

One in a Trillion - Canvatas (Feature)

Written by

Marven Likness

Marven.Likness@gmail.com  
Phone Number

One In A Thousand - Canvatas (Feature Presentation)

\*Special Note: Due to the nature of this film it should be made with Closed Captioning. Anywhere there are {brackets} that is signing in the film. Sim-com (voice while signing) is also used as much as possible. Even though content in the brackets are in English grammar the grammar when filmed should be changed into grammar of signed target audiences.\*

LARGE LETTERS ON THE SCREEN "ONE IN A TRILLION"

Large cargo ship in space. The planet Jupiter is visible in the background. Raider ships attack the ship and its military escort.

NARRATOR (V,O)

In a time far in the future. Humans have colonized every possible area of Earth's solar system. Humans at this time are ruled by a purist government that rose to power three hundred years earlier.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Earth and its solar system are almost out of unique resources. Fighting escalates as different factions fight for control of what is left.

FADE

EXT EARTH ARC - SPACE

NARRATOR (V,O)

Earth has a plan to send people to a new solar system. Destination Canvatas.

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

A vessel named "The Arc" has a diameter the size of Earth's moon and is almost ready to depart. The 60+ year voyage has three objectives.

1. Create a foothold in Canvatas.
2. Terraform two planets for future colonization.

NARRATOR (CONT'D)  
3. Mine resources and transport  
them back to Earth.

FADE

EXT EIFFEL TOWER - DAY

Eiffel tower is in the back ground. In the sky there are two objects. One is the Moon the other a large cylindrical object the size of the moon.

KOMAL (20s) and JENNIFER (20s) enter shot. Jennifer is pushing a buggy with SARAH (3) and BRENDA (3). The group stop and look at the view.

JENNIFER  
Oh! The moon and the Arc in one place.

KOMAL  
I don't think I have ever seen them both at the same time.

Jennifer taps a MAN (70s) on his shoulder.

JENNIFER  
Can you take a picture of us?

MAN  
Sure.

Jennifer and Komal pick up the twins and setup by a railing with the Eiffel tower, moon and the Arc behind them. The old man raises his watch and aims it at the girls.

MAN (CONT'D)  
Say Sneeze!

The girls chuckle as the old man's watch flashes. He looks at his watch then swipes towards the girls. The girls watches ding. Jennifer and Komal tap their watches and a holographic photo appears above each watch.

JENNIFER  
Oh, That's a lovely shot. Thank you.

The old man smiles and goes back to where he was sitting. The girls turn towards the tower.

JENNIFER (CONT'D)  
I can't thank you enough for  
bringing us on this trip.

KOMAL  
Think nothing of it. You deserve to  
be here.

JENNIFER  
I wish Jack could have come.  
Neither of us have been to Earth  
since the girls were born.

KOMAL  
He works too hard. Do me a favor  
and remember this place. Before the  
ceremony tomorrow I want to show it  
to you on the Arc.

JENNIFER  
They recreated Paris on the Arc?

KOMAL  
Pluto had a great deal building it.

JENNIFER  
Oh. My.

FADE

EXT PARIS ON ARC - DAY

The girls are standing in the same spot. The sky is blue. The  
moon and Arc have been replaced with a large faint column  
across the sky.

It is dead quiet with no people in the square. Only the  
sounds of birds can be heard. Robots tend to the area.

JENNIFER  
It looks the same only empty.

KOMAL  
Every time I come it is the same.  
At least until night. The night  
life here is packed.

Jennifer approaches a robot.

JENNIFER  
Take our picture?

ROBOT

Yes Madam.

Jennifer and Komal lift the children and pose. Their watches ding. Jennifer looks at the holographic picture. She swipes from the new picture to the one taken a day before.

JENNIFER

Other than the sky they look the exact same. I can't believe this city will stay empty for decades.

KOMAL

Well that's not entirely true.

JENNIFER

What do you mean?

Komal looks as if she has said something she shouldn't have. Komal's watch dings. She looks at her watch.

KOMAL

I. Umm. We have to go. The ceremony is going to start soon.

The girls rush from the scene.

FADE

INT. PASSENGER COMPARTMENT - NIGHT

Full first class passenger compartment. Dimly lit. Most seem to be sleeping or watching a movie.

Jennifer and Komal are seated with Sarah and Brenda on their lap.

JENNIFER

I am so glad we are on the way back to Pluto. Earth is nice but it's not home.

KOMAL

I am just looking forward to sleeping in my own bed.

JENNIFER

They went all out for Pluto's contribution to the Arc Project.

KOMAL

(Fake British accent)  
I felt like a Queen the whole time.

JENNIFER

Well you were the star. President of the Pluto trade union and all. Sarah and Brenda had the time of their lives.

KOMAL

Think nothing of it you helped out the project immensely. I don't think we could have finished the project on time without you.

Red lights start to flash and seat belt signs light up. The women place the children into their protective seats and buckle them up.

PA SYSTEM (O,S)

Please store your belongings and fasten your harnesses. Raiders have been spotted.

KOMAL

That's strange, I thought they only attacked full ships headed for Earth.

JENNIFER

Seems like they are hitting anything these days.

KOMAL

At least we have an escort time.

Lighting in the room goes to a red glow. There are flashes from the windows. The children wake up.

Jennifer and Komal reach over and hold the toddlers hands.

JENNIFER

This is not right. Not right at all! I am scared.

KOMAL

We will be fine.

There are more flashes. the ship shakes. Everything goes dark.

FADE

EXT. CARGO SHIP - SPACE

Ships battle in space. A large ship receives a direct hit to the engines and the thrusters flame out.

FADE

ENT. PASSENGER COMPARTMENT - NIGHT

Red lights illuminate and flashes of yellow arrows are everywhere.

PA SYSTEM (O,S)  
Abandon Ship! Abandon ship! Hull  
breach imminent.

PA SYSTEM (O,S) (CONT'D)  
Leave all belongings and make your  
way to the escape pods Immediately!

Pandemonium erupts. Jennifer and Komal frantically unstrap themselves and the children. They run off in the direction of flashing arrows. Lights flicker, people scream and everyone is pushing and shoving each other.

Komal and Jennifer get separated. They try calling out for each other but keep getting pushed further and further apart.

Jennifer and Sarah are shoved into a life pod. Jennifer straps in but there are no accommodations for a child. Jennifer unzips her jacket, places Sara inside then zips it back up. Jennifer hangs onto Sarah with all her might.

FADE

EXT. CARGO SHIP - SPACE

Ships continue to fight. A pod is jettisoned and clipped by a stray laser. The lights flicker off and it spins out of sight.

Fighting continues as pods are picked off by raiders.

FADE

INT. PLUTO APARTMENT - DAY

Open concept apartment. Bulk heads poke their way through some of the walls.

ABBUD (50s) and JACK (20s) are seated at a dinner table. Both men look like they just got home from a dirty job. Music in the background.

ABBUD

Are you looking forward to the girls getting back today?

JACK

Four weeks. We have never been separated that long. I miss them so much.

ABBUD

You just miss the home cooking. Ha ha ha.

The music cuts off and an alternating alert is broadcasted.

Both look towards the living room.

NEWS CASTER (O.S)

Another military action near Jupiter has broken out today. A transport ship has been attacked. The central government says the incident will be dealt with swiftly.

The news cast tapers off. Jack jumps up and grabs a tablet. He frantically taps the screen as he paces back and forth then slowly sits back down in his chair.

ABBUD

What is it? What happened?

Jack sits down slowly.

JACK

It's the girls. That was their ship. There has been a hull breach.

ABBUD

Oh God!

FADE

INT. MILITARY BRIDGE - DAY

CAPTAIN (50s) shouts to an OFFICER (30s)

CAPTAIN

Any life signs? Any at all?



OFFICER

We are looking Sir. There is so much debris it is hard to tell.

The officer mutters under his breath.

FIRST OFFICER

It would be amazing if anyone survived that destruction.

SAILER

Sir, I have something Sir. Heat signatures are very faint but they're there. Life pod Three kilometers off the port bow. Non functional but there are heat signatures in the cabin.

CAPTAIN

Send a recovery team immediately. Keep searching for more. There were sixty thousand people on that ship.  
(pause)  
There has to be more.

FIRST OFFICER

On it Sir!

INT. LIFE POD - NIGHT

Dimly lit life pod. Signs of frost. One passenger still strapped in dead with ice hanging from his nose. A pile of bodies against a wall.

Sparks emanate from the hatch. Once cut out the door is pushed out of the way. It hits the floor with a loud clang. An OFFICER 2 (20) peers into the craft.

OFFICER 2

Clear!  
(mutters under breath)  
Oh God.

A MEDIC (20) scans the pile. Officers rush in and carefully pull apart bodies.

OFFICER 2 (CONT'D)

There cold  
(pause)  
and dead!

The medic is scanning pile as the officers move more bodies out of the way.

MEDIC

Keep looking. I still see some heat signatures.

More bodies are removed revealing Jennifer with Sarah in her clutches.

MEDIC (CONT'D)

I have one, alive! And another!

FADE

INT. PLUTO HOSPITAL - DAY

Crowded Hospital waiting room. A large group are watching news reports of the attack on a waiting room monitor. NURSE (25) enters the room. The nurse looks down at a tablet then announces.

NURSE

Mr. Jacobowitz I am looking for Jack Jacobowitz.

Jack raises his arm and runs to the doctor. Followed closely by Abbud.

JACK

(panicked)

I am Jack! Are they ok? Can I see them?

NURSE

Come with me. I will take you to them.

ABBUD

What about Komal? Komal Jacobowitz. Is she ok? I will come too.

NURSE

Sorry Sir, I don't know about Komal but I will ask. One at a time for now.

JACK

Stay here. I will be back with news as soon as I can.

Time passes on a clock on the wall beside a screen showing news reports of the attack.

Jack wheels his wife into the waiting room. She looks very beaten up with an IV strung to her arm. Abbud rushes over.

ABBUD

Are you ok? You look like hell.

JENNIFER

Gee thanks dad. A little beaten up and frost bitten but I am ok.

ABBUD

And the others? What about Komal? And the girls? No one is telling us anything!

JACK

Komal and the kids are in recovery. They are heavily sedated and sleeping at the moment. Looks like Sarah is in the worst shape. They tell us she will pull through.

JENNIFER

When they found us we were unconscious. Sarah also has some frostbite and other issues.

ABBUD

Issues. What issues?

JACK

She can't hear anything. The doctors say it is temporary but she is very frightened.

Abbud kneels down and hugs his daughter. Jack puts his hands on Jennifer's shoulder. Others in the room place their hands on the family. Some start to pray.

The news increases in volume.

ALTERNATING NEWSCASTER (O,S)

Reports say the raiders overwhelmed the fighter escort and went straight for the container ship with no regard for civilian life. The manifest listed 58,265 soles on board. Less than a thousand were able to jettison in life pods before the hull breached.

ALTERNATING NEWSCASTER 2 (O,S)

The central government has halted all but essential transport immediately. Until the raiders can be caught and dealt with a transport ban is in place.

## ALTERNATING NEWSCASTER (O.S.)

The Arc launch is less than a year away. The central government has diverted most of its military forces to protect it at all costs.

## INT. PLUTO HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Jennifer is looking a little better. Her swelling has gone down and her cuts are starting to heal. Sarah and Brenda are playing with some toys on a bed. The Doctor (45) enters the room.

## JACK

Doctor, why hasn't Sarah got her hearing back? You said it was temporary and that she would hear again. It's been days.

## DOCTOR

I am sorry to say the damage to Sarah was much more than we first suspected. We have fixed the nerves in her inner ear but did not see the damage to her brain until the results came back from her detailed body scan.

## DOCTOR (CONT'D)

The damage can be repaired but we do not have the equipment to do it here. She will have to be transported to Earth for the treatment.

## DOCTOR (CONT'D)

I have been in contact with Earth. They are ready to help Sarah. We have an issue with transport though. With the new travel restrictions she does not qualify for essential travel.

## JACK

Not essential! How long will it take before Sarah can go to Earth?

## DOCTOR

I wish I had an answer for you. We may have to wait until the ban is lifted. She is otherwise fit for discharge. You can take her home today.

JACK

What can we do for her at home? How will we communicate?

DOCTOR

I know some people that can help with that. I can't tell you about it here.

JACK

Why not?

DOCTOR

I work with some amazing people. They will know exactly how to help Sarah and your family. They are not part of my team so I will have them contact you directly. It may take a couple of days.

JENNIFER

What do we do until then?

DOCTOR

Take Sarah home and make her comfortable for now. I will have my contact get in touch with you. We will set up an appointment with Sarah in a week to check on her condition.

INT. PLUTO APARTMENT - DAY

The news in the background.

ALTERNATING NEWSCASTER (O,S)

The central government announced the Arc is almost ready for departure. The time has come to travel beyond our solar system.

ALTERNATING NEWSCASTER (O,S) (CONT'D)

After many years of searching for a system abundant in resources and the possibility of supporting human life. We are ready to send people to the Canvatas system.

ALTERNATING NEWSCASTER 2 (O,S)

Propulsion experts say that harnessing neutrino technology made this dream a reality.

(MORE)

## ALTERNATING NEWSCASTER 2

We have been using the technology on probs to the Canvatas system for decades but not on a ship as large as the Arc.

## ALTERNATING NEWSCASTER (O,S)

The science is still suspect after the failure of the Liston project. The Liston project was designed to test both the newest neutrino technology and the ability of cryogenically suspending organic matter for the long journey.

## ALTERNATING NEWSCASTER 2 (O,S)

The Liston project was a complete failure. It was near completion when it prematurely activated it's sales. The ship departed at tremendous speed. Crew on board were not expected to have lived through the intense inertial forces on their bodies when it hurled itself into deep space.

## INT. EARTH GOVERNMENT PRESS GALLERY - DAY

Official government podium in front of a press gallery. A SCIENCE ADVISOR (60), in a white lab coat is at the podium.

## SCIENCE ADVISOR

For a long time we have been researching the Canvatas system. This system is much larger than ours. It has 23 planets. Two of the planets are in what we call the green zone. We believe minimal terraforming would be needed for people to live very comfortable.

## SCIENCE ADVISOR (CONT'D)

The system is also extremely abundant in all types of resources.

## SCIENCE ADVISOR (CONT'D)

More information will be released very soon.

Hands go up in the gallery.

INT. EARTH NEWS DESK - DAY

Headline "Human Expansion to a New World". On the wall behind the anchor desk is a photo of the Arc. A long cylindrical shape with large purple sails.

News caster 1 (45) and NEWSCASTER 2 (35) ARE AT THE DESK.

NEWSCASTER 1

We all know the hard work it has been to get the Arc ready for launch this year. Final preparations are already under way to finish the enormous ship on time. The ship or Arc as they are calling it will be able to start terraforming and mining operations in the Canvatas system. Harvested resources will be returned to Earth.

NEWSCASTER 2

Cryogenics chambers will be available for crew members. At the moment a person can be suspended for about one year before Cryogen Degradation becomes an issue. Once revived for a few months and treated for Cryogen Disease a person can be re-suspended for another year.

NEWSCASTER 1

Plants and animals on the ship will not be cryogenically suspended. They will be shipped in artificial ecosystems. Most of the daily tasks of ship and cargo maintenance will be handled by a huge army of robots.

NEWSCASTER 2

Since the plan is to deploy the ship to two planets the ship has been built as two independent ships that join together for the intergalactic trip. One ship named North and the other South.

NEWSCASTER 2 (CONT'D)

This is to reflect the north and south poles of Earth. It will be hollow inside.

(MORE)

## NEWSCASTER 2 (CONT'D)

The outer walls will rotate around a large center column. The center column will house the storage for the enormous neutrino sails. It will also hold the artificial lighting designed to shine on the cargo containers as they rotate. The outer shell will consist of tens of thousands of cargo containers. Each container can operate independently of each other for deployment in the new system.

## NEWSCASTER 1

The containers will be the height of a mountain and as wide as a great lake. Most will be empty for the trip to Canvatas. After resources are harvested they will be filled for the return trip.

## ALTERNATING NEWS CASTER

The entire outer ring of the ship will rotate under a light source in the center to simulate sunlight. Some rings will turn at faster than others to simulate different Latitudes on Earth. The light will have different intensities to simulate different distances from Earth's equator or poles and Earth's tilt to the sun.

## ALTERNATING NEWS CASTER (CONT'D)

On the outside of the ship will be two retractable sails. The sails once extended will be far wider than the Arc. The side has four neutrino collectors that will harness energy for powering daily functions.

## EXT. PLUTO PARK - NIGHT

A row of apartments on the edge of a court yard. Three hooded people in long dark brown robes approach an apartment door at the edge of a park. The smallest of the three looks around and waves the other two to a bench nearby.

The figure walks towards the front door and presses the doorbell.

CUT TO:



INT. PLUTO APARTMENT - DAY

Sarah and Brenda are playing on the Living room floor. Abbud is sitting on the couch watching tv with Jack. Jennifer is walking towards them with a coffee in hand. The doorbell rings.

JENNIFER  
I'll get it.

Jennifer opens the front door. There is a short woman with a hood over her head. She pulls off her hood and reveals long wavy blond hair and blue eyes.

BECKY  
Hi my name is Becky. I was sent to talk to you. Can I come in.

JENNIFER  
Sent? By who?

BECKY  
Dr. Rogers sent me.

JENNIFER  
Oh. Ok.

BECKY  
I was told you have a Deaf daughter. I am here to help.

Jack walks up behind Jennifer.

JACK  
Who is it?

JENNIFER  
It's Becky she was referred to us by Dr. Rogers.

BECKY  
Please can I come in and talk?

JENNIFER  
Yes, please come in.

Becky enters the home. She looks at the two girls then at Abbud.

BECKY  
Can I talk to you two privately first?

JENNIFER

What is all the cloak and dagger for?

BECKY

After I explain. I think you will understand.

Abbud looks up from his tablet.

ABBUD

Is there a problem?

JENNIFER

No problem dad. This is Becky she is going to help us with Sarah. Can you take the kids to play in their room for a bit?

ABBUD

Sure. Come on kids. Time to play some unicorns.

Abbud picks up Brenda and seats her on his hip. Sarah sees this and lifts up her arms. He picks her up and places her on his other hip. They head down the hallway. Jack motions Becky to the kitchen table.

JENNIFER

Can I get you a coffee?

BECKY

Coffee would be wonderful.

JACK

I'll get the cookies.

Jack follows Jennifer into the kitchen.

JACK (CONT'D)

What's up with her? You would think she is a spy or something.

JENNIFER

Let's hear her out. We need all the help we can get.

Jack and Jennifer join Becky with some cookies and coffee.

JACK

So you can help Sarah?

BECKY

I know I can. Sorry for being so secretive but some people prefer my visits to be low key. I need to tell you some things that may surprise you but believe me it is for your own good. You cannot repeat this to anyone.

JACK

Umm. OK.

BECKY

I represent a group of people that do not want attention. About 300 years ago there was a large resource war. The government used this as a cover for a eugenics war. Some fear it may happen again.

JENNIFER

Yes, many were rounded up.

BECKY

Eugenics wars have popped up throughout human history. Disabled persons have always been persecuted or shunned to some degree. Bible times, Hebrew laws of 1000BC, Aristotle, Ancient Greeks, Dark and Middle ages, WWII, and Alexander Graham Bell just to name a few.

JACK

Yes, but surely we have moved beyond that!

BECKY

Since the eugenics war of 3700AD many are still segregated and hidden from the general public. Families are separated people are still "modified" against their will by the government. Since the war all fetuses are still examined and fixed prior to birth. This is not an option.

JENNIFER

Yes, but who wouldn't want a perfectly healthy child?

BECKY

That may be true for the 90% of children who would be born Deaf to hearing parents but some think that the government goes too far. During the war some groups hid from governments influence in their lives when it comes to genetic manipulation.

BECKY (CONT'D)

For some, they see it as a violation of their beliefs. Some recognize there is a special advantage to be born as nature intended. I have brought a tablet with some history on all kinds of people who needed help but did not get it. I will leave it with you.

Jack and Jennifer look at each other in confusion.

BECKY (CONT'D)

Take your daughter for example. The government demands you should fix her hearing. For the most part that is great. She lost her hearing later in life through a horrible accident. She knows hearing and was raised hearing. If she can be cured without memory loss that would be awesome.

JACK

And that is what is going to happen to Sarah.

BECKY

I have witnessed cases where the outcome is very different. You need to know what can happen. What the doctors won't tell you. For example I

BECKY (CONT'D)

represent a family that had a teenage boy who was late deafened due to an accident on Earth. The government stepped in and tried to "fix" his hearing. The parents were not warned that he may lose his memory in the procedure.

JENNIFER

He lost his memory?

BECKY

The operation only had a 10% success rate. It was a complete failure. He lost every memory he had since birth. He had to relearn everything from eating to walking. He did not know his parents or friends or even his own name.

Jennifer and Jack start holding hands and looking at Becky in utter horror.

BECKY (CONT'D)

That is just a worse case. I am not saying that will happen to Sarah. But you need to know the truth.

JENNIFER

How is he doing now.

BECKY

He is a perfect young man who is deaf. He functions at a high intelligence, works hard and is a contributing member in our community.

JENNIFER

How does he communicate?

BECKY

He uses multiple forms of communication. When dealing with hearing people he reads lips a little, uses voice to text. With his family and friends he uses sign language.

JENNIFER

Sign language?

BECKY

Sign language is a language that is based on body movements and facial expressions to convey communication.

JACK

Do you teach sign language?

BECKY

Not often. I only teach sign if I have too but I am happy to interpret for Deaf and blind. We have teachers right here on Pluto that can teach Sarah, you and your family how to sign.

JACK

Well we won't need that because Sarah will be cured as soon as we can get her back to Earth.

BECKY

When will that be? Tomorrow? Next week? A year from now?

JACK

Well.  
(shrugs shoulders)

BECKY

Sarah needs language now. Language deprivation is no joke. The first years of a child's life can determine how she deals with their surroundings for the rest of her life. She needs communication now! You also need a way to communicate with her.

JENNIFER

We definitely need something. How do we learn sign language?

BECKY

I will send teachers to your home every day. If people ask, tell them they are aids from the hospital to help you with Sarah. They will help you look after Sarah. They will also teach you all sign and supply you with technology to help with communication.

JENNIFER

That would be wonderful.

BECKY

If you have any issues or need help our contact information is on the tablet. There is someone available to help you anytime. I cannot stress this enough though.

BECKY (CONT'D)

It has to be kept quiet. Only tell people vetted by our group. I will go now and return tomorrow with Sarah's teacher. Use the tablet and learn the history. There are also some lessons on the tablet. You can start helping Sarah today.

JACK

Can we tell Abbud? He will want to know what is going on.

BECKY

Yes, he has already been vetted by the group.

JACK

Already been vetted? How? Why?

BECKY

Please don't take any offence to this but before I was allowed to talk with you. Each member of your family had to be checked. The system is not perfect but we have to be very careful.

JACK

I don't like that at all!

BECKY

It is only precautionary. We have to do it for everyone's safety. Please understand. You will see why as time passes.

Words at the bottom of screen "Months Go By". Images of Sarah and her family being taught sign language.

INT. PLUTO APARTMENT - DAY

Becky, Jack, Jennifer, komal and Sarah are sitting at the kitchen table.

BECKY

I want to take you to a special place today. I think you are ready.

JACK

Special place?

KOMAL

There is a special food court that is hidden from the general public. A gathering place for our community.

BECKY

It is a secured part of the colony where only vetted members of our group can access. A safe haven for sign language.

KOMAL

I have been there. It really is amazing.

Jennifer turns to SARAH (4).

JENNIFER

<would you like to go on a field trip?>

SARAH

<Yes momma.>

INT. EARTH NEWS DESK - DAY

ANCHOR DESK. VIDEO BESIDE NEWSCASTER SHOWS ROTATING PICTURES OF THE ARC.

NEWSCASTER 1

The Arc is almost complete. Earth has been able to watch it grow to the size of Earth's moon. It has been outfitted with all the latest propulsion technology. Due to the Arc's size it will take 6 years for the Arc to accelerate to maximum inertial speed. When maximum inertia is achieved the sails will be retracted and stored until they are need for deceleration which will also take the last 6 years to complete.

NEWSCASTER 2

At the moment we can send probes to Canvatas in less than 5 years but dew to the size of the Arc and live cargo that is not possible.



## NEWSCASTER 2 (CONT'D)

The expected time for the Arc to arrive in Canvatas is approximately 30 years. A relay network of probs has been set up between Earth and Canvatas. Daily reports will be received through the relay system and broadcasted across our solar system with only a very minor delay.

## NEWSCASTER 1

A surprising report shows that there will only be 8 people on the Arc at the time of launch. There is a planned growth of people. Embryos will be lab grown and assigned to passengers at predetermined times.

## NEWSCASTER 2

It took centuries of planning, building, training and developing robots for specific tasks. Also automating equipment, selecting animals, plants and collecting a history of Earth's archives.

## NEWSCASTER 1

Not everyone agrees with the central government and how many resources are being diverted to the Arc project. Conflicts are continue to escalate over our solar systems resources.

## NEWSCASTER 2

The final crew of the Arc has been chosen. The launch crew will consist of an Oceanographer, Zoologist, Inventor, Master Mechanic and a Botanist family with newborn twins.

INT. EARTH NEWS DESK - DAY

NEWS DESK

## NEWSCASTER 1

Earth starts the celebration of the Arc breaking Earth's gravity today.  
(MORE)

## NEWSCASTER 1 (CONT'D)

The Arc will make stops at Saturn, Jupiter and finally Pluto to load containers destined for the Canvatas system. Celebrations are planned during at all its stops over the next month.

FADE

INT. GOVERNMENT NEWS ROOM - DAY

VIEW IS OF A PODIUM WITH A GOVERNMENT LOGO IN THE BACKGROUND AND A PRESS GALLERY.

It is a noisy as people talk. The MINISTERS AID (30) steps up to the podium. The crowd quietens down and people sit.

## MINISTERS AID

The prime minister has a statement.  
Please hold all questions until  
after she is finished.

There is a small pause, the aid looks over his shoulder then dismounts the podium.

PRIME MINISTER (40), female in a business suit and large sculptured hat steps up to the podium. A couple of drones fly in front, take some snap shots then fly out of view. She tugs at her suit and holds onto the podium.

## PRIME MINISTER

My military advisors have informed  
me they have found and eliminated  
the raiders plaguing our solar  
system.

The crowd cheers then quietens down.

## PRIME MINISTER (CONT'D)

A raider base was discovered on  
Nereid. It is a moon in orbit  
around Neptune. Our forces were  
able to catch them by surprise. We  
suffered only minimal losses in the  
mission. We believe it was their  
only major base in the system.

(pause)

There may still be small pockets of  
raiders but we believe the major  
threat has been neutralized. Some  
commercial transport will return to  
normal operations after the Arc's  
departure.

(MORE)

PRIME MINISTER (CONT'D)

My advisors will answer your questions. Thank you for your patients.

There is shouting and cheering from the press gallery. She dismounts the podium and an Admiral mounts the podium.

News crews jump up raising their arms and shouting.

FADE

INT. PLUTO FOOD COURT - DAY

Bustling food court. Hundreds of tables. Three large monitors above some stores with different channels showing. Sarah and Brenda are playing in a window well.

Jack, Jennifer and Komal are sitting at a table in front of them.

KOMAL

The girls communicate very well.

JENNIFER

Children do pick it up quick. I don't even know what they are saying half the time.

KOMAL

It truly is an amazing language. You will get better.

They watch the girls for a bit.

KOMAL (CONT'D)

Becky has an amazing opportunity she wants to share with you today.

JENNIFER

Opportunity? What kind of opportunity?

KOMAL

It is not mine to share. I have been working close with the community for some time now. She will need a decision quick though because time is running out. I want you both to know I stand behind your decision.

(pause)

Whatever you decide.

JACK  
Sound serious.

KOMAL  
It is. Take time to think about it.  
Talk to dad and get his opinion as  
well.

Becky joins the group. They share hugs and handshakes. A group of people in brown robes crowd around them so they are hidden from the rest of the food court.

JENNIFER  
Good to see you again. I can't  
express to you enough how thankful  
we are. You have done so much for  
our family.

BECKY  
I am glad we could help.

JACK  
Komal says you have something to  
share with us?

BECKY  
Yes, I have to be brief because  
there is a lot to get ready for. I  
don't think it would have been  
possible without Komal's help. She  
has been instrumental to our group.

KOMAL  
If it wasn't for my position with  
the trade union I don't think I  
would be much help at all.

BECKY  
Still, I wanted to express our  
thanks from the community.

JACK  
OK Now I am really intrigued.

KOMAL  
I know this will sound strange. Y  
are still hoping to have Sarah  
cured on Earth. That will be  
wonderful if she can get her  
hearing back. What ever you decide  
remember I have your back one  
hundred percent.

JENNIFER

We have been reading up on the procedure. They reassure us it can be done safely.

BECKY

They will always tell you the good stories about the procedure. I don't want to scare you but I have seen many people that the treatments did more harm than good.

BECKY (CONT'D)

It is something to think about but not why we are here today. Next month the Arc will arrive at Pluto to pick up the last of the cargo containers headed for the Canvatas system.

JACK

I have been getting mining equipment ready for the trip.

KOMAL

You cannot tell anyone what Becky is about to tell you. This is the highest secret the community is protecting. Some have taken this information to their graves.

JENNIFER

Ok, now you are starting to scare me.

BECKY

We do not share this information with you lightly. It may be hard to believe but trust me it is very true. This is not the first journey of humans to the Canvatas system.

JACK

What? Your not serious!

BECKY

Yes, very serious. I can't tell you all the details but we have a group of people in Canvatas system. Our people have been there for three hundred years. They fled to the Canvatas system during the eugenics war.

Jack and Jennifer's jaws drop. They look at each other in confusion.

KOMAL

I can vouch for Becky's people. I have spoken with people in the Canvatas system. My role with the Pluto trade union has given me the chance to help the community communicate with Canvatas. My predecessor was also involved and helped them many times.

Jack and Jennifer hold hands as they look at Komal in amazement.

JACK

What do you need from us? Is it dangerous?

JENNIFER

We are so thankful for what you have done for our family but this scares me.

KOMAL

It's not what you can do for us but what the community can offer your family. We are sending more people to Canvatas with equipment and supplies. We have acquired multiple containers that will be loaded on the Arc.

JACK

You are going to stow away on the Arc?

BECKY

Not me personally but yes. We have hundreds of thousands ready to take the voyage.

JACK

That many? That is ridiculous. How?

KOMAL

You have seen the size of the containers we are sending. Each one the size of a city. They have been working on this since the Arc was a thought 300 years ago. They can do this. They have to do this.

BECKY

Our people in Canvatas are ready.  
They need the equipment we are  
sending.

JENNIFER

Surely they will be detected.

BECKY

We have taken steps to appear to  
the ship's crew as robots. Our  
containers are very luxurious and  
have all the comforts of home. The  
reason I am here today is to offer  
you and your family voyage on the  
Arc.

JENNIFER

Us? Going to Canvatas?

KOMAL

I didn't understand it at first  
when Becky proposed it, but it  
would be amazing.

JACK

We can't. Our home is here. Our  
family is here.

KOMAL

Take some time to think about it.

Jack and Jennifer look at Sarah and Brenda playing in the bay  
window. Sarah takes a sticker of a hand showing <love> and  
places it on the window.

FADE

INT. PLUTO APARTMENT - DAY

Abbud, Jack, Komal and Jennifer are sitting at the kitchen  
table. Sarah and her sister are playing in the living room.

JENNIFER

The doctor called today. They can  
have Sarah on a shuttle to Earth in  
a month.

JACK

That is just after the Arc leaves.  
Becky needs our answer today.

ABBUD

You should stay with family. We are here to help.

KOMAL

What ever you decide I back you all the way.

JACK

Jennifer and Becky will take Sarah to Earth and we will do the procedure.

JENNIFER

I agree. It is a wonderful offer to go on the Arc but our place is here. Our home and family are here. Becky said she will teach Sarah because most of the teachers are going on the Arc.

ABBUD

It is for the best.

They look at Sarah.

FADE

EXT. PLUTO ARC - SPACE

THE ARC AT PLUTO.

Large purple sales start to light up.

CAMERA MOVES PAST THE ARC AND CLOSES IN ON A BUILDING ON PLUTO. IT CLOSES IN ON THE FOOD COURT.

As it closes in on a large window you can see that the windows are lined with people waving. The TV's show a

THE CAMERA CLOSES IN ON A SMALL GIRL (SARAH) IN THE WINDOW. A REFLECTION OF THE ARC SHOWS ON THE WINDOW.

Sarah is looking at the Arc in astonishment. She holds up one hand <Love>. The Arc's reflection moves across the window.

Sarah follows the Arc with her head as she watches the Arc leave.

THE CAMERA PANS BACK OUT AND AROUND THE BUILDING SO THE ARC IS IN THE BACKGROUND.



The Arc slowly moves away as different sections of the purple sails light up like a flame. The more that lights up the faster it flies away until there is just a streak of purple.

FADE OUT

INT. EARTH DOCTORS OFFICE - DAY

Jennifer, Sarah and Becky are in an exam room.

Sarah is looking out the window while the girls talk.

BECKY

I hate being here. I always have a bad feeling when on Earth. I am happy to be here for you and Sarah though.

JENNIFER

We couldn't do this without you.

Sarah turns to Becky.

SARAH

{After the hospital we are going to the Galactic Playground. I am going on all the rides.}

JENNIFER

{Yes Sarah, after the hospital visit we will take you there. We are here all week. Komal may join us tomorrow.}

Jennifer stokes Sarah's hair.

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

{Your sister will be jealous of you.}

SARAH

{I wish she could have come.}

JENNIFER

{We will bring you both again someday.}

A Doctor enters the room. He taps on a tablet and shows it to Sarah.

"Hi Sara, It's nice to see you in person." Sarah waves to the doctor as she leans over to her mom. Then looks at Becky. The doctor places the tablet on the bed.

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

Sarah is still learning to read. It might be better if Becky translates for you.

DOCTOR

Translates?

BECKY

Yes, I am a sign language interpreter.

DOCTOR

Sign Language? I have never known someone that can sign.

Becky rolls her eyes.

BECKY

I am not surprised. Just try to not rush through your words and you may have to pause sometimes so I can catch up.

The doctor addresses Jennifer and Becky translates for Sarah.

DOCTOR

We have some good news. We can have Sarah's hearing back by tomorrow. She will have some difficulties at the start as it will be overwhelming at first. I wish we could have seen her sooner but I am convinced she will make a speedy recovery.

JENNIFER

How long will the recovery take?

DOCTOR

The medical side will be done quick but I suspect months of rehabilitation as she learns what makes noises and what doesn't. Most of that can be done on Pluto.

JENNIFER

And the long term effects?

DOCTOR

We don't anticipate any long term effects. This procedure has been done many times.

(MORE)

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

The only concern is the time she has spent without hearing may make the rehabilitation harder and take a little more time.

BECKY

And there will be any problems with memory loss?

DOCTOR

We don't anticipate any memory loss.

BECKY

What is the success rate of this procedure?

DOCTOR

We have the best results of any hospital doing this procedure.

JENNIFER

Hold on for a moment doctor I want to talk to you without Sarah for a few minutes. Becky can you take Sarah outside?

BECKY

{Come Sarah. Let's play outside.}

Becky escorts Sarah from the room.

JENNIFER

Doctor, I need to know the hard facts. What is the chances that Sarah will have memory loss? And don't beat around the bush! We need to know what can happen if things go wrong! I am not a doctor but I have read up on this procedure and from what I have read there is only a 50% chance that it will work with no complications. What about the other half?

DOCTOR

I can assure you this procedure is very safe. With any medical procedure there will always be a chance of complications.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

The 50% you are talking about is for perfect recovery.

(MORE)

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

There are sometimes minor issues like memory loss. Even in those cases rehabilitation will take care of that.

JENNIFER

So there is no risk of her losing all her memories?

DOCTOR

As I said that is a very rare complication.

JENNIFER

COMPLICATION!

DOCTOR

I assure you she will be fine.

JENNIFER

How many of your patients have this COMPLICATION? I WANT TO SEE THE STATS!

The doctor holds up his index finger. Looks down at a tablet.

Taps it a few times and hands it to Jennifer. She looks at the tablet and swipes it a few times.

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

40%! Sarah has a 40% chance of losing all her memories!

DOCTOR

Unfortunately yes. But I don't see that happening in Sarah's case. Look, if you don't want the procedure she will be deaf for life! You don't want that!

JENNIFER

I don't want her to lose everything she has become either!

DOCTOR

I understand your upset and frustrated. Take some time to think about it. Why don't we give it a week. You will see it's the best thing for Sarah. We are ready for the procedure but a week delay won't matter. Take the tablet.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)  
Read the success stories. I will  
leave you the room for a bit.

The doctor leaves the room. As tears fill Jennifer's she  
places the tablet on the bed. After a few moments Becky pokes  
her head into the room.

BECKY  
I thought I should check on you.

Jennifer chokes back her tears.

JENNIFER  
I just want to get out of here.

Sarah slips in under Becky into the room.

SARAH  
{Momma, What's wrong momma?}

Jennifer wipes away her tears and composes herself.

JENNIFER  
{Don't worry. Momma is just so  
happy for you.}

EXT. EARTH GALACTIC PLAYGROUND - DAY

THE BIGGEST AMUSEMENT PARK ON EARTH.

Sarah, Jennifer and Becky are standing in line for a ride.

Sarah is in front being entertained by a character in a  
costume, looking amazed and excited. A huge cotton candy in  
her hand.

BECKY  
What did the doctor say when we  
were out of the room? I know you  
were very upset. I could hear you  
from outside.

JENNIFER  
The doctor said he was only  
expecting a 50% chance of full  
recovery. There will be extensive  
rehabilitation as Sarah will have  
to relearn what sound is again.

BECKY

That doesn't sound too horrible. We knew that it was going to be hard for her. Did the doctor say anything about the other 50%?

JENNIFER

I had to fight to find that out! He wouldn't even tell me. He showed me the stats on his tablet.

BECKY

Did he tell you about possible memory loss?

JENNIFER

That is what got me so upset. There is a 40% chance she would lose ALL her memory.

BECKY

40%! I was afraid for Sarah knowing that there was a chance but 40%. I never thought the chances were still that dire.

JENNIFER

I don't know what to do. I will be video chatting with Jack later today. I don't know if I can explain it to him. How am I going to tell him. I am already an emotional wreck.

BECKY

You are strong and can do it but let me help. It may be better if I tell him with you.

JENNIFER

You are such an amazing friend.

BECKY

Our entire community is behind you and we can help. You have our full support.

Sarah is excited looking at everything. She is lifting her arm and taking pictures with her watch. She turns to Jennifer.

SARAH

{You are right, Brenda is missing all the fun. I will try to record as much as I can for her.}

JENNIFER

{That's ok sweetie just have fun. You can tell your sister all about it when you get home. This is your day.}

INT. EARTH HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Typical hotel room. The Galactic Playground can be seen out the window.

Jennifer and Becky are video chatting with Jack and Abbud.

JACK

Hi honey, we all miss you.

JENNIFER

We miss you too. I wish you were here.

JACK

How is the trip going? What did the doctor say?

Jennifer's eyes swell up with tears.

JENNIFER

Sarah is ok but I need to tell you what I was told at the hospital.

Jennifer picks up a tissue and dabs her eyes.

JACK

Is there something wrong?

JENNIFER

Sarah may lose her memory in the procedure.

JACK

You mean she will have some memory?

Jennifer can't control herself and she slides the tablet over to Becky.

BECKY

They are saying there is a 40% chance she will lose all her memory in the procedure. Every memory she has ever had.

JACK

40%! All her memories!

BECKY

Yes, they are talking a possible memory wipe. It may be the only way to fix her hearing.

JACK

That's ridiculous. Why would they have to do that?

BECKY

I am not a doctor but I have seen it happen before. As I understand it the area of the damage in Sarah's brain holds the instructions that sorts and references memory. If damaged in the procedure it will be like the brain can not reference memories stored in other parts of the brain.

JACK

What would happen after that.

BECKY

If it goes bad she will have to relearn everything. How to eat, walk, talk. She will not remember anything or anyone. Everything she is will cease and start over.

JENNIFER

She won't be the Sarah we know anymore!

ABBUD

How have I never heard of this before?

JACK

Becky has mentioned it and we have researched it. Becky even introduced us to someone from the Deaf and Blind community that it happened to.



JENNIFER

We shouldn't do the procedure Jack!  
I don't want to lose Sarah! She is  
happy now.

JACK

When are they planning on doing it?

JENNIFER

The doctor told us to come back in  
a week with our decision. I don't  
want it done. I want to go home.

ABBUD

This is not good. Not good at all.

BECKY

If you decide not to do the  
procedure. The government will step  
in and force Sarah to have the  
procedure done.

ABBUD

What, That's crazy.

BECKY

It is the law. If Jack and Jennifer  
refuse they will be charged with  
neglect of a minor and Sarah will  
still be forced to have the  
procedure. They might even take  
Sarah away.

JENNIFER

We can't lose our little girl! Look  
at what she has become. She is  
strong, independent, smart. We  
can't lose her Jack! We just can't!

JACK

We need more than a week to think  
about this. We will decide what to  
do later once we have all the  
facts.

JENNIFER

Ok honey, I love you.

JACK

I love you too. We will get through  
this. Komal has some work to do on  
Earth. She has arranged for a  
private shuttle to take us there in  
a week.

JACK (CONT'D)  
That's the earliest we can get there. Don't have the procedure done until we get there.

FADE

INT. EARTH DOCTORS OFFICE - DAY

Jennifer, Becky and Sarah are in the exam room. The doctor enters.

DOCTOR  
{H.I.} I found some sign language online. I hope it is the right dialect. I had no idea there were so many sign languages. My colleagues have never met anyone that could sign either.

A smile comes across Sarah's face. Becky is translating.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)  
Have you and Jack made a decision about the procedure?

JENNIFER  
Not yet. Jack will be here tomorrow and we will discuss it more. We might go back to Pluto and get a second opinion from our family doctor.

DOCTOR  
That is too bad, we are ready to do the procedure today.

JENNIFER  
It's a big decision. We just need a little more time.

DOCTOR  
Ok, Wait here. I have to get something before you leave.

The doctor leaves the room. A couple of moments later he returns with 2 orderlies and OFFICER MORGAN (35). Sarah is sitting in Jennifer's lap. Jennifer wraps her arms around Sarah. Sarah looks at her mom.

OFFICER MORGAN  
Jennifer, My name is Officer  
Morgan. I am with child protective  
services.

OFFICER MORGAN (CONT'D)  
I am here to ensure Sarah's rights  
under the Protection of Children  
Act.

Jennifer hugs Sarah a little closer.

JENNIFER  
What are you talking about?

SARAH  
{What is happening Momma? I am  
scared.}

BECKY  
{It's ok Sarah. Everyone is here to  
help you.}

Becky turns to the officer and snaps at him.

BECKY (CONT'D)  
Jennifer is doing nothing wrong!  
She only wants the best for Sarah!

OFFICER MORGAN  
Mam, The law is clear. Refusing  
medical assistance to a minor is  
very serious. I am only here to  
protect Sarah's rights.

JENNIFER  
All I want is the best for Sarah.  
We just need more time to  
understand what that is.

OFFICER MORGAN  
You will get your chance. We  
understand this is a complicated  
case. I assure you Sarah is very  
safe. In the mean time Sarah will  
have to stay at the hospital.

JENNIFER  
You can't have her! She is fine  
with us!

Sarah looks at Jennifer with fear in her eyes.

OFFICER MORGAN

I am sorry she can't go with you today. If everything checks out you can see Sarah after an assessment tomorrow morning.

BECKY

Let Sarah stay for now. Trust me. She will be ok for the night.

Becky taps Sarah's shoulder. Sarah turns to Becky.

BECKY (CONT'D)

{Sarah, don't worry.}

JENNIFER

Let me talk to Sarah for a moment.

Jennifer lifts Sarah off her lap and turns her around.

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

{It's ok Sarah. You are going to go with the doctor for now. We will see you tomorrow morning. Daddy will be with us.}

SARAH

{I don't want to go with them momma. I want to stay with you.}

JENNIFER

{It's ok sweetie. You are brave. It is only over night. We will see you tomorrow. I love you.}

SARAH

{I love you too Momma.}

Jennifer hugs Sarah and hands her off to the doctor. The doctor takes Sarah's hand and escorts her from the room. The two orderlies follow. Jennifer waits until they are gone then breaks down crying. Becky hugs her shoulders.

BECKY

What happens now?

OFFICER MORGAN

I suggest you hire a lawyer to help inform you of situation. There are a few forms we have to go over.

The Officer pulls out a tablet and sits down. Jennifer and Becky look over the tablet while the Officer points to it.

FADE

INT. EARTH HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Jennifer and Becky are sitting at a table. There is a knock at the door. Jennifer answers. It's Jack. They hug.

JENNIFER

Oh honey! It is so good to see you.

JACK

I am sorry it took me so long to get here. I should have been here from the start!

They kiss and hug again. Jack breaks the embrace and looks Jennifer in her tear filled eyes.

JACK (CONT'D)

We have to act fast. Pack your things we have to go now.

JENNIFER

Go. Go where?

(dazed/confused)

The hearing isn't for a few more hours.

JACK

We have to go now. Komal has a diplomatic shuttle ready and Sarah is being picked up from the hospital as we speak.

JENNIFER

What is this all about Jack?

JACK

Our lawyer says Sarah will have to the procedure right a way. We have no say in the matter.

JENNIFER

She can't! We will lose her Jack! I just know it!

JACK

We won't let them. We have to leave Earth's orbit before the authorities find us.

JENNIFER  
What are we doing.

Jack hugs Jennifer and whispers into her ear.

JACK  
We are kidnapping our daughter.

Jennifer's eyes widen and the three start packing their things fast.

FADE

INT. EARTH SHUTTLE - DAY

Sarah is already in the shuttle unconscious in a status pod. A medical robot is tending to her. Komal and Abbud are in the ship and the loading door is open.

Jack, Jennifer and Becky run in and throw their bags on the floor. A robot picks up the bags and store them in a closet.

Jennifer rushes over to Sarah and places her hands on the glass as she peers in. The bay door closes behind them.

JENNIFER  
What did they do to her!

KOMAL  
There in. Prepare for launch!

JENNIFER  
Is she ok?

KOMAL  
They haven't done the procedure yet. She was upset and they couldn't deal with her so they sedated her! Can you believe that!

ABBUD  
She was in the pod when we got there.

KOMAL  
We have to go! NOW! Strap yourselves in and get ready for launch!

They strap in as the craft lifts off.

EXT. EARTH LANDING PAD - DAY

The ship lifts off the pad hovers for a second then disappears into the sky.

EXT. SHUTTLE - SPACE

Shuttle moving away from Earth. Two fighter craft pull up on each side of the shuttle.

FIGHTER PILOT (O.S)  
Return to Earth immediately!

KOMAL (O.S)  
This is a diplomatic ship! You have no right to detain us.

FIGHTER PILOT (O.S)  
We have instructions escort you to Earth any way possible.

CUT TO

INT. EARTH SHUTTLE - DAY

Komal pushes a button on her console.

KOMAL  
Let's leave these idiots in cosmic dust!

JACK  
How can we escape fighters?

KOMAL  
We have something they don't. Get ready to go faster than you have ever gone before. Earth will not risk an international incident once Sarah is on Pluto.

Komal turns to her pilot. Deploy the neutrino sail!

CUT TO

EXT. SHUTTLE - SPACE

Rods extrude from the shuttle craft. A frame of a sail.

As it begins to extend its rods a purple flame starts to light up and spreads across the sail.

As the sail increases in size the shuttle pulls away from the fighter craft. The fighter craft increase their thruster power but are no match for the neutrino sail.

As the fighters fall behind they fire a couple of shots but miss. The shuttle disappears in a purple line.

FADE

INT. PLUTO FOOD COURT - DAY

Komal and Jennifer are at a table in a food court. Sarah and Brenda are playing behind the table.

A crowd of people in long brown cloaks with gold rope around their waist move in and shelter the table from the rest of the food court.

KOMAL

I am amazed how well the girls sign.

JENNIFER

I know, right? Jack and I are falling behind. They sign so fast I don't know what there talking about half the time.

KOMAL

How is the Deaf Culture research going?

JENNEFER

To be honest I haven't had much time to study.

KOMAL

I know you want to help the community. It's important you learn the history. Becky has a story you have to read. Don't tell anyone. Not even Jack for now. At least until you have read it and we can discuss it.

JENNIFER

(Snickers)

Will you have to kill me if I blab?

Komal looks at Jennifer sternly, then removes a necklace with a small silver locket. She opens it and there are holographic photos of Jennifer's family.



KOMAL

This is from Becky. It is a very special gift.

Komal closes the locket then holds the locket up to her eye and presses a button in the center. A blue light scans her face.

KOMAL (CONT'D)

Only specific people can use it. I need to scan you so it will work for you. Don't worry it is harmless.

Komal faces it towards Jennifer. Jennifer leans back hesitantly then slowly moves her head towards the amulet. Komal presses the button. The locket scans Jennifer's face.

JENNIFER

Umm Ok.

Komal hands Jennifer the locket. Jennifer inspects it curiously.

KOMAL

It will work for you now. When you are by yourself and ready to read the story just have the tablet Becky gave you close by and press the center ring. It will unlock some secret stories on your tablet.

JENNIFER

Oh! It's a key.

KOMAL

Yes. Becky wants you to start with a story named "The Liston Project". Read it today!

JENNIFER

Now I can't wait to get home.

Jennifer closes the locket and places the necklace around her neck then tucks the locket into her blouse.

CAMERA ROTATES  
AROUND TABLE

Komal taps the back of a person covering the table and the group disperses.

There are three large monitors on a wall above the stores. All are showing different TV stations. The monitors sink to the same image of a large cylindrical space vessel.

Words on the screen display "Please stand by for today's Arc Report". Music in the room goes out and the PA system captures sound from the monitors.

ANNOUNCER (O.S)  
Stand by for the latest Arc report.

JENNIFER  
May be after the Arc report.

KOMAL

I might be able to get you some inside information on the Arc soon. My position has its advantages. Jennifer smiles. Jennifer and Komal pick up Sarah and Brenda and place them on their laps and watch the Arc Report.

FADE

INT. EARTH OVAL OFFICE - DAY

PRIME MINISTER (40), female, sharply dressed is busy looking at some monitors on her desk. A uniformed officer SHERRI (25) and a DETECTIVE (40) are escorted in by the SECRETARY (23). Once the men are seated the secretary addresses the Prime Minister.

SECRETARY  
Is there anything else I can get you?

The Prime Minister looks up from her computer.

PRIME MINISTER  
No, that will be all for now. Thank you.

The secretary leaves and closes the door behind her. The Prime Minister taps her keyboard a few times. The glass monitors retract into the desk. She stands up and greets her guests.

DETECTIVE  
This is officer Roberts. She will be heading up the team digging into the Liston project for us.

PRIME MINISTER  
Thank you for joining us Roberts. I had a hard time finding information on the Liston. I hope you had better luck.

SHERRI

I can't tell you much yet but I can tell you that it was not lost due to an equipment malfunction like most of the official reports say.

PRIME MINISTER

Really?

SHERRI

Yes. I can confirm that the ship was hijacked. Beyond that I am still digging into it.

PRIME MINISTER

I am looking forward to what you can dig up.

SHERRI

I will do my best mam.

FADE

INT. PLUTO APARTMENT - DAY

Jennifer and her husband JACK (29) are on the couch in their living room. Jack is watching the news and Jennifer is swiping a tablet.

JENNIFER

I thought you were going to bed early. Remember you have a long day tomorrow. Jennifer runs her finger along her necklace.

JACK

I was going too but then I remembered there is a big hockey game tonight. I know the guys at work will be talking about it tomorrow. I will head for bed after the sports.

JENNIFER

Ok.

Camera view changes to a clock on the wall. Time goes by. The sports finish and the tv goes to a commercial.

JACK

Now I'm ready for bed.

Jennifer whispers under her breath.

JENNIFER

About time.

JACK

What was that?

JENNIFER

Nothing honey. I love you.

Jennifer smiles to Jack.

JACK

I love you too.

Jack leans over and gives her a kiss. He walks towards the bedroom.

JENNIFER

Sleep well.

JACK

You too. Sweetie.

Jennifer watches as he leaves the room and down the hallway. Once he is gone she pulls out her necklace. She holds the amulet up to her eye and presses the center button. The light scans her face and five new icons appears on the tablet. She taps the tablet.

FADE

INT. EARTH OVAL OFFICE - DAY

Large Military Office. Words on screen "Defense Department 3747".

MATTHEWS (50) behind a very large desk working on a computer.

A chime sounds and a holographic image on Matthews desk displays STACY (30).

STACY (V.O)

General Matthews your 4pm has arrived. Shall I show him in.

MATTHEWS

Yes, send him in.

Stacy enters with FORBES (35). Matthews stands up to greet him.

MATTHEWS (CONT'D)

Nice to meet you Admiral Forbes.

STACY

Anything else General?

MATTHEWS

No that's fine. Why don't knock off early. The office doesn't need you for the rest of the day.

STACY

Thank you. Have a good night sir.

MATTHEWS

Good night Stacy.

FORBES

It was nice meeting you Stacy. Have a good night.

Stacy flutters her eyes at Forbes as she leaves the room.

MATTHEWS

So I finally have the pleasure to meet you in person. You come highly recommended.

FORBES

Thank you sir.

MATTHEWS

We have a special project that is right up your alley.

FORBES

Yes sir.

The general walks over to a safe. Opens a door and grabs a briefcase and places it in front of Forbes.

MATTHEWS

For security reasons even I cannot open this case. I will leave you the room so you can review the contents in private. If you need anything press this button on my desk and I will return. After you have looked it over we will discuss what comes next.

FORBES

Yes, sir.

MATTHEWS

I have been warned it will take you  
a couple of hours to review all the  
information.

FORBES

Yes, sir.

Mathews taps his watch and security doors close in front of  
some cabinets and the safe. He leaves the room.

Forbes presses his thumb on a button of the case and it  
opens. There is a tablet inside with red print on the cover  
"Confidential".

He stands the tablet on the desk and raises his hand. A light  
scans his body then the tablet turns on. The display shows  
the title "Liston Project" and starts to play.

TRANSITION TO  
VIDEO

EXT. TABLET VIDEO - CONTINUOUS

A view of a large space vehicle. Titles pop up on the screen.  
The background photo rotates through different building  
plans.

NARRATOR (V,O)

The fate of Earth's future may  
depend on this project! You will  
setup and run a secret base on the  
moon Eris. The sole function of  
this mission is to build a ship  
destined for a system approximately  
six light years from Earth.

NARRATOR (V,O) (CONT'D)

Should you require anything your  
only outside contact for now will  
be General Matthews. He will  
arrange for anything you require.  
Our scientists have made  
breakthroughs in many areas and  
this will help you with your  
mission. We have already selected  
personnel to help you.

NARRATOR (V,O) (CONT'D)

You will be meeting with them on  
Saturn in three days.

(MORE)

NARRATOR (V,O) (CONT'D)  
All their information is on this  
tablet for you to review. Thank you  
for your service.

The film ends and new icons appear. He taps one named "Foot Hold". A film begins showing planets, moons, descriptions etc.

FADE

INT. ERIS OFFICE - DAY

THE OFFICE IS LARGE WITH A BAY WINDOW ON ONE SIDE. WORDS ON THE SCREEN SHOW "DECADES LATER". BEHIND THE WINDOW IS A FRAME OF A VERY LARGE SHIP.

Forbes is at the desk. He looks considerably older. His hair is white and receding. His face has many age lines. He is incredibly thin. His suit jacket hangs on a hanger behind him. It has 5 stars on the collar.

KENT (35) is escorted into the room. The secretary closes the door behind him.

FORBES  
I am glad to see you.

KENT  
Good to see you again sir.

FORBES  
I trust everything is arranged.

KENT  
Yes, The next shipment will be arriving tomorrow.

FORBES  
I need to talk to you about something.

KENT  
Anything Sir.

Forbes stands up and looks out the bay window. He arches his stiff back with his hand.

FORBES  
This project sure has been amazing.  
We could not have been this far  
along without your help.

Forbes looks longingly out the window at the ship.

FORBES (CONT'D)  
(Under breath)  
I sure am going to miss this place.

KENT  
Sir?

Forbes turns and faces the Kent.

FORBES  
I am retiring from the service! It was my recommendation that you take my place. You are going to running this outfit.

KENT  
Yes Sir! Really Sir?

FORBES  
The paperwork is already done. You will have my chair by Monday. Our crew respect you. They will follow your orders.

KENT  
What about you sir. What are you going to do.

Forbes turns back to the window. His voice tapers off as he speaks.

FORBES  
I don't know. Fishing I guess.

KENT  
(Excited)  
Thank you Sir. I won't let you down Sir.

Kent joins him at the window.

CAMERA FADE

INT. ERIS OFFICE - DAY

Words on screen "Decades Later". The ship behind the glass is now complete. The bay doors above it are open to space. BLANT (50) Is looking out the window. DIXON (25) enters the room.

BLANT  
Is everything ready for launch?



DIXON  
Everything is a go Sir.

BLANT  
120 years it took to get ready and  
the voyage will only take six  
years. Imagine how amazing it will  
be. We will be the first humans in  
another solar system.

DIXON  
It is an honor to serve with you  
Sir.

FADE

INT. LISTON BRIDGE - DAY

Blant and Dixon are on the bridge of the Liston along with  
bridge crew at their posts. Through the forward window are  
many floors of windows. Each filled with Navy men and women  
in full white dress uniform. An announcement voices over the  
P.A. System.

ANNOUNCER (V.O)  
Time to launch 10.9.8.

Engines are heard to start up and the ship shakes a bit then  
calms down. The rows of Navy personnel raise their arms in  
salute.

ANNOUNCER (V.O) (CONT'D)  
3.2.1 Lift off!

BLANT  
Guide her out.

The Liston slowly lifts out of the hanger showing more floors  
of Navy personnel saluting.

CUT TO

EXT. SPACEPORT - SPACE

Massive doors are open showing the Liston rising from the  
bay. It slowly climbs out of its hanger and moves out into  
space. The ship joins a fleet of ships with Eris in the  
background.

CUT TO

INT. LISTON BRIDGE - DAY

DIXON

The last cargo pod has been secured  
sir.

BLANT

Good. We are ready for departure  
tomorrow. The crew will board in  
the morning and we depart at 1200  
hrs.

Dixon taps his watch then quickly pulls his gun on Blant. At  
the same time four other officers pull their guns on other  
high ranking officers.

DIXON

Not quite the plan we had in mind  
general.

BLANT

What the! What is the meaning of  
this!

DIXON

We are in full control of the  
Liston. I am sorry we had to do it  
this way sir.

BLANT

This is mutiny!

DIXON

No General! This is freedom!  
Freedom for people that have had to  
hide and fight for their lives!  
Salvation for those who have been  
secretly hunted by their own  
government! This is the last refuge  
for hundreds of thousands of people  
that for no reason have had their  
lives and the lives of their  
families ravaged by this  
government! This ship means hope  
for many that have none!

BLANT

(Yelling)

You will hang for this!

DIXON

Your gonna have to find us first  
Sir!

Dixon addresses his officers.

DIXON (CONT'D)  
Please escort Blant and his  
officers to the life pod.

Blant and his officers are escorted from the bridge. Dixon raises his arm and taps his watch. His voice is broadcasted over the PA system.

DIXON (CONT'D)  
Congratulations! We have full  
control over the Liston.

The crew cheer.

DIXON (CONT'D)  
Prepare for neutrino burst! Pilot  
deploy the sail.

FADE

INT. SPACSHIP BRIDGE - DAY

The Liston can be seen outside the windows from another space ship. A large frame work appears from the Liston and the sail is illuminated like a flame. An escape pod is ejected from the Liston. CAPTAIN (50) is consulting with some officers. ENSIGN (20) turns to the captain.

ENSIGN  
Captain! There is something  
happening with the Liston.

Captain looks up from his work and out the window.

CAPTAIN  
What is that dang fool doing? Open  
communications to the Liston  
immediately!

ENSIGN  
There not responding sir. A life  
pod just jettisoned from the  
Liston.

CAPTAIN  
Red alert! Target the Liston's  
sail!

Lights dim on the bridge and flashing red lights illuminate from the walls.

ENSIGN

Weapons are offline sir. We can't fire.

CAPTAIN

Well get them online dammit!

ENSIGN

Trying Sir. Looks like sabotage. We can't fire for another twenty seconds.

CAPTAIN

They will be gone in 10! Open communications to the rest of the fleet. Someone must have a pea shooter we can take out those sales with!

CUT TO

EXT. SPACE FLEET - SPACE

The Liston's neutrino sail lights up like a flame as it pulls away. Some shots from the fleet graze off the Liston's shields as it disappears in a purple line.

FADE

INT. PLUTO APARTMENT - NIGHT

JENNIFER IS ON HER COUCH. WORDS ARE DISPLAYED ON THE SCREEN "PRESENT DAY" Jennifer finishes watching the video. It disappears and goes back to the menu.

JENNIFER

That's nuts!

Jennifer picks up her coffee cup and tilts it looking at an empty cup. Jennifer yawns. She places the tablet on the table, removes her blanket and heads for the kitchen. As she walks away the tablets special menus disappear.

She fills her coffee cup and returns to the couch. Taking a sip from her cup and places it on the table then pulls the blanket over her again.

She raises her locket and scans herself. The tablet changes to the hidden list of stories again.

She sinks into the couch and presses the another title "Eugenics War". Time passes on a clock in the room as she watches another video.

FADE

INT. PLUTO APARTMENT - MORNING

Jennifer is sleeping on the couch. The tablet is on her chest. Jack walks into the room. His hair is still wet from a shower and he is mostly dressed. He kneels down beside Jennifer and gently rubs her arm.

JACK

Honey wake up. Are you ok?

Jennifer wakes up and looks around the room confused.

JACK (CONT'D)

Have you been up all night?

JENNIFER

I must have drifted off while reading. Becky will be by later and I was reading up on some um...

Jennifer stretches for a second then rubs her eyes.

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

(Sleepy voice)

Deaf Culture.

JACK

I'm running late. Are you sure your okay?

JENNIFER

I am fine. I will get the girls ready for school then go back to bed and get some sleep before the girls show up.

JACK

Ok dear. I am just worried you are working too hard. I love you.

JENNIFER

I love you too honey. I am fine. Have a good day at work.

Jennifer gets up and heads for the kitchen. Jack enters the kitchen ready for work and hugs Jennifer.

JACK  
Have a great day.

JENNIFER  
You too honey.

Jack rushes out of the apartment.

FADE

INT. PLUTO APARTMENT - DAY

Jennifer is at the kitchen table looking at the tablet. The doorbell chimes. Jennifer answers the door. It is Becky and Komal.

JENNIFER  
Come in. Come in. I have some fresh  
coffee ready and I baked a banana  
loaf.

Jennifer ushers them towards the kitchen table then heads for the kitchen.

KOMAL  
Did you get a chance to read some  
of the stories?

Jennifer returns with a tray of coffee and banana loaf.

JENNIFER  
I got started on it late last  
night. Jack wouldn't go to bed  
until after the late night news. I  
was up all night reading stories.  
So many questions.

KOMAL  
I realize it can be very  
overwhelming.

JENNIFER  
Last night I learned more about  
Earth's history than my entire  
school years. I understand more  
about the community now. How can  
you keep this a secret?

KOMAL  
It is not us that want to keep  
history a secret.  
(MORE)

KOMAL (CONT'D)

The government is very good at quashing any public knowledge of the eugenics war and how disabled persons are still persecuted. Or even that disabled communities still exist.

JENNIFER

The government has been very helpful with Sarah. They supply us with special equipment and funding.

BECKY

For the most part since our community has gone underground the government has left us alone. We do have high ranking government officials that work on the community's behalf. Without people like Komal our community wouldn't exist. Pluto has been a safe haven for a large part of our community but we also have smaller groups on other planets like Mars and Saturn. Since the Ark left the community has definitely shrunk in numbers.

KOMAL

Most of the public believe that disabilities are only temporary until fixed by the government.

JENNIFER

I feel bad.

(Pause)

That is the way I understood it. If it weren't for Sarah, and what I have seen from the community. I don't think I would have known any different.

KOMAL

What did you think of the story about the Liston?

JENNIFER

At first I couldn't believe it. I mean I heard a little about The Liston in school. They taught us it was a failed government mission. To find out that it is operational and in the Canvatas system with people from the community! You have to agree it is unbelievable.

BECKY

Well it was operational for centuries after the war. It made multiple trips to and from Canvatas as our community escaped. The Liston has been stranded in the Canvatas system for almost fifty years now. Once the Arc arrives in Canvatas we will have the equipment to make it operational again.

JENNIFER

So you have no way of contacting them.

KOMAL

We are in constant contact with the community on Aucquas. They are doing really well. They are growing, expanding and preparing for the Arc's arrival.

JENNIFER

Aucquas? That's the water planet in Canvatas. Right?

KOMAL

Yes, I have only seen video of it but it looks beautiful. The community is over 15 million now.

JENNIFER

Wow. What's it like?

FADE

INT. AUCQUAS UNDERWATER CITY - DAY

Date on screen "3873". Large blue planet seen from space. Whitecaps on poles. A few mountain ranges protrude from the water. The girls are heard talking as the transition occurs.

TRANSITION UNDER  
THE WATER

Four extremely large domes.

KOMAL (V.O)

I communicate with them often. Well may be not as much as before the Arc left but they seem to be doing very well.



JENNIFER (V.O)  
Sounds amazing.

KOMAL (V.O)  
It was not easy for the first settlers. The Liston could do a round trip in about 15 years. It took a century before the settlement was deemed self sufficient.

KOMAL (CONT'D)  
The next story you should read is Canvatas Arrival. It tells the story of the early settlers.

The girls voices fade.

FADE

EXT. AUCQUAS - SPACE

The Liston with its sails a blaze arrives. It's massive neutrino sales flame out and the framework is retracted. It approaches Aucquas.

FADE

INT. LISTON BRIDGE - DAY

Dozens cryogenic chambers at the rear of the bridge being tended to by robots.

P.A. (V.O)  
Cryogenic revival in 10.9.8.

Liquid drains from the pods revealing crew members. Monitors beside the chambers start to show life signs getting stronger.

P.A. (V.O) (CONT'D)  
3.2.1 Cryogenic revival procedure successful.

The doors open and slide off to the side. Robots scan the crew with medical equipment as crew members stumble from the pods. They dry themselves off and put on uniforms. Dixon stumbles from his pod and puts on a captain's uniform. The rest of the bridge crew take their positions.

DIXON

Welcome back everyone. I hope the sleep did you well. I myself have splitting headache.

Dixon rubs his temple.

ROBOT

Your headache will diminish in a few hours.

Dixon looks at a mirror on the wall. He mutters to himself.

DIXON

Six years of sleep and I haven't aged a day. I think I actually look younger.

Dixon puts on his hat and looks at the mirror again. Then joins officer CHRIS (22) at the command table.

DIXON (CONT'D)

Report!

CHRIS

All bridge crew present and accounted for Sir. The ship appears to be functioning normally. We are in orbit around Aucquas. Most of the passengers and crew are still in cryogenics.

DIXON

Wake up the rest of the operational staff. I want the ship checked out from top to bottom before we wake the others. Who knows what happened during flight.

CHRIS

Yes, Sir.

Chris taps his tablet a few times.

DIXON

I think it is time to get a look at our new home. Ensign retract the forward blast shield.

ENSIGN

Yes sir!

The large blast shield starts to open behind the windows. The crew stand and look at the windows.

The view shows the planet Aucquas. Dixon walks to one of the windows. He places a hand on the window.

DIXON

Come take a look at your new home.

The bridge crew get up from their seats and join Dixon at the window. All looking amazed signing, talking and pointing out the window as they approach.

DIXON (CONT'D)

Look at your first day of freedom.  
A home where we will all live  
together in harmony.

The bridge crew snap to attention and solute out the window.

BRIDGE CREW

Freedom!

The crew shake hands and cheer as they continue to talk, sign and point out the window.

FADE

INT. BOARDROOM - DAY

Large boardroom. A holographic display of mountains surrounded by water on the table. Dixon is at the head of the large table. There are bullet points on a monitor behind him. Officers are seated around the table. Some officers are signing with each other as others chat.

DIXON

Did our people on earth neutralize  
all the probes in the system?

The room quiets down and all look toward Dixon.

CHRIS

They have sir. Satelllites and  
probes are under our control. Our  
people shut off Earth's  
communications as planned.

DIXON

Good, we start sending landing  
parties to Aucquas as soon as  
possible. Our first objective is  
the command center in this region  
near the equator.

The admiral stands and points at the plateau in center of the table.

DIXON (CONT'D)

Once we land our cargo our next objective will be to setup the holographic shield to hide our instillation. If we will only have a week at most before the probes are out of our control again. Earth cannot know we are here.

CHRIS

Yes sir.

DIXON

Ok we have a few more things to go over.

The Admiral turns and looks at the next item of business on the monitor behind him.

FADE

EXT. ACQUAS MOUNTAIN SETTLEMENT - EVENING

Army field camp being set up.

A container is flown in and placed on the landing sight. It unfolds into a large building like others already in place.

As a ship lifts off. A light over the city starts to flicker and a view of a mountain obstructs the view of the city and the ship. The ship flies through the holographic shielding appears and flies away.

FADE

EXT. ACQUAS MOUNTAIN SETTLEMENT - DAY

The landscape changed drastically. European style neighborhood. New cobblestone line the roads. People are mingling and signing with each other. Captain Dixon (first name) STEVEN sits at a table with Chris. Construction is on going, trees and plants are starting to grow.

DIXON

Can you believe this city was shipped in a box from over six light years away?

CHRIS

It is hard to believe Sir. A fully functioning city in less than a week. And another being built underwater.

DIXON

Chris call me Steven. We are out of uniform and just a member of the society here.

CHRIS

Yes, Sir...I mean Steven. It might take me awhile to get used to that.

DIXON

You will have plenty of time to call me sir while we are in uniform.

They laugh. The two sit at a table at a restaurant and start signing each other.

FADE OUT

EXT. LISTON BRIDGE - DAY

Dixon is conversing with his officers at a command table.

CHRIS

Steven. Oops sorry Sir. Captain we have learned that one of the satellites near Gaea is back under Earth control. It may just be a matter of hours before we lose the rest.

DIXON

Is the underwater city ready? Can we lower the Liston into the ocean?

CHRIS

As ready as we can be sir.

DIXON

Let's get this rig out of sight. Pilot, get us to the underwater city.

PILOT  
Aie Aie Sir.

THE CAMERA VIEW  
CHANGES TO  
OUTSIDE THE  
LISTON

The Liston flies towards Aucquas. It slowly lands on the ocean surface then submerges under the water. It parks in between 3 large flat rings and a large dome.

FADE

EXT. ACQUAS DOME SETTLEMENT - DAY

A shuttle is on the floor. The floor has wet spots with hoses and cables strewn about. Construction everywhere. Dixon and others exit the shuttle.

CHRIS  
Watch your step Admiral. We had some issues with drainage as the dome went up.

DIXON  
I am fine. Just in awe of what the team could accomplish in less than a week.

CHRIS  
We are almost done with the construction materials we brought.

Chris points to a large hanger.

CHRIS (CONT'D)  
Our mining equipment is ready in that hanger.

DIXON  
Our people on Pluto will be ready with more supplies and people by the time we can get back. I want to have the Liston ready for the next trip back in two months.

CHRIS  
It is hard to believe it has been six years since we started our voyage and it will be another twelve before we can get back here again.

DIXON

Cryo sure can mess with the mind.

OFFICER

Terraforming the atmosphere was not possible this trip.

CHRIS

I was reading a report on that this morning. What happened.

OFFICER

The storms on Aucquas have more intensity than we first suspected. Also the way the air interacts with ocean has set us back.

DIXON

So our people will have to stay in the domes.

CHRIS

Well at least until we can get some equipment from Pluto.

DIXON

We sure have some hurdles to overcome but overall I am amazed at the progress.

CHRIS

Some of the crew have asked to stay and help the new settlement.

DIXON

Anyone that wants to stay can. We will return with a minimal crew. Create a minimal list of crew needed for the trip back. I have also heard from Pluto that there are others ready to help operate the Liston.

CHRIS

Yes Sir. We are going to have a memorial service for those that did not make it through cryo on this trip.

DIXON

Do we have a final list.

CHRIS

Yes. We lost nine hundred and twenty three people in cryogenics on the voyage.

DIXON

I always hate getting in one of those dang things. I want every name read out at the ceremony.

CHRIS

(Respectfully)

Aie Aie sir.

FADE

INT. PLUTO APARTMENT - DAY

Words on screen "Present day" The girls continue to drink coffee and chat.

BECKY

I hope to see it someday. Once my work is done here and the Liston is operational again I plan to be on the next trip.

JENNIFER

You don't want to stay on Pluto.

BECKY

Pluto has been my home my entire life but when the Arc left most of my family went with. My new home will be ready for me on Aucquas by the time I get there.

JENNIFER

I had no idea your family left. What kept you back?

BECKY

My work here is far from done. My Husband and I decided to stay on Pluto to help transition the next group.

JENNIFER

You are part of our family now. If you need anything you can count on us.



KOMAL

Yes, our family is large and you  
fit right in.

BECKY

Thank you. We would be happy to  
celebrate with your family.

Sarah appears from her room and yawns. The girls greet her  
with sign language. Jennifer picks her up and sets Sarah on  
her lap. Sarah leans into her mom.

JENNIFER

Poor Sarah is missing her friends.

KOMAL

The food court is so empty now.

The girls continue to chat.

FADE

INT. EARTH OVAL OFFICE - DAY

The Prime Minister is at her desk in the large official  
office. Sherri is escorted in by SHEILLA (30).

SHEILLA

Anything else mam?

PRIME MINISTER

Hold my calls if you can. Thank you  
Sheila.

SHEILLA

Yes mam.

The secretary leaves the office.

PRIME MINISTER

I heard you had new news of the  
Liston. I am really interested to  
hear what you found.

SHERRI

I do. And I think it will be hard  
for you to believe.

The Prime Minister moves forward on her chair while twirling  
a stylus.

PRIME MINISTER

Tell me more!

SHERRI

The Liston was commandeered from the government from a militant group. There are reports that they still operate in our solar system and possibly in Canvatas as well.

PRIME MINISTER

What! They are already in Canvatas?

SHERRI

I believe so. I have also have uncovered some documents that show the group has infiltrated our government and that they have been operating for centuries.

PRIME MINISTER

Who are they? I Want names!

SHERRI

I have no specific details on them. Just speculation so far.

PRIME MINISTER

Are they the raiders we keep having to deal with.

SHERRI

I honestly do not know. I do have a video from Canvatas taken over a hundred years ago. It is not confirmed but reports say it might be the Liston. As the vessel entered the system all our probes malfunctioned in the region and we could not confirm what it was.

The officer hands the Prime Minister a tablet. She watches it then taps the tablet a few times.

PRIME MINISTER

I can't make anything out with that video. As far as I can tell it could just be a comet.

OFFICER

The only reason the report said it was a ship was because at time index 0:05 it changes direction.

PRIME MINISTER

Ohh!

OFFICER

I have a few more surprises for  
you.

Their voices drown out.

FADE

INT. PLUTO FOOD COURT - DAY

The food court is almost empty. Jennifer and Komal are in  
their usual spot in the food court. Near the rear windows.  
They eat while Sarah taps a tablet in the window well.

Becky rushes in.

BECKY

I have some alarming news from  
Earth. The government is organizing  
a special division to find the  
community. We have to go!

JENNIFER

Go go where?

BECKY

I can't tell you that yet.

JENNIFER

For how long?

BECKY

I can't tell you that either. All I  
can tell you is that you and Sarah  
should come with us. I have updated  
your amulet to show more  
information. Go home and read it  
with Jack. We will meet tomorrow to  
discuss it. For now stop signing in  
public!

JENNIFER

I haven't even told Jack about the  
amulet yet. He hasn't read the  
stories.

Becky looks around then moves in closer to Jennifer.

BECKY

Show him the stories as soon as you can. He needs to see them. Today!

KOMAL

What do they know about the community.

BECKY

We don't know yet. All we know is they are sending a group of people to Puto. We can't be here when they arrive.

JENNIFER

When will they arrive.

BECKY

As far as we know they may be here already. The food court is not safe and we are closing it down today. Now Go!

The girls hastily grab their gear.

FADE

INT. NEWSDESK - DAY

Words on screen "Five Years Later".

Headline reads "First Year Celebration". Video shows celebrations from different places in the solar system. Words scroll across the bottom with more celebration stories.

NEWSCASTER 1

With today's Arc report we celebrate five years since the Arc's launch. Celebrations are in full swing. Everyone has been able to watch as the crew deals with problems they encounter on a daily basis.

NEWSCASTER 2

There are now twelve people on the Arc. Six adults and six children. Teams One and three are currently in cryogenics. Team two is managing general ship operations.

INT. ARC BOARD ROOM - DAY

BOARD ROOM.

SHANNON (25) sits at a table with CURT (28).

SHANNON

I can't believe we have done these daily reports every day for 5 years.

CURT

I agree. I would have thought Earth would be getting tired of my life by now.

SHANNON

At least Olivia had the great idea of placing cameras in some of the eco pods so that people can tune into them instead of following us around 24/7.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

Having almost every moment captured and sent back to Earth is more intrusive than I thought it would be.

CURT

I am so bored of doing the same thing every day.

SHANNON

Be careful what you wish for there are many things that can go wrong on this trip. I personally am happy if we have another 25 boring years.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

Especially if it means we have a chance to be the first to see Canvatas.

CURT

True, I can't wait until we get there. Just imagine what it will be like.

SHANNON

Ok, let's get this over with.

Shannon and curt turn their chairs to the list of items on a boardroom display.

FADE

EXT. ARC ASTEROID STRIKE - SPACE

VIEW FROM BEHIND THE ARC

Suddenly a small comet rips through the neutrino sails. The sails flicker and then go out. There is a strong shift (wobble) of the Arc.

CUT TO

INT. ARC BOARD ROOM - DAY

Everything is violently thrown to one side of the room. Curt and Shannon along with it. Lights and power interruptions are everywhere. Lights go to emergency power. Red and yellow flashes over many different display screens.

CUT TO

INT. ARC SOUTH BRIDGE DECK - DAY

One wall is a large bay window looking into the center of the Arc. On another wall is a hallway with glass windows that look across a hallway and into a room of cryogenics chambers.

Curt and Shannon rush to the bridge control panel. Curt's head is bleeding. They start frantically assessing everything they can. Looking over monitors and tapping displays like crazy. One display overlooked flashes "cryogenic Failure" over and over.

CURT

What the hell is going on?

SHANNON

I don't know I am getting reports of damage from everywhere.

ZOOM ON MONITOR SHOWING CRYOGENICS FAILURE

FADE

INT. ARC CRYOGENICS - DAY

Rows of cryogenic chambers. Monitors on containers start countdown again.

One pod completes the countdown. A door lifts up and steam exits the unit. The door slides off to the side.

Matt (30), large muscular man with ice on his body stumbles out landing on his hands and knees. He looks dizzy and holds one ear blinking his blood shot eyes.

He breathes in deep a couple of times then looks up at a monitor with the name LISA CLARK (6) on the display.

Once again he gains his bearings and focuses his eyes. He stumbles to display and starts frantically tapping control panels while watching life signs change erratically.

MATT

Come on dam you work!

Matt kicks the bottom of the wall. After a few attempts the monitor shows the countdown going past eight.

COMPUTER (O,S)

Cryogenic container stable.

He gets one running on another pod with BRANDON CLARK (6) on the display.

COMPUTER (O,S) (CONT'D)

Cryogenic container stable.

He goes to the one labeled OLIVIA CLARK (27). The life signs are all flat lined. In the background there is a view of other pods with all kinds of lights flashing. He looks at them for a brief second. There screens all have life signs.

He completes the sequence on Olivia's pod. He pauses for a brief moment, puts his hand on the glass and looks at her face.

Matt runs to the other pods. The screens have changed and now only one is displaying life signs but still flashing error messages. He starts with that one.

After working at it Matt gets two pods to show life signs.

COMPUTER (O,S) (CONT'D)

Cryogenic container stable.

Two more pods show no life signs and keep flashing. Brandon and Lisa's pod doors open with gushes of steam.

COMPUTER (O,S) (CONT'D)  
Revival complete.

Matt briefly looks over at his family. He finishes the countdown on the last two pods then rushes to his family.

Brandon's pod is open and Lisa's is only half open. Matt struggles with Lisa's door and manages to get it open. He helps his twins out of their pods while he looks up at Olivia. Her life sign monitors still have flat lines.

Going down on his knees with a child in each arm he hugs them both with tears running down his face. The children are stunned watching all the chaos in the room. Matt looks up again at Olivia. Her eyes are closed and nothing on the screen now.

CUT TO

INT. ARC SOUTH BRIDGE DECK - DAY

COMPUTER (O,S)  
Cryogenics chamber failure  
recorded.

Shannon looks up from her monitor then towards the cryogenics room. Her eyes go wide. She runs out of the room.

CUT TO

INT. ARC CRYOGENICS - DAY

Shannon runs in. Matt is on the floor hugging his two children. Shannon rushes over to the other pods. She picks up a infant from a pod. Then looks quickly at the rest of the pods. BRENT (25) and SHEILA (2). The containers are showing green with normal life signs. CINDY (25) pod door is open but she is lifeless. Shannon shields the eyes of the infant she is carrying and hands her off to a waiting robot.

SHANNON  
Med bay NOW!

The robot leaves the room with the child. Matt pushes his twins towards Shannon and points towards the door. Shannon reaches for the two children.

SHANNON (CONT'D)  
Come we have to go.

Shannon runs out with a child in each arm.



Matt carefully lifts Olivia from her pod, tears running down his face. He places her on the floor.

Matt grabs a first aid kit from the wall and opens it. He pulls out a CPR vest and slides it under her back. It wraps around her chest and starts compressing. He grabs an oxygen mask from the kit and places it over her mouth.

Shannon and two robots rush into the room pushing med beds.

The robots both have white cloaks with giant red crosses on them. Shannon points to Cindy's pod while she grabs a med kit from the side of one of the beds. The robots lift Cindy from her pod and place her on one of the beds. Shannon starts CPR on Cindy.

With a big inhale and arching of her back Cindy starts to breath on her own. The robots roll Cindy out of the room. Shannon checks on the displays of the others. They are still green with good life signs. She looks over her shoulder at Matt and Olivia.

Matt is crying as he sits on the floor. He pulls Olivia's cold limp body into his arms hugging her tight.

SLOW FADE

INT. ARC WAITING ROOM - DAY

The waiting room has large windows that look into the med bay.

Matt is in the waiting room looking into the med bay. Red and yellow lights flash on the walls. The med bay is well lit. One bed with a woman and three with children.

They are all lying still. Robots in long white robes with red crosses tend to the patients. Shannon runs into the waiting room and starts pulling on Matt's arm.

SHANNON

We need you! We need you now!

Matt violently shakes off her hand.

MATT

What the Hell happened?

Shannon looks at him with distress in her eyes.

SANNON

We don't know yet.

Matt's face changes from anger to worry and they both rush out of the room.

FADE

INT. PLUTO FOOD COURT - DAY

SARAH (9) is in a very busy food court. The food court is nearly empty. In the background there are stores with robots dispensing food and other items. A man sits down slowly beside Sarah with his gaze glued to three large monitors.

Sarah looks at the man then up to the monitors. She sees a picture of the Arc on the screens and a headline in large letters "COMMIT HITS ARC". The screen flips to a news desk.

CUT TO

INT. NEWSDESK - DAY

NEWSCASTER 1

This just in! Catastrophe on the  
Arc! Officials say they have lost  
all contact with live feeds!

CUT TO

INT. PLUTO FOOD COURT - DAY

Jennifer approaches Sarah with her back to the screens. She waves at Sarah to get her attention.

JENNIFER

<You ok.>

Sarah points to the screens. Jennifer looks up. Her eyes go wide and she holds her chest. She slowly sits down beside Sarah and puts her arm around her while looking at the Monitors.

FADE

INT. GOVERNMENT NEWS ROOM - DAY

Prime minister's aid steps up to the podium.

PRIME MINISTERS AID

The Prime Minister has a statement  
please hold all questions until she  
is finished.

There is a pause, the aid looks over his shoulder then dismounts the podium. The Prime Minister steps up to the podium.

A couple of drones fly in front and take some photos then fly out of view. She tugs at her suit and holds onto the sides of the podium.

PRIME MINISTER

Approximately 48 hours ago our Arc was struck by a stray comet. It was extremely small and passed by at great speed. Our crew on the Arc had no warning before the incident.

PRIME MINISTER (CONT'D)

The Arc still appears to be on course but there is extensive damage to the North sails. We now know now the rest of the ship was not directly hit.

PRIME MINISTER (CONT'D)

More damage to the ship appears to be from a gravitational pull of the comet passing close.

PRIME MINISTER (CONT'D)

The North sails are inoperable at the moment. Attempt to retract the North sails have failed. Our plan is to rotate the Arc and start using the South sails.

She pauses and looks down and regains her composure.

PRIME MINISTER (CONT'D)

Unfortunately, I have the duty to report that there were problems with the cryogenics containers during the emergency.

PRIME MINISTER (CONT'D)

Olivia Clark was in one of those containers and passed away during the incident.

The crowd gasps. She pauses, looks down for a moment and regains her composure again.

PRIME MINISTER (CONT'D)

We do not have the full report of the damage yet but we hope to have more information for you very soon.

Flashes go off in the room. Pandemonium erupts in the press gallery. The minister steps down and rushes off stage. The Ministers aid steps back up on the podium.

FADE

INT. ARC WAITING ROOM - DAY

Matt is in the medical bay this time sitting on a chair between his two children's beds. The medical bay is dark with just soft lighting in the room.

On the wall behind the beds are monitors that display life signs of the patients. Matt has a tablet in one hand that is shining a glow on his face.

He looks worn out as he swipes the tablet. In the waiting room Shannon is standing with an infant draped over her shoulder sleeping.

She rocks the infant gently. Curtis walks into the room with another infant asleep in his arms as well. He leans in towards Shannon and whispers.

CURT

How are they doing?

SHANNON

Cindy is still unconscious and Eric slipped into a coma soon after he arrived. Matt's kids are doing well they are sleeping for the moment.

CURTIS

There is still a lot of work to be done but I think we are back on track. The ship looks secure and robots are making repairs.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

I checked on Brent and Sheila in cryo before I came here and all looks good there.

SHANNON

The med bots say Cindy and Eric are doing better but may be sedated for a few days. Their bodies have received a huge amount of trauma.

Shannon straightens back up, kinks her neck, kisses her little one on the head then leans back to Curt.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

Matt has been in there for more than 20 hours. I offered to sit with his children and wake him if anything happens but he refuses to leave.

CURTIS

He wanted to help with the repairs. I gave him some damage reports to work on. Some of the hydroponics containers need work and he understands the cargo better than I do.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

I didn't want to tax him more but this mission is bigger than all of us.

FADE

INT. ARC WAITING ROOM - DAY

The waiting room has been transformed into a board room. Large table with stacks of tablets.

An image on the wall shows points of information. Some are highlighted. There are also robots showing different types of damage on monitors on their chest. A small hollo image of the Arc on the table showing damaged sails.

Shannon and Matt are sitting at the table looking over tablets. Shannon turns to Matt.

SHANNON

How are you doing? Did you get any sleep at all?

MATT

Sorry, What was that?

SHANNON

I was asking how you were doing and if you got any sleep.

MATT

I try.

(wipes eyes)

I just can't sleep. I keep thinking if I could have gotten to Olivia sooner. I. I.

SHANNON

(Interjects)

You did all you could. If you did anything differently I don't think the rest would have made it. You are a hero.

MATT

I don't feel like one. All I do is roll around in bed and stare at the ceiling. I also have this terrible ringing in my ears all the time.

SHANNON

What did the doctor say?

MATT

Lisa had some sort of seizure today.

SHANNON

Oh my!

MATT

They said it was a focal seizure? They are still doing tests. They said it was probably due to the stress on the body during the failed cryogenic wakeup.

MATT (CONT'D)

They want to monitor her for a while. Oh, I am so sorry you have to go through this Matt.

MATT (CONT'D)

Brandon is doing well but I thought he could keep Lisa company while she is in there. They both need each other right now.

MATT (CONT'D)

I haven't even told them about their mother yet. As far as they know she is still in cryo.

SHANNON

I can't even imagine what you are going through. If you need anything let us know.

Curtis comes in carrying a stack of tablets and sets them on the table. He looks at Matt.

CURTIS

I have been in contact with Earth.  
They know about Olivia.

MATT

Can you say that again. I, um, was  
distracted.

CURTIS

Home knows about Olivia. Everyone  
is concerned about you and your  
family. As am I. I know it has been  
crazy around here.

Curt waits until he makes eye contact with Matt.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

The doctor says you still haven't  
been properly checked out yet.

MATT

I haven't had the chance. I am  
fine. Just need to work and keep my  
mind occupied.

CURTIS

What you need is sleep. I don't  
want to be hard on you with all you  
are going through but the repairs  
are progressing well and we do not  
need you for a while.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

We have orders from Earth to have  
you checked out properly. You are  
on medical leave until further  
notice and need to report to the  
medical bay now.

Matt looks longingly through the window at his children.

FADE

INT. ARC MEDICAL ROOM - DAY

A medical robot hands Matt a tablet.

ROBOT

We have completed a full body scan  
on you. We have found damage to  
your stereocilia and have to reset  
your vestibular crystals.

MATT

My what, in my what?

ROBOT

You have ringing in your ears, hearing loss and dizziness. Those issues stem from damage to your inner ear. Most likely you had blood interruptions to those areas during the cryogen revival sequence and that is how they got damaged.

MATT

Is it serious?

ROBOT

It can be if untreated but we can start to repair most of the damage with a simple procedure.

ROBOT (CONT'D)

We have scheduled the procedure for later today. The hairs in your cochlear will probably take a few months to completely regenerate. Until then you will still have hearing loss and dizziness. Once the repairs are done you will hear better than before the accident.

MATT

And the ringing. You can fix that too. The ringing is driving me mad.

ROBOT

The ringing is a way the brain tries to reconnect with your cochlear. As the stereocilia regenerate the ringing should stop. I am prescribing you some sedatives to help you sleep.

Matt shows signs of relief.

MATT

How is Lisa doing.

ROBOT

She will be Deaf until we can repair some damage on her pontomedullary junction.



The robot hands Matt another tablet. Matt looks stunned then concerned as he swipes the tablet. He looks like he is going to ask a question then swipes the tablet again.

MATT

Your telling me she can't hear anything?

ROBOT

Yes, Lisa had a focal seizure and suffered damage to the area where nerves from her inner ear connect to her brain. She will also have dizziness and cognitive issues.

MATT

She is going to be ok though

(pause)

right

(pause)

you CAN fix this right?

ROBOT

Yes, it can be repaired.

Matt looks relieved.

ROBOT (CONT'D)

There are currently three hospitals on Earth capable of this type of procedure.

MATT

EARTH? Your telling me we can't fix it here!

ROBOT

The Arc does not have the equipment or the facilities necessary.

The robot picks up a tablet off the bed and exits the room.

Matt watches the robot in stunned silence.

FADE

INT. ARC WAITING ROOM - DAY

Matt is alone at the table. He gazes at his children in the med bay. There is a robot beside MATT.

MATT

What is the definition of Deaf?

ROBOT

Definition of Deaf: Adjective.  
 Definition 1: Lacking the power of hearing or having impaired hearing.  
 Definition 2: Unwilling or unable to hear or pay attention to something.

MATT

How does someone communicate with Deaf people?

ROBOT

Always face a deaf person. Make eye contact and keep it while you are talking. Try not to look away or cover your mouth as many Deaf rely on lip reading to help them understand you.

A list of bullet points display on the robots chest showing other suggestions.

ROBOT (CONT'D)

One of the most important points to remember is to keep trying. Even if a Deaf person does not understand what you are saying the first few times. It may take four or five times of rephrasing or even writing it down. Don't give up.

MATT

What if they can't read lips. How can we teach a Deaf child to read lips?

ROBOT

Early 16th century. Since the beginning of formal Deaf education in Spain. Oralism or mainstreaming was taught into the 22nd century around the world. Oralism provided members of the privileged class with Deaf children a way to channel their children's education. Speaking was equated with the higher classes and higher intellect, signing with the lower.

MATT

What is signing?

ROBOT

Sign language. Noun. A system of communication using visual gestures and signs. Used by Deaf people. Sign for deaf or tactile signing for Deaf/Blind has not been widely practiced since the year 3700. Medical advancements were able to fix disabled. Deaf/blind communities disappeared. Now only referred to in history archives.

Matt pauses for a moment then again looks at his children through the window.

MATT

Robot please program Lisa's teacher bot with oral methods of education for the Deaf.

ROBOT

Affirmative.

FADE

INT. ARC BOARD ROOM - DAY

Matt, Shannon and Curt are sitting at the table in the waiting room. Matt seems distracted as he looks into the medical bay at his children.

There is a medical robot standing in the room beside them. Brandon and Lisa are playing cards on a bed in the med bay.

SHANNON

Curt, what is the latest report with our cryogenics issues?

CURTIS

It seems there is a fault with the emergency wake up procedures on the pods. If allowed to be revived under normal circumstances it looks like there will be no issues.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

We have taken the emergency wake-up protocol offline for now and set the regular wakeup procedure to run in cases of emergencies. At least until we can find out what went wrong.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

The pods for Brent and Eric are still functioning normally. For now I think we should leave them in the pods for their normal cycle.

SHANNON

I always hate getting into one of those things. What about the rest of the ship?

CURTIS

Most of the repairs are progressing surprisingly well. There are a few things I would probably ask Brent or Cindy if they were here but nothing looks serious. I have been able to open the South sails.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

We are back on track to reach full inertia. Once we are at full inertia we can start repairs to the frame of the North sails.

SHANNON

What is the latest medical report.

ROBOT

Cindy and Sheila have been released from the med bay and are recuperating in their quarters. They should be ready to return to cryogenics in a few weeks.

SHANNON

That is great news!

ROBOT

Brandon has been released medically but is staying in the med bay for now. Lisa will be in the med bay for a while. She has some brain damage. Our equipment is not capable of repairing her hearing. She will also have dizziness and cognitive issues for some time. This also affects her voice and temperament. With the brain damage there is also a larger risk of cryogenics disease.

(MORE)

ROBOT (CONT'D)

I suggest she skip her next cryogenic cycle and be re-evaluated before the next cycle. The rest of her body appears to be functioning normally.

MATT

Lisa, Brandon and I are all going to skip our next cryo cycle.

SHANNON

Oh my.

(Sympathetic)

I am so sorry Matt.

ROBOT

Matt has some damage to his inner ear which is affecting his hearing and balance. He will also have some fatigue and cognitive issues. He should be back to full health in a few months.

SHANNON

Matt if there is anything we can do we are here for you.

MATT

I don't know what to do yet. We are still trying to figuring that out. I had some time to research how to communicate with the Deaf and we are working with a teacher robot.

CURTIS

Matt, we will help any way we can. Earth is also mourning the loss of Olivia. She was a great woman. I cannot imagine what you are going through.

SHANNON

Yes, we will all miss her and we are here for you.

MATT

Thank you both. I know how important this mission is to everyone at home.

SHANNON

Robot, is Matt fit for duty?

ROBOT

That will depend on how much he exerts his body. His body is fighting his balance and hearing issues. That will drastically affect his physical and mental abilities. We suggest half days for now and be re-evaluated again in a week.

CURTIS

That is good news I have some work that could use his input. I just can't wrap my head around some of it.

MATT

I am ready to do what I can.

SHANNON

We only have a few more things to cover. Earth is waiting on our report.

Shannon picks up a tablet and taps it a couple of times. The display on the wall changes to bullet points.

In the background Lisa picks up a tablet and throws it across the room. It hits the window. She starts screaming. Matt, Curt and Shannon look over. Shannon looks at Matt.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

Matt we don't need you for the moment. Go be with your family.

Matt grabs a tablet and heads out of the room.

FADE

INT. ARC CLARK QUARTERS - DAY

Luxurious open concept apartment with the odd bulkhead showing.

Matt, Lisa and Brandon are at the dining table. Brandon is working on a tablet.

Matt is trying to mouth words to Lisa while a teacher robot instructs. It is not going well and Lisa is agitated. Matt mouths the words "Big red dog". Lisa is looking at him with confusion. He mouths again with more emphasis. "Big red dog"

ROBOT

You have to say the words normally  
or your face will distort and make  
it harder for Lisa to lip read.

Matt pauses then calmly mouths the words again. Lisa still does not understand she gets frustrated and puts her hands in front of her eyes. Matt tries to pull them down.

Lisa gets violent and swipes a tablet across the table screaming then crying. Matt pulls her onto his lap. He holds her and strokes her hair. Brandon is watching in concern.

Matt motions Brandon over for a family hug. Matt kisses Brandon and Lisa on their heads and looks up.

MATT

We really miss you Olivia.

SLOW FADE

INT. ARC HYDROPONICS - DAY

Typical hydronic bay. Robot not moving on floor. Words show "8 years later".

LISA (16) is looking at a robot that has fallen and powered down.

Matt looks at the robot then taps his watch. A holographic image of Curtis appears.

MATT

Curt, I am having trouble with  
another hydroponics robot. They  
just don't seem to be able to  
handle the climate.

CURTIS

I am on it I will have the robot  
picked up and replaced.

Lisa pushes a button on the robot. A small cartridge pops out. She reaches into the pocket of her coveralls pulls out a replacement. She slides it in the robot. The robot comes back to life then goes back to work. Matt looks in shock at Lisa. He slowly raises his arm and speaks into it.

MATT

Umm, cancel that Curt. Looks like  
Lisa fixed it?

CURTIS

I am not surprised. Lisa has a real knack with the robots. She would be a great mechanic.

Lisa looks over the damaged part. Matt is still looking at Lisa in amazement. He raises his watch again.

MATT

Would you be willing to teach her?

CURTIS

I think that's a great idea.

FADE

INT. ARC SOUTH BRIDGE DECK - DAY

Curt and Lisa are working on robots. Lisa's robot has speech to text on his chest.

CURTIS

You really are good with machines.

Lisa looks at the close captioning on her robot. She turns to Curt and smiles. Lisa picks up a tablet and taps it a few times.

ROBOT

It beats school work.

CURTIS

Ha Ha Remember your school work is important. I can't have someone working for me that is not ready to learn everything they can.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Besides I don't think Matt would like it if your grades started to slip.

Lisa reads his response on the robot, smiles at him then picks up a screw driver and gets back to work on her robot.

FADE

INT. ARC CLARK QUARTERS - DAY

Brandon and Lisa are at the kitchen table working. They both have a tablet. The teacher robot has a math problem on its chest.



Matt is getting ready to go to work and turns to Brandon on the way by.

MATT

I want to see some progress on your video report when I get back.

Lisa looks at her robot with voice to text showing then looks at Brandon with a smirk. Matt kisses Lisa on the head and leaves the room.

As soon as Matt leaves Brandon looks at his watch and counts down on one hand. Five, Four, Three, Two, One. Brandon rotates his chair toward the living room.

BRANDON

Computer play some music really really loud.

An old music video starts to play. It is a music video with people signing the words as they sing.

Brandon gets out of his chair and starts playing an air guitar. Water in glasses start to ripple to the beat. Lisa feels the table and starts nodding her head to the beat.

Lisa looks over at her brothers antics then at the music video. She is mesmerized watching the actors signing the music.

Brandon turns to see what she is looking at. At the end of the song the credits show "A special thanks to our ASL Student Actors" and then it lists their names.

Lisa points to the screen with a puzzled look on her face. Brandon shrugs his shoulders.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

Computer pause and go back to the start of the credits.

Lisa picks up a tablet and types. What is an ASL student Actor? Then shows it to Brandon.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

Computer, what is an ASL Actor?

The teaching robot shows multiple links on it's chest. One of the links is "ASL (American Sign Language) Interpreted Performances"

Lisa types on her tablet ASL? Robot displays and voices.

ROBOT

American Sign Language (ASL) is a language that originated in the 16th till the 22nd century and served as a predominant sign language of Deaf communities in the USA and most of anglophone Canada at the time.

Brandon and Lisa look at each other and smile.

LISA

{I have seen one of those signs before.}

She picks up a tablet and works on it for a bit.

LISA (CONT'D)

{I got it after I lost my hearing. Just one emoji. From a girl named Sarah on Pluto.}

She hands the tablet to Brandon. The tablet shows one sign.

BRANDON

I wonder what it means.

FADE

INT. ARC SOUTH BRIDGE DECK - DAY

Lisa alone on south bridge. Robot parts spread out everywhere. Lisa picks up a tablet and taps it a few times then looks over at her robot. The robot comes to life and displays downloading ASL archive (pause) download complete.

Lisa taps the tablet again and the letter A shows on the robots chest. The robot attempts to make the corresponding sign in ASL. They start going through each letter. The robots hands do not have the dexterity to form the letters properly.

They still practice for a while.

FADE

INT. ARC SOUTH BRIDGE DECK - DAY

A robot hand on the table. The hand is more detailed than the previous robot hand. Lisa is adjusting it with a screwdriver then sets it on the table with its fingers pointing up. It is more identical to a human hand.

Lisa taps her tablet and places it beside the hand. It shows the letter A. The robot hand also displays the letter A in ASL. They practice the ABC's and the hand works flawlessly. A large smile comes across Lisa's face as they sign the letters.

Lisa installs the new hand on the robot. The robot comes to life. The fingers and hand rotate, stretch and wiggle in different positions.

\*\*\*SPECIAL NOTE FROM THIS TIME ON ALL ROBOTS CAPABLE OF SIGNING ASL SIGN/VOICE AND DISPLAY TEXT ON CHEST.}

ROBOT  
{L.I.S.A}

LISA  
{Hi R.O.B.O.T}

CAMERA MOVES BACK AS THEY ARE TRYING DIFFERENT SIGNS LIKE ALPHABET AND NUMBERS ETC. CAMERA BLURS OUT THEN BACK IN.

ROBOT  
{Nice to meet you. My name is  
R.O.B.O.T}

LISA  
{Nice to meet you. My Name is  
L.I.S.A}

INT. ARC CLARK QUARTERS - DAY

Lisa and Brandon are at the kitchen table. They both have a bowl of food in front of them and are eating. There is a robot facing Lisa that has the new hands installed.

Matt walks in the door.

MATT  
I see you started supper without  
me. I am starving.

ROBOT  
{You start supper him hungry.}

BRANDON  
Dad, you have to see what Lisa did  
today.

ROBOT  
{Dad see L.I.S.A do today.}

MATT  
What's up

ROBOT  
{What's up}

Brandon and Lisa laugh at the robot.

BRANDON  
Lisa built a robot that can sign.

ROBOT  
{L.I.S.A build R.O.B.O.T can sign}

MATT  
Sign? What do you mean sign?

ROBOT  
{What mean sign}

BRANDON  
You have to see it to believe it.

The robot continues to sign voice and show closed captioning to Lisa while they talk. Matt looks at the signing robot then at Lisa in astonishment.

LISA  
{I love you dad}

ROBOT  
{Lisa love you dad.}

Matt is still staring in absolute amazement. The dish he is holding slips out of his hand and bounces on the floor. Lisa has a huge smile on her face. Absolutely beaming. Matt walks over and hugs Lisa then they look at the robot again.

MATT  
I love you too.

ROBOT  
{Love same}

They try different words and phrases.

FADE

INT. ARC CLARK QUARTERS - NIGHT

Matt is alone with the robot at a table.

MATT  
Robot, can you teach me ASL

ROBOT  
Yes, I can.

MATT  
Where do we start.

ROBOT  
Start with the alphabet.

They both start signing the alphabet.

FADE

INT. ARC BOARD ROOM - DAY

BRENT (37) a heavy built man and CINDY (32) are sitting at the table with Shannon.

SHANNON  
It is good to have you both with us today. We will get started in a bit. We are just waiting for Curt and Matt. I hope everyone is okay. I hope your cryo sleep was good.

CURTIS  
I find it hard to believe that cryo doesn't age the body. I actually feel better than when I stepped in.

CINDY  
Sure does wonders for the completion.

Matt and Curt walk into the room followed by Lisa's new robot. They all exchange hugs and hand shakes then sit down.

MATT  
(Excited)  
Before we start the official meeting I have to show you something.

CURTIS  
Sure

MATT  
Last night when I got home I found out that Lisa built herself a signing robot.

SHANNON

Signing robot. What's that?

CURTIS

Lisa has been working on a special project for months. She won't tell me what it is but it seems to be very important to her.

MATT

You will have to see it to believe it. She has taken her teaching robot and modified the hands and face so it can sign ASL.

SHANNON

ASL?

CINDY

ASL is American Sign Language. I um.

CINDY (CONT'D)

(pause)

Wrote a collage paper on that. My title was Lost Languages. It used to be a form of communication with Deaf people using hand, face, and movements to communicate.

CURTIS

Lisa never ceases to amaze me. She has got to be the most resourceful person I have ever met.

MATT

I played with the robot last night after she went to bed. I even started to learn the alphabet.

MATT (CONT'D)

{A.B.C.F} oops {D}.

SHANNON

I hate to interrupt and I want to hear all about it but Earth is waiting for our report. We should do the meeting and get back to this again right after.

BRENT

That is incredible!

They turn to the boardroom display and start discussing items listed.

FADE

INT. PLUTO NEWS DESK - DAY

Sarah (18ish now) is at a table with a tablet and her mother is eating and watching the news. The large monitors flip to the Daily Arc report and sound comes through the PA system.

On the display is Lisa's new ASL robot.

Jennifer waves at her daughter and points to the screen.

Sarah looks at the screen.

NEWSCASTER 1

Today's special report focuses on Lisa Clark. As you all know Lisa has been Deaf since the comet strike on the Arc.

NEWSCASTER 1 (CONT'D)

We have all watched as she struggled to communicate with the rest of the team. Lisa may have found a possible solution to her communication issues. An ASL robot. We will tell you all about it after this commercial break.

Jennifer and Sarah start to sign wildly.

SARAH

{ASL robot cool}

JENNIFER

{You need one of those}

Sara has wide eyes and shakes her head up and down.

SARAH

{Uh huh}

FADE

INT. ARC BOARD ROOM - DAY

LISA, CURT AND MATT ARE IN THE BOARDROOM. LISA'S SIGNING ROBOT IS ALSO IN THE ROOM.

CURTIS

Seems like you are a big hit at on Earth, Lisa. We keep getting asked about you and your new robot.

Lisa tries to sign to the robot then picks up a tablet and the robot starts to sign, voice and display what Lisa types.

ROBOT

{I don't know ASL yet and the robot is still in design but I am having fun learning ASL.}

CURT

I am wondering if you can do a demonstration that we can send back?

MATT

Lisa, Brandon and I have all started to learn ASL. It is not easy.

CURTIS

Lisa, I am also interested in your design and wondering if we can start duplicating it on other robots.

Lisa taps her tablet.

ROBOT

{The robots can make them. I just let them know what I want and they build it.}

CURTIS

I know robot design and there is a lot more to it than that. What you have created is nothing short of amazing.

MATT

Why don't we try recording one of our family school sessions?

CURTIS

I see a photo opportunity here. All of us can have an ASL class with the robot. Of course we will try one that is not recorded first.



Both Matt and Lisa nod their heads.

FADE

INT. PLUTO FOOD COURT - DAY

All three monitors sink and show a government seal on the screen. Lights in the room flash a few times. Words scroll across. "Important message from the Prime Minister. Please stand by." The view changes to a podium.

CUT TO

INT. EARTH GOVERNMENT PRESS GALLERY - DAY

A man steps up to the podium.

PRIME MINISTERS AID

The prime minister has a statement  
please hold all questions until  
after she is finished.

There is a pause. The man looks over his shoulder then dismounts the podium. He steps down and the Prime Minister steps up.

PRIME MINISTER

My historians have informed me that  
sign language is a dead language  
and has not been practice for many  
centuries.

PRIME MINISTER (CONT'D)

I have on the other hand heard  
rumor's that some among you still  
may use ASL or other sign languages  
for communication. In light of  
Lisa's deafness and the new ASL  
robot she has created and of course  
the importance of our Arc to  
succeed in the new world.

PRIME MINISTER (CONT'D)

I am putting a team together of our  
brightest historians and  
linguistics. I would to also like  
to add people that can already sign  
ASL or other sign languages if any  
can be found. This team will  
receive our highest prestigious  
status in our community.

(MORE)

PRIME MINISTER (CONT'D)  
With all the benefits that go along  
with it. Thank you.

Some drones fly in for some snapshots and questions start  
from the gallery. Drones swing around and take pictures of  
the gallery.

CUT TO

INT. PLUTO FOOD COURT - DAY

Sarah and Jennifer look at each other.

SARAH  
{Inform them!}

JENNIFER  
{No no no not us!}

SARAH  
{Yes, we sign. I want to sign with  
Lisa.}

JENNIFER  
{We can't!}

SARAH  
{Why?}

JENNIFER  
{You don't understand we can't.}

SARAH  
{Why. Why not tell them. I don't  
understand we sign good. You sign  
good.}

JENNIFER  
{We can't tell them because they  
will take you from us. We are not  
who we say we are.}

SARAH  
{You come with me. We show them  
sign.}

JENNIFER  
{We can't. You don't understand. I  
didn't let them fix you after your  
accident. They will take you away  
if they find out who we are.}

SARAH

{Accident? What Accident.}

JENNIFER

{When you were young you had an accident. You had severe brain damage. That is why you are deaf. Other than the deafness you were fine.}

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

{We were cut off from Earth because of a war over resources. Once the war was over we took you back to Earth to see the doctors. They said they could fix you but you could lose all your memories, experiences and knowledge you had gained since birth.}

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

{We watched you overcome your deafness and become the person you are today. We love you for who you are and what you have become.}

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

The government demanded to have you fixed. We were convinced by our family at Pluto to return to the mining colony and they would help raise you.}

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

{The only reason they did not force you to do the dangerous surgery is that we returned to Pluto.}

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

{Soon after that my cousin and your twin sister Brenda passed away in an awful accident. We reported to the government that you passed away. Not your sister.}

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

{The government only knows you as Brenda now. Documents have been falsified so they would not hunt you down. The government thinks you are dead.}

JENNIFER (CONT'D)  
{Our family learned sign because of  
you. You are the reason they  
sign.}

Sarah slowly turns and looks out the window at open space.

The camera shot switches to a shot of Sarah from outside the window. She holds up her hand <Love>.

FADE OUT