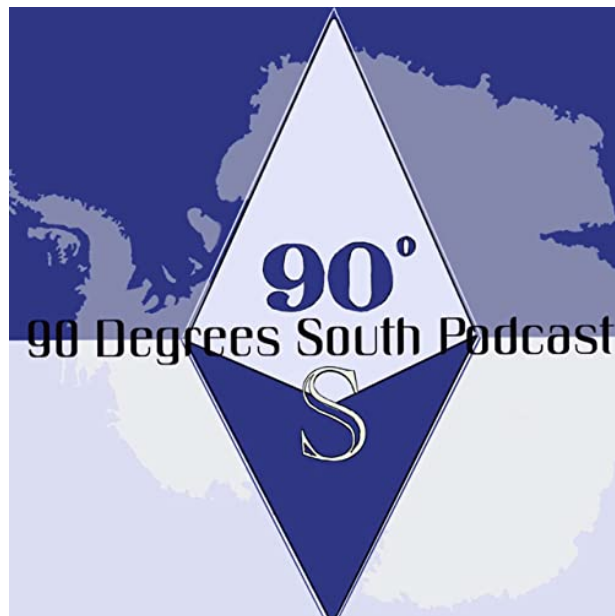


90 Degrees South

SEASON THREE
EPISODE FOUR: REUNIONS Pt. I

DRAFT 1: OCT 12, 2023



by
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BMB Productions LLC

**MUSIC INTRO
ACT I**

WE'RE IN THE BIG CONFERENCE ROOM. WE ENTER AS A VIDEO TELECONFERENCE CALL IS IN PROCESS. BREAKING NEWS AFTER A SERIES OF INTERNATIONAL ARRESTS CAME AFTER A MASSIVE EFFORT LED BY US & NEW ZEALAND NCB.

THERE ARE MULTIPLE PEOPLE ON THE LINE FROM THE US, AND BASS IN THE AMUNDSE -SCOTT CONFERENCE ROOM; BY HIMSELF. SITING CALMLY, STOICLY.

ANNE MURPHY

[GIVING A SPEECH TO MANY PEOPLE, HAPPY, PROUD!]

. . . Could not be prouder of the Deputy Marshals under my command. I've only been here for a very short time, but the level of commitment and dedication. . Both here in Honolulu with me now, and on the conference call with us from field offices all over the globe. None more central to this investigation; [TWO BEAT] and has made not just me, but ALL OF US look really good. . .Is our Supervisory Deputy Marshal from Antarcti. .

RANDO OVER THE VIDEO CALL

[EXCITED]

It's BACK ON!!!!

HUBBUB DIES DOWN AS PEOPLE FOCUS ON THE REPORT

NEWSCASTER ON TV

. . . but official sources in the Drug Enforcement Agency, FBI along with the Interpol have confirmed over a dozen arrets in the states, New Zealand, Brazil & Panama. Each arrest exposing a stop in what some are referring to, as the Dream Wax global pipeline. Officials in US ports of Houston and San Francisco are still tallying shipments; but early estimates suggest the joint task force intercepted over one point five BILLION dollars of genetically modified, designer drugs.

It was the central focus of this morning's, White House Press Briefing.

Cut to: White House Press Room. Press Secretary addressing news Questions.

PRESS SECRETARY AMANDA CARTER
. . .but the President was made aware and we're looking into that. Next question. . . Burt, go ahead!

BURT JOYROCK
Thanks Amanda! What can you tell us about the intelligence gathering and detective work, that precipitated these arrests and stopping the shipments from reaching US Streets?

AMANDA
While we don't want to comment on too many specifics in advance of formal charges being filed and pending federal court cases; I will say it was the U.S. Marshals Office who led the charge and put in a tremendous effort on this one!

CHEERS AND CELEBRATIONS FROM THE CONFERENCE ROOM VIDEO MONITORS

BURT JOYROCK
I'm. . .I'm sorry can you confirm, you said the Marshal's service?

A FEW BOOs FROM ON THE VIDEO CALL

AMANDA
You heard right Burt. While not known specifically for their investigative skills, President Campbell has called to congratulate US Marshall Anne Davis, and specifically called out a ranking US Marshal based in Antarctica, who was not only the one who broke the case but was a central figure in today's massive series of arrest. A Deputy Marshall . . . Marlow.

CHEERS AGAIN

AMANDA

President Campbell also wants to highlight that it's reasons exactly like this; that our nation needs to be vigilant when it comes to domestic security and securing the safety of our citizens against foreign, and external forces who. . .

TV FOOTAGE GETS TURNED OF ON THE HAWAII SIDE OF THE VIDEO CONFERENCE CALL.

ANNE

Well, The Press Secretary took away my thunder and introduction of the mastermind for this task force operation. . the man of the hour. .
.Supervisory Deputy Marshall Marlow. . .anything you'd like to say to the team, hero?

CHAIR PUSHES BACK AND BASS STANDS. A FEW SECONDS OF SILENCE

BASS

[STOIC AND STRAIGHTFACED, UNEASY WITH PRAISE. JUST DO WHAT I DO ON PHONE CALLS]
I'm no hero. [THREE BEAT]
This was a team effort [THREE BEAT]
and I'm just happy to be a part of that team.

RANDO ON THE CALL

BAHH, THAT'S OUR MARLOW!

LAUGHS AND CLAPPING.

ANNE

Alright alright! On behalf of Director Ronald Davis, Dinner is being catered in tonight from PAI. Everything is on the menu, and its open bar people. He's picking up the bill!

MORE CHEERING, MORE CLAPPING

ANNE

OKAY! Okay. We still have active cases waiting for us. We'll enjoy tonight. For now. . .back on your files everybody.

CALMER CLAPPING AND FILING OUT OF THE ROOM.

ANNE

Sorry you can't celebrate with us Bass. All of this. . .all the praise and rewards are due to the work you're putting in down there.

BASS

I'm okay with it Marshal. I'm not. . .uh. . .I don't like being the focus of attention really.

ANNE

I sensed that just now. Modesty aside. . .you know there's commendations heading your way. The media is eating this up! A Deputy Marshall, stopping a major narcotics ring; based in the South Pole. You're even trending on Twitter!

BASS

I was in the right spot, at the right time is all.

ANNE

Alright, alright! I'm not trying to make you feel uncomfortable. Just want you to know the Marshals service is extremely proud of you. *I* am extremely proud of you.

BASS

Thank you, Marshal. I do appreciate that.

ANNE

We'll talk soon Deputy. Good night.

BASS

Good night, Ma'am.

**SOUND OF THE VIDEO CONFERENCE CALL BEING DISCONNECTED.
CHAIR PUSHED BACK IN AND FOOTSTEPS TO THE DOOR. OPENS TO A
BUSY HALLWAY. FOOTSTEPS AS BASS IS WALKING DOWN TO THE
GALLEY.**

ACT II

FROM BEHIND

JOYCLYN

Enjoying your fifteen minutes Marshmallow?

**FOOTSTEPS STOP, JUST THE SOUND OF GALLEY KITCHEN NOISES AND
STAFF LUNCHTIME CHATTER**

BASS

Here I thought I was smelling too many onions in
Miss Alice's Spaghetti Sauce. Turns out . . .it's
you!

FROM A DISTINCE

LLA

Well hey now, I only put three small onions in!

JOYCLYN

Tell me Marlow, because you have me honestly
curious. In all the time you were hatching this
lite Narcos plan of yours; did you ever stop and
think. . .hey, maybe this will bring more than
just media praise to my garden?

BASS

I'm hungry, I have a lot of paperwork to get
through today and I don't have the time, nor the
desire to waste my breath on you.

FOOTSTEPS START, JOYCLYN FADE OUT AS BASS GETS DISTANCE

JOYCLYN

Over a BILLION and a half quid nicked, and you
don't think the owner is going to want payback?
Well, aren't we thick!

SOUND OF A TRAY BEING PUT ON METAL BAR SLIDERS.

BASS

Afternoon. Um, I'll have the angel hair and red
sauce please.

LLA

No problem there Deputy. I'll fish out as many of
the onions here that I can.

BASS

[EMBARASSED CHUCKLE]

Yeah, I'm sorry about the comment Ms. Alice, it's
just. . .she knows how to push by buttons. Your

Spaghetti sauce is actually better than my own mother made.

LLA

[SHOCKED GASP]

Well now! Where I come from, that's just about the nicest thing somebody can say about another person's . . . are you fishing for another smooch on the ol' cheek there? Cause I have a carpe of a kiss about to swim upstream! Least I can do for the station here!

BASS

[Chuckle]

Raincheck Ms. Alice? Busy day. And uh. . . I'm no hero, okay?

LLA

Oh, pish posh with that kind of talk now! [straining] Here ya go there Deputy. You enjoy your pasta and go tells Zeke and your best gal I says hi!

BASS

Will do, thanks again Ms. Alice.

LLA

Oh, you betcha!

FOOTSTEPS TO THE TABLE

ZEKE

S'up Lawman

KENDRA

Hey you!

BASS

Hey you. Hey Zeke.

CHAIR SLIDES OUT AND BASS SITS

KENDRA

I uh. . . I saw you and Joyclyn exchanging words. What is it this time?

ZEKE

[LOOKING AROUND FOR HER]

Oh snap! What I miss?

BASS

[SIGH] She was trying to get me to lose my temper. Trying to deflate the drug intercept accomplishment.

KENDRA

Good luck to her with that! It's the only thing people around here . . .hell, people at all the stations are talking about. Stateside too!

ZEKE

Oh, I get it. She pointing out how you hate the spotlight? How you won't accept any of the PRAISE that you are due! How you go around with that country-boy, aww-shucks bull.shit. . .pardon my language Doc. . and try to give all the praise to others?

[TWO BEAT]

BASS

[ANNOYED]

You done?

ZEKE

Yeah, I'm good.

BASS

No. That wasn't what it was about; but glad to hear my best FRIEND has me all figured out cover to cover!

ZEKE

[MOUTH HALF FULL]

Not like you war and peace lawman, you more like mhmhmhm, like a pop-up-book!

KENDRA

That's enough boys! Now, if it wasn't. . .that; what was it then?

BASS

Honestly, something I had thought of, but was trying to keep in the back of my head. Retribution. We took a MASSIVE amount of product off the game board. Over a billion in US dollars, internally we're hearing it may get as high as two or even two and a half. That's not a sum you just chalk up to the cost of doing business. No. . the owners are going to want retribution.

ZEKE

Chinese?

BASS

Early intel has Triad written all over it. 14-K Yan, Big Circle or Hunan Gang, or scarry as it sounds it could be ALL of them.

KENDRA

If it was the Chinese that Josh Nichols was trying to send Doctor Rodney's dark matter research to, and you stopped him. . they already have reasons not to like you.

ZEKE

I thought that was the government, not the Mob!

BASS

Jury's still out on that one. The Triad aren't technology dinosaurs like the Italian or Armenian mobs. They actually lead in committing cybercrimes, took the top spot from the Yakuza a few years back. [SIGH] Thankfully, you can't exactly just jump a direct flight to the pole; don't have any direct family left state-side; so, if they're going to come at me. . .it's not going to be easy.

KENDRA

You. . .you think they'll come after you?

BASS

For losing them two billion in profit? Oh, I think it's a fairly high probability.

ZEKE

[DISMISSIVE]

Nahhh. So long as you down here, ain't nothing going to even get CLOSE to my boy! We have people, good people at either layover point from off the ICE. Anybody even looks slightly jankey; DeWalts at McMurdo or Palmer will radio ahead.

KENDRA

Still, it makes me nervous.

BASS

I've had targets on my back before sweetheart. Part of the glory that comes with being a Federal Marshal. If they come, they come, and I'll handle it.

ZEKE

And I'll finish it.

TWO BEAT

KENDRA

WOW! The amount of testosterone flying around here is really thick! Guess I should head back to work before. . .you know. . .[manly impression] I start talking about sports, talk about fishing boats or [FAKE SPIT SOUND] how I'm going to go get me some young THANG!

HER CHAIR SLIDES BACK.

BASS IMMEDIATELY STANDS

BASS

Oh. Well okay then. See you tonight for dinner?

KENDRA

[STILL IMITATING A GUY]

[DEEP SNIFF] You know it BRO! Let's get some brews and then we'll. . .go. . .cruising the strip, or arm wrestle. . .or go to. . .[STRUGGLING TO KEEP IT UP] go to a. . .booby bar and. . .look at. . .boobs. Whoo-Hoo!

BASS

Okay, point made. Love you.

KENDRA

[Walking away]

You better!

FOOTSTEPS WALKING OFF. BASS SITS BACK DOWN

ZEKE

[MOUTH FULL OF FOOD]

Don't. . . know what she all on about! We don't.
. . . [MUNCH MUNCH] sound like all that!

BASS

[JOINS IN]

Nah! So, you watching the game tonight?

ZEKE

You know it! Have to finish working on the
timing ignition and then pump some serious iron
before I can watch the game!

BASS

We still going hunting this weekend?

ZEKE

Hell yes, but let's stop at the bar afterwards
for a few and then hit up that new Boobie bar I
just heard about today!

BASS

[HOME IMPROVEMENT GRUNT]

ZEKE

[HOME IMPROVEMENT GRUNT]

**TWO CHAIRS SLIDE BACK FROM ACROSS THE GALLEY; THE CROWD
GOES SILENT**

ZEKE

Easy Biggs boys! We wasn't making fun of you!
Respect guys! It's all good.

**GRUNTING FROM ACROSS THE GALLEY AS THEY RETAKE THEIR SEATS.
GALLEY CROWD VOLUME RETURNS**

BASS

Guess she wasn't too far off huh?

ZEKE

Probably took it a bit too far. Especially with Dan and Dave holding onto a perfect record. Six weeks into the season and not one fight yet.

BASS

Are they okay? I've seen those two get into it over some simple stuff. Is Goofy a dog or cow was my personal favorite!

ZEKE

[CHUCKLE]

Yeah, that one was a classic! But them being okay? I think so. They still show up for their shifts on time. Get their work squared away. Still watch their cartoons every morning and Hockey reruns at night. Other than not fighting one another every fifteen minutes; they're acting normal.

BASS

Lets. . .let's keep an eye on them for a while. Just, just to make sure.

ZEKE

Sounds good to me, Lawman. I'mma going head back down to the Arches. Get everything set for the next supply shipment we getting day after tomorrow.

CHAIR SLIDES OUT, TRAY PICKED UP

ZEKE

Hey, you're not gonna eat that roll, are you?

BASS

Yeah, actually I wanted. . . .

ZEKE

MMMMM, [MOUH FULL] Thanks again Lawman! [CHUCKLE AS HE WALKS OFF]

BASS

[CHUCKLES]

Ass!

BASS' RECORDER: RECORDING STOPPED

ACT III

JOYCLYN'S RECORDER: RECORDING HAS COMMENCED

WE HEAR NEW SOUNDS; NOT EVER RECORDED PREVIOUSLY. THE HUM OF A LAB, BACKGROUND TECHNOLOGY NOISES AND A PULSATING HUM. THERE IS A VOICE OVER THE INTERNAL P.A. SYSTEM READING OFF TELEMETARY DATA.

JEMMA

. . .And nothing we didn't see several times before. Well. . .I mean that the other's saw before with Doctor Rodney. I wasn't on station yet. Obviously!

JOYCLYN

Hand me that please.

JEMMA

Oh! You should wait to put that on until after decontamination!

JOYCLYN

Right. I can't tell you how much I loath this process.

JEMMA

Last thing we want is to have a stray. . .that thing is recording, isn't it?

JOYCLYN

What it's designed to do luv.

JEMMA

We all, I mean. . .the scientists assigned to the project will chat anywhere in the hidden complex and all the way up to this point in decom. . but after this point; any chatting about what goes on inside doesn't happen. Last thing we want is to have news or gossip spread all like. . .oooh! Like a termite colony in a lumberyard! Oh, that would be a bad thing.

**WE HEAR THE HUM OF UV DECOM LIGHTS FLICK ON AND REMAINING
STEAD FOR TWENTY SECONDS**

JOYCLYN

What is it with you and the crawly things?

JEMMA

For a while there, back in university it was a hard choice I had to make. Do I move forward with a doctorate in Particle physics first, or do I pursue my passion of entomology! It's a hard choice for a person to make. [UNEASY] So. . .I hear Doctor Van Zandt's last day here is in two three weeks. When are you; approaching Doctor Jennings to make the offer?

JOYCLYN

Still the old dossier to go through. A few bits and bobs of paperwork and background to consider. [Content chuckle] Can't wait to see Marshmallows face when he finds out that she'll be told EVERYTHING; but can't say anything to him about it!

JEMMA

That's assuming she accepts the invitation to be part of Atlas, of course.

JOYCLYN

Oh. . .I have it on good authority this is an offer that she'll be very interested in pursuing.

JEMMA

[SARCASTICLY]

Well, THAT doesn't sound ominous at all!

**WE HEAR THE 'PING' SOUND OF THE DECOMTAMINATION PROCESS
FINISHING. SOUND OF CLOTHES BEING PUT BACK ON.**

JOYCLYN

Nothing untoward, I assure you. I wouldn't harm a precious hair on that little bit of nummy-nummy Marlow gets to romp with! Just that. . .well let's say outside influences of HER own. . .will be coming into play.

JEMMA

[UNDER HER BREATH]

Romp with? And people say I'm creepy!

JOYCLYN

Hrmm, say again luv?

JEMMA

Oh, I said. . wow this hand sanitizer is leaky!

BODY CAMERA GETS AFFIXED TO JOYCLYN'S SHIRT.

JOYCLYN

Alright then. Parkas and boots on. Let's go.

WE HEAR A SIX-DIGIT CODE BEING ENTERED IN AND THEN A CONFIRMATION BEEP. A DOOR SLIDES OPEN AND THE TWO BEGIN WALKING DOWN THE ICE TUNNELS.

JEMMA

Doctor Waynewright wanted to chat with you once the afternoon session was complete. He didn't say what it was about.

JOYCLYN

I'm sure whatever it is, it will be overly pompous and an absolute waste of my time. I'll stop by his office after I'm done with a few errands of my own. I don't have time to deal with his misogyny at the moment.

JEMMA

[SURPRISED]

Misogyny? Hrmm. I've never seen him act any different to me than he does the others. He's pretty consistent in his lack of opinion in everybody.

JOYCLYN

Are you completely daft? He hates women! How he's managed to last this long with that behavior is even more problematic. Oh no! I was clear with . . . leadership at Beauregard-Lowing that I wasn't going to put up with his rubbish or him throwing his toys out the pram.

JEMMA

Maybe it's just I'm too focused on the work as opposed to the social interactions that I don't see it.

JOYCLYN

[PERPLEXED]

You spent almost 5 full days with him between the snow cat and the Canadian future station; and he never once questioned you or your abilities to do your job?

JEMMA

No. Well. . .I mean he questions everything everybody does if he doesn't find it. . .efficient. I've seen him act that way to males, females and non-binary people. The fact that I'm Female. . .yeah, I haven't seen it yet.

JOYCLYN

Doctor? You may have advanced degrees and walls full of academic awards; but when it comes to out here in the real world; I'm not sure you're seeing too clear.

JEMMA

It's been said by many people actually.

SOUNDS OF FOOTSTEPS ON THE SNOW TURN TO FOOTSTEPS ON METAL PLANS AS THE TWO EXIT THE TUNNELS AND INTO THE MAIL ARCHES HALLWAY.

JEMMA

Okay. I'm going to head up to the station. They're serving bread pudding and buttered green beans all day! Can't miss it, it's my favorite.

JOYCLYN

[REPULSED]

Ughhh! Lord help me; They're not served mixed together I trust.

JEMMA

Oh no. I have to do that myself!

JOYCLYN

[DEEP SIGH] Thank you . . . Doctor, I need to stop
by Logistics arch. We'll chat later.

WALKING DOWN THE HALL

JEMMA

Take care Agent Fowler!

JOYCLYN

Gah, and people say I'm creepy!

JOYC'S RECORDER: RECORDING HAS CONCLUDED

ACT IV

FADE IN. BASS' OFFICE. HE'S ON A PHONECALL WITH FIONNA

FIONNA

. . .we haven't seen this this much publicity in.
. .well EVER! A lot of attention is still focused
on the ATF's office in Houston where the drugs
are; but we have just as many local and national
reporters here in Honolulu.

BASS

Can't tell you how happy I am being down here
then. Chuc. . . Marshal Murphy would no doubt
have me front and center doing the interview
circuit. No thanks!

FIONNA

You should see the headshot they're using for you
on the news. It's from like. . .ten years ago
back when you weren't getting gray hairs yet!
Suit and tie in front of teg Marshals shield
downstairs!

BASS

I remember being told multiple times to go take
that picture. Brass always want a formal headshot
in the event one of their Marshals gets a huge
win so they can flash it on the stage. On to be
on an easel next to their casket if things go the
other way.

THREE BEAT

FIONNA

Being a bit morbid, aren't we? This is a HUGE deal Bass!

BASS

[EXASERBATED SIGH, FACE IN HANDS]
FEE!

FIONNA

BASS

I know you don't You know I don't
Like the spotlight like the spotlight!

FIONNA

I know you don't like the credit being placed where the credit is due.

BASS

Do you know. . .the number of interview requests I'm getting every day in my Marshals dot gov email address? Over one hundred, and it's growing day by day.

FIONNA

Give it time; another week or so there will be some new big event grabbing headlines [CHUCKLE] or more likely the president will do or say something that gets attention shifted to him. In the interim, just. . . ride the wave out!

OVERHEAD PA CHIME IN THE BACKGROUND

THOMAS

[ON PA; NERVOUS]

Doctor Waynewright, please contact ops ASAP.

CHIME OUT

BASS

What's new on your end?

FIONNA

You know me. Miss workaholic! The job eats up a lot of my free time. Some of my friends and I are talking about a weeklong trip to Seattle. We

were thinking Japan originally, but; given the state of international relations all over.

BASS

Good call. Sounds like things are getting really spooky out there.

FIONNA

As with everything else, we'll adjust to the situation at hand as opposed to waiting for it to adjust to us.

BASS

What happened with . . .what-his-name? The guy in field investigations?

FIONNA

Uh-huh! So anytime I ask you about you and Kendra you get all defensive and clam up. . .but you're free to ask me about my love life?

TWO BEAT

BASS

[DEFENSIVE, BROTHERLY FOR SISTER]

I see. So, there is a love life to be defensive of now, huh?

TWO BEAT

FIONNA

[PETURBED]

You know I hate it when you do that!

BASS

How long?

FIONNA

Oh, I am SOOOOOO not talking to you about this! Like. . .EVER!

BASS

As if I could do anything from down here anyway.

FIONNA

[ANNOYED]

You intimidated James while you were on assignment in Cincinnati that one time. He stopped responding to any of my calls after that.

BASS

Okay, ONE! I had just been shot in the leg! Two, I was super doped up on Vicodin in the hospital. Three, there was an open land-line next to the bed. Four, I didn't appreciate the way you spoke to you, and frankly you shouldn't have been either and five. . . . I've only apologized like forty times for that over the last eight years.

FIONNA

He moved out of Hawaii. Last I heard he was living somewhere on the mainland. You going to tell me now what it was you said to him to make him run?

BASS

[SOMEWHAT APOLOGETIC]

It's not important, and anyway. . . I don't honestly remember.

TWO BEAT

FIONNA

[STERN, FOCUSED, MOM-VOICE]

Are you lying to me Bass Marlow?

BASS

[SHEEPISH]

Yeah.

FIONNA

Hence, why I'm not going to talk about Connor.
[THREE BEAT] DAMN IT!

BASS

Alright. Now I have a first name. That should be all I need to start.

FIONNA

Bass!

BASS

Fee!

TWO BEAT

FIONNA

You need to stop!

BASS

Oh c'mon! You know I'm only. . .like half kidding. It might even shock you to hear that I'm not jumping in to try to solve every problem that Kendra has. I'm accepting that she is a grown up, is able to speak up for herself and I don't stick my foot in unless asked.

TWO BEAT

FIONNA

Shut.the.front.door! Now I **HAVE** to meet Kendra if she managed to unwedge that over-protective of ladies stick up your ass!

SOUNDS OF JOGGING FOOTSTEPS RUNNING PAST BASS' OPEN DOOR

BASS

Alright. Sounds like we may have something stirring down here. Need to go stick my head into operations.

FIONNA

[QUICKLY]

Real fast! One last thing!

BASS

What's up?

FIONNA

[NERVOUS]

I uh. [DEEP BREATH] I've hesitated saying, anything givin. . well, everything going on.

BASS

You're making me nervous, Fee!

FIONNA

After; well after they finished clearing out. .
.Chuck's office; they found some documents and. .
.and a computer file.

BASS

Okay. [TWO BEAT] Andddddddd?

FIONNA

The documents: I'll scan those and include them
in the email. They're. . .it's his and Janet's
last will and testament. The computer file is on
a thumbdrive. I downloaded the file, but its
password protected. I could break it in theory,
but I'm almost positive it's for you and that
you'd already have the password. The file is
named. . .send underscore to underscore donkey
underscore brains. If um. . .if you think you're
up for it. . .I send the file down. Looks like an
MP4 file, so probably a personal video message.

BASS

[CONFUSED]

Charlie couldn't work a V.C.R; let alone a laptop
webcam. [SIGH] Send me what you found. I'll go
through it.

FIONNA

You sure you're ready?

BASS

Just send it, okay?

FIONNA

Alright. I'll send it now. You take care of
yourself down there. We'll chat soon.

BASS

Bye Fee.

**HANGUP SPEAKER. BASS SITS UP FROM HIS DESK AND OPENS HIS
OFFICE DOOR. WALKING DOWN THE HALL TO THE OPERATIONS
CENTER. WE HEAR THE STANDARD STATION NPISES AND CHATTER
INCREASE AS HE APPROACHES.**

ACT V

LARRY

But I honestly can't say I'm surprised, given the . . .unusual warm reaction from last year.

OPS WORKER

Final telemetry confirmed. They're prepping to take off and will be here late this evening.

LARRY

Mister Kelley. Have the new policies from Washington DC been put into effect yet?

THOMAS

Um; well, no sir, not yet anyway. Still another week before they go into full enforcement. For now, we're just supposed to document and record. No other restrictions for now.

LARRY

Most likely explains why they are early this go-round.

BASS

[LOW SO AS TO NOT INTERRUPT]

Mister Kelley? Is there a problem?

THOMAS

Oh, no no. Nothing like that. . .we just got. . .

LARRY

Alright people! Some of you have been through this in years past. For most of you this will be a new. . .experience. Thankfully, we have new security protocols in place which should make THIS go-round less; eventful.

NERVOUS MURMURS

LARRY

Mister Kelley! [RESIGNED SIGH] Make the call.

PA CHIME IN

THOMAS

Hello. . . everybody. Well. . .I mean obviously
this isn't. . Ms. June, not really; used to. .

MAGIC CHIMES

CHERYL-LYNN

I'm back, I'm back. I got this Tommy!

THOMAS

[RELEIVED]

Oh, thank goodness!

CHERYL-LYNN

Okay Ya'll. . .Ms. Cheryl -Lynn here with some. .
.here we go, breaking news! The. . .well now
this is an 'uh-oh'. Amundsen-Scott operations
was just notified; We'll be receiving a visit
from the Trolls this evening. They'll be with us
for their normal twenty-four-hour visit,
departing tomorrow evening.

Departments heads: please use last year's
procedures for the Troll visit and submit to
Mister Kelley by 17:00 Hours today. Don't wait
for the last minute, get your repair supply list
into Zeke now for the inevitable damage.

I'll have update instructions ready for ya'll; in
my morning daily updates tomorrow. Thank Youuu!!!

PA CHIME OUT

NERVOUS CHATTER FROM OPS

LARRY

DEPUTY. . .Marshal. I'm sure you'll be expected
by our. . .international scientific diplomat to
our guests, and to be present and just as . .
.delightful as you were last year.

BASS

[EXCITED]

Doctor, I have a debt to repay, and I don't like
being in anybody's debt! I'll be there with bells
on.

LARRY TURNS TO WALK AWAY

LARRY

Oh, I honestly don't really care. Just excited this will be their last visit for a while after the Senate restrictions are in place. Finally, something is going. . .[DOOR SHUTS]

THOMAS

Should. . .Do you want me to head downstairs and get it out from Reno's private stock? I'm happy to do it!

BASS

No Mister Kelley. No. This is something I've been waiting on for a long time now. Too long!

RECORDING STOPPED

ACT VI

FADE IN. WE'RE IN THE LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM. ALL THE DEPARTMENT HEADS AND A FEW OTHER ARE MEETING TO DISCUSS THE UPCOMING TROLL VISITATION.

ZEKE

. . .but I think the main point to take away from my boy Keenan's presentation here; is he talks TOO DAMN MUCH! Condense youngblood! You ain't impressing nobody with fifty-cent words!

A FEW CHUCKLES FROM THE CROWD

ZEKE

Nah, nah. I'm just clown'n with him. Man brings up some really good points. We usually only get three or four trolls at any one time. When they alone and apart from one another, things are only mildly bad.

You get them all together, and there is ANY booze within thirty yards; that when it gets wild up in here! Expect property damage. Anything not secured down will be used as a projectile. If you make eye-contact, expect to be rushed; Especially by the tall, long hair blonde one! [chuckle] Cat has a MEAN right hook!

LANDRY

Wait up just a second here, you! These trolls coming out dis way. . .day gonna make this much of a dust up?

ZEKE

Happens every year.

PATRICK

Those dudes. . .they can take like. . . a MASSIVE amount of happy-smile meds I grow; and it doesn't even slow them down! Only thing that ever worked was my Cousin Jimmy's stuff. Even then, that only slowed them down for an hour or so.

JULIA

I see I'm going to need to schedule a refresher course on station temperance again Mr. Dobber. I also think it would be wise if we locked up all the Alcohol while the Norwegians are on-station!

ZEKE

I appreciate your suggestion, Ms. Chipperfield; but we tried that one time three or four years back. Made the situation even WORSE!

JULIA

The last Human Resources employee filled me in on everything to do with the Norwegians. I must admit, I've never seen so many . . ."pre-briefs" on known trouble spots. The Norwegians, the Biggs boys, A. . .spirit, caribou . . .do they mean Caribbean spirits? Don't know. And what exactly is a . . .bumble?

ZEKE

I'll ask Mister Kelley to fill. . .[QUICKLY]it's a stupid kiddie cartoon name that don't really describe the situation. . .[NORMAL SPEED]to fill you in later; but only six hours left until they arrive. Let's try to focus here people.

JOVAC

I'm uh. . .having all the, well. . . all the most expensive and sensitive scientific gear hauled out to the Ice Cube lab. They never seem interested in that, should be, safe there.

ZEKE

Good Idea doctor. [TWO BEAT] Ummm, I see you have your own V.I.P. coming in tomorrow night Agent Fowler.

JOYCLYN

[BORED]

Yup.

ZEKE

We ain't boring you here are we, Agent?

JOYCLYN

Pretty much!

ZEKE

Well then you just keep resting your boots on the table there and we'll try not to keep you awake too much longer.

TOMMY

Um. . .I . .have the menu of tomorrow night's banquet all set; Ms. Alice has her list and ingredients all ready; I figured we'd do the cocktail reception in the big gym this time vs. the B-1 lounge. Less. . . stuff to break in there. I have their guest berths all set and reinforced and Reno Dave said he'd be happy to host them in the new bar upon their arriving. Glass mugs are stowed away, and his finest plastic ware will be out tonight. Gonna. . .red solo cup it up! [Chuckle]

JOYCLYN

[UNDER HER BREATH]

Bum kisser!

ZEKE

Nice Job Tommy! You sure you got all that covered?

TOMMY

Oh, it's no problem. Mx. Webster and I are getting used to it after last year.

NIC

The trolls may be loud, obnoxious, prone to horseplay, lack any sense of social decorum, have basic balance or coordination; but the one thing you can always count on them for. . .is repetition! Makes it easy to get everything in place.

ZEKE

Okay. . .

PAPERS FLIPPING

We got Science operations complete. Reception and dinner complete, accommodations, tours, station security complete. Agent Flower, is. . .

PAPER FLIP

'Restricted. Security. Areas' complete?

JOYCLYN

[BORED]

Yup.

JULIA

[OVERLY CHIPPER AND BUBBLY]

I went ahead and reached out to my counterpart at Troll II station! We're setting up the usual joint conference calls with our N.S.F. Director Patchenatwin; and their Minister of Higher Education, Doctor Bollestad. We'll be reviewing and discussing current scientific endeavors; current climate and environmental research, all exciting stuff!

Oh! We'll also be discussing how to continue with joint scientific endeavors given the current geopolitical and international relation challenges!

JOYCLYN

[YAWN]

ZEKE

[Faux impressedness]

Uh huh! You Dexter's sure do know how to party!
Okay then. . .for those of you who were hear last
year; the Trolls took a special interest in
Lawman. He was actually able to keep their
fool'n down to a minimum. Doc Waynewright asked
that he act as their. . .babysitter for the time
they're on station. Even so, I'll have repair
teams two and three on standby. Landry, have
fire teams five and six ready to scramble.

LANDRY

Still don't see what all the fuss is 'bout. Swamp
gator. Snow-gator, hockey puck-gator; all wrestle
the same. But you don't worry mon'ami! Landry has
you covered on dis!

ZEKE

Okay people. We got three hours before they
arrive. I'm going to go see Doc Ambrose to make
sure he all stocked up. Let's do it people.

CHAIRS ROLL BACK, PEOPLE MILLING OUT OF THE ROOM.

JOYCLYN

Oh, thank CHRIST! I thought that would go on for
another hour! Tempest in a teacup honestly!

ZEKE

Okay. This is something you just have to
experience for yourself. Tell you what. . .we'll
talk after they gone, and you tell me then what
your opinion of them is?

JOYCLYN

Honestly don't care!

JOYC'S RECORDER: RECORDING HAS CONCLUDED

ACT VII

FADE IN. SELECT STATION STAFF ARE INSIDE OF DESTINATION ALPHA. A RECEPTION AND GREETING COMITEE FOR THE INCOMING TROLLS. THERE IS IDLE CHATTER, SOMEWHAT NERVOUS AS WE HEAR BASS JOGGING TO GET INTO PLACE.

LARRY

You had more pressing business to attend to DEPUTY Marshal? The Norwegian contingent landed five minutes ago and are on their way from Pax station. [HARRRUMP] Honestly!

KENDRA

[LEANS OVER]

Hey you! Everything. . .okay?

BASS

Hey you. Nah, everything is BETTER than fine. Just wanted to make a few last-minute checks to ensure we were all ready.

KENDRA

I'm so curious to finally. . .well to have enough courage . . .

BASS

To be comfortable. . .

KENDRA

Better put!. . .To be comfortable to interact with the . . .the trolls. . .I've only ever heard the stories after their visits.

BASS

I must admit, I wasn't sure what I was in for last year when they visited. After all the precautions I saw, all the hesitation and concern from people here on station; I thought it was going to be a disaster.

KENDRA

Well, the amount of damage each year is impressive to say the least. Like seeing the aftermath of a hurricane or tornado.

ZEKE

All the preparations are in place and Keenan just radioed their snowcat from Pax arrived. They're here.

LARRY

[TO THE SMALL GATHERED CROWD]

Alright everybody. Twenty-Four hours. We only have to put up with their. . .antics for twenty-four hours and we can get back to. .

FOOTSTEPS RUNNING UP

THOMAS

[EXCITED]

DOCTOR WAYNEWRIGHT! DOCTOR WAYNEWRIGHT!

LARRY

[FRUSTRATED]

Mister Kelley, you're supposed to be ready to play their National Anthem. The Trolls have arrived!

ZEKE

I got ya Tommy.

RADIO BEEP

ZEKE

Ops, play their anthem!

THOMAS

[RUSHED]

This just came in over main communications! I though you'd want to see this right away.

JA, VI ELSKER DETTE LANDET PLAYS ON THE STATION PA

VOICE ON PA

The national anthem, of the Norway people.

LARRY

Give me that!

**PIECE OF PAPER BEING UNFLODED.
THREE BEAT**

LARRY
[SHOCKED, DISBELEIF]
Uh. . .I won! I, I won the Nobel Prize.

THOMAS
[EXCITED]
Isn't it WONDERFUL! Let me be the first to shake
the hand of the newest Nobel Laureate!

LARRY
I won? Well yes, yes Mister Thomas, Thank you.
Thank you indeed but. . .

AIRLOCK DOOR OPENS, ROWDY BUNCH ENTER THE STATION

TROLL I
HOW-DEE! ICE SHERIFF BASS!

ISLIN
[WARMLY]
Hello again Deputy Marshal!

WE HEAR BASS' BODYCAMERA BEING TAKEN OFF.

BASS
Zeke, Hold onto this for me!

**RAPID BOOTSTEPS FADING OUT AND THEN THE SOUND OF AGGRESSIVE
HORSEPLAY.**

LARRY
[DISBELEIF]
I, I won!

KENDRA
[SHOCKED]
BASS! What are you. . .Zeke! Help him!

ZEKE
Nah, he's good. Everything is okay.

KENDRA
BUT THEY'RE FIGHTING!

ZEKE

Aww, no. . they're not fighting, Lawman is just
thanking them. You know, for saving his life last
season.

KENDRA

[SO CONFUSED]

Thanking them?

ZEKE

He's thanking them, their way!

LARRY

I, won?

OUTRO & CREDITS