# SABER RIDER AND THE STAR SHERIFFS

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FADE IN:

1 EXT. SPACE

1

SPACE, quiet and beautiful in its infinite blackness. Far in the distance, a PURPLE GAS GIANT: GANYMEDE.

Then -- LASER FIRE -- we are in the middle of an EPIC SPACE BATTLE. A few dozen SHIPS on every side.

ANGLE ON

A huge battle cruiser, large letters on the hull reveal its name: The BISMARCK, the pride of the Cavalry Command.

The Bismarck is FIRING rapidly at -- PAN to REVEAL --

-- an even bigger OUTRIDER SPACESHIP.

2 INT. BISMARCK BRIDGE

2

A small crew is left on the bridge. Debris and SMALL EXPLOSIONS everywhere --

The VIEW SCREEN shows the Outrider ship taking heavy damage -- but not enough. The battle isn't going well.

CAPTAIN HIKARI, 40 and heavily bruised, shouts from his command console.

HIKARI

More energy to the weapons, we have to send these Outriders back to where they came from.

Another POWER CONDUIT gets FRIED and falls from the ceiling.

SMITH, the tactical officer in his mid 30ies, shouts.

SMITH

Captain Hikari, I have some strange readings. Something really big is approaching very fast.

HIKARI

Bigger than that? Put it on the screen Smith!

We stay with Hikari. He stares at the screen and his jaw drops.

SMITH

What the hell is that?

3

3 EXT. SPACE

A RENEGADE UNIT, a giant, vicious looking mecha-robot, the deadliest outrider weapon ever conceived, emerges from behind the enemy battle cruiser.

It's big -- and it gets bigger.

The Renegade joins the battle and starts to attack the Bismarck.

The Renegade CLAWS itself onto the Bismarck and starts to rip the ship to shreds.

#### 4 INT. BISMARCK BRIDGE

4

Another EXPLOSION.

Hikari gets knocked down but he immediately is back on his feet -- with a few new bruises.

HIKARI

Unleash hell! Hit it with everything we've got!

5 EXT. SPACE

5

The Bismarck keeps firing but everything they've got is not nearly enough to deal with the Renegade.

The weapons fire just bounces off and barely scratches the hull.

The other Outrider ships turn their fire towards the other ships in the Cavalry Fleet.

#### 6 INT. BISMARCK BRIDGE

6

Hikari looks concerned and really unhappy.

#### HIKARI

How dare they! Just because we caught this tick on our hull they don't see us as a threat anymore? Smith, show them what we're made of.

SMITH

Captain, we have a hull breach on decks 12 through 19.

(beat)

The tick just ripped out our main weapon.

FIRST OFFICER BARNES, early 30ies, storms onto the bridge, she is mildly injured and out of breath.

**BARNES** 

Captain, energy core levels are critical. Evacuation in progress but we have to do something before the core rips us apart.

Hikari looks at her.

HIKARI

We're already dead, the only question is how we die.

Barnes knows he's right, she nods and returns to her console.

**BARNES** 

Captain, your orders?

Hikari thinks for a second.

SMITH

Captain, what now?

Hikari has a plan.

HIKARI

How long till the core rips us apart.

BARNES

2 minutes, 5 if we are lucky.

Hikari smiles.

HIKARI

That's too damn long! In 30 seconds I want to see us burn! (beat)

Magnetize the outer hull.

Hikari looks at Smith and Barnes and waits for their silent approval.

**BARNES** 

What about the escape pods?

HIKARI

There's no escape.

They nod. They know what this means and we can see it in their faces.

Barnes presses some buttons.

**BARNES** 

Hull magnetized.

HIKARI

Set collision course. Full speed ahead.

7 EXT. SPACE

7

The Bismarck's hull magnetizes and pulls the Renegade towards the ship.

But not only the Renegade, everything -- every little piece of metal, every projectile weapon -- EVERYTHING -- even the escape pods.

The Renegade is trying to free itself but the magnetic force is too strong.

The Bismarck, battered and almost breaking apart, sets course for the giant outrider spaceship.

8 INT. BISMARCK BRIDGE

8

Hikari, Smith and Barnes watch calmly while the outrider ship is coming nearer and nearer.

Hikari straightens his uniform and sits down in his Captains chair.

HIKARI

You know, I never wanted to become a spaceship Captain. I always wanted to drive race cars. Do you think it's too late to change careers?

**BARNES** 

Why didn't you sir?

Hikari smiles.

HIKARI

I'd love to say it was out of duty and honor but I just wanted to impress girls.

SMITH

Isn't it easier to impress girls as a race driver?

Hikari smiles.

HIKARI

Now he tells me.

Barnes and Smith smile.

9 EXT. SPACE 9

The Bismarck looses power -- the lights go off.

The Renegade floats away from the Bismarck -- but it gets squashed when the Bismarck crashes into the giant Outrider spaceship...

... A BLINDING EXPLOSION ...

10 EXT. YUMA CITY - DAY

10

... the blinding sun is at its highest over Yuma City, the vibrating capital of the New Colonies.

SUPER: 25 Years later.

11 EXT. MEMORIAL PLAZA

11

MEMORIAL PLAZA, a place of memory for those who laid down their lives in the great war against the Outriders.

SUPER: Yuma City - Memorial Plaza

In the centre of the plaza there is a huge replica of the Bismarck, carved out of a giant block of white marble.

It is a busy day. PEOPLE are everywhere, some are CHATTING, some are staring at the memorial in awe and some are just sitting on a bench, minding their own business.

A young, red haired teacher, MISS WINCHESTER, is standing near the memorial with her pupils, a group of about a DOZEN BOYS AND GIRLS.

MISS WINCHESTER
We already talked about it in class but now that we are here, who can remember what we learned about the Outrider War.

COLIN a boy of 13 raises his hands.

MISS WINCHESTER (CONT'D)

Yes Colin.

COLIN

A long time ago, after the settlers came here the Outriders entered our dimension and attacked. Many settlers died defending their homes.

MISS WINCHESTER

Yes, that's right Colin. And who can tell me what an Outrider is?

AMY, 13, over eager, blurts out the perfect answer she learned by heart.

AMY

Outriders are beings from another dimension who came to ours to take our resources and kill us.

MISS WINCHESTER

Thank you Amy, but you know that we don't just talk, we raise our hands.

Amy nods.

MISS WINCHESTER (CONT'D)

And what happened after the attacks?

LISA, a shy 13 year old slowly raises her hand and Miss Winchester points at her and nods.

LISA

After the first attacks the colonists founded the Star Sheriffs and started to defend themselves.

MISS WINCHESTER

And who knows what part this big ship played in that story?

RACHEL, 13 with big blue eyes, raises her hand.

MISS WINCHESTER (CONT'D)

Rachel.

RACHEL

That is the Bismarck, the largest spaceships ever built but it got destroyed in the Battle of Ganymede.

MISS WINCHESTER

Yes, these brave men and women sacrificed themselves to save the colonies. And that is the reason why this memorial site was built.

The pupils stare at the memorial, visibly moved by the story.

Ms. Winchester smiles.

MISS WINCHESTER (CONT'D)

I think this was enough history for today. Let's walk over to the Star Sheriff Museum and find out if you have what it takes to be a Star Sheriff.

(beat)

So, who want's to become a Star Sheriff.

Every child shouts...

SCHOOLCHILDREN

ME!!! ME!! ME!!

On a bench near the children, a fair haired man in his early 30ies is studying his WRIST DISPLAY.

This is SABER RIDER (SABER), one of the most distinguished Star Sheriffs working for the Cavalry Command. He listens to the children and smiles.

He is looking at information about a sinister looking fugitive with ghoulish eyes called VANQUO.

ON SCREEN

The list of crimes scrolls almost endless. Vanquo seems to be specialized in selling stolen data about freight transports.

ON SABER

Miss Winchester and her pupils walk past him. The boys are fooling around and Colin gets pushed into Saber.

Saber manages to catch Colin and Colin glimpses Saber's Sheriff Star. Colin wants to share his discovery with everyone -- but Saber smiles and signals him to stay quiet.

MISS WINCHESTER

Boys, what are you doing? Leave that nice man alone.

(to Saber)

Sorry Sir, did the boys bother you.

SABER

No, everything's all right. Just boys being boys.

Saber smiles at Miss Winchester but then he sees someone behind her -- VANQUO -- standing on the other side of the memorial.

Miss Winchester wants to say something to Saber, she seems quite smitten but before she can say anything, he gets up, slowly but deliberately.

SABER (CONT'D)

Sorry Miss. I have to...

Then -- A GUN -- pressed at his back.

COLT

OK, blondy, nice and slow, hand me your gun.

The gun belongs to COLT, a cocky Bounty Hunter in his late 20ies, the quickest shoot in the colonies and he likes other people to know that.

Colt turns to Miss Winchester and courteously tips his hat.

COLT (CONT'D)

Howdy Miss, how you doin'.

Miss Winchester blushes.

Saber uses Colt's distraction and grabs Colt's gun. He disarms him.

Colt quickly draws a SECOND GUN and Saber and Colt are now pointing guns at each other.

Miss Winchester looks terrified.

SABER

Please lower your gun, I'm a Star Sheriff and your presence here is compromising my mission.

COLT

Me? Compromising your mission? I was having such a good day and then one of you rodeo clowns comes along and ruins it.

Saber stays calm.

SABER

Sorry you feel that way, but could you lower your gun anyway.

Saber lowers his gun.

Colt lowers his gun and smiles. He turns to Miss Winchester, who is still terrified.

He takes her hand and kisses it.

COLT

The name is Colt but you can call me what ever you want.

Miss Winchester blushes.

SABER

Have a nice day Miss.

Saber runs across the plaza to the place where he saw Vanquo.

COLT

I'm sorry Miss, you seem very lovely and all but I have to catch up with that really annoying guy before he catches my even more annoying bad guy.

Colt runs after Saber and Miss Winchester just stands there, flabbergasted and her students stare at her smiling.

Saber has spotted Vanquo again. He is just about to leave the memorial park.

Vanquo becomes aware of his pursuers.

Saber tries to get a clear line of sight -- with Colt just a few steps behind.

Saber FIRES -- Vanquo ducks and takes cover.

Vanquo turns around and FIRES back at Saber and Colt.

Saber takes cover behind a TRASH CAN and shouts across the crowd.

SABER

EVERYBODY DOWN!!

People SCREAM. Some take cover, others run around like frightened chickens.

Colt aims and shoots the gun out of Vanguo's hand.

Vanquo pulls out another gun and starts running again, keeping his head down.

Saber takes another well aimed shoot and Colt keeps firing in Vanquo's general direction.

Vanquo is hit, but still running. He drops something -- his COMMUNICATOR.

COLT

Gotcha.

SABER

No you didn't, he's getting away.

Vanquo vanishes in the CROWD.

Colt and Saber keep running.

Saber picks up the Communicator -- damaged, a bullet hole through the display.

SABER CONT'D)

Well done bottom feeder.

COLT

At least I hit something.

Saber looks around, Vanquo is gone.

SABER

I lost him.

COLT

Glad I could help, rodeo clown. I would love to insult you some more but I have a bounty to collect.

Colt runs away. Saber takes his gun, switches a tiny switch and shoots at Colt.

Colt is now tagged with tiny transponder.

On his wrist display we can see a map of the area with a blinking dot.

Saber holsters his gun and examines the communicator.

The communicator looks different than anything Saber has ever seen before. This is not human technology.

Even though the display is shattered, Saber manages to access some information --

-- he doesn't like what he is seeing. Not at all.

ON THE DISPLAY

The display shows the Cavalry Command HQ, security codes, possible entry points and a complete list of weaknesses in the defense grid. The message was sent from inside the HQ, but from where or whom exactly

Then strange CIPHERS and LETTERS appear -- the display DIES.

SABER

Damn.

Saber takes out his communicator. He is still calm but we can see that he fears for the worst. He contacts the HQ.

SABER (CONT'D)

(into coms)

Saber Rider for HQ, please respond. Saber Rider for HQ, this is an emergency.

HQ COM OFFICER (V.O.)

HQ here. What's the emergency?

SABER

Base security has been compromised. Possible attack imminent.

Then -- nothing. Only STATIC.

SABER (CONT'D)

HQ, please respond, please respond! HQ! HQ!

12 EXT. CAVALRY COMMAND HQ - DAY

12

An impressive BUILDING COMPLEX out of concrete, steel and glass, a small city in itself, the CAVALRY COMMAND, pride of the Colonies and home of the Star Sheriffs.

SUPER: Cavalry Command HQ

EXPLOSIONS -- GLASS SHATTERING -- a building COLLAPSES.

PEOPLE are running to safety -- SCREAMING their lungs out.

13 INT. HALLWAY

13

The ALARM is sounding.

COMPUTER VOICE

Evacuation in Progress. Please use the next available exit. Evacuation in ...

People are running along a hallway. EXPLOSIONS behind them - the hallway collapses.

14 INT. RESEARCH LAB

14

APRIL EAGLE, late 20ies, smart and beautiful, is ignoring the alarm. Her fingers are dancing across the keyboard.

The COMPUTER SCREEN shows a copy in progress bar.

Behind her, her lab partner PAULSON tries to make her leave the lab.

PAULSON

April!! Now, we have to go! It's not worth it.

APRIL

Go ahead, I'm almost done. I have to get him out of here.

PAULSON

April!

The progress bar is at 100%

APRIL

Done!

She unplugs a little device that looks like a PENDANT and puts it around her neck.

A huge EXPLOSION -- the ceiling caves in and PAULSON is buried under the debris, he gets CRUSHED.

April gets knocked out by falling debris.

#### 15 EXT. CAVALRY COMMAND HQ

15

The EXPLOSIONS continue and several buildings in the complex are caving in. Everything is BURNING.

BLACK SMOKE fills the air and FLYING AMBULANCES cut their way through it.

#### 16 EXT. YUMA DESERT

16

Saber in his black and white protective armor is riding on STEED, his mechanical horse across the desert as fast as he can.

SABER

Faster Steed!

#### 17 INT. RESEARCH LAB

17

April is lying on the floor, unconscious.

JESSE BLUE, dressed in a cavalry uniform in his early 30ies, very ambitious with blue-green hair enters the lab.

He carefully walks across the debris. Paulson is buried under debris, there's nothing he can do for him. Then he sees April.

**JESSE** 

Wake up April! Wake up! Please, wake up!

April opens her eyes and looks at Jesse.

APRIL

(whispering)

Jesse...

She loses consciousness again.

He picks her up an carries her out of the lab.

#### 18 EXT. CAVALRY COMMAND HQ

18

The HQ is in ruins. MEDICS are attending to the dozens of injured men and women.

Out of the debris Jesse emerges with April in his arms.

COMMANDER EAGLE, late 50ies, leader of Cavalry Command, a good man with rough edges but a warm heart, is commanding the medics around whole a FEMALE MEDIC tries to clean a wound on his head.

Then -- Eagle sees Jesse carrying April, jumps up and runs towards them.

COMMANDER EAGLE

April! April!

**JESSE** 

She is going to be OK, Sir. She just hit her head a bit.

Eagle takes her from Jesse and puts her on a FLOATING GURNEY and turns to the Female Medic.

COMMANDER EAGLE

She needs to get to the hospital immediately.

FEMALE MEDIC

Yes sir.

(to the other medics)
To Yuma Memorial, NOW.

They hover the gurney into an ambulance filled with INJURED SOLDIERS.

**JESSE** 

I'm going with her.

Eagle nods.

COMMANDER EAGLE

Thank you Mr. Blue...

Jesse gets in the ambulance.

COMMANDER EAGLE (CONT'D)

...and keep me posted on her status.

**JESSE** 

Yes, sir.

Eagle closes the door and the ambulance lifts off.

Eagle watches the ambulance vanish in the distance.

The Female Medic tries to attend his wound again but he signals her to leave it alone.

COMMANDER EAGLE

Help the others.

The Female Medic nods and runs to the nearest injured soldier.

Eagle looks around and watches the medics helping the injured.

Then -- Saber, riding on STEED, his mechanical horse, arrives at the HQ.

He takes off his helmet and the destroyed HQ and the injured people leave him speechless for a moment.

Saber dismounts Steed and looks for Commander Eagle.

SABER

Commander Eagle!?!

Eagle hears his name being called and turns.

COMMANDER EAGLE

Yes?

Saber salutes.

SABER

Commander. I came as fast as I could.

Eagle cuts him off.

COMMANDER EAGLE

You couldn't have done anything Saber. We we were caught with our pants down.

They walk towards an improvised mobile command post. A few computer screens, a communication terminal and TWO BOMB SQUAD GUYS analyzing debris.

COMMANDER EAGLE (CONT'D)

As far as we know it started inside the compound. Someone got in.

SABER

A mole?

COMMANDER EAGLE

Probably.

SABER

Vanquo, the criminal I was following had blueprints of this base with him.

COMMANDER EAGLE

And where is this Vanquo now?

SABER

I'm afraid I lost him, sir. But there's more. He had something...

A member of the BOMB SQUAD approaches Eagle and cuts Saber off.

BOMB SQUAD

Sir, we tested the explosives.

COMMANDER EAGLE

And?

BOMB SQUAD

Preliminary tests indicate that we're dealing with Jarr standard issue explosives.

COMMANDER EAGLE

Jarr? Those bastards. You sure son?

BOMB SQUAD

Yes sir, we're waiting for further confirmation but the results are conclusive.

Eagle is furious.

COMMANDER EAGLE

Prepare our fleet and nuke Jared and his kingdom back to the stone age.

(shouting)

Someone get me a communication line to our fleet. ASAP.

SABER

Sir, if I may say something.

COMMANDER EAGLE

WHAT!?

SABER

It doesn't make sense. We're in the middle of trade negotiations with King Jarred. Why would he attack us now? COMMANDER EAGLE

How should I know what that crazy old bastard thinks and does but if he wants war he can have it.

SABER

Sir, I don't think it was them.

COMMANDER EAGLE

You think?

SABER

As I was trying to say. There's more. Vanquo was connected to all this.

COMMANDER EAGLE

Maybe he works for Jarr? He looks ugly enough!

SABER

He had something with him.

He pulls out the Vanquo's communicator.

SABER (CONT'D)

I saw something on his Communicator.

COMMANDER EAGLE

What? Don't be so cryptic!

SABER

I can't believe I'm saying this but for a second I saw something that looked like Outrider code.

COMMANDER EAGLE

Outrider? After 25 years? I don't have time for fairy tales.
(screaming)

Where's my line to the fleet?

Saber is crestfallen.

COMMANDER EAGLE (CONT'D)

Is that all? If so, you're dismissed.

SABER

But sir, If I'm right we'd be attacking the wrong people.

COMMANDER EAGLE

And if your wrong we're loosing valuable time to retaliate.

SABER

But sir, I know what I saw.

COMMANDER EAGLE

I need more Saber. I cant tell the council to wait because some Star Sheriff had a hunch.

SABER

Sir, please.

Eagle hesitates.

COMMANDER EAGLE

Preparing our fleet for battle will take 24 hours.

(beat)

You have until then to find proof. If you have something by then I'm willing to listen.

Saber nods.

COMMANDER EAGLE (CONT'D)

But let's hope you're wrong.

SABER

Yes, sir. Thank you, sir.

Saber stands up and puts his helmet on.

HUD DISPLAY

The display brings up a map of Yuma with a blinking dot -- locator beacon activated.

SABER (CONT'D)

And I know exactly where to start.

Saber WHISTLES and Steed approaches.

#### 19 EXT. YUMA DESERT

19

The sun burns high over the desert and the ground seems to be boiling.

Far in the distance a sandstorm approaches.

The storm gets closer -- it's not a storm -- half a dozen RACE CARS -- it's the Yuma GP, the biggest race in the Colonies.

SUPER: Yuma Grand Prix

In the lead -- the FURY RACER, a stylish red and white futuristic race car.

20 INT. FURY RACER 20

At it's helm, FIREBALL, mid 20ies of Japanese descent, a quick driver with an even quicker temper.

He looks in the REAR MIRROR SCREEN and checks the competition.

A DUST CLOUD behind him, THREE RACERS emerge from it.

FIREBALL

That's close enough. Let's see how they like FURY TURBO!

Lead foot -- full throttle. The engine ROARS.

#### 21 EXT. YUMA DESERT

21

The Fury Racer accelerates and the other cars eat dust.

The Fury racer enters a narrow canyon -- just a few feet between the car and the wall -- Fireball doesn't slow down.

RACE ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(over the top announcer
 voice)

And Fireball shows them how it is done. He truly is the best driver in this years Yuma GP. His skills are a thing of beauty. But...oh... oh...

Ahead -- the entry to the canyon is too narrow for the Fury Racer to pass.

#### 22 INT. FURY RACER

22

Fireball presses a button on his steering wheel.

#### 23 EXT. YUMA DESERT

23

The Racer fires A ROCKET and the EXPLOSION makes the canyon entry wider and the Fury Racer can pass.

#### FAR IN THE DISTANCE

Colt is on the lookout. He stands next to his BRONCO BUSTER, a small blue and white ship.

He has binoculars and watches the race.

#### POV BINOCULARS

The other racers have caught up with Fireball. A BLACK RACER is in pursuit of the Fury Racer. They are very close together.

#### END POV BINOCULARS

COLT

There you are amigo.

Colt jumps into the Bronco Buster and takes off. Heading for the racers.

#### BACK IN THE RACE

The Black Racer is racing neck and neck with Fireball.

#### 24 INT. BLACK RACER

24

Vanquo sits at the helm, smiling gleefully.

He talks with someone over the car's communication system.

VANQUO

Everything is ready. They won't know what hit em.

Vanquo presses a button on his steering wheel.

#### 25 EXT. AUTODROME

25

The fully packed Yuma Autodrome, a FEW THOUSAND FANS are watching the race in the giant SCREEN and CHEER for their favorite driver.

PEOPLE

(chanting)

Fireball!...Fireball!

#### BELOW THE STAND

The foundation of the stands is rigged with EXPLOSIVES -- and they just started TICKING -- this is not going to end well.

#### 26 EXT. YUMA DESERT

26

Vanquo drives his racer into the Fury Racer, forcing him to blow away the wall of a large rock formation with another missile.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

Hey idiot, don't you know who I

Vanquo overtakes him and the GREEN RACER behind them sees and opening and takes his chance and overtakes Fireball.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

You did not just do that.

Fireball prepares to re-overtake but then -- A HUGE BANG followed by RUMBLING -- explosions along the canyon -- the canyon starts to collapse.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

What the...

Fireball overtakes the Green Racer and outruns the falling rocks.

The Green Racer is not so lucky -- he gets SQUASHED by fallen rocks.

The rocks keep falling and Fireball evades them skillfully.

A big rock blocks the canyon --

IN THE FURY RACER

Fireball prepares to fire, he takes aim for --

THE CANYON

-- but then A HUGE EXPLOSION -- the rock is vaporized and the Bronco Buster emerges upside down from the dust -- heading straight for the Fury Racer.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

What's he doing?

They are close now, too close.

IN THE FURY RACER

Fireball hits the BRAKES and wants to evade.

THE CANYON

THE BRONCO BUSTER with Colt inside pulls sideways and evades him in the last second.

They see each other through their windows.

COLT

Oops, not the one I'm looking for.

The fury Racer skids and Fireball barely manages not to wreck it.

ON FIREBALL

He's pissed.

FIREBALL

Are you crazy?

ON COLT

He just doesn't care.

COLT

Sorry partner. I'm afraid I mixed you up with someone else.

Colt turns around and chases the Black Racer.

BACK ON FIREBALL

Fireball looks in his REAR MIRROR -- no time to be angry -- the other racers are closing in.

FIREBALL

Damn, seems like I have to put in some effort to win this.

Fireball restarts his engines and drives off -- but the competition is catching up and the Black Racer extends his lead.

27 EXT. AUTODROME

27

Thousands of spectators, CHEERING, waiting for the racers to arrive.

The suspense is palpable -- and the bombs are ticking.

28 EXT. YUMA DESERT - DARK TUNNEL

28

The Black Racer enters the dark and curvy TUNNEL, the last chicane in this race.

Fireball has closed in and so has Colt. They are both in pursuit of the Black Racer.

Colt opens fire on the Black Racer.

Vanquo fires back and Fireball is caught in the middle. Only the shots ILLUMINATE the tunnel.

29 EXT. YUMA DESERT

29

They exit the tunnel and the cars look battered. The finish line can't come soon enough.

RACE ANNOUNCER (V.O.) Ladies and gentleman. We can see three racers ... no, that seems to be a glider and they are approaching the finish line and they are neck and neck.

Fireball and the Black Racer are approaching the Autodrome. Vanquo is about to overtake Fireball -- but then -- Colt fires at Vanquo's engine.

The engine EXPLODES and Fireball has to evade the debris.

Vanquo looses control and CRASHES into the Fury Racer.

Fireball, tries to counter steer but he loses control over the Fury Racer and overturns a couple of time and comes to rest on the roof.

RACE ANNOUNCER (V.O.) Oh my god...Fireball crashes.

30 EXT. AUTODROME

30

The crowd GASPS as they see Fireball's crash on the large screen.

A YELLOW RACER evades the crashed cars and drives for the win.

PAN TO THE FINISH LINE

The Yellow Racer enters the autodrome and gets greeted by the CHEERING crowed and crosses the finish line.

The bombs EXPLODE. The CHEERS become SCREAMS. The autodrome BURNS.

People try to safe themselves but the stands start to COLLAPSE.

FADE TO BLACK.

People keep SCREAMING and we hear SIRENS.

31 EXT. YUMA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL - DAY

31

A tower out of steel and glass -- HOVER AMBULANCES landing on the roof -- it is a very busy day at the YUMA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

32

32 INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

NURSE WHITE runs along the busy hospital floor.

HOVERING BEDS with INJURED PEOPLE are floating in the hallway and the NURSE bumps into an OLD MAN in a half-opened nightgown.

NURSE WHITE

Please sir, Go back to your room.

OLD MAN

But I need to pee.

She grabs him and sits him down next to a vending machine.

NURSE WHITE

I'll be back for you in a second.

She runs away and passes room 5547.

33 INT. HOSPITAL ROOM 5547

33

A sleek and functional futuristic hospital room with three hovering beds.

The view is amazing -- it's the 55th floor after all.

Fireball lies in the bed next to the window. He's heavily bruised and his leg is splinted. He's just about to come to. He MOANS.

FIREBALL

(moaning)

Where am I? What happened?

A deep familiar voice answers.

COLT

Apparently you're a really bad driver. But luckily for you I was there to save your sorry ass Mr....

Fireball's vision is still blurry but he sees the silhouette of a man with a cowboy hat standing next to the bed and takes a look at Fireball's file.

COLT (CONT'D)

S. Hikari. What's the "S" for? Slow stupid?

Fireball rubs his eyes and Colt takes a step towards the bed.

FIREBALL

My Name is not Hikari, it's Fireball! Mr. Fireball to you!

COLT

So it's both then.

Colt smiles. Fireball tries to get up but his splinted leg holds him back and he almost falls out of the bed.

FIREBALL

Get out of here! You cost me the race!

We can see the pain in his eyes and he falls back into the bed.

COLT

Easy there race boy.

Colt points at the splinted leg.

COLT (CONT'D)

Not everybody was so lucky.

Colt points at the other bed but Fireball doesn't care.

Fireball sits up -- gazing at Colt. Fireball is furious.

FIREBALL

You and your idiot friend in the black racer cost me the race.

Colt walks towards Fireball's bed.

COLT

To clear a few things. My stupid "friend" is the reason I had to disturb your beloved race and he's not really my "friend". I'm pretty sure he's stupid though and if I might add, very ugly.

Colt pats the guy in the other bed on the head. It's Vanquo.

Vanquo's body is heavily burned and both his legs are splinted and he's cuffed to the bed.

COLT (CONT'D)

He's going to eat through tubes for the rest of his short and hopefully painful life. I just hope he lives long enough for me to collect my money.

Colt pats Fireballs splint and grins.

COLT (CONT'D)

You on the other hand should be fine once they get around to fixing your leg.

Nurse White enters the room with the old man and puts him in the third empty bed.

Fireball looks surprised to see the old man. He looks around and he sees an OLD WOMAN passing the door in a hovering wheelchair.

Colt starts to grin.

FIREBALL

What is this place? The sick bay on my ship is bigger than this and why are these old people around? And why, for the love of everything that's good and decent in this world... is my leg not fixed yet?

Nurse White turns around.

NURSE WHITE

You're in the geriatrics ward. All other beds are filled and don't be a sissy, it's just a broken leg we'll fix it once we deal with the more severe cases.

OLD MAN

I have to pee.

NURSE WHITE

Yes Mr. Brooks. Right away.

FIREBALL

Don't you know who I am?

NURSE WHITE

No! And as long as you're not dying or peeing your pants I don't care.

Colt tries not to laugh out loud.

COLT

Are you toilet trained?

Fireball gets furious.

FIREBALL

I want to talk to the boss around here about my treatment and call the police to arrest this son of a bitch here! NURSE WHITE

Stop it sir, or I'll tell Mr. Brooks here to relieve himself on your bed.

Colt looses it. He's LAUGHING.

Fireball turns towards Colt and tries to grab him. Colt steps back and Fireball falls out of the bed.

FIREBALL

I'll beat that grin off your face.

COLT

Careful kimosabe...you could really hurt yourself.

Nurse White looks really annoyed. She helps Fireball back into the bed.

NURSE WHITE

Stop it. Or I'll transfer both of you to the psych ward.

Suddenly -- the TV gets switched on -- BREAKING NEWS, they turn towards the TV.

ON TV

Memorial Plaza is in ruins. A crying Miss Winchester is carrying a lifeless Rachel in her arms and Lisa stands next to her, injured and in tears.

FEMALE REPORTER (V.O.)

At exactly 2.30 p.m., at least three bombs exploded on Memorial Plaza.

A scrolling banner reads: BREAKING NEWS - ATTACK ON MEMORIAL PLAZA - 400 CONFIRMED DEAD - AMONG THEM ABOUT 100 SCHOOLCHILDREN.

FEMALE REPORTER (V.O.)

People are in shock and the authorities and volunteers are trying to rescue as many people as possible.

Miss Winchester kneels down and touches a lifeless body... MEDICS and FIREMAN are on the scene as well.

The image shrinks and the FEMALE REPORTER takes over the screen.

FEMALE REPORTER

So far we don't have official confirmation but the scale of the attack is terrifying. A place usually filled with school classes and tourists has turned into ground zero...

#### 34 BACK IN THE ROOM

34

Saber stands under the door frame. He has the remote in his hand and decreases the volume.

SABER

4000 dead so far and that's not counting the casualties in the autodrome and the Cavalry Command. Children, families, lovers, friends. We're on the brink of war and you are fighting over a stupid race.

Saber turns towards nurse White.

SABER (CONT'D)

I'll take care of this.

Nurse White nods and exits the room. Saber walks across the room and looks at Vanquo.

COLT

No touching Blondy. He's mine.

SABER

I don't think so. Three attacks at three different sites and he is connected to all of them.

Saber pulls out the broken communicator.

SABER (CONT'D)

Do you know anything about this piece of technology?

COLT

Looks broken but I'm not here for tech support.

Saber looks at Vanquo's hands, cuffed to the hover bed with conventional cuffs. Saber inspects the almost antique technology.

COLT (CONT'D)

He's not going anywhere without this key.

He holds up a little key.

COLT (CONT'D)

I don't trust cuffs that need batteries.

FIREBALL

You cuffed a guy who has broken every bone in his body at least twice and needs a tube to breathe to a bed? What are you? Paranoid or just stupid?

COLT

Coming from you I take that as a compliment.

Saber shoves him away.

SABER

Step back, I need to question him.

COLT

Questioning an unconscious vegetable, who's stupid now.

Saber pulls a small device out of his pocket, presses a button and the device floats above Vanquo's bed and deploys an blueish energy field. Saber is enclosed in the field.

INSIDE THE FORCE FIELD

The room vanishes and so do the sounds. The field is almost opaque. Colt and Fireball are just silhouettes.

SABER

Let's see what you know.

He pulls out a futuristic syringe and injects Vanquo with a green liquid.

The monitors go crazy. Heart rate is up, brain activity is up.

Vanquo MOANS. His eyes blink rapidly.

SABER (CONT'D)

What's your name?

Just MOANING.

SABER (CONT'D)

Your home planet?

More MOANING.

SABER (CONT'D)

Who do you work for?

The heart rate goes up. Its way beyond 250 now.

SABER (CONT'D)

Damn.

He takes out another syringe and injects a yellow liquid. Vanquo's eyes stop blinking and the heart rate goes down.

SABER (CONT'D)

At least you're not going anywhere.

OUTSIDE THE FORCE FIELD

Saber steps through the energy field back into the room. The SOUNDS of a busy hospital return.

COLT

That didn't exactly look "by the book".

FIREBALL

Do you expect anything different from the Cavalry Command?

Saber SIGHS and shakes his head.

SABER

He happened to be on all three sites that were attacked today and until two years ago he didn't exist. That can't be a coincidence.

Colt laughs.

COLT

C'mon blondy. Don't turn a simple rustler into a terrorist.

FIREBALL

I hate to agree with Mr. Paranoid but how can one guy orchestrate multiple attacks.

A moment of silence. Saber looks around. Something is wrong.

SABER

Do you hear that?

FIREBALL

What? I hear nothing, the old guy finally stopped snoring.

SABER

That's not it.

Saber steps into the field and immediately gets pushed out by a hover bed.

Vanquo is pushing his bed with an enormous speed. Colt gets knocked over.

Saber gets up again.

SABER (CONT'D)

Stop him!

Saber runs out of the room into the Hallway.

35 INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY

35

Saber looks around and catches a glimpse of Vanquo pushing his bed along the hallway.

SABER

Stop him!

Vanquo turns around, smiles and keeps running -- still cuffed to the hovering bed.

Colt steps out of the room, smiling.

COLT

Wow, I'm not sure what's more impressive. That he can still walk or that you let a guy with two broken legs slip.

Saber turns and looks really annoyed, he had it with this guy.

SABER

You were there too, so stop talking and get to the ground floor to cut him off.

But too late -- Colt is already running.

Saber pursues him.

Then Fireball -- paddling in the air -- using his hover bed as a boat -- floats out of the room.

FIREBALL

Guys?!

But they're gone. Fireball looks around and an OLD LADY in an electric wheelchair passes him. Fireball smiles at her.

FIREBALL (CONT'D)

Excuse me ma'am!

The old lady turns and smiles as well -- she looks quite smitten with him.

#### 36 INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

36

Vanquo runs along the hallway, still pushing the bed he's cuffed to.

He runs past a supply station and grabs a pair of scissors. He tries to open the cuffs but the scissors break in half.

A GUARD tries to stop him but Vanquo stabs him in the neck with the broken scissors. The guard SCREAMS and falls to the ground.

Vanquo stops, takes the guard's gun and aims at the cuffs. Still -- no luck.

Vanquo starts running again and turns around a corner -- a dead end. The doors are too narrow to get the bed through.

Then -- Colt and Saber come around the corner. They have him cornered but Vanquo is not giving up.

Vanquo turns the bed around and runs towards Saber and Colt and FIRES at them.

Colt and Saber duck and FIRE back.

Vanquo starts running again, he picks up speed and presses some buttons on the bed's hover controls.

The bed picks up height. Vanquo slides onto the bed and uses the momentum to float past Saber and Colt.

Vanquo FIRES at the large panoramic window ahead, turns and smiles at Colt and Saber.

Saber and Colt look astonished.

#### 37 INT./EXT. YUMA MEMORIAL

37

Vanquo CRASHES through the window. For a moment he's floating in the air.

He presses the button again and reverses the hover engine -the bed is now vertically attached to the building; Vanquo slides off the bed and hangs in mid air.

The bed picks up speed. Racing down the wall.

Vanquo pulls himself back onto the bed.

Saber and Colt look out the broken window. They are speechless.

Vanquo waves at them with a smile. He presses another button and the bed slows down.

SABER

Cuffing him was a great idea.

Colt GROWLS. Saber turns on his heels and runs away to the elevator.

Colt presses some buttons on his wrist and we can hear an ENGINE ROARING and the Bronco Buster approaches the broken window. The cockpit opens and Colt jumps into the cockpit.

He looks back through the broken window. Saber is still waiting for the elevator.

Colt smiles at tips his head.

COLT

See you later!

The cockpit closes and the Bronco Buster dives down.

Saber doesn't look happy. He frowns and presses the elevator button again.

BACK ON VANQUO

Vanquo doesn't slow down. He is near the ground. Below him a large glass ceiling.

He presses the buttons again -- but this time he's not so lucky -- the strain is too much for the bed -- it breaks in half.

Vanquo keeps falling and picks up speed again. With a BANG he CRASHES through the glass ceiling into:

38 INT. EXAMINATION ROOM - DAY

38

SHATTERING GLASS. Vanquo lands on his feet, the cuffs dangling from his hands -- the bed fell apart -- he is free.

Vanquo wipes away the glass shards and looks around. He stares directly at April. She is sitting on a hovering gurney and is being examined by a DOCTOR. Jesse stands next to her.

Vanquo grins. Jesse gets in front of April to protect her. Vanquo grins even more.

VANOUO

What sweet little dove have we here?

Jesse pulls his qun.

**JESSE** 

What the...

April wants go get up but Jesse signals her to stay down.

VANOUO

Today must be my lucky day.

Vanquo moves his hand towards his stomach, he's bleeding.

The doctor looks at Vanquo and then at the emergency button.

Vanquo smiles and pulls out a big glass shard and throws the shard at the doctor.

April SCREAMS and jumps up.

The doctor collapses, Jesse turns towards him -- Vanquo kicks the gun out of Jesses hand, catches it mid air and roundhouse kicks Jesse across the room.

VANQUO (CONT'D)

That's all you got? Pathetic!

Jesse GROWLS, gets back up and charges towards Vanquo.

Vanquo SHOOTS at Jesse.

Jesse evades and reaches Vanquo but Vanquo knocks Jesse out with the qun.

Jesse falls to the ground.

He points his gun at April, takes a step towards her and smiles.

VANQUO (CONT'D)

Do you fancy a little trip little dove ... or should I say little eagle?

#### 39 INT./EXT. ENTRANCE HALL

39

Under the giant glass ceiling people are running around, doctors shouting for nurses and gurneys.

The elevator door opens. A DOCTOR IN WHITE emerges with a hovering gurney with a body bag on it.

It's Vanquo. He steadily walks across the hall towards the exit. Even through his disguise we can see him smiling.

The Bronco Buster lands in front of the entrance.

Vanquo gnashes his teeth.

VANQUO

Damn!

Vanquo moves towards the walls when suddenly -- SIRENS.

While Colt exits the Bronco, an ambulance approaches and lands next to him.

Nurses and doctors start running towards the ambulance. Vanguo sees his chance and follows them.

#### 40 EXT. HOSPITAL

40

The nurses and doctors get close to ambulance. Vanquo, hiding in the CROWD, passes Colt.

Colt is looking around but he doesn't pay attention to the people attending the ambulance.

Three people get pulled out of the ambulance. Vanquo waits and then shoves his gurney into the now empty ambulance. He climbs in and shuts the door.

Colt is still screening the crowd.

The ambulance's front door opens and a dead body falls out. The body hits the ground. Colt turns towards the ambulance.

The engine ignites and the ambulance lifts off. Colt draws his gun and fires -- A HIT. Parts of the engine get blown away.

The ambulance sinks to the ground.

ON VANQUO

VANQUO

Stupid mutton-puncher but praise NEMESIS for ground propulsion.

BACK ON COLT

Colt keeps firing. The ambulance pulls back and crashes into the Bronco.

Colt almost gets squashed and the ambulance races away towards the main gate.  $\,$ 

On a terrace above the entrance hall Fireball has seen the scene unfold. He sits in a motorized wheelchair. The engine cover is missing and it looks like Fireball rewired the whole thing.

## FIREBALL (shouting at Colt) Now you know how that feels!

Colt looks up mumbles something and looks at the big dent in his Bronco, parts of the engine are broken.

Fireball takes a look at his wheelchair and sighs.

FIREBALL (CONT'D) Here comes nothing!

He presses the controller forward and accelerates, the wheelchair sound like a race car -- Fireball built himself a "race chair".

He drives (or slides) down the glass ceiling and tries to steer towards the side closer to the main gate.

He jumps off the glass roof and lands on the grass hill that leads down to the main gate.

In his face we can see equal parts excitement and terror.

The ambulance reaches the gate and CRASHES through, turns into the main road and -- a SCREAM

### FIREBALL (CONT'D) AHHHHHHHHHH!!!!!!

He flies through the air and reaches the ambulance and manages to grab the door handle. The ambulance accelerates.

Fireball is dangling from the ambulance and his splinted leg is stuck in the wheelchair. His excitement turns into pain.

The speed is too much for the wheelchair and the wheelchair falls apart.

Fireball still has part of the wheelchairs arm rest in his hand. His splinted leg grinds along the pavement.

Fireball pulls himself further up, opens the door and climbs into the ambulance.

41 INT. ELEVATOR 41

Saber stands in the elevator. A muzak version of the "Saber Rider and the Star Sheriffs" theme song is playing.

42 INT. AMBULANCE 42

Fireball lays on top of body bag. To his surprise the bag starts to move.

He opens the zipper and to his surprise he looks at a gorgeous blonde, April. She is cuffed and gagged.

Fireball starts removing the gag.

Fireball points at Vanquo who is busy steering the ambulance and signals April to be quiet.

He tries to remove the cuffs but as he looks up he sees that Vanquo is doing something on the steering wheel. The HUD reads "AUTOPILOT ENGAGED".

Fireball lips mouth the word SORRY.

He puts the gag back, April protests silently; he closes the body bag and rolls under the gurney.

Vanquo opens the slide door and walks towards the body bag, unzips it and removes the gag.

VANQUO

So, tell me where is it!

APRIL

I have no idea what you're talking about.

VANQUO

I really thought we could solve this issue like reasonable people. I just need to know where you stored the RAMROD...

This word makes April shudder.

VANQUO (CONT'D)

... device. Ahh, so you <u>do</u> know what I'm talking about.

APRIL

I'll never talk. I'll rather die than talk.

Vanquo smiles.

VANQUO

They always say that.

Fireball is quietly looking for a weapon of some sorts.

VANQUO (CONT'D)

I'm quite good at figuring out what motivates people.

He presses a button on the gurney. The gurney sinks down a bit and Fireball is caught between gurney and floor. He can't move.

Vanquo looks at him and smiles.

VANQUO (CONT'D)

Hi Raceboy! This is perfect, just when you need someone to prove a point.

Vanquo pulls a knife and shows it to April.

VANQUO (CONT'D)

So Miss Eagle, please picture me cutting his throat very slowly. I know you would sacrifice yourself, but can you sacrifice someone else?

FIREBALL

What are you waiting for, tell him everything.

The autopilot starts to BEEB. On the HUD: "COLLISION ALERT".

VANQUO

I'm really sorry about that! Just give me a second to take care of that.

Vanquo returns to the steering wheel.

43 EXT. MOTORWAY

43

The ambulance races towards a road block, about a mile ahead. Heavily armed POLICEMEN point their guns towards the ambulance.

44 INT. AMBULANCE

44

Vanquo accelerates -- then someone knocks on the window. Saber, riding on Steed.

Vanquo lowers the window.

SABER

Stop the car now and let them go.

Vanquo smiles.

VANQUO

A welcoming committee, how nice of you.

He turns around and looks at Fireball and April.

VANQUO (CONT'D)

Just as we thought you might get out of this alive..

Vanquo turns the wheel hard left.

#### 45 EXT. MOTORWAY

45

The ambulance almost knocks Saber over and CRASHES through the beam barrier into oncoming traffic.

Breaks SCREECHING. Cars CRASHING into each other but the ambulance evades them almost effortlessly.

Saber is in pursuit. He closes in on the ambulance -- but then -- hard left again -- the ambulance CRASHES through another beam barrier and flies off the motorway.

The ambulance CRASHES through a big billboard -- Fireball his Fury Racer and a sleek Space ship in the background selling "Pearl White Toothpaste - The fastest way to pearl white teeth" and lands on an other motorway lane -- two cars break hard and two others CRASH into them.

# 46 INT. AMBULANCE

46

Vanquo looks into the rear mirror. Behind him cars are piling up. Total car mayhem.

He smiles.

He switches on the autopilot and gets back to April and Fireball.

VANQUO

So where were we?

He pulls his knife out and puts it at Fireballs throat.

VANQUO (CONT'D)

(to April)

So last chance before I cut him up, where...

He gets interrupted by a voice over the radio.

SABER (V.O.)

It's useless Vanquo. You can't escape.

VANQUO

C'mon, all I want is just a few
minutes without being
interrupted? I that too much to
ask?

He gets up and switches the radio to hands-free.

VANQUO (CONT'D)

I'm really sorry, I 'd love to chat with you about the two times you almost caught me but I'm flirting with this cute little blonde.

(to April)

Do you want to say something?

APRIL

(shouting)

We are fine Saber! Just get him!

FIREBALL

You call this fine?

Vanquo kicks him and knocks him out.

VANQUO

Hey, I didn't say it was your turn to talk.

The autopilot BEEPS again. The HUD says: Energy levels low.

VANQUO (CONT'D)

Looks like we have to hurry. Talk to you later Sheriff.

He switches the radio off and looks around in the ambulance. He takes a bottle of a substance out of the shelf and fills a syringe and injects April with the substance.

APRIL

What are you doing?

VANQUO

Let's see if this makes you more cooperative?

He takes a device from the shelf, rips Aprils cloth away, puts some sensor patches on her bare skin and switches the device on.

April looks dizzy.

VANQUO (CONT'D)

That should do the trick. Where is the RAMROD weapon?

APRIL

(with a weak voice)

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

The device in Vanquo's hand shows some spikes.

VANQUO

Naughty girl. You shouldn't tell lies. Is it on Yuma by any chance?

No spike on the device.

VANQUO (CONT'D)

I guess not. What about Ganymede?

47 EXT. MOTORWAY

47

The ambulance is racing along the motorway.

Saber is in pursuit but he's not alone. The Bronco Buster is approaching.

COLT (V.O.)

Hey blondie, missed me?

SABER (V.O.)

Go away, or I'll have you arrested for obstruction of justice.

COLT (V.O.)

Because you're doing such a bang up job arresting people.

Then someone else joins the conversation.

JESSE (V.O.)

Can't you solve this after we get the guy?

Jesse, with a black eye and a swollen nose, is standing behind a road block and stares at the fast approaching ambulance.

**JESSE** 

Slow him down and we'll take care of the rest.

SABER (V.O.)

That we can do.

The Bronco Buster FIRES a rocket at the ambulance -- a hit.

The back door gets blown to bits. Saber can see Vanquo who's interrogating April.

48 INT./EXT. AMBULANCE

48

Vanquo stares at Saber who is just a few horses lengths behind. Saber has to evade debris from the door and falls behind.

For the first time in all this Vanquo looks nervous. Fireball slowly regains consciousness.

Then -- on the radio.

JESSE (V.O.)

Surrender now and you will get a fair trial. Hurt her and I will personally make your life a living hell.

Vanquo starts smiling again.

VANQUO

(to April)

OK, last chance girl, is RAMROD on Alamo?

The drugs have kicked in fully. April MOANS, and the device spikes.

Vanquo looks pleased with himself.

VANQUO (CONT'D)

Alamo it is. Thank you very much.

Right at this moment -- the Bronco Buster is directly behind the ambulance

COLT

(over loud speakers)

Hands up! It's dead or alive so I don't mind if I have to shoot you.

Vanquo turns toward Colt and starts laughing.

VANQUO

Be my quest cowboy.

Vanquo starts dancing around.

VANQUO (CONT'D)

Am I moving too fast? C'mon, shoot already.

Colt fires but its not a rocket, it is a grappling hook. Vanquo looks disappointed.

VANQUO (CONT'D)

That's it?

Colt hits the breaks and the ambulance slows down. Vanquo stumbles.

Fireball, fully conscious again sees his chance, he pushes the gurney up and manages to move a few feet, enough to free himself. He pulls himself up and tries to punch Vanquo but Vanquo doesn't even blink when he hits him straight in the face.

FIREBALL

Take this you bastard.

VANQUO

Is that all you've got? I barely felt that. Want to try again?

Fireball punches him again -- no reaction.

VANQUO (CONT'D)

Pathetic!

Vanquo kicks Fireball right into the stomach and he falls out of the Ambulance and lands on the Bronco. He stares at Colt through the window.

Colt tries to look past Fireball but Fireball tries to evade him as well and they keep staring at each other.

The Bronco starts to trundle and with it the ambulance.

The Bronco CRASHES into the ambulance's rear suspension, gets stuck and rips the suspension off. Fireball gets thrown back into the ambulance.

The ambulance starts to grind on the road.

Vanquo is back at the wheel. He hits the breaks and turns the wheel hard left.

The ambulance flips over -- flying over the road block -- and lands in the side. There -- a small fire at the bottom of the ambulance.

Jesse looks at the flipped over ambulance and starts running towards it.

He signals the other policemen to stay back.

**JESSE** 

Stay back! It's going to blow!

Jesse climbs into the Ambulance. Fireball is picking up April.

JESSE (CONT'D)

Let me!

Fireball nods and hobbles away. Jesse takes her.

JESSE (CONT'D)

April? You all right?

April MOANS, she's barely conscious.

Up front he sees Vanquo. Still sitting in the chair -- fixed with a piece of metal through his chest.

Vanquo, barely alive, turns around and smiles.

VANQUO

I'll greet the other side from you.

Jesse smiles back, he picks up a bottle of sterilizer with a "highly flammable" sign on it and throws it towards Vanquo and carries April out of the ambulance.

Vanquo catches it and smiles.

49 EXT. MOTORWAY

49

Jesse carries April away from the ambulance. Fireball is still crawling. Saber and Colt run towards them. Colt picks up Fireball.

COLT

Where's your wheelchair?

Fireball smiles.

Saber keeps running towards Jesse and April but Jesse signals to get down.

**JESSE** 

Get down! The ambulance...

The ambulance EXPLODES in a big ball of fire.

The blast blows everybody down.

Saber is the first one to get back up and stares at the burning ambulance.

SABER

So much for that lead.

Colts gets up and wipes away the dust.

COLT

And what about my reward?

50 INT. AMBULANCE

50

The ambulance is burning and the fire has reached a lifeless Vanquo, his face is already melting away and leaves behind a strange looking skeleton that gets consumed by the flames.

51 EXT. MOTORWAY 51

Saber, Jesse and Colt are staring at the burning ambulance. TWO MEDICS are attending Fireball and April.

Saber is interrogating Fireball.

SABER

What did he ask her?

FIREBALL

I don't know, something about a secret project, RAMROD or something and then he started to call out planets.

SABER

What planets?

FIREBALL

I don't know. I was knocked out.

Hearing this, April regains consciousness. Everybody turns towards her.

**JESSE** 

April, are you all right?

But April ignores the question, she looks at Saber.

APRIL

Alamo! We have to go there!

SABER

Go to Alamo? What about the attacks. They are more important than some desert planet.

APRIL

You don't understand. We have to go there now!

SABER

Why?

April touches her pendant.

APRIL

The RAMROD project.

SABER

RAMROD? What is RAMROD?

APRIL

I can't tell you, at least not now but please trust me, we have to get there as fast as possible! Saber nods. He seems to understand. For now.

**JESSE** 

But with what? I doubt they have a spare ship down at the cavalry command.

APRIL

There has to be a someone with fast ship we could borrow.

Everybody turns to Fireball.

Fireball smiles shyly, he's not happy, not at all.

FADE TO BLACK.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

Until someone fixes my leg, I'm not going anywhere.

52 EXT. SPACE 52

The FIREBIRD, Fireball's luxurious and incredibly fast spaceship, sleekly shaped and in Fireball's colors, red and white, blasts through the emptiness of space.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

Don't touch that.

53 INT. FIREBIRD LOUNGE

53

The lounge -- the ships lush but functional living room, where Fireball displays his trophy collection.

April gazes at Fireball's trophies and dares to touch one of them.

FIREBALL

Please, don't.

Fireball takes his precious trophy, polishes it with his sleeve and puts it back.

APRIL

Is it us or do you dislike visitors in general?

FIREBALL

It's not that, You seem like nice enough people but I'm not really fond of the Cavalry Command.

APRIL

Why is that?

Fireball is hesitant. Awkward silence.

Thank god -- Saber and Jesse enter the lounge.

SABER

We set course for Alamo. We should arrive there in a few hours.

APRIL

Good, let's just hope we get there in time.

**JESSE** 

If the engines can keep this speed up, we should be able to make it.

Fireball is almost insulted that they doubt his ship.

FIREBALL

They will! You could outrun a supernova with the Firebird.

April smiles.

FIREBALL (CONT'D)

(towards April)

What? You really can.

SABER

Then show me! We need to push the engines a little further.

Jesse and April, I need you to have a look at Vanquo's communicator here. There has to be a way to get something out of it.

He hands April the communicator.

APRIL

We will try our best.

Jesse nods.

Saber and Fireball walk towards the door to exit the lounge but Fireball turns around and looks at Jesse.

FIREBALL

Don't touch anything.

Saber grabs Fireballs collar pulls him through the door. Jesse looks at April and rolls his eyes.

**JESSE** 

He's such a bigheaded idiot.

April smiles.

She switches on her PORTABLE COMPUTER and connects it to the communicator.

JESSE (CONT'D)

And his hair looks ridiculous.

April CHUCKLES.

APRIL

Says the guy with the blue hair.

54 EXT. SPACE 54

The Firebird blasts away through space and passes a GREEN PLANET surrounded by an ASTEROID FIELD.

PAN TOWARDS ASTEROID FIELD

The Bronco Buster emerges from the field. Colt is in pursuit.

55 EXT. HALL OF THE PEOPLE - DAY

55

The Hall of the People, the colonies parliament; a majestic building combining old traditions with new materials.

SUPER: Yuma City - Hall of the People

Truly, a remarkable sight to see.

56 INT. SMALL COUNCIL

56

TEN PEOPLE sit around a large conference table. Commander Eagle sits at the head of the table.

A military COUNCILMAN and a civilian COUNCILWOMAN are in a heated discussion.

COUNCILWOMAN

But last time we discussed the new trade policies, Jarred really opened up.

COUNCILMAN

That old bastard just put on a show for you. They severed all communication lines. What more proof do you need.

COUNCILWOMAN

But what if the Outriders are really back.

COUNCILMAN

All this talk about Outriders. Let's keep to the facts. They seem pretty clear to me.

The councilman looks at Eagle. Eagle sighs.

COMMANDER EAGLE

Yes, the facts speak for themselves.

Eagle takes a heavy breath.

COMMANDER EAGLE (CONT'D)

Then let's vote, shall we.

The whole council stares at him silently.

## 57 INT. FIREBIRD LOUNGE

57

April and Jesse are working with the communicator. Jesse typing on a keyboard and April tries fixing the communicator's screen -- with no luck.

ON JESSE'S SCREEN

Error - Could not Read.

ON JESSE

Jesse shoves his Keyboard away.

**JESSE** 

This crap here is beyond broken.

APRIL

We have to try harder.

Jesse gets up.

**JESSE** 

Why? We know who attacked us! It was Jarr!

APRIL

But what if that's wrong. What if Saber is right?

**JESSE** 

Why are you so sure that Saber is right? Both our fathers fought them the first time around, hell my father died fighting them. You're not saying he died in vain?

APRIL

No, of course not. It just doesn't make sense for King Jarred to attack us.

Jesse shakes his head.

**JESSE** 

But Saber's theory about the Outriders coming back from the dead does.

APRIL

I don't know, we always knew that they might return someday, I mean that's why the RAMROD Program was initiated.

Jesse pricks his ears. He's very interested.

**JESSE** 

I don't suppose you'll tell me what the RAMROD Program actually is?

April smiles playfully and shakes her head.

APRIL

I told you too much already but you'll find out soon enough.

She focuses on the communicator again.

58 INT. FIREBIRD BRIDGE

The Firebirds's bridge, speed meets luxury and style.

Saber is pushing buttons and Fireball watches him disapprovingly.

SABER

Trust me, if we bypass the secondary systems we can push the engines to 110% without causing any damage.

FIREBALL

But why would you do that? I already pushed them to 120.

A RUMBLE goes through the whole ship.

FIREBALL (CONT'D)

What did you do now?

SABER

That wasn't me.

58

59 EXT. SPACE 59

The Firebird is under attack by a A FIGHTER SQUADRON.

Two dozen small space fighters, are circling the Firebird. They are heavily armed and open RAPID FIRE.

The Firebird takes heavy damage.

## 60 INT. FIREBIRD BRIDGE

60

Fireball and Saber are checking the SCREENS.

Fireball starts an evading maneuver.

April and Jesse storm onto the bridge.

**JESSE** 

Jarr?

APRIL

Outriders?

SABER

No idea but we have to find out. This could be the proof we're looking for.

Saber turns and looks at them, he looks very concerned.

SABER (CONT'D)

(to Fireball)

Let me guess, your ship is not armed?

FIREBALL

Of course it is, there's a turret to blow up asteroids.

APRIL

One turret? That's not nearly enough.

SABER

Jesse, you control the turret. April, I need you to scan our attackers. Find out everything you can about them. Fireball, just keep this ship out of harms way and get us to Alamo.

Jesse nods and sits down at the WEAPON CONTROLS and Fireball starts another evading maneuver.

APRIL

And what about you?

Saber grins.

SABER

I'm going for a walk.

CUT TO:

# 61 EXT./EXT. FIREBIRD BAY

61

The Firebird's Bay, where Fireball parks and maintains his Fury Racer and even Steed has found a corner.

The bay door is open and Saber, in his space suit with his magnetic GRAV BOOTS, FIRES at the attackers but his pistol is too small.

Saber walks towards Steed, opens a compartment and pulls out a bigger gun.

SABER

Much better.

## 62 EXT. FIREBIRD

62

Saber stands on the Firebird's hull and FIRES at the attackers.

He hits the engine of one the attackers -- the engine EXPLODES and the ship CRASHES into another one.

The Firebird's only turret FIRES as well but doesn't do any real damage.

Saber performs a breakneck maneuver -- he switches off the grav boots just as an attacker is about to crash into him -- he somersaults and FIRES a well aimed shot at the cockpit -- BOOM -- this one's a goner.

Saber switches the grav boots back on and lands safely on the hull.

Finally -- the turret hits an attacker -- BOOM -- but most attackers are masterfully evading the turrets fire.

The Firebird is not so lucky.

Fireball is doing a great job evading but the sheer number of attackers is taking its toll.

The ship gets hit repeatedly and starts to look battered.

SABER (V.O.)

Jesse, I need more barrage? There are too many of them. April, anything yet?

63

## 63 INT. FIREBIRD BRIDGE

Jesse is constantly pushing the firing button but his aim could be better.

**JESSE** 

I'm on it but this gun is ridiculous.

He gives Fireball a reproachful look.

FIREBALL

And now it's my fault. I really had it with you people.

He starts pushing some buttons.

64 EXT. SPACE 64

A dark fluid -- racer fuel -- flows out of the Firebird and two fighters get caught in it.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

Can I have a light!

The turret FIRES -- the fuel ignites -- a huge EXPLOSION.

SABER (V.O.)

That's what I'm talking about.

## 65 EXT. FIREBIRD BRIDGE

65

Fireball looks really happy with himself.

FIREBALL

That's what I call a wet dog but If we do it again someone has to push us to Alamo.

April is handling the sensor monitors. She looks annoyed.

APRIL

The energy signatures are very strange. The ships seem to be modified Jarr vessels...

Jesse turns towards her -- away from his screen.

**JESSE** 

Told you, didn't I!

APRIL

... but the signatures are scrambled, they are hiding something. Something is definitely wrong here. FIREBALL

Talking about wrong, something is wrong with the engine, we're loosing power.

The lights flicker.

ON SCREEN

Power Level critical.

ON JESSE

He keeps pressing the fire button but nothing happens.

**JESSE** 

I can't fire!

66 EXT. SPACE 66

Saber gets caught between two attackers -- it's not looking good -- an EXPLOSION -- one of them gone -- the Bronco Buster emerges through the debris --

COLT (V.O.)

Hey Blondy, mind if I join your rodeo?

-- and fires at the other one. BOOM.

SABER (V.O.)

I never thought I'd be happy to hear that voice again.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

Colt?!?

## 67 INT. FIREBIRD BRIDGE

67

Fireball looks really surprised and almost relieved.

April crawls under the terminals, rips open some panels tries to get the power back.

**JESSE** 

What's he doing here?

FIREBALL

Don't know and don't care as long as he helps defending my ship.

68 EXT. SPACE 68

Colt shoots down another ship.

ON SABER

Saber shoots down another one.

SABER (V.O.)

April, we could really use that turret, there just too many of them.

The firebird is drifting through space -- straight on towards an asteroid.

69 INT. FIREBIRD BRIDGE

69

April is still working on an engine fix.

FIREBALL

I don't want to alarm anybody but there's this big rock and I can't get out of it's way.

APRIL

I'm almost done.

FIREBALL

Almost doesn't really work for me.

70 EXT. SPACE

70

Colt is just evading two fighters.

COLT (V.O.)

Sorry, busy!

Saber looks at the approaching asteroid and looks at his gun.

SABER

Sorry, forgot to bring my rocket launcher.

71 INT. FIREBIRD BRIDGE

71

Fireball presses a few buttons.

FIREBALL

Everything you have to do yourself around here.

72 EXT. FIREBIRD

72

An oxygen tank lets air out -- barely enough to change the Firebird's course.

Saber has to duck to evade the asteroid.

The asteroid GRINDS along the Firebird's hull, leaving a big scratch on it.

Saber stands a few feet away from the scratch.

SABER

An advanced warning would be nice.

# 73 INT. FIREBIRD BRIDGE

73

74

FIREBALL

What part of "big rock" did you miss?

April is almost done -- she rips out a cable and puts it in somewhere else.

Fireball watches her disapprovingly.

APRIL

It's not pretty but it will work.

April presses a button -- power rerouted.

APRIL (CONT'D)

We have power again.

**JESSE** 

Finally.

Jesse starts firing.

# 74 EXT. SPACE

The turret is firing at the attackers and manages to shoot one down -- there are three left.

Saber's gun is empty -- he lets go of it and pulls out his sword.

Colt flies past Saber, Saber switches the boots off, jumps and switches them on again. He's now attached to the Bronco.

SABER

Mind if I hitch a ride.

Colt fires at the attacker and misses.

COLT (V.O.)

Not at all, but didn't your mommy tell you not to bring a knife to a space battle?

Saber focuses on the ship just missed and slices the ship open -- a few seconds later the ship EXPLODES.

SABER (V.O.)

It's not a knife, it's a sword.

Colt LAUGHS but not for long.

The turret -- helmed by Jesse -- keeps firing but instead of an attacker -- this time he hits Colt's Bronco Buster -- a critical hit.

The Bronco Buster looses power -- the engines are gone.

75 INT. FIREBIRD BRIDGE

75

April pulls Jesse away from the weapons controls.

APRIL

What are you doing? Didn't you see him?

Jesse gets defensive.

**JESSE** 

That wasn't me, I swear. The target acquisition must have malfunctioned.

FIREBALL

What? Did you break that as well?

April takes over the weapon controls.

APRIL

No, nothing is broken, let me.

76 EXT. SPACE

The turret fires again -- this time at the right targets. One and two -- the attackers are destroyed.

The Bronco Buster is heavily damaged and Saber uses his JETPACK to pull the small vessel towards the bay doors.

77 INT. FIREBIRD BAY

77

76

The Bronco Buster SLIDES along the floor, CREAKING -- leaving behind a huge scratch -- and comes to a sudden halt when he CRASHES into the bay wall.

The cockpit opens and Colt jumps out of his ship and throws down his helmet. He looks furious.

COLT

Where is the nasty Bushwhacker?! Where is he?!

April, Fireball and Jesse enter the bay.

Fireball cringes as he sees what the Bronco Buster did to his bay.

Colt looks at Fireball, he runs towards Fireball and punches him -- Fireball falls on the floor and GROANS.

FIREBALL

(pointing at Jesse)

It was his fault.

COLT

Your ship! Your fault!

FIREBALL gets up and tries to go after Colt but Saber holds him back.

SABER

Fireball, don't.

FIREBALL

But!

APRIL

Stop it!

Fireball turns away, angry.

Saber takes off his helmet and his gloves and shakes Colt's hand.

SABER

Thanks for saving our butts out there.

COLT

Don't mention it, to anybody. If word gets round that I helped the Rodeo Clowns I'll be a laughingstock among my guys.

FIREBALL

How did you find us?

Colt throws the transponder at Saber who catches it.

COLT

I had to return something.

Saber smiles.

SABER

Quite useful these little things.

(to April)

What did you find out about our attackers.

April hands Saber a DATA PAD.

APRIL

They definitely looked like modified Jarr ships but there was something strange about the energy signatures. They were way off.

Saber studies the pad.

SABER

So it wasn't Jarr then?

APRIL

I honestly don't know. Right know your guess is as good as any.

SABER

So we have no conclusive proof?

April shakes her head.

APRIL

I'm just not certain.

Jesse can't believe what he's hearing.

**JESSE** 

You're still looking for proof? If it looks like Jarr, smells like Jarr and gets kicked in the ass like Jarr! Hmm, it must be the return of the Outriders. That makes perfect sense!

Saber knows he has a point but he doesn't want to admit it.

FIREBALL

Jarr or not, how did they find us?

COLT

I found you and I didn't even had to try hard.

SABER

They must be tracking us somehow.

APRIL

We can't do anything about them tracking us but we have to get to Alamo as fast as possible.

SABER

You still haven't told us why? All we know is RAMROD! What the hell is RAMROD? We need some answers April.

APRIL

I know, I'm really sorry. RAMROD is a secret project the Cavalry Command has been working on for the last few years. It's the most powerful weapon we ever built.

**JESSE** 

What kind of weapon?

April smiles.

APRIL

The special kind. It all started...

78 EXT. SPACE 78

On the outer hull of the Firebird a surviving SOLDIER has attached himself and rips out a power conduit.

He takes a black metal sphere from his belt, presses a button and places it next to the power conduit.

The sphere starts to spin -- spider legs emerge and it starts drilling through the hull.

79 INT. FIREBIRD BAY

79

The lights go out  $\--$  a total power loss. Even the artificial gravity is off.

APRIL

What the...

The bay is completely dark. Saber switches on his helmet lights.

Everybody starts to float.

SABER

Whoa, seems like we're flying a bit too fast.

APRIL

No, this is something different. The gravity shouldn't be off.

She floats to a terminal on the bay wall.

APRIL (CONT'D)

It's not just the engine. Everything is down.

Fireball gets some FLASHLIGHTS from a rack on the wall and passes them around.

COLT

What do you mean everything?

APRIL

Engines, lights, navigation and life support.

SABER

How can this happen.

**JESSE** 

It's this crappy ship, nothing around here works.

FIREBALL

Hey, if you don't like it you can leave if you want. There's the door.

**JESSE** 

I bet the door doesn't open without power.

The terminal starts to show random data.

APRIL

Something is trying to copy the ships database.

She starts typing.

SABER

What do you mean something?

APRIL

It's everywhere. Copying huge amounts of data.

The terminal goes dark.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Damn, it shut me out.

# 80 INT. FIREBIRD

80

CREAKING and BREAKING METAL SOUNDS. The sphere drills through the ships interior like a maggot through cheese.

## 81 INT. FIREBIRD BAY

81

April picks up a floating toolbox and pushes it towards Fireball.

APRIL

Take this and show me the way to the engine room. We need to fix this.

Saber nods.

SABER

Jesse, go with them, they might need some help.

FIREBALL

And what are you and the Cowboy doing?

COLT

Well amigo, since this is none of my business, I'll try fix my Bronco with the crap that's lying around here.

FIREBALL

Be my guest, the sooner you leave the better.

SABER

I'll try to get to the bridge to contact the Cavalry Command as soon as the power is back.

# 82 INT. FIREBIRD HALLWAY

llwav.

82

April, Jesse and Fireball float along a long dark hallway. Jesse lights the way. Fireball is talking -- nonstop.

FIREBALL

...and that's how I won 5 races in a row, a new record.

Jesse looks really annoyed.

**JESSE** 

Why don't you tell us what happened in the sixth race?

Fireball grinds his teeth.

April smiles.

APRIL

Play nice boys. We have to work together.

They reach a locked door.

FIREBALL

We're almost there. This is the last one.

Jesse rips the control panel off and rips out the cables.

FIREBALL (CONT'D)

Could you please not do that. I told you, there's a switch you don't have to destroy my property.

**JESSE** 

I don't have to but it's a lot of fun.

Fireball wants to protest.

JESSE (CONT'D)

Just shut up and help me.

April signals Fireball to calm down and he begrudgingly helps Jesse stemming the door open.

A BLASTER SHOOT almost hits Fireball -- he pushes himself towards the ceiling immeadiately.

FIREBALL

What the...?

April fires though the crack in the door.

APRIL

Seems like we found our technical problem. Give me cover.

Jesse nods and pulls out his gun.

April presses herself against the wall, she hands Fireball her second gun.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Take it!

Fireball hesitates.

APRIL (CONT'D)

He's destroying your ship. Don't you have a problem with that?

Fireball reaches for the gun.

FIREBALL

Give it to me.

April hands him the gun. She gets to the ground and crawl-floats through the door. Fireball and Jesse FIRE aimlessly through the crack.

APRIL

You can stop. No one here. He must have gotten away.

Fireball and Jesse stop firing and squeeze themselves through the crack.

FIREBALL

Did I scare him away?

83 INT. FIREBIRD HALLWAY NEAR THE BRIDGE

83

Saber floats along a dark hallway.

APRIL (V.O.)

Saber please respond.

Saber pulls out his communicator.

SABER

Yes April?

APRIL (V.O.)

We just got shoot at, seems like we've got a hitchhiker.

Saber hears something behind him. He pulls his gun, turns and points his gun at Colt. Colt raises his hands.

COLT

Easy Saber Rattler.

Saber lowers his gun.

COLT (CONT'D)

You're quite fast for a Rodeo Clown.

SABER

Shouldn't you be in the bay?

COLT

I got bored.

Then -- the sphere with the spider legs drills through the ceiling and floats in mid air. They turn stare at it. The sphere blinks for a second and drills through the floor.

COLT (CONT'D)

What was that?

APRIL (V.O.)

Everything all right Saber?

SABER

Yes, seems like we have more than one hitchhiker. Something just drilled its way through the ship.

84 INT. FIREBIRD HALLWAY

84

April, Fireball and Jesse are listening.

FIREBALL

Drilled?

85 INT. FIREBIRD HALLWAY NEAR THE BRIDGE

85

SABER

Just get the gravity and the engines back online and we need the sensors to find out who or what is on the ship.

He puts the communicator back in his pocket and turns to Colt who is somersaulting in zero gravity.

COLT

This is really fun. You should try it.

SABER

I had more than enough zero gravity training.

COLT

No, I mean fun.

Saber smiles.

SABER

Maybe after we get the intruder.

COLT

(grinning)

Promise?

SABER

Just follow me and fire when I tell you to.

Colt grins. He's really enjoying this.

86 INT. FIREBIRD - ENGINE ROOM

86

April, Fireball and Jesse are in the engine room, pointing their flashlights at the engine.

Cables are ripped out, a screen is shattered -- this is bad, really bad.

**JESSE** 

How long to repair this?

APRIL

I might be able to temporarily fix the engines and the navigation systems, but...

FIREBALL

...but what? This is all on you guys. Everything was perfectly fine before you guys came along. You people destroyed my life.

**JESSE** 

Don't exaggerate. You lost that race way before we came into your life.

Fireball has enough. He attacks Jesse. A left hook. Jesse evades and punches Fireball in the stomach.

The both throw another punch, simultaneously and they both hit the other. This is going to show.

Jesse and Fireball stare at each other. Waiting for the other one to make a move.

APRIL

You done?

They nod.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Good.

(pointing at Jesse)
Go help Saber.

**JESSE** 

But...!

APRIL

No but, I can't repair this and take care of you two idiots.

Fireball grins, he feels like the winner but April destroys that feeling.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Stop grinning, you're the most spoilt brat I ever met. If this wasn't your ship, I'd send you to your room.

Now Jesse is grinning.

APRIL (CONT'D)

(to Jesse)

Just don't, leave, NOW!

Jesse stops grinning, turns around and floats away.

87 INT. FIREBIRD HALLWAY NEAR THE BRIDGE

87

Saber and Colt are floating along the dark hallway, silently, their guns pulled.

Then -- a RUMBLE goes through the ship. Saber grabs on to a handle on the wall. Colt looks at him -- the gravity returns.

Colt hits the ground hard and Saber elegantly lands on the floor.

APRIL (V.O.)

Gravity online again.

Colt pulls himself up.

COLT

Great timing..

Then -- ahead of them they suddenly hear RUNNING -- then a dark shade crosses the hallway.

COLT (CONT'D)

That must be him.

He starts running.

Saber follows.

They turn left -- nothing. Right -- still nothing.

SABER

He has to be somewhere.

Behind them -- WEAPONS FIRE -- they duck.

COLT

Found him.

They FIRE back.

Then -- the sphere emerges through the wall and drops between Saber's feet. The tentacle like spider legs grab Saber.

Saber wrestles with the sphere. Colt tries to aim but Saber is in his way.

Saber grabs his sword and slashes at the sphere. No success.

Then Saber shoves the sphere away from him.

Colt fires at the sphere and the sphere shuts down. But Colt keeps firing.

Saber presses Colt's gun down.

SABER

I think it's dead.

COLT

You sure?

He FIRES again at the sphere. Saber shakes his head.

COLT (CONT'D)

Now it's definitely dead.

They start firing again. After a few shoots Saber stops. Colt keeps firing.

COLT (CONT'D)

What now?

SABER

He's not firing anymore.

Colt stops firing.

COLT

Dead already? What a bummer.

SABER

Probably not.

Saber gets up and walks around the corner were the attacker was.

SABER (CONT'D)

He's gone.

Colt picks up the sphere.

COLT

But at least we have this thing here.

The sphere falls apart.

# 88 INT. FIREBIRD HALLWAY

88

Jesse walks along a dark hallway. Then -- the emergency lights go on.

**JESSE** 

Finally.

REVEAL

The enemy soldier is standing in front of Jesse.

# 89 INT. FIREBIRD THE BRIDGE

89

Saber and Colt are on the bridge. The emergency lights are on, all screens are shattered. Most of the panels have been opened and the cables have been ripped out.

SABER

Seems the intruders were busy.

He takes a closer look.

SABER (CONT'D)

Coms are down.

Colt stares at the weapons control.

COLT

So are weapons but that's an acceptable loss.

SABER

Can you help me fix it?

Colt smiles.

COLT

Now he needs me. Typical. But tell your head honcho that I'm gonna send him an invoice. A feisty one.

# 90 INT. FIREBIRD ENGINE ROOM

90

April lies under the engine. Fireball looks at her lower body almost drooling.

She looks absolutely stunning.

April slides back and looks at him.

APRIL

You know that I can feel you staring.

Fireball looks embarrassed.

FIREBALL

Sorry.

April gets up and hands him a big wrench

APRIL

Just stop it, get down and open the panel.

He does as he is told and slides under the engine. Now April stares a bit. Fireball has nice calves.

## 91 INT. FIREBIRD BRIDGE

91

Saber and Colt are trying to fix the bridge systems. Colt knocks on one of the screens. Nothing.

COLT

Internal sensors seem to be down.

SABER

And you got that from knocking on the screen?

COLT

Hey, I'm really trying here. I'm better at shooting stuff, repairing stuff is not really my area of expertise.

SABER

Why am I not surprised. Let me.

Saber tries to restart a system -- a few sparks -- this system is fried.

COLT

Told you.

Saber moves on to the next console. This screen is only half broken.

SABER

I can't get the external com systems online but I think I can get the weapons to fire again, although I doubt they'd do any real damage.

Saber pulls out his communicator.

SABER (CONT'D)

(into coms)

April, send me Jesse. I need someone to help me fix the bridge systems.

APRIL (V.O.)

Isn't he with you?

SABER

(into coms)

No, it's just Colt and me... Jesse, please respond. Jesse, where are you?

Nothing -- then static. A muted voice, probably due to lack of oxygen.

JESSE (V.O.)

(barely understandable)

Help...I...am...

## 92 INT. FIREBIRD AIRLOCK

92

Jesse is tied to the wall inside the airlock. An small screen shows that the oxygen levels are declining.

**JESSE** 

...the...airlock...

# 93 INT. FIREBIRD BRIDGE

93

Saber looks at Colt.

SABER

(into coms)

We're coming to get you.

COLT

We? Me helping you save the blue dude? I don't think so.

Saber sighs.

APRIL (V.O.)

I'm coming to get you Jesse!

SABER

(into coms)

No April wait, stay where you are, I'm on it.

# 94 INT. FIREBIRD HALLWAY

94

Saber runs along a dark hallway -- then he's FIRED upon. He takes cover.

SABER

(into coms)

April, I found the intruder. You have to help Jesse.

He fires back.

95

APRIL

Just stay here and fix this.

FIREBALL

I don't think so. What shall I do if the intruder comes in here.

April smiles and walks towards the door.

APRIL

You probably have a nice screaming voice, use it.

April leaves the engine room and Fireball smiles; what a woman.

# 96 INT. FIREBIRD HALLWAY

96

The firing stops.

Saber gets up and carefully walks towards the source of the attack.

He looks around the corner and sees a gun attached to the wall.

SABER

Auto fire.

He turns and tries to open the door. It's welded shut.

Damn -- he got fooled.

SABER (CONT'D)

(into coms)

April! It's a trap!

# 97 INT. FIREBIRD AIRLOCK

97

Too late -- April stands in front of the airlock. Behind her the Soldier with his gun pointed at her head.

SOLDIER

Hands up!

April hesitates.

SOLDIER (CONT'D)

I said hands up!

April puts her hands in the air and turns around. She looks straight at the soldier, he is still in a fully body suit with his helmet on. April sees her reflection in the visor.

APRIL

You're not getting away with this. They will save me?

The soldier slaps her.

SOLDIER

Shut up!

The Soldier turns her around and cuffs her.

He presses a button and the airlock opens. Air gets sucked into the airlock.

SOLDIER (CONT'D)

Say hello to your friend.

Jesse, cuffed and bruised, lies in the corner, he regains consciousness.

APRIL

Thank good, your fine.

The soldier holsters his gun and pulls out a knife.

SOLDIER

You have five seconds to give me your security code.

APRIL

Or what?

The soldier cuts away Jesse right ear. Jesse SCREAMS in agony.

APRIL (CONT'D)

You sick monster.

Jesse is bleeding. April looks terrified.

April mumbles something.

The soldier puts his knife next to Jesse's left ear.

SOLDIER

Louder!

APRIL

Delta, sigma, omicron, zero, two, gamma, five, seven.

The puts down the knife and takes the gun again.

A SHOOT is fired.

The soldier is hit. He drops the gun, falls to the ground and FIRES back.

April can evade the fire, grabs the knife and stabs the soldier in the leg. But the soldier doesn't give up , he takes lifts his gun.

Jesse reacts quickly. He grabs April's hand and presses a large red button.

The airlock opens -- the soldier gets sucked out into space. April and Jesse are gasping for air.

Fireball, the "smoking" gun still aimed at the soldier, gets sucked into the airlock as well but he manages to hold on to the door.

He pulls himself out of the airlock and presses a large blinking green button.

The airlock closes. Jesse and April are trying to breath normally.

Fireball helps Jesse up and opens the cuffs.

**JESSE** 

Thanks.

April gets up herself and hugs Fireball.

APRIL

Thank you.

Fireball smiles.

98 EXT. SPACE 98

The soldier's body is floating through space.

INSIDE THE SUIT

The soldiers face is melting away.

ON THE FIREBIRD

The Firebird starts moving again.

99 INT. FIREBIRD BRIDGE

99

Saber and Fireball are in the bridge. April enters.

SABER

How is Jesse?

APRIL

He lost a lot of blood but he will be fine. He's resting now. How's the ship.

SABER

Outward communications are down. We can receive but we can't alert the base...

April sighs, she looks relieved.

SABER (CONT'D)

I fail to see why that's a good thing.

APRIL

When he was torturing Jesse, I gave him my security code. But seems like the information died with him.

Saber looks concerned.

APRIL (CONT'D)

It was the only way.

Saber gets serious

SABER

For some reason they seem to know a lot more than we do! You still haven't told us about RAMROD.

April nods.

APRIL

The code is for the base where Ramrod was assembled but they couldn't do anything with him yet because he's not completed yet?

SABER

Him? I thought it was a weapon.

April smiles.

APRIL

Once you see him you will understand.

Saber gnarls his teeth, he's not happy with the explanation.

Fireball tries to elevate the mood.

FIREBALL

I can' believe no one thanked me yet for fixing the engines.

April smiles.

APRIL

Where's Colt?

FIREBALL

He's fixing his sorry excuse of ship. He wants to get away from here as soon as possible.

April sits down and looks at the broken sensor screen.

APRIL

What about the sensor data from the attack?

FIREBALL

I'm afraid we lost all the data in the blackout.

APRIL

But the sensors are working?

FIREBALL

Barely.

APRIL

Sounds like you left plenty of fixing for me.

FIREBALL

There are a few minor kinks, but other than that, my little lady is as good as new.

100 EXT. SPACE

100

The Firebird picks up speed and keeps soaring through the vastness of space.

There is a spark and a piece of paneling pops off

APRIL (V.O.)

As good as new?

FIREBALL (V.O.)

Shut up!

## 101 EXT. SPACE COLONIAL FLEET

101

The COLONIAL FLEET, around thirty BATTLE CRUISERS in all shapes, sizes and conditions are gliding through space accompanied several FIGHTER SQUADRONS.

Among them the Colonial Flagship: THE HIKARI.

Armed to the teeth, they could do some serious damage.

## 102 INT. THE HIKARI BRIDGE

102

Very unimpressive, more like a submarine than a space ship bridge.

ADMIRAL SANCHEZ sits in his uncomfortable command chair. He rocks back and force before he decides to stand.

Around him the CREW is busy.

SANCHEZ

How long until we reach Jarr space?

JING, the female navigation officer turns around.

JING

About 3 Hours, sir.

SANCHEZ

I need a secure line to HQ, get me Eagle, I have to update him.

The REED, the male communication officer pushes some buttons.

REED

Yes, sir, right away.

ON SCREEN

Commander Eagle appears on screen.

COMMANDER EAGLE

Anything wrong Sanchez?

ON SANCHEZ

SANCHEZ

No, sir. We're about 3 hours away from Jarr space. We haven't encountered enemy forces so far.

ON EAGLE

COMMANDER EAGLE

Good, the council just voted unanimously to retaliate with everything we've got. You're authorized to use any force necessary.

ON SANCHEZ

SANCHEZ

Yes sir.

The screen is turned off.

SANCHEZ (CONT'D)

You heard him, prepare everything.

## 103 INT. FIREBIRD BRIDGE

103

Fireball is sitting in his chair, relaxing. April stares into her monitor and has an earbud in her ear.

Saber is staring at Vanquo's Communicator and talks to himself.

SABER

I know what I saw.

APRIL

No way!

Saber is surprised to get an answer but she is not talking to him -- not yet.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Saber, you need to see this.

ON SCREEN

KING JARRED, the authoritative and well seasoned ruler of Jarr addresses to his citizens on TV.

KING JARRED

We are under attack from an old enemy. We knew the day would come and we are ready. We did not seek war but we are ready to fight it. An hour ago I signed an official declaration of war and ordered the Royal Fleet to engage the Colonial Fleet at our borders. I myself will join the battle onboard the Monarch Supreme. I don't know how this day will end but I'm certain that our just cause will prevail.

# ON SABER

Saber is flabbergasted, even Fireball stares at the screen in disbelieve.

104 EXT. ORBIT OVER PLANET ALAMO

104

The Firebird reaches Alamo, an ugly looking rock with a barely breathable atmosphere, home of the SECRET STAR SHERIFF BASE.

The Firebird descends through the thin but dusty atmosphere.

105 INT. FIREBIRD BRIDGE

105

Fireball pilots the approach. April works the sensors and Saber stands commanding behind them.

APRIL

Oh no! We are too late.

SABER

Show me?

ON SCREEN

The base is under heavy attack by GROUND TROOPS.

ON APRIL

APRIL

Ground troops, a lot of them.

SABER

Artillery?

April nods.

SABER (CONT'D)

They really bringing the big guns.

FIREBALL

Seems like your secret base is not so secret.

SABER

They must know what you keep down there.

April is still staring into her monitor. Saber notices.

SABER (CONT'D)

What is it April?

April is hesitant.

APRIL

It's the energy signatures again. They are just off.

FIREBALL

Off?

APRIL

They are not in sync. Usually energy flows in a certain way but these signatures, I don't know, they skipped a beat. It's the same reading I got from the ships that attacked us earlier. I'm sure with Ramrods help I could figure it out.

Saber nods.

FIREBALL AND SABER

So he's a person?

April grins.

APRIL

Not really.

106 EXT. SECRET BASE - DAY

106

The GIANT RED SUN is burning down on the Alamo rock desert. No real vegetation. Just rocks and dust, a lot of dust.

The secret base was built inside a large reddish mountain with only one side open for attacks.

And the attack is coming.

A few hundred SOLDIERS are marching towards the base supported by HEAVY ARTILLERY -- their numbers obscured by a giant dust cloud.

The automatic base defense system, LASER TURRETS on the walls, FIRE rapidly at the attackers but there are just too many.

Too damn many. Every time an attacker is hit, another two take his place.

The Firebird dives in very low and gets FIRED upon. The Firebird's single turret FIRES at the attackers but it is useless.

107 INT. FIREBIRD BRIDGE

107

Fireball tries to evade the attacks.

FIREBALL

I can't evade them all. There are just too damn many.

Saber closes up his armor.

SABER

Yes, way too many, the base defense is not going to hold much longer. I hope your Fury Racer is better armed than your ship?

Fireball smirks.

FIREBALL

I should have stayed in that hospital bed.

Saber smiles.

APRIL

I can fly in close to the ground. You hold them back and I'll get RAMROD ready as fast as possible.

Saber nods and he and Fireball storm out.

108 INT. FIREBIRD BAY

108

Colt is just finishing up the Bronco Buster as Fireball and Saber enter the bay.

COLT

What are you guys up to?

SABER

We need to get out there and hold them off, we have buy April more time. It's going to be dangerous so you better hurry and get away as fast as you can. Good luck Colt and thanks for your help so far.

Saber walks towards Steed.

COLT

Nice try, but it's not going to work. I'm not a martyr.

FIREBALL

I knew it. All talk, no cojones.

Colt doesn't say anything.

Fireball walks towards the Fury Racer.

SABER

SABER (CONT'D)

just saying our good-byes, bring us down and open the bay doors.

APRIL (V.O.)

Good luck guys.

SABER

Let's get them. STEED!

Saber puts on his helmet and jumps on Steed. Fireball jumps into the Fury Racer.

Fireball looks around the bay -- he knows that he'll never see this place again --

FIREBALL

I'll miss you.

-- he closes the Fury Racer's cockpit lid.

#### 109 EXT. SECRET BASE

109

The Firebird's bay door opens and Saber on Steed jumps out followed by Fireball in his Fury Racer.

They get FIRED upon immediately.

# 110 INT. FIREBIRD BAY

110

Colt stares at the open bay door. He looks tense. He hesitates but he gets up.

COLT

Stupid suicidal idiots.

# 111 EXT. SECRET BASE

111

The Bronco Buster soars out of the Firebird.

COLT (V.O.)

If they kill us I will haunt you till the end of days.

Saber and Fireball CHUCKLE into coms.

Saber attacks half a dozen soldiers and cuts of their extremities with his sword -- but he almost gets run over by...

Colt, who fires a few well aimed missiles and lets a ROCK FORMATION cave in on a few dozen enemy soldiers -- one rock almost hits...

Fireball, who draws artillery fire on himself and outmaneuvers a heat seeking missile and makes it hit a TANK.

Their fighting is a complete mess. It's a miracle they don't kill each other.

An artillery missile hits the Firebird -- too much for the already battered ship. Engines are down. The ship looses height and crashes through the massive hangar doors into the base.

112 INT. SECRET BASE

112

April and Jesse exit the destroyed Firebird. Jesse's head is bandaged but he looks fine.

They get greeted by half a dozen SOLDIERS with rifles aimed at their heads. They are about to fire when the EKATERINA ANTONOV, head scientist SHOUTS:

ANTONOV

Don't shoot!!!! Don't shoot!!!!

SOLDIER

Identify yourself!

April stays calm and flashes her Star Sheriff badge.

APRIL

April Eagle, Star Sheriff Special Research Division.

Antonov elbows her way though the soldiers.

ANTONOV

Idiots, lower your guns!

She hugs April.

ANTONOV (CONT'D)

(to the soldiers)

Go and defend the base. I don't need you here.

SOLDIER

Yes, mam.

The Soldiers run towards the broken hangar doors and Antonov takes April and Jesse with her and walks towards a second hangar door.

ANTONOV

Thank god you're here. I was hoping you would come. We could really need your help.

APRIL

Is he ready yet?

**ANTONOV** 

See for yourself.

Antonov presses her hand on the hangar door controls and the heavy doors start to move apart tor reveal:

A sleek and impressive spaceship in the middle hangar, SCIENTIST in lab coats are still running around the ship, it's not quite finished yet.

This is RAMROD, the Cavalry Command' secret weapon, a ship forged out of the strongest metals known to man and designed by the best and brightest -- but there's more to RAMROD than meets the eye.

ANTONOV (CONT'D)

With your help we'll get him ready in no time.

Jesse looks a bit disappointed.

**JESSE** 

This is it? A ship? This is what we risked our lives for?

April smiles Antonov. ANTONOV smiles and pats him on the back.

**ANTONOV** 

Never judge a book by its cover. RAMROD was designed to be our answer to the Outrider Renegade Units. He's the boot that kicks them back to the phantom zone.

**JESSE** 

You mean he can...?

APRIL

Not until we get him ready. Where do you need us?

ANTONOV

I could use a hand with the Maverick Engines and the CPU Core and we're still waiting for the RAMROD A.I. You wouldn't know anything about that?

April smiles and touches her necklace.

APRIL

I think I have what you need. I'm going to prepare the upload. Jesse can help you with the core.

Jesse nods.

#### ANTONOV

Ok, let's get to work.

# 113 EXT. SECRET BASE

113

The fight is still raging on and it's not going well -- not at all. Our heroes are fighting on their own -- with limited success.

#### ON SABER

Saber on Steed gets surrounded by two dozen FOOT SOLDIERS. They FIRE.

Steed soars into the air and some of the soldiers die from friendly fire. Half of them are still standing. Saber FIRES at them but they take cover and FIRE back.

#### ON FIREBALL

Fireball is driving across the battlefield, evading debris, burning tanks and heavy artillery fire.

He fires more at debris than at enemies.

Then -- a huge crater blocks his way -- full speed -- he jumps -- mid air he gets hid by some debris.

He falls and the Fury Racer lands on his side.

### ON COLT

He's circling the artillery but the cover fire prevents him from hitting them.

He flies lower and lower -- barely off the ground -- evading debris and cover fire.

Then -- he's hit -- black smoke emerges from the Bronco Buster.

# 114 INT. SECRET BASE CONTROL ROOM

114

April enters the control room. She pulls the broken communicator out of her pocket and plugs it in.

# APRIL

If this doesn't work I don't know what will.

She turns around and focuses on the main terminal.

She takes her necklace and pulls the pendant apart. The pendant reveals the data stick. She plugs it in.

She puts her hand on a scanner and her hand gets scanned.

A RETINA SCAN appears.

She looks into the scanner and her eyes gets scanned.

April starts to type.

ON THE SCREEN

Initialize R.A.M.R.O.D.

Initializing R.A.M.R.O.D.

Lots of COMPUTER JIBBER JABBER.

R.A.M.R.O.D. Initialized.

Hello April, what can I do for you.

ON APRIL

APRIL (CONT'D)

Let's see what we can do about your voice.

She starts typing again.

# 115 INT. RAMROD'S ENGINE ROOM

115

Ramrod's interior design matches the outside, state of the art, simplistic and functional and so is the engine room.

The engine room is dominated by Ramrods hearts, the TWO MAVERICK ENGINES, the fastest and strongest engines ever built.

Jesse looks impressed.

**JESSE** 

What are those?

ANTONOV

Don't they look nice? We call them the Maverick Engines, Ramrod's heart and my babies. One of them could power a whole city.

**JESSE** 

Then why does it have two?

Antonov smiles crawls underneath the engines.

ANTONOV

Hand me one of the power couplings and you'll find out soon.

Jesse grabs one of the couplings lying next to him.

# 116 INT. SECRET BASE CONTROL ROOM

116

April looks pleased with herself. She presses the ENTER button.

HIGH PITCHED VOICE Hello April. What can I do for you?

April cringes.

APRIL

Oops. Not the one I was looking for, we'll have to fix that later. Ramrod, prepare your system for upload.

She starts typing again.

HIGH PITCHED VOICE Affirmative, decompression in progress.

### 117 EXT. SECRET BASE

117

ON SABER

Saber is still surrounded by a dozen soldiers, they try to pull him off Steed.

Steed soars vertically in the sky -- high and higher -- high above the battlefield. Saber jumps off steed -- Steed keeps soaring -- some soldiers let go and fall to their death -- others continue soaring into space and suffocate.

Saber flies down with his jet pack.

ON COLT

The Bronco is still smoking and the window has some cracks. Colt ejects the window, jumps out and the Bronco CRASHES into an artillery tank.

A big EXPLOSION -- the dust clears -- the tank is still there and keeps firing.

Colt lies in the dust.

COLT

What a nasty bushwacker!

Colt gets up and runs across the battlefield -- FIRING his gun at anything that moves.

On FIREBALL

The Fury Racer is driving again. Fireball is evading tank fire -- he tries to draw the fire towards an artillery -- unsuccessfully.

ON SABER

Saber lands on the ground -- he looks around -- they are outnumbered and it's not going well.

On the bright side, Steed lands next to him.

SABER

(into coms)

April, you need to hurry.

118 INT. SECRET BASE CONTROL ROOM

118

APRIL

(into coms)

I'm on it.

April is done. She presses ENTER:

A DEEP, THUNDERING VOICE echoes through the room, this is RAMROD.

RAMROD

Decompression complete, system ready for transfer.

APRIL

Much better! Nice to finally hear your voice Ramrod. I need your help reading the device I just plugged in. I have to know what's on it and then we need to transfer you to your body.

RAMROD

Starting decoding process.
Estimated time until completion:
5 Minutes.
Ramrod AI transfer currently not possible. CPU Core offline.

APRIL

Yes, they should be working on that.

119 INT. RAMROD'S CPU CORE

119

Antonov and Jesse are in Ramrods CPU Core, Ramrods brains.

Antonov down on her knees, plugs in some cables and circuit boards. Jesse hands her the boards.

ANTONOV

And done! Switch it on, let's see if this works.

Jesse presses a button on the control panel. Nothing.

ANTONOV (CONT'D)

Damn.

She rips out one of the circuit boards, blows on it and puts it back.

ANTONOV (CONT'D)

Try it now.

Jesse presses a button again and this time the CPU comes to life. Lights start blinking and the CPU starts to HUM.

ANTONOV (CONT'D)

Seems like were done here.

She gets up.

**JESSE** 

Yes, your done!

Antonov turns around and she stares into the barrel of a gun. Jesse smiles.

He fires his gun. Antonov falls to the ground. DEAD.

Jesse plugs in a SMALL DEVICE and pulls out his communicator and opens a channel.

JESSE (CONT'D)

I have control of the weapon. Virus upload in progress. Moving on to primary target.

# 120 INT. SECRET BASE CONTROL ROOM

120

April is preparing the AI for upload. Her fingers fly over the keyboard.

RAMROD

Analysis completed.

APRIL

Not now Ramrod, I'm almost done here.

#### 121 INT. SECRET BASE

121

Jesse exits Ramrod. FOUR SCIENTISTS just finishing their work on Ramrod.

**JESSE** 

Are you done?

SCIENTIST #1

Yes sir. We're just completed the last checks. Ramrod is ready for launch.

**JESSE** 

Good!

Jesse plus out his gun and shoots the first scientists point blank. HEAD SHOT.

The second one tries to get up. BANG.

THREE and FOUR, runners. But they don't get far. BANG! And BANG!

SHOOT in the BACK.

Jesse walks across the hangar. One of the runners is still moving.

Jesse SHOOTS him again, calmly as if this were the most natural thing.

# 122 INT. SECRET BASE CONTROL ROOM

122

April is busy typing. She is preparing the upload and doesn't realize that Jesse enters the control room.

**JESSE** 

Are you ready?

April startles.

APRIL

You scared me Jesse. I'm almost done. Where is Ekaterina?

**JESSE** 

She is right behind me. The CPU is online, you can do what ever you have to do.

April nods.

APRIL

Ramrod, initialize A.I. transfer.

RAMROD

Transfer Initialized.

ON SCREEN

Transfer in Progress.

A progress bar appears.

ON APRIL

She turns around and looks at Jesse.

APRIL

Done, now we have to wait and hope the guys manage to hold them back long enough.

Jesse pulls out his gun and FIRES at April.

Even though April is caught completely off guard, she manages to evade.

Jesse FIRES again, aiming for her head but she can get away and crawls behind another terminal.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Jesse? What are you doing?

**JESSE** 

What a stupid question.

With one hand he puts in a code into the BASE DEFENSE CONTROL TERMINAL with the other he keeps FIRING at April.

JESSE (CONT'D)

What was the last digit again? again? Seven?

ON SCREEN

Base defense shield deactivated.

ON JESSE

He fires a few SHOOTS at the terminal.

JESSE (CONT'D)

I'm going to borrow your ship and I really have to thank you, I couldn't have done it without your code.

APRIL

Why are you doing this?

**JESSE** 

Think hard sweetie pie. I'd love to say "Jarr" but I guess we're way past that.

He walks towards the terminal April is hiding behind. She's not there.

Then -- April kicks the gun out of his hand -- the fight begins.

APRIL

You are an Outrider?

April throws the first punch.

SABER (V.O.)

(over coms)
April, hurry!!

They both want to reach the gun but their fighting skills are impressive.

**JESSE** 

Oh, your friends need you.

April gets really angry. She punches him hard in the face.

Jesse smiles.

JESSE (CONT'D)

Ahh, feisty. I always liked that about you.

He roundhouse kicks her across the room.

### 123 EXT. SECRET BASE

123

The fight is turning from bad to worse. The base defense system is down and Saber, Colt and Fireball are helplessly outnumbered.

ON COLT

Colt runs around aimlessly, firing at enemy soldiers. He manages to kill a few of them but it is useless.

# ON FIREBALL

Fireball races across the battle field, a dust cloud surrounds him. He's not firing anymore.

FIREBALL

Guys, I'm empty!

SABER (V.O.)

Since when does a Racer need ammunition.

Fireball accelerates and aims for a few soldiers and runs them over.

FIREBALL

And here goes my driver's license. Damn!

ON SABER

Saber FIRES at random soldiers but there are just too many.

Steed is fighting on his own and manages to trample a few soldiers.

Then -- an Outrider aims for Saber's back -- but before he can fire, Steed tramples him.

Saber smiles at Steed. Then Saber sees Colt and signals Steed to help him.

Steed gallops towards Colt and signals him to get up.

Colt hesitates but then looks at the attackers and gets on Steed.

124 INT. SECRET BASE CONTROL ROOM

124

In the background the upload is progressing.

Jesse has the upper hand, he pins her down. April is bleeding and out of breath.

**JESSE** 

Remember last time we were in this position?

He forces a kiss on her.

APRIL

Do all Outriders come with willies like you? That would explain a lot, you know.

**JESSE** 

That's not nice.

He tries to grab the gun -- but April's rolls over, takes the gun up and aims at Jesse's head. She pins him down now.

APRIL

Now, I want answers!

Right this second TWO OUTRIDER SOLDIERS enter the room.

Jesse smiles.

**JESSE** 

Looks like foreplay is over. What a shame.

The two soldiers walk towards April.

JESSE (CONT'D)

So, what do you do? No matter who you shoot, someone's gonna get you.

ON SCREEN

Upload complete.

ON APRIL

RAMROD (V.O.)

Upload complete. All systems online.

April smiles.

APRIL

Please target all male life forms in this room and disarm them.

RAMROD (V.O.)

Overriding base defense system. Targets acquired.

Jesse looks around. Turrets appear on the walls.

APRIL

Fire!

The turrets FIRE. April stands still, she doesn't blink.

Surgical shots get fired. Into hands, and legs, nothing deadly. The Soldiers are unarmed and injured.

Jesse, his hand bleeding, tries to reach for one of the guns on the floor.

April looks down on him, aiming the gun at his head.

APRIL (CONT'D)

What are you planing. Tell me or I'll ...

JESSE

Or what? Kill us?

APRIL

Yes!

**JESSE** 

Oh, daddies little girl doesn't know. Above your security clearance, huh.

APRIL

What do you mean, tell me!

Jesse grabs the gun and FIRES at his two soldiers. TWO HEAD SHOT.

April looks at the dead soldiers. Their faces start melting away.

Jesse smiles.

**JESSE** 

How do you fight someone who doesn't fear death?

He shoots himself in the head.

Jesses' entire body starts to convulse. His face sinks in. He starts to decay -- fast. His skin turns brown and leathery and stretches across his bones until it splits.

April opens a communications frequency, pulls her gun and starts running towards the hangar.

### 125 EXT. SECRET BASE

125

Saber, Colt and Fireball are desperately trying to push the attackers back but the fight is almost lost.

The attackers have surrounded them. Fireball's Fury Racer stands next to Steed. The cockpit is open and he fires with his hand gun.

Colt still sitting on Steed looks around. Firing at the attackers.

COLT

This reminds me of that one time I was in that bar and this guy brought all his friends.

FIREBALL

Let me guess, he had a girlfriend?

COLT

You should've seen her, she was gorgeous.

SABER

I'm more interested in how you got out if it.

COLT

In an ambulance, but the other guy wasn't that lucky.

Then -- a voice over the radio. Through the radio we can also hear weapons fire.

SABER

April? Everything OK?

APRIL (V.O.)

Yes Saber, Ramrod is ready.

SABER

Great, you and Jesse have to take Ramrod and help us.

APRIL (V.O.)

No just me. He was the traitor and definitely not from Jarr.

Saber looks really surprised?

SABER

What?

APRIL (V.O.)

No time, I need your help to steer Ramrod.

SABER

Okay, Fireball and Colt can hold them off and...

ON COLT AND FIREBALL

APRIL (V.O.)

No, I need all of you.

Colt and Fireball look relived to get out of this fight.

#### 126 EXT. SECRET BASE

126

Ramrod in all his glory emerges through a dust cloud from the hangar. Out in the open he looks even more impressive. The sun reflects in his shiny new hull. APRIL (V.O.)

Let me pick you up guys.

Ramord opens Fire on the attacking troops. Finally the odds are even.

Ramrod picks up speed and Ramrod's pod bay door opens.

Fireball is first -- he is coming in hot -- a missile is following him -- Saber shoots the missile down and elegantly mounts Steed. He and Colt follow Fireball into the bay.

The bay door closes.

# 127 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

127

Ramrods command center, 3 COCKPIT PODS arranged in a half circle with perfect view on a giant WINDOW / VIEW SCREEN and a FOURTH COCKPIT a little higher behind them.

April sits in the left cockpit.

Saber, Colt and Fireball enter the bridge. Saber, Colt and Fireball are amazed -- but there's no time to be amazed.

APRIL

Colt, weapons! Fireball, take the wheel!

FIREBALL

Sounds good to me.

Colt smiles.

COLT

Finally, real toys!

Colt and Fireball jump into their cockpits, Fireball takes the one in the middle, Colt the one on the right side.

APRIL

Saber, command module.

She points at the command module in the middle.

Saber nods and jumps into the middle cockpit-- he's the commander after all.

SABER

Now let's see what Ramrod can do!

#### 128 EXT. SECRET BASE

128

The battle rages on -- they finally seem to have a winning chance now -- but not like this.

INTERCUT BATTLE / RAMROD'S BRIDGE

Colt is targeting enemies, Fireball is steering, April is checking the sensors and Saber is trying to command this unbalanced team.

SABER

What are you doing?

Fireball steers left, Colt wants to shoot right -- if it wasn't for Ramrod's superior firing power they wouldn't stand a chance.

SABER (CONT'D)

I thought you were a good shoot.

COLT

I am, but Race Boy over there can't hold it steady for a second.

FIREBALL

I'm trying not to get hit you dumbass.

COLT

I'll give you dumbass.

April has too many red dots on her screen.

APRIL

Hey guys, could you please kill them before you kill each other.

COLT

Good point, let's do what the cute blonde says.

 ${ t APRIL}$ 

No talking just kill them.

Ramord ROCKET FIRE -- this time they hit.

COLT (V.O.)

That's what I'm talking about!

A fighter squadron approaches them. Ramrod goes on collision course.

SABER (V.O.)

Fireball what are you doing?

Fireball stares at the fighters. They are FIRING at Ramrod.

FIREBALL

I have an idea, just get more energy to the shields!

(MORE)

FIREBALL (CONT'D)

(beat)

This thing has shields? Doesn't it?

APRIL

Yes, shields at maximum. But what are you doing?

FIREBALL

Watch and be awed!

Ramrod is still heading towards the squadron -- then -- Ramrod stops mid air, loops around -- and just when the fighters reach Ramrod -- the engines go full throttle.

A huge EXPLOSION, the fighters are destroyed.

FIREBALL (CONT'D)

That's for ruining my race you bastards!

COLT

Not bad Matchbox, not bad.

129 INT. THE HIKARI BRIDGE

129

Sanchez is pacing across the bridge.

NAVIGATION OFFICER

I have a reading.

SANCHEZ

What are you waiting for, put it on screen.

ON SCREEN

The complete Royal Fleet of the Kingdom of Jarr, 40 Ships of varying size -- right in the middle the flagship: THE MONARCH SUPREME, every other ship pales in comparison.

ON SANCHEZ

He swallows empty.

130 INT. MONARCH SUPREME BRIDGE

130

KING JARRED himself sitting on his throne in the middle of the luxurious bridge of the Monarch Supreme.

He looks gaunt but commanding as he stares at the giant view screen.

The Colonial fleet fills the whole screen.

Jarred sighs.

KING JARRED

Let's end this, once and for all. Power up the weapons array.

131 EXT. SECRET BASE

131

The base is totally destroyed and so are the Outrider forces.

Ramrod hovers above the ground.

132 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

132

Saber look across the battlefield. He sighs.

SABER

A few more victories like this, and the war is lost.

COLT

I hope this thing is worth it.

APRIL

Trust me, he is.

Saber pats his cockpit.

SABER

He did well so far, let's make sure it stays this way.
April, Fireball, make sure we didn't take to much damage to the core systems. I fear that the war has just begun.

April nods.

SABER (CONT'D)

Now tell us, what happened to Jesse?

# 133 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

133

Saber stands next to his cockpit.

April's hands are bloody.

APRIL

... And then he shoot himself and how me how wrong we were.

Fireball approaches her and hugs her.

FIREBALL

It's not your fault.

APRIL

He planned it all along. He was behind everything, I bet that he and Vanquo were allies.

SABER

I think they deliberately pitted us and Jarr against each other."

FIREBALL

Makes sense. A war is the perfect diversion.

SABER

Yes, but for what? Was there anything else?

APRIL

Before he literally melted he said something about coming back and not fearing death.

SABER

Coming back? He said coming back?

COLT

So they're preparing their return.

FIREBALL

After what we just went through it looks like they are back.

SABER

I think there's more.

APRIL

What?

SABER

Back in the first Outrider war, there was a theory going around. We killed so many of them but they just kept coming. Some scientist believed that their bodies are not their real bodies.

FIREBALL

What's that supposed to mean?

SABER

They don't die. When you kill them they return to the Phantom Zone and come back.

COLT

Why does nobody know about this?

SABER

Imagine the panic. We're at war with an enemy who can't be killed.

APRIL

Does that mean that Jesse is still out there?

SABER

I think so but the priority is stopping them. Was there anything else?

April wipes the tears from her eyes.

APRIL

No be didn't say anything else.

She hesitates.

APRIL (CONT'D)

But maybe ... Ramrod, show me the contents of the communicator I had you analyze.

RAMROD

Yes April.

Saber, Fireball and Colt startle.

FIREBALL

He talks?

APRIL

Yes, he talks. Ramrod, everybody. Everybody, Ramrod.

Colt waves his hand.

COLT

Hi partner.

SABER

Put it on the main screen Ramrod.

ON MAIN SCREEN

Data salad, page after page, nothing useful but then -- a STAR MAP shows up and shows a system with a huge PLANET with a RING SYSTEM.

SABER (V.O.)

Stop and zoom in.

Next to the Planet another RING LIKE STRUCTURE shows up in the map.

COLT

I think that's the Ganymede system but that thing isn't supposed to be there.

RAMROD

Affirmative, structure not part of Ganymede system.

FIREBALL

Ganymede?

COLT

They must really like that place.

Fireball gets quiet and sits down on the floor.

SABER

It looks like a portal.

COLT

Anyone wanna bet that the portal leads to the phantom zone?

APRIL

With a portal this big, no one knows what they could get through.

SABER

April, send a message to HQ, this is the proof they needed. Tell them to send everything they've got.

April gets to her cockpit and starts messaging.

SABER (CONT'D)

Fireball, get up and set course to the Ganymede system and get us there as fast as possible.

Fireball hesitates.

SABER (CONT'D)

Fireball? Everything all right?

Fireball stares at the map of the portal.

SABER (CONT'D)

Fireball?

FIREBALL

It's just, this place, Ganymede. My father died there and I never even met him.

Saber gets out of his cockpit, walks towards him, takes his hand and pulls him up.

SABER

All the more reason to fight.

Fireball nods, sits down in his cockpit and sets course.

COLT

Aren't we forgetting something.

Saber turns towards Colt.

SABER

Consider yourself drafted.

COLT

I'm not swearing a stupid oath.

SABER

We swear the oath after the probation period and since we probably not going to survive this you should be fine.

COLT

Your motivational speaking teacher must have been great.

Saber looks at Fireball.

SABER

You alright?

FIREBALL

Do I have a choice?

Saber shakes his head.

FIREBALL (CONT'D)

Thought so.

COLT

What are we waiting for?

SABER

How's the message coming April?

April gets up from her cockpit. She looks concerned.

APRIL

Not good. They must have done something to the long distance Network. I can't get a direct line. I sent a data package but I have no way of knowing if anyone got it.

Saber looks concerned.

FIREBALL

We can't do this alone, this is suicide.

COLT

So all this not surviving stuff was no joke? I wondered why blondie was cracking jokes.

Saber smiles.

#### 134 EXT. ALAMO - DAY

134

Ramrod soars through the sky and into space.

# 135 INT. THE HIKARI'S BRIDGE

135

Sanchez looks at the big screen in silence.

JING

Sir, your orders.

Sanchez looks up to the sky and closes his eyes. He mumbles a prayer.

JING(CONT'D)

Sir?

Sanchez opens his eyes. He looks very concerned.

SANCHEZ

Open fire.

# 136 EXT. SPACE

136

The Colonial Flagship opens FIRE and the Monarch Supreme returns it.

CUT TO:

# 137 EXT. GANYMEDE SYSTEM

137

Ramrod approaches the planet GANYMEDE, a huge purple gas giant with a ring system and about 15 big moons.

Also orbiting Ganymede is a large ring like structure -- the Outrider Portal.

# 138 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

138

Fireball stares on the view screen.

FIREBALL

Wow, that thing is huge.

Saber looks concerned.

SABER

(at April)

I don't suppose we have enough firepower to blow that thing out of the sky.

April shakes her head.

APRIL

I don't think anything has. Looks like we have to get our hands dirty.

Fireball looks at his control screen.

FIREBALL

I don't want to disturb you making plans but I have some really bad news.

Everybody turns towards him.

COLT

Looks like they are about to put the spurs to that thing.

139 EXT. THE PORTAL

139

Up close the portal consists of hundreds of portal generators arranged in a circle. Electricity flows though them and jumps from generator to generator. Little bolts of lightning.

Then a flash -- bright as the sun itself -- illuminating the whole sector.

The portal is open.

Ten ships -- ships not just fighters come through the portal.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

Guys.

SABER (V.O.)

We can see it.

And another 30 ships follow.

140 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

140

Everybody gets back in their seat.

SABER

Anything from the fleet?

April shakes her head.

APRIL

Seems like we're in this alone.

Fireball smiles at her.

FIREBALL

No we're not. We have each...

COLT

Stop! You did not just say that. Just when you think it can't get worse, you have to pull out a club like that. One more word from you and I throw myself in the next airlock.

Everybody starts laughing.

Saber fastens his seat belt.

SABER

OK guys, if you have to die this seems like as good a place as any. Buckle up and lets send these bushwhackers back to the phantom zone.

## 141 EXT. GANYMEDE SYSTEM

141

Ramrod steers towards the enemy ships and the battle begins.

Ramrod performs breathtaking manoeuvres and shoots down attacker after attacker but there are just too damn many of them..

Ramrod gets tailed by half a dozen ships. They FIRE but Ramrod manages to evade, he heads straight for the portal -- the ships still following and now he has to evade new incoming ships.

Then -- right in front of the portal Ramrod dives down and some of the attackers crash into new incoming ships.

SABER (V.O.)

Nice.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

Thanks, I think I've finally got the hang of Ramrod's fat buttocks.

More ships emerge from the portal. Two ships are heading straight for Ramrod. Ramrod FIRES at them but they evade.

SABER (V.O.)

Colt? Now would be a good time!

COLT (V.O.)

I'm trying!

One of them gets shoot down but the other CRASHES head on into Ramrod.

Ramrod looks battered. The Battle has left some scars -- but no time to breathe -- more ships are coming through the portal.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

There are just too many. We can't win this. This is impossible.

Then -- a huge ship comes through the portal, at least four times bigger than the others.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

Shouldn't that one be easier to hit?

COLT (V.O.)

Shut up and keep the horse straight and I'll blow them back to the happy hunting grounds.

Ramrod heads straight for the ship and FIRES with everything he's got.

It's not enough - the ships hull is barely scratched. The ship FIRES at Ramrod.

# 142 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

142

Everybody stares at the giant view screen where the attacking ship gets bigger and bigger.

APRIL

Shields at 70%.

COLT

70 is good.

APRIL

60%!

COLT

60 still works.

APRIL

50%!

Colt GROWLS.

APRIL (CONT'D)

40%

COLT

April!

#### 143 EXT. GANYMEDE SYSTEM

143

Ramrod keeps FIRING at the ship -- there are some hits but the ship can't be stopped -- it's on collision course.

But then -- moments before the ship crashes into Ramrod -- a giant LASER BLAST blows the ship to bits.

The Monarch Supreme just entered the system and with it the combined fleets of Jarr and the Colonies.

## 144 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

144

King Jarred and Sanchez appear on the view screen.

SANCHEZ

Saber, I hope it just seemed like you wanted to crash our flagship into a tree.

Saber looks relieved.

SABER

Glad to see you sir, ... your Highness.

KING JARRED

This is not the time for pleasantries. We have a battle to fight.

Jarred turns to his crew.

KING JARRED (CONT'D)

Unleash hell!

His part of the screen gives dark.

SANCHEZ

(to his crew)

You heard him!

Saber nods and the screen changes to the exterior view again.

# 145 EXT. GANYMEDE SYSTEM

145

It's the mother of all space battles. There are now hundreds of ships firing at each other.

EXPLOSIONS everywhere. The united fleet seems to be on the winning side but more and more ships keep coming through the portal.

The Monarch Supreme and the Hikari target the bigger ships while the battle cruisers and smaller vessels target the mid and small sized vessels.

Ramrod is FIRING at everything that moves.

A big outrider cruiser is heavily damaged. The Monarch and the Hikari have done a good job and Ramrod is there to finish it.

A huge EXPLOSION -- the Monarch and the Hikari show damages from the battle but the outrider supplies seem to slow down.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

I think we could survive this.

But then -- something big is coming through the portal -- something very big.

An OUTRIDER RENEGADE UNIT emerges from the portal -- bigger and meaner than anything we've seen so far.

#### 146 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

146

On screen they see the Renegade Unit coming through the Portal.

FIREBALL

Damn, I had to say something.

COLT

What the hell is that?

The Renegade starts to fire at a battle cruiser and the battle cruiser explodes in a giant explosion.

APRIL

An Outrider Renegade Unit. That's what I was afraid of.

The Renegade unit approaches the next cruiser, rips it apart and emerges unharmed from the explosion.

SABER

Conventional weapons are useless against that thing.

COLT

Blondie is right, let's cut our losses and get out of here.

APRIL

No, this is exactly what Ramrod was designed for.

FIREBALL

Sorry April, but cant fight that thing. We know you're proud of your ship but...

APRIL

He is not just a ship.

April starts to press some buttons.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Saber to you see that red button in front of you?
(beat)

Push it.

SABER

Now?

APRIL

Yes, NOW!!!

Saber pushes the button.

RAMROD (V.O.)

Challenge phase initiated.

APRIL

Alright boys, you've seen nothing yet.

147 EXT. RAMROD

147

Ramrod starts his transformation process. The hull starts moving, parts vanish to make room for other parts.

RAMROD (V.O.)

Reconfiguration initialized.

Ramrod transforms. All his parts get moved around and the ship turns into a huge mecha robot.

RAMROD (V.O.)

Head 'em up, move 'em out...power stride, and ready to ride..

148 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

148

Even on the bridge parts are moving. The cockpits come closer together and the controls change.

Fireball controls the legs, Saber the arms, Colt the weapons and April sensors.

FIREBALL

I'm officially impressed!

Colt turns pale.

COLT

This is too much for my stomach.

SABER

You could have said something.

APRIL

And ruin the surprise?

She smiles.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Ramrod, lets kick some butt!

RAMROD (V.O.)

Affirmative! Rear section of target acquired!

149 EXT. GANYMEDE SYSTEM

149

The Renegade has spotted Ramrod and instantly turns towards him.

Ramrod heads towards the Renegade Unit.

150 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

150

The screen flickers a familiar face appears: Vanquo.

He grins.

VANQUO

Hi guys! Did you miss me?

Our heroes stare at the screen.

COLT AND FIREBALL

You!

VANQUO

Yes me! And look who I brought with

me!

Jesse appears on the screen and grins.

**JESSE** 

Surprise!

APRIL

Jesse! You...

**JESSE** 

Ahh, you missed me, how cute, I wish I could say the same.

SABER

Jesse, please reason. Stop this madness and lets find a peaceful solution.

**JESSE** 

Let me think about that for a moment; I'll tell you what I decided after we rip you to shreds!

APRIL

We'll get you!

**JESSE** 

In that tin can? No you won't!

He presses a button. The computer screen flickers and then Ramrod's lights go out. But not only the lights, everything. A complete energy loss.

SABER

What's wrong?

April looks at her dark display.

APRIL

Damn. He must have sabotaged us. Everything is down. We're defenseless.

# 151 EXT. RAMROD

151

Ramrod floats defenseless in space. The Renegade opens FIRE.

Ramrod gets hit and takes damage.

But then -- the Hikari-- positions itself between the Renegade and Ramrod, taking the weapons fire. Other ships gather around Ramrod and defend him against other attackers.

#### 152 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

152

April gets out of her seat.

APRIL

I need to reboot the system. I can't do that from here. Fireball, I need your help.

Fireball gets up as well.

SABER

Hurry, I don't think they can hold them off for long.

153 EXT. RAMROD

153

The fleet is defending Ramrod but the Renegade Unit heads straight for Ramrod, destroys to ships and claws itself into Ramrod.

154 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

154

The bridges shakes.

COLT

I hate to say it but Ramrod gets his ass kicked.

155 EXT. RAMROD

155

The Renegade Unit wraps itself around Ramrod and engages the trusters -- heading for Ganymede - the purple gas giant.

The fleet tries to follow but the Renegade is faster.

Ganymede comes nearer and nearer and the Renegade starts beat him ups and tries to rip Ramrod apart.

156 INT. RAMROD'S CPU CORE

156

April and Fireball enter the CPU CORE room. Everything is shaking.

April rips open a panel.

APRIL

Take that one over there and do exactly what I tell you.

Fireball nods and rips open a panel.

157 EXT. GANYMEDE

157

The two mechas enter Ganymede's atmosphere.

The Renegade drags Ramrod deeper and deeper into the atmosphere.

The pressure on the hull rises.

158 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

158

Saber looks nervous. He aimlessly presses button on his dark control, waiting for them to come back to life.

Colt looks out through the transparent view screen and watches the purple gas turning thicker and darker.

Then a GROANING SOUND -- they hear the stress the hull is experiencing.

SABER

April, hurry.

# 159 INT. RAMROD'S CPU CORE

159

April and Fireball are at work. Half the panels have been removed.

APRIL

So, this was the last one. Let's see of this works.

They hear the GROANING as well.

FIREBALL

We better hurry.

April nods.

APRIL

Let's reroute the power and hope that the reboot works.

Fireball kneels down and crabs a cable.

FIREBALL

I'm ready.

April grabs another cable.

APRIL

Now!

They plug in their cables. SPARKS.

Then -- nothing.

# 160 EXT. GANYMEDE

160

The atmosphere gets thicker and thicker and on Ramrod's hull random pressure dents start to appear.

But not only on Ramrod, the Renegade Unit has the same problem.

The Renegade let's go of Ramrod and flies up. Ramrod keeps falling deeper and deeper into the atmosphere.

# 161 INT. RAMROD'S CPU CORE

161

April is kicking random panels, the is furious.

APRIL

This should have worked. Why doesn't it work.

She punches a panel with her fist.

Fireball grabs her and tries to calm her down.

FIREBALL

I don't know, but punching wont help. Trust me, I tried. A jumper cable is usually much more efficient.

APRIL

(murmurs)
Jumper cable,

April smiles at him.

FIREBALL

What? Did I say something stupid.

She kisses him on the cheek and runs out of the room.

Fireball looks really happy with himself.

FIREBALL (CONT'D)

I guess not.

162 INT. RAMROD

162

She runs along the hallway. Fireball behind her. He has trouble keeping up.

163 INT. RAMROD'S ENGINE ROOM

163

April enter the engine room. She looks at the inert Maverick engines.

Fireball enter the room, out of breath. He wants to say something but the impressive engines leave him speechless.

APRIL

What are you waiting for? Let's jump-start them.

She rips a panel away.

164 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

164

The groaning gets louder and louder.

COLT

Do you have any idea how much more the ship can take.

SABER

I don't know but I we'll find out soon enough.

COLT

They don't teach you motivational speaking at sheriff school, do they?

165 INT. RAMROD'S ENGINE ROOM

165

April has another power cable in her hand. Fireball has a power coupling in his hand.

APRIL

On my mark you put the coupling back in.

She attaches the cable to the engine. SPARKS -- then a HUMMING -- it gets louder -- the lights on the engine terminal go on.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Wait for it.

More lights go on. The engines ROAR.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Now!

Fireball plugs in the coupling and all the lights go on.

166 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

166

The lights are back on and the screens are displaying data.

COLT

That's what I'm talking about, let's get the hell out of here.

But with the lights an alarm starts HOWLING.

RAMROD (V.O.)

Hull breach imminent.

SABER

Thrusters on full! Get us back up Ramrod.

167 EXT. RAMROD 167

Ramrod's thrusters lighten up but he doesn't pull up, he just slowed down the fall.

RAMROD (V.O.)

Gravitational pull exceeding thrust. Hull breach...

168 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

168

COLT

What now?

Saber stares at his screen.

SABER

We need a plan.

Fireball and April enter the bridge and jump into their cockpits.

APRIL

Why are we still here?

SABER

I'm working on that.

On his screen he sees an anomaly in the asthenosphere A super storm.

SABER (CONT'D)

We just need a lift.

169 EXT. GANYMEDE

169

An atmospheric disturbance. A giant storm, shaped like a tornado.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

That can't be safe.

COLT (V.O.)

You call this a plan.

SABER (V.O.)

Just buckle up.

Ramrod's thrusters change direction and he flies deeper into the atmosphere towards the storm.

The pressure increases -- the dents get deeper.

COLT (V.O.)

Well, I guess this is it. Ramrod leaves the stage.

APRIL (V.O.)

Not today!

Ramrod reaches the storm and gets pulled in.

170 EXT. GANYMEDE SYSTEM

170

Near the portal the battle between the allied fleet and the Outriders.

The Ramrod Unit is back in the fight as well and is just about to rip apart a ship.

Then -- Ramrod comes spinning out of the atmosphere.

171 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

171

The Star Sheriffs are sitting in their cockpits.

COLI

April, you forgot the barf bags.

SABER

April, can we fight?

APRIL

All systems are go, we're at 85%.

SABER

That has to be enough.

Colt grins.

COLT

If I really have to die I'm glad we're dying together, guns blazing.

FIREBALL

That almost sounded like a compliment.

COLT

Take it or leave it.

SABER

We take it. April, get me a channel to the fleet.

On the screen Sanchez and King Jarred appear on screen. Behind them we can see that their bridges have taken heavy damage.

SANCHEZ

Thank god, we thought you were dead.

SABER

Not yet.

KING JARRED

What's the plan?

SABER

You take care of the ships coming through the portal and we take care of the Renegade.

King Jarred and Sanchez nod.

SABER (CONT'D)

Ramrod, let's kick some ass!

RAMROD (V.O.)

Affirmative.

#### 172 EXT. GANYMEDE SYSTEM

172

Ramrod heads straight for the battle. Four outrider ships block his way.

Number one: Ramrod fires a rocket and the ship explodes.

Number two: Ramrod rips the ship apart.

Number three: Ramrod grabs the ship and throws into number four.

The Renegade Unit reacts to Ramrod's presence and the two head for each other.

Ramrod grabs the Renegade unit and uses his trusters to bring some distance between them and the fleet.

They wrestle for the control of the flight but Ramrod has the upper hand. He keeps punching the Renegades head with an almost endless siege of mighty freight-train PUNCHES.

They reach the planets rings. The Renegade wrestles itself free and the fight continues from rock to rock.

The Renegade throws rocks at Ramrod and FIRES rockets.

Ramrod tries his best to evade but he takes some hits.

Then -- the Renegade vanishes behind a big rock. Ramrod tries to follow but the Renegade attacks from behind and grabs Ramrod.

The wrestling continues. They duo is headed for one of the bigger moons of Ganymede: BOREAS, the ice moon.

173 EXT. BOREAS 173

Ramrod and the Renegade touch down on Boreas, a moon covered in ice. Strong winds and snow obstruct the view.

Ramrod can free himself and they exchange punches and kicks. They don't pull any punches.

## 174 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

174

Everybody is doing their part. April calls the moves.

APRIL

Lower left.

Fireball evades the attack with a move to the side.

Saber responds with a left hook and Cot sends in some rockets, right on target.

 $COT_{1}T$ 

Seems like we're getting the hang of it.

## 175 EXT. BOREAS

175

Ramrod jump kicks the renegade with both feet but the Renegade uses his boosters to stabilize his position and counterattacks with a spinning attack.

Then -- the Renegade FIRES half a dozen rockets at the ground where Ramrod is standing -- the ice breaks.

Ramrod falls but he manages to grab the Renegade's leg and pulls him down.

Almost instantly water freezes again and the opening is closed.

#### UNDERWATER

The fight continues in the water under the ice.

The fight slows down due to the water but what the fight lacks in speed it makes more then up in intensity.

Ramrod is upside down but keeps punching and kicking the Renegade.

The Renegade grabs ramrod and pile drives Ramrod into the ground.

#### ON THE SURFACE

The Renegade unit crashes through the ice surface and keeps flying up.

#### UNDERWATER

Ramrod lies on the ground.

#### 176 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

176

COLT

Did they just pile drive us? Why can't we do that?

April smiles.

APRIL

Who says we can't? But we need to get out of the water first."

SABER

According to this it's too thick to just fly through.

COLT

That's my cue.

## ON THE SURFACE

The ice rumbles. Laser fire bursts through the ice and circles around.

Another blast --- another one -- a half circle --

It's a SMILEY.

Ramrod bursts through the ice and flies to the sky.

COLT (V.O.)

I need to get me one of those for my new Bronco.

# 177 EXT. GANYMEDE

177

We're back in the ring system. The Renegade was waiting for Ramrod and throws some big rocks at him.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

This guy is really getting on my nerve.

SABER (V.O.)

Just keep at it. He's bound to make a mistake.

APRIL (V.O.)

Let's hope you're right. We can't do this forever. The main weapon took it's toll on our energy levels.

COLT (V.O.)

You mean we can't fire it again?

APRIL (V.O.)

No, not until we recharge.

SABER (V.O.)

And it doesn't look like we'll get so lucky.

Ramrod keeps evading the big rocks but while evading one another hits ramrod in the chest and he gets thrown back.

The Renegade takes this chance and grabs Ramrod and pulls him down to another one of Ganymede's moons: VULCANOS.

178 EXT. VULCANOS

178

Fire and brimstone. Lava and giant erupting vulcanos: This is how hell is supposed to look like.

Ramrod wrestles with the Renegade and none of them seems to have the upper hand. Ramrod manages to roll. The Renegade is now facing the hot ground.

COLT (V.O.)

Someone forgot to switch on the air conditioning.

SABER (V.O.)

We can't stay here for long.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

I'm doing what I can but we need a plan.

The Renegade hits the ground and Ramrod starts another punching streak but the Renegade is able to wrestle itself free and Ramrod takes a beating.

179 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

179

April jumps up.

SABER

What are you doing.

APRIL

I might have an idea how to get us some additional power.

She runs off the bridge.

180 EXT. VULCANOS

180

For a second, Ramrod gets free but the Renegade grabs Ramrod's foot and pulls him back towards him.

Ramrod kicks him with his other foot.

181 INT. RAMROD'S CPU CORE

181

April enters the CPU core room and rips away the terminals panels.

APRIL

(into coms)

Guys, I'm going to remove some security protocols. Everything will go directly through the CPU. That should get us some more juice but it might have some side effects.

She rips out a circuit and puts it back in the other way around.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

Is that a good idea?

APRIL

(to herself)
Probably not.

182 EXT. VULCANOS

182

Ramrod and the Renegade are still at it. They throw rocks at each other and try to get the other one into the lava .. Without success so far.

183 INT. RAMROD

183

April is running along a hallway. Then suddenly a door closes before her.

She hears a giant RUMBLE. She looks through the porthole in the door and sees how part of the hull is missing.

APRIL

That was close.

She turns around and runs in the other direction.

APRIL (CONT'D)

The long way then. (into coms)

Guys, we have a hull breach. I might take me a while to get back to the bridge.

#### 184 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

184

We can see our heroes sweating.

SABER

Hurry, we need you.

APRIL (V.O.)

I'm trying. Thank's for closing the door.

Jesse appears on the screen.

**JESSE** 

You're pathetic. You will never ...

Fireball presses a button and the screen goes black.

FIREBALL

I had it with this guy. Can we please just kill him?

COLT

Second that.

SABER

I may have an idea, but it's going to get complicated.

# 185 INT./EXT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE / VULCANOS

185

Saber calls the action and everybody does their part do defeat the Renegade.

INTERCUT BETWEEN THE BRIDGE AND THE ACTION OUTSIDE

SABER

Thrusters on full.

Fireball pushes the engines and Ramrod lifts off.

SABER (CONT'D)

And blasters!

Colt fires at the ground beneath them. The rocks explode and reveal burning lava.

Then Saber wrestles the Renegade an manages to turn around and the Renegade faces the burning lava.

SABER (CONT'D)

Now!

Colt grins and presses the fire button.

Ramrod's main weapon fires again. His whole chest is one giant beam weapon and the Renegade gets blown away in a giant beam of light.

The Renegade lands in the burning lava and takes heavy damage. At least one arm and half a leg are consumed by the lava.

Ramrod is free and soars into the sky.

CLOSE UP RAMRODS HULL

Jesse in a GOLDEN EVA suit is attached to the hull and tries to open an airlock.

186 EXT. PORTAL 186

Ramrod reaches the portal. The fight between the allied fleet and the outriders is still raging on.

The Monarch Supreme and the other Jarr vessels SHOOT at everything that comes through the portal and the cavalry vessels clean up the rest.

It's looking good.

187 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

187

Colt, Saber and Fireball stare at the portal in the screen.

FIREBALL

What now?

COLT

Can we blow it? I think we have one mega blast left

SABER

It will drench our reserves but it's worth a try.

188 EXT. PORTAL 188

Ramrod positions himself straight in front of the portal and prepares to fire the main weapon.

The weapon FIRES -- the heavily damaged Renegade appears and gets in between the portal and the beam of light.

COLT (V.O.) Why won't you die!?!

Even though the Renegade is barely operational it doesn't give up and attacks Ramrod with whatever it has left.

First up: the half melted detached arm. The Renegade slaps it around Ramrod's head. It does some heavy damage.

And he strikes out for the second hit.

## 189 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

189

The Bridge is damaged. Panels are open, cables are hanging and sparks from the cables start a fire.

FIREBALL

I'm loosing control.

Then -- the ceiling caves in. Colt gets buried under a steel beam and can't leave his cockpit.

# 190 EXT PORTAL

190

Ramrod blocks the second hit with his hand and grabs the Renegade's loose arm.

# 191 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

191

Saber jumps up and grabs an extinguisher and puts the fire out.

Fireball, gets out of his cockpit and tries to pull Colt out of his.

COLT

I can't move. It's crushing me.

Fireball picks up a piece of metal and uses is at a lever to move the beam -- but he's not strong enough.

FIREBALL

Saber, I need your help!

The extinguisher is empty anyway and Saber helps Fireball moving the steel beam.

Colt is free.

COLT

Thanks.

SABER

Don't mention it...

(smiling)
Seriously, don't.

Colt and Fireballs smiles as well but then they look at the screen. The fight is still going on.

FIREBALL

Who is steering?

SABER

My money is on Ramrod kicking some serious outrider butt.

## 192 INT. RAMROD'S CPU CORE

192

Little bolts of lighting -- the CPU is working way beyond capacity.

#### 193 EXT. THE PORTAL

193

A heavily damaged Ramrod and an even more damaged Renegade Unit fight like there's no tomorrow. Nothing is sacred anymore.

The Renegade Unit tries to get Ramrod away from the portal but Ramrod manages to counter the attacks and they stay close to the portal.

The Renegade grabs Outrider ships coming through the portal and throws them at Ramrod.

## 194 INT. RAMROD HALLWAY

194

April runs along the hallway. Then, she gets fired upon. She can barely evade and ducks. Jesse, out of his EVA SUIT is firing at her.

**JESSE** 

And so we meet again.

APRIL

And I will kill you again!

She starts FIRING at him, he returns the fire but he has the bigger gun and April has to pull back.

**JESSE** 

Ah, is the little girl afraid.

Then she notices the lights flickering rhythmically behind her.

She falls further back and the flickering continues in another corridor.

APRIL

(to herself)

Thanks.

She follows the flickering lights, evading Jesses attacks as good as possible.

She runs around a corner -- an open airlock door.

Jesse comes around the corner as well and sees the open door. He slowly walks towards the door.

**JESSE** 

Do you really think I'm that stupid?

He slowly walks past the airlock, expecting April to hide behind the door.

But then -- April comes down from the ceiling and kicks the gun out of Jesse's hand.

APRIL

Yes!

The fight each other in the narrow hallway. April uses the walls to her advantage. Jesse is able to get a few punches through but April is fighting like a champion.

195 EXT. THE PORTAL

195

Ramrod throws the Renegade against the portal and a few ships crash into the Renegade unit while coming through.

The portal flickers.

196 INT. RAMROD'S CPU CORE

196

The CPU core is overheating and a panel gets blown a way. Sparks and smoke. This one's a goner.

197 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

197

Saber, Colt and Fireball are watching the portal flicker on the screen.

SABER

This is it. This is how we close it.

Then -- the screen turns blank and they see the portal through the window.

COLT

Damn, we're not gonna make it.

SABER

It's just the CPU, we still have power. Fireball!

Fireball gets back in his cockpit.

FIREBALL

I think I get you one last push.

COLT

Eh guys, I my module wrecked. Without it Ramrod is as agile as a block of concrete.

SABER

I'll reroute you your controls. Get to Aprils module.

Saber's fingers dash across the keyboard.

SABER (CONT'D)

Done, can you get us some nice punches?

Colt jumps in April's cockpit.

COLI

That's like asking if I can get it up!

FIREBALL

Is that a yes or a no?

## 198 INT. RAMROD HALLWAY

198

Jesse is bleeding and starts to tumble. April roundhouse kicks him into the airlock. He tumbles and falls.

April picks up the gun and shoots him in the chest.

APRIL

That's for my friend Ekaterina.

She takes a step back and the door close automatically.

April looks through the porthole and smiles and presses the open button.

APRIL (CONT'D)

And this is for being a dick!

The airlock opens -- April can see the portal in the distance -- Jesse gets sucked into space.

199 EXT. PORTAL 199

Ramrod rams his fist into the Renegade Unit's chest and rips out the energy core.

200 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

200

Small explosions wreck the bridge even more. A steel bean falls and hits Fireball's arm.

He doesn't even flinch.

Colt is shaking, he's getting electrocuted.

Saber jumps out of his cockpit and helps him.

SABER

We're almost done.

201 EXT. PORTAL

201

Ramrod pushes the now motionless Renegade Unit further into the portal and keeps the core in the middle of the event horizon.

A blinding light -- a giant EXPLOSION.

Ramrod's arm gets blown off, he turns around to shield himself from the explosion, the giant shock wave reaches him.

202 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

202

The bridge is barely recognizable. Small debris and little fires everywhere.

COLT

Blondie? Matchbox? Are we dead?

SABER

Don't call me Blondie!

FIREBALL

Don't call me Matchbox!

COLT

C'mon lighten up guys! We just won the biggest rodeo of all time.

Fireball smiles at him.

FIREBALL

So that's what winning feels like.

Everybody chuckles.

SABER

We's April?

203 INT. RAMROD 203

April sits in front of the airlock.

She looks exhausted but not unhappy.

Then Fireball comes running along.

FIREBALL

Here you are. We were looking for you. You're OK?

He helps her up. April looks at him and kisses him passionately.

Fireball blushes and April smiles.

APRIL

I'm fine.

Fireball is speechless. April smiles.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Let's get to the bridge.

204 EXT. PORTAL 204

The portal is destroyed and the allied fleet has destroyed all of the attackers. Most of the allied ships took a heavy beating but the battle is won.

205 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE

205

Saber and Colt are standing on the bridge, looking out the window, smiling.

Fireball and April enter and April starts smiling when she sees the destroyed portal.

APRIL

You did it. You destroyed it.

SABER

Yes, we did.

Colt looks at Fireball.

COLI

What's wrong with you?

April answers for him.

APRIL

He's fine.

SABER

What took you so long?

APRIL

I was busy handling Jesse.

SABER

Jesse was on the ship?

APRIL

Yes, but Ramrod and I took care of him?

SABER

So it was really him.

April nods.

APRIL

When I removed the security protocols, Ramrod got complete control over all the systems.

SABER

But all the systems are dark now.

APRIL

Controlling everything must have put too much of a strain on his systems.

SABER

Can you fix him?

April touches her necklace and nods.

APRIL

It might taka a while but Ramrod is tough, he'll get through it.

Fireball smiles.

FIREBALL

Do you need help?

SABER

Does that mean you're staying?

Fireball grins.

FIREBALL

After flying this thing, who would go back to silly race cars.

Saber looks at Colt.

Colt smiles and straightens his head.

COLT

I'll think about it.

Everybody smiles.

CUT TO:

#### 206 EXT. MEMORIAL PLAZA - DAY

206

It's a beautiful day in Yuma City. The rebuilding of Memorial Plaza is almost complete.

People have gathered to commemorate the reopening of Memorial Plaza.

In the background, a giant statue of Ramrod fighting a Renegade with the Monarch Supreme and the Hikari is being constructed.

Commander Eagle is speaking to the crowd. Behind we can see King Jarred, Commander Sanchez, Saber, Colt, Fireball and April. Fireball and April hold hands.

## COMMANDER EAGLE

It is my great pleasure to reopen this memorial site to remember those who lost their lives in the terrible attacks and to those fought in the battle of Ganymede. May this be a reminder to everybody what we can accomplish together. It is my pleasure to announce to a strategic alliance between the Kingdom of Jarr and the New Colonies.

The crowd applauds. Jarred gets up and he and Eagle shake hands.

Fireball claps as well but his mind wanders. He stares at the replica of the Bismarck.

## 207 INT. RAMROD'S BRIDGE - DAY

207

Saber, Colt, Fireball are standing in the repaired bridge as April enters.

APRIL

Look, I have your badges.

She takes the first one.

APRIL (CONT'D)

One for William Wilcox.

Fireball starts laughing.

FIREBALL

Your name is William?

COLT

Shut it Race Boy!

APRIL

And Shinji Hikari.

April and Saber are surprised.

APRIL (CONT'D)

You're name is Hikari?

SABER

Any relation to...

Fireball nods.

FIREBALL

He was my father but I never knew him. He didn't even know my mom was pregnant.

APRIL

I bet he'd be proud of you.

Fireball nods. A tear forms in his eye. April wants to hug him but Colt is faster.

COLT

Shi-Shi, that's so much better than anything I could ever come up with.

Fireball smiles.

FIREBALL

It's Shinji but never mind,

Then -- the com system goes on.

VOICE (V.O.)

HQ for Saber Rider and the Star Sheriffs. Please respond.

SABER

(into coms)

Saber Rider here.

VOICE (V.O.)

We just got an emergency call in sector 47.

SABER

(into coms)

We're on our way.

(MORE)

SABER (CONT'D)

(beat)

You heard him. Let's go.

They jump into their cockpits.

APRIL

Ramrod, set course for sector 47.

RAMROD (V.O.)

Course set.

SABER

Hit it Fireball.

FIREBALL

My pleasure.

208 EXT. YUMA CITY - DAY

208

Ramrod lifts off, passes Yuma City and soars towards the sky.

FIREBALL (V.O.)

Why isn't it Fireball and the Star Sheriffs.

COLT (V.O.)

Because that would sound awful.

Ramrod vanishes into the sky.

FADE TO BLACK.

CREDIT TAG

209 INT. NEMESIS' THRONE ROOM

209

We're inside a large dark dome. Jesse walks towards the center of the dome where NEMESIS, the ruler of the Outriders, waits for him. Nemesis is dressed in a black cloak and a mask hides his face.

Jesse kneels before Nemesis.

**NEMESIS** 

Did everything go according to plan.

JESSE

We lost 47 battleships, 52 Destroyers and one renegade unit. The humans were able to fight us back. NEMESIS

And?

**JESSE** 

Our analysis showed that their renegade and their forces were pushed to the limit. They have no idea that they were fighting our antiquated forces. They didn't use the last 25 years to their advantage.

Nemesis laughs diabolically.

NEMESIS

25 years, a long time to wait ... Initialize phase 2 and bring me the prisoner.

Vanquo walks out of the dark escorting a PRISONER.

Vanquo pushes the prisoner on the floor.

The prisoner looks up towards Nemesis and we can see his face: It's CAPTAIN HIKARI and he hasn't aged a day.

NEMESIS (CONT'D)

I wanted you to see this...

The lights go on and a rumple goes through the room. A crack opens in the ceiling and the dome opens to reveal --

210 EXT. THE OUTRIDER HOMEWORLD - DAY

210

They sky is filled with 2 gigantic battle cruisers, dwarfing the Monarch Supreme and over a dozen state of the art destroyers.

On the ground 10 renegade units are marching in lock-step.

FADE TO BLACK.

Nemesis is still laughing.