# Ninety Degrees South

SEASON TWO
EPISODE EIGHT: BRIGADOON part II

DRAFT 1: APRIL 12, 2022

DRAFT 2: APRIL 21, 2022

FINAL DRAFT: MAY 31, 2022

by Brian M Bradley

#### **INTRO SONG**

#### **KYLIE**

Previously, on Ninety Degrees South.

#### **CLIPS FROM PART I PLAY**

#### **KYLIE**

And now the conclusion.

## WE HEAR TOOLS BEING FLUG AROUND. ZEKE MUTTERING AND CURSING UNDER HIS BREATH.

#### **EMERY**

You know, Kylie could diagnose the issue in half the time.

#### **BASS**

Mister Waters, he wants to do it this way. Doesn't want our station to find out he's been talking to. . .long story. Just, let him finish up. I think he's almost done.

#### WE CONTINUE TO HEAR TOOLS DROPPING ON CEMENT

#### ZEKE

Damn it! Should have put up the cargo door when we got in.

#### **BASS**

Doesn't do anybody any good to second guess now Zeke. How bad are we looking? What did they do to our transport?

#### **ZEKE**

I thought they messed up the transaxle something bad. Turns out it just has a minor hydraulic leak. Patched the line easy. The driveshaft, whole other matter. Took damage and is going to need to be repaired. Also. . .the batteries are 100% drained. Not just these, those two cargo movers nearby, also have drained batteries.

#### **BASS**

Why don't we just take of one this stations vehicles back to Amundsen Scott, or scavenge the parts to fix it?

#### **EMERY**

No good! Remember what Doctor Waynewright told us. Anything they took with them outside of a mile, went all shimmery and disappeared. We might get to that mile marker, but then we'd be back to square one. We have to fix it with materials we brought with us.

#### ZEKE

I can repair the driveshaft, but it's going to take time. Recharging the batteries, I have no idea how we gonna do that with just stuff we brought.

#### **BASS**

Mister Waters: how much of this. . .situation around here do you understand?

#### **EMERY**

Um, I've read everything on the topic from Hawking, Kaku, Dyson & Rosseland. More importantly I write Star Trek fan fiction, so I think I have all the bases covered!

If we were to take one of the station's vehicles that wasn't affected by the creatures. Use that battery to 'Jump Start' the noddy; would the recharge get our alternator running and generating our own electrical charge?

#### **EMERY**

[Ponders a moment] yeah . . . Yeah! That should work. There might be a bit of a drain from any electricity generated from the future battery, but with the Noddy's alternator running; we make up that difference no problem on the way home! Good thinking Deputy!

#### ZEKE

How much time we have left before this place Copperfield's on us?

#### **BASS**

Uh; Twenty-five hours.

#### **ZEKE**

One day. One day to weld up this driveshaft? I should have gone into plumbing like my uncle told me. Alright, gonna get to it. Em, hand me that tool kit over there!

#### UNZIP OF A JACKET, RADIO PUSH TO TALK

#### **BASS**

Doctor Lorenz, Waynewright. Where are you?

### **RADIO SQWAK**

#### **JEMMA**

Third floor, Primary Science lab. We found the lead scientist's office. We're trying to access his logs.

#### RADIO SQUAK

You okay down here Zeke?

ZEKE

Yeah Lawman, all good. We got the loading dock door sealed. Emery's computer woman will tell us if those things start to come back. Go make sure they ain't getting into any serious shit up there.

#### **RADIO PUSH TO TALK**

BASS

Mister Waters and I are heading up. We'll fill you in on the repair updates.

## RADIO SQUAK

**BASS** 

Mister Waters?

THE TWO WALK OUT OF THE STATIONS VEHICLE BAY AND DOWN A HALL. WE HEAR A NEW STATION HUM AS THEY ENTER A WIDE, AIRY CENTRAL HUB TO THE STATION, IT HAS PORTIONS NEAR THE WALLS OF ALL FOUR SIDESTHAT ARE OPEN ON ALL THREE OF THE FOUR FLOORS.

**EMERY** 

Let's take the elevator up Deputy.

**BASS** 

Not a good idea. If they should happen to fail while moving, that's more time spent trying to free us. The stairs are right over there.

**EMERY** 

[Pshhhhh] Hey Kylie?

**KYLIE** 

Yes Father?

**EMERY** 

[Proudly]

Run diagnostics on the station's lift systems, please.

**KYLIE** 

One moment. . .

#### **SERIES OF ELECTRONIC BEEPS AND BUZZES**

**KYLIE** 

Routine diagnostics show all systems in the lifts operating within normal acceptable parameters.

**EMERY** 

[Proud Parent]

Thank you, honey!

**KYLIE** 

Happy to help, Father.

**BASS** 

Okay. .the fact that the system's computer is calling you father isn't. . .weird to you?

#### **EMERY**

No. Apparently in the future I develop a sophistic artificial intelligence which gets deployed. I've known for a while now Deputy Marshal, my. . .situation doesn't allow for children. Well, I mean we could always adopt, but. . .creating an intelligence, helping it grown and learn. Taking pride in its accomplishments. . .is pretty much the parenting situation I had imagined, so. . .calling me father is . . .heartwarming to me. Now if I had her calling me Daddy. . .

Okay! Okay point taken, let's not go. . .yeah.

## PUSH OF THE ELEVATOR BUTTON AND THE 'DING' OF THE CAB'S ARRIVAL. DOORS OPEN, GUYS GET IN AND THEN DOORS CLOSE.

BASS

Huh. No buttons.

**EMERY** 

This station is from the future Deputy. You have to start thinking like Chris and me. Ahem. . .level three please.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BEEP AND THEN THE WHRIL OF THE CAB STARTING. MUZAK COMES ON.

**BASS** 

Really? Elevator music? We don't progress beyond. . .elevator music?

**EMERY** 

I like it! Who doesn't like a jaunty tune while riding in an elevator?

**BASS** 

Music off!

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BEEP. MUZAK STOPS PLAYING

**BASS** 

You tell Waynewright or Lorenz that you can grant access?

**EMERY** 

No. I figured it best to not allow them to do anything unless I was around. Not saying I don't trust them. . . . . well, no actually this \*IS\* exactly what I'm saying.

Wise move. Let's keep that tidbit to ourselves. Have them come to you for any of the stations higher functions or downloading.

ELEVATOR ARRIVAL DING AND DOORS OPEN. BOYS WALK OUT INTO THE HALLWAYS AND DOWN A HALL. WE BEGIN TO HEAR WAYNEWRIGHT AND LORENZ TALKING. THE CONVERSASTION BECOMES LOUDER AS THE TWO APPROACH.

LARRY

Now attempting to access file sub-routine. . . A Seven-three.

**JEMMA** 

Still no effect.

**LARRY** 

Switching to file sub routine, C nine-nine.

**JEMMA** 

Requisition & request manifest. I think we're getting closer.

LARRY

File sub routine, D- Fourteen one.

### **KNOCK ON DOOR FRAME**

**BASS** 

What are you looking for?

#### LARRY

## [Frustrated]

Station logs, progress or update reports, systems upgrade lists. Anything that can tell us who these people were and what they were working on. [SIGH] You! Mister Waters! We hired you as the station's internet technology specialist. Conduct your trade on this. . . .frustrating piece of apparatus.

## CHAIR ROLLS OUT AND EMERY SITS. WE HEAR THE ELECTRICAL TOUCH PAD NOISES AND ACKNOWLEDGING BEEP.

#### **KYLIE**

Station logs accessed. Please indicate station individual log to access and timeframe for playback?

#### LARRY

## [Aghast]

**That!.** . . I've been at this for two hours. It took you five seconds to get access.

#### **EMERY**

Remember Doc, I apparently designed and built the station interface systems including the artificial intelligence. If \*I\* wanted to get into a specific system. I'd program it to respond to what I just did. Or I \*will\* program it to respond. . .oh boy, not this again!

#### **LARRY**

Have your machine show us the chief scientists logs from. . .hrm. . .all recordings from the last week of records, chronologically.

#### **EMERY**

Sweetie, would you be so kind as to play back the chief scientists final log entries, going back one week?

KYLIE

Of course! Accessing now. . . . please standby

## **BEEPING AND PROCESSING SOUNDS**

**JEMMA** 

[Whisper to Bass]

Father?

**BASS** 

I'll explain later

**JEMMA** 

Creepy!

WE HEAR A COMPLETION SOUND, AND A WOOSH AS A TWO-DIMENSION HOLOGRAM APPEARS ON A THING SHEET OF SPECIAL PLEXIGLASS. VOICE IS SLIGHTLY AUTOMATED.

#### **SCIENTIST**

Doctor Morgan Nash. Project Tranquility day two thirty-nine. August 9, 2052.

**EMERY** 

[Excited]

OOOHH! Holographic projection capabilities, Sweeeeet!

LARRY JEMMA

Shhhhhhh SHHHHH

#### **SCIENTIST**

Ottawa cleared us to proceed with Phase three. We think we're finally onto something. Utilizing nonlinear vacuum energy extraction, we believe electrical rectification will PROVE the 1993 thermodynamic analysis by Cole and Puthoff. We intend to extract energy and heat from EM zero point radiation by using the Casimir force.

We've created a special apparatus leveraging the works of Doctor's Robert Forward in physics and Doctor Waynewright in Dark Matter research. We created a vacuum fluctuation battery by stacking conducting plates.

We will. . . . apply the same polarity charge to all the plates and create a repulsive force between each one, 80 plates in total, thereby opposing the Casimir force which is acting to press the plates together. As we begin to modify the electrostatic force it should allow the Casimir force to dominate and by proxy, add energy to the electric field between the plates. This, we predict will convert zero-point-energy to electrical energy.

The last uplink that we sent to Beauregard-Lowing indicated that we had a green light to proceed. We've been told that not only is the head of R&D watching, the chairman and the entire board of directors will be in a special session for when we attempt to power up. To say the team has butterflies, would be a bit of an understatement. [chuckles from off camera]

The plan is to proceed in the morning after routine diagnostic checks are completed. Kylie. . . remaining time to completion.

#### **KYLIE**

There is eight hours, twenty-one minutes remaining Doctor Nash. Diagnostics at forty-two percent completion. Upgrades integrating and everything looks favorable thus far.

#### SCIENTIST

Thank you, Kylie. Please wake me & Doctor Carter upon completion. Big day tomorrow!!

#### **BEEP OF ADVANCING TO NEXT LOG**

#### SCIENTIST

## [Angry, Frustrated]

It should have worked! All diagnostics were favorable. All data and projection models showed we had resolved the 120 order of magnitude problem. The Zero-point photons below 1.7 terahertz were all gravitationally active, just as they should have been. There was. . .there was some outside interference. Kylie is off-line and the station A.I. technicians are working to reestablish her mainframes. We created. . .something. We presently have it contained within an electrified and reinforced faraday cage. Thus far we're not seeing any radiation or negative environmental effects.

[to somebody off camera] Why are the light's flickering? Get somebody from maintenance up here to check it out. [Back to camera] I'm still trying to understand what could have caused this interaction. Readings from our probes. . .well they make no sense. There was an introduction of W-Bosen particles at the mid-point of the electrical generation field. That interference wasn't us! Our particle accelerator is only now back online after constant interference and there hasn't been another in Antarctica for almost 30 years.

#### POP AND HISSING FROM OFF-SCREEN. ELECTRICAL ARCH.

#### **SCIENTIST**

Just as quickly as we put one of these out. . . . [Pushes a button on his console] Damage control teams to Science Two. I'll get back to you Ottawa. It's uh. . . August 10, '52. I don't know. . .

#### BEEP OF ADVANCING TO NEXT LOG

#### SCIENTIST

[Scared, trying to keep composure]

Seventeen more people; missing. It's been, uh. . . two days since the experiment failed. One day since. . . whatever it was broke containment. Johannsen, Carter, Meritfield & Yung were in the room when . . . \*it\* escaped. We found. . .parts of Carter. Nothing from the others. Kylie is still not back online. Should be another twelve hours. Our optical light link to the overwatch satellite isn't functioning. It wasn't damaged in the experiment failure so there is no reason why it shouldn't be functioning. One of the DeWalts has a late 20<sup>th</sup> century HAM radio set he rebuilt. Can still get military and various frequencies. At least. . .he should be able. We thought it was Aurora disturbance at first, until we realized. . .we hadn't seen one in days. There are six hundred twenty souls on station. One hundred ninety are not accounted for. I've ordered all staff to barricade in Northside Berths 1,2 and 3.

Nobody has been able to get a good look at. . .whatever this thing is. At this rate, we'll all be gone in two days. It's been reported that every time it comes in close contact with a power source, that source is drained. Flashlights, tablets, workbooks . . . everything with a power core seems to get exhausted in its presence.

I have no idea what it is. We've been going over telemetry from the experiment attempt. We're still not able to make sense of this. Nobody on the continent is presently working with anything dealing with Higgs-Boson particles. August 12, 2052.

#### BEEP OF ADVANCING TO NEXT LOG

#### **SCIENTIST**

[Tired, in shock, Resigned]

August 13, 2052. It's uh. . . Tuesday. Maybe. There are sixteen of us left. Finally, Finally got a look at them. It's them! Not one. Many. It's...[nervous laughing] it's ... we have no name for them. Multi-legged. Big, like. . . huge. Each one the size of Jackson! My German Shepard. We saw two drop from the ceiling and dragged Jeffers away. God, the noise. . .the noise that he made as they dragged him down the hall. They're fast, move and jump like. . . crabs. No, not crabs, like. . . arachnids. They're pure white and silvery. Why we couldn't see them outside in the drifts or snow. We've closed all the access points to the station but they're still getting in. . . . somehow. Kylie is back online, that's . . . it's the only. . . . so fucked! She's been able to reverse electrical polarity and electrify portions of walls and doors. Slowed them. We also learned, light! They hate it. There is a specific spectrum of light that they run like hell from. We modified all the external station flood lights.

Still can't reach the outside. Nobody. Even the other stations on the Ice. None of them are responding.

## ERIE SCATTERING SOOUND FROM OUTSIDE / OFF CAMERA

**SCIENTIST** 

Hear that sound? Hear it? Most times you hear that, you never hear anything again. Hey . . . Kylie?

**KYLIE** 

Yes Doctor Nash?

**SCIENTIST** 

[Half Crazed]

Bug zapper please

## WE HEAR A REMOTE POWER UP SOUND AND THEN A LOUD PIERCING SCREAM OUTSIDE. THE SCITTERING GOES AWAY.

#### **SCIENTIST**

[Weak chuckle] Sigh. . . . this is where I'm going to die! A few people, tried to make it out in a snow cat. We're going to try to make it to the old Amundsen-Scott site. [Cough] It's the closest landmark and their arches survived the battle fairly well. They . . . . made it about four hundred yards and were swarmed. They were running silent. No lights, no radios. . . [realization] but. . . their cat was the only power source in the middle of nothing. THAT's how they. . . . . be back. Doctor Nash, Day whatever. Doesn't matter. . .

#### **BEEP OF ADVANCING TO NEXT LOG**

#### **SCIENTIST**

[In a fog]

I'm it. I'm the last one. All the rest. Gone! It's been two weeks. I came up with a way to shield my body energy by insulating. . .it's a sort of; faraday suit. Low energy electrification of conductive fibers. I'm invisible to them. Problem is. There is no place to go. Every direction I walk, I come up against a. . .I can't. . .purple and blue, energy mist. Swirling around the station complex. Every direction.

I've taken Kylie off-line to preserve and prolong power. The things, the. . .spiders more or less lost interest when there was no more energy. No more power. I have no idea where they went.

[DEEP BREATHS] I'm tired. No communications, no people. Just cold. Death.

SOUND OF EXTERNAL DOOR OPENING, WALKING INTO THE SNOW. DOOR CLOSES AND An AUDIBLE LOCK.

[Louder to be heard over wind] THEY SAY. . .WHEN A PERSON GIVES UP, THEY HAVE NO MORE FEAR. I CAN CONFIRM THIS. THIS IS MY LAST TRASMISSION. THE BATTERY BACKUP ON RECORDING SYSTEMS WILL LAST TWO MORE HOURS.

#### SOUND OF UNZIPPING.

I'M AT PEACE WITH THIS. IT'S NOT SUICIDE, IT'S THE NATURAL ORDER. WE'RE NOT THE TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN. CELERY DON'T LAMENT! CHICKENS DON'T GET TO VOTE. IT'S NATURAL ORDER

MORE UNZIPPING. IN THE DISTANCE, OVER THE WIND WE HEAR THAT SCURRING AGAIN.

SCIENTIST
I'M HERE! DINNER IS HERE YOU BASTARDS.

SCURRING GETS LOUDER.

SCIENTIST
[LAUGHS OUT LOUD] HEY, PEOPLE, CHECK ME OUT! I'M A
FROZEN DINNER! HA, HA-HA-HA

SCURRING ARRIVES AND WE HEAR SNAPS AND SNARLS. THE LAUGHING GOES MANIC AND BLENDS INTO SCREAMING.

BASS

[Somber]

Turn it off!

RECORDING SOUND STOPS. JUST THE SILENCE OF THE STATION HUM FOR FIVE SECONDS. COUGHING FROM ONE OF THE FOUR.

**ELECTRONIC VOICE: RECORDING STOPPED** 

## FADE IN – INSIDE OF THE VECHICLE BAY. WE HEAR BANGING AND OCASSIONAL WELDING FROM ZEKE AS EMERY AND BASS UPDATE HIM.

ZEKE

Ice spiders, out this far?

**BASS** 

You heard of them?

ZEKE

Well, yeah. They live out in McMurdo Sound. Under the water. They can get pretty big, about the size of a dinner plate, but the size of a Doberman. That's new!

**BASS** 

Apparently, that's what these things are.

**ZEKE** 

Things? You mean more than one?

**BASS** 

Yep, at least that's what the scientist in the recording said.

**EMERY** 

Well, not to add to the list of our growing problems, but I'm not comfortable with Waynewright or Lorenz taking any future tech back with them. I know they can't get physical items past the, well I guess it's the event horizon technically; but who knows if the downloaded data will make it through. Photos of the equipment. Handwritten sketches and copying scientific formulas. If fanfic has taught us anything; bringing back future knowledge to the past is disastrous!

No argument from me. There are very few organizations I trust less than Beau-Low. Them getting their hands on future technology can only lead to them weaponizing it or leveraging it for their own technological gain.

#### **ZEKE**

How you plan to get them to not look and read stuff? I mean they kinda already have.

#### **BASS**

Good Question. Maybe we should find something to keep them occupied going forward. Perhaps help out our chances for survival as opposed to treating this place like a used bookstore.

#### 7FKF

You think Waynewright gonna take orders from you? He kinda already told you his thoughts on that.

#### **BASS**

Mister Waters, can you have Kylie keep an eye on what the doctors are doing in the science bays? Make sure they don't try to access any systems or attempt any downloads.

#### **EMERY**

No problem. I still haven't given them any access rights to the station or normal operational functions. Not comfortable with that.

**BASS** 

Zeke?

#### ZEKE

Yeah yeah. . .still working. I got the batteries back up and are charging them. I'll get the alternator running just before we

head out to start building up 2022 battery charge. We should have about twelve hours left before shimmering time.

**EMERY** 

Fifteen

**ZEKE** 

See, there you go lawman! Things are starting to look. . .

#### **AUDIBLE LOWERING OF POWER HUM**

**EMERY** 

Kylie, what's happening?

**KYLIE** 

There was a momentary power drain emanating in level one South Berth section. Staff lounge south-one-seven. I am bypassing electrical systems to avoid a surge.

**EMERY** 

The spiders?

**KYLIE** 

That would be consistent with the previous attacks on this station. I will begin locking down doors and cross over bridges to that section.

#### **BEEPING AND DISTANT LOCKING SOUNDS**

**BASS** 

It's a decent bet they're in the station. Curious as to what took them this long to notice us!

#### KYLIE

Colossendeis Megalonyx, while primarily aquatic have been observed to enter into a hibernation phase to preserve food and until plankton and other marine drifters exists in large enough quantity to sustain them.

#### **BEEPING AND AN ERROR SOUND**

**KYLIE** 

I apologize US Deputy Marshal Bass Marlow; however I am still not able to establish a data uplink to the stationary Beauregard-Lowing satellites. My optical uplinks are being reflected back. I cannot provide you with a current plankton count.

**BASS** 

I thought. . . . plankton lived under the water?

**KYLIE** 

That is correct. This facility was constructed atop a giant frozen lake from the Eocene Epoch, 56 million years ago. One of this stations primary research topics was aquatic paleontology. The Colossendeis Megalonyx or. . .'Ice Spiders' as you describe them, were also plentiful in the region.

**BASS** 

So with. . . . [Realization] oh Shit!

**BASS** 

When we arrived here the power was off.

ZEKE

Yeah?

In the recording we saw, Doctor Swanson TV Dinner said these things are attracted to electrical fields. It's what they feed off of. Anything omitting an electrical field. '

**ZEKE** 

I'm not following you lawman.

**BASS** 

Zeke. What was the first thing we did after we got here. Powered the station back on!

**EMERY** 

Kylie, immediate power and enter safe mode.

**KYLIE** 

Moving to power safe operations. Unless you would like otherwise, I will keep heating and my own systems running.

**EMERY** 

Heating no, switch it off. Keep enough juice flowing to keep your own systems up!

## POWERING DOWN SOUND. HUM OF STATION GOES QUIET.

### RADIO SQUAK

LARRY

Would somebody please explain to me why we just lost power?

RADIO SQUAK

**PUSH TO TALK** 

The Ice Spiders are attracted to energy. They feed off it. The station's computer said these things hibernate when there isn't enough food supply and until enough comes around again. We just lit up a bright neon 'Human Smorgasbord Buffett' restaurant sign when we arrived. These things could wake up and want to feed at any time!

#### THUMPING OF IN THE DISTANCE

**ZEKE** 

The hell is that?

**KYLIE** 

One of the creatures is attempting to break through cross over bridge from South Berths level one into the central access hub.

**BASS** 

How many are there?

**KYLIE** 

One.

#### **PUSH TO TALK**

**BASS** 

One of the creatures made it into the station. It was feeding off power in the level 1 berths, but we cut its food supply. It's now moving on to the next largest energy source it can smell. Us!

## RADIO SQUAK

LARRY

Well than by all means, DEPUTY Marshal. Turn the power back on!

## RADIO SQUAK RADIO PUSH TO TALK

**BASS** 

Don't you get it, Doctor! The more power we turn on, the higher the intensity and the faster these things will wake from hibernation. The fact that we're only having to deal with one right now is....

ZEKE

Word you looking for is Miracle!

**BASS** 

Not now Zeke!

## RADIO SQUAK

LARRY

Then I suggest that you and Mister Bustamante expedite your repairs of the ice vehicles so we can leave quickly!

## RADIO SQUAK

ZEKE

[Angry]

The hell he thinks I'm doing under this thing??

#### RADIO PUSK TO TALK

**BASS** 

I'm going to go deal with the one that got in. I'd highly recommend everybody pack it in so when we're ready to go. . we can go!

## RADIO SQUAK

LARRY

I'm, actually in agreement with you, DEPUTY Marshal! We deployed all the sensors we needed to for the telemetry gathering. Our primary mission was accomplished.

**RADIO SQUAK** 

**BASS** 

Mister waterman. Grab something heavy. If it doesn't stay down after I shoot it, Go berserk on it!

**EMERY** 

**EMERY SMASH!** 

FOOTSTEPS GOING DOWN HALL. THEY APPROACH A DOOR ON THEIR SIDE TO THE CENTRAL HUB. WE HEAR DOOR BANGING GET LOUDER AS WE APPROACH THE CORE.

**EMERY** 

Kylie, please unlock this door.

BEEPING AND THEN AN UNLOCKING SOUND

DOOR OPENS SLOWLY AND THE BANGING GETS MUCH LOUDER. IT STOPS FOR A MOMENT.

**BASS** 

Did. . . did it lose interest?

**KYLIE** 

Negative US Deputy Marshal Bass Marlow. It is still there.

THE BANGING NOW BEOMES FURIOUS. WE HEAR CREATURE CLICKLING OR SKREECHING.

**EMERY** 

IT CAN SMELL WE'RE HERE.

**KYLIE** 

Affirmative.

**BASS** 

KYLIE, WHEN I SAY SO, UNLOCK THE DOOR AND OPEN IT. MISTER WATERS. . . . ARE YOU READY? .

**EMERY** 

READY!

BASS

NOW!

WE HEAR THE UNLOCKING SOUND AND THE DOOR FLYS OPEN. WE HEAR SKITTERING AND SCREECHING. THREE SHOTS RING OUT AND THE CREATURE SQRRECHS LOUDLY. NOW GURGLING. WE HEAR THE 'HUMPH' OF EMERY UNLEASHING WRATH ON THE SPIDER.

**BASS** 

ALL GOOD, ALL GOOD MISTER WATERS. IT'S DEAD!

#### THREE SECOND BEAT

**EMERY** 

That was a rush!

RADIO SQUWAK

ZEKE

Everybody good?

RADIO SQUAK PUSH TO TALK

ALL GOOD. Scratch one ice Spider. Everybody is safe, for the moment.

### **RADIO SQUAK**

#### **EMERY**

WOW These things are scarry! [sniff] and they smell like wet dog!

#### **BASS**

You sure you okay Mister Waters?

#### **EMERY**

Yeah! Just. . .don't usually deal with these things other than video games.

#### **PUSH TO TALK**

#### **BASS**

Everybody pack it up. Meet in the Vehicle Bay. I'm not sure how long we have before the . . . hive wakes up. But if these things have the same numbers we saw on the video, we'll need to be ready to leave quick.

## FADE OUT. DIGITAL RECORDER BEEP

#### **BASS**

Okay Diane. Roberta Bondar. Don't know what the current date is, well. . .here anyway. We're at T-minus two hours before the station fades into . . .wherever it is that it goes.

Zeke is close to having the Noddy repaired and ready for travel. The yeti has full power but is shut down. He'll get the Noddy's engine turned over and the alternator starting to generate its own power 30 minutes before we are set to leave.

Did a round count. I have two full mags and only put three rounds down-range to drop Charlotte the Ice Spider. So if there is a silver lining in all this. . .bullets drop 'em. The Future scientist wasn't lying before D. These things are massive. Imagine, a fully grown German Shepard. Take away the handsome dog, the personality, the puppy heart and replace it with four more legs, 48 more eyes, stark white, almost translucent and a taste for anything conducting energy, including people. You got these things. Plus, smells EXACTLY like wet dog!

Diane, before this mission the most absurd, weird thing I ever saw was that guy who jumped out of a closet with a fully loaded AK while we were detaining our suspect in Jacksonville. Dude unloaded that entire 30-round mag at us within twenty feet and didn't hit any of the four Marshals arresting his brother.

Everything in the last six months, makes that look like routine paperwork. Plus. . . I'm recording this from a station that was made in 2044, so. . .

Okay. You know me better than anybody else on the planet. What do I do in a situation like this? Diagnose the problem. Determine the issues. Formulate a resolution & execute the plan. Took some back and forth between me, Mister Waters and the science twins, but we have us a workable plan!

#### **EMERY**

[From a distance]
Don't you remember my Scooby Doo lecture, DON'T.
DESCRIBE.THE.TRAP!

I think we'll be okay Mister Waters! Don't mean to tempt fate, but gonna outline this. Zeke thinks he'll have repairs completed in the next forty-five minutes. Once he's ready and needs to start the Noddy to get electricity generated, we'll have the station's A.I. power up the level one south section to one hundred ten percent capacity while everything else in the station remains powered down.

#### **EMERY**

[From a distance]

He's actually doing it! [Sigh] Might as well drop my glasses on the floor now, pull a Velma!

#### **BASS**

[Ignoring him]

Using the distraction, myself and the scientist will take one of the stations vehicles to the external particle accelerator facility. Doctor Waynewright says the control panels from accelerators from several decades ago aren't too dissimilar from those in use today. With luck, he should be able to activate it. The scientist in the recording said they had just completed repairs when their experiment got lose.

I'll be along to make sure the two scientist are safe while they power the device. From what everybody tells me, the amount of energy this thing produces is stupid-intense like. . . Tara. . . Neutron something.

#### **BEEPING AND NOISE**

#### **KYLIE**

The energy of a particle is measured in electronvolts. One electronvolt is the energy gained by an electron that accelerates through a one-volt electrical field. As they race around the LHC, the protons acquire an energy of 6.5 million million electronvolts, known as 6.5 tera-electronvolts or T.e.V.

#### **EMERY**

[From a distance]

Et tu? Kylie?

**BASS** 

Like I said, stupid intense. This should be irresistible to the Ice Spiders who will flock to it like moths to the flame. It will also be more energy than any one creature can absorb. Even dozens of these creatures. As they feed, they should essentially, burst like a tick with too much blood. The trick will be to regulate the energy output to ensure all the creatures are destroyed, and. . . . . [said low and almost a whisper] making sure the power built up doesn't cause the accelerator to explode. Which, I'm told would be bad.

### **EMERY**

[From a distance]

Think Tsar bomba, Pompeii, Mt. Saint Helens and Krakatoa all combined. Times 50. Yeah. . .not good Shaggy!

#### **BASS**

Once the creatures are destroyed, Zeke and Mister Waters come by with the Noddy, we jump in and haul ass to the 1-mile marker and, presumably outside of the . . .shimmer zone as Zeke calls it.

**EMERY** 

[From a distance]

Don't say it!

**BASS** 

We're making the final preparations now. No doubt Waynewright and Lorenz are taking photos of everything not nailed down so they can try to exploit it for Beau-Low

#### **EMERY**

### [From a distance]

Don't say it!

#### **BASS**

Alright Diane. Going to make sure my stuff is packed, that we're good to go and get the plan ready to execute upon. What could go wrong?

#### **EMERY**

[From a distance]

OH MY GOD HE SAID IT! Like to tempt fate huh Deputy Marshal. Want to go break some mirrors or walk under ladders? I think I packed an Umbrella, want to open and close it inside?

#### DIGITAL RECORDER BOOP

FADE IN. WE'RE AT THE PARTICAL ACCELERATOR. TENSE MUSIC PLAYING. THERE IS A LOUDER THAN NORMAL AUDIBLE HUM AND THROBBING SOUND AS THE ACCELERATOR SPINGS THE PARTICAL AROUND IT'S RING. WE HEAR THE DISTINCT SCURRING OF SPIDERS AS THEY RACE TO THE MEGA FOOD SOURCE. SOMETHING, ISN"T GOING TO PLAN!

#### LARRY

[Confused]

Power output is steady at seventy-two percent. Surely by now all those things should have overconsumed and be dead.

#### **JEMMA**

[Concerned]

I'm watching them on the various monitors. We only speculated several dozens of these creatures.

WE HEAR SKITTERING FROM A DISTANCE RAPIDLLY APPROACHING. FOUR GUNSHOTS AND A GURGLING.

## BASS GOT IT! HOW MANY ARE THERE?

## SOUND OF WALKING CLOSER TO THE MONITORS WHERE DOCTOR LORENZ IS KEEPING WATCH.

**BASS** 

[Shock]

There must be. . . . 10 dozen!

JEMMA

Try, thousands! Think about it. There are species of spiders and various insects that lay their eggs inside a living creature. For your common garden variety insect, they can lay dozens of eggs. A creature of this size. . .a hundred easily, maybe more.

**BASS** 

How many [pause] how many people did that scientist on the recording say were on station?

**LARRY** 

Over six hundred.

**BASS** 

Assuming a one hundred egg minimum, laid in the bodies of the scientist who were dragged off or disappeared. . .

## UNZIP OF A JACKET, PUSH TO TALK SOUND

**BASS** 

Um, guys. . .small problem over here.

## **RADIO SQWAK**

**ZEKE** 

We're ready on this end lawman. What's the hold-up?

## **RADIO SQWAK**

#### **PUSH TO TALK SOUND**

#### **BASS**

Yeah. Have a new estimate on the number of Spiders we need to destroy. We have somewhere in the neighborhood of sixty THOUSAND!

### RADIO SQWAK

#### **EMERY**

## [Worried]

Deputy, we only have Sixty-Two minutes remaining until the station shifts back to. . .wherever! This is. . . .and I can't stress this enough. . . WHY WE DON'T OUTLINE THE PLAN.

### RADIO SQWAK

#### **PUSH TO TALK SOUND**

#### **BASS**

Thank you, Mister Waters! I am WELL aware of the time. DOC, CAN WE SET THAT THING ON AUTO-PILOT?

#### **LARRY**

## [Frustrated]

It's not a commercial airliner, DEPUTY Marshal. This is not only a sophistic piece of scientific technology, but also 40 years more advanced than our current technology. It's taking all I have to maintain power levels and not let them go into the Red after each of those creatures implodes.

### **PUSH TO TALK SOUND**

[Has an idea]

Mister Waters, can Kylie monitor and adjust the settings or operate the particle accelerator herself?

## **RADIO SQWAK**

**EMERY** 

Kylie?

**KYLIE** 

I am sorry Father and US Deputy Marshal Bass Marlow. Although I can run all station and center systems, International Law and the Antarctica Peace accords prohibit any A.I. from accessing or operating particle accelerators, colliders, or any other high energy related equipment. A human must always be present and in full control. I could, however, walk you through control process' father. Automated control of the accelerator can be accessed through the primary operations deck.

#### SOUND OF CAB DOOR OPENING OVER THE RADIO

**ZEKE** 

[Angry, distant over the radio]
The hell you doing Dexter? Get yo ass back in the cab!

**EMERY** 

No time to explain Zeke, just be ready!!

WE HEAR RUNNING DOWN THE CORIDOOR. BEEP OF THE ELEVATOR BUTTON. THE ENTIRE PATHWAY TO OPS AS EMERY AND THE TEAM TALK.

**EMERY** 

Bass, what is the current power output on the accelerator?

## RADIO SQWAK

BASS

**Doctor Waynewright?** 

LARRY

SEVENTY-THREE PERCENT.

#### **PUSH TO TALK**

**BASS** 

We're at seventy-three percent Mister Waters.

## RADIO SQWAK

#### **EMERY**

[Anxious]

Kylie, can you approximate the current number of Ice Spiders around the accelerator and the number killed at current power output? Ops Center!

## SOUND OF ACKNOWLEDGING OVER THE RADIO. HAVE KYLE HUFF AND PUFF EVERY SO OFTEN. ALSO MUZAK IN THE ELEVATOR CAB.

**KYLIE** 

Happy to , Father. At present there are fifty-eight thousand seven hundred twenty-six creatures. At current output, Doctor Lawrence Emerson Waynewright is removing approximately five hundred a minute.

**EMERY** 

[Start's doing the beautiful-mind formulas in his head]

At present power levels it would take one hundred seventeen minutes, thirty seconds to eradicate all of them. Too long! If I increase output to the red line at 95%. . .full eradication should only take forty-eight minutes! We'll have Zeke come get you as soon as I get to control. Come back to station and standby. After the last one is dead two minutes to get to the Noddy, four minutes to get to outside the event horizon, leaving us. . .a comfortable margin of sixty-seconds!

**KYLIE** 

Calculations confirmed.

### RADIO SQWAK

**BASS** 

[frustrated]

[Sigh] Why do we always cut these things so close?

**PUSH TO TALK** 

**BASS** 

ZEKE?

## RADIO SQWAK. WE HEAR THE NODDY ENGINE OVER RADIO

**ZEKE** 

Already on my way to you Lawman!

**RADIO SQWAK** 

**PUSH TO TALK** 

Mister Waters, let us know when you're in ops and at the consol.

## RADIO SQWAK. WE HEAR ELECTRONIC KEY TAPPING IN THE BACKGROUND

**EMERY** 

Already here! Establishing remote telemetry. Doctor Waynewright, I need you to formally hand off access. Flashing blue button upper center on your control board.

**KYLIE** 

Access transferred. You now have control, Father.

**EMERY** 

Alright guys! I'll radio once we're clear. Kylie, start walking me through power up to ninety-five per. . .

## RADIO SQWAK. WE HEAR SKITTERING APPROACHING AND FOUR MORE GUNSHOTS

**BASS** 

OKAY DOCTORS, TIME TO DE-ASS THE AREA!

LARRY

He's done! It. Power starting to increase to.

**ELECTRONIC VOICE: RECORDING ERROR.** 

LORENZ

....INTERFEARANCE TO YOUR CAMERA FROM THE HIGH E.M. FIELD. IT MAY...

**ELECTRONIC VOICE: RECORDING ERROR.** 

WE HEAR FOUR MORE SHOTS, A NEW MAG INSERTED, SLIDE RACKED AND TWO MORE.

LARRY

THEY'RE LOSING INTEREST! STOPPED FOLLOWING US. HE MUST HAVE THE ENERGY PAST NINETY. . .

ELECTRONIC VOICE: RECORDING ERROR.
VARIOUS GLITCH AND GRABLED MOMENTS.

RECORDING IS BACK. . . . WE'RE INSIDE THE NODDY AND THE ENGINE IS IDLING.

BASS

[Frantic]

Six minutes thirty-seconds Mister Waters! You need to start for the Noddy NOW!

## **RADIO SQWAK**

**EMERY** 

Keeping her out of the red and at ninety-five percent was harder than I anticipated. We still have about forty creatures left. We can't let a single one of them survive!

**RADIO SQWAK** 

**PUSH TO TALK** 

**BASS** 

[Ordering him]

STICK TO THE PLAN MISTER WATERS! Power down now and head to us. We can have a fully armed team that will handle these things when the station comes back next year!

#### LARRY

[Slightly panicked]

We're out of time, DEPUTY Marshal! Mister Bustamante, start for the safety point.

**BASS** 

[Angry]

SHUT UP DOCTOR! [Refocus on the radio] Mister Waters, NOW!

## **RADIO SQWAK**

**EMERY** 

[Calm]

Zeke, do you have Yeti powered up? Is it scanning for Crevasses?

RADIO SQWAK

**PUSH TO TALK** 

ZEKE

[Nervous, anxious]

Been powered for a while now and she's deployed. We're receiving data. Everything is set, just need you down here son!

## **RADIO SQWAK**

**EMERY** 

[CALM]

Down to twenty [THREE BEAT] Kylie, establish site to site microwave connection with the Yeti and run program Sisko: One-Nine-Seven

**KYLIE** 

Connection established. Running Program.

**EMERY** 

[CALM]

Take them home.

## **RADIO SQWAK**

#### WE HEAR THE ENGINE REVVING AND THE NODDY STARTING TO MOVE.

**ZEKE** 

[Confused]

The hell? I don't got control. The Noddy is driving itself!

#### **PUSH TO TALK SOUND**

**BASS** 

[Almost Panicked]

STOP IT EMERY! THERE IS STILL TIME! GET DOWN HERE! DON'T DO THIS!

## RADIO SQWAK

**EMERY** 

[Calm]

We're already past the safe-point Deputy. I'm starting to see the station begining to blur, to. . .shimmer. There are still ten of those things left. Somebody needs to power down the accelerator safely as well.

## RADIO SQWAK

**BASS** 

[Angry]

Damn it! ZEKE, YANK EVERY WIRE CONNECTED TO THE YETI IF YOU HAVE TO!

ZEKE

[Somber]

Bass; he's right. We don't go now. We don't go, ever.

**BASS** 

[ANGRY]

WE DON'T KNOW THAT.

**JEMMA** 

[Sad]

I know we're not popular with you right now Deputy Marshal, but. . .they're correct.

## A FEW MOMENTS OF SILENCE, JUST THE SOUND OF THE NODDY ENGINE.

**BASS** 

[Take a few deep breaths]

#### **PUSH TO TALK SOUND**

**BASS** 

[Trying to hold it together]
Talk to me Mister Waters. How we doing?

## **RADIO SQWAK**

**EMERY** 

[Calm]

Just killed the last one. We're clear. Beginning power down sequence. Getting...getting a little difficult to see. Everything is getting blurry. I'm sorry, Deputy Marshal.

RADIO SQWAK

**PUSH TO TALK SOUND** 

[Holding it together]

Sorry? For what Emery? From where I'm sitting. . .you're pretty much a big, dammed hero!

## RADIO SQWAK, GETTING STATICY

**EMERY** 

[Calm]

No, no. I'm not a Hero Deputy. I just did want anybody in my situation would have done. Power down sequence. . .looks to be complete. Kylie, please confirm.

**KYLIE** 

[VOICE IS A BIT DISTORTED]

Confirmed.

#### STATIC LEVELS GROWING

**EMERY** 

[Calm]

Hey, Deputy Marshal?

**RADIO SQWAK** 

**PUSH TO TALK BUTTON** 

BASS

Go ahead Mister Waters.

RADIO SQWAK; STATIC WORSE. COMING CLOSE TO OVERBEARING.

**EMERY** 

Tell Chris. . . I am. . . and will always be. . . . His Fr. . . .

RADIO SQWAK. RADIO STATIC

ZEKE

[Somber]
One mile. We in the clear.

THERE IS AN AUDIBLE WOOSH FROM OUTSIDE, SIMILAR TO THE SOUND OF STEPPING THROUGH TIME DOOR, THEN JUST THE NOSE FROM THE ENGINE AND THE BLOWING SNOW.

ZEKE

[Clears throat]

**JEMMA** 

[Sniffs from the back seat, clears throat]

**BASS** 

[Deep Sigh]

JUST THE SOUND OF THE ENGINE RUNNING AND THE SNOW. BEGIN FADE OUT.

**OUTRO AND CREDITS**