

MARSFALL
BUNKER DOWN

MINISERIES TWO
EPISODE FOUR

Zealous

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Music by Sam Boase-Miller
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Directed by Dan Lovley



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1.1: INT. BUNKER/COMMUNICATION ROOM - DAY

The communication machine HUMS lightly.

KATIE types at the communication device, setting up a new log. The console chimes. She speaks into the mic.

CUE MUSIC.

KATIE: Katie here, Linguistic log Day Seventy. It took longer than I thought -- much longer -- but Pete finally fixed my tablet. I spent all night in Denote, uploading Amadeus's speech including their lexicon, syntax, tonal variances...which means once this data finishes uploading...

Her tablet CHIMES.

KATIE sings a musical fanfare.

KATIE: (CONT'D) (excited) My translator is now online! And just in time, because some people here, including both of our doctors, are suffering from radiation poisoning. We can't stay outside long, so if anyone can find help out there, it's Amadeus. Hopefully, if I can find the right words...

KATIE powers on AMADEUS, who sings the STRANGE FRAGMENT upon booting up.

KATIE: Good morning, Amadeus. How are you today?

AMADEUS jingles, "digesting" the question. Then comes the answer, in joyous, complex musical phrases.

Katie's DENOTE app translates in Text-to-Speech, lagging behind Amadeus's sung response.

DENOTE: (for Amadeus) Rejoice! For the day has come! Glory, glory, glory!

KATIE: (laughing) Yeah, I'm good too.

AMADEUS jingles again.

DENOTE: Forty days and forty nights the priest tarried in the cavern. To learn, to learn what it would learn.

KATIE: Yep, our six-week anniversary, almost.

AMADEUS jingles louder and moves around the room a bit.

DENOTE: Rejoice! Speaker for the Dead!

KATIE: Our little robo-buddy is a bit zealous.

KATIE types on her tablet as she continues speaking to her log.

KATIE: (CONT'D) Still, pretty good, right? I only had to crack your harmonic grammar, which is, ha, robust.

AMADEUS emits the "yes" TONE.

DENOTE: Yes.

KATIE: Yet our mystery remains...Why would anyone program a narrow intelligence to speak such an elaborate, *musical* language?

AMADEUS jingles, a bit more solemn.

DENOTE: The old words are forbidden.

KATIE: Okay...If I didn't know any better I'd say you evolved it on your own, like a robot Creole. But that couldn't be-

AMADEUS responds with the STRANGE FRAGMENT.

DENOTE: (normal) I'm sorry, but I didn't understand that. Could you repeat the word or phrase?

KATIE: Can't translate that one, even with the app.

KATIE types on her tablet. She thinks for a moment.

KATIE: Hm. Hey, Amadeus. Please state your primary function.

AMADEUS glitches briefly, then sings.

DENOTE: (for Amadeus) The Garden to the Temple. The Guardian of the Temple. The Barrier and /the Land of Death. The-

KATIE: /Okay, thanks, Amadeus.

KATIE clicks a switch and powers down Amadeus.

KATIE: (CONT'D) Hm. At least they didn't say "Darmok and Jalad."

KATIE laughs at her reference. She clears her throat and resumes her professional tone.

KATIE: (CONT'D) Everything Amadeus says is couched in extended religious metaphor, superficially Abrahamic, and yet, not always. But, confirmed: Amadeus is a guardian -- stationed outside our bunker as a barrier between us and the Land of Death in order to protect us. So point: Katie; Pete: zero.

KATIE clicks a switch and turns on Amadeus. As always, AMADEUS boots up with the STRANGE FRAGMENT.

KATIE: Amadeus. Remember I asked if there are other bunker-other "temples"? We need to connect with them. We have to find a doctor.

AMADEUS jingles, "computing." Its calculations are taking longer than usual.

The glitch-tune ends with an abrupt musical punctuation. A combination of "ACCESS DENIED" and "NOPE."

DENOTE: ACCESS DENIED.

KATIE: If you can contact the other temples-

AMADEUS blurts: "ACCESS DENIED."

DENOTE: ACCESS DENIED.

KATIE: (annoyed) Okay. Before, I asked if you saw any humans out in the wasteland, and you didn't answer. Why?

AMADEUS blurts: "ACCESS DENIED" more intensely.

DENOTE: ACCESS DENIED.

KATIE: (to herself) How can that be classified? (normal volume)
Did you see other humans: yes or no.

No response. Not even glitches

KATIE: Is there anyone out there, or... are we alone?

AMADEUS sings the STRANGE FRAGMENT.

KATIE: (more annoyed) Okay, you know what I think? I think you're waiting for orders.

AMADEUS blares several TONES.

DENOTE: Orders!

KATIE: Yes, orders. Orders from our computer probably, but it's offline. Do you understand me? *Sequoia's not here. I am.* And so are a bunch of people who are running out of time. So here's your order-

AMADEUS blares the same TONES with a different emphasis.

DENOTE: Or-ders! Or-ders!

KATIE: We need a doctor, a healthy doctor. I'm a human, and you're programmed to obey us, so-

AMADEUS sings wildly, a flourishing but aggressive melody.

DENOTE: OBEY! OBEY! OBEY! OBEY! /OBEY! OBEY! OBEY! OBEY! OBEY!
OBEY-!

KATIE: /You know something, don't you?! About other survivors. Tell me. I order you, tell me what you know!

AMADEUS stops its wild song. It blasts the STRANGE FRAGMENT at high volume, resonant and fearsome and majestic, until it CUTS OFF mid-phrase.

KATIE: You stopped.

AMADEUS sings a new melody with encouraging tones.

DENOTE: You mean to lead us.

KATIE: ...Do you *want* me to lead you?

AMADEUS sings joyfully.

DENOTE: The Word was spoken! The Prophecy fulfilled! Glory, to the Lord Resurrector!

KATIE: I'm not your...

AMADEUS continues its son, uninterrupted.

DENOTE: (CONT'D) King of the Surface! Holiest of Holies! Resurrector! The Lord Dying Star!

KATIE is confused, but tries to understand the song.

KATIE: ...Oh. Okay. You're saying, outside, on the surface, there's a... king, named "Dying Star," who resurrected you.

AMADEUS sings some more.

DENOTE: Lord of Rebirth, and the Rebirth to come!

KATIE: Rebirth... You mean... the king repaired you?

AMADEUS emits a solemn melody.

DENOTE: The Resurrection.

KATIE: So you're saying, Dying Star... he's a programmer!

AMADEUS pipes a sharp fanfare.

DENOTE: Revelation! The Exodus is at hand!

KATIE: Amadeus, are there other survivors with Dying Star? Are they alive?

AMADEUS sings an aria.

DENOTE: Through the Threshold, across the Surface, to the Helpers in the Garden.

KATIE: Helpers? Other people?

AMADEUS repeats a short phrase from the aria, twice.

DENOTE: Helpers, helpers...

KATIE: Yes! We need to find the helpers! You said "Exodus." So you'll take me to the Helpers, is that it? Is that what you mean?

AMADEUS plays the STRANGE FRAGMENT.

KATIE: Amadeus? (Beat) Amadeus! (Beat) AMADEUS!

But the STRANGE FRAGMENT repeats over Katie's pleas, louder and louder and louder--

And stops.

KATIE opens her mouth to speak.

KATIE: I-

AMADEUS cuts her off with a commanding TONE.

DENOTE: Follow.

AMADEUS revs its wheels up and drives through the door.

KATIE: Uh. Now?

AMADEUS wheels to the exit and stops at the door. It tilts its head with a SPRING.

KATIE: ...Right. I'll just... grab some things. For the... Exodus. (Beat.) End log.

FADE OUT.

1.2: INT. BUNKER/ENTRYWAY - DAY

FADE IN.

ENGINEERING NOTE: Katie's voice is filtered through the radiation suit.

KATIE: Katie here. Final log before the...

Before she can say "Exodus" again, Pete calls from the other side of the room.

PETE: You - You're *really* going to just follow that thing outside.

KATIE: I trust it.

PETE: (scoffs) Yeah, that's obvious. For the record, I think it's hilarious that *I'm* the person letting *you* outside.

KATIE: Okay, Pete.

PETE tries a sarcastic snort but it turns into a cough: wet and ominous.

KATIE: Hey...Are you all right?

PETE sniffs back the cough.

PETE: Yeah. Yeah, I'm great.

PETE presses a button and the gears GRIND as the main door opens.

PETE: (CONT'D) Hey, Katie? (Beat) Be careful, all right?

KATIE swallows and takes a breath.

KATIE: Yeah, thanks.

The door finishes opening and a blast of hot air comes inside.

AMADEUS sings a jaunty little tune as it wheels out the door.

DENOTE: Speaker for the Dead. The Barrier opens.

END EPISODE.