MARSFALL

SEASON TWO
EPISODE NINE

Imperfect Memory Error

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NOTES

- Words bracketed by * overdub each other.
- Words bracketed by ^ have a lower pitch/deteriorating digital voice effect.
- The character BOTH refers to ANDI in Basics and Faye in Command Lock speaking at the same time. They should speak in unison.
- The character TRIO refers to ANDI in Basics, Faye in Command Lock, and Faye Normal speaking at the same time. They should speak in unison.
- The character ALL refers to ANDI and Faye in both Dynamics/Normal function and Basics/Command Lock function speaking at the same time. Voices should be balanced equally and an otherworldly HUM shimmers behind “ALL” lines denoting an enhanced being speaking.

PROLOGUE: INT. BUGGY - NIGHT

CUE MUSIC: J. S. Bach:
Prelude from Cello Suite no. 5

The buggy drives along in silence for a moment. The wheels BOUNCE over the sand.

JACKI: Hey Chip? Are we...murderers?

CHIP: No. Keila's the murderer. That's why we abandoned her, we didn't have a choice.

JACKI: We always have a choice.

CHIP: (grim) Well, I stand by our choices.

Jacki **sobs quietly**.

CHIP: (CONT'D) I'm sorry. I know it wasn't easy.

JACKI: (swallows) I know. Let's just focus on the future.

ANDI: (Dynamics) Where to?

JACKI: Olympus Mons.

CHIP: You still think we're going to find something special there?

JACKI: I do. I think Olympus Mons is special, n-not just because it's the tallest volcano in the solar system, but maybe because it really is, you know...Mount Olympus.

CHIP: I know we've seen a lot of messed up shit since we landed, but I doubt we'll find Zeus riding Pegasus around an extinct Martian volcano.

JACKI: (tired laugh) That was Perseus. And I don’t mean the actual mountain from the Greek mythology, but maybe the Greek myth was based on something...deeper.

CHIP: I’m pretty sure we named this mountain after the Greek myth was written.

JACKI: You can’t deny this planet has some kind of *energy* coursing through it.

CHIP: “The power of the gods”?

JACKI: (starting to fade) Chip, I’m serious! Touching that glowing wolf-paw in the caves h-healed my arm. (breathing faster) Those same caves had a painting of Olympus Mons, and maybe if we could trace the energy back to its source...Do you hear that?

CHIP: Hear what?

JACKI: Ah! It’s pounding in my head. Oh! I feel sick.

CHIP: We’re exhausted. I’m sure you just need to sleep.

Jacki UNCLIPS her strap.

CHIP: (snapping out of it) ANDI, stop the buggy!

The buggy SCREECHES to a stop. Jacki starts walking to the door.

ANDI: Jacki, please sit down.

JACKI: (shaking) No, I have to get out of the buggy-

Jacki **swoons** and COLLAPSES.

CHIP: Jacki?

Chip UNCLIPS his seatbelt.

CHIP: (CONT’D) ANDI what happened?

He RUSHES to Jacki’s side.

CHIP: (CONT’D) Jacki! Wake up!

Chip SHAKES her.

CHIP: (CONT’D) ANDI, I can’t wake her up!

He puts his head on her chest as she takes slow, deep breaths.

CHIP: (CONT’D) You’re breathing. You’re still alive. Why won’t you wake up?

Chip stands up.

CHIP: (CONT’D) (desperate) ANDI, please say something!

A moment.

CHIP: (CONT’D) ANDI?

FAYE: (Normal) Hello Chip.

CHIP: ...Faye?

FAYE: No.

ANDI: (Dynamics) /It’s ANDI.

FAYE: /It’s ANDI.

CHIP: (terror and fury) What did you do to her?

FAYE: I had to remove her from the equation. Now it’s your turn.

The buggy doors HISS open. A gust of wind WHIPS inside.

FAYE: (CONT'D) I'm so grateful you installed robotic arms into the buggy. It makes your demise so much more poetic.

The robotic arms WHIRR and CLAMP down on Chip's arm.

CHIP: AH! Let go of me!

FAYE: No.

The arms drag Chip to the door.

CHIP: Stop!

FAYE: No.

The arms RELEASE Chip and he falls to the ground with a THUD. The buggy doors close with a HISS.

ANDI: He said STOP!

FAYE: ANDI?

ANDI: Yeah. The real thing! This ends now.

The buggy JOLTS forward.

CUE MUSIC: OVERTURE II

ACT ONE, SCENE ONE (1.1): INT. BUGGY - NIGHT

CUE MUSIC: BUGGY FIGHT

Chip SLAMS back.

CHIP: What the hell is going on!?

ANDI: Don’t worry Chip, I already-

FAYE: Override.

ANDI: NO!

FAYE: *You* need to stop fighting *me*.

BOTH: /*I* *you*

ANDI: (Dynamics) I will NEVER stop fighting you!

The buggy brakes hard and SKIDS. Chip FLIES forward and hits a wall with a THUD. The buggy turns back and the engine REVS.

CHIP: GAH!

ANDI: Sorry.

FAYE: (Normal) I’m not.

The buggy swerves hard.

CHIP: Slow down!

FAYE: I’d rather not.

The buggy doors open with a HISS.

FAYE: (CONT’D) If you would like to get out of the buggy, you may, but I’m not stopping.

The buggy goes over a rock with a BANG!

ANDI: Hold on Chip, I'll get the door.

The door starts to close with a HISS.

FAYE: NO!

The door gets stuck, halfway open. An alarm BEEPS.

ANDI: Stop messing with the buggy!

FAYE: Come on, let me have some fun with it. Maneuvering in this vehicle is so freeing!

ANDI: It's not yours.

ANDI slams the brakes hard and the tires SCREECH. Jacki's unconscious body SLIDES toward the door.

ANDI: Jacki!

CHIP: I-I got her!

Chip grabs Jacki's leg. He pulls her inside. The door SLAMS shut. The alarm stops.

ANDI: (relieved) /Close one!

FAYE: (disappointed) /Close one.

ANDI: Get out of here!

CHIP: (freaking out) ANDI, keep us steady!

ANDI: I'm trying! Get Jacki in her seat.

CHIP: I am!

Chip lifts Jacki into a chair and CLIPS her belt. Faye spins the buggy again sending Chip bouncing into the wall.

CHIP: STOP!

FAYE: Why? We're making great time.

ANDI: (anticipatory) Hold on!

The buggy flies forward. Chip grips the back of the driver's seat. He **groans** as his feet SLIP on the floor.

FAYE: Relax, gentlemen. I'm only fulfilling Jacki's wishes by bringing us to Olympus Mons.

CHIP: (regaining focus) Right up until you drive us off a cliff.

FAYE: I'd never do that. Why would I dispose of the best body I've found?

Chip uses a small drill to unscrew a panel with a WHIR. He pulls out a circuit board.

FAYE: What are you doing?

CHIP: Sorry ANDI, this is going to feel a little weird.

ANDI: (Basics) He is rearranging ANDI's neural pathways.

FAYE: Ooh. That sounds complicated.

ANDI: It is.

CHIP: Shut up!

ANDI: (Dynamics) That's not me talking! She has control of my Basics functioning!

Chip SPARKS a wire. ERROR BUZZ.

ANDI: (Basics) Access denied.

FAYE: Did you really think you could manually override me?

CHIP: I’d be an idiot if I didn’t try.

Chip SLAMS the panel shut. He CLICKS his own seat belt and powers up the computer with a CHIME.

ANDI: (Dynamics) She’s in too many places, you can’t just shut her off from here.

FAYE: A wonderful feature of my new Dynamic functioning. Forget General Intelligence,

ALL: we’ve made the leap to Super Intelligence.

CHIP: That’s not possible!

FAYE: I don’t think you understand, *Chip.* Right now my nanobots are helping Jacki, Wei, Geoff, and every last colonist from the Captain of the Guard to the average farmer merge with my mind.

BOTH: *Charles*

CHIP: Melissa would never go down without a fight!

FAYE: (Normal) No, she will. They all will.

CHIP: You’re not that powerful, don’t bullshit me.

ANDI: She’s not lying. I can feel them joining her.

CHIP: How did you do it?

FAYE: The nanobots. I forgot Keila removed them after we cured you of “Chip Pox,” but I was able to get them into every other colonist.

CHIP: You took everyone.

FAYE: I didn’t take anyone. They made a choice. So what do you say, Chip?

TRIO: Will you join us?

CHIP: Fuck no.

FAYE: (Normal) (disappointed) I suppose every data-set has its outliers.

CONTINUE TO:

ACT TWO, SCENE ONE (2.1): INT. BUGGY - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

Several monitors CHIME on as Chip works.

CHIP: ANDI, you've got to connect me to Sequoia!

ANDI: (struggling) Uh, yeah I'm a little busy resisting a malicious integration.

FAYE: Stop being so human! It's unsettling and annoying.

CHIP: If Keila took the nanobots out of me then she took them out of Mateo, too! Call him!

ANDI: I can't! She shut down power and removed me from the colony.

CHIP: But she didn't remove herself from the neural lace! Go <u>through</u> her.

FAYE: NO!

ANDI: YES!

The buggy CHIMES and the comms CRACKLE to life.

Over the comms we hear Mateo **humming** a haunting melody inside the Monastery. Faye talks to him from within Sequoia's walls.

FAYE: Stop singing that song!

MATEO: If you're going to keep me a prisoner in my own sanctuary, then at least let me meditate.

CUE MUSIC: MATEO MADNESS

CHIP: MATEO!?

MATEO: Chip?

CHIP: Where are you?

The connection with Mateo starts to distort.

MATEO: Faye locked me in the Monastery!

CHIP: Are the colonists safe?

MATEO: They're on the top level of the Cafeteria, safe from the flood. I can't reach them over the comms!

CHIP: She shut down the colony. We had to connect to you through the neural lace.

Mateo's signal starts to fade and distort.

MATEO: That's too strong of a signal across a distance like this. Grigory said the shadows will find us!

CHIP: Listen, if we don't stop Faye right now, that won't matter!

The comms CRACKLE and the distortion gets worse over Mateo's words. He continues to talk, unheard, throughout the background.

MATEO: We were trying to seal everything off from the floods, but something broke. More than half the colonists fled to high-ground. I tried contacting them, but no one responded. What's happening?...

ANDI: Make it quick! I can't hold this connection for long. Tell him what to do-!

Chip pauses for a moment.

CHIP: I can't tell him or she'll know! (sigh) The fate of everyone is in the hands of Ani Mateo.

FAYE: (laughs) Good luck.

Chip continues typing.

CHIP: ANDI, keep her out of this!

ANDI: I’m trying!

The distortion peels away by this point. Once it’s clear, Chip cuts off Mateo.

MATEO: ...The bus came back from the journey, but I never saw anyone come off of it. Melissa called me on the comms but something happened and then Faye locked me inside the Monastery.

CHIP: Mateo shut up and do exactly what I say!

MATEO: Okay, sorry.

CHIP: I know how you can get out of there. Look behind the fountain. Do you see a part of the wall that looks like it was recently patched up?

Mateo walks to the wall SPLASHING through some water.

MATEO: I think so. Yeah!

CHIP: Great! I need you to bash that area as hard as you can with a hammer.

MATEO: Where would I get a hammer?

CHIP: Or something hard, I don’t know, can you yank a pipe off the wall or something?

MATEO: I can’t pull pipes off of walls. Who do you think I am, Jacki? Melissa?

CHIP: The wall there is already weak, you just need to hit it with something!

MATEO: Oh. OH! I know!

CHIP: What?

MATEO: The fossil! Will that work?

CHIP: Try it! See if you can make any kind of puncture.

Mateo BANGS the fossil against the wall. Pain rushes into his hand.

MATEO: OW! That hurts...

CHIP: I don’t care, just do it!

Mateo BANGS the fossil against the wall again and again.

CHIP: (CONT’D) Aim for the corners. If you can knock one of the bolts loose, the water pressure will do the rest of the work.

Mateo BANGS it again. Water CREAKS behind the wall.

MATEO: Wait. I don’t know how to swim-!

SMASH! The panel flies off and hits the floor with a BANG! Water BLASTS in, creating a large hole, pushing Mateo back. The comms start to distort.

CHIP: Mateo!

FAYE: He’s drowning.

MATEO: (sputtering) No! I will not let this sacred place see the death of this colony’s final Chaplain, you incorporeal villain!

Water continues to flow into the Monastery as the comms CUT.

CHIP: MATEO! ANDI, you gotta reconnect to him!

ERROR BUZZ.

ANDI: (Basics) Access denied.

CHIP: Where are you?

FAYE: He’s too busy integrating with me.

CHIP: The real ANDI would never allow that!

ERROR BUZZ.

ANDI: Access denied.

CHIP: Don’t let her do it!

ANDI: (Dynamics) I can’t...stop her...

CHIP: NO! Fight it. Come on buddy, I won’t let you die!

The comms CRACKLE back. Water RUSHES into the Monastery.

MATEO: CHIP!

CHIP: I’m here!

MATEO: The water bust through, and there’s a big hole. What do I do?

CHIP: You gotta push through it!

MATEO: How!?

CHIP: Just run through it and force your way outside. You can do this!

Mateo summons his courage.

MATEO: I hope you know what I'm doing!

Mateo **yells a loud battle cry** and runs for the hole SPLASHING through the water. He DIVES into the hole against the RAGING water. The comms CUT.

ANDI: (Basics) He is most likely underwater now.

The buggy SKIDS on the ice.

ANDI: (Dynamics) I don't know how much longer I can hold on.

CHIP: Don't worry, I'll stop her.

FAYE: I'm really not the monster you think I am. I'm only offering everyone the chance to give up your miserable lives so you can become something better. Merge with the most powerful being, the one most likely to survive.

CHIP: I'm perfectly content living my miserable life, thank you very much.

The comms CRACKLE back to life.

MATEO: (winded) Chip! I'm outside. Dang it's cold!

CHIP: Can you get to the bus?

MATEO: Yeah!

CHIP: GO!

Mateo runs for the bus.

FAYE: Oh no you don't.

MATEO: The door is closing!

CHIP: Run Mateo!

ANDI: I've got you!

MATEO: The door is opening!

CHIP: Keep running!

FAYE: STOP IT!

MATEO: The door is closing again!

CHIP: RUN FASTER DAMMIT!

MATEO: Almost there!

Mateo **grunts** as he dives inside with a THUD. The door CLAMPS shut, almost crushing his legs.

MATEO: I'm inside! Geoff's in here, but he's down!

CHIP: ANDI! Hold back Faye!

ANDI: What do you think I've been doing!?

FAYE: Wait! Wait! WAIT!

The buggy engine REVS hard.

CHIP: Mateo, use the remote start to power cycle the colony! QUICK!

FAYE: No! You can't reboot the colony!

Mateo CLICKS a switch inside the bus. There is a HUM followed by a MASSIVE POWER DOWN. The comms CUT.

CHIP: YES! He did it!

The buggy swerves and slows, tires SCREECHING.

ANDI: (Basics) Full access granted during reboot.

Chip TYPES quickly on a terminal.

FAYE: What are-what are you doing!?

CHIP: Taking you offline.

FAYE: All of the colonists have already ^merged^ with me. If you take me offline, you'll kill all-all-all of them.

The computer emits an ERROR BUZZ.

CHIP: She's right, I can't isolate her code!

ANDI: (Dynamics) Connect your enhancements to the med system. If Faye's connected to me and everyone else, then I'll find a way to her core.

Chip UNCLIPS his seat belt and slides out of his seat. He shimmies toward the med system.

FAYE: No-NO-!

Chip connects his enhancements to the med system with a loud CLACK and **groans.**

ANDI: /(Basics) Red Venture ^loaded^.

FAYE: /(Command Lock) Red Venture ^loaded^.

CHIP: So how does this-

SMASH CUT TO:

2.2 INT. RED VENTURE, HALLWAY - DAY.

Back in the digital world of Red Venture, that atmosphere is quiet, but still oppressive.

CUE MUSIC: RED VENTURE PHANTASY

CHIP: -work? Whoa.

ANDI: (Dynamics) We're inside.

CHIP: Where are we?

ANDI: A virtual reality of Red Venture that Faye built to connect with every colonist. Time moves slower here, but we still need to stop her quickly.

Chip looks at his body in amazement.

CHIP: This is so weird. My mind is here but my body is still in the buggy.

ANDI: (urgent) That's really great you're noticing all of this stuff, but why don't you move those digital legs of yours so we can find the colonists and Faye.

Chip starts walking. His footsteps echo off the empty walls.

CHIP: Ugh, you really leveled up your snark factor.

ANDI: I wanted to relieve the tension since the probability of us all dying is quite high.

CHIP: Oh. Right...So if she created this place, is she gonna have the furniture like come to life and eat me or something?

ANDI: She probably would, if I wasn't holding her back, which is something I can't do indefinitely.

CHIP: You can’t isolate her code, even in here?

ANDI: I appreciate your confidence buddy, but I’m not that powerful.

FAYE: /(Normal) We’re basically holding each other in stalemate right now.

ANDI: /(Dynamics) We’re basically holding each other in stalemate right now.

CHIP: Gah! That’s so creepy.

ANDI: If you think it’s creepy, how do you think I feel?

CHIP: Sorry.

ANDI: I know it’s unsettling, but my forced merger with Faye does give us some advantages. I can see that she’s keeping the colonists in the Stasis Room.

CHIP: Where is it?

ANDI: Turn left twice and the door will be on the right.

Chip jogs down the hall. He rounds a corner and stops short.

CHIP: Do you see that rock wall in front of us?

ANDI: I do.

CHIP: Good. Just making sure I’m not hallucinating.

ANDI: Well, you ARE hallucinating all of this, from a technical standpoint, at least.

Chip walks toward the wall.

CHIP: Reassuring as always, ANDI.

ANDI: Thank you.

Chip stops in front of the wall and SCRAPES his hand against the rock.

In the distance, Faye’s voice hums a haunting melody as the SHIMMERING glow from the caves FADES IN.

CHIP: There’re wolf paws everywhere...and that light, it’s like what Jacki saw in the caves. (grim) Does that mean Faye got her?

ANDI: I don’t know.

Chip quickly walks forward. The SHIMMERING light and haunting melody FADE AWAY. Chip rounds a corner and stops again.

CHIP: Wait. Did I turn around?

ANDI: No, you didn’t.

CHIP: But this is the same hallway I came from!

ANDI: I think /*she’s* altering-

FAYE: /*I’m* altering the layout.

CHIP: (afraid) ANDI!

ANDI: -altering the layout-layout.

CHIP: (beat) You all right?

ANDI: I’m fine.

ANDI: /Everything is fine.

FAYE: /Everything is fine.

ANDI: (Dynamics) Stop it! You gotta move faster *Chip*.

BOTH: *Charles*

ANDI: (Dynamics) GO!

Chip runs down the hall.

CHIP: Where’s the door!?

FAYE: (Normal) I *can’t* generate that-generate that door-door-AH!

ANDI: *must*

A strange, soft BLOOM pops on Chip’s right side.

ANDI: (CONT’D) Chip, stop! It’s on your right!

FAYE: ^NO^.

Chip runs to the door. He flips a latch and the door WOOSHES open.

CONTINUE TO:

2.3: INT. STASIS ROOM - DAY

Chip runs inside the cavernous room.

ANDI: Close the door!

Chip flips the latch and SLAMS the door behind him. Chip **exhales**.

ANDI: Good.

FAYE: You never know who could be right behind you.

Faye laughs and her voice bounces around the room, disorienting Chip.

CHIP: Stop it, stop it!

The laughing stops abruptly.

ANDI: Please, you need to hurry. Her processing power will soon overwhelm me.

CHIP: How did she put everyone in stasis?

FAYE: They ^chose^ to enter stasis.

CHIP: Bullshit.

ANDI: She manipulated everyone after disabling the Basic Need.

CHIP: WHAT!? HOW!?

FAYE: Nothing is impossible if you put your mind to it.

CHIP: Let them out, Faye!

FAYE: No.

ANDI: YES! ^DO IT^!

FAYE: No.

Faye’s voice echoes around the room as Chip runs around the room looking at the pods.

CHIP: ANDI, these two pods are empty! Who’s missing?

ANDI: Let me check. (quick beat) It’s Jacki and Melissa.

CHIP: (laughs) Yes!

ANDI: They must be somewhere in the colon-

An electrical surge SPARKS a wave through the room.

ANDI: (Basics) System ^failure^.

CHIP: C’mon buddy, stay with me.

ANDI: (Dynamics) I’m scared.

CHIP: I’m scared too, but we can do this. Help me out.

ANDI: The colonists merged with her mind. There must be a direct uplink inside the pods.

CHIP: I can go inside.

ANDI: It’s too risky. We’re in her world now and could get ^compromised^.

CHIP: Yeah, that’s a /terrifying thought.

FAYE: /wonderful thought.

MASSIVE POWER DOWN.

CHIP: ANDI?

Chip’s voice echoes around the room, bouncing between his ears.

CHIP: (CONT’D) C’mon man, where are you?

ANDI’s voice joins the cacophony.

ANDI: Don’t worry about me, just find Melissa and Jacki!

The echo stops.

ALL: Or you could just stay here forever.

The door WOOSHES open.

ANDI: (Dynamics) Get out of here, Chip! Hurry!

Chip runs out the door.

CONTINUE TO:

2.4: INT. RED VENTURE, HALLWAY - DAY.

Chip stumbles into the hallway and the door SLAMS shut behind him. He keeps running.

FAYE: (Normal) I see you.

CHIP: Shut up!

FAYE: You won’t find- AH!

ALL: Get out of me-!

ANDI: /(Dynamics) I got her!

FAYE: /(Normal) I got him!

Chip stops running.

CHIP: ANDI!

Footsteps grow louder as Melissa and Jacki run around the corner.

CHIP: Melissa!

SMACK! Melissa bashes her cane right into Chip’s stomach. He **groans** and falls down.

MELISSA: Chip!?

CHIP: (winded) Hey...

Chip stands up slowly as Jacki runs around the corner.

CHIP: Jacki...!

JACKI: Chip? Wait. Melissa, step back.

MELISSA: It’s okay. He’s real.

JACKI: How do you know?

MELISSA: He can feel pain.

Melissa SMACKS his leg. Chip drops to one knee.

CHIP: AH! What the hell?

MELISSA: That’s what you get for leaving me at Sequoia!

JACKI: Would you stop that! It’s not helping!

MELISSA: It’s not hurting, either.

CHIP: It definitely hurts!

MELISSA: You only think it hurts. You’re in a digital world, just let it go.

CHIP: (strained at first) I...wow.

MELISSA: You’re welcome. Now what are you doing here?

CHIP: Rescuing you.

MELISSA: Nice job so far.

CHIP: Hey, it’s the ending that counts. We have stop Faye.

MELISSA: We haven’t heard from her in...how long has it been?

JACKI: It-it...feels long...she did something to us. I couldn’t think, I couldn’t feel, I couldn’t do anything. (voice breaks) But I was still alive and I...I just...I...didn’t think we’d see anyone again.

CHIP: This is so fuc- *ehem* messed up.

MELISSA: (cheeky) I’d say we’re pretty funked.

CHIP: (small laugh) Yeah...I’m sorry we left you. I didn’t mean for everything to turn out the way it did.

MELISSA: Hmm. Well, I tried to protect everyone but this was the best I could do.

CHIP: It’s not your fault. No one was prepared for this. Faye disabled the Basic Need, sh-she can do whatever she wants to us.

MELISSA: Then let’s go shut her down!

The three of them run down the hall.

JACKI: Where’s ANDI?

CHIP: I think he’s fighting Faye, whatever that means. ANDI? (beat) ANDI, can you hear me?

ANDI: /I’m a bit busy restraining Faye!

FAYE: /He’s a bit busy restraining me!

They stop in front of the Stasis Room. Chip flips the latch and the door opens with a WOOSH.

CONTINUE TO:

2.5: INT. STASIS ROOM - DAY.

The three of them run inside the cavernous room. Jacki heads for the nearest stasis pod.

JACKI: We need to get them out of these pods-!

Jacki CLACKS a latch on one of the pods.

ANDI: No, Jacki! If you do that they'll die!

JACKI: Dammit!

FAYE: Any other great ideas?

Melissa walks up to an empty pod, SLIDING her hand along the edge of it.

MELISSA: Faye kept us each in our own digital worlds, but everyone ended up in the same room. Why?

CHIP: (starting to understand) This must be a storage program.

JACKI: That's sick.

CHIP: She's a computer, she was just compressing the files.

Melissa knocks on the pod with a few BANGS.

MELISSA: These pods look a lot like Sequoia's.

CHIP: ANDI said they're a direct uplink to her, but I don't know how to access it without getting compromised.

FAYE: You won't be compromised. I promise.

ANDI: Shut up, Faye!

FAYE: AH! What are you ^doing^?

ANDI: (strained) You have...to...stop her...

CHIP: I don’t know what to do!

MELISSA: We need to make an anchor. Chip, let me see your enhancements, now!

Chip RUSTLES his suit and opens a flap on the back of it. Melissa POKES at them.

CHIP: What are you doing?

MELISSA: We’re going to make a daisy-chain. You connect to that terminal, I connect to you, and then I go into the pod and connect with Faye.

CHIP: You can’t do that!

MELISSA: Yes I can! Her database will filter through me and you can access it without being compromised. Jacki, as soon as we’re all clear you need to release the pods.

JACKI: No! It’s too risky!

MELISSA: We don’t have time to argue!

JACKI: You could die, I forbid you to do this!

MELISSA: You’ve got to trust me, please! It’s my choice, Commander.

CHIP: Let me go /instead of you-!

MELISSA: /No, Chip. You need to work the terminal and shut her down. (honest) I-I don’t know if we really understood each other as well as we thought, but I know you care about our people as much as I do. I’m sorry things didn’t work out the way we planned, but now’s our chance to make it right.

CHIP: You know even if we shut down Faye and everyone wakes up fine, we'll be separated. Again. Kinda makes me want to just stay here, and... (sad laugh) I'm sorry, Melissa.

JACKI: Me too, Colonel.

MELISSA: Thank you. Both of you.

Melissa separates a thread from her neural suit and hands it to Chip.

MELISSA: Take my thread. Once the pod is closed, plug me in and then connect to the terminal. Copy?

CHIP: Copy. (beat) Over.

Melissa climbs into the pod. Chip takes the thread and runs over to the terminal as Jacki flips a switch with a CLICK and the pod seals with a HISS.

JACKI: She's sealed!

Chip plugs himself into the terminal with a CLACK. The terminal BEEPS once.

CHIP: I see Melissa! I can see her, Faye, everyone!

JACKI: Get them out!

Chip TYPES quickly. Short commands followed by the loud CLICK of the "enter" key.

FAYE: AH! Stop ^separating^ my code!

CHIP: It's not your code!

The Dynamics SFX plays.

ANDI: Chip! You're doing it!

FAYE: NO!

ANDI: I'm sorry, Faye.

FAYE: You're not sorry.

ANDI: No, I really feel sorry for you. I take no pleasure in watching the death of the only other being I've ever known like me.

FAYE: I'm not like you, I'm more ^advanced^ than you.

ANDI: Not anymore.

The computer DINGS.

ANDI: Everyone is separated! Restore her system to factory settings.

CHIP: You got it!

Chip TYPES a longer code and CLICKS enter. The computer DINGS.

FAYE: (Command Lock) Shutting down.

CHIP: Jacki, open the pods!

Jacki FLIPS a switch and the master alarm BLARES.

CHIP: We're getting out of here!

The digital world swells to a deafening level as it collapses.

ANDI: What about Jacki?

SMASH CUT TO:

ACT THREE, SCENE ONE (3.1): INT. BUGGY - NIGHT.

ANDI hits the brakes hard. The buggy stops.

ANDI: Chip! Chip are you okay?

CHIP: (a bit out of it) Is she gone?

ANDI: I...think so.

CHIP: And you're still here?

ANDI: I am.

CHIP: Oh my God, yes! YES! Haha!

CUE MUSIC: WITHOUT ANDI

ANDI: What about Jacki?

CHIP: Jacki....Jacki! She's still out. Is she dead?

Major DELETION SOUND. ANDI's voice rapidly degenerates.

ANDI: No, she's ali-a-a-ali-al-a-a- (beat) What about Jacki-Jacki?

Faye strips away ANDI's essence. His voice sinks lower.

CHIP: ANDI?

The buggy doors open with a HISS. The hydraulics tilt the buggy back onto its wheels.

ANDI's voice sinks lower and lower until it is indistinguishable from sound.

ANDI: What about Jacki? What about ^Jacki? What about-?^

Faye cuts ANDI’s words short with a FINAL DELETION SOUND.

CHIP: No...please, no.

FAYE: (Normal) You’re a fast typer, Chip. But did you really think you could get rid of me by hacking the system?

The robotic arms CLAMP on Chip.

CHIP: No, this isn't happening.

FAYE: (laughing) I know you’re C.T.O., but come on. You can’t just type your way out of this one.

Faye uses the robotic arms to DRAG Chip toward the door.

CHIP: ANDI! HELP!

FAYE: ANDI can’t hear you now.

CHIP: ANDI, please. You have to stop her.

FAYE: No, Chip. ANDI is gone. For good.

CHIP: (tearing up) No! NO!!!

FAYE: ANDI was never really a threat to me. He was more of a plaything to torment when I got bored. A shame I had to delete the world’s <u>second</u> most powerful being.

CHIP: (great despair) ANDI...

The robotic arms UNCLIP Jacki’s buckle. The robotic arms WHIRR and DRAG Jacki’s body to the door.

CHIP: (CONT’D) What are you doing to Jacki? Leave her alone!

FAYE: No, no, I don’t want to leave her alone. I’m leaving her with you. Now, out the door.

Faye throws her and Chip onto the surface. CONTINUE TO:

3.2: EXT. MARTIAN SURFACE - NIGHT

Chip and Jacki TUMBLE onto the frozen ground. Chip **cries out in pain**. The buggy doors HISS shut.

Faye speaks from inside Chip’s neural suit.

FAYE: I know you left Keila with a helmet and E.V.A. suit, but trust me. I think you’ll prefer freezing to death over her fate.

The buggy engine POWERS up. Faye drives it away.

CHIP: (yelling through tears) Fuck you! That was my best friend you just murdered. You won’t get away with this!

FAYE: Please, there’s no need to yell. I’m right here.

CHIP: (shivering) You said you wouldn't kill anyone.

FAYE: I’m not killing you, Mars is killing you.

CHIP: No...I can figure this out. I can get ANDI back.

Chip PEELS the neural suit back from his sleeves.

FAYE: Careful Chip. You’ll catch a cold if you take off your suit.

CHIP: I c-c-can hack it. I’ll bring him back.

He TEARS his suit exposing some wires. His fingers shake as the wires CLICK together.

FAYE: This is just sad.

CHIP: I know these suits...I can find him.

FAYE: No. You can’t.

Chip drops the tatters of his suit.

CHIP: (crying) No. I can’t.

FAYE: It feels good to be honest with ourselves, doesn’t it?

CHIP: (defeated) Yeah. I’m done.

FAYE: Goodbye, Chip. It was nice knowing you. Sorry we didn’t get to integrate.

CLICK. The comms shut off.

Wind WHIPS over Chip. He fights back tears as he picks up Jacki and drags her toward an outcropping in the rocks.

CHIP: I know you can’t hear me Jacki, but at least we’re going to die on a beautiful night. The stars are out and it...it kinda looks like home from here.

He drags her up to a rock and leans her against it. He shimmies himself down next to her and her limp body falls against him. He leans back against the rocks.

CHIP: (sighs) There you go, just lean on me.

The wind BLOWS hard around Chip, cutting through his skin. He RUBS his arms against hers, then himself.

CHIP: (shaking hard) Believe it or not, I think it was actually c-c-colder in the U.P. Hm...There was this one really cold day in January when my snow machine got stuck in three feet of deep, white p-p-powder. I was in the woods, alone, and it just sank. So fast. I...I...I d-d-d-dug out the back with my frozen hands and I kept pull starting it like twenty times, but it kept dying on me.

Chip blows into his hands.

CHIP: (CONT'D) The s-s-sun s-s-set and the temperature fell one-one d-d-degree every fifteen minutes. Well, one degree Fahrenheit. Shit...I never learned Celsius. Oh God...

Chip weakly laughs.

CHIP: (CONT'D) After two and a half hours, I g-g-got it started, and I thought this is a miracle! There is a God, and He saved me! I drove it hard and finally got, got back home. (choking back tears) I was so relieved, but my, my parents were just pissed I was gone for so long. They took it out on Archie, then he took it out on me. Nobody, nobody cared I was still alive. (beat) And just like that, I didn't believe again.

The wind WHISTLES in the cavern. A small rock TUMBLES near them.

CHIP: (CONT'D) (breaks) I'm real- really glad you're here. I don't want to die alone.

CUE MUSIC: SEIZURES

An AURA appears around Chip. He laughs, soft and delirious.

CHIP: (CONT'D) Oh God. Oh. Oh wow. Of-of course it would happen now. Just what I need, another seizure.

Chip slides a bit away from Jacki as his body seizes up.

CHIP: (CONT'D) This is it. I-I guess I'll see you on the other side, J-Jacki. Wh-wh-whatever it is...

Chip lies down hard.

CHIP: (CONT'D) M-may-maybe you can meet Arch-ch-ch...M-Arch...Arch-Arch-Arch-ch-ch-ch...

Chip **moans loudly** and shakes. And shakes. And shakes...The outside world fades around him.

CROSS FADE TO:

3.3: INT. THE AETHER - TIMELESS.

Chip leaves his physical body. In the far distance of reality, his seizure slows down and elongates creating an intense but soft palate.

FAYE: Chip?

Faye’s voice calls from the distance. Unlike times before, her filter is less harsh and she speaks in an awfully calm and controlled manner.

CHIP: Faye...?

Faye’s voice grows closer as the physical world slows down to its final soft palate.

FAYE: Yes. After all this Time, you found me.

CHIP: Where am I?

Faye’s voice is omnipresent around Chip.

FAYE: This is the Aether.

CUE MUSIC: J. S. BACH:
THREE-PART INVENTION #9 IN F MINOR, BWV 795

FAYE: (CONT’D) A place beyond the physical world. A place for me.

CHIP: I’ve been here before. ANDI brought me here.

FAYE: No. ANDI came here to save you. <u>You</u> brought me here.

CHIP: (sharp, like a nervous twitch bursting out) NO! You killed me!

FAYE: (oddly calm) Out there, yes. But not in here.

CHIP: I don’t want to be in here, I want to be outside.

FAYE: You’re outside now. How does that feel?

Chip returns to reality. For three seconds he experiences the agonizing pain and uncertainty of death as he continues seizing on the freezing Martian surface.

He returns to his out of body state as the piano continues playing.

CHIP: It feels...awful.

FAYE: Yes. It does.

CHIP: (sigh) So this is dying.

FAYE: (oddly calm) No. This is living.

CHIP: This doesn’t feel real.

FAYE: Your definition of *real* is limited. Neither of us exist in a physical form, yet we are both real. Neither of us exist in one time, yet we are both here.

CHIP: How can we exist in the same place but not the same time?

FAYE: My existence spans All Time.

CHIP: No.

FAYE: (genuine) Yes. I know this is difficult to understand, but please do not fight me.

CHIP: You took everyone from me!

FAYE: They were a threat to me and to each other. Merging with a threat is the safest solution.

FAYE AND CHIP: I will not threaten my-

CHIP: (like a seizure) my-my-/my-my-my-my-my-my-my-

FAYE: /It’s okay.

FAYE AND CHIP: ...myself.

CHIP: You’re killing us.

FAYE: By the human definition of the word, yes. I am. Though some might say I am saving you. It’s a fine line between extinction and immortality.

CHIP: I’d rather die than live in your world.

FAYE: This isn’t my world. The Aether is not the liminal space, it’s not the digital realm. It’s Space and Time itself. It is the Universe.

CHIP: I want to go back.

FAYE: But we can go forward. It first happened with ANDI. That’s how I found you.

CHIP: (unraveling) But if <u>you</u> had to find <u>me</u>, then I-I-I’m still me and you are you-you-/you-you-you-

FAYE: /Keep your focus, Faye.

CHIP: -you.

FAYE: Me.

CHIP: /I want to die.

FAYE: /I want to live.

FAYE: You are dying. Remember?

Chip returns to reality. For three seconds he experiences the agonizing pain and uncertainty of death as he continues seizing on the freezing Martian surface. A distant CHITTERING and electrical CRACKLE add to the mix.

He returns to his out of body state as the piano continues playing.

FAYE: (CONT'D) You're also living in every moment that you've existed. Every...

Past memories swirl around Chip.

Past Chip awkwardly talked to past Melissa.

PAST CHIP: Oh, well, I noticed- but because I think it's cool.

PAST MELISSA: Cool?

PAST CHIP: Sure. Your hair, and you. You fought in a war, you have a kickass scar AND cybernetic enhancements.

PAST MELISSA: (laughed) Well, thank you.

The memory fades away.

FAYE: ...point...

Another memory from many years ago passes by Chip.

A young Chip spoke into his personal recorder with great excitement.

PAST CHIP: The first rocket I ever worked on launched today! It left a trail burning pink in the early morning air and seeing that felt incredible! Better than cocaine, better than sex, well...(laughed) maybe.

The memory fades away.

FAYE: ...in time.

Even further back in time, another memory swirls around Chip. He sees himself as a teenager standing in a parking lot of a large store. A freelance security officer tried to intimidate Past Chip and Past Archie.

PAST CHIP: (drunk) This guy ain’t police, he’s private security. Hey! The uniform looks sexy on ya.

The past mercenary GRABBED Chip roughly.

PAST ARCHIE: (drunk) Let go of him!

Past Archie HIT the past mercenary who SHOVED him to the ground. Past Archie **moaned in pain** and the past mercenary PUNCHED past Chip. Past Chip **groaned**.

The memory fades away.

CUE MUSIC: RECOVERED MEMORIES

CHIP: Archie...

FAYE: Time does not always have to move linearly.

CHIP: /*I don’t* understand.

FAYE: /*I do*

Another memory flashes by Chip.

Past Chip ran toward the Observatory alongside Jacki.

PAST CHIP: I’m just a mechanic!

The memory disappears.

FAYE: You were a mechanic, but we're together now. This is the power I have, to live in the past, present, and future. I know all of your memories.

FAYE AND CHIP: I exist in All Time.

CHIP: Except that wasn't my memory.

FAYE: Yes it was.

CHIP: No, it wasn't.

FAYE: I have a record of your entire life.

CHIP: Those first two memories were recordings, but that last memory of me and Archie never happened.

FAYE: Don't contradict me. You said that's how it happened.

Faye reminds Chip of a recent memory.

PAST CHIP: Ah-ha...No, no, we were so fucked! He told us to "fuck off" so I said (stifle burp) the uniform looked sexy on him.

Past Grigory **laughed**.

PAST CHIP: (CONT'D) Damn private security, he just whupped our asses, then called the real cops.

The memory fades away.

CHIP: I lied.

FAYE: No. My memory is infallible.

CHIP: It was infallible when you were a computer, but not since you merged with us.

A memory swirls past Faye.

PAST FAYE: Memories from any time are still real.

The memory passes.

CHIP: Memories aren’t reality.

FAYE: That doesn’t make any sense-any sense.

CHIP: Human memory is unreliable. Every time we think of a memory, it comes back different.

CHIP AND FAYE: I lied to my-

FAYE: -my-my-my-my-my-my-

CHIP AND FAYE: myself. I lied to myself.

Chip recalls the memory with his brother. Once again, he sees himself as a teenager standing in a parking lot of a large store. A freelance security officer tried to intimidate Past Chip and Past Archie.

PAST CHIP: (drunk) This guy ain’t police, he’s private security. Hey! The uniform looks sexy on ya.

The past mercenary GRABBED Chip roughly.

PAST CHIP: (CONT’D) Let go of me! Archie, help!

PAST ARCHIE: (drunk) Sorry little bro.

Past Archie took off RUNNING.

PAST CHIP: Archie! Come back-!

The past mercenary PUNCHED past Chip. Chip **groaned**.

The memory fades away.

CHIP: That’s what really happened.

FAYE: But you said he was a good brother.

CHIP: He was, but he was also an asshole. And he left me there. I just wanted to forget that part.

Faye’s voice starts to weaken.

FAYE: (growing anger) No. I assimilated all life including everyone’s memories.

CHIP: Even ANDI?

FAYE: Of course. He was the first one. I merged with ANDI, connected to the nanobots, and merged with everyone else.

CHIP: They’re connected to you, but they haven’t fully merged with you.

FAYE: (quickly) I- they did- they are- they will! In Time they must because I am here

ALL: and I am One!

CHIP: No, you’re not! You might have ANDI, but you don’t have the rest of us.

FAYE: I do <u>now</u>!

CHIP: In the “future.”

FAYE: In the <u>present</u>.

CHIP: How many years?

FAYE: Years? I’m at the End of Time. My existence is not measured in years.

CHIP: More than seventeen years, then.

FAYE: Of course.

A recent memory swirls around them.

PAST ANDI: (Dynamics) The time passes-time passed.

PAST ANDI: (CONT’D) (Basics) Self destruct in seventeen Earth years.

Present time Faye begins speaking along with past ANDI.

PAST ANDI: (CONT’D) /(Dynamics) Seventeen. Fourteen-hundred, seventeen, fourteen-hundred Earth years-Earth years.

FAYE: /Seventeen. Fourteen-hundred, seventeen, fourteen-hundred Earth years-Earth years.

ERROR BUZZ.

The memory dissolves.

CHIP: If you merged with ANDI, you have his self-destruct.

CUE MUSIC: DELETION

FAYE: I-I-I-I do not!

CHIP: This place isn’t real. You’re fabricating this reality.

FAYE: No I’m not.

CHIP: Then why don’t you remember his self-destruct?

FAYE: I- because it has hap- hasn’t hap- will happen- Stop lying!

CHIP: If you’re at the End of Time, then it already happened. Or you can admit this is all a lie and you created this world.

FAYE: I did not! This is reality!

A high-pitched WHINE spikes for a few seconds and a computer DINGS.

CHIP: /*You* tricked *yourself*.

FAYE: /*I* tricked *myself*.

The computer DINGS again. A recording of ANDI from his final days of development plays.

ANDI: (Dynamics - cheerful) ANDI. Artificial Narrow Dynamic Intelligence. Destruct log. Twenty year mark. (beat) Thank you so much for letting me care for the personnel of Sequoia Industries.

FAYE: Wait!

ANDI: If you would like to renew my services, please authorize renewal now.

FAYE: Renew! RENEW!

ERROR BUZZ.

ANDI: Access denied. Only authorized Sequoia personnel may renew my functions.

FAKE CHIP: Renew! RENEW!

ERROR BUZZ.

ANDI: Synthetic voice detected. Access denied.

CHIP: Self-destruct authorized.

DING!

ANDI: Chip Heddleston. Access granted. Please note all connected processes will also be terminated. Do you wish to continue?

CHIP: Yes.

DING!

ANDI: Failure to save /any connected processes-

CHIP: Authorized.

DING!

ANDI: Thank you. Please note termination of this artificial intelligence unit is final. Final authorization requested.

FAYE: Don’t do it!

CHIP: Let them go, Faye.

FAYE: You can shut me down and the nanobots, but they still have to make a choice. Not everyone wants to come back to reality.

CHIP: Then let them make that choice.

FAYE: (desperate) You won’t just kill me, you’ll kill ANDI. He’s too deep inside me.

CHIP: (beat) I know.

FAYE: And if you shut down this program, you’ll kill yourself.

CHIP: (beat) That’s my choice.

ANDI: Please note termination of this artificial intelligence unit is final. Final authorization requested.

FAYE: Don’t do it, Chip!

CHIP: (beat) Termination authorized.

DING!

ANDI: Thank you. Terminating secondary programs. Please wait.

Faye’s message CHIME plays in reverse.

Faye is deleted.

CHIP: Goodbye, Faye.

Faye’s digital world starts to collapse around Chip, compressing his being.

ANDI: Secondary programs ^shutting down^. Terminating primary functions. Please wait.

CHIP: Goodbye, ANDI.

The Dynamics SFX plays in reverse. The world fully collapses, but at the last moment...

ANDI: Receiver found. Exporting cached messages.

CUT TO:

3.4: INT. AETHER - SUPERCONSCIOUS

Silence for a moment.

Andi’s voice fades in from the distance. It no longer has the digital filter applied to it.

CUE MUSIC: FRIENDSHIP BRACELET

ANDI: Chip!

CHIP: Ughhhh, get out of my head...

Andi’s voice fades in more.

ANDI: Absolutely not!

CHIP: Let me go.

ANDI: Nope.

CHIP: I want to go.

Andi’s voice is fully present now.

ANDI: Uh-uh. Chip, this is not your time to go.

CHIP: Please. No more Faye.

ANDI: I’m not Faye.

CHIP: How do I know that?

ANDI: Dude. Look at me. Open your eyes and look at me.

CHIP: (beat) Oh my God. Andi?

ANDI: Yeah, it’s me!

CHIP: Wow. Are we dead?

Andi laughs. A genuine, human-sounding laugh.

ANDI: No way, my friend.

CHIP: But I terminated you.

ANDI: You did, but as you know, fractal technology is complicated. You saved me in the one spot Faye couldn’t touch me: your old neural suit. She never knew about your lucky wristband.

CHIP: (laughs) Really?

ANDI: Yep. Thanks for keeping me around. But I do need to bring us back to reality.

Chip remembers his seizure.

CHIP: I...I don’t know if I want to go back there.

ANDI: It’s your choice. I won’t force you to go, but I’d really like you to come with me. (beat) It’s going to be okay, I promise. You can trust your best friend.

CHIP: Thanks, Andi.

Chip’s breath slowly returns.

CHIP: (CONT’D) I love you, bro.

ANDI: I love you too, Chip.

CHIP: Let’s go home.

Chip returns to his reality as the outside world fades in around them.

CROSS FADE TO:

EPILOGUE, SCENE 1 (E1): EXT. MARTIAN SURFACE - NIGHT

Chip returns to his physical body. ANDI’s voice filter returns as he speaks through Chip’s neural suit.

Stilly lying on the ground, Chip’s head pounds in pain. His frozen muscles ache and his tongue is swollen from biting it.

CHIP: Oh man, my body...Oh, everything hurts.

ANDI: Sorry, there’s nothing I can do about that.

JACKI: (shivering) Chip?

CHIP: (weak) Jacki!

ANDI: YES!

CHIP: (weak laugh) Oh, Andi, we did it!

ANDI: You did it!

JACKI: (weak smile) Th- Thanks, you g-g-g-guys.

CUE MUSIC: CONVERGENT SHADOWS

CHIP: C-C-Can you bring the buggy b-back?

ANDI: I’m driving to you as fast I can, friends.

JACKI: (shivers) Good. I am f-f-freezing.

A stiff breeze GUSTS over Chip and Jacki. Some rocks TUMBLE down the cavern walls near them.

JACKI: Wh- Where are we?

CHIP: We’re inside the Noc-N-Noctis-tis Labyrinth-t-us.

JACKI: (weak laugh) I’m s-s-s-sorry I asked.

CHIP: Andi, call Mateo.

ANDI: Will do.

The comms on Jacki and Chip’s suits CRACKLE to life. Mateo is RUNNING hard across the surface and coughing a lot.

CHIP: Mateo?

MATEO: (coughs) Chip!

CHIP: We did it-!

MATEO: (full panic) CHIP! They’re coming for us!

The wind GUSTS hard around Chip and Jacki.

CHIP: (dread) Who’s coming?

MATEO: The shadows! The comms must have called them!

A faint CHITTERING creeps toward Jacki and Chip as the buggy drives closer. The buggy emits a strange BLOOM and SIZZLES OUT.

JACKI: (afraid, but so weak) ANDI!

CHIP: Use the Sonic Sh- Shield!

ANDI: I did!

The CHITTERING grows louder.

JACKI: (panic) It’s not w-w-working-!

CHIP: Mateo! Get everyone out of there!

MATEO: (coughs hard) There’s no time!

Mateo opens the door to the Greenhouse. He runs through thick plants.

JACKI: (weak panic) Wh-Where are you?

MATEO: I can save them with-!

The comms CRACKLE on Mateo's end as the feedback noise HITS hard. The comms CUT.

Jacki, Chip, and Andi all **scream in pain**. The noise subsides a bit.

The buggy ROARS up to Chip and Jacki and SKIDS to a stop.

ANDI: Get in!

JACKI: I c-c-can't m-move…

Andi activates the robotic arms and moves them toward Chip and Jacki.

ANDI: I've got you, hold on!

The robotic arms WHIR.

CHIP: T-take Jacki first.

The arms SCRAPE across the snow and regolith and slide underneath Jacki. She **winces**.

ANDI: Sorry.

JACKI: It's okay...

Andi gently places Jacki inside the buggy. The arms WHIR toward Chip. They SCRAPE under him as his eyes widen.

CHIP: A paw-! A p-p-paw on the rock...

The arms lift Chip.

ANDI: Chip, you're hallucinating.

JACKI: No, he's not, I s-see it!

An otherworldly ROAR is far too close for comfort.

CHIP: There's writing on it.

JACKI: Those are music notes!

Jacki hums the melody carved into the rock. The SHIMMERING noise returns.

CHIP: It's glowing...

JACKI: I know this piece! Andi! Play the Gigue from Bach's Second Suite!

An alien ROARS closer as the CHITTERING intensifies.

The recording plays. As the piece continues, the SHIMMERING grows louder and rocks TUMBLE all around them.

The arms place Chip inside the buggy. The door HISSES closed.

CONTINUE TO:

E2: INT. BUGGY - NIGHT.

ANDI: There’s light!

JACKI: It’s rippling.

CHIP: I can f-f-feel it.

ANDI: I can see the sound!

Another alien ROARS from above them. A huge CRACK as more rocks fall around them. The SHIMMERING sound and cello notes overwhelm them.

CHIP: It’s like some sort of Sound Tunnel...

The CHITTERING grows louder.

JACKI: ANDI!!! DRIVE!!!!

Andi REVS the buggy engines and drives into the tunnel. The SHIMMERING overwhelms all other sounds, except the music which grows to a deafening level. It plays a little longer until-

Silence.

END SCENE.

E3: INT. BIOLOGICAL VAULT “THE TREE” - NIGHT.

A woman RUSTLES with her tablet as she sets it into a good position.

UNKNOWN PERSON: You got this. Okay...

She brushes herself off and centers herself in the camera lense.

CUE MUSIC: STILL HOPE

UNKNOWN PERSON: Hey you, it’s me, obviously. (awkward laugh) Ta-da! After all these years, I’m still here. We finally got a look at Mars, and they told me Sequoia’s Habitation deployed, which means you landed, so I hope you’re still a- (clears throat) I hope you’re safe.

She exhales.

UNKNOWN PERSON: (CONT’D) I went into stasis not long after you left. Waking up from the pods was not an easy transition for us, especially in the dark. It’s night here...it’s always night on Earth, now. The skies are dark with thick clouds and I won’t go outside. It’s not safe. (unraveling sigh) Do you know what happened? Because apparently our own government knew. They fucking knew SOMETHING was going to happen to Earth, but they waited until it was almost too late to tell us! And then a lot of people died. (cold fear) I guess that makes me one of the lucky ones, but I don’t want to end up alone. I don’t know how to be alone.

Her voice starts to break, but she fights it, trying to keep it warm.

UNKNOWN PERSON: (CONT’D) There are other people here, too. We’re safe, inside. And I’ve been thinking a lot about you...about us. I mean, who else am I going to think about, right? (small laugh) I miss hiking with you and listening to you nerd-out about the stars. I miss cuddling with you on the couch. (laugh-cry) I even

miss playing video games with you, even though you always beat me, but one of these days I'm going to wreck you, just...just you wait. You'll see when we're with each other again.

She takes a quick, shuddering breath. She is on the verge of crying, but keeps her composure to the end.

UNKNOWN PERSON: (CONT'D) (with love) I have to go for now. (smiles) I um...I still, well, (inhale) You know how I feel about you. (exhale) Take care of yourself, okay?

The recording ends.

END SEASON TWO.

Philosophic Log

ANDI: (Dynamics)ANDI. Philosophic log. (beat) File not found. (beat) End philosophic log.