENORI

No. I've lied to you.

CHRISTINE

I wouldn't say that's true. And besides... in the end, you decided to come forward with the truth.

LENORI

Only because I had no choice. Had Hanari not cornered me... I would have just erased M'zati's diary, burying the secret for good. And I would have gone back to my normal life, pretending that none of this ever happened.

(soft)

What does that say about me?

Christine lowers her head, not sure what to say. But we can tell that she wished she could make him feel better.

Finally, Lenori turns around. Looking at her for the first time since she came in. He confides in her.

LENORI (CONT'D)

These past couple of years... no matter how much I've been enjoying my time here, all of your company... I never once thought of this station as my home. I just always assumed that when our mission here is completed... I would go back to my own people. Be reunited with my children.

(beat)

But now it seems I... need to make some adjustments to my future plans.

They hold another silent beat.

CHRISTINE

(soft)

Look, I'm not gonna pretend that I know how you feel.

(MORE)

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)

But I do want you to know this --  
there's tons of people on this station  
who care about you. And I'm one of  
them.

(beat)

We never asked you to be perfect.

Lenori looks at her, and there's a moment that demands no more words. It means a lot to him to hear her say that, despite of what he's done.

The two are both feeling emotional, but they also know that in the end, their relationship has not changed. And they both value that, realizing what it says about their friendship.

And as Christine EXITS...

CLOSE ON LENORI

We hold on his saddened expression, as he knows his life will never be the same. He then turns to look at the Zentaurian Sculpture again. He stares at it, and then begins to gently move his hand across its surface, knowing that this piece of art is the closest thing he has to ever connecting with his own people again.

And off his solemn features, we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE

THE END

Executive Producer

ALEX RUBIT

Co-Executive Producer

MIKE COAKLEY

Supervising Producer

COLIN SANDERSON

Supervising Producer

JUSTIN McNEIL

Producer

CINDY CLARK

Producer

MARC BROADBENT

Line Producer

VINCENT DEDOYARD

Theme by

JUSTIN R. DURBAN

Script Supervisors  
JUSTIN McNEIL &  
VINCENT DEDOYARD

Based upon "Stargate S.G.-1"  
Developed by  
BRAD WRIGHT &  
JONATHAN GLASSNER

Production # H085-S415

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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!