

CAPRICA

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CAPRICA

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

ON A FIELD OF WILD FLOWERS...

Rushing by. PULL BACK to reveal two boys, ONE SMALL, ONE HEFTY, wearing plain clothes and a GREEN CLIP on their collars. Pull back further to realize they're riding on a transport bus with a dozen or so children, dressed plainly with green clips. NOTE: A slight sepia tone lets us know this is many years ago.

SMALL
(in Tauronese)
What are they?

HEFTY
(Tauronese)
I dunno.

SMALL
(Tauronese)
They're beautiful.

A HAND...

Suddenly slaps down on the Small Boys shoulder. REVEAL a severe looking WOMAN dressed in black uniform...

WOMAN
You're on Caprica now. Speak the
common tongue here, not that vulgar
Tauronese.

The two boys look up at her, not understanding at all.

WOMAN
(shaking her head)
You don't understand a word I'm
saying, do you?

She disengages her hand from the small boy and walks away, muttering...

WOMAN
Savages. Should have let them all
rot on their miserable world if you
ask me...

But the small boy just turns back to look out the window in awe of the sight outside. Miles and miles of wild flowers, freely blowing in the wind.

*
*
*

FADE TO BLACK.

*

SUPER TITLE: 51 YEARS BEFORE THE FALL OF CAPRICA

*

FADE IN:

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ON A MASSIVE PARTY CROWD

An enormous gathering of ecstatic TEENAGERS are DANCING and SWAYING in time to the pulsing rhythms of TRANCE MUSIC as it pounds a hypnotic beat into our retinas. REVEAL:

INT. THE V-CLUB - DANCE FLOOR - WIDE - NIGHT

The dance floor of the V-Club is vast and more akin to Lincoln Center than a contemporary nightclub, with a ceiling arching easily five stories over our heads and walls lined with dozens of small private balconies. The teens are packed so tight on the dance floor below that their bodies appear to send ripples and waves marching across the vast sea of humanity.

ZOE GRAYSTONE

Watches the scene from one of the small balconies overhanging the dance floor. She's sixteen -- going on forty -- her hair and makeup severe and out of place in this world of full-throated revelry. Her little black dress is fashionable and perfectly tailored, but not as overtly sexual as the many more revealing outfits on display down below.

*

A DOZEN HALF-NAKED FEMALE DANCERS

Move out onto the stage from the wings. Exuding sexuality with every tightly choreographed step, they begin dancing and strutting for the crowd.

The music pulses FASTER.

A STATUE

Rises from beneath the stage to tower over the still-dancing women. The statue depicts HECATE, Goddess of the underworld and the dark rites, her voluptuous woman's body topped by the lurid heads of three beasts: a LION, a HORSE, and a DOG.

THE CROWD

Goes WILD with excitement.

ZOE

Looks down in disgust.

BEN (O.C.)
Is she there?

Zoe glances over as BEN STARK, another sixteen year old dressed in simple black clothes and sporting close-cropped hair steps up next to her. There's an intensity to Ben, a sense of a kid who's gone someplace far away and may not be coming back.

ZOE
Right down front.

BEN
It's not their fault. They don't understand what they're doing.

LACY (O.C.)
Guys!?

REVEAL LACY RAND, another sixteen year old girl, *running up to* Ben and Zoe. She lacks the edge of genuine deep anger that both Ben and Zoe exude, instead conveying the more familiar angst and anxieties of a typical girl her age.

BEN
Sit down, Lacy.

LACY
We're going to get busted.

ZOE
Sit down. It's happening.

Lacy crouches down next to Zoe and Ben as...

THE FEMALE DANCERS

Lost in their own frenzied passions, their bodies completely intertwined.

THE SIX EYES OF HECATE

Begin to GLOW RED and the crowd SHRIEKS again as a MASKED MAN, stripped to the waist, strides out onto the stage as the dancers kneel down before him, their arms swaying back and forth in time to the frenzied music.

LACY
*Don't they ever get tired of this?
It's so... sick.*

BEN
This will all change.

*
*

ZOE
And she's going to help change it.

*
*

LACY
(peers down below)
Where is "she?"

*
*

ZOE
Just to the left of center stage --
wearing my green headband.

*
*

BEN
(grins)
How do you feel about that?

ZOE
(wry)
You know the expression -- "Like
someone just walked over my grave."

Ben grins and then looks down into the crowd --

MOVING THROUGH THE CROWD

We snake past the screaming, crazed teens to where we see the BACK OF A GIRL wearing a mottled green HEADBAND standing in front, just to the left of center stage. Unlike the rest of the dancing and partying teens around her, she's standing stock still, rooted in place before stage.

WE MOVE around her to reveal her face --

She looks just like Zoe Graystone. Too exact to be a coincidence and too perfect to be her twin, this woman is an exact replica of Zoe, and soon we'll learn that the resemblance is more than physical. Call her ZOE-A.

Zoe-A watches the faces of the teens around her on every side -- the wild, leering smiles, the overt sexuality and lasciviousness on open display -- with an expression more of sadness and heartbreak than the judgement and moralism of the real Zoe and her friends up above. The music BUILDS --

THE MASKED MAN

Suddenly pulls a LONG-HANDLED KNIFE from a sheath and holds it over his head -- the wicked blade catching the crazily strobing lights. The screaming of the crowd reaches a fever pitch just as he suddenly brings the knife down in a SLASHING ARC --

ZOE-A

Begins to feel ill from whatever horrible thing is happening on the (o.c.) stage. She puts a hand to her mouth as she takes one more look up at the leery, lurid eyes of Hecate and then turns away, pushing her way back through the crowd of teens, the number of dancing bodies making it hard for her to escape. The crowd presses in on her... she feels the first hint of panic touching the back of her throat... she struggles to get out... the noise is deafening... the lights blinding...

... she begins to SCREAM -- then suddenly WINKS OUT and DISAPPEARS COMPLETELY from the dance floor.

ZOE, BEN AND LACY

React up in the balcony.

ZOE

Dammit.

LACY

What -- what happened? Where'd she go?

ZOE

She de-rezzed. She just... flipped out or something. Probably defaulted back to the last copy.

BEN

Guess she's not as tough as you.
Yet.

*

He smiles at Zoe and she gives up her first smile in return -- she has a winning smile. Ben takes her in his arms.

LACY

(rolls eyes)
C'mon, guys.

BEN

(to Zoe)
I have faith in you. She'll be perfect because you're perfect.

Zoe almost melts in his arms.

ZOE

I love you...

BEN

And I love you...

He pulls her in for a kiss, but then --

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. ATHENA ACADEMY - GIRL'S ROOM - TOILET STALL - DAY

Zoe is sitting on top of the toilet seat, no longer dressed in chic black but in a rather plain school uniform with "Athena Academy" stitched on the breast pocket. Facing her is a very annoyed female PREFECT holding a highly polished platinum "HoloBand" blinking red and blue that she just pulled off of Zoe's head.

PREFECT

Zoe Graystone. What a surprise.

ZOE

Go frak yourself, Caston.

And as the Prefect narrows her eyes...

INT. SISTER CLARICE'S OFFICE - DAY

The Prefect and a contrite Zoe stand before SISTER CLARICE WILLOW, late 30s, dressed in the traditional clerical robes of an Athenian High Priestess, sitting at her imposing but simple desk.

CLARICE

That will be all, Ms. Caston.

CASTON

Yes, Sister Clarice.

Caston obediently leaves, but not before giving Zoe a look as if to say "good luck, sucker." Once the door closes behind Caston, Zoe relaxes.

ZOE

I can explain.

CLARICE

I doubt that very much.

ZOE

But--

CLARICE

I'm sorry -- I wasn't clear. I have no interest in hearing your explanations, Zoe.

(then)

Sit down.

Zoe, reluctantly sits. Clarice looks Zoe straight in the eye. It is a deep, penetrating look.

CLARICE

You're having second thoughts.

ZOE

No -- no, I'm not.

CLARICE

It wasn't a question -- you're having second thoughts. Acting out, looking for ways of getting caught, practically begging for someone to step in and stop you before --

ZOE

That's not true.

Silence. Zoe has trouble holding Clarice's eyes -- finally, she folds.

ZOE

I ask forgiveness.

CLARICE

And it is given. With grace.

(beat)

Having second thoughts is perfectly natural -- especially in someone so young. You need not be ashamed of your fear. Your weakness is to be expected, and it too is forgiven.

Zoe quietly burns at the condescending implication, but says nothing.

CLARICE

So you find yourself at the crossroads. You can go back or you can go forward. Which will it be?

After a beat...

ZOE

I'm going forward, Sister. I've never been more certain of anything in my life.

Clarice continues to hold her gaze -- then...

CLARICE

I'm sending your parents an official notice of misconduct. I'm sure that will pose additional problems for you, but it cannot be helped.

She holds out her hand. Zoe stands and kisses it. *

CLARICE
Good luck to you. *

ZOE
(surprised)
"Luck"?

CLARICE
Yes -- luck. Even fate can
sometimes be a victim of chance. *

Zoe thinks about that for a moment, then EXITS... *

CUT TO: *

INT. ATHENA ACADEMY - HALLWAY - DAY *

Zoe emerges from Sister Clarice's to find Lacy pacing
outside, waiting for her. She shoots a questioning look at
Zoe who gives nothing away but instead continues walking down
the hallway. A beat and then Lacy speeds to catch up to her. *

LACY
Well... *

ZOE
Nothing. *

LACY
Really? Nothing? Maybe we should
rethink... *

Zoe stops and squarely faces Lacy. *

ZOE
Are you having second thoughts? *

LACY
(yes)
No. *

ZOE
Because that would be perfectly
natural. Really. You don't have
to be ashamed of weakness. *

LACY
(offended)
I'm not having second thoughts. *

ZOE

Well, the choice is still yours.
You can scat on the whole thing if
you want but just so you know, I'm
doing what we set out to do.

*
*
*
*
*

LACY

I'm not backing out. I'm... with
you. All the way. You know that.

*
*
*

But there is a lingering uncertainty in Lacy's conviction.
Zoe sees it but decides not to pursue it further.

*
*

ZOE

We're going to be late.

*
*

And as they rush out down the hallway...

*

CUT TO:

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EXT. ATHENA ACADEMY - FRONT ENTRANCE - DAY

An imposing edifice -- the architecture combines the very ancient with the extremely modern. A FLOOD OF STUDENTS bursts from the front doors and rolls down the huge marble steps. Somewhere in this mass of suddenly paroled youth, we FIND Zoe and Lacy. Zoe suddenly turns back, looks up at the towering edifice and the carved words over the entrance:

CAST ASIDE THE TEMPORAL, REACH FOR THE ETERNAL

She stares at them for a long moment, then looks around at the laughing, carousing faces rushing past her.

ZOE'S POV

TIME SEEMS TO SLOW DOWN and as it does, the joyful faces of her fellow students seem somehow more grotesque, more like caricatures of joy as they whip out the many CELLPHONES and other GADGETS that are part and parcel of teen life on Caprica. Zoe watches them all with an opaque expression that could be disdain, anger or even sadness until she spots...

BEN

He's not quite the same cool looking guy that he was in the V-Club -- in fact, he verges on geekdom here, with an awkwardness of posture and the epitome of unhip clothes that probably means Zoe is one of the few girls ever to give him the time of day. The one thing that is the same, however, is the intensity of the look in his eyes -- something deep and dangerous roiling down in there somewhere.

BEN

You okay?

ZOE

Yeah. Anything happen after I was gone?

*
*

BEN

Just more blood and guts. I logged out a couple minutes after you. Did you get a chance to check on our girl after she disappeared?

*
*
*

ZOE

No. Frakkers confiscated my holoband. Don't worry, I can access her from home.

*

BEN

(worried)

From home?

*

ZOE

We're not splitting for Gemenon until tomorrow. There'll be plenty of time for tweakage.

*
*
*

BEN

But...

*

ZOE

Not buts. Not ever. For the one true God knows all and directs us all.

*
*
*
*

All three touch their foreheads with their index finger.

*

BEN & LACY

So say we all.

*

And they head off down the street.

*

EXT. GRAYSTONE ESTATE - TENNIS COURTS - AFTERNOON

A TENNIS BALL...

...Connects with a RACKET.

DANIEL GRAYSTONE, early 40s, is in the middle of an invigorating set with his wife AMANDA GRAYSTONE, late 30s.

We see the scope of the Graystone Estate, Zoe's home.

A sprawling mansion, the size of which would put Bill Gates to shame, meanders along a mountain ridge, with a commanding view of the entire valley floor below them.

As they play, we can see that Daniel and Amanda have been together for a very long time and know each other so well they're even anticipating shots in the match itself.

AMANDA

Out.

DANIEL

What!

AMANDA

It was as out as out can be. Do we need to turn on the line sensors?

DANIEL

That's exactly what I'm going to do, Cheater-girl. Serge?

SERGE, a cylindrical ROBOT SERVANT which balances on a single large ball bearing, and has been waiting patiently with towels and bottled water, turns to Daniel.

SERGE

(smooth, calm but
electronic)

Yes, Sir.

DANIEL

Activate the line sensors, please.

And suddenly the court's outline begins to glow.

AMANDA

And the auto-umpire.

A POLE full of elaborate SENSORS rises from the ground where an umpire would normally be and immediately begins scanning. Daniel grins a shit-eating grin at Amanda.

DANIEL

Come on, cheater. Double sets.

AMANDA

Oh, don't go all immature on me just because I'm better than you.

DANIEL

What'd you say, cheater? I can't hear you, cheater?

AMANDA

Gods, if only the worlds knew what a baby you really are!

SERGE

Excuse me, Daniel?

DANIEL
(chuckling)
Yeah? What is it?

SERGE
There is an urgent message for you
and Amanda from the Athenian
Academy regarding Zoe.

The joy goes out of Daniel and Amanda almost instantly. They look at one another with the look of two parents who just know this isn't good.

AMANDA
Here we go again...

DANIEL
Let's not prejudge this.

AMANDA
(to Serge)
Is Zoe home?

SERGE
She's in her room. *

AMANDA
Tell her to get her... ass
downstairs and meet us in the
kitchen. *

SERGE
Of course, Amanda.

Serge wheels away.

AMANDA
Damn her... *

DANIEL
(gently)
Mandy -- don't go into overreaction
mode. We don't even know what
we're dealing with yet. *

But Amanda isn't hearing him and Daniel decides not to pursue it any further. He heads off the court and toward the house. Amanda heaves the ball in the air and then SMASHES it over the fence.

INT. GRAYSTONE ESTATE - KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Amanda, tears into Zoe, still dressed in her "Athena Academy" school uniform.

ZOE
I'm sorry, okay?

AMANDA
No you're not.

ZOE
Okay. You're right. I'm not.

Daniel is getting a drink of water from the sink.

AMANDA
The attitude's not helping you.

DANIEL
(to defuse)
Let's all just take a deep breath
here...

AMANDA
Holobands at school. Cutting
class. Defiant.

*

ZOE
Guess you better lock me up, huh?

*

DANIEL
Hey --

AMANDA
You think that's funny? Do you?
Maybe you'll think this is funny?
No car privileges. No holoband.
No phone. And you're grounded for
a month.

ZOE
How predictable.

AMANDA
Okay. Two months.

Mother and daughter shoot daggers at one another, while Dad
tries to change the subject.

DANIEL
Hey -- I almost forgot. Tomorrow's
the big day, Z. Your building.

ZOE
Sorry. Can't go.
(to Amanda)
I'm "grounded."

DANIEL

(quickly)

We'll make an exception. It's not every day you get a building named after you.

ZOE

Oh, there's something to be excited about -- having your name plastered over the new computer science wing at Apollo University tomorrow 'cause your Dad donated about a billion cubits to the alumni fund --

AMANDA

You are on thin ice already --

ZOE

-- like I even want to be associated with you and the filthy science that's corrupting the planets! It's like having your name on the side of a slaughterhouse!

AMANDA

(losing it)

That's enough! You are so lucky and you have everything in the worlds you could possibly want and all you can do is run down our family and complain about society -- you have no idea what it means to build something, what it means to have discipline or to work hard for anything -- it's all been handed to you by the gods!

ZOE

Yeah, I guess I'll just have to learn to how to marry into money.

Amanda's hand is out and SLAPS Zoe even before she knows she's doing it. Her regret is just as swift, but it's too late. Zoe's shocked, but recovers quickly. She faces her mom evenly.

ZOE

You're going to regret that for the rest of your life.

Something in the way she says it gives Amanda pause -- then Zoe turns on her heel and stalks out of the kitchen. Daniel tries to step into the awkward silence and reach out to Amanda.

AMANDA

Can't believe I did that...

DANIEL

It's okay. She knows you didn't mean --

AMANDA

It's not okay. Not everything is "okay" all the time, Daniel! Some things just don't... ever become... "okay."

She turns away from him, on the verge of angry tears and Daniel can't decide whether he should hug her or leave her alone. He hesitates... then opts for the latter and EXITS.

INT. ZOE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Zoe goes over to her desk. She pulls out another holo-band and a computer "sheet" from her desk drawer. As she touches the sheet, it lights up, revealing a series of arcane images, not the least of which is the "infinity" symbol". Zoe puts on the holo-band, touches the symbols in a specific order then...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. THE V-CLUB - NIGHT

Zoe appears in the V-club dressed in the same outfit we saw her in before. She ignores the proceedings around her and heads deeper into the Club. As Zoe heads through the Club we again see only TEENS in evidence, all provocatively dressed and engaged in a variety of decidedly adult activities: a girl is stripping on the bar to the delight of a crowd of onlookers, a sprawling group of kids are lying on couches and smoking something powerful from a large hookah, a couple of boys are fighting to the cheers and taunts from their friends. But Zoe walk purposefully towards...

INT. THE V-CLUB - OUTSIDE VIP ROOM

Literally HUNDREDS of VIP ROOM doors stretch down a long corridor, each with its own logo and entrance decoration. Zoe stops in front of one that is decidedly plain, marked only by the INFINITY SYMBOL we saw on the computer sheet. She puts her HAND on the door and it instantly OPENS for her.

INT. THE V-CLUB - VIP ROOM - NIGHT

As Zoe enters, she notices a FIGURE of a woman sitting on a red velvet couch. As she turns around, we realize it's ZOE-A from the earlier scene. She gives Zoe a tentative smile.

ZOE-A *
I'm sorry. *

ZOE *
It's okay. *

ZOE-A *
I just couldn't -- when he pulled *
out that knife and starte -- *

ZOE *
Hey. I said it's okay. *

ZOE-A *
Why do they do it? Why do they *
think watching something like that *
is... fun? *

ZOE *
Because they don't understand what *
they're doing. *

ZOE-A *
No... that's too easy an answer. I *
saw the faces of those kids... they *
knew what they were doing... *
(chilled) *
... and they loved it. *

Zoe stares at this version of herself for a moment. *

ZOE *
God... you sound like me. *

ZOE-A *
Wonder why? *

They share a smile. *

ZOE-A *
(moving on) *
So now what? *

ZOE *
Now, we need to make sure you don't *
de-rez on us again. Thought I'd *
solved that in the fail-safe *
algorithms, but clearly not. *

ZOE-A *
Just don't make me go in there *
again and you won't have to worry *
about it. *

Zoe steps up to Zoe-A, brushes a lock of hair from her face *
with a gentle hand. *

ZOE *
It really scared you, didn't it? *

Zoe-A bites her lip and nods. *

ZOE *
Why? What was it... exactly? The *
blood? The violence? *

ZOE-A *
No... I mean, I knew that wasn't *
real. Nothing in here's real. It *
was... the people watching. The *
way they... drew strength from what *
was happening... it was like they *
were feeding on the violence... *
like they loved watching *
suffering... loved watching *
death... *

She takes a quick intake of breath and Zoe quickly puts her *
arms around her. *

ZOE *
It's all right... it's all right. *
I won't make you go back there... *
it's all right... *

ZOE-A *
Are people really like that? Are *
they really...? *

ZOE *
Some... *
(beat) *
But it's all going to change. And *
you'll help to bring that change. *
You're a gift... a gift from the *
one true God... *

As Zoe stands there holding and comforting a scared version *
of herself... *

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. GRAYSTONE ESTATE - MORNING

It's RAINING the next day.

INT./EXT. AMANDA'S CAR - MORNING

Amanda impatiently sits behind the wheel of her sleek, expensive car in the driveway, as Zoe deliberately walks down the driveway with her backpack. Amanda can see that Zoe is taking her good sweet time to get down the driveway. She HONKS the horn.

ZOE

Smiles every so slightly, pleased at getting under her mother's skin. Again. She makes it to the door and is about to open it when her expression turns bittersweet. She looks up at the house. Her home.

She's never coming back.

Another HONK and Zoe finally gets in the car.

EXT. ATHENA ACADEMY - FRONT ENTRANCE - MORNING

As Amanda's car pulls away from the curb where STUDENTS are STREAMING up the steps toward the entrance through the pouring rain. Zoe stands there for a beat, looks around -- finds Lacy's face in the crowd.

Lacy seems nervous. She forces a smile at Zoe, who glances around and then the two girls disappear for a moment into the river of girls...

... and then emerge on the far side of the Academy entrance, heading not into the school, but walking quickly down the sidewalk and around the corner.

EXT. CAPRICA CITY - STREET - MORNING

Zoe and Lacy move quickly through the rain, glancing behind them occasionally to be sure no one's following. Ben steps out of some bushes and falls into step with them -- he's carrying three HEAVY BACKPACKS, two of which he hands off to Lacy and Zoe.

BEN

(to Zoe, re: backpack)
Thought the whole idea was to
travel light.

ZOE

Yeah, well...

*

The three of them are a study in contrasts: Zoe is giddy with excitement, Lacy is scared, and Ben... well, Ben is nervous too, but with a strung-out, edgy, vaguely dangerous quality to him. If Zoe wasn't so wrapped up in her own excitement, she'd notice that something is very wrong with her boyfriend this morning...

ZOE

Got the passports?

BEN

What? Oh -- yeah. Yeah, don't
worry about it.

Ben holds his coat tightly closed around his body as they head down a flight of STAIRS toward the Metropolitan Levitation Mass Transit platform (think subway).

INT. MLMT PLATFORM - DAY

Down below, in the MLMT at the platform (where, thanks to some amazing kind of technology, it is a beautiful day) we meet TAMARA ADAMS, 15, and her mother, SHANNON, 30s. They've just come from a mom/daughter shopping and spa day and are laden down with shopping bags. Shannon is talking on her hands-free mobile.

SHANNON

Hey. Just checking on your ETA tonight.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. JOSEPH ADAMS' OFFICE - DAY

JOSEPH ADAMS (40s) is working at his desk. Joseph's hair is already starting to go iron-grey and his entire demeanor is that of someone who's already put on more miles than most men his age. There's a gravitas to Joseph, an intelligence, and a strong sense of someone you wouldn't want as your enemy.

JOSEPH

I'm thinking about seven.

SHANNON

You always say that.

JOSEPH

Shouldn't be much later than that.

SHANNON

The party starts at seven-thirty.

Tamara grabs the ear clip from Shannon.

TAMARA

Dad -- you can't be late this time. It's his birthday -- you wanna put Willie in therapy the rest of his life?

JOSEPH

(can't help but smile)
I'm pretty sure I'll be outta here by seven.

TAMARA

No, Daddy. No. Unacceptable. You have to promise you'll be there on time. Then you'll be there.

JOSEPH
"Unacceptable?" Glad I'm not
appearing in your court.

TAMARA
You should be. So? Do I hear a
promise?

JOSEPH
Alright, your honor. I promise.
Now give me back to your mother.

Tamara hands the ear clip back to Shannon, but the connection
is filling with STATIC.

SHANNON
(fritzed)
Hey. We're getting on the Lev.

JOSEPH
(fritzed)
What?

SHANNON
(fritzed)
Can't hear you -- Talk to you at
home.

JOSEPH
(fritzed)
What? Wait a minute, I want to
tell you something...

The connection is CUT OFF and Joseph hangs up as Shannon and
Tamara step into...

INT. MLMT CAR - DOOR - DAY

As Shannon and Tamara squeeze into the crowded car so does...

...ZOE and BEN with LACY right behind them. Zoe and Ben make
it in and hold out their hand to Lacy but she BACKS away from
them. Zoe and Lacy lock eyes. Lacy's are the size of
saucers.

ZOE
Come on, Lacy.

LACY
I can't. I'm sorry. It's too
much. I can't just... leave.

*

ZOE

It'll be okay, I promise. They'll welcome us on Gemenon -- it's not like it is on Caprica. We'll have a whole new family there.

*

LACY

Sorry.

Lacy ducks out the doors just before they close and the train takes off, leaving Lacy at the platform.

INSIDE...

Zoe and Ben manage to find a place to sit. They stare out the window at the fake scenery rolling by. Ben's mind is definitely somewhere else -- is that sweat or rain drops on his forehead?

ZOE

(more in sorrow)

I knew she'd back out. Frakking knew it.

(beat)

She won't tell anyone before we're off-world.

She takes Ben's silence as disagreement.

ZOE

She won't.

BEN

Huh? Yeah. Sure. Okay.

ZOE

Relax. You're more keyed up than I am.

She tries to put an arm around him, but he quickly gets up and stands at the window.

ZOE

Whatever.

ACROSS THE AISLE...

Shannon and Tamara stand, holding on to straps.

TAMARA

... so anyway this little creep actually says, "She smells like a Tauron. You can smell'em a block away."

SHANNON

I hope you walked away.

TAMARA

I did. After I kicked him in the balls.

SHANNON

Tamara! You didn't!

TAMARA

He deserved worse.

Shannon shakes her head, but can't conceal her amusement -- she's actually smiling and trying not to laugh as the Train moves through the dark tunnel at close to the speed of sound. It's practically a blur.

Inside, however, it seems as if we're moving at a normal speed through a pastoral countryside -- just another technical illusion provided to enhance a sense of well-being and ease among the passengers. And we see it in the faces of those surrounding Zoe and Ben.

ZOE

Is lost in thought for a beat. Finally, she makes a decision and pulls out of her pocket what looks like a piece of PAPER, but which is actually a sophisticated computer sheet. She unfolds the sheet, touches the edge and it comes to life. She writes a message quickly on the sheet. On the computer page we see she's written:

Don't live in regret, Mom. I forgive you.

She touches a part of the sheet and the writing VANISHES and is replaced with MESSAGE SENT. Then she folds it up, puts it in her pocket. Her mind eased, she looks up at Ben, who is still standing there with his back to her.

ZOE

(annoyed)

So you gonna be like this all the way to Gemenon or what?

(beat)

Ben?

(beat)

Ben.

But when Ben turns around, Zoe knows instantly that something is very, VERY wrong. His eyes are bright with tears, his face is pale, and there's a tremor in his voice.

BEN

I'm sorry, Zoe... but this is God's will.

ZOE

What...?

Ben pulls open his JACKET, to reveal EXPLOSIVES taped to his chest. Zoe's eyes widen --

ZOE

No, Ben -- PLEASE --

BEN

THE ONE GOD WILL DRIVE OUT THE
MANY!

Ben presses a button and the ENTIRE MLMT CAR IS SUDDENLY
ENGULFED IN FLAMES!

INT. TUNNEL - DAY

We see the TRAIN spin out of control as the flames create a
chain reaction of EXPLOSIONS down each car.

INT. CAPRICA CITY - MAIN STREET - DAY

The pavement quivers, shakes and eventually erupts like a
volcano as the LTP TRAIN bursts forth as a FIRE BALL.

*

*

*

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. CAPRICA CITY HALL - DAY

At Caprica City Hall, a LARGE GATHERING of the FAMILIES of the victims of the MLMT accident are gathered. On the stage, the MAYOR of Caprica City stands at the podium. His face is projected on a large screen behind him. This is not a friendly crowd -- their pain is still fresh and they give him a jaundiced, skeptical look.

SUPER: TWO WEEKS LATER

MAYOR

In this senseless tragedy, it's important for you to know that the government of Caprica takes matters of terrorism seriously and that this case will be pursued until justice is served.

JOSEPH ADAMS

Is in the crowd. Most people here are wearing BLACK ARMBANDS, but he's wearing BLACK GLOVES instead. His expression is serious, but he's not really listening as the Mayor hands over the podium to another MAN.

MAYOR

Agent Duram?

Agent JORDAN DURAM, 40s, a suit draped around a thin steel wire of a man, steps up to the podium. There's a laser-like intensity to Duram, as well as a vast reservoir of patience, the kind of man who is perfectly capable of following a case for years if necessary.

DURAM

On behalf of the President, let me express your government's deepest sympathy. This is what we know: a group known as "Soldiers of the One" claimed responsibility.

A hush from the crowd. They've clearly heard about this organization.

REPORTER

The "Soldiers of the One" haven't been heard from in years.

*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*

DURAM

Ten years to be precise. We still
have a lot to sift through but
everything points to their
involvement.

*
*
*
*
*

REPORTER

Were there any demands?

*
*

DURAM

Not that we know of. But as we
speak, we are gathering evidence...

*
*
*

Joseph's mind isn't really here.

-- FLASHBACK

His daughter Tamara and wife Shannon, leaving what we'll come
to know as their high-rise APARTMENT for the last time.

RESUME SCENE

Duram continues on stage, a power-point like graphic now on
the screen behind him, illustrating the organization of the
"Soldiers of the One" group. Its symbol is an INFINITY LOOP.

*

DURAM

As I'm sure you all know, the
"S.T.O." espouses a monotheistic
religious philosophy advocating the
worship of a single, all-knowing,
all powerful God whose mission is
to quote, "drive out the many
gods," end quote.

*
*

*
*

Joseph gets up and WALKS OUT of the room.

EXT. CAPRICA CITY HALL - PORTICO - DAY

Joseph comes outside, reaches into a pocket and takes out a
pack of cigarettes. Taps one out. Then realizes he doesn't
have a light. Annoyed, he's about to throw it away when --

DANIEL (O.S.)

I've got it.

*

He turns to see Daniel pull a LIGHTER out of his pocket.
Daniel is wearing the black ARMBAND.

JOSEPH

Thanks.

Joseph takes a deep drag, shoots Daniel a look out of the
corner of his eye -- Daniel is famous.

JOSEPH

Never see you smoke on TV.

Daniel starts slightly -- always a little surprised when he's recognized in public, even now.

DANIEL

No, well... company image and all that. I did quit a few years ago, actually. Started up again last week.

JOSEPH

Yeah. I've been trying to quit myself. Not much of a priority now. My name's Joseph Adams.

DANIEL

Daniel -- well, you know.

Daniel sticks out a hand, then notices Joseph's gloves.

DANIEL

Oh -- I'm sorry. I... uh... didn't know...

JOSEPH

It's okay. Taurons shake hands during mourning.
(shakes his hand)
The gloves are symbolic -- helping keep our distance from the world during mourning... or something. It's an old custom. Not even sure why I do it.

DANIEL

Well... times like this... the old ways are supposed to help, I guess.
(beat)
I... lost my daughter.

JOSEPH

(nods, then)
Wife and daughter.

A quiet beat as they stand and smoke.

DANIEL

Could use a cup of coffee.

JOSEPH

There's a cafe around the corner.

CUT TO:

EXT. CAPRICA GENERAL HOSPITAL - DAY

A sleek and modern facility in the heart of the city.

INT. CAPRICA GENERAL HOSPITAL - O.R. - DAY

This operating room is close enough to our own to recognize it as such but it is full of esoteric technological instruments and robotic arms surrounding the Patient. That's when we realize the Patient is the only one in the room.

INT. CAPRICA GENERAL HOSPITAL - O.R. CONTROL ROOM - DAY

And there is Dr. Amanda Graystone, surrounded by NURSES and TECHNICIANS as she guides a probe through an exact HOLOGRAPHIC replica of the Patient in the other room only without skin, exposing the inner organs.

AMANDA

Increase pressure on the carotid
three percent...

Amanda reads the slight change in colors of the organs.

AMANDA

Twenty-five LPs of sedo-chlorican.

Amanda stretches her neck -- she's not wearing a mask or operating gown, but the tension and stress in the control room is just as intense. She looks at a MONITOR: Elapsed Time: 5 hrs. 35 min. 45 secs...

-- FLASHBACK

Amanda yelling at Zoe.

AMANDA

... all you can do is run down our
family and complain about society --
you have no idea what it means to
build something, what it means to
have...

RESUME SCENE

Amanda focussing back on the monitors before her. She checks everything, then renders her verdict:

AMANDA

Okay, that's that.
(turning to a Nurse)
Let's close it up.

The Nurse nods.

INT. CAPRICA GENERAL HOSPITAL - AMANDA'S OFFICE - DAY

As Amanda comes out of the OR Control Room, a nurse hands her the phone as she heads for her desk.

AMANDA
This is Dr. Graystone.

MAN (PHONE)
Hello, Mandy.

Amanda stops, almost stumbles with surprise -- and not a pleasant one either.

MAN (PHONE)
Hello...?

AMANDA
What do you want, Tomas. *

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

TOMAS VERGIS, a handsome, well-dressed man in his 40s, stands in an expensive hotel room talking on his personal communicator.

VERGIS
I wanted to tell you how sorry I am about your loss. It must be devastating. I can't imagine what you're --

AMANDA
No you can't, so don't try. That it?

VERGIS
(gentle)
I'm in town on business.

AMANDA
Good for you.

VERGIS
I have reservations at Sage. Can I buy you dinner?

AMANDA
Don't call again.

Amanda hangs up but there's something in her eyes that tells us she wishes she hadn't.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET CAFE - DAY

Daniel and Joseph sit at a small, metal table, the whir and hum of street traffic only a few feet away. Two cups of coffee on the table. Neither says a word. Each of them just smoking and watching the traffic roar past at what seems like impossible speeds...

INT. SISTER CLARICE'S OFFICE - DAY

Lacy Rand sits across from Sister Clarice, staring at the floor.

CLARICE

Zoe walks with the gods now. She is cared for and loved and cherished by the goddess Athena. Someday we will reap that precious reward as well.

Lacy is nonresponsive. Clarice studies her for a beat, decides to shift tack.

CLARICE

Not very comforting, is it? In truth, it doesn't do much for me either.

Lacy finally looks up, surprised.

CLARICE

Zoe's gone and all the scriptures, all the prayers, all the sacrifices offered in the temples... none of it will bring her back to us.

(beat)

At times like this, the faith... fails us. The ancient words fall short of salving our wounds... and we rage against the injustice of gods who would dare to inflict such wounds on our hearts.

LACY

I... I am angry...

CLARICE

At the gods?

LACY

At... whoever did this. It's not right.

CLARICE

No. No, it's not. To be cut down when her life was full of so much promise... when she was about to embark on a new chapter of her life.

Lacy looks at her in shock.

CLARICE

Zoe told me she was planning to run away to Gemenon.

(beat)

With you and Ben.

LACY

I don't--

CLARICE

Everything said in this room, stays in this room. I am bound by my oath as a servant of Athena.

Lacy struggles for a moment, then it all comes pouring out.

LACY

I... just... chickened out. Couldn't... face it. Running away... going off-world... never coming back...

(beat)

I know I should have been on that train. I should be dead.

CLARICE

No, my love. It wasn't your time. The gods weren't ready to call your spirit. They have another purpose for you here.

LACY

Really? What? I mean, Zoe was somebody special -- a genius. The things she could do with a computer...? But me? I'm a frak-up -- I ask forgiveness.

CLARICE

And it is given.

(beat)

What kind of things could Zoe do with computers?

LACY
(thrown by the question)
Oh. I-- I don't know. Stuff.
Doesn't matter...

CLARICE
If I ask a question, Lacy, then it
matters.

LACY
Yes, Sister.
(beat)
I don't know what she did...
exactly. I'm not that into
computers, she just seemed...
gifted that way.

CLARICE
I see.

Clarice gets up, walks around the room, tries to be casual.

CLARICE
I was thinking that if you knew of
any particular work Zoe was
doing... any work you could find...
that perhaps it would be a way for
you to... reconnect with her. Find
comfort in discovering her in a
different way...

Which gives Lacy an idea.

LACY
Reconnect...

CLARICE
Yes.

LACY
(gets up)
I'm going to be late for dinner. I
should be going. Thank you for...
caring. This really helped..

CLARICE
(smiles)
I'm glad. You are a true daughter
of Athena, Lacy. You must never
forget that.

Lacy kisses her hand then flies out the door. The second
she's gone, the smile vanishes from Clarice's face.

EXT. STREET CAFE - NIGHT

*

Daniel and Joseph are still sitting there, the cigarettes piling up in the ashtray, the empty coffee cups scattered across the table as the traffic lights play across their faces...

INT. GRAYSTONE ESTATE - ZOE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Amanda is standing in the doorway of her daughter's room, arms crossed, as she peers inside. All of Zoe's things are still there -- all the detritus of a teenage life cut short are on garish display, all of them waiting to be picked up and examined. But Amanda won't cross over the threshold, won't actually go inside.

SERGE (O.S.)
Doctor Graystone?

Amanda JUMPS at the sound of the butler robot. She sets her jaw.

AMANDA
Yes?

INT. GRAYSTONE ESTATE - FOYER - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

Amanda ENTERS the foyer just behind Serge, to see Lacy standing there.

*

AMANDA
Lacy?

LACY
Hi.

An awkward beat. Lacy can't seem to meet her eyes.

AMANDA
Are you all right?

LACY
Yeah. I, uh... I know this is going to sound kinda... kinda, you know -- weird. But I was, um... kinda wondering if I could just... sit in her room for... a while?

Amanda is taken off-guard, acquiesces almost out of some misplaced sense of guilt.

AMANDA
Of course.
(get me out of here)
Serge?

*

The Servant robot comes up to Lacy. *

SERGE

Ready.

AMANDA

Allow entry -- Lacy Rand.

A SCANNING beam emanates from Serge and envelopes Lacy and then shuts down. *
*

SERGE

Welcome, Lacy Rand.

AMANDA

(to Lacy)

Stay as long as you like.

LACY

Thank you.

Lacy heads up the stairs. Amanda makes a sudden, impulsive decision.

AMANDA

(to Serge)

I'm going out. Tell Daniel I won't be home for dinner.

Amanda heads for the door.

SERGE

Yes, Doctor.

EXT. CAFE - NIGHT

Joseph and Daniel are each lost in his own reverie, each literally watching the world go by. A long, still moment before:

JOSEPH

(awkwardly)

I should be going. Thank you for the coffee.

He sticks out his hand.

DANIEL

Sure.

Daniel takes Joseph's hand, but then suddenly his entire being seems to collapse and suddenly he's sobbing into the other man's shoulder. *

DANIEL

Sorry.

JOSEPH

No, I...

DANIEL

This isn't... it's not me... I don't...

JOSEPH

It's okay. I know.

(beat)

Tell you the truth... I'm about five seconds from throwing myself in the middle of traffic.

Daniel nods, pulls himself together, takes in a deep, shuddering breath. Daniel looks back at the table of discarded coffee cups and cigarette butts.

DANIEL

I needed that. To just sit. Smoke. So... thanks.

JOSEPH

Easiest job I had all day.

The hints of a smile briefly play across both their features as Joseph nods and Daniel signals his Driver, who smartly opens the car door for him.

DANIEL

Can I give you a ride home?

JOSEPH

No. Thanks. I live in the city.

They shake hands and Daniel heads off toward his car, then stops and looks back.

DANIEL

Hey -- you follow Pyramid at all?

JOSEPH

I've been known to lay a few cubits down on the Bucks.

(beat, wry)

To my great misfortune.

DANIEL

Bucks suck this year. But I've got courtside seats. You interested?

Joseph hesitates for a moment. Then...

JOSEPH

I have a son. Could I bring him -- he's nine.

DANIEL
Absolutely.

Daniel hands him a card.

DANIEL
My private number. Call me and
we'll work out the details.

JOSEPH
Okay. Thanks.

Daniel gets in the car and Joseph watches him drive away...

INT. SAGE RESTAURANT - NIGHT

In a dark corner of a dark restaurant, Tomas Vergis sits in a booth, nursing a drink and perusing a menu. Amanda suddenly sits down next to him without preamble and puts a hand to her forehead as if to hide her face from -- herself.

AMANDA
I'm only staying half an hour.

VERGIS
Gods you look great, Mandy. Can't
tell you how glad I am you changed
your--

AMANDA
(without looking at him)
Shut up and order me a drink.

He's smart enough to shut up. A small smile crosses his lips as he flags down a waiter... *

INT. ZOE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lacy sitting in the same room looking very small on the bed as she remembers her now dead friend and happier times. Her eyes roam over the artifacts of a young girl's life -- finally landing on the DESK. *

Lacy gets off the bed and goes over to the desk and sits down. She hesitates for a moment, then reaches into the drawer and pulls out a COMPUTER SHEET. She touches the side and TURNS it on. *

Where Lacy is entering in the same complex equations and strings into the computer sheet on the desk. The INFINITY SYMBOL appears. Lacy takes deep breath, then puts on her holoband and TOUCHES the symbol on the page --

INT. THE V-CLUB - BAR

Lacy, now wearing the same little black dress we saw earlier, stands in one of the enormous bars of the sprawling V-Club where it's business as usual but Lacy ignores all of it. A HOT BOY tries to approach her at one point and she just PUTS UP A HAND and he's REBUFFED as if by an invisible WALL. He makes an obscene, silent gesture at her, but she continues on...

*
*

INT. THE V-CLUB - OUTSIDE VIP ROOM

Lacy stands in front of door marked with the INFINITY SYMBOL.

*

Lacy puts her HAND on the door and it instantly OPENS for her. She hesitates for a moment, then goes inside...

INT. THE V-CLUB - VIP ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Lacy ENTERS and looks around the plush furnishings in this opulent den and reacts to something she sees o.c.

*

REVEAL:

A FIGURE IN SILHOUETTE...

*

FIGURE
Is that you, Lacy?

*
*

Tears come unbidden to her eyes and she puts a hand to her mouth.

*
*

LACY
Yes. It's me.

*
*

FIGURE
Thank God you're here. I can't help feeling something terrible has happened.

*
*
*
*

And with that, the figure steps out into the light, revealing Zoe's Avatar (ZOE-A), the left side of her body covered in BLOOD.

*
*
*

As LACY screams her head off...

*

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. THE V-CLUB - VIP ROOM

A few minutes later. Zoe-A is sitting on the couch as Lacy
wipes the blood from her body with a hand towel. *

ZOE-A
So I'm dead -- she's dead? *

LACY
Yes. *

ZOE-A
Ben too? *

LACY
Yes. I don't see any wounds on
your body... *

ZOE-A
God. *

LACY
What happened? Where'd all this
blood come from? *

ZOE-A
I... I think it must be from the...
bombing. *

LACY
The bombing...? But you weren't
even there -- you couldn't be
there. *

ZOE-A
I know.
(realizes)
Zoe told me... she was working on a
biofeedback protocol... she wanted
me to feel what she felt -- in real
time. She never got it working
exactly, but... something happened. *

Lacy pulls back slightly. *

LACY
You mean you... "felt" her death? *

Zoe-A gets off the couch, takes a couple of steps to grapple
with the memory. *

ZOE-A

It started as... as fear. Terror.
An intense, sudden wave of horror.
Then, this blunt pressure all along
the left side of my body... and
this white noise. I couldn't move,
couldn't think. Just... sat here
for... I don't know how long.

(beat)

When I heard you open the door, it
was like... waking up. I looked
down and saw all this blood...

Lacy is totally creeped out. She drops the bloody hand towel
in a trash can like it might bite her.

LACY

Digital blood. This is frakking
weird.

ZOE-A

What am I going to do now, Lacy?
If Zoe's dead... what happens to
me?

LACY

I -- I don't know. She had some
kind of plan for you once we got to
Gemenon, but... I don't even know
what that was.

ZOE-A

And we're not going to Gemenon
anymore, are we?

LACY

No.

ZOE-A

What am I without... her? She's
me. I'm her. I'm... supposed to
be her "gift" to the Movement. I'm
supposed to herald a new age or
something -- but I don't even know
what that means! Am I real? Do I
exist? Help me, Lacy! Make me
understand!

Lacy steps back from her.

LACY

Okay -- whoa. I don't have the
answers you want, okay? I-I didn't
even know for sure if you were
gonna still be here once Zoe died.

(MORE)

LACY (CONT'D)
I just wanted to -- I don't know...
see her again.

Zoe-A looks into Lacy's eyes for a long beat.

ZOE-A
You're scared. Of me.

LACY
I don't know you.

ZOE-A
You grew up with me.

LACY
Oh, God, what am I doing here...?

ZOE-A
Lace!

LACY
Stop it! You're not Zoe, all
right? You're not. You're
something she... created. You're
just a... thing. I don't know why
and now, I'm sorry she ever did.

Zoe-A reacts as if she was slapped. She steps away from Lacy
with tears bright in her eyes. Her lower lip betrays a
slight tremor.

ZOE-A
I know I'm not real, Lacy. I know
I'm just a buncha ones and zeroes.
Zoe used to say... I'd see the real
world one day.

(beat)
But the crazy thing is -- I already
know what the real world looks
like. I remember it. Like I
remember growing up with you. But
I've never been out of this stupid
club... I've never been to your
house, I've never played in your
room, never puked in your bathroom,
never put on your makeup or tried
on your clothes -- but I remember
all of it.

(losing it)
I'm so lost... I'm not a person...
I know that... but I feel like
one...

She starts to cry and Lacy finds herself walking across the room and putting her arms around Zoe-A before she even realizes what she's doing and as she does, miraculously all of the bloodstains on Zoe-A's clothes DISAPPEAR.

*
*

INT. GRAYSTONE MANSION - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Daniel is home and walking through the quiet, dark hallway toward his bedroom. He's about to go inside when he notices--

LIGHT

Coming from beneath Zoe's door down the Hall. *Why's the light on in Zoe's room?* He heads down the hallway, quietly OPENS the door --

INT. ZOE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

Daniel ENTERS to see Lacy, her HoloBand on, with her arms around empty space in front of her.

LACY
It's gonna be okay...

INT. THE V-CLUB - VIP ROOM

Lacy holding Zoe-A in her arms.

LACY
Somehow... I promise.

INT. ZOE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Daniel approaches her.

DANIEL
Lacy?

INT. THE V-CLUB - VIP ROOM - NIGHT

Lacy lets go of Zoe-A and quickly whips around...

INT. ZOE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lacy whips around, pulls off her HoloBand, then focusses on Daniel; her face the very definition of guilt.

LACY
Dr. Graystone!

DANIEL
I didn't know you were here. What are you doing?

LACY
Nothing. I--uh... just... I gotta
go--

She bolts out of the room, past Daniel. He follows her out into the Hallway in puzzlement.

DANIEL
Lacy, wait --

But Lacy is down the stairs and GONE. He looks after her for a beat and then Daniel goes back into Zoe's bedroom. He looks around. This is the first time he's been in here since the accident.

Daniel looks over at Zoe's desk and sees the Computer Sheet. Something about it spikes his curiosity. He looks down at the esoteric code on the screen. Odd. As he picks up the Computer sheet...

CUT TO:

EXT. CAPRICA CITY - COURTHOUSE - MORNING

Establish a highly polished marble building.

JUDGE (V.O.)
How does the defendant plea?

INT. COURTROOM - MORNING

Joseph, still wearing his armband, is standing with the DEFENDANT, whose face is covered in face tattoos; a sign that he is a member of the Tauron *Ha'la'tha* (e.g. the Mafia). They are in front of the JUDGE in a small, working courtroom which is still more technologically advanced than anything we could imagine. The Defendant nervously looks over at Joseph, who nods.

DEFENDANT
(accent)
Not guilty, your Honor.

The Judge makes eye contact with Joseph for a beat. Joseph remains stoic, expressionless... except he purposefully CLOSES his eyes and opens them again. The Judge nods -- clearly a sign has been given. The Judge bangs his gavel.

JUDGE
Clerk will set a date for trial
within the month. Bail will be set
at ten thousand cubits.

The PROSECUTOR jumps up in protest.

PROSECUTOR

Your Honor, the Defendant is a known member of the *Ha'la'tha*. There is a serious flight risk to Tauron. The State strongly recommends that bail be denied.

JUDGE

I thank the State for its input. Ruling stands.

The Judge hits the gavel.

The Defendant offers thanks to Joseph but he turns to leave the court room without even looking at the Defendant. As Joseph walks out, he sees his brother SAM (40s), big and burly, standing at the door. Sam is also wearing BLACK GLOVES just like his brother. They walk out together into...

*
*

INT. COURTHOUSE - HALLWAY - MORNING

As they walk, Sam hands Joseph a thin envelope.

SAM

Ten thousand cubits for the bail.

He hands Joseph another thin envelope.

SAM

And twenty thousand for His Honor.

Without comment, Joseph takes the two envelopes and puts them in his breast pocket. They walk for a beat. Then...

SAM

The *Guatrau* is grateful for the work you have done for him. All the work. So much so that he's pledged to help us find the frakking terrorist scum that killed Shannon and Tamara.

JOSEPH

That won't be necessary.

SAM

Blood for blood. It's the Tauron way.

JOSEPH

It's not my way. We're on Caprica now, brother.

SAM

Caprica. What has this frakking planet ever done for us?

JOSEPH
(ignoring him)
I've got a deposition in--

Sam grabs his brother by the shoulder and stops him.

SAM
(angry)
Do you feel nothing?

JOSEPH
(low)
Yes. I feel like my brother, who I
love and respect, needs to let me
grieve in my own way.

The words cut through Sam. He loves him, doesn't want to
push Joseph to places he can't or won't go.

SAM
One day, little Brother, you will
wake up to the fact that the world
only understands an iron fist
shoved in its face. Until that
day, I will respect your wishes...
but I will also pray to the gods
for swift and terrible vengeance to
come to the men who've torn out our
hearts.

JOSEPH
There are no gods, Sam.

SAM
Then all the more important we make
our own justice.

Sam disengages from Joseph and walks away. Off Joseph,
thinking about Sam's words...

EXT. GRAYSTONE INDUSTRIES - MORNING

Establish GRAYSTONE INDUSTRIES which seems to be made of
nothing but pure glass - you wonder how it could possibly
stand on its own.

INT. GRAYSTONE INDUSTRIES - TESTING ARENA - DAY

Standing in the center of this large, all-white arena is a...

...CYLON CENTURION... or so we think at first glance. As we
get closer, we realize it is a very different model than
we've seen but it has the tell-tale scanning beam where its
eyes should be only this one's blue.

UP ABOVE...we see DANIEL and CYRUS XANDER (20s) along with a number of other Tech Support Personnel observing from a glassed in area.

INSIDE...

CYRUS

Evaluation protocol forty-two...
independent identification,
acquisition, resolution and
execution of conflict.

They watch as down below, other TECHNICIANS and MANAGERS prepare a test on the basic robot we'll now refer to as U-87. Daniel is distracted throughout.

Cyrus isn't willing to push Daniel or challenge him, but he does need to bring certain things to his attention.

CYRUS

I had a conversation with Secretary
of Defense Chambers this morning.

(beat)

President's getting a lot of heat.
Media's playing up the fact that
we're five years behind schedule
and half a billion cubits over
budget. He's starting to get a lot
pressure to yank the robot soldier
contract from us and go off-world
with it.

(beat)

They're talking about going to
Vergis.

Daniel doesn't answer, continues to watch as down below, a TECHNICIAN activates a control station and...

A PANEL

In the seamless wall OPENS and out rolls a ROBOT like Serge, the robot servant we met at Daniel's estate. The panel closes and the robot starts rolling around right into the scanning beam of the U-87.

Suddenly the U-87 becomes animated and it extends its arm forward. Much like its descendents will one day do, the arm rapidly reassembles itself into a weapon and the U-87 begins to move (albeit haltingly) towards the Serge-robot who in turn, realizing it's being stalked, starts taking off for another part of the arena.

DANIEL & CYRUS

Watch with mounting tension as the U-87 gains on the Serge...

-- When it's in range, the U-87 begins to FIRE rounds.

-- Which are PAINTBALLS.

-- Not a single one hits the mark. The Serge robot is clean as a whistle.

-- The U-87 starts to get twitchy and the next thing you know it's shooting paintballs up AT THE OBSERVATION WINDOW.

Cyrus turns to Daniel with a tense expression.

DANIEL

It's still not ready. I'll be out for the rest of the day. No calls.

Cyrus watches as Daniel heads out the door.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - MORNING

Vergis sips coffee in his bathrobe as Amanda exits the bathroom, half-naked, putting her earrings in. Without so much as a sideways glance, she begins to put her clothes on.

VERGIS

Is there a chance...

AMANDA

It's best if you don't talk.

VERGIS

I'm leaving in a week.

AMANDA

Good.

(then)

This can't happen again.

VERGIS

(smiles)

We've been doing this dance for so many years, Mandy. Do you have any idea why?

AMANDA

You should ask yourself that question, not me.

VERGIS

I do it because I love you.

AMANDA

Please...

VERGIS

It's completely true and you know it. On that I have always been clear. Ever since we were at University. I even thought, naively, that you loved me too.

AMANDA

Back then, it was simply revenge.

VERGIS

Punishing Daniel for his indiscretions. But what are you doing now?

AMANDA

Punishing myself.

Now fully dressed, Amanda grabs her purse and has her hand on the doorknob when...

VERGIS

There's something you should know.

She stops but does not turn around.

VERGIS

Caprica's President has lost confidence in the ability of Graystone Industries to deliver his U-87 military project.

AMANDA

After all these years, you should know the one thing I couldn't care less about is Daniel's business affairs.

VERGIS

He's in for a shock. Your president is actually going to give a Tauron company the contract -- my company.

AMANDA

And you're telling me this -- why?

VERGIS

Maybe I just don't like to kick a man when he's down.

AMANDA

But you'll sleep with his wife.

Off Vergis, as the door closes behind her...

INT. GRAYSTONE ESTATE - DANIEL'S LABORATORY - DAY

Zoe's Computer Sheet is on the worktable with a lot of other THINGS CLIPPED ONTO IT. This place is beyond a state-of-the-art technological wonderland. Daniel is struggling to break the codes that we saw Lacy punch in to Zoe's computer.

In front of him is a polished chrome case with his initials engraved into it and the following inscription:

"HoloBand"
In Acknowledgement
of the
One Millionth Unit Sold

He opens the case and there is Daniel's own personal model of the HoloBand (his company invented it). He activates one of the MONITORS, runs a physical LEAD from the Band to the Computer.

Daniel places his personal HoloBand onto his forehead. He checks a few of the many monitors he has wired into Zoe's computer and then enters his best guess as to the code.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. THE V-CLUB - NIGHT

Daniel is now in the virtual nightclub, his own personal avatar looking much like his living self, and drawing stares among the teenaged denizens of this world. The patrons reject his attempts at communication and he's given the virtual equivalent of talk to the hand as more and more teen avatars "silence" Daniel and refuse access. Others digitally SHADE their faces, effectively hiding their identities.

Daniel is amazed by it - it's an underground kind of thing, something he's heard about, but never paid attention to.

He watches the teen patrons as they take drugs, drink, have public sex on the couches.

DANIEL
This isn't your kind of place
Zoe...

Or is it...? Before he can explore this world any more...

BEEP-BEEP-BEEP

INT. GRAYSTONE ESTATE - DANIEL'S LABORATORY - MORNING

Daniel pulls off the headband in irritation and clicks on one of the many MONITORS, where Cyrus Xander appears.

CYRUS

I know you said no calls, but it's important. Tomas Vergis is on Caprica. He's meeting with Secretary Chambers today. He's making a play for the U-87 contract. I hate to say I told you so, but...

DANIEL

There's got to be kickbacks involved. Vergis Corp. is years behind us technologically.

CYRUS

Not anymore. Word is... Vergis has developed a Meta-Cognitive Processor.

That stops Daniel.

DANIEL

C'mon. We've been trying to crack that technology for two decades.

CYRUS

I have it on very good authority that Vergis is going to tell Chambers that he has a MCP. And it works -- don't ask me how. But if they've got a viable, independent artificial brain, then the only thing they're missing is a robotic body. Put the two together and you've got a completely autonomous robot -- a sentient, intelligent machine. It'll be the breakthrough of the century...

DANIEL

Frakking Vergis... he's been chasing me since university...

CYRUS

Defense can take the U-87 away from us -- technically, the government owns it already --

DANIEL

... now he wants to be the man who created the worlds' first thinking soldier robot.

CYRUS

Daniel. Are you listening? They can take the U-87 and they can give it to Vergis and have them become lead on the entire project, reducing us to...

(distaste)

A subcontractor.

DANIEL

First thing is find out if it's true. Saying you've got the MCP is one thing -- actually having it is another.

(beat)

See what you can find out.

CYRUS

You've got it.

Cyrus is about to sign off.

DANIEL

You ever hear of... virtual nightclubs... for kids? Teenagers? You know -- they hack the HoloBands, create these places where they go and... do... things?

Cyrus looks at him like he just asked if he's ever heard of the telephone.

CYRUS

It's only been an underground phenomenon for about, oh -- five years now.

Daniel struggles for a beat, isn't sure what he's getting at.

DANIEL

Keep me posted on Vergis.

Daniel signs off and the screen goes blank leaving Daniel to stare down at the HoloBand in his hand. He takes a beat, then puts it back on his head and touches the computer sheet--

INT. THE V-CLUB

-- and finds himself back in the virtual Nightclub, being systematically ignored by the patrons. He moves through the scene, unable to reconcile the image of his daughter with someone who would be coming here regularly.

But the trance music and the debauchery is getting to him, and he's about to leave when he sees --

ZOE-A

Sitting at the bar and talking to SOMEONE O.C. She feels eyes on her and turns to see Daniel. He's staring at her with shock and pain etched into every inch of his face. Zoe-A bolts up from the barstool and into the crowd.

DANIEL

Zoe? ZOE!!

Daniel pursues, pushing and clawing his way through the press of humanity. He loses sight of her for a moment -- then sees her disappearing into the VIP ROOM with the INFINITY SYMBOL on it.

The door slams closed, but Daniel races toward it, determined to break it down if necessary. He grabs the doorknob --

WHAM!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Everything goes WHITE and a loud SCREECHING sound blasts at Daniel, causing him to fall backwards...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. DANIEL'S PRIVATE LAB - DAY

Daniel falls backwards on to the floor and scrambles to get the HoloBand off. He winces with pain, rubbing his temples. He gets up and looks at the Computer screen.

DANIEL

Oh, my gods... oh, my gods... oh,
my gods...

EXT. WILLIAM'S SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

Joseph waits as the doors fly open and Kids start pouring out. He scans the river of students until he catches sight of a NINE-YEAR OLD BOY wearing BLACK GLOVES walking out, not interacting with any of his peers.

JOSEPH

(calling out)
Willie!

WILLIAM ADAMS looks up to see his father -- hard to read how he feels about seeing him here. He's an inward, withdrawn kid under the best of circumstances and these have hardly been the best of circumstances lately. He slows walks over to Joseph.

JOSEPH

How was school today?

WILLIAM
(shrugs)
Okay.

And that's usually about the extent of father/son bonding on most days. But these aren't most days anymore and Joseph both wants and needs to reach out to his son.

JOSEPH
I, uh... got off early and thought we could walk home together. Maybe stop and grab a shaved ice.

After a beat, William shrugs.

EXT. STREET - AFTERNOON

Joseph and William walk down the street, both of them eating shaved ice out of cup.

JOSEPH
I met a man who has offered to take us to see the Buccaneers play. What do you think?

WILLIAM
(noncommittal)
Sure.

JOSEPH
I thought you liked Pyramid.

WILLIAM
Sort of...

JOSEPH
Courtside seats...

WILLIAM
(after a beat)
Could *Tsattie* go with us too?

JOSEPH
No, I thought we'd give grandma the night off. This is just a guy's night out. We haven't gotten to spend much time together lately.

WILLIAM
Ever.

It's one of those things kids just blurt out, not meant to be hurtful but matter of fact. Still, it hits Joseph hard.

JOSEPH
I want to change that, Willie.

They walk together in silence until...

WILLIAM

Do you think they still feel pain?

JOSEPH

Sorry?

WILLIAM

Mommy and Tamara. Where they are,
do you think they still hurt?

How do you even begin to answer a question like that?

EXT. LACY'S HOUSE - DAY

In contrast to the Graystone mansion, Lacy Rand's family lives in a very middle-class house, in one of the suburbs ringing Caprica City.

MOTHER'S VOICE

Lacy! Someone here to see you!

INT. LACY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Lacy comes down the stairs to see Clarice sitting on the couch.

LACY

Sister Clarice.

Clarice smiles warmly and Lacy smiles back.

CLARICE

Lacy, I'd like you to meet Agent Duram.

And that's when Lacy (and we) notice Agent Duram in the room, he smiles in typical fashion to men of his profession.

DURAM

Hello, Ms. Rand.

A lump forms in Lacy's throat and travels down to the pit of her stomach.

CLARICE

Agent Duram has a few questions to ask. I know this is a traumatic time for you and all your fellow students, so I thought it best if I accompany him on his interviews.

DURAM

Which I greatly appreciate.

Lacy sits on the couch as Agent Duram pulls a chair up close to her in a sort of scary-friendly manner...

DURAM
I understand you were friends with Ben Stark.

LACY
(trying to calm down)
Sure. I knew Ben.

DURAM
We have evidence to suggest he was involved in the attack on the Lev.

Which is the last thing she was expecting to hear. Her surprise and disbelief have the ring of truth to them.

LACY
That's... crazy. *

CLARICE
I have to agree with Lacy. It's an absurd allegation, Mr. Duram.

DURAM
I'm afraid we have forensic evidence linking him to the bombing.
(to Lacy)
Were you aware of his involvement with the [Soldiers Of The One](#)? *

Lacy tries not to react, but Duram notes her tense slightly.

CLARICE
(offended)
Ben Stark was a good and decent boy. He would never be involved with some kind of--of terrorist organization. *

DURAM
(ignoring Clarice)
Lacy, did you know [if Ben was involved](#)? *

Lacy tries to keep her voice calm and steady.

LACY
No. And I don't believe it.

DURAM
What about Zoe Graystone? Were you aware that she was in "[Soldiers of the One](#)" as well? *

LACY
What about her?

*
*

DURAM
Do you know if she was involved
too?

*
*
*

Lacy sits back on the couch and crosses her arms, clearly at the end of her cooperation. Duram watches her closely and Lacy tries very hard not to flinch.

*

CUT TO:

EXT. LACY'S HOUSE - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

Duram and Clarice leaving the house.

DURAM
She's hiding something.

CLARICE
She's gone through an incredibly
traumatic event.

DURAM
(abrupt)
Where does the Athenian Academy
stand on the question of
monotheistic belief, Sister?

CLARICE
Am I under investigation now?

DURAM
Just a question.

*

CLARICE
The Academy is dedicated to
following in the path of the gods --
the goddess Athena is our
patroness. We are, however, open
to all forms of worship, including
belief in one god.

*
*
*
*

DURAM
Very tolerant.
(beat)
And how many of your students are
practicing monotheists?

*
*

CLARICE
Agent Duram, you know I can't
answer a question like that.

*
*

DURAM

It doesn't concern you that there's a proven link between worship of a single god and an absolutist view of the universe? A belief that right and wrong are determined solely by a single all-knowing, all-powerful being whose judgement cannot be questioned? A god in whose name the most horrendous crimes can be sanctioned without appeal?

Clarice looks at him for a beat, then smiles sweetly.

CLARICE

You know a great deal about the subject.

DURAM

Know your enemy, Sister Clarice.

CLARICE

Love your enemy, Agent Duram. *That is what Athena teaches us.* Even of those who are intolerant of us.

*
*

Duram holds her eyes for a moment longer.

DURAM

I'll be in touch.

Duram walks away, leaving Clarice alone on the walkway.

ANGLE ON A WINDOW

Where Lacy is watching them from her bedroom. Clarice glances back up at the house --

INT. LACY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Lacy steps back from the window. She can barely breathe.

Off Lacy, feeling like she's drowning...

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. GRAYSTONE ESTATE - MORNING

Serge opens the door to see a nervous Lacy standing there.

SERGE
Welcome, Lacy Rand.

LACY
May I come in?

SERGE
Your security authorization is
still valid. Please enter.

LACY
Thanks.

She tentatively enters. Serge closes the door behind her.

LACY
I'm going up to Zoe's bedroom...

SERGE
As you wish.

Lacy heads up the stairs.

INT. ZOE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Lacy enters the bedroom and starts looking through Zoe's desk for the Computer Sheet which isn't there.

DANIEL (O.S.)
Looking for this?

*

Lacy jumps out of her skin and turns around to see a bleary-eyed Daniel in the doorway, holding the Computer Sheet. He looks like hell and he knows it.

DANIEL
You'll pardon the way I look. I've
been up all night trying to...
crack one of the better security
codes I've ever run up against.
(beat)
I've been to the V-Club.

LACY
I--I don't know what you're talking
about...

DANIEL

And I've seen her, Lacy.

Lacy's eyes go wide.

DANIEL

I saw her having a drink at a bar... then I saw her go into a room with a symbol on the door --

He holds up the computer sheet, which displays the INFINITY SYMBOL.

DANIEL

This symbol. It's the one mathematicians use for infinity...

(beat)

Now, I don't know what any of this means, or how's it possible there's a digital version of my daughter running around a virtual nightclub -- but I have a feeling you do.

*

LACY

I'm sorry, but I really don't know what you're talking about, Doctor Graystone.

She moves to leave, but he takes a small step and blocks the door -- not much of a physical threat, but it's there. Lacy stops cold.

DANIEL

I want to see her, Lacy. Whoever -- whatever she is -- I need to see her.

Daniel can see Lacy's scared, conflicted. He struggles to hold on emotionally -- he's a bit strung-out, all nerve-endings and jagged edges. He tries to take the threat out of his voice.

DANIEL

You know... when Zoe was little, she was all ponies and dress-up games and pink shoes with sparkly toes. Funny thing is, I still think about her like that. Guess I never bothered to look past that as she grew up.

(beat)

So I guess I kept seeing someone who wasn't there anymore. 'Cause you know what -- I've been going through that closet and...

(MORE)

DANIEL (CONT'D)
there are five pairs of black
stilettos in that closet Lacy, and
not one single pair of pink shoes.
(beat)
There's also a whole lot of
religious books I don't understand
and a lot of computer equipment I
do understand -- I didn't know she
was interested in computers.
Thought she hated computers
because... well, because I liked
them.

Lacy hears the heartbreak in that last statement. She begins
to soften and Daniel can see it in her eyes. His voice
becomes softer yet, pleading with this girl to help him.

DANIEL
Who's the woman in the V-Club,
Lacy? I know she's not Zoe -- my
little girl's dead. But she's
connected to Zoe, isn't she? She's
a clue. A clue to something about
Zoe... something else I never knew.
Maybe it's going to tell me
something I shouldn't know. Maybe
it's something... awful. But it's
the truth. And I'd really like to
see the truth instead of looking
for... pink shoes.

*

Lacy and he lock eyes and she can't help but be moved by the
obvious feelings of a mourning father. After a beat, she
nods...

INT. JOSEPH ADAMS' APARTMENT - KITCHEN - MORNING

RUTH (60s), Joseph's mother-in-law, packs lunch for William.
Joseph comes in for coffee.

RUTH
William was up all night. Again.

JOSEPH
I know. I'm not sure what to do.

RUTH
Let him experience his roots. Take
him home to Tauron.

JOSEPH
William was born on Caprica. This
is his home.

William enters, looks at them both with expressionless eyes.
Then, breaking the tension, Ruth hands William his lunch box.

RUTH

There's an extra slice of the
cherry cake you liked so much.

She kisses William on the forehead.

WILLIAM

Thanks, *Tsattie*. Are you taking me
to school?

Before Ruth can answer...

JOSEPH

It's on my way to work, Willie.

WILLIAM

(disappointed)
Okay.

INT. INTERPLANETARY TRANSPORT SHIP - MORNING

Vergis is seated in the First Class section of this well-
appointed transport ship. He makes a call on his phone.

INT. CAPRICA GENERAL HOSPITAL - AMANDA'S OFFICE - MORNING

Amanda, sitting in her office, her phone ringing. She can
see via the display that it's Vergis calling. She stares at
the phone, but does not pick it up.

INT. INTERPLANETARY TRANSPORT SHIP - MORNING

Vergis, disappointed, closes his phone.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT (V.O.)

Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to
Flight 1232, destination Mars City
on the planet of Tauron. Our
flight time is approximately thirty-
six hours and during that time...

Vergis lays back in his seat and closes his eyes.

INT. CAPRICA GENERAL HOSPITAL - AMANDA'S OFFICE - MORNING

Amanda sitting where we left her, her eyes also closed.

VOICE (O.S.)

Excuse me. Dr. Graystone?

AMANDA

Yes.

She opens her eyes to see AGENT DURAM in the doorway.

DURAM
(showing his ID)
Agent Duram, Global Defense
Department. I wonder if you have a
few minutes.

AMANDA
For what?

DURAM
As you probably know, I'm
investigating the attack on the
MLMT train.

AMANDA
Should I know that? I've been
avoiding the news lately.

DURAM
Completely understandable. I'm not
sure how I'd react if I lost
someone in such tragic
circumstances.

AMANDA
I doubt it's something normal human
beings think much about... until it
happens to them.

DURAM
I suppose you're right.

AMANDA
But you obviously didn't come here
for an existential dialectic. What
is it you wanted to ask, Agent...?

DURAM
Duram. It's about your daughter,
Zoe. Was there anything in her
behavior before the incident that
seemed... unusual?

AMANDA
She was angry, defiant,
unreasonable, vulgar and rude.
Just your... typical sixteen year
old girl.

DURAM
And how would you describe her
circle of friends? Was there an
anti-social aspect to--

AMANDA

Please do me the courtesy of cutting to the chase, Agent Duram.

After a beat...

DURAM

We have evidence to positively link your daughter to the bombers.

Amanda doesn't know what she was expecting to hear, but it certainly wasn't that.

AMANDA

I'm sorry. You think... you think she knew one of the terrorists?

DURAM

Dr. Graystone... we think that Zoe might have been one of the terrorists.

Amanda stares for a beat, then smiles, almost laughs.

AMANDA

(almost laughing)

My daughter didn't have a political bone in her body. Her biggest concerns in life were partying with her friends and finding new and creative ways to drive her parents insane.

DURAM

I understand how upsetting this must be.

Duram meets her eyes calmly for a beat and then pulls out a SHEET OF PAPER which he hands it over to her.

DURAM

We think it was sent from your daughter's computer sheet.

Amanda looks down at the message and sees:

Don't live in regret, Mom. I forgive you.

All the blood drains from Amanda's face.

DURAM

The message was transmitted just before the explosion but never uplinked to the server. It took a fair amount of digital forensics to reconstruct it.

Amanda just stares at the sheet, trying desperately to hold back a flood of emotion.

AMANDA

Get out.

DURAM

Sounds like a last message to me...
like someone who knows the end is
near and wants to make amends.

AMANDA

GET OUT!

DURAM

Thank you for your time, Doctor.

He leaves. A beat and then Amanda suddenly takes in a gasp of shock and fear -- *is that even remotely possible?* Then she puts a hand to her mouth and completely loses it.

EXT. CAPRICA CITY PARK - AFTERNOON

Joseph walks with THE GUATRAU through this pleasant park on the water's edge.

GUATRAU

There is a delicate matter that I
need your help on, Yoseef.

JOSEPH

If I can, you know I will.

GUATRAU

There is a man -- an important man --
-- who has conveniently forgotten
how he got to be so important.
Regrettably, he is embarking on an
enterprise that will cause great
distress, not only to my personal
interests, but to many of my
colleagues. This, I cannot
sanction... so action must be
taken.

JOSEPH

With all due respect, Gautrau,
passing along a bribe is one thing;
being involved in a murder, however
indirect, steps over a line I
cannot cross.

The Gautrau bursts out laughing.

GUATRAU

Oh, by the gods, it's nothing like that. No, no. We didn't send you to law school in order to waste your talents on something so... basic. What I would ask of you is to meet with this individual and outline for him his options: Give up his folly and embrace us once again as a friend. Or face the consequences of being our enemy.

JOSEPH

You want me to threaten him.

GUATRAU

I'd like this matter to be resolved in a civilized manner and there's no Tauron I can think of more civilized than you, *Tse'Yoseef*.

Joseph is silent for a beat. Then...

JOSEPH

May I ask who it is I'm supposed to "negotiate" with?

GUATRAU

Caprica's Secretary of Defense.
Val Chambers.

Off Joseph...

INT. THE V-CLUB - NIGHT

Lacy AND Daniel walk though the V-Club.

DANIEL

What goes on here?

LACY

Pretty much anything. "No Limits" -
- that's the motto.

(points)

Down there's the KillZone. Get a gun -- get five guns -- walk in and start shooting. Shoot your friends, shoot your classmates, shoot the president, shoot yourself, whatever.

(points)

Back that way are the group sex and drug dens, keep going past that you run into the really gross stuff.

They walk back the ENTRANCE to the Dance Floor, where the echoing chants and trance music can be heard pulsing from within. Daniel pushes OPEN the door and sees a massive crowd again watching Hecate rise up over the distant stage.

DANIEL

And this?

LACY

Human sacrifice.

DANIEL

What?

LACY

Virgins. They offer them to Hecate, goddess of the underworld.

*

Daniel glimpses the women on the stage and the Masked Man wielding the knife and then CLOSES the door with a shudder.

DANIEL

My company created the HoloBand. This isn't exactly what we had in mind.

She throws him a jaundiced look.

LACY

Yeah, right. The porn sites were first ones to license the technology -- everyone knows that.

Daniel looks at her in surprise -- in this virtual world, Lacy not only looks more adult, her language and attitude are more adult, more assertive as well.

DANIEL

That's different -- that's for adults.

LACY

Zoe was right -- you can rationalize anything.

DANIEL

(stung)

I don't have to defend myself to you. We didn't design the holobands for this.

*

LACY

Where there's a will...

*

*

Lacy heads off again and Daniel follows her.

DANIEL

So what -- you and Zoe... came here? For... for sex?

LACY

(casual)

At first. We used to go to the group sex rooms like everyone else.

Daniel looks like he's going to be sick.

LACY

But after Ben showed us the way... showed us "The Way"... all that changed. We saw this for what it was -- a temple to sin.

*

DANIEL

"The Way?"

*

They arrive at the VIP Room with the Infinity Symbol. Lacy gives him a very direct, very confident look and speaks with the self-confidence of a true believer.

LACY

There is good and there is evil in the world. There is a right and there is a wrong. But only through the one true and singular God can you know the difference. Zoe knew. Because Zoe knew God. And God touched her heart and gave her the ability to create... life itself.

*

Lacy reaches out and OPENS the door...

INT. VIP ROOM (CONTINUOUS)

As Daniel and Lacy ENTER, Zoe-A gets up from the couch and smiles... until she notices Daniel standing in the doorway, shock and disbelief written on his features. Zoe-A is upset at the sight of him.

ZOE-A

Oh, my God!

(to Lacy)

Why'd you bring him here?

*

LACY

He needs you, Zo.

Zoe-A finally turns back to Daniel, who, for his part, is rooted to the spot, unable or unwilling to step farther into the room as he stares at the ghost of his daughter.

ZOE-A

Hi, Daddy...

The words hit Daniel with almost physical force, he cannot speak.

ZOE-A

I thought that was you in the club yesterday... thought I got away before you saw me...
(tries to joke)
... guess I wouldn't make a very good spy.

Daniel finally finds his voice, taking refuge in science.

DANIEL

You're an Avatar. A virtual representation of Zoe. Nothing more.

ZOE-A

I'm a little more than that. A lot more, actually.
(awkward)
I'm... sorta her. Crazy as that sounds. I am... her. I'm Zoe Graystone.

DANIEL

My daughter is dead.

ZOE-A

Yes, I know. And I'm sorry about that -- more than you can know. She was... like my twin sister. Well -- that's not right either. She was more than that... we were kinda, I don't know... echoes of one another. It's... hard to describe.

*

DANIEL

(to Lacy)

So what is this, really? Did Zoe hack some kind of rudimentary emulation software or something?

Lacy doesn't answer, but Zoe-A is quick with an answer.

ZOE-A

She told me it was a combination of hacks and some of her own codes.

DANIEL
(dismissive)
Okay, that's enough.
(to Lacy)
What was the purpose of this thing?

ZOE-A
I'm not a thing. *

DANIEL
I'm not going to argue with a
digital image.

He's using his "parental" voice and it automatically gets Zoe-A's hackles up. Her eyes flash and her jaw tightens.

ZOE-A
(ice)
The human brain contains roughly
300 megabytes of information. Not
much when you get right down to it.
The question isn't how to store it,
it's how to access it. You can't
download a personality, there's no
way to translate the data. But the
information being held in our heads
is available in other databases.

Although he's refusing to look at her directly, Daniel finds that he's starting to actually listen to her despite himself.

ZOE-A
People leave more than footprints
as they travel through life:
Medical scans. DNA profiles.
Psych evaluations. School records.
Email. Recordings. Video. Audio.
CAT scans. Genetic typing.
Synaptic records. Security
cameras. Test results. Shopping
records. Talent shows. Ball
games. Traffic tickets.
Restaurant bills. Phone records.
Music lists. Movie tickets. TV
habits.
(beat)
Even prescriptions for birth
control.

Daniel finally looks over and stares at Zoe-A -- is this
really the Zoe he never knew?

EXT. CAPRICA CITY - STREET - AFTERNOON

Sam and Joseph walk down the street, post Guatrau meeting.

SAM

You don't tell the *Gautrau* you need time to think. About anything. You say "Yes, sir. Thank you, sir. May I have another?"

JOSEPH

You've sworn allegiance to him Sam, not me.

SAM

You don't have any problem taking his cubits.

JOSEPH

I don't care if he put me through law school or not. I'm tired of doing his dirty work for him. He can just fire me if he doesn't like it.

SAM

You of all people should know the *Ha'la'tha* doesn't fire people, Joseph. They bury them.

Yeah. Joseph knows that.

INT. THE V-CLUB - VIP ROOM

Daniel is marvelling at Zoe-A, transfixed by her.

ZOE-A

(grins at Daniel)

Yeah, I remember that -- you put me up on your shoulders so I could see the band as it marched by, but we were standing under a lamp-post...

(laughs)

... and I smacked my head so hard I saw stars.

DANIEL

Took you to the emergency room. Just a precaution...

ZOE-A

Oh, God and I hated that -- the lights and the doctors and the smell.

(quiet)

And I remember you holding my hand the whole time... you said you wouldn't let go...

Daniel is lost in the memory for a moment, then pulls out of it.

DANIEL

She could've programmed the memory into you... but it's such a minor event... so much detail...

(beat)

It's possible she found a way to translate synaptic records into usable data...

ZOE-A

That's what she told me.

DANIEL

But... a person... is more than a bunch of... data. You might be a good imitation -- might be a very good imitation -- but you're still just... an imitation. A copy.

ZOE-A

I don't feel like a copy. Daddy.

Daniel looks at her for moment... then makes a fateful decision...

DANIEL

Can I... May I... hold you?

(beat)

Zoe?

*

Now it's Zoe-A's turn to be drawn despite her own best intentions and her own better judgement. She steps forward, allows Daniel to put his arms around her...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. ZOE'S BEDROOM - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

We see Daniel and Lacy seated on the bed with their HoloBands on, eyes closed. But what we focus on is Daniel's HAND as it moves to a small DEVICE he's attached to the computer. His fingers reach for a keypad on the device which he deftly touches and...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. THE V-CLUB - VIP ROOM - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

WHAM!!! A RED glow forms around Zoe-A and Daniel in their embrace. Zoe-A struggles to detach itself from Daniel but cannot. Then suddenly she begins to deconstruct, as if the outer layer was being peeled off and then there's only a WIREFRAME of her image.

LACY
What are you doing to her!?

But Daniel holds on.

LACY
Stop it. Dr. Graystone. Stop!

A beat more and then Daniel lets go. Zoe-A is immediately restored to its former shape.

LACY
(to Daniel)
What did you do to her?

But Daniel suddenly DISAPPEARS from the room. A beat and then Lacy DISAPPEARS too.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. ZOE'S BEDROOM - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

Daniel is in the middle of pulling off Lacy's HoloBand. She opens her eyes in surprise and horror.

LACY
What have you done, Dr. Graystone?

DANIEL
I captured the code Zoe used to create the Avatar.

LACY
But why?

DANIEL
(steely-eyed)
It's time for you to go, Lacy.

EXT. GRAYSTONE ESTATE - DAY

Daniel unceremoniously escorts Lacy outside the door and closes it shut.

INT. GRAYSTONE ESTATE - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

Daniel turns to Serge.

DANIEL
Serge, cancel Lacy Rand's security clearance.

SERGE
Yes, Sir.

Off Daniel, walking away...

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

INT. BUCCANEER STADIUM - NIGHT

BLAM! A Pyramid ball slams into the goal and the crowd goes wild. We now see what pre-war Pyramid Ball looked like at the height of its popularity. A survey of the crowd shows them to be every thing you'd expect of rabid fans; many decked out in team colors, including painted faces. Flags are waving. It's big, it's huge, it's Pyramid!

We scan the scoreboard (holographically projected above the players) and we see that the Bucks are creaming the Bay City Salamanders. Find in all of this chaos...

DANIEL, JOSEPH and WILLIAM sitting in courtside seats, the players blurring back and forth right in their faces. Joseph looks down at William, and for the first time sees some life in his son as William's eyes follow the action like a hawk. Joseph shouts to Daniel over the noise...

JOSEPH

I should have remembered you
actually own the Buccaneers.

DANIEL

A fantasy since I was a kid.
(to William)
What do you think so far, William?

WILLIAM

(not taking his eyes off
the game)
I think Jenkins better get a solid
grip on the ball before he tries
anymore of those spinshots.

Joseph, a little surprised, shrugs as if to say to Daniel
"who knew?" Daniel smiles.

DANIEL

I've been telling the Coach that
all season -- not that she listens.

William doesn't really react. Daniel gestures to an
ATTENDANT who quickly walks over. Daniel whispers in his
ear. The Attendant nods and then stands behind William.

DANIEL

Your dad and I are going to talk
about adult stuff at the clubhouse
and we'll be right back.
(to William re: Attendant)
Sean's here to help you, William.
(MORE)

DANIEL (CONT'D)
You want something, anything, you
just ask Sean, okay?

William nods, clearly enraptured by the game.

INT. BUCCANEER CLUBHOUSE - NIGHT

A plush, well-appointed clubhouse. Tastefully framed signed jerseys of all the great Pyramid players in history line the walls. FIND Daniel and Joseph at the bar -- a robotic bartender has just placed two drinks in front of them.

JOSEPH
Tonight's the first time I've seen
him smile since the accident.
(beat)
Thanks very much for doing this.

DANIEL
Easy. And you? How are you
holding up?

JOSEPH
(cynically)
We Taurons are nothing if not a
stoic people.

DANIEL
Do you mind if I ask you a somewhat
weird and personal question?

JOSEPH
Okay.

DANIEL
What would you do if you had the
chance to be with your daughter
again?

Joseph's taken completely aback and Daniel sees Joseph struggling.

DANIEL
You don't have to answer. Probably
shouldn't have asked.

JOSEPH
No. It's okay. I just... haven't
thought about it.
(beat)
You know, most of my family,
including my parents, died in the
Tauron civil war. My brother and I
came here as orphans. When we
arrived, they drove us to an
orphanage... and I remember this...
(MORE)

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
field of wild flowers by the side
of the road.

(beat)
This'll sound strange to a
Caprican, but... there are no
flowers on Tauron. Not one.
Religious reasons.

(beat)
It was the most beautiful thing I'd
ever seen. In my life. All the
colors... the petals... the
softness. And... I wept. In
public. For the first -- and the
last time.

(then)
So I guess that's what I'd tell
Tamara. Tell her... to find those
things in life that make you cry.
That make you feel. Because
they're what make you human.

(beat)
That's what I'd tell her. If I
could.

Off Joseph's grieving face...

EXT. ATHENA ACADEMY - FRONT ENTRANCE - EVENING

The entrance is quiet, empty. Lacy Rand walks up quickly up
the steps, her clicking heels the only sound...

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. ATHENA ACADEMY - CAMPUS QUAD - DAY

Right in the middle of lunch time at the school, as we try to
sort out all the activity... until we find Lacy sitting on a
bench, eating a simple lunch.

ZOE (O.S.)
Hey there you.

Lacy looks up to see Zoe and Ben, arm in arm, clearly in
love. Lacy gives her a cold look.

LACY
Missed you at the club last night.
Missed you for two hours.

Zoe senses Lacy's mood, disengages from Ben and sits next to
Lacy. Then puts her arm around her.

ZOE
Sorry. Haven't been much of a
friend lately, have I?

LACY

(no)

It's fine. Doesn't matter.

Zoe regards her friend. Then...

ZOE

Look... I've found something. It's changed my life. I want to share it with you.

LACY

(skeptical)

Changed your life?

ZOE

Sounds stupid, huh?

(beat)

It's not. It's real. Come with us.

LACY

To what?

ZOE

A prayer meeting.

LACY

Like I don't go to enough of those.

ZOE

This is different.

Ben finally speaks, his voice soft, his whole demeanor gentle and still -- the true believer.

BEN

You pray, but your gods don't answer. You hurt, but your gods don't heal. You go the V-Club for sex and sin, but it doesn't fill the void in your soul.

Lacy is taken aback, struck by this quiet young man.

ZOE

There is truth in the world, Lacy. There is a right and there is a wrong. And there is a God. A God who knows the difference.

*

Off Lacy, as she finds herself drawn into something...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. TEMPLE OF ATHENA - RECTORY - EVENING

Lacy, is sitting on a plush, comfortable sofa next to Sister Clarice who has been listening to her for quite a while now.

LACY

... that's how it started. That's how I got involved... I don't know what to do, Sister. Where to go.

*
*

With trembling hands, Lacy picks up a GLASS of water from the coffee table -- which leaves a RING of WATER.

CLARICE

You did the right thing by coming to me with this, Lacy.

*

Very deliberately, Clarice puts a fingertip in the ring of water left on the table by Lacy's glass and begins tracing a design with the water.

CLARICE

I, too used to feel a void in my soul... I, too once hungered to know right from wrong... but not any more.

She takes her hand from the table and Lacy looks down in at what she's drawn -- THE INFINITY SYMBOL. Lacy looks back at Clarice in shock.

LACY

Sister...?

CLARICE

Welcome home, my child.

*

Clarice puts out her arms, and Lacy's control suddenly vanishes -- she embraces Clarice with all her might and tears roll down her cheeks. Then she gets hold of herself after a beat and pulls back as it dawns on her that...

*
*

LACY

So then Ben did have something to do with the bombing. He was the terrorist.

*
*
*

Clarice looks at her calmly, brushes back a lock of hair from her face.

CLARICE

What you need to understand, Lacy...

(MORE)

CLARICE (CONT'D)
is that labels like "terrorist" are
what this corrupt and decadent
culture calls people who try to
fight the real evil in the world.
Ben was eager to strike against
that evil and so he did
something...

(sighs)
... premature. Something...
unauthorized. But was blowing up
that train evil? No. He was
fighting evil. With all his heart.

LACY
(turning pale)
And Zoe...?

*
*

Clarice pulls Lacy back into her arms, rocking her like a
child.

CLARICE
You have no idea how special Zoe
was to us. Or is...

*
*

Off Lacy, looking up at Clarice in astonishment...

*

INT. GRAYSTONE MANSION - NIGHT

Daniel escorts Joseph and William (who has a lot of Bucks
paraphernalia hanging off him) through the house.

JOSEPH
(dryly)
Quite a place you've got here.

DANIEL
When I think that this all started
with me tinkering in my parents'
basement...? Well, it all seems a
bit too much.
(beat)
William, I'm guessing you'd like to
see the gameroom?

*

William looks to his dad.

JOSEPH
It's okay, son. Have fun. I won't
be long.

WILLIAM
(grins)
Cool!

DANIEL
(calls out)
Serge?

Serge magically appears.

SERGE
Ready.

DANIEL
Please show William to game room
and show him how to use the
equipment.

William and Serge head down the walkway as Daniel places his hand on the security plate outside the door to his private lab. A beat and the doors OPEN.

INT. GRAYSTONE MANSION - LAB - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

Daniel and Joseph walk into the lab. Joseph looks around the room in awe. Daniel grabs a HoloBand from a case and holds it up.

DANIEL
Ever tried one of these?

JOSEPH
Not much for that kind of thing.

DANIEL
Indulge me.

He guides Joseph to a "scanning booth" and plugs the HoloBand into the system.

DANIEL
This is what happens when you buy a
HoloBand at any retail store.

Daniel indicates Joseph should step in.

DANIEL
Basically, it scans your image for
your Avatar which is, in essence, a
virtual copy of you. You'll feel a
little tingling on your skin but I
assure you, it's harmless.

Daniel hits a few keys and the booth glows blue as Joseph is scanned. On the monitor outside the booth we see the various stages of scanning (much like we saw when Daniel grabbed the Zoe Avatar): first a wireframe skeleton, then a rough "skin" and finally a rough approximation of Joseph's features.

Two or three layers of detail layover the image until what appears on the screen is an exact 3-D representation of Joseph. A beat, then the blue goes off; the scan is complete.

DANIEL

You can step out now.

Joseph does, looks at what Daniel's looking at which is the monitor displaying Joseph's image.

JOSEPH

I've looked better.

Daniel removes the HoloBand from its perch.

DANIEL

Okay, we're ready.

Daniel gestures for Joseph to follow him to Zoe's computer and sit. Daniel puts the HoloBand on Joseph's forehead, puts on his own personal HoloBand and sits next to Joseph in front of Zoe's computer.

DANIEL

Remember, this is going to seem real -- very real. But it's all virtual -- an illusion.

Joseph nods and Daniel taps the screen as before and...

INT. BLUE ROOM

This is a completely sky blue limbo room. Daniel and Joseph are right in the center of it. Joseph is, naturally, a little disoriented. He looks around, then down at his hand, then over at Daniel.

DANIEL

It takes getting used to.

JOSEPH

Can I talk?

(realizing)

I guess I can. Where are we?

DANIEL

Inside a very basic computer program. I haven't had time to do any decorating. Step over here.

Daniel starts to walk forward but Joseph feels like his feet are "stuck" -- he appeals to Daniel for help.

DANIEL

Just tell yourself to walk.

Joseph slowly, haltingly puts one foot forward and then the other and begins to figure out how to walk over to Daniel. Together they walk a few more steps to a BROWN DOOR which seems to "float" in the blue space. Daniel OPENS the door. He steps in and gestures for Joseph to follow.

INT. HOLDING ROOM (CONTINUOUS)

This room is like a plain apartment with no windows and basic furniture. As Joseph steps in, we see Zoe-A sitting on the couch. She gets up angrily at their approach.

ZOE-A

What are you doing, Daddy?

*

DANIEL

Working.

(to Joseph)

This is Zoe. My daughter.

Joseph looks at Zoe-A in confusion for a moment... then reacts in shock. He stares at Zoe-A, who gives him a sullen, annoyed look. She suddenly jumps at him.

ZOE-A

BOO!

Joseph bolts back in panic --

INT. GRAYSTONE INDUSTRIES - LAB - NIGHT

Joseph YANKS off the HoloBand, stands and backs up in horror.

JOSEPH

Frak!

Daniel quickly disengages himself from his HoloBand and rushes over to Joseph who is completely freaked. Joseph pushes Daniel away from him.

JOSEPH

The hell is that? What kind of sick, twisted thing are you doing here?

DANIEL

There's nothing twisted about it. And I didn't do it -- Zoe did.

JOSEPH

Zoe did.

DANIEL

(bittersweet)

Turns out... she was kind of a... chip off the old block.

Joseph can see the emotional currents just beneath the surface, wants to understand.

JOSEPH

That's not her. Our daughters... they're gone. You know that.

DANIEL

Yes. But I think they can come back.

JOSEPH

That's crazy.

DANIEL

Is it? You know what your brain is, Joseph? It's a database and processor. That's all. Information and a way to use it.

(beat)

What my daughter figured out... was how to harness all the information that made her who and what she was.

(beat)

It's genius, really. She took a search engine and turned it into a way to cheat death.

JOSEPH

That's not possible.

DANIEL

What you saw in there is everything about Zoe I knew. Everything I loved.

Joseph looks down at the HoloBand again.

JOSEPH

It's an illusion -- you said so yourself.

DANIEL

Joseph, that person you just saw -- they called her Zoe-A, by the way -- she's not... the original. I know that. She's a copy. A perfect copy. In every way.

JOSEPH

That doesn't make her your daughter.

DANIEL

There's an axiom in science: a difference that makes no difference... is no difference. She looks like Zoe, she talks like Zoe, she thinks like Zoe -- remembers all the events of her childhood, has the same likes, dislikes, flaws, strengths -- all of it. Who's to say her soul wasn't copied as well.

JOSEPH

You can't copy a soul.

DANIEL

And you would know that how? How can you prove or disprove that idea?

JOSEPH

Look... I know what I know, okay? And I know you can't copy a person.

DANIEL

Joseph... I know that Zoe-A is my daughter. I know it in the only place that counts -- here in my heart. The only difference between her and the Zoe that lived in this house is just that -- she lived in this house instead of a virtual world.

(beat)

I want to bring her here. I want her to live in this world once more. I want to hold her in my arms and I want to kiss her and I want her to feel the sun shine on her face.

(beat)

I want her to see the flowers at the side of the road, Joseph.

Joseph can feel his sincerity, wants to believe, doesn't know what to do.

JOSEPH

Go on.

Daniel hears the opportunity, the chance in Joseph's voice. He points to the computer to press his case.

DANIEL

(re: Computer)

To get her from in there to out here, I need a very special, very particular piece of equipment. I need something that will harness the virtual program Zoe wrote and let me put it into a physical body.

JOSEPH

A physical body. You mean like a robot?

DANIEL

"Robot's" a crude name for what we're talking about. This is a cybernetic life form node.

JOSEPH

It's still a machine.

DANIEL

Artificial skin, hair, eyes, make-up -- those are all just surface details. That's what we tell our children, isn't it? What matters is on the inside?

(pressing on)

The device I need is called a Meta-Cognitive Processor. The problem is, there's only one company that has such a device. And it's not Graystone Industries.

JOSEPH

(eyes narrow)

Okay...

DANIEL

The only one in existence is owned by the Vergis Corporation. Ever heard of it?

JOSEPH

It's in Mars City. On Tauron.

And as those words come out of his mouth, it dawns on Joseph what this has all been leading up to -- why he's here.

JOSEPH

You bastard.

DANIEL

I know your connection to the *Ha'la'tha*. I know who and what you are.

Daniel is between him and the door. Joseph steps right up to him -- his hard eyes glint dangerously.

JOSEPH
Get out of my way.

Daniel swallows, determined to hold his ground.

DANIEL
I know about the pit in your stomach. I know about the sleepless nights. I know about wishing and praying to whatever gods will listen that you could have everything back the way it was.
(beat)
I can bring Tamara back, Joseph.

JOSEPH
Get out of my way -- I won't say it again.

Daniel steps aside and Joseph starts moving toward the door.

DANIEL
(desperate)
Dammit Joseph, you can see your daughter again, isn't that worth any price you have to pay!

Joseph hesitates at the door.

DANIEL
If you walk out that door, you'll never know for sure. You'll always wonder. You'll walk past her room at night and you'll see her pictures and you'll ask yourself every day of the rest of your life whether you had a chance to bring her back.

Joseph turns back with rage and pain etched in his features.

DANIEL
If I'm wrong. You beat me up, have me killed -- whatever, I don't care. But if I'm right... and you can see Tamara again...

Joseph glares at him, but Daniel's got him. After a beat...

JOSEPH
I'll need a week.

END OF ACT FIVE

ACT SIX

FADE IN:

EXT. CAPRICA CITY - STREET - DAY

Joseph is walking William home from school.

JOSEPH

Willie... how would you feel if you could have your sister back? If she could be in our lives again?

WILLIAM

(shrugs)
I don't know.

JOSEPH

Don't you miss her?

WILLIAM

Sometimes. I miss Mommy too but...

JOSEPH

But what?

WILLIAM

(without emotion)
They're dead. We can't have them back so isn't moving on really the best thing to do?

Off Joseph, hearing a fatalism he's never heard from his son before...

INT. JOSEPH ADAMS' APARTMENT - DAY

Joseph SLAMS into the apartment and makes a bee line for Ruth in the living room.

JOSEPH

How dare you fill my son with all that Temple of Mars crap!

RUTH

I don't know what you're talking about.

JOSEPH

What's wrong with him believing there might be another life for his mother, his sister? What would be the harm in him thinking he might see them again?

RUTH

By the gods, you're sounding like one of these Caprican nut-cases with their afterlife nonsense.

JOSEPH

(furious)

S'ca'ya ghet t'a yhul!

RUTH

Finally! He speaks like a man.

(beat)

Whether you like it or not, William's a Tauron, something he knows deep down inside. Something no amount of time on Caprica will take away from him. You know this is true, because deep down inside, you are a Tauron too.

Off Joseph, knowing but not wanting to admit that what she's saying is true.

INT. MLMT PLATFORM - DAY

A large CROWD is waiting on the platform. Amanda pushes through the people, looking for someone, but the press of people is incredibly dense, making movement difficult. She struggles -- finally sees Zoe standing on the edge of the platform, looking down the tunnel for the next train. Amanda pushes against the press of humanity -- tries to yell, but has no voice.

She finally reaches Zoe -- Zoe glares at her with seething anger. Zoe tries to talk to her -- still no sound comes out of her mouth. Zoe watches her impassively. Amanda reaches out to embrace her daughter, but the second Amanda's hands touch her, Zoe is PROPELLED BACKWARD as if knocked back by a blow.

A MLMT TRAIN roars out of the tunnel just as Zoe falls right in its path --

Amanda tries to SCREAM --

INT. GRAYSTONE ESTATE - MASTER BEDROOM - MORNING

Amanda's eyes pop open in bed. She lies there, still reliving the experience of having personally killed her own daughter.

DANIEL (O.S.)

Good morning.

Amanda bolts upright to see Daniel, smiling, holding a tray of food and a single rose in a vase.

AMANDA
What -- what's this?

DANIEL
I made breakfast.

AMANDA
You made breakfast?

DANIEL
(mock insulted)
Excuse me, I used to cook for you
all the time.

With a flourish, he removes the dish-cover and presents the meal.

DANIEL
Eggs a la Graystone, wild mushroom
sausage, rosemary bread and freshly
brewed coffee. Enjoy.

She sees he's really making an effort and is touched. He sets the tray on the beside her and turns to go.

AMANDA
(impulsive)
I miss you.

The words strike home. He turns back and she pulls him down. Kisses him deeply and with sudden emotion.

DANIEL
We can get through this. We can.
Together. The two of us. Just us.

That strikes a guilty nerve with Amanda. She looks back down at the tray, starts to fuss with the food.

AMANDA
Yeah. The two of us.

DANIEL
Something wrong?

She hesitates for a moment, then...

AMANDA
A man came by the Hospital a few
days ago. An Agent Duram from the
Global Defense Department.
(tears well up)
Daniel, he accused Zoe of being
involved in... "Soldiers of the
One".
(losing it)
(MORE)

*
*

AMANDA (CONT'D)
That she might've been... one of
the terrorists on the Lev. Our
baby.

She grabs on to him as she starts to sob uncontrollably.
Daniel is grateful for the fact that she can't see his face
at the moment.

AMANDA
You think it could be true?

DANIEL
Of course not. They're just...
fishing for suspects.
(then)
Don't worry about it. Eat.

He wipes her tears away.

DANIEL
Eat and maybe later I'll give you
the chance to try and beat me in
straight sets.

He kisses her on the head, gets up and EXITS.

EXT. CAFE - DAY

Joseph meets with Sam over coffee.

JOSEPH
I need a favor, Sam. I don't even
know how it can be done but I need
something... stolen.

SAM
(amused)
Really? You? I'm listening.

JOSEPH
From the Vergis Corporation... on
Tauron.

SAM
That's a problem. Tomas Vergis is
a good friend of the *Gautrau*. I
doubt he'd sanction stealing from a
friend, so...

JOSEPH
What if I agreed to deliver the
message he wanted? To Secretary
Chambers?

SAM

That might change things. But isn't this one of those big lines of yours you're always so worried about crossing, Joe? Sure you really want to do that?

JOSEPH

I don't have any choice.
(beat)
Will you ask the *Guatrau*?

SAM

Consider it done.

Sam gets up and walks away.

INT. OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE - DAY

Joseph sits across from VAL CHAMBERS (70s) in the massive office of the Secretary of Defense. Chambers has an amused look on his face, while Joseph's is stone.

CHAMBERS

You're not actually threatening me, are you?

JOSEPH

Mr. Secretary, I'm simply delivering a message. There is no threat, real or implied, in anything I've told you.

Chambers studies him for another beat, still very amused.

CHAMBERS

You Taurons, you've got stones, I'll give you that --

JOSEPH

Are you making a racial comment?

CHAMBERS

No more than you're making a threat.

(leans forward)

Let's be clear. I don't like your boss. I don't like your planet and I don't like your people. But even a sack of shit has its uses.

(MORE)

CHAMBERS (CONT'D)

So you crawl under the rock where the "Gautrau" lives and you tell him that not only will I not be pressured or blackmailed, but that the government of Caprica is about to take a very special interest in him, his business, and his low-life lawyers.

Joseph eyes him calmly.

JOSEPH

Perhaps you'd like to sleep on it.

CHAMBERS

Deliver the message, errand boy. Word for word.

Joseph stands up.

JOSEPH

Good-bye, Mr. Secretary. Safe journey.

CHAMBERS

I'm not going anywhere.

Joseph just looks at him... then EXITS.

INT. GRAYSTONE ESTATE - MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

Daniel slips into bed with Amanda, softly kissing the nape of her neck. She responds sensuously, turning to face him. Their lips meet each other and soft gentle, kissing gives way to passion.

INTERCUT:

INT. JOSEPH ADAMS' APARTMENT - TAMARA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Joseph sits on his daughter's bed. He looks over at the desk, sees a family holo-photo of the four of them all in this very room, laughing at something Tamara has just done.

INTERCUT:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

That same night, we creep slowly through a well decorated bedroom that we've never seen before. As we get up to the occupant in the bed, we realize it's... Secretary Chambers. Sleeping soundly.

-- Amanda and Daniel give vent to pent-up feelings as weeks of grief and sadness give way to their pure desire for each other.

-- Joseph sits there in the room of his lost child, looking at the family that will never laugh like that again.

-- A SHADOW crosses over Chambers' face and remains there. Standing bedside is SAM, naked from the waist up, his body covered in the traditional TATTOOS.

-- Daniel and Amanda's passion...

-- Joseph's grief...

-- Sam's mission. He slowly pulls two elaborately intricate daggers from behind his back.

SAM

Hello, Val.

Chambers flips open his eyes in horror. Before he can utter a single shriek, Sam SLICES his throat cross-wise with the daggers.

SAM

Sa'gre'hsal, b'gher'ya, Ha'la'tha!

The lifeblood of Chambers flows over the sheets and his eyes dim...

... as Daniel and Amanda climax in one another's arms...

... and Joseph finally cries for his dead child...

... and Sam sheathes his daggers and leaves the room as swiftly as he entered it.

END OF ACT SIX

ACT SEVEN

FADE IN:

EXT. CAPRICA GENERAL HOSPITAL - DAY

Establishing shot.

SUPER TITLE: **One Month Later**

INT. CAPRICA GENERAL HOSPITAL - AMANDA'S OFFICE - DAY

Vergis, angrier than shit, storms into Amanda's office.

AMANDA

What the hell are you doing? You can't just charge in here whenever you're on Caprica and --

VERGIS

My development lab was broken into, a key piece of technology was stolen, and three of my best scientists were killed!

AMANDA

Call the police.

VERGIS

I have. And guess who my chief suspect is? Your husband.

AMANDA

Oh, come on, Tomas.

VERGIS

He wanted that technology. So he arranged for someone to get it. Took the only prototype. Destroyed the lab records. Killed the men who knew how it worked!

AMANDA

Is this what you've finally become, Tomas? A paranoid little man who actually believes that the richest and most powerful industrialist in the twelve worlds is a murderer and a thief?

(beat)

He wouldn't stoop to your level.

Vergis advances aggressively towards Amanda who doesn't flinch.

AMANDA

You try it, Tomas. You frakking
try touching me.

Vergis holds back.

AMANDA

No? Then get out of here before I
call security.

A beat and then...

VERGIS

So, it comes down to Daniel after
all.

AMANDA

It was always Daniel.

Another beat and then Vergis storms out.

EXT. GRAYSTONE ESTATE - NIGHT

Establish...

INT. GRAYSTONE ESTATE - DANIEL'S LABORATORY - NIGHT

Joseph is sitting at a work table while Daniel carefully
takes a SMALL ELECTRONIC DEVICE out of a durable, shock-proof
case. He's treating the device like it's extremely fragile.

DANIEL

Gotta hand it to Vergis... it's an
elegant design. Fortunately, it's
close enough to our preliminary
work that it shouldn't be too hard
for Cyrus to construct a convincing
paper trail...

He barely breathes as he carries the MCP and sets it into a
small CRADLE on the table. Then he seals it behind a GLASS
CASE. Once it's sealed, Daniel lets out a long breath.
Joseph is unmoved.

DANIEL

You know this has more raw
computing power than the three
supercomputers at Apollo University
combined?

JOSEPH

(flat)
Does it work?

DANIEL

I won't know that until I try to put it into a robotic body and try to download Zoe-A into it.

JOSEPH

How long?

DANIEL

Couple days. Got a surprise for you, though.

Daniel gestures to the FLASH stick over on the work bench, where it's enmeshed in a maze of circuitry and connections.

DANIEL

Tamara-A is ready to go.

JOSEPH

What...?

DANIEL

I used Zoe's original avatar program to search and download any data on Tamara Adams -- school records, medical, DNA -- well, you've heard the list. About 300 megabytes worth.

JOSEPH

(shocked)

You mean... she's... in there?

DANIEL

(barely hearing him)

You know, the more I work with Zoe's code, the more I realize she was nothing short of a computer genius... can't believe I never noticed...

JOSEPH

I want to see her.

He gestures to a HoloBand.

DANIEL

Thought you would. Go through the yellow door.

Joseph looks over at the HoloBand like it suddenly turned into a snake that might bite him. He gingerly picks it up and puts it on...

INT. BLUE ROOM

Joseph finds himself in the blue limbo once more. TWO DOORS now float before him -- brown and YELLOW. He OPENS the Yellow door --

INT. HOLDING ROOM 2 - CONTINUOUS

Virtually identical to the other Holding Room with the same generic furniture. Joseph ENTERS and sees --

TAMARA

Sitting on the far side of the room, her head in her hands and looking very, very frightened. She looks up at her father... there's a moment before she recognizes him.

TAMARA

Daddy...?

JOSEPH

My gods...

Joseph moves toward her, sweeps her up in his arms, his heart bursting.

JOSEPH

It's okay, honey... I'm right here...

TAMARA

Oh, Daddy. I'm so scared. What is this place... why am I here...?

JOSEPH

It's confusing, I know. But it's all going to be all right.

TAMARA

I feel so strange...

JOSEPH

You're fine. Everything's all right.

She pulls back from him, her breath coming in short, frightened pants as hysteria begins to creep up on her.

TAMARA

No it's not. This isn't right. Something's wrong -- really, really wrong. What's going on? Why's the door locked? Why can't I leave here?

JOSEPH

This will take some time to explain... the important thing is... we're together...

TAMARA

(starting to lose it)

I can't remember how I got here...
I can't remember where I was before now... none of this seems real...
I don't feel real... this isn't... real. This isn't REAL!

JOSEPH

Willie misses you -- I miss you --
we can be a family again --

TAMARA

Daddy, I can't feel my heart! WHY ISN'T MY HEART BEATING!?

She SCREAMS --

INT. DANIEL'S PRIVATE LAB - NIGHT

Joseph tears the HoloBand from his head and throws it across the lab.

DANIEL

You okay -- what happened?

Joseph's heart is racing -- touches his chest, aware on some level of the irony. It takes a moment to steady himself.

JOSEPH

Destroy it.

DANIEL

What?

JOSEPH

She doesn't want to live like that... she couldn't feel her heart... it's an abomination.

DANIEL

It's a miracle. Joseph -- she's probably confused by everything, that's only natural. But once she's out of the virtual world and in a real body --

Joseph suddenly PINS HIM TO THE WALL, barely restrained violence now boiling to the surface. Daniel's eyes go wide.

JOSEPH
(low, deadly)
Destroy... it. Now.

DANIEL
Okay. Okay, Joe... whatever you
say.

Joseph releases him, and Daniel picks up a computer sheet and makes a few marks. He holds it out for Joseph to see.

DANIEL
There -- I've wiped all the files
from memory. She's gone.

Joseph suddenly can't get out of here fast enough. He heads for the door.

DANIEL
You'll be back. A week, a month, a
year.

JOSEPH
Our daughter's are dead. I have to
live with that. And so do you.

Joseph EXITS.

DANIEL
(quiet)
No. No, I don't.

As Daniel goes back to working on the computer sheet.

END OF ACT SEVEN

ACT EIGHT

FADE IN:

INT. JOSEPH ADAMS' OFFICE - DAY

Joseph has buried himself in paperwork. Sam enters the room, a dark cloud over him. Joseph notices him from the corner of his eye but doesn't turn his attention away from his paperwork.

JOSEPH
I'm due in court in fifteen
minutes, Sam.

SAM
It won't take long.

Joseph looks up.

JOSEPH
Okay...

SAM
I have some news.

JOSEPH
Obviously not good news.

SAM
It's about the bombing.

JOSEPH
Sam, I don't--

SAM
You must hear this. You know who
Daniel Graystone is?

JOSEPH
(giving away nothing)
I've heard of him.

SAM
(choking on it)
It was his daughter, Yoseef.

For Joseph, it's as if the room starts spinning.

JOSEPH
What are you saying?

SAM
His frakking daughter was one of
the terrorists who murdered Tamara
and Shannon.

JOSEPH

You're sure about this?

SAM

The Gautrau has a source in the Defense Department. She sent some kind of "last message" before she died.

(turning red)

I promised you that who ever did this would die. I don't care how powerful the bastard is, I'll find a way to--

JOSEPH

(turning steely)

Not yet, Sam. I promise you we'll take care of this. But we'll wait for the right time.

Off Sam, looking into his brother's eyes and what he sees scares him...

INT. HOLDING ROOM

Daniel is in the virtual room sitting on the couch with Zoe-A.

ZOE-A

You really think this is gonna work?

DANIEL

It'll work. Remember, this is what I do.

ZOE-A

Yeah. This is what you do.

She gets up off the couch and walks away for a few steps.

DANIEL

What is it?

ZOE-A

There's a part of me that... doesn't want this to work.

DANIEL

Why?

ZOE-A

I don't want to be on Caprica.

DANIEL

It's your home.

ZOE-A

No it's not. It's never been my home -- and it stopped being home for... the other Zoe a long time ago.

DANIEL

I don't know what that's supposed to--

ZOE-A

Daddy, why do you think your daughter was on a Lev train instead of being in school?

Daniel looks uncomfortable, hasn't wanted to think about that.

ZOE-A

Think she was just cutting school? Going shopping? She was leaving Caprica. And she wasn't coming back.

DANIEL

You don't know what she was doing. You can't know -- you weren't there.

ZOE-A

I know where she was going. She told me. She had a plan. She was going to Gemenon. You know why? Because she found God -- the real God.

*

Daniel's up and on his feet.

DANIEL

Stop it.

*

ZOE-A

The children of Caprica are lost, Daddy. We're all lost if we don't turn to the light.

*

*

*

DANIEL

We'll talk about this later.

ZOE-A

When are you going to realize that "later" is too late. When did you ever listen, ever want to listen? You and Mom, you just knew everything. And your arrogance was killing your daughter.

*

*

*

*

*

*

(MORE)

ZOE-A (CONT'D)

That's why you lost her... not
because of some bomb.

*

Daniel looks at her for a long beat then raises his hands to
his head --

*

INT. DANIEL'S PRIVATE LAB - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

Where Daniel is taking the HoloBand off. He waits a beat,
then moves to the U-87 ROBOT seen earlier. THE MCP is
sitting in the robot's HEAD -- essentially, its "brain."

As he begins to ACTIVATE the power systems of the robot...

INT. DANIEL'S PRIVATE LAB - NIGHT

Daniel is working at the computers. The ROBOT begins to
POWER UP, its systems coming to life. Data is rolling across
the monitor screens. In a scene right out of Frankenstein,
the lab is filled with flashing lights, beeping consoles...

... Daniel watches the robot... and IT BEGINS TO MOVE! Tears
of joy stream to his eyes, as the ROBOT TURNS to look at him.

Then suddenly, it all collapses. ALARMS sound, the data
streams stop and the monitors all start to display the same
message:

SYSTEM ERROR. DATA CRASH. IRRECOVERABLE ERROR.

DANIEL

No-no-no-no-

The ROBOT COLLAPSES backward, and falls inert to the floor.
Daniel rushes to the monitors, tries to rework the controls,
but to no avail. Desperate, he picks up the HoloBand --

INT. HOLDING ROOM

Daniel is here, but no Zoe-A. He looks around wildly.

DANIEL

Zoe! ZOE!!!!

But no one answers. She's gone. He stands there alone,
suddenly very much aware that his daughter is truly dead.

INT. JOSEPH ADAMS' APARTMENT - WILLIAM'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Joseph sits with William in his bedroom.

JOSEPH

We're going to make a new beginning
starting tonight, you and me.

(MORE)

JOSEPH (CONT'D)

Our family will survive this, we're going to put our lives back together. Your mother is gone and Tamara is gone. They're not coming back.

Suddenly, without warning, tears begin to stream down William's cheeks. Joseph takes his son in his arms and they hold each other tight as Joseph struggles with his own emotions.

JOSEPH

I want you to know who you are, William. We come from a long, proud line of Tauron peasants who knew how to work the land and still stand proud. You're named after your grandfather, did I ever tell you that?

WILLIAM

No.

JOSEPH

He was killed in the Tauron uprising fighting for what he believed was the right of all the Children of Kobol -- to live free. It's a good name William and you should wear it proudly. And our last name isn't Adams - I changed it when I arrived on Caprica.

(beat)

Our family name is... ADAMA and it's a good, honorable Tauron name.

Tears begin streaming down his cheeks as he holds his son. We then notice RUTH in the doorway, taking in the scene.

EXT. GRAYSTONE INDUSTRIES - DAY

Establishing.

INT. GRAYSTONE INDUSTRIES - TESTING ARENA

The U-87 ROBOT (last seen firing paint balls at the observation window) is down on the test floor, its weapon at the ready. The room has now been set up with a variety of OBSTACLES.

ANGLE - OBSERVATION ROOM

Looking down on the arena, are Daniel, Cyrus, a WOMAN with jet-black hair and glasses, and a TRIO of CAPRICAN MILITARY OFFICERS. Daniel looks noticeably older since we last saw him, a sense that he's aged years in only a few days.

ON THE TESTING FLOOR

SIX small Serge-like ROBOTS ENTER the arena from six different doors and begin to FIRE PAINTBALLS at the U-87. The reaction is swift and startling -- the U-87 whirls around and avoids all the paintballs, while at the same time it takes aim and FIRES back.

Each of the smaller robots tries to hide behind the obstacles, but each one is hit with a paintball as the U-87 ducks and dives with fluid movements too fast and supple to be human. In a matter of seconds, the demonstration is over. The U-87 has hit each and every attack robot with a precisely aimed paintball, while never once taking a hit. The U-87 brings itself back to attention, and looks up toward the Observation Window as if awaiting instructions.

ANGLE - OBSERVATION ROOM

The military officers are clearly impressed, and start to talk quietly among themselves. The woman -- SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JOAN LEYTE (50s) -- turns to Daniel.

LEYTE

Dr. Graystone... you may just have won yourself a contract.

Cyrus is ready to cheer, but restrains himself. Daniel barely reacts, his eyes weary and a bit haunted.

DANIEL

Thank you, Madam Secretary.

She looks back down toward the testing floor, where TECHNICIANS are OPENING the head casing of the U-87, revealing the MCP now nestled inside.

LEYTE

That's your Meta-Cognitive Processor?

DANIEL

Yes.

LEYTE

You know Vergis Corporation has made certain... accusations.

CYRUS

Sour grapes. If they really thought they had a case, they'd have us in court by now.

LEYTE

Pity that the Official Secrets Act prevents them from doing just that.

(MORE)

LEYTE (CONT'D)

(beat)

But no matter. We had no intention of taking this contract off-world anyway. It's been my experience that you can never trust a Tauron. Deceit is in their DNA.

Daniel nods absently and follows Leyte and the others as they leave the observation area.

LEYTE

(going away)

What'd you call it -- ?

DANIEL

A cybernetic life-form node. A "Cylon," Madam Secretary.

LEYTE

Hmm. Cylon. Interesting.

Secretary Leyte and her entourage leave. On Daniel, as he stares down at his creation...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. GRAYSTONE ESTATE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Daniel sits alone drinking a glass of milk when Amanda comes in.

AMANDA

What's wrong?

He looks up at her for a long moment.

DANIEL

(everything)

Nothing.

AMANDA

I miss her too.

She puts her arms around him and they hold each other.

INT. THE V-CLUB - OUTSIDE VIP ROOM

Lacy stands outside the familiar door with the Infinity Symbol, then pushes OPEN the door and goes inside --

INT. VIP ROOM (CONTINUOUS)

Lacy looks around the empty room, disappointed, but not really surprised.

LACY

I knew she wouldn't be here.

REVEAL Sister Clarice coming in the door right behind her. Clarice is wearing her own version of the little black dress in lieu of her vestments. Clarice takes the news with equanimity.

CLARICE

It was worth a try.

(beat)

I want to see more of this place.

LACY

There's some... pretty rough stuff out there.

CLARICE

My child, I grew up in a slum on Sagitarron. Believe me, there's nothing in the twelve worlds that can shock me.

Lacy shrugs and leads her out the door. *

INT. GRAYSTONE INDUSTRIES - LAB - NIGHT

The place is deserted. The equipment, idle for the night. The U-87 lays on the workbench, immobile. But only for a second or so. It suddenly MOVES, then STANDS, scans the room, sees a mirror. The U-87 walks over to a mirror and stares at itself. A beat, then it places its hand on the mirror.

Suddenly aware of what it is.

INT. THE V-CLUB - BAR

Lacy and Clarice moving through the crowd of teens, some of whom digitally SHADE their faces at the sight of Clarice. Lacy suddenly reacts to something.

CLARICE

What?

LACY

My phone's ringing.

CLARICE

It's all right. Go on. I think I've seen enough. We'll talk tomorrow.

Lacy reaches up to her temples and then she DISAPPEARS. The moment she's gone, a FIGURE approaches Clarice from out of the darkened crowd.

BOY'S VOICE
Sister...?

Clarice turns and her face lights up with the joy of recognition.

CLARICE
I was praying I'd find you here.

She holds out her arms and the avatar of BEN STARK steps out of the shadows and embraces Clarice.

BEN-A
All praise to The One. *

And just as we're trying to assimilate that revelation...

INT. LACY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lacy is hunting for her still-ringing phone in the jumble of her bedroom.

LACY
Coming! I'm coming! Hang on...

She finally finds the phone and answers it.

LACY
Yeah? Hello?

VOICE
(on phone; very filtered)
Lacy.

LACY
Who is this?

VOICE
It's me. Zoe.

Lacy's eyes go wide.

INT. GRAYSTONE INDUSTRIES - LAB - NIGHT

The Robot Zoe, holding a phone near its face.

ZOE-R
I'm... here. And I think... I'm
going to need your help. *

The Robot Zoe turns and looks out the window, staring down at the city below as we...

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW