

ALIENS: CREW EXPENDABLE

TITLE: "Crew Expendable"

CHARACTERS: - ELLA WHISK : headstrong young engineer -
CAPTAIN HECKLE : seasoned leader of the Thanatos crew -
CANDICE/C4N-DIX : ship A.I.

1

INT. SPACE SHIP THANATOS, BRIDGE - NIGHT

1

Sound : A loud alarm rings throughout the ship. Running footsteps. An automatic door closes.

HECKLE

Whisk, check on the backup generator! Candice, Give us an eye on corridor 7!

Sound : A screen turns on. Alien creature screams through statics.

HECKLE (CONT'D)

God dammit, it's already breaking free. Candice! Prepare the self-destruct sequence, code C-4-N-D-1-X!

CANDICE (O.S.)

Apologies, Captain Heckle. I am unable to execute your order.

Whisk opens electrical panels.

Sound : Opening panels and ruffling wires.

WHISK

Where's the problem? I have my tool kit, I can fix it!

CANDICE (O.S.)

There is no damage to be fixed. The system is operational.

HECKLE

Then do what I say! Your number one priority is the safety of this crew!

CANDICE (O.S.)

Incorrect. My directive includes the safety of the Thanatos's crew only as long as the mission is fulfilled.

WHISK

Everyone's dead! There's no mission left!

CANDICE (O.S.)

Also incorrect. I must now ensure that the specimen is returned alive to earth for research.

WHISK

(horrified)

It was you...You sabotaged the escape pods!

CANDICE (O.S.)

A precautionary measure. The specimen cannot be allowed to accidentally escape.

Sound : Heckle crumbles down. Whisk runs to him.

WHISK

Captain? Captain! Uncle Jim!

HECKLE

I should've never brought you on this mission. I'm so sorry...

Sound : Alien screams through the static of the screen.

HECKLE (CONT'D)

(whispers)

Take one of the fuses. Work your magic, and fix up a pod. I'll buy you some time.

WHISK

No... No way! I-I can't do this.

HECKLE

It's ok. I saw you turn a one into a walk-in freezer this morning. You can do this, Whiskers.

WHISK

That was just a fluke, I-

(pause)

Wait, that's it! Candice! You have to bring back the specimen alive, right?

CANDICE

Affirmative.

WHISK

But it's destroying the ship from the inside. You'll never make it back at this rate. What if we put it in a cryogenic sleep?

CANDICE

The specimen is too large for the beds.

WHISK

I can make the whole pod a cryogenic chamber. We know it survives in extreme cold. We lure it there, freeze it and directly send it back home. Fast and efficient.

Sound : Hesitant computer beeping.

CANDICE

Very well. Pod number 5 has been reactivated.

Heckle and Whisk whisper.

HECKLE

What are you thinking?

WHISK

The heating system is in the same panel as the cryogenic one. Also we're gonna need floor wax.

HECKLE

Your crazy's just what we need right now. I'm gonna need that flame thrower.

2

INT. CORRIDOR 7 - NIGHT

2

Sound : Careful quiet footsteps, heavy breathing.

HECKLE

Whisk, can you hear me?

Sound : Radio static.

WHISK

Rewiring now. I should be done soon. What about you?

Sound : Alien high-pitched whine. Footsteps stop then slowly step back.

HECKLE
Candice, any suggestions?

CANDICE (O.S.)
Run.

Sound : Alien screeches. Heckle fires flame thrower and runs.

HECKLE
Incoming, Whisk!

3 **INT. ESCAPE PODS SECTOR - NIGHT**

3

Sound : Alien screeches and panting over the radio. Metallic tinkering quickens.

WHISK
Come on, come on, work!

Sound : Running footsteps and alien screeches approaching.

HECKLE
Now, Whisk! Now!

Sound : Electric fuses connects. Machine starting.

WHISK
Uncle Jim, move!

Heckle jumps to the side with a grunt.

Sound : Alien slips on the ground and into the pod.

HECKLE
Candice, now!

Sound : The pod closes. Muffled alien screams. A button is pushed and beeps.

WHISK
Enjoy the sauna, motherfucker!

Sound : Intense fiery cremation. Alien screams fading.

CANDICE (O.S.)
You tricked me.

WHISK
What's your directive now?

Pause.

CANDICE (O.S.)
Setting course for earth.