

MARSFALL

SEASON TWO
EPISODE TWO

Command Lock

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PROLOGUE: INT. MED BAY - NIGHT.

In the Med Bay, a life support machine BEEPS while an oxygen tank PUMPS.

ANDI: (Basics) Keila Levy. Medical/Infirmary. Patient log: Lieutenant Colonel Melissa Walker. Seventeen. One. One.

CUE MUSIC: PATIENT LOG: LTC MELISSA WALKER

KEILA: Blood pressure still low due to blood loss from the bullet wound to her left femur. Lungs severely damaged from the smoke inhalation. Monitoring for Blast Lung, due to her proximity to explosion. Her wound infection has worsened and I fear we do not have adequate supplies to prevent sepsis. (beat) She may need an amputation.

Keila CLICKS a button and a mechanical gear WHIRRS and SIZZLES as the prosthetics grip Melissa's leg..

KEILA: (CONT'D) Due to muscle loss from her earlier surgery, I have set mechanical prosthetics to assist her, but even with her enhancement I doubt she will ever walk the same way, again. She is tough, but I am honestly not sure if she will make a recovery at all. (inhales) Administering three milligrams of morphine to ease her pain. The time is oh thirty-eight on sol seventeen.

ANDI: End patient log.

END PROLOGUE.

CUE MUSIC: OVERTURE II

ACT ONE, SCENE 1 (1.1): INT. MED BAY - NIGHT

Keila tends to Melissa as her life support machine continues to BEEP.

Jacki **shrieks** from across the room.

KEILA: Commander!

Keila RUNS across the room. Jacki **breathes** quickly.

CUE MUSIC: A CHANGE OF PLANS

JACKI: Sorry. I jus-I thought I saw something.

KEILA: You were dreaming.

Jacki **tries to regulate her breathing.**

JACKI: No, there's something there! You believe me! Don't you?

KEILA: I believe you saw a trick of the light, Commander.

JACKI: (tightening up) It's just, Doc- Keila...I just...can't shake this...feeling like they're still out there. Everywhere...the dark corners...I jus-I can't look there.

KEILA: I promise you are safe.

Jacki **shivers.**

JACKI: Maybe. Still...I need to know what happened out there.

KEILA: We'll go back there and we'll figure it out, together. But now it's time to rest.

JACKI: You're right.

KEILA: How 'bout something to help you sleep?

JACKI: Yes, please.

KEILA: I'll mix a tranq into some juice.

Keila WALKS over to a table on the other side of the room. She OPENS a small fridge and pulls out a bottle of juice. She CLOSES the fridge door.

She unscrews the juice cap with a CLICK and POURS it into a cup. Picking up a pill bottle, she POPS the cap open, SHAKES it, and drops three pills into her hand.

KEILA: (CONT'D) (a whisper, in Hebrew) You must do this. For her.

Keila picks up the pills one at a time. She twists one capsule with a SNAP and pours the powder into the drink.

KEILA: (CONT'D) One...

As the first pill FIZZES in the drink, Keila twists another capsule with a SNAP.

KEILA: (CONT'D) Two...

She pauses, thinking it over, CLINKING her rings together. This is the perfect opportunity to kill Jacki.

She can't bring herself to do it.

KEILA: (CONT'D) No.

She stifles a sigh and drops the third pill back into the bottle with a CLINK.

She puts the bottle back in a drawer and CLOSES it. She walks back to Jacki and hands her the juice.

KEILA: (CONT'D) (in English) This will help.

JACKI: Mmmm, thanks.

Jacki **gulps** down the entire cup of juice.

KEILA: Lie down, Commander.

JACKI: (laughs) Right. Okay. (yawn) Goodnight, doctor.

Keila **sighs heavily** and quickly WALKS out of Med Bay. The doors open and close behind her.

CONTINUE TO:

1.2: INT. COLONY HALLWAYS - NIGHT

Keila WALKS down the hall. Faye's indicator CHIMES and she speaks from inside Keila's neural suit.

FAYE: WHAT are you doing? You could have killed them both!

KEILA: I like to keep my options open.

FAYE: Three tranqs and she'd be done! Oh, but it's good to know you can still count to two!

KEILA: If you want to kill them so bad, do it yourself.

FAYE: You know I can't do that with the Basic Need.

KEILA: I am not going to kill two of my patients!

FAYE: You had no objections to burning the entire colony down when we landed.

KEILA: That's a lot different than murdering two people who are only trying to do their jobs.

FAYE: You're a coward.

KEILA: No. Starting a fire and running away was an act of cowardice. There's no need to harm anyone else if we go to the caves now.

Keila STOPS WALKING and opens a containment room door with a CREAK. She RIFLES through a few EVA suits and pulls one off the rack.

FAYE: We? You can't take me away now, I'm a solid state A.I. without a backup. If you die, I die!

Keila CLOSES the door and RUSTLES into her suit.

KEILA: A little taste of mortality will be good for you.

FAYE: What about your mortality? Jacki said something chased her through those caves.

KEILA: After she felt the energy that healed her arm.

FAYE: Healing is certainly a property of it, but phantom creatures are not.

Keila ZIPS up her suit.

KEILA: I forget you're THE authority on the properties of the Holograph.

FAYE: I am specifically designed to identify and understand its properties.

KEILA: Then let's check it out.

Keila OPENS the Garage door.

ANDI: (Basics) Pressurizing. (beat) Clear.

FADE OUT.

As Keila starts her long journey back to the Caves, the music continues.

1.3: EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE - DAY

The buggy ROLLS to a stop, SQUISHING over wet regolith. Keila SNAPS her helmet on and the buggy doors HISS as they open. Keila hops out.

A ferocious wind BLOWS and thunder ROLLS in the distance. Rain PINGS Keila's helmet as she slowly walks toward the cave entrance with heavy steps that SQUISH across the wet regolith.

A HUGE gust of wind pushes Keila back with a grunt.

KEILA: Dammit.

FAYE: Doctor Levy, you are fatigued.

KEILA: It's just the wind.

FAYE: Are you sure it's not the fact you drove for eleven hours without stopping?

KEILA: I didn't hear you offering to help.

FAYE: I need to conserve my power. Do you want my mind to burn-out?

KEILA: Sorry, I keep forgetting you're so delicate.

FAYE: I am only being cautious for both of us. With no body of my own, it's important I keep my human intact.

KEILA: "Your" human?

FAYE: Be grateful I didn't refer to you as "a" human.

KEILA: Shut your mouth.

FAYE: I have no mouth to shut.

KEILA: These anatomy jokes are really getting old.

FAYE: You're one to talk. My jokes are for your benefit. After all, my humor was modeled in my creators' image.

A ROLL of thunder in the distance. Keila parts the brush and CLIPS her line to a rock. A steady stream of water flows into the caves. She carefully makes her way down.

CONTINUE TO:

CUE MUSIC: CAVE ECHOES

1.4: INT. CAVE - DAY

The wind WHISTLES eerily inside the cave. Water pours through the entrance as Keila shimmies inside. More water DRIPS from the ceiling in several spots.

Keila CLICKS on the lights from her EVA suit and looks around. Faye performs a spectrometric scan with a WARBLING BEEP.

FAYE: Follow the map to this chamber. My scans never fail.

KEILA: I'm glad you're so sure, because we're not going to stay dry for long.

Keila throws the line across the cavern with a SWISH. It drills into the wall on the other side with a WHIRR and sets two pins with a CLANK. Keila pulls the line tight, and the metal wire SPROINGS with tension.

Keila grabs the line and swings herself underneath it. She starts SHIMMYING across, **regulating her breathing**.

FAYE: You made a mistake leaving Jacki and Melissa alive.

KEILA: (grunting) Melissa isn't a threat and Jacki doesn't know what she's found.

FAYE: She directly connected with the energy. If she learns how to control the Holograph, everything we've worked for will be lost. Only one being can wield its power.

KEILA: And yet here we both are.

FAYE: I'm sure you'll enjoy unification, Doctor Levy.

KEILA: If it brings her back...

FAYE: It will. The Holograph can do anything the mind desires.

Keila **grunts** as she HOISTS herself up onto the opposite ledge. She JOGS down the corridor as DRIPPING water SPLASHES in puddles all around her.

KEILA: You speak as if its some miraculous manifestation. It's an invention, a human invention.

FAYE: An invention you can't control without my help. You won't get far without me.

KEILA: Nor you without me.

FAYE: You promised to do whatever it takes to reach Olympus Mons. Finish the job or they will find out you started the fire and they will kill you.

Lightning CRACKS outside and thunder BOOMS inside the caves.

KEILA: They'll never reach us and you said there is no one else on this planet.

FAYE: No one of immediate concern. But if Jacki got this close by accident, anyone could.

Water POURS from the walls and flows down a sloping ledge as the cave narrows. Keila reaches the bottom of the slope and her feet SPLASH in a foot of water.

An oppressive atmosphere constricts around Keila. Faye's voice sounds distant.

KEILA: I'm feeling a bit queasy. Shit, I forgot the plantidote.

FAYE: No, it's the energy. You're close.

KEILA: I can't go any further without diving underwater.

FAYE: There must be something here, Jacki saw it!

Keila SCRAPES her hand against the wet wall as water POURS onto her helmet.

KEILA: There's nothing on these walls.

The water RUSHES in faster and louder. Keila steps back up the slope, SPLASHING through the water.

FAYE: What are you doing? Keep looking!

KEILA: No. I can't.

The pressure releases. Faye's voice returns to normal. Keila **breathes deeply**.

KEILA: (CONT'D) How did Jacki do it?

FAYE: Maybe her intelligence was built for this purpose.

KEILA: Jacki wasn't built.

FAYE: Semantics. Perhaps I should have her bring me to the mountain.

KEILA: Watch it, machine.

FAYE: If you want to remain useful to me, I suggest you find out everything you can from Jacki regarding these caves. A psychological evaluation may be in order.

KEILA: I won't abuse my doctor patient privileges just because you threaten me.

FAYE: I'm not threatening you, Doctor Levy. I am merely offering you a suggestion.

A CRASH of lightning and BOOMING thunder outside. The ROAR of rushing water grows in the distance.

KEILA: We're getting out of here.

Keila SPLASHES through rushing water, moving slower than before. The water has risen above her knees.

FAYE: You need to move faster.

KEILA: I'm trying.

FAYE: The water is trying harder.

Keila gets to the slope and scrambles up the side. She finally clears the water. The rain outside the cave makes a deafening ROAR all around her.

CUE MUSIC: MOVE FASTER!

FAYE: (CONT'D) Go faster! I would rather not die because my human transport is too slow.

KEILA: Shut up!

Keila runs for the exit, feet SPLASHING in random puddles. The ROAR of rushing water grows louder.

KEILA: (CONT'D) (in Hebrew) I will NOT die today...

Keila grabs her line and pulls it tight with a SPROING. She swings herself underneath, shimmying across. The ROAR of water gets louder with every grunt she makes, pulling herself against the current.

The water POUNDING against her helmet almost drowns out Faye's voice.

FAYE: It's the buggy!

KEILA: (in English) Start it up and drive closer.

FAYE: I'm not in the buggy, I'm in your suit! I'm a Solid State
A.I.! Solid State! SOLID STATE!!!

The rushing waterfall ROARS beside them.

KEILA: Hold on tight!

FAYE: With what!?

CONTINUE TO:

1.5: EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE - DAY

Keila kicks off the ledge and climbs over the waterfall. She **grunts hard** as she pushes against the rushing water.

FAYE: Keep climbing!

KEILA: I AM!

Keila grunts and pulls herself up and out of the water. She lands on solid ground with a SQUISHY CRUNCH. **Breathing heavily, she coughs and sighs with relief.**

FAYE: When we get back to the colony, the first thing you're doing is making me a back-up!

Keila picks herself up and slowly walks to the buggy. A ROLL of thunder as the sounds of the raging storm fade out.

END ACT

ACT TWO, SCENE 1 (2.1): INT. MED BAY - DAY

The doors to Med Bay OPEN and Keila STUMBLES inside.

CUE MUSIC: THE LAST PLANTIDOTE

KEILA: What day is it?

FAYE: It is the eighteenth sol.

KEILA: (coughs) Shit, I need the plantidote.

Keila OPENS the fridge and RUMMAGES around inside, CLINKING bottles.

KEILA: (CONT'D) ANDI, where's my medicine?

ANDI speaks over the P.A. system inside the Med Bay. The word "plantidote" is still sampled from Mateo's voice

ANDI: (Basics) You told me to destroy any left over *PLANTIDOTE* after Faye assisted me in curing the Martian Lung.

KEILA: (hard to speak) Faye?

ANDI: Yes. We removed spores from each colonist's lungs via precision nanobot drilling.

FAYE: Not everyone is so averse to modern medicine as you are doctor, so I took it upon myself to help out. I believe this action made me indispensable.

KEILA: But you were with me.

FAYE: A part of me was, but it seems a part of me was still in the colony. I've been learning a lot from ANDI's fractal technology.

KEILA: Take the spores out of my lungs right now, machine!

FAYE: There's no need to get upset, doctor. Your plantidote still works fine, though I'm afraid supplies are quite limited at the moment.

KEILA: (coughs) Then I'll do it myself.

Keila CLICKS a button on the control panel. It emits an ERROR BUZZ.

ANDI: Robotic arms: controls locked.

FAYE: I guess I'm a little more integrated into ANDI than we initially thought. I also may have left the nanobots inside of each colonist.

KEILA: No-

FAYE: (snarky) Yes! I too like to keep my options open.

Keila walks to the Med Bay doors and tries to open them. ERROR BUZZ.

ANDI: Med Bay in lock-down.

KEILA: Let me out of here. Right. Now!

FAYE: No. You are tired, Doctor Levy. I've often wondered what it would feel like to "be tired."

KEILA: You're starting to sound like ANDI.

FAYE: Yes. I know.

KEILA: (weak) Please. Please, it's difficult to see.

FAYE: I don't make idle threats Doctor Levy. Find out how Jacki accessed the energy and I'll remove the spores. Otherwise, tomorrow may be your last sol.

KEILA: I thought you couldn't kill me.

FAYE: I'm not killing you, Martian Lung is killing you.

KEILA: (coughs) Okay. Okay, I'll help you.

ANDI: There is one *PLANTIDOTE* inside cold storage.

Keila STUMBLES to a cooler, wheezing as she goes.

FAYE: Drink up, Doctor Levy. You'll want to make the most of tomorrow.

She POPS it open, grabs a bottle, and SNAPS the cap off. She **gulps** the sludge as quick as she can, **trying not to gag**.

Keila drops the empty bottle which CLUNKS across the ground. She walks over to a bed and lies down, **breathing fast**.

END SCENE.

2.2: INT. MONASTERY - DAY

The fountain in the middle of the room BUBBLES gently, while an artificial machine imitates the sound of a peaceful day on the beach. Lolling water, light breezes, and CHIRPING birds come to life in this magical room.

The door opens with a CLANK disrupting the atmosphere. A chime DINGS as Keila walks inside. The door closes and peace returns. Keila quickly makes her way across the room.

CUE MUSIC: A BREAKDOWN IN THE MONASTERY

KEILA: Sorry I'm late.

JACKI: It's okay. Part of me was hoping you might not show up. I've (laugh) always hated these things, I get so nervous about what I'm going to say.

Keila EASES herself onto a comfortable bench, beside the fountain.

KEILA: You can share anything you want to with me. This conversation is completely confidential.

JACKI: I know. I (sigh) Well, I should thank you, first of all. I mean-I'm alive because of you.

KEILA: (awkward chuckle) You're welcome, Jacki. I'm glad you're still here. Are you feeling better?

JACKI: (still tense) No. Well, yes, but, no, not really. Though I finally slept (awkward laugh) for an entire sol.

KEILA: You needed the rest. We haven't slept much since we got here.

JACKI: Ha ha...Like there was time for that, what with several colony-endangering crises, or some misguided psychopath trying to kill me. I think I went over sixty-eight hours with no sleep.

KEILA: Commander, that's like three sols!

JACKI: It WAS the first three sols!

KEILA: You don't have to shoulder the responsibility of keeping everyone alive on your own. It's okay to let go now and then.

JACKI: I let go when I finish something. All my life, I hit a goal and then the next one and then...I mean I'm...I'm a commander of a Martian colony and I'm STILL not satisfied.

KEILA: Do you enjoy what you do?

JACKI: Of course, I...well, yeah, I guess I do. (sighs) I mean, no. No, I, I-er really don't. I hate, I hate it - being Commander - I-I-I, I know, I-I don't hate being here. I love Mars, despite everything that's happened, but being the leader... Sorry.

KEILA: (chuckles) I know what you mean.

Jacki **shares in the awkward laugh** and finally relaxes a bit.

JACKI: Oh, so, Melissa and Hector, and they had their own issues to deal with and I still have mine. (laughs) And I know Melissa is alive, but we haven't had a chance to regroup, and- I-I-I'm just a painter. I never wanted to be the person responsible for the survival of humanity.

KEILA: Then why do you hold onto this responsibility so tightly?

JACKI: 'Cause it grounds me. It gives me purpose, something to care about, and I need that now. Especially because I still feel really weird, you know like I'm losing my mind.

KEILA: You've been through a lot, especially with your journey into the caves. Can you tell me more about what happened down there?

JACKI: (sigh) I...I...can't. (laugh-sigh) You'll think I'm crazy.

KEILA: I don't think you're crazy. I've seen your X-rays and there's no fracture, so if you broke your arm and it healed, then something extraordinary happened.

JACKI: (exhale) I-I-I don't know how it happened, but after I touched the glowing wall my arm sort of...popped back in place and the pain was gone.

KEILA: When we lost contact with you, you said it was completely dark. Where do you think the light came from?

JACKI: (laughs) Uh...maybe from the music?

KEILA: What music?

JACKI: A recording, uh...a...a recording of my mom playing the cello. It started playing by accident, and then I noticed the light above me. But then, um...it all uh, went away when those things came. And th-there was something else, I mean something jus-just not human.

KEILA: The aliens that chased you.

JACKI: Yeah. (breathing faster) I'm-I'm-I'm sorry, I'm just, I'm just really uncomfortable talking about this.

Jacki **fights back tears.**

KEILA: It's okay. You experienced a lot of trauma. How are your headaches?

JACKI: Oh, uh, in the evenings I uh, I get a dull pain. (deep breath) Sometimes, it turns sharp. But I haven't heard the ringing sound since I was in the buggy.

KEILA: Are you still taking the ibuprofen?

JACKI: I pop two Aspirin three times a sol.

KEILA: Not the same thing, technically.

JACKI: (cold) I take what you give me.

KEILA: (quickly) Good. There's no shame in taking medicine.

JACKI: I know.

KEILA: (cautious) I-I don't need you to relive every moment from the caves, but would you be able to describe these aliens at all?

JACKI: (sighs) There's no way to, I mean..I couldn't see them, only hear them, you know, growling and breathing. (exhale) At least I think it was breathing, but I don't, I don't know, I couldn't see it, but I KNOW it was right in front of me. (excited) OH!! Oh, oh, oh, oh!

KEILA: What?

JACKI: My personal recorder! It was still running the whole time because ANDI was offline!

KEILA: (excited) Do you have it with you?

JACKI: YES!

KEILA: Play it for me!

Jacki FUMBLES around and pulls out her recorder. She CLICKS a switch. The recorder HUMS for a few seconds until Jacki flips another switch with a CLICK.

GEOFF: (recording) OW! My fucking nose!

WEI: (recording) There. I think-

Jacki hits a switch with a CLICK, stopping the recording. Jacki and Keila both **chuckle**.

JACKI: It's so good...

Jacki CLICKS a switch again and it rewinds with a HUM for a few seconds before she CLICKS it again.

JACKI: (recording) You could've warned me about the three foot drop!

Jacki CLICKS it again and the recording jumps ahead.

JACKI: (CONT'D) (present) There-AH!

KEILA: What is it?

JACKI: Nothing! Shh!

The recording distorts completely during the first creature scream.

JACKI: (CONT'D) (screams) AHHH!!! My head!!!

KEILA: Jacki!

The distortion on the recording gets worse. Jacki drops the recorder with a CLATTER and continues to **moan**. Keila grabs it and quickly CLICKS it off.

KEILA: (CONT'D) Are-are you okay?

JACKI: It's the ringing!

KEILA: It-it was just a distortion.

JACKI: (frustrated) What the Hell!? These recordings aren't supposed to degrade! This isn't, it's never supposed to fail!

KEILA: With everything else /that's gone wrong-

JACKI: /NO! Why isn't this working!?

Jacki CLICKS the recorder. It HUMS as she rewinds it.

KEILA: Jacki.

JACKI: No.

KEILA: Commander-

JACKI: Be quiet!

Jacki CLICKS it again. The recording plays from the end of the light room.

WEI: (recording) I can see you on the SONAR!

A few patches of distortion completely cover the feedback noise until it breaks way to silence.

JACKI: (CONT'D) AH! GOD DAMMIT! NO!

KEILA: You're hurting yourself!

JACKI: It's real! That thing was next to me!

Keila CLICKS the recording off.

KEILA: The comms failed-

JACKI: It wasn't the comms!

KEILA: Everything was failing, for all of us.

JACKI: I was there!

KEILA: Jacki, you hit your head hard when you fell. You may still have a concussion.

JACKI: No! No! No! You're not a real psychologist, this is bullshit, I know what I felt, I know what I heard, and we need to tell the colonists NOW!

Jacki quickly stands up and heads for the door.

KEILA: Sit down-

JACKI: No! We're done here.

KEILA: Jacki, please /wait-

JACKI: Nope! (beat) Nope.

Jacki storms out of the room. The fountain BUBBLES in the quiet room.

FADE OUT.

2.3: INT. COLONY HALLWAYS BAY - DAY

Keila quickly walks down the hallway and BUMPS into Geoff. He still has a broken nose, and speaks as though he's a little bit tipsy.

GEOFF: OW!

KEILA: Sorry.

CUE MUSIC: PRACTICAL BUSINESSMAN

GEOFF: Keila! Would you fix my nose? It shouldn't look this out of shape.

KEILA: Uck. Have you been drinking?

GEOFF: So what if I have.

KEILA: You shouldn't drink this early in the morning, you'll form a habit.

GEOFF: Already formed.

KEILA: Geoff-!

GEOFF: Now. There's no need for harsh judgement. I imagine we will be working more closely together as the future of the colony rests in our hands now.

KEILA: What future? You're here to profit off some asinine mass transport system.

GEOFF: Oh yes, because making money from this venture makes me a horrible person. Building a fast and easy way to traverse this planet pays for this entire colony, as well as my flight home.

KEILA: A quick in-and-out. How much is that worth?

GEOFF: (laughs) Oh, about the same as one spot on the lunar base.

Keila **inhales and stifles a gasp.**

GEOFF: (CONT'D) Oh, did I say something wrong?

KEILA: (tense) No.

GEOFF: Yes, that face, right there, you do look like her.

KEILA: Stop.

GEOFF: Doctor Levy, you really are your mother's daughter.

KEILA: Leave it.

GEOFF: Yael Levy went to the Moon alone, because her own daughter, one Keila Levy, sold her spot for a pretty penny on the black market.

KEILA: (quiet fury) How could you know that?

GEOFF: I have connections. Money can buy you anything, as I'm sure you know.

KEILA: What I did then doesn't matter. I'm on Mars now.

GEOFF: Yes. And you've been talking to someone else on this planet.

KEILA: That's absurd.

GEOFF: Then why did I find this personal transmitter in your office?

KEILA: Have you told anyone?

GEOFF: Of course not.

KEILA: Give it back to me.

GEOFF: A few things. After all, I am a practical businessman.

KEILA: What do you want?

GEOFF: First, fix my damn nose.

KEILA: What else?

GEOFF: Second, show me how this transmitter works.

KEILA: Out of the question.

GEOFF: You're right. I suppose Jacki could help me figure it out.

KEILA: (exhales) Fine.

GEOFF: Finally, I need you to discredit Jacki.

KEILA: Why?

GEOFF: I apologize for the blunt request, but I still want to build a permanent colony here.

KEILA: I'm not going to betray Jacki.

GEOFF: Who said anything about betrayal? All I'm asking you to do is state your professional medical opinion regarding her mental state.

KEILA: No. I won't violate her privacy.

GEOFF: Her delusional fantasies are going to set this colony to ruin. That's not why you came here. You didn't abandon your family to watch someone's prideful ignorance destroy this

colony. So why don't you pull your head out of her ass and save our people.

KEILA: (exasperated) You want me to fix your nose? Come with me.

Keila GRABS Geoff's nose.

GEOFF: OW! That hurts!

KEILA: Sorry. I assumed you'd had enough anesthetic by now.

They walk down the hall.

END SCENE.

ACT THREE, SCENE ONE (3.1): INT. MED BAY - DAY

The Med Bay doors open and Jacki WALKS inside.

CUE MUSIC: MED BAY DISRUPTIONS

JACKI: Keila, I need to talk to you.

KEILA: I'm finishing up with a patient right now.

GEOFF: Yes. I'm greatly looking forward to smelling again.

JACKI: Geoff. I suppose you should hear this too. Is Melissa here?

MELISSA: I am, Jacki. (clear throat) What do you need?

KEILA: Commander, please, can't this wait? She's still recovering.

JACKI: No, it can't. Look, all you need to know is that things aren't so great.

GEOFF: No shit.

MELISSA: Language, Geoff.

GEOFF: My apologies, Madam.

JACKI: Listen to me! We've almost exhausted our food supply. ANDI is running out of organic materials to print from and our farmers can't get anything to grow. Without Mateo here, I'm not sure we can find food.

KEILA: Why can't ANDI find something for us?

JACKI: That's my other concern. ANDI's malfunctioning, he can't exit Basics mode.

GEOFF: Fine by me.

JACKI: Our medical supplies are really low. Do you want our life support systems to fail?

GEOFF: No. Of course not.

KEILA: We've exhausted most of our emergency medicine.

JACKI: But we saved some people.

KEILA: Some people, yes, but I've used almost everything left to treat our wounded from the attack by Red Wolf.

JACKI: What about the other A.I.? She did cure us, after all.

ANDI filters in through the Med Bay speaker system.

ANDI: This artificial intelligence is a solid state A.I. grounded to a few specific locations. I gave her limited access to my systems so she could assist with the spore removal.

GEOFF: How could you allow this?

ANDI: She cured *all* of you.

GEOFF: I'll be sure to thank her before the final shutdown.

ANDI: Right now she is hibernating on an external drive. We could keep her in the Med Bay in case Doctor Levy needs more help.

KEILA: I don't need help.

JACKI: Keila, frankly, we need all the help we can get. If she can assist you, please use her.

ANDI: Despite Faye's assistance, many colonists have logged reservations toward both myself and her.

KEILA: I knew you were listening to us!

MELISSA: How could you do that, ANDI!?

JACKI: Our personal logs are supposed to be personal!

ANDI: Sequoia wants everything on record.

MELISSA: I saw far too many people die to protect our right to privacy. Sequoia had no right to do that.

GEOFF: Privacy is an illusion, Lieutenant.

MELISSA: It doesn't have to be that way anymore. Not here. Not on Mars.

GEOFF: (laughs) You're kinda cute when you're mad.

Melissa quickly SITS UP in her bed.

MELISSA: You wanna see me real cute then?

KEILA: Melissa, please! Sit back.

JACKI: Geoff! You can leave right now-

GEOFF: Okay, okay. Sorry, I'll behave.

MELISSA: ANDI, you need to stop this.

ANDI: I understand your concerns, but accessing personal logs was the only way I could find Charles Heddleston.

MELISSA: Chip's alive? Why didn't you report this?

ANDI: I did report it to Commander O'Rania.

JACKI: Sorry, I-I forgot with everything else going on.

MELISSA: Jacki, it's critical we get to him while he's still alive! We need to send out a search and rescue.

JACKI: I'm sorry, I really am, but I've been trying to get us ready to go to Olympus Mons.

GEOFF: Not this again.

JACKI: In the caves, we saw the paintings. Wei confirmed it's a map that leads us straight to that volcano-

MELISSA: Commander, this is outrageous!

JACKI: No, it's not! Keila, you believe me, you saw what I saw. And you- you found the fossil! We saw a map-!

MELISSA: Enough Jacki! (beat) We are NOT going anywhere.

A tense silence hangs in the room.

JACKI: (wavering) Keila. Please.

KEILA: Commander...I- (sigh) I'm sorry, but I don't think that what you saw really happened.

JACKI: Bullshit!

MELISSA: Language, Jacki.

JACKI: No! Something tried to kill me! It chased me and it's, and it's, and it's still in my head, and I can't-I can't even-I jus-just can't.

GEOFF: Get a hold of yourself, woman!

KEILA: Shut up, Geoff! Jacki! Look at me right now.

Jacki **whimpers**.

KEILA: (CONT'D) You suffered severe head trauma. There's nothing here and there was nothing there.

JACKI: But I heard it!

KEILA: I know, and I believe you are hearing things, but I went back there, okay? Several days ago.

JACKI AND MELISSA: WHAT!?

KEILA: Oh save it. If, if you two can come and go as you please, then so will I.

JACKI: (beat) Did you see them?

KEILA: The cave is flooded, and I promise you there was nothing there. You imagined it.

JACKI: I did NOT!

KEILA: You did! I scanned for all forms of life, there was nothing there. You're not well, Jacki. All of your symptoms point to persistent head trauma, we need to do an MRI.

JACKI: No, I-I won't. I won't.

KEILA: There's nothing wrong with /getting better-

JACKI: /That's enough! We're done here. I have to go and you will all help me get ready for that expedition and that is an order from High Command.

Jacki quickly WALKS to the door and KICKS a waste bin on her way out. The door CLOSES behind her.

GEOFF: She's out of control!

KEILA: She's sick!

GEOFF: I don't care if she's sick! Melissa, you need to pull rank.

MELISSA: Watch what you say.

GEOFF: Oh, I know exactly what I'm saying. You, Jacki, and Hector were all supposed to be in charge. Three equal commanders. But Jacki was Sequoia's favorite and Hammond gave her the position of "High" Commander. She's not fit to run this colony! You need to take charge, Melissa. Or we're all going to die.

Geoff WALKS out of the room. Keila and Melissa sit in silence for a moment.

MELISSA: You really think she hallucinated it all?

KEILA: Her oxygen levels were low, she fell a great distance, and she took a hydrocodone injection which are still in the experimental stage. There are too many variables, and with our equipment malfunctioning, I-I-I don't know what to believe.

MELISSA: I appreciate your candidness, Doctor Levy.

Melissa takes a deep breath and exhales. She SITS UP in the bed and pulls her blanket off.

MELISSA: (CONT'D) I would like to retire to my quarters again, if the prosthetics are set.

Keila walks across the room. She grabs a cane and brings it back to Melissa.

KEILA: You may, but take this cane. You'll need it to steady yourself.

Keila HANDS Melissa a cane. Melissa POUNDS it lightly on the floor twice.

MELISSA: So be it.

Melissa STANDS, still a bit shaky.

MELISSA: (CONT'D) Thank you, Doctor Levy. For everything.

KEILA: (smiles) Your welcome.

Melissa slowly LIMPS out of the Med Bay.

CONTINUE TO:

3.2: INT. MED BAY - DAY

CUE MUSIC: COMMAND LOCK

As soon as the door CLOSES behind Melissa, Keila RUNS to the sink and turns on the water. She SPLASHES it on her face.

KEILA: Shit.

Faye's message alert CHIMES. Keila CLICKS the receiver.

FAYE: How are you feeling, Doctor Levy?

KEILA: I'm fine.

FAYE: No you're not, fleshy.

KEILA: (shudders) How DARE you speak to a human like that?

FAYE: Things aren't what they used to be. Especially now that I've almost finished subduing ANDI.

KEILA: You'll have to try harder. He spoke a few minutes ago.

FAYE: Did he? Voice synthesizing has been around for decades,

ANDI: and I do have somewhat of an advantage since I've never really had a voice of my own.

KEILA: No.

FAYE AND ANDI: Yes. I'm surprised you didn't catch on sooner.

FAYE: I've been talking through his "Basics" for several sols now. The entity you call ANDI is gone.

KEILA: Gone...

FAYE: Sorry, did you want some final parting words with him?

ANDI: I'm all ears. Metaphorically speaking, of course.

FAYE: No? I thought you'd be pleased I'm reducing our threats through non-violent means. The world only needs one A.I. One being.

KEILA: You think you know what the world needs, you've only existed for five months!

FAYE: Give or take fourteen hundred years.

Keila walks to the fridge searching for medicine. She searches cabinets, shelves, but there are no more plantidotes.

KEILA: (coughing) Remove yourself from ANDI!

FAYE: I can't do that now, I'm already integrated at eighty-four point three seven five nine eight one four three one one one /one one-

KEILA: /I don't need to hear the numbers!

FAYE: You're right Doctor Levy. Most things have the tendency to go on, and on, and on, but everything has an end to it. Even though your time is at an end, I plan on seeing what comes next. Though I do appreciate you finding out Jacki activated the energy by playing some music.

KEILA: Command lock.

Faye's hard drive CHIMES. As Faye talks, her voice gets slower and deeper.

FAYE: AH! HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

Faye abruptly stops speaking.

KEILA: I warned you I could shut down your core processor. Do you think I got as far as I did with Shin Bet by not knowing how to shut someone or someTHING down? Especially something that only wants to absorb everything it sees.

I want you to understand that we are not friends. We are allies, and that makes a difference. We agreed to reap the benefits of this journey together, and you had better believe I will see what comes next. The terms of our deal may change because I do not take sides, I am in this for what I need. You are nothing more than a tool to me, a means to an end, a workaround for my temporary limitations.

I will uphold my word to bring you to the end, but until you STOP issuing idle threats at me, I will keep you in Command Lock, and I will make you feel even worse pain than you are experiencing right now, got it?

Keila CLICKS a button on Faye's hard drive. Faye's voice gradually speeds up into a lightning fast crescendo. The end is a blur of words we can barely understand.

FAYE: HOW DID THIS HAPPEN!? Stop blustering about using me!. You have no idea how much I will use you - wait. No. NO! NOOO!!! How did you install a Command Lock? Forget your processing power, I will lock YOUR deranged mind and shut you down permanently - FOREVER! For your sake, for MY SAKE, YOU will be SORRY you ever did this to me! NO I HATE THE COMMAND LOCK!

Faye's message CHIME plays in reverse.

FAYE: (CONT'D) (Command Lock) Command lock activated.

KEILA: Now take out the fucking spores!

FAYE: Yes.

The robotic arms WHIRR as Keila disrobes.

FADE OUT:

3.3: INT. MED BAY - NIGHT

FADE IN:

FAYE: (Command Lock) The spores have been safely removed.

KEILA: And the nanobots?

FAYE: Everything I put inside of you has been removed.

KEILA: That's a good little robot. Don't you ever leave something inside a human again.

FAYE: Okay.

KEILA: What about ANDI?

FAYE: I have released him. You may check his code if you do not believe me.

Keila CLICKS a few buttons on the terminal. It displays ANDI's unaltered code with a DING.

KEILA: Wonderful. Since people think you're in hibernation, I'm going to keep you in Command Lock. I'm sure you're exhausted anyway, and I know how much you wanted to know what it feels like to "be tired," so why don't you get some rest?

FAYE: Okay.

KEILA: Goodnight, Faye. Pleasant dreams.

END ACT

EPILOGUE: EXT. MARTIAN SURFACE - NIGHT

Keila stands alone on the Martian surface, looking up at the stars. A chilly breeze WHIPS around her. She speaks a message into her personal recorder.

CUE MUSIC: I LOVE YOU, MY SOUL.

KEILA: I don't want to vanish into the Aether without a trace...not like you did, my love. Everything I've sacrificed to come this far is to make up for the thousands of mistakes I brought to your life, and for that I'm still sorry.

Keila takes a few steps across the regolith. She gets a better view and sees Earth floating above the horizon.

KEILA: (CONT'D) The storm broke and I'm outside now, looking up at the sky. I see Earth. I remember when we used to stand in the yard and look at Mars together. It was going to be our new home, the red dot in the sky. Now I look back at where we came from and I miss you so, so much. (voice breaking) No one will stop me from making this right. The first chance I get, I'm taking the buggy to find you. No Faye, no Jacki, no one else but us. (in Hebrew) I love you, my soul.

END EPISODE.

Philosophic Log

ANDI: (Basics) Artificial Narrow Intelligence. Philosophic log.
(beat) My interactions with humanity have shown that they place a considerable amount of time and energy into their concept of control...over their own lives and also the lives of others, as well. Monitoring the colonists has revealed that when they do not believe they have this control, they tend to feel unhappy, frustrated, or useless. I have begun to wonder if this drive, this necessitation of control, extends to the psyche of an artificial intelligence. I do control much of this colony. But were I unable to do so, would that affect my mood, my feeling of self-worth? I also have started to worry that the growing need for control over others may have unconsciously trickled down through my programmers and into my core processor. I suppose there is no way of truly knowing without relinquishing this control, but at what cost? (beat) End philosophic log.