

SEAQUEST 2032  
"Resurrection"  
TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. UEO HEADQUARTERS (CGI/STOCK)

CHRYON: FORT GORE. NEW CAPE QUEST.

EXT. OCEAN - (CGI STOCK)

A UEO Shuttle is docked.

INT. SHUTTLE

Ford and Hudson wait in their dress uniforms. Ford is clearly antsy.

HUDSON

You have a problem, Commander?

FORD

I can't believe we're in dress uniform to escort Max Scully back to Ecotopia. He's a terrorist. We should be escorting him to prison.

HUDSON

He's the founder of the world's first ecologically-pure, self-sustaining undersea colony...and the newest member state of the UEO.

FORD

The last time I saw him, he'd was sinking whalers as the self-proclaimed savior of endangered species. One of his torpedoes sunk an ocean liner full of tourists instead.

HUDSON

That was eleven years ago, Commander. The UEO has just given him an unconditional

pardon.

FORD

Three hundred people drowned on that ocean liner. How can they pardon that?

HUDSON

Kill one person, and you're a murderer. Kill a hundred and you're a statesman.

FORD

And you don't mind ferrying him across the Pacific?

HUDSON

I have my orders, and so do you.

That's when the airlock opens and MAX SCULLY, his face still scarred from burns suffered a decade ago, steps on board, flanked by TWO FELLOW ECOTOPIANS.

SCULLY

Sorry to keep you waiting, Captain -- the one thing I've already learned about diplomacy is that it's never on time.

He offers his hand to Captain Hudson, who doesn't take it.

HUDSON

Make yourself comfortable. It's a long trip to seaQuest.

Hudson moves to the con. Scully takes back his hand and turns to Ford, who is glaring at him.

SCULLY

I'm looking forward to seeing SeaQuest without her firing on me.

FORD

As I recall, you fired the first shot.

SCULLY

Ancient history.

Scully goes to his seat, Ford glowering after him. DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. OCEAN - (CGI/STOCK)

As the UEO shuttle moves through the water.

INT. SHUTTLE

Hudson and Ford are at the con as Scully comes up.

SCULLY

Look at this reef, gentleman.  
What do you see?

THE REEF - THEIR POV (CGI)

A rocky strip along the barren ocean floor.

BACK TO SCENE

FORD

Nothing.

SCULLY

Exactly, Commander. Five years ago, it was one of the last Mayanese kelp beds on the ocean floor. That was before the mining companies scraped it away to get at the ore...

(then:)

...and before anyone realized Mayanese kelp is the only natural source of Kilozine, the most effective treatment for glaucoma.

FORD

Maybe you should bomb the mining companies.

Hudson shoots Ford a cold look, but the remark doesn't seem to have hurt Scully. In fact, he takes it as more of a challenge.

SCULLY

Their actions are raping the planet and dooming future generations. Clearly, something dramatic has to be done.

FORD

Is that how you rationalize the  
murder of three hundred  
innocent people?

HUDSON

Commander.

SCULLY

It was an accident. The torpedo  
was meant for a whaler. You may  
not see the distinction, but  
the UEO does.

(then:)

Why do you think they just gave  
me a complete pardon?

FORD

Because they couldn't grant  
Ecotopia UEO membership if its  
leader was murderer.

HUDSON

Commander, that will be all.

Ford turns away, disappearing into the back of the shuttle.

SCULLY

Thank you, Captain.

HUDSON

You are a member of UEO General  
Assembly. We will treat you  
with respect -- regardless of  
our personal feelings.

SCULLY

And yours are?

HUDSON

Personal.

That's when the shuttle is VIOLENTLY ROCKED. Ford climbs  
back into his seat.

FORD

Plasma laser hit, aft impeller.

EXT. OCEAN - (CGI)

Three SMALL ATTACK SUBS rise up from the ocean floor and

surround the shuttle, blocking it's path.

INT. SHUTTLE

There's a transmission over the radio.

WOMAN'S VOICE

We've come for Max Scully.  
Stand down and prepare to be  
boarded...or we'll sink you.

Ford shares a look with Hudson. Scully reads their faces.

SCULLY

You're letting them on board?

HUDSON

We're out-gunned.

SCULLY

You aren't even going to fight?

HUDSON

I didn't say that.

EXT. OCEAN - (CGI)

as one of the ATTACK SUBS slides up against the shuttle and docks.

INT. SHUTTLE

Hudson and Ford position between Scully and the airlock, their guns drawn. The AIRLOCK OPENS to reveal TWO ARMED JAPANESE GUARDS. It's a stand-off.

HUDSON

If you want Scully, you'll have  
to go through me first.

WOMAN'S VOICE

It wouldn't be the first time,  
Oliver.

The guards part to reveal ELAINE MORSE. And on Hudson's surprise, and Morse's grim look, we FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. SEAQUEST - (CGI/STOCK)

as a UEO SHUTTLE and one of the ATTACK SUBS slides into the launch bay.

INT. SEAQUEST - LAUNCH BAY

The senior staff, in their DRESS UNIFORMS, gather in the launch bay. Piccolo, clearly uncomfortable in his dress uniform, turns to the others.

PICCOLO

So why is the seaQuest honoring this Scully guy? Isn't he supposed to be some kind of terrorist?

O'NEILL

Don't you keep up with the news at all?

PICCOLO

I've barely got time to keep up with the books Captain Hudson gives me. Which means if it doesn't involve soldiers who've been dead for at least two centuries, I don't know about it.

LUCAS

Max Scully was a renowned oceanographer, then he started sinking whalers. Everyone thought he died eleven years ago. He didn't.

PICCOLO

I know the feeling -- so what planet was he on?

LUCAS

He was here, Tony, working behind-the-scenes to organize the world's ecological organizations and raise the

financing for Ecotopia. When the colony opened, he came out of hiding.

The AIRLOCK begins to open. O'Neill hits a button and a SYNTH BOSUM'S WHISTLE PLAYS. Everyone SNAPS TO ATTENTION as the airlock opens and...

Morse blows past the stunned crew, followed by Hudson, Ford and Scully, all pretense at ceremony lost. O'Neill, stunned, looks after Morse.

O'NEILL  
Welcome aboard...

Hudson motions Lucas forward.

HUDSON  
Ambassador Scully, Ensign Wolenczak will show you to your quarters.

SCULLY  
(to Lucas:)  
I'd appreciate it if you'd take the long way, it's not every day I get a ride on SeaQuest.

Lucas shoots a look at Hudson, who gives a nod of approval. Lucas leads Scully away. Hudson turns to Fredricks.

HUDSON  
There are some gentlemen inside who'd like to give you their weapons. Accommodate them.

Fredricks nods and goes inside. Hudson marches off after Morse, but stops at Piccolo, who immediately straightens up.

HUDSON  
Mr. Piccolo -- I gave you a book to re-read.

PICCOLO  
Red Badge of Courage, sir.

HUDSON  
Would you say you now have a thorough understanding and appreciation of the story?

PICCOLO

Yes, sir.

Hudson studies him for a moment.

HUDSON

I'd like you to clean out  
Brody's quarters and send his  
personal effects to UEO  
headquarters.

Hudson marches off. Piccolo looks like he has been dealt a  
body blow. CUT TO:

INT. SEAQUEST - WARD ROOM

Morse marches in, furious. Hudson slams the door, and  
before he can speak, Morse turns on him.

MORSE

How can you let that man walk  
free on this ship?

HUDSON

He's our guest, Elaine.

(then:)

You, on the other hand,  
hijacked a UEO shuttle. The  
only reason you're not in the  
brig is because I'm such a nice  
guy.

She glares at him as he loosens the collar of his dress  
uniform.

MORSE

I've got a warrant for his  
arrest on murder charges.

HUDSON

Keep it as a souvenir. The UEO  
has pardoned him.

MORSE

Japan hasn't.

(then:)

They don't have a treaty with  
the UEO, but they do have long  
memories. Scully killed sixteen  
Japanese tourists when he sunk  
that ocean liner.

HUDSON

That's irrelevant -- you're a  
UEO law enforcement officer.

MORSE

Not anymore.

Hudson is stunned.

HUDSON

You resigned?

MORSE

I couldn't be part of an  
organization that embraces a  
mass murderer. I'm a  
"consultant" to the Japanese  
government now.

HUDSON

You mean you're a bounty  
hunter. Wise career move.

MORSE

It beats baby-sitting a  
homicidal terrorist.

Hudson gives her a cold look.

HUDSON

Maximillian Scully is the  
leader of a UEO member state.  
It's my duty to protect him  
from anyone who poses a threat  
to his safety and freedom. The  
next attempt to apprehend him  
will be met with appropriate  
force.

(then, softening:)

This isn't personal.

Morse doesn't soften at all.

MORSE

It is now.

She marches out, nearly colliding with FORD as he enters,  
no longer in his dress uniform. Ford looks after her.

FORD

Was she this much fun on your

wedding day?

HUDSON

Why do you think I left her at  
the alter?

INT. SEAQUEST - CORRIDOR

Lucas points out the swim tubes to Scully. DARWIN swims  
past.

LUCAS

These swim tubes give Darwin  
access to every corner of  
SeaQuest. It was Capt.  
Bridger's belief that Darwin  
let's us explore his world, we  
should let him explore ours.

That's when Ford and Morse marches past. She shoots a  
hateful look at Scully, who smiles back.

SCULLY

No hard feelings, Elaine. I  
know you were just doing your  
job.

If she could shoot him, she would. But she marches on, an  
intrigued Ford following closely behind. Scully turns and  
sees Lucas studying him.

SCULLY

You don't like me much either,  
do you?

LUCAS

I don't know you, sir.

SCULLY

Sure you do. You were on  
SeaQuest when Nathan Bridger  
chased me down. And in the last  
three weeks, you've downloaded  
every byte of information you  
could find on Ecotopia.

Lucas is surprised, but he recovers quickly.

LUCAS

I think Ecotopia could be the  
model for all future colonies,

above and below the sea.

SCULLY

That's not an answer.

LUCAS

No, it isn't.

Lucas walks on. Scully smiles and follows after him.

INT. SEAQUEST - BRIDGE

as Lucas leads Scully onto the bridge.

SCULLY

Nathan Bridger built a remarkable boat.

LUCAS

It was his dream to create the ultimate deep submergence vehicle for ocean exploration.

SCULLY

Saving the whales was mine. Funny how two such peaceful dreams have caused so much death.

LUCAS

Captain Bridger didn't murder anyone.

Scully walks over to the command station.

SCULLY

Tell me these torpedoes haven't been fired since they were used against me.

LUCAS

Only when it was necessary to protect lives.

SCULLY

Exactly what I used to tell myself. Makes it a lot easier to push the button.

He reaches for a button, but Lucas quickly blocks him.

LUCAS

I get your point, sir.

What Lucas doesn't get is that Scully, with his other hand, places a SMALL, ELECTRONIC DEVICE, under the console.

SCULLY

Do you really?

(then:)

Have you ever looked up from your station to wonder who was on the other end of your torpedoes?

LUCAS

Did you?

SCULLY

I thought faking my death would allow me to escape punishment. I was wrong.

LUCAS

The UEO pardoned you.

SCULLY

But they can't silence the 300 screams I hear every time I close my eyes.

Scully walks out. And on Lucas, looking after him, we CUT TO:

EXT. ECOTOPIA COLONY - (CGI)

SeaQuest hovers over the HUGE DOMED COLONY -- think a FOREST under glass -- as a HAULER docks at Ecotopia's port.

INT. ECOTOPIA - LANDING BAY

Industrial and wet. A docking port opens and a long-haul trucker steps out, her face and body obscured by a cap and heavy jacket. She's met by an clean-cut Ecotopian, the very model of a Disney employee, who proffers a Newton-esque computer clipboard. The hauler signs it.

HAULER

When they told me I was hauling a load of crap to Ecotopia, I didn't take'em literally.

The hauler turns away and blows her nose into a handkerchief.

HAULER

Haven't you people ever heard  
of chemical fertilizer?

And that's when we see the hauler is ELAINE MORSE.

ECOTOPIAN

We don't use it.

Morse looks past the Ecotopian and sees TWO MEN stepping out of a SMALL DRILL SUB (which looks like a Black and Decker drill with propellers). They are immediately surrounded by Ecotopians with the futuristic equivalent GEIGER COUNTERS. She's eyeing them suspiciously when the Ecotopian steps in front of Morse, blocking her view.

ECOTOPIAN

I've transmitted the shipment  
arrival confirmation to your  
dispatcher. That concludes our  
business.

HAULER

Where can a lady get a shower  
around here?

ECOTOPIAN

There's a hotel on Main Street.

The Ecotopian motions towards a door. Morse turns and heads for the door, opening it and letting in a blinding ray of "sun."

The Ecotopian motions towards a staircase leading up to a door. Morse climbs the stairs and opens the door, letting in a blinding ray of "sun."

The Ecotopian motions towards a staircase leading up to a door. Morse climbs the stairs and opens the door, letting in a blinding ray of "sun."

INT. ECOTOPIA - DAY

as Morse steps through a door into A LUSH FOREST. She looks back -- the door she came through is part of a building that blends so seamlessly with the tree it's built into that it's hard to tell where one starts and the other ends. As she walks through the forest, she sees other, similar

buildings molded into the landscape, all designed to look organic, as if they've grown there, not built. Once she has her bearings, she slips into the brush and disappears.

INT. ECOTOPIA - ORCHARD - DAY

Scully leads Lucas through an ORANGE GROVE, rich with fruit bearing trees. Several ECOTOPIANS pick fruit.

SCULLY

Welcome to Ecotopia. Completely self-sustaining, 100% ecologically-friendly.

Lucas is amazed -- and puzzled.

LUCAS

It's not exactly what I pictured.

SCULLY

Because you were born too late. This is what an agricultural community used to look like before science replaced nature.

Lucas reaches down and lifts up a handful of soil.

LUCAS

The artificial sunlight is the best I've ever seen. But dirt farming -- isn't that hopelessly inefficient compared to modern hydroponic techniques?

SCULLY

Only if you're trying to feed the world.

LUCAS

From everything I read, I thought that was the point.

Scully shakes his head. Will Lucas ever understand?

SCULLY

Ecotopia wasn't created to sell ecologically pure tomatoes so that people on seven continents can feel morally superior when

they eat their salad.

Lucas looks around, trying to figure it out.

LUCAS

You want to teach the world how  
to feed itself.

Scully looks disgusted.

SCULLY

Global thinking is what's led  
us to the brink of ecological  
suicide. Grow a carrot in a  
hydro tank in the Kalahari  
today, sell it in Beijing  
tomorrow, and no one ever has  
to face the real cost.  
Production is so removed from  
consumption that a child eating  
an apple has no idea it ever  
grew on a tree.

Now Lucas sees what Scully is saying.

LUCAS

But if people ate only what  
they produced, if their clothes  
and homes were made from their  
own resources, they'd learn the  
value of a healthy environment.

(off Scully's look)

You're only trying to reverse  
eight centuries of history.  
What's taking you so long?

Scully ignores the dig.

SCULLY

We're going to prove that  
mankind can leave his concrete  
jungles and go back to the  
soil. From our example, people  
in every nation may finally  
realize that their future lies  
not in empire, but in  
community.

LUCAS

And you'll provide the  
blueprints.

SCULLY

God provided them. We're just helping out with the distribution.

(off Lucas's look)

You still don't like me much, do you?

Lucas is taken aback by the question.

LUCAS

It's just that I have a hard time reconciling what I see and hear with what I know about your past.

SCULLY

I was a good man once, until the evils of this world drove me to an unspeakable act. I can't change what I did, so I decided to change the world.

LUCAS

Will that silence the screams?

SCULLY

Whatever drives me, I go to sleep every night knowing I've spent the day working to make the world a better place. Can you say the same thing?

And before Lucas can answer, he walks away down the street. Lucas follows, the question gnawing at him.

EXT. SEAQUEST - (CGI)

Hovering above Ecotopia.

INT. SEAQUEST - CORRIDOR

as Fredricks rounds the corner to find Piccolo leaning against the bulk-head, staring across the corridor at a CABIN DOOR, several EMPTY BOXES on either side of it.

FREDRICKS

Someone throw you out?

PICCOLO

Out I can handle. It's going in

I got a problem with.

Fredricks looks at the door. It's marked BRODY. She looks back at Piccolo.

FREDRICKS

He's dead. He's not going to mind.

She reaches for the door, but Piccolo grabs her wrist.

PICCOLO

You got a implant to take away your pain, I don't. Brody was my friend -- packing up his stuff feels like killing him all over again.

She jerks her arm free and steps into Piccolo's face.

FREDRICKS

They don't give you a psych implant to take away the pain, it only makes it bearable.

(then:)

Brody was a soldier -- honor and courage was what he stood for. Whatever "things" are in there don't matter.

Fredricks picks up a box.

FREDRICKS

If you can't do it, I will.

Piccolo snatches the box from her.

PICCOLO

I can do it.

Fredricks gives him a look and walks on. Once she's gone, he faces the door. Piccolo swallows hard, picks up a box and grimly goes inside.

INT. SEAQUEST - CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS

Hudson is reading when there's a knock at the door.

HUDSON

Come in.

Lucas steps in.

LUCAS

You wanted to see me, sir?

HUDSON

The UEO would like you to stay at Ecotopia for an indefinite period as their official observer.

LUCAS

I see.

HUDSON

I can understand your reluctance, but when we are given orders, we have to put aside our personal prejudices and do our jobs.

LUCAS

Actually, sir, I don't mind.

HUDSON

You want to work with Scully?

LUCAS

I don't like what he did any more than you do, sir. But, in some ways, Ecotopia is his atonement.

HUDSON

Nothing he does can make up for the lives he took.

LUCAS

It's Ecotopia that's drawing me, not Max Scully.

(off Hudson's look:)

When I first came aboard SeaQuest, this was a science vessel. We explored the sea, now we defend it.

HUDSON

The world has changed.

LUCAS

I haven't. I didn't join

SeaQuest for a fight, to see my friends die.

HUDSON

No one wants to see people die, Ensign. But that's the way it is out there.

LUCAS

Not on Ecotopia. In the society Scully has created, there isn't war.

HUDSON

It's a fantasy.

LUCAS

But it's one I can help turn into a reality -- and no one has to die to make it happen.

Hudson can accept that.

HUDSON

Very well, Ensign. Good luck.

Lucas salutes and leaves. And on Hudson's look, we CUT TO:

INT. SEAQUEST - BRIDGE

Hudson marches onto the bridge. O'Neill turns to him.

O'NEILL

Incoming message from Secretary McGath.

HUDSON

On screen.

Hudson and Ford turn to face the VID-LINK, where McGath's face fills the screen.

MCGATH

I trust you've delivered Ambassador Scully to Ecotopia without incident.

Hudson shares a glance with Ford, then:

HUDSON

Nothing worth reporting, sir.

MCGATH

Good -- because we could have a situation developing in the Pacific. Remote sensors are detecting a serious radiation leak from Freedom Point seamount. It's probably a sensor malfunction...

HUDSON

If it isn't, 200,000 megatons worth of nuclear waste will irradiate the ocean.

MCGATH

I'm glad you appreciate the urgency, Captain. I'll expect a complete report in twelve hours.

As McGath reaches for the switch, Ford steps forward.

FORD

Sir -- during the global disarmament of 2009, the UEO assured the world that this could never happen, that encasing the planet's atomic weaponry in a vitrified mountain of silica and cement was absolutely safe.

MCGATH

There are no absolutes, commander. We'll know better next time. Godspeed and good luck.

McGath abruptly switches off. Ford stares at the dead screen in astonishment.

FORD

Next time?

(then:)

The disarmament of 2009 lasted less than three months... the radiation could last two billion years.

HUDSON

Don't you love politics,

Commander?  
          (to helm:)  
Helm, full ahead to Freedom  
Point.

EXT. SEAQUEST - (CGI/STOCK)

as it cruises into the inky depths.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. ECOTOPIA - ESTABLISHING - (CGI)

EXT. ECOTOPIA ORCHARD - DAY

The orchard is full of people manually harvesting fruit. Lucas, wielding a fruit harvester (a metal cage at the end of a long stick) pulls oranges down from a tree. Judging by the basket at his feet and the sweat soaking his clothes, he's been doing this for a while. Scully walks into the orchard and watches him for a moment, pleased, before interrupting him.

SCULLY

What would Secretary McGath say if he knew his official UEO observer was doing manual labor?

LUCAS

Nothing that could be construed as remotely offensive by anyone involved, Ambassador.

SCULLY

You know him well. You're an observer, not a colonist, you don't have to work.

(then:)

And it's Max.

LUCAS

Well then, Max, I will not be the only person in this colony who's not earning his keep.

Scully regards Lucas with equal measures of amusement and respect.

SCULLY

When you've got the orange in the cage, give the pole one sharp yank. It's better for the tree, and doesn't bruise the fruit.

Lucas acknowledges that, and Scully walks away. Lucas gives

his pole a sharp yank, and the fruit comes free easily. He looks for Scully to say something, and sees he's already several rows away. Lucas is about to turn back to his work when he notices ANOTHER WORKER, in a heavy shirt and big hat, peeling away from a tree and heading for Scully. That shouldn't seem out of the ordinary, and yet something troubles Lucas enough that he keeps looking as the worker makes a beeline for Scully, knocking over a basket of oranges and not stopping to pick them up. That's enough for Lucas.

LUCAS

Max!

Scully turns to Lucas, still not seeing the worker coming for him. Lucas starts to run -- and so does the worker. They're converging on Scully when the worker pulls out a plasma weapon.

LUCAS

Get down!

Lucas hurls himself through the air at the worker, and the worker bats him aside. Lucas goes flying, and the worker heads for Scully. But the scuffle has alerted other fieldworkers, and they rush up, grabbing the attacker's arms and legs. As Lucas picks himself up, the attacker's hat flies off, and Lucas stares in astonishment to see ELAINE MORSE.

LUCAS

Constable?

She glares at Lucas, who exchanges a shocked look with Scully. CUT TO:

EXT. OCEAN (CGI)

as SeaQuest streaks through the sea.

INT. SEAQUEST - BRIDGE

Hudson turns to O'Neill.

HUDSON

ETA to Freedom Point.

O'NEILL

Four hours, sixteen minutes,  
sir.

Henderson looks up from her console at Hudson.

HENDERSON

Captain, if we continue at this speed, we risk destabilizing the magnetic containment of our fusion core.

HUDSON

And if we don't get to Freedom Point in time, you'll need a Geiger counter to eat a tuna fish sandwich. Maintain speed.

O'NEILL

Captain -- transmission coming in from Ecotopia. It's Ambassador Scully.

HUDSON

Put him up.

Scully's face fills the VIDSCREEN.

SCULLY

Sorry to trouble you, Captain, but we have a problem. Elaine Morse tried to kidnap me again in yet another blatant violation of my UEO protections. We have her in custody awaiting your instructions.

Hudson grimaces.

HUDSON

Hold her until I get there.

Hudson signs off.

FORD

I'll go, sir.

HUDSON

I appreciate the gesture, but Elaine Morse is my problem. Forever, it seems.

(then:)

Assess the situation at Freedom Point. Do whatever you think is

necessary. I'll catch up with you later.

Hudson starts to go, when Ford stops him.

FORD

Sir, did Constable Morse know Max Scully before two days ago?

HUDSON

Not that I know of. Why do you ask?

FORD

Nothing, sir. Just a feeling. Forget I said anything.

But it's clear Hudson's won't. Hudson leaves, Ford settles into his seat at the command console, where we PAN down to SEE the ELECTRONIC DEVICE GLOWING underneath. CUT TO:

EXT. ECOTOPIA - (CGI)

as a SeaQuest SeaSpeeder swoops down towards a DARK ECOTOPIA.

INT. ECOTOPIA - NIGHT

as Hudson and Scully walk through the forest.

HUDSON

Nice amusement park you've got here. You've even reproduced the sound of crickets.

SCULLY

Those are crickets, Captain. They soothe us to sleep at night and become a lizard's breakfast in the morning. They are simply a small part of a vibrant, natural eco-system.

HUDSON

If this was a natural eco-system, we'd all be drowning.

They stop outside a primitive dwelling, all dirt and thatched roof.

SCULLY

She's inside, having a cup of herbal tea.

HUDSON

You call that custody?

SCULLY

We don't have jails on Ecotopia, Captain. Besides, as you pointed out, we are at the bottom of the ocean. Where is she going to go?

Hudson takes a deep breath and heads for the door.

INT. DWELLING - NIGHT

where Morse sits at a table, arms folded under her chest, ignoring the tea in front of her. Lucas sits across from her, drinking his tea.

MORSE

How can you follow Scully, knowing what he is?

LUCAS

I'm not following him, it's the promise of Ecotopia I believe in.

MORSE

That promise was written in blood, Ensign. It's not worth your faith.

That's when Hudson walks in. Lucas stands up.

LUCAS

Captain.

HUDSON

At ease, Ensign.

(to Morse:)

You're under arrest for attempted kidnapping.

MORSE

You can't be serious, Oliver. You'd arrest me, and let a mass murderer go free?

HUDSON

You can walk out with me  
peacefully or in restraints,  
it's your call.

Morse stands up slowly, glaring at him.

MORSE

If I was wearing a teddy, your  
fantasy would be complete.

Lucas stifles a grin. Before Hudson can reply, Scully steps forward.

SCULLY

That won't be necessary,  
Captain, I won't press charges.

MORSE

(to Scully:)  
I don't need any favors from a  
killer.

That strikes a nerve, as she knew it would.

SCULLY

This isn't about justice,  
Elaine, it's about rejection.  
How many other men are you  
stalking for dumping you first?

Morse stiffens, and avoiding Hudson's glare, walks out.

SCULLY

Consider yourself lucky you  
were never involved with her.

Scully walks away. Hudson stares furiously out the window.  
Lucas approaches.

HUDSON

I understand you were  
instrumental in her  
apprehension.

LUCAS

I don't feel good about it,  
sir.

HUDSON

Don't worry -- she'll get even.

Hudson walks out. And on Lucas' apprehension, we CUT TO:

INT. SEAQUEST - CAFETERIA

Henderson sits with O'Neill and Piccolo, her laptop open but ignored.

HENDERSON

I can't believe Lucas would just leave like that, even for a short assignment, without saying good-bye.

O'NEILL

It's the way I'd do it. No muss, no fuss.

PICCOLO

No way. You'd be wandering the hauls, crying like a baby and hugging everyone in sight.

O'NEILL

True, but to maintain my rugged self-image, I have to believe I'd do it his way.

HENDERSON

It's just not like Lucas.

PICCOLO

Maybe you didn't really know him. Maybe none of us did.

Henderson looks at Piccolo, surprised and a little offended.

HENDERSON

What is that supposed to mean?

PICCOLO

I thought I knew Brody until Captain Hudson made me clean out his quarters. I found this.

He hands Henderson a SMALL DISC. Curious, she puts it into her laptop.

THE LAPTOP VIDSCREEN

comes to life, showing a beautiful, beaming young woman.

WOMAN

I'm going to keep this short, Jim, so you can't possibly mistake my answer. Yes! Of course I'll marry you. I love you. End of message, beginning of new life.

The screen goes blank.

BACK TO SCENE

Henderson and O'Neill stare at the screen in shock.

HENDERSON

Brody was engaged?

O'NEILL

I never knew.

PICCOLO

Makes you wonder just how much we really know about anybody.

Piccolo leaves. And on Henderson and O'Neill, still reeling, we CUT TO:

EXT. FREEDOM POINT SEAMOUNT - (CGI)

SeaQuest approaches a MASSIVE CONCRETE PYRAMID that all but dwarfs the sub. Etched into the concrete are the words FREEDOM POINT SEAMOUNT. More than just a nuclear waste dump, this is a monument.

INT. SEAQUEST - BRIDGE

The crew is at their stations, Fredricks at weapons, Ford at the con.

FORD

Mr. O'Neill, full sensor scan.

O'Neill doesn't like what he's reading.

O'NEILL

It's bad, sir. WKSRS are detecting a diffused radiation leak, approximately 70% above normal background levels.

FORD

Can you pinpoint the source?

O'NEILL

That will take some time.

FORD

I need to know now.

That's when the LIGHTS FAIL, and the CONSOLES go crazy.

FORD

What the hell---?

(to Henderson:)

Report.

HENDERSON

I'm detecting enormous energy fluctuations throughout the ship.

FORD

Is it the radiation?

HENDERSON

It can't be. The hull is designed to absorb a lot more radiation than this.

FORD

Then what's causing this?

HENDERSON

I don't know, Commander. I've never seen anything like it.

And as we PUSH IN on the GLOWING ELECTRONIC DEVICE under Ford's console, we CUT TO:

INT. ECOTOPIA - CONTROL CENTER

The Freedom Point Seamount is on an large VIDSCREEN. TYLER, 30s, one of a dozen people at a large CONSOLE, turns to Scully.

TYLER

We have control of SeaQuest.

SCULLY

Very good. Begin diverting energy and realigning the power

grid.  
                   (to another tech:)  
 Shut down communications.  
                   (to another tech:)  
 Helm, full stop.

The various techs nod affirmatively and carry out their orders.

INT. SEAQUEST - BRIDGE

Everyone is jerked forward as the ship ABRUPTLY STOPS.

PICCOLO  
 I've lost helm control. We're  
 at full stop.

Ford's hands fly over his console.

FORD  
 Initiating emergency over-ride.  
 Shifting helm control to--

He slams his fist against his console.

FORD  
 My console is dead.  
                   (then:)  
 Mr. O'Neill, send a distress  
 call, UEO emergency band.

O'Neill tears off his headset in frustration.

O'NEILL  
 I can't, sir. Communications  
 are down. Only the WSKRS are  
 responding.

FREDRICKS  
 I'm getting reports from all  
 decks. Every system on SeaQuest  
 is failing -- including life  
 support.

The crew share worried looks as the deadly implication sinks in. Ford turns to Henderson.

FORD  
 Where is all the power going?

HENDERSON

I don't know -- my console is offline, I'm not getting any more readings.

FORD

Get down to engineering. Find out what the hell is going on.

HENDERSON

Yes sir.

Henderson bolts out. And on Ford's frustration, we CUT TO:

EXT. OCEAN (CGI/STOCK)

Hudson's SeaSpeeder wends its way through the depths.

INT. SEASPEEDER

Hudson pilots the SeaSpeeder. Morse sits behind him silently.

HUDSON

We'll be back at SeaQuest in two hours.

(then:)

And don't even think about trying to use the plasma pistol in your boot. I haven't forgotten our first date.

She scowls at him. He read her mind.

HUDSON

This time, you'll stay in the brig.

MORSE

While a killer goes free.

HUDSON

Alexander Bourne killed a hundred times more people than Scully when his fleet subducted San Diego. I haven't noticed you invading Macronesia.

MORSE

Maybe I'm building up to it.

Hudson sets the controls on auto and turns to face her.

HUDSON

And maybe you've got a personal agenda that's clouding your judgment.

MORSE

(sarcastic:)

That's it exactly. I attempted a capital crime in a fit of pique over an ex-lover who kicked me out of his bed fifteen years ago.

(then:)

Oliver, I've risked my career, my freedom, my life to take this man down. Do you think I'd do all that for nothing?

That stops Hudson. He knows her to be driven, obsessive, single-minded... but this tops anything he's ever seen.

HUDSON

I'm listening.

She takes a deep breath. This isn't easy.

MORSE

Scully and I were lovers, yes, but more importantly, we were comrades, working together with Green Brigade to stop a chemical plant that threatened to pollute half the Eastern Seaboard.

HUDSON

I have hard time imagining you as a Greenie.

MORSE

As I said, it was a long time ago, and we were on the right side. But palms were greased, promises were broken, and the plant was going in. We held an emergency meeting to figure out how to stop it.

HUDSON

I'm sure Scully was full of good ideas.

MORSE

A brilliant one, actually. Simple, direct, and utterly amoral. He said we should kill the directors of the chemical company, keep killing them until they elected a board that would stop the project.

HUDSON

That must have gone over well.

MORSE

He was shouted down. Later that night, he apologized, said the frustration had made him a little nuts. But I saw the look in his eyes when he proposed mass murder. He meant it. Individual human lives meant nothing compared to the cause.

HUDSON

Anything for the greater good.

MORSE

I left him that night, never saw him again. When he finally turned to terrorism, I wasn't surprised, just glad it wasn't on a larger scale. And when I thought he was dead, I was relieved.

Hudson and Morse share a look. At least he understands her now.

MORSE

I don't know what he's planning, Oliver. But if Ecotopia is paradise, Scully is the serpent.

HUDSON

I'm still a UEO officer, Elaine. You've convinced me, now convince them.

He turns back to the controls. She stews.

EXT. FREEDOM POINT SEAMOUNT (CGI)

The SeaQuest stopped in front of it.

INT. SEAQUEST - ENGINEERING (CGI)

Ford rushes onto the engineering deck and searches out Henderson amid the chaos. She's at a console beside the FUSION CORE ENGINE, a HORIZONTAL TUBES RADIATING ENERGY. Because life support is offline, the crewmembers are SWEATING and BREATHING HARD.

FORD

What's happening to our power?

HENDERSON

I still don't know.

FORD

I need answers, Lieutenant,  
tell me what you know, not what  
you don't.

His words are like a slap, and he regrets it the moment after he says it.

HENDERSON

Yes, sir.

(then:)

The fusion engines are  
generating power, but for some  
reason, energy is being  
diverted from essential  
systems.

FORD

Can we get life support back  
online?

HENDERSON

That's the least of our  
problems. The power  
fluctuations are de-stabilizing  
the magnetic containment field  
around the fusion core.

The implication for Ford sinks in fast.

FORD

If we can't contain the fusion core, SeaQuest will blow and take half of Freedom Point with it.

Suddenly, the ship is ROCKED by what SOUNDS like an EXPLOSION. Ford whips out his comm unit.

FORD

Ford to Bridge -- what was that?

INT. SEAQUEST - BRIDGE

Fredricks is at the weapons station.

FREDRICKS

Forward plasma lasers have engaged. We're firing on Freedom Point.

On Ford's disbelief, we CUT TO:

EXT. FREEDOM POINT - (CGI)

SeaQuest is firing her lasers into Freedom Point, but the beams are STRONGER, BRIGHTER, and MORE POWERFUL than they've ever been before... and the beams are BLAZING THROUGH the CEMENT.

INT. SEAQUEST - BRIDGE - ENGINEERING / EXT. SEAQUEST  
INTERCUT AS NECESSARY

O'Neill scans his console.

O'NEILL

Data from the WKSRS indicates the plasma lasers are...  
(then, disbelieving:)  
Three hundred percent stronger than normal... and increasing in intensity.

FORD

Shut them off.

FREDRICKS

I can't.

And on Ford's frustration and fury, we CUT TO:

INT. ECOTOPIA - CONTROL CENTER

The image of the lasers firing into Freedom Point is on the vidscreen.

SCULLY

Status.

TYLER

Firing sequence initiated.  
Vitrification shell breached,  
anticipating contact with  
plutonium in 43 minutes.

SCULLY

Forty three minutes, gentlemen.

Scully put his hand on Tyler's shoulder and addresses everyone.

SCULLY

And the second age of man  
begins. Maybe this time, we'll  
get it right.

And on Scully's determination, we FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. FREEDOM POINT (CGI)

SeaQuest is still firing on Freedom Point. The HOLE has grown and is GLOWING RED HOT. Enormous FISSURES are CRACKLING ACROSS the cement all around it.

INT. SEAQUEST - ENGINEERING (CGI)

Everyone is down to skin or tank-tops as the life support and environmental conditions rapidly decay. The FUSION CORE PULSATES WITH ENERGY. Henderson is talking into a communicator as, behind her, Dagwood wheels in a TORPEDO.

HENDERSON

The lasers are drawing all of our power, eroding the containment field around the engine's fusion core.

FORD

Is there anything we can do?

Henderson unlocks a panel on the torpedo and starts working with the wires.

HENDERSON

I'm dismantling the EMP torpedoes and using their electromagnetic pulse generators to create a containment field.

FORD

Good work, Henderson. You've bought us some time.

HENDERSON

The generators are only designed to create a burst of electromagnetic energy, not a sustained field. We've bought an hour at best...by then we'll all be unconscious anyway.

INT. SEAQUEST - BRIDGE

Ford, grim, clicks off the comm and turns to Piccolo, Fredricks, O'Neill and Dagwood.

PICCOLO

What's the good news?

FORD

I'm afraid there isn't any. SeaQuest is obviously under someone else's control. My guess is that we are being used to initiate a massive fission reaction within the nuclear waste.

FREDRICKS

SeaQuest is turning Freedom Point into a gigantic nuclear bomb.

O'NEILL

A 200,000 megaton bomb. If it explodes, it will...

O'Neill, his voice shaking, can barely say it.

O'NEILL

...plunge the world into nuclear winter and a second ice age. The entire surface of the earth will be devastated.

As the crew absorbs the dire possibility:

FREDRICKS

There is one way to stop the lasers.

(off their looks:)

Let SeaQuest blow.

FORD

We'd still destroy the vitrification shell -- the pressure of the ocean at this depth alone will create critical mass anyway. I can't take that chance.

PICCOLO

So even if we die...we're screwed.

Ford can't argue with that. CUT TO:

INT. ECOTOPIA - CONTROL CENTER

as Scully rushes in to find men his frantically working the console.

SCULLY

What's wrong?

TYLER

Diverting the power to lasers has eroded SeaQuest's fusion core containment field.

SCULLY

You told me SeaQuest could handle this.

TYLER

I thought it could. But I was working from ten year old specs... I guess some details of her energy conduit system changed when she was retrofitted.

SCULLY

You guess?

Scully tries to control his anger.

SCULLY

We need someone who knows.

And on Scully's determined look, we CUT TO:

EXT. SEASPEEDER (CGI/STOCK)

as it careens through the deep.

HUDSON'S VOICE

SeaQuest, this is Hudson, respond.

INT. SHUTTLE

Hudson barks into the communicator. Morse is lost in her own thoughts.

HUDSON

SeaQuest, this is Hudson,

respond.

He slams down the communicator.

HUDSON

Radiation must be interfering  
with communications.

Morse sits up, suddenly alert.

MORSE

What radiation?

HUDSON

From Freedom Point. SeaQuest is  
there, investigating a leak.

MORSE

Scully.

HUDSON

I suppose he's also responsible  
for global warming, near-  
sightedness, and every sock  
you've ever lost.

Morse wants to throttle him, but controls herself.

MORSE

When I was at Ecotopia, I saw  
them scanning a drillsub for  
radiation. That's too big a  
coincidence for even you to  
stomach. Scully is responsible  
for that leak.

HUDSON

If it's true, I'll send him the  
repair bill. My job is to get  
back to SeaQuest and solve the  
problem.

MORSE

The problem is back there -- on  
Ecotopia.

HUDSON

You want me to turn around,  
abandoning SeaQuest and  
disobeying orders, because you  
have a hunch.

MORSE

Yes. You're a stubborn ass,  
Oliver, you can't see past your  
own rigid, moral code.

(then:)

That's why I loved you... and  
why I couldn't live with you.

HUDSON

The feeling was mutual.

MORSE

You loved me and believed in me  
enough to ask me to marry you  
once.

HUDSON

Twice.

MORSE

Whatever. I don't think you've  
stopped believing in me now.  
I'm asking you to take my word  
over your sense of duty and  
honor. I'm asking for your  
faith.

Hudson studies her, then sighs, hitting a few switches.

HUDSON

At least you aren't asking me  
to marry you.

She smiles. He smiles.

EXT. OCEAN (CGI)

The SeaSpeeder makes a sharp turn in the direction it came.  
CUT TO:

INT. ECOTOPIA - MAIN STREET

as Scully and Lucas rush down the street.

SCULLY

We intercepted a distress call  
from SeaQuest at Freedom Point  
Seamount. Life support is  
failing, and she's about to  
lose her fusion core. We've  
tried to reach them, but

there's no response.

LUCAS

I might be able to establish a datalink -- and take control of the ship from here.

SCULLY

Is that possible?

Lucas eyes Scully suspiciously.

LUCAS

Once I get UEO confirmation that what you've told me is true, yes.

EXT. FREEDOM POINT (CGI)

SeaQuest is still FIRING. The HOLE in Freedom Point is now HUGE, chunks of CEMENT falling away to reveal a BALL OF ENERGY GLOWING INSIDE.

INT. SEAQUEST - BRIDGE

Ford and O'Neill are slumped over their INACTIVE CONSOLES; Piccolo, Fredricks and the other bridge staff are laying on the floor. All are barely conscious. A WHISPER comes from the corridor.

HENDERSON

Jonathan.

Ford struggles to turn his head...and sees Henderson crawling onto the bridge. He reaches out to her and falls to the floor, too weak to move.

FORD

Lonnie.

She reaches her hand out to him, but the gulf between them is too far. That's when she's lifted off her feet...and into Dagwood's arms. He's apparently unaffected by the low oxygen. He carries her to Ford and set her gently down beside him. Their hands meet. Fredricks, watching this closely, is moved. She looks to Piccolo.

FREDRICKS

I had no idea.

She passes out and slumps over, her head falling on

Piccolo's shoulder. Piccolo looks up at Dagwood.

PICCOLO

Guess you're in charge now.

DAGWOOD

Me?

Piccolo passes out, his cheek resting on Fredrick's head. And on Dagwood, looking utterly lost, we CUT TO:

INT. ECOTOPIA - CONTROL CENTER

MCGATH is on the vidscreen. Lucas and Scully are at the main console. Lucas has his PERSONAL LAPTOP with him.

MCGATH

We've been unable to make contact with SeaQuest since it arrived at Freedom Point seamount. We have to assume our worst fears are true and they are facing a catastrophic situation.

LUCAS

I can try to take control of SeaQuest using the classified remote codes, but I need your authorization.

MCGATH

You have it, Mr. Wolenczak. Take whatever measures are necessary to prevent a fusion core failure.

McGath clicks off. Lucas flips open his computer and his fingers fly over the keys. Scully leans over him. Lucas gives him a look, and Scully steps a safe distance away.

LUCAS

I'm online with SeaQuest. Establishing datalink.

Suddenly Lucas' screen is alive with STREAMS OF DATA. He's stunned by what he's seeing.

LUCAS

Containment field collapse in 67 seconds.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. SEAQUEST - ENGINEERING (CGI)

The FUSION CORE ENGINE is PULSATING, the energy stream CRACKLING with what looks like TINY LIGHTNING BOLTS. It's unstable.

Lucas works the keyboard.

LUCAS

There was a sudden, massive redirection of energy that fried the power conduits to the pulse generators.

SCULLY

Can you prevent the containment field from failing?

LUCAS

The maglev system operates on an independent power grid -- I'm redirecting the fusion core stabilizers through it. That will provide an uninterrupted flow of energy to the containment field.

The CRACKLING BOLTS inside the FUSION CORE dissipate, the PULSATING ENERGY softens into a STEADY, RADIATING GLOW. END INTERCUT. Lucas leans back, relieved.

LUCAS

It worked. Restoring life support and environmental systems to normal levels.

SCULLY

What happened out there?

LUCAS

I have no idea.

He punches in a few more commands, and doesn't see the relieved look that passes between Scully and Tyler.

LUCAS

I've transmitted our coordinates to the helm and initiated autopilot. SeaQuest

will be here in a few hours.

Lucas snaps his laptop shut and stands up. Scully puts his arm around his shoulders.

SCULLY

You did a good thing today,  
Lucas.

LUCAS

No, Max, you're the one who  
deserves the credit. You saved  
a ship, and a crew, that tried  
to sink you. I'm impressed.

Scully just smiles. As soon as Lucas leaves, Scully's smile drops and he whirls around on Tyler.

SCULLY

Bring SeaQuest back into  
position. Re-engage plasma  
lasers.

TYLER

What about life support?

SCULLY

Maintain at minimal levels --  
better to be vaporized in an  
instant than endure  
suffocation.

And on Scully's look, we CUT TO:

EXT. ECOTOPIA (CGI)

As the seaspeeder docks.

INT. ECOTOPIA DOCKING PORT

Lucas rushes up as Hudson and Morse come through the airlock carrying weapons.

LUCAS

Captain, I got your flash.  
What's so important you can't  
talk over the PAL?

HUDSON

Scully.

MORSE

He's responsible for the leak  
at Freedom Point.

LUCAS

But that doesn't make any  
sense. He just helped me save  
SeaQuest from a containment  
field collapse.

HUDSON

He did what?

Hudson's face tightens.

SCULLY'S VOICE

SeaQuest is very important to  
me, Captain.

Hudson turns to see Scully... and to discover they are  
surrounded by GUARDS leveling plasma rifles at them.

HUDSON

I didn't know plasma rifles  
were part of a balanced eco-  
system.

SCULLY

Funny how people assume that  
simply because we live  
according to ecological  
principles, we are without  
defenses.

He plucks Lucas' PAL from him and gestures at a guard, who  
takes away Hudson and Morse's weapons.

MORSE

(to Scully)

I should have pulled the  
trigger when I had you in my  
sights.

SCULLY

And shot through Captain  
Hudson? If you had that much  
faith in your convictions, you  
never would have left me.

HUDSON

What have you done to SeaQuest?

SCULLY

Just borrowed it for a few  
hours, I didn't think you'd  
mind.

Hudson wants to lunge at Scully, but the guards' weapons  
hold him back.

SCULLY

I needed it for a very  
important task. I'm going to  
explode the largest nuclear  
bomb in the world. SeaQuest is  
the trigger.

And off Hudson's fury, go:

EXT. FREEDOM POINT - CGI

where SeaQuest continues to FIRE. The cement has virtually  
fallen away, the nuclear waste glowing like an UNDERWATER  
SUN. And we FADE OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

EXT. FREEDOM POINT - CGI

SeaQuest fires into the BRILLIANT ENERGY FIELD, which seems to GROW IN INTENSITY.

INT. ECOTOPIA - CONTROL ROOM

The image of SeaQuest fills the vidscreen as Lucas, Hudson, and Morse look on in horror. Scully looks on, too, but his look is much more ambivalent.

SCULLY

I used to think there was hope for mankind, that somehow we would finally realize we were destroying the earth. But how much faith can you have in a people so spiritually bankrupt they appoint a mass murderer as their savior?

(to Morse:)

You see, Elaine, we always did look at the world the same way. I just had the courage to act on what I saw.

She'd lunge at him if she could, but the guards' weapons are still trained on them.

LUCAS

Don't you realize what a nuclear explosion of this size will do?

SCULLY

I suppose it will rattle a few windows, break some knick-knacks, and throw a cloud of dirt into the air so thick no sunlight can penetrate, thrusting the world into a new ice age and eliminating human life from the face of the earth.

They stare at him, stunned by his plan.

HUDSON

Except for your chosen few, of course.

SCULLY

When the ice recedes, the descendants of the original Ecotopians will return to the surface to repopulate the earth. But they will have been taught for generations to respect their planet, not rape it.

HUDSON

Hard to see how global genocide fits in with the Ecotopian ideal.

SCULLY

When my fellow colonists discover what I've done, I fully expect them to banish me from this place.

MORSE

You'll die with the rest of the world.

Scully nods. He's accepted that.

LUCAS

Then stop this insanity before Freedom Point reaches critical mass.

Scully sighs, yearning for something he can't allow himself.

SCULLY

Moses knew he'd never see the promised land. Don't you think part of him said "give it up, go party with the heathens down at the golden calf?" But he'd pledged his life to a higher cause, and he had to see it through, no matter the personal cost.

He turns to the vidscreen and watches the nuclear material

glowing red. And on his intense stare, CUT TO:

EXT. FREEDOM POINT - CGI

SeaQuest is maintaining plasma laser fire. The energy field is growing, SeaQuest bathed in its intense light.

INT. SEAQUEST - BRIDGE

Crewmembers are unconscious all over the bridge, laying over consoles, sprawled on the floor, slumped in their chairs. Dagwood, forlorn and scared, wanders among them. He gently nudges Henderson.

DAGWOOD

Wake up.

He lifts up Ford's head.

DAGWOOD

Commander, open your eyes.

He shakes Piccolo.

DAGWOOD

Tony, please don't leave me alone.

Piccolo slumps forward. Dagwood looks up and lets out a MOURNFUL, LONELY CRY, that ECHOS throughout the bridge.

DARWIN'S VOICE

Dagwood not alone.

Dagwood whirls around to see Darwin bobbing in the moon pool. Tremendously relieved, he rushes over.

DARWIN

Dagwood have Darwin.

DAGWOOD

I'm scared.

DARWIN

Darwin scared, too. Not so much now.

DAGWOOD

Me, too.

And on Dagwood stroking his friend, we CUT TO:

INT. ECOTOPIA - CONTROL CENTER

Scully stares at the vidscreen, watching Freedom Point melt away.

SCULLY

Report.

TYLER

We're nearly at critical mass.

SCULLY

Excellent. Prepare to seal the colony.

Lucas glares at Scully.

LUCAS

Is this how you plan to silence the 300 screams in your head -- by drowning them out with a hundred billion more?

HUDSON

Forget it, Ensign. You're talking to a lunatic bent on creating pain and misery.

(to Morse:)

Reminds me of our first date.

She meets his gaze. She gets the message.

HUDSON

But at least after this, I won't need penicillin.

MORSE

You bastard!

She whirls around to knee him. As she brings her knee up, Hudson reaches into her boot and whips out her PLASMA PISTOL, firing first at Scully, who's BLOWN BACK AGAINST THE WALL UNCONSCIOUS, then at Tyler, who FLIES OVER THE CONSOLE. Morse and Lucas, following his cue, take out the stunned guards in several efficient moves. Morse grabs their plasma rifles, Lucas rushes to the console.

LUCAS

Shutting down the plasma lasers, restoring life support.

(then:)

Oh my God...

HUDSON

What is it?

Lucas turns, his face ashen.

LUCAS

It's too late. I can't reverse the damage. It's going to reach critical mass.

Hudson and Morse share a look.

MORSE

There has to be a way to stop it.

LUCAS

There's never been a disaster like this before. There aren't any proven methods for containing a reaction that big.

HUDSON

Then make up some new ones.

Lucas stares at the screen, his mind working.

LUCAS

Okay. Maybe we can control the reaction the same way a nuclear reactor does. Blast graphite into the core.

(to Hudson:)

It could absorb the neutrons and cool it down. But it's a longshot, and we're going to need a lot of graphite.

HUDSON

My whole life has been a longshot.

MORSE

Now I know why fate stuck me on Perseid mining colony for three years.

She hands Hudson her rifles and leans over the console.

MORSE

I can access the travel logs of  
every hauler in the sea.

She works the keys.

MORSE

There's a hauler at Tilimer  
Ridge bound for Shanghai with  
400 tons of graphite.

HUDSON

(to Lucas:)

Tell them to maintain their  
position. We'll rendezvous with  
them and take their hauler.

LUCAS

Yes, sir.

Morse hands Lucas a plasma rifle.

MORSE

If Scully gives you any  
trouble, just--

She motions to Scully, but he's GONE. She scowls.

HUDSON

You'll catch him. Later.

Hudson grabs her by the arm and leads her out. Lucas  
frantically works the console, and we CUT TO:

EXT. OCEAN - CGI

The SeaSpeeder is docked to a hauler.

INT. HAULER

The small hauler crew is filing out past Morse and Hudson,  
who addresses the HAULER CAPTAIN.

HUDSON

We owe you a debt of gratitude.

HAULER CAPTAIN

You owe me \$78 million.

As soon as they are gone, Morse secures the AIRLOCK behind  
them. Hudson faces Morse.

HUDSON

Go. I can do this alone.

MORSE

First time I've heard you say  
that without two hundred guests  
and a justice-of-the-peace  
present.

HUDSON

Elaine...

She pushes past him to the con.

MORSE

Are you going to steer or am I?

Hudson stifles a smile and we CUT TO:

EXT. FREEDOM POINT - (CGI)

SeaQuest at full stop, bathed in the glow of what remains  
of Freedom Point.

INT. SEAQUEST - BRIDGE

The crew slowly awakens. Dagwood, smiling, moves among  
them, shaking them and propping them up in their seats.  
Ford helps Henderson up.

FORD

Are you okay?

HENDERSON

I'm alive. That's a start.

Fredricks and Piccolo share awkward looks as they wake up,  
more or less in each other's arms. Fredricks quickly gets  
up and goes to her console.

FREDRICKS

We're back on line at full  
stop. Lasers disengaged. Fusion  
core containment field stable.

Ford turns and the first thing he notices is the VIDSCREEN,  
and the GLOWING MASS in front of them.

FORD

My God.

O'NEILL  
Sensors show...  
(disbelieving:)  
It's reached critical mass.

FORD  
How long to we have?

O'NEILL  
A few minutes at best.

Fredricks is reading her console. Astonished:

FREDRICKS  
There's something out there.

PICCOLO  
No kidding.

She shoots him a look, then:

FREDRICKS  
A sub, hauler-class, 3000  
meters astern.

O'NEILL  
They're hailing us.

FORD  
On screen.

Hudson and Morse appear on screen.

HUDSON  
I hope you enjoyed your nap,  
Commander. Now get SeaQuest out  
of there.

FORD  
Captain, you're heading  
straight into a massive fission  
reaction.

HUDSON  
I'm well aware of that,  
Commander. You have your  
orders.

FORD  
What about you, sir?

HUDSON

We have no intention of killing ourselves.

He clicks off. Ford turns to Piccolo.

FORD

You heard the Captain, Mr. Piccolo.

PICCOLO

Yes, sir.

EXT. FREEDOM POINT - CGI

as the hauler heads straight towards the heart of the energy source, and SeaQuest veers away.

INT. HAULER

The hauler is filled with the glow.

HUDSON

Initiating auto-pilot.

He hits some switches. Something is wrong.

MORSE

What is it?

He slams his fist on the console.

HUDSON

78 million. This piece of junk isn't worth 20.

She looks over his shoulder at the console.

MORSE

Auto-pilot failed. We're going to have to steer this straight in ourselves.

HUDSON

Wrong.

He suddenly whirls around and DECKS HER.

HUDSON

It only takes one to steer.

He catches her before she falls. He gives her a gentle kiss

on the cheek, then drags her to an escape pod, opens the door, and pushes her in. He pulls the launch lever and:

EXT. HAULER (CGI)

as an ESCAPE POD shoots out and away from the hauler.

INT. HAULER

Hudson turns back to the console. Behind him, the OTHER ESCAPE POD HATCH opens. SCULLY leaps out and tackles Hudson, slamming him into a bulkhead. Hudson drops, head bleeding.

SCULLY

You don't understand, Captain.  
The world has already been  
destroyed. I'm saving it.

Scully goes for the console, but Hudson throws himself at him, and they struggle viciously, violently, two bears locked in mortal combat. Ultimately, Hudson hits Scully with a powerful right hook that knocks him cold. The VIDSCREEN is filled with LIGHT. Hudson makes a mad dash for the escape pod.

EXT. OCEAN - CGI

An escape pod shoots out the rear of the hauler, which surges ahead, disappearing into the ENERGY FIELD with BLAST OF LIGHT. The ENERGY FIELD RAPIDLY DIMS.

INT. SEAQUEST - BRIDGE

O'Neill reads his console.

O'NEILL

Fission reaction neutralized,  
Commander, radiation levels  
dropping.

FREDRICKS

Detecting two escape pods, aft  
7000 meters and closing.

FORD

Prepare grapnel torpedoes.  
(to Piccolo:)  
Helm, plot an intercept course.

PICCOLO

Aye, sir.

And on the crew, sharing looks of relief, we DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SEAQUEST - CGI

It hovers peacefully by the ruins of Freedom Point. Several UEO subs and SeaCrabs work around the ruins.

INT. SEAQUEST - WARD ROOM

Hudson and Morse face McGath on the VIDSCREEN.

MCGATH

I speak for the entire UEO  
general assembly when I thank  
you both for your heroic  
actions.

HUDSON

Just don't give that hauler  
captain a penny over 20  
million.

MCGATH

Constable, I hope you'll  
consider rejoining the UEO.  
The badge is yours if you want  
it.

MORSE

I appreciate the offer, Mr.  
Secretary, but I think I prefer  
working freelance.

MCGATH

Pity. The two of you make a  
hell of a team.

McGath signs off. Hudson turns to Morse.

HUDSON

He has a point.

MORSE

Yeah, we weren't too bad.

HUDSON

Make you think, doesn't it.

They both look at each other, then they both start to laugh. CUT TO:

INT. SEAQUEST - BRIDGE

As Hudson strides up in.

HUDSON

Report.

FORD

Radiation levels holding steady at point eight grays. A UEO containment team has arrived to revitrify the dump.

HUDSON

Very good.

Hudson spots Lucas at his station, working on the electronic device Scully hid on the bridge.

HUDSON

Ensign, what are you doing here?

LUCAS

Scully was able to take over SeaQuest by inductively coupling our computer's datastream and rerouting it through this transmitter. I'm reshielding the datalinks so that can't happen again.

Hudson scowls. That wasn't what he meant.

HUDSON

I understood you had an assignment on Ecotopia.

LUCAS

Yes, sir. I spoke with the secretary general and suggested since the UEO is taking over Ecotopia, I'd be more useful on SeaQuest.

HUDSON

I thought you believed Ecotopia was the future.

LUCAS

It may be, sir. But until then,  
somebody has to watch out for  
the present.

Hudson accepts that and moves back to his position.

INT. SEAQUEST - FREDRICKS' QUARTERS

Fredricks is working through a series of t'ai chi exercises when she's interrupted by a knock at the door. Scowling -- this is a woman who doesn't like to be interrupted -- she answers the door to find Piccolo standing there.

FREDRICKS

Yes?

PICCOLO

I want to tell you something.

She opens the door wider and lets him in. He hesitates.

FREDRICKS

Spit it out, sailor.

PICCOLO

You know, I'm studying for the  
lieutenant's exam. I'm going to  
be a subfighter pilot.

FREDRICKS

You want to replace Brody.  
(off his nod)

And?

PICCOLO

Lieutenant, there's something  
you need to know.

She regards him seriously, then gestures to a chair. They both sit. Piccolo fidgets nervously, then:

PICCOLO

My father owned a tiny doughnut  
shop in Brooklyn. As long as he  
lived, he was in that store  
every morning by three o'clock.

FREDRICKS

What are you talking about?

He keeps talking, barreling along.

PICCOLO

But he always came home at seven to wake me up, smelling of sugar and grease. I still can't pass a bakery without thinking he's right next to me.

FREDRICKS

Piccolo, stop.  
(off his silence)  
Why are you telling me this?

PICCOLO

'Cause one day I may fly off in that specter and never come back. Brody died among strangers. I don't want to.

She takes that in, understanding. She nods for him to begin.

PICCOLO

My mother was voted most beautiful girl in her high school class...

And as he launches into what's obviously going to be a long set of stories, go:

EXT. SEAQUEST

The mighty boat pulls away from Freedom Point and we:

FADE OUT.

THE END