

"GALACTICA"

~~The Man of Sentinel 27~~

CROSSFIRE

Story and Teleplay

by

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~~FIRST DRAFT TELEPLAY  
ACTS ONE AND TWO  
REVISED  
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1st Draft Teleplay

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The Nari of Sentinel 27

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

1. INT. THE GLACTICA BRIDGE

ADAMA and TIGH watch the large screen as the battle star and her fleet move through the rainbow colored gases of an embryonic solar system. It's a lyrical experience that causes everyone on the Bridge to stop their duties and watch for a few moments.

ADAMA

I was just out of the Academy and on my probationary tour of duty when I saw my first one of these. It was like the stories of ancient sailors I had heard as a child.

TIGH

The birth of a new solar system still reminds me of the death of our own.

Starbuck's VOICE crackles over the P.A.

STARBUCK (V.O.)

(futzd)

Starbuck to bridge...is that a beautiful sight or have I been flying too many missions?

Tigh quickly moves to the communications console and grabs a head set.

TIGH

Com-central to Recon leader...knock off the chatter and keep your reports official.

STARBUCK (V.O.)

(futzd)

Affirmative. Patrol 19 reports sector 8 is clear...

2. INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

STARBUCK

(continuing)

...and we are now beginning a sweep of sector 9.

The CAMERA SHIFTS ANGLE to reveal a squadron of five fighters in formation next to STARBUCK.

## 2. CONTINUED:

STARBUCK  
 (into radio)  
 Recon leader to patrol, let's move  
 out.

## 3. EXT. SPACE - THE FIGHTERS

bank to the right and hit their engines...each peels off  
 in perfect form...except the last which uses too much power  
 and swings far too wide as a result.

## 4. INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

As he looks over his shoulder and sees the last ship breaking  
 the formation.

STARBUCK  
 Recon leader to Cadet Cree...tighten  
 up your turn and rejoin the group. It's  
 bad enough I have to baby sit, I don't  
 want to spend the rest of the day rounding  
 up strays.

## 5. INT. FIGHTER - TIGHT ON

CADET TERRY CREE. Just nineteen, and from the tense look  
 on his face, we see that he's ~~in a state of~~ *THE OVER ANXIOUS*

CREE  
 Cree to Recon leader...sorry sir...  
 (he's tongue tied)  
 ...I'm...it won't happen again...sir.

## 6. INT. GALACTICA BRIDGE - FAVORING TIGH

as he presses several buttons, changing the large screen's  
 picture to a computer animated 3D projection of the battle  
 star's position in the galaxy. A flashing blip indicates  
 the fleet's progress as they move slowly into a blue tinted  
 area of the projection. Tigh picks up a head set.

TIGH  
 (to Starbuck)  
 Com-central to Patrol 19. Our color  
 sensors show us entering a Blue  
 Spectrum. Report all findings before  
 taking any action.

6. CONTINUED:

STARBUCK (V.O.)  
(futzd)  
Patrol 19 to Com-central. Affirmative.

Adama joins Tigh as they watch the large screen.

TIGH.  
Adama, I don't like using ~~the~~ cadets on these patrols. And now we're entering a Blue Spectrum, a part of the galaxy only explored by robot cameras. We can't be sure what we'll run into.

ADAMA  
Colonel, Starbuck is on his fifth continuous tour of duty. The rest of the fighter pilots are just as over worked. I don't like this any better than you do, and at the moment I don't see that we have a choice.

The CAMERA PULLS BACK as Athena joins them, handing copies of a report to each man.

ATHENA  
Here are the daily navigation reports. Page two indicates unusual heat coming from an astroid in sector eleven.

Taking the reports, both men turn to page two and exchange looks.

ADAMA  
Heat? From an astroid? What do you make of it Colonel?

TIGH  
Let's send an unmanned probe.

ATHENA  
Any change in course for the fleet?

ADAMA  
(thinking a moment)  
No...let's hold present course and speed.

7. INT. LAUNCH TUBE

The unmanned probe shoots by like a missile.

8.

GALACTICA BRIDGE

The CAMERA MOVING WITH Athena as she punches up a picture of the unmanned probe on the large screen.

ATHENA  
Probe launched sir.

Adama joins her.

ADAMA  
What can our long range scanners give us on the astroid?

ATHENA  
Nothing. The heat is so intense that it just sends back our own signals.

SKYLER enters the bridge and joins them.

SKYLER  
I just heard about the probe. What have we got?

ADAMA  
We don't know yet.

ATHENA  
(showing Skyler the navigation report)  
An astroid...but a very hot one.

The bridge P.A. system interrupts them as Starbuck calls in.

STARBUCK (V.O.)  
(futzd)  
Recon leader to Com-central. I wish you guys would tell us when you're going to launch...

9.

INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

STARBUCK  
(continuing)  
a probe. One of my cadets almost shot it down.

ADAMA (V.O.)  
(futzd)  
Com-central to Recon-leader...which of your cadets is getting trigger happy?

## 10. INT. FIGHTER - TIGHT ON

Cadet Terry Cree...listening and ashamed.

STARBUCK (V.O.)

(futzed)

Recon leader to Com-central. Why don't we just drop it. It was a mistake and...

## 11. THE BRIDGE - TIGHT ON ADAMA

as Starbuck concludes his report.

STARBUCK (V.O.)

(futzed)

...no one was hurt.

Adama ~~stzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz~~ comes down hard on Starbuck.

ADAMA

Lt. Starbuck...when I ask you a man's name, I expect you to give it to me. Now who was the Cadet?

## 12. INT. CREE'S FIGHTER

The Cadet lowers his head as Starbuck mentions his name.

STARBUCK (V.O.)

(futzed)

It was Cadet Cree, sir.

ADAMA (V.O.)

(futzed)

Have him report to Colonel Tigh when you finish your tour of duty.

## 13. INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

Starbuck takes a deep breath before answering.

STARBUCK

Yes sir.

ADAMA (V.O.)

(futzed)

All right...now we've got an astrocid in sector 11 that is giving off so much heat our scanners can't penetrate to the surface.

18. CONTINUED:

STARBUCK

Starbuck to patrol...I've got contact with the probe. Standby while I call the Galactica.

19. GALACTICA BRIDGE

Everyone is gathered around the large screen. The probe's camera fills the screen with the rim of the astroid.

ATHENA

Thirty seconds to go and we'll have a look at what's causing that heat.

The P.A. brings them Starbuck's VOICE.

STARBUCK (V.O.)

(futzd)

Recon leader to Com-central. I'm watching your probe and standing by.

Adama picks up a head set.

ADAMA

We read you Recon leader. I'll relay what we see here, directly to you.

The CAMERA PUSHES IN on the large screen. Athena counts the seconds off out loud.

ATHENA

Fifteen seconds...14, 13, 12, 11, 10,

20. CLOSE UP - SKYLER

watching and silently counting along with Athena.

ATHENA (O.S.)

9, 8 7,

21. CLOSE UP - ADAMA

His face like stone.

ATHENA (O.S.)

6, 5, 4, 3,

~~ADAMA AND THE OTHERS~~

## 22. THE LARGE SCREEN - PAST ADAMA

and the others. The probe's camera showing the effects of the extreme heat.

ATHENA

2,1, zero.

The probe's camera reveals a flat terrain...a huge mountain... and a giant canon. Adama and the others get only a glimpse before a blood red tongue of laser fire streaks out from the canon and destroys the probe and the picture it sends to the Glactica.

## 23. ADAMA

His mouth open in awe of what he's seen. The CAMERA PANS ACROSS all the faces in the room. No one can find a word to say. It's Starbuck's VOICE over the P.A. that breaks the silence.

STARBUCK (V.O.)

(futzd)

Recon leader to Com-central.  
What the hell happened to that probe.  
My scanner registered a laser blast  
more powerful than a fleet of battle  
stars.

(no one answers him)

Recon leader to Com-central, did you  
hear me?

ADAMA

(his voice hushed)

Tell Starbuck to get back here on  
the double.

Tigh picks up the head set.

TIGH

Com-central to Recon leader. Return  
to base.

## 24. INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

STARBUCK

(smiling with relief)

Recon leader to Com-central. Yes sir!

(to his men)

Okay boys, let's go home.

25. INT. CREE'S FIGHTER

The Cadet is sweating with excitement and fear.

CREE

Lt. Starbuck...we're not going to run  
are we?

~~25.~~ ~~34~~  
26. INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

STARBUCK

No ~~Cree~~...we're going back to the  
Galactica so we can dress properly  
for the occasion.

(he shakes his head)

You're damn right we're running,  
Cree. Now all of you listen. Follow  
me single file. And keep your eyes  
on those scanners.

CREE (V.O.)

(breaking in)

Sir...we should attack...we've got  
six good fighters...

STARBUCK

(cutting him off)

Cree, I can't tell if you're deaf or  
stupid. How many times do I have to  
give you an order before you understand?

27. INT. CREE'S FIGHTER

The Cadet takes a deep breath and hits his turbos.

28. EXT. SPACE

As the Cadet's fighter breaks away from the formation  
and heads toward the asteroid.

29. INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

Starbucks looks over his shoulder as he sees Cree's fighter  
peel off.

STARBUCK

Cree...what ~~stupid~~ stunt are you  
pulling now?

~~Starbucks looks over his shoulder as he sees Cree's fighter peel off.~~

30. INT. CREE'S FIGHTER

He quickly checks his weapons system while answering Starbuck.

CREE

Sir...after today there's a good chance I'm going to be washed out of the cadets. Maybe this will let me show everyone that I have what it takes.

STARBUCK (V.O.)

(futzd)

Cree, you ~~don't have to prove~~ anything to anyone.

*aren't proving*

CREE

Than at least I'll prove it to myself.

31. INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

STARBUCK

Recon leader to Com-central. Cadet Cree has decided to attack whatever it is down there on the astroid. Request permission to give chase.

32. GALACTICA'S BRIDGE

FAVORING Adama as he grabs the head set. Skyler, Athena and Tigh crowd around.

ADAMA

Starbuck, this is Adama. Stop that fool and I don't care how. Shoot him down if you have to.

STARBUCK (V.O.)

(futzd)

Repeat sir.

ADAMA

I said shoot him down if you have to. That cadet is risking the lives of every person in this fleet.

~~INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER~~

~~It takes a moment for him to accept Adama's order.~~

~~STARBUCK~~

~~for sir.~~

33.

INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

It takes him a moment to accept Adama's order.

STARBUCK

Yes sir.

(He clears his throat)

Recon leader to Patrol, We will activate turbos on the count of three. Our orders are to pursue Cadet Cree and if he refuses to turn back...

The words stick in Starbuck's throat. The VOICE of one of the OTHER PILOTS finishes the sentence for him.

PILOT (V.O.)

(futzd)

We heard the order sir.

STARBUCK

Thanks. Begin countdown. One... two...three...fire turbos!

34.

EXT. SPACE - THE FIVE FIGHTERS

Blast off in pursuit of Cree.

35.

EXT. CREE'S FIGHTER

as it races toward the astroid.

36.

EXT. STARBUCK'S SQUADRON

sweeping by us with a roar of engines.

37.

INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

He rapidly hits the switches that activate his weapons systems.

STARBUCK

Recon leader to Cree. Turn your fighter around or we will shoot you down. Do you read me?

## 38. INT. CREE'S FIGHTER

The cadet wipes the sweat from his eyes as he pushes the throttle forward and arms his own weapons.

## 39. INT. GALACTICA BRIDGE

Adama, Tigh, and Skyler watch the large screen that traces the pursuit. Both Cree and Starbuck's squadron are quickly approaching the rim of the astroid.

TIGH

It's going to be close.

SKYLER

Not close enough. They'll be in the canon's range before Starbuck can get to him.

## 40. INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

STARBUCK

Recon leader to squadron. I'm going to try and put one across his nose. Everyone else hold their fire.

Starbuck launches a torpedo, the CAMERA PANS DOWN TO Starbuck's scanner and watches the missile close in on Cree's ship.

## 41. INT. CREE'S COCKPIT

The explosion of Starbuck's torpedo in front of him, rocks the fighter violently. But they've reached the point of no return as Cree passes over the astroid's horizon.

CREE

Cree to Recon leader. I'm going in low. You're welcome to join me.

## 42. GALACTICA'S BRIDGE - TIGHT ON

Skyler and Athena.

SKYLER

He's entered the canon's range.

ATHENA

And there goes Starbuck right behind him.

## 43. EXT. ASTROID

Our first view of this the far side. Both surface and sky are, tinted with hot amber light...the color reflecting off the huge gold dome perched on top of a mountain. From out of the dome sticks the crystal like muzzle of a giant laser canon.

Cree's fighter streaks by a high speed, racing just above the astroids surface. Moments later, at a higher altitude, Starbuck's squadron follows.

## 44. INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

We can see the other ships flanking him.

STARBUCK

Okay men, spread out and keep your eyes open for fighters.

The VOICE of one of the squadron is heard over the radio.

PILOT (V.O.)

Sir...Cadet Cree is under fire from ground to air missles.

STARBUCK

If they aren't using that canon, they must want to take him alive.

## 45. CREE'S FIGHTER - WEAVING

as it tries to avoid the missles that explode around it.

## 46. THE GIANT CANON

A flash of laser fire streaks from the muzzle.

## 47. INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

As the giant laser beam flashes infront of his ship.

STARBUCK

It looks like their saving the big gun for us men, scramble formation.

## 48. EXT. THE FIGHTERS

As they break formation, scrambling into different directions.

## 49. INT. CREE'S FIGHTER

As he fires his laser at the giant canon. But the canon's gold dome simply deflects the shot. Suddenly ~~several~~ SEVERAL missiles explode around Cree. He tries to control the ship but his engines begin burning. The fighter goes out of control and heads for the surface of the astroid.

## 50. EXT. ASTROID - CREE'S FIGHTER

makes a crash landing. The cadet leaps from his burning ship. A Cylon ground force begins surrounding Cree and in a matter of moments, the cadet is a prisoner.

Starbuck's fighter sweeps low overhead, doing a barrel roll before quickly gaining altitude.

## 51. EXT. THE GIANT CANON

Another burst from the weapons and one of Starbuck's fighters explode.

## 52. INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

STARBUCK  
(seeing the fighter explode)  
Recon leader to all fighters. Cree is down and captured...and Kanin is dead. Let's get out of here. That's an order.

## 53. EXT. THE FOUR REMAINING FIGHTERS

Each pilot dodging the blasts from the laser canon as they zig-zag back toward the astroid's horizon.

## 54. INT. GALACTICA'S BRIDGE - FAVORING ADAMA

as they watch the large screen and see the four remaining fighters appear from behind the astroid and head for the battle star.

TIGH  
(joining Adama)  
Only four fighters are returning.

Adama nods solemnly and turns to Athena.

54. CONTINUED:

ADAMA

Athena, find out who we lost and  
tell the others to land at Bay 17.  
I'm going down to meet them.

The Bridge is silent as Adama leaves. Athena moves to  
her brother.

ATHENA

Skyler, I'm afraid to call them.  
I'm afraid it won't be Starbuck  
that answers.

Skyler takes the head set from her.

SKYLER

Com-central to Recon leader.

After several tense seconds.

STARBUCK (V.O.)

(futzd)

Recon leader to Com-central. Is  
that you Skyler?

Skyler puts his arm around Athena.

SKYLER

Yeah pal, it's me. Are you okay?

55. INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

His face is a mask of sadness.

STARBUCK

I lost two of my men, Skyler.  
One dead and one captured.

SKYLER (V.O.)

(futzd)

I hear you pal. We've all been there.

STARBUCK

I'm scared Skyler. I've seen the most  
powerful canon ever built, and I'm  
~~scared~~ *frightened to death.*

56. EXT. SPACE - THE FOUR REMAINING FIGHTERS

race toward the Galactica. Behind them, the astroid hangs  
in space like a giant fortress.

FADE OUT - ACT ONE CURTAIN

ACT TWO:

FADE IN:

57. INT. GALACTICA'S WAR ROOM - THE ASTROID FILLS THE SCREEN behind Adama as he addresses the QUORUM OF TWELVE, outlining what has, and will happen.

ADAMA

Now Starbuck is sure that the ground forces he saw capture Cadet Cree, were Cylons.

LYRA, now a member of the Quorum, interrupts.

LYRA

Why didn't our people encounter Cylon fighters.

ADAMA

First, I don't feel that the Cylons expected our fighters. Second, the canon is so powerful, I don't think they use fighters to defend it.

Another member, an OLD MAN, speaks out.

OLD MAN

Why don't we just change our course and get out of here? They can't chase us with that astroid.

A murmur runs through the Quorum.

ADAMA

I wish we could. But I'm sure that the Cylons have alerted every Cylon Battle Star in the Galaxy of our presence. Turning around, ~~what they hope we'll do~~ *WE'D RUN Right into them.*

58. CLOSE UP - ADAMA

making an even stronger point.

ADAMA

And remember, the Cylons didn't build that canon just to defend an astroid. They plan to use it with the same trechery that has cost every person in this room a loved one *and a home land.*



61. CONTINUED:

The young man, named KANG, stands.

KANG

I'm a weapons analyst...I've never even fired a carbine in combat. ~~but~~

~~the canon is a piece of junk~~

SKYLER

If our weapons can't destroy the canon, your job will be to come up with another way to do ~~it~~ <sup>it</sup>.

If ~~we~~ <sup>WE</sup> have time, we'd like to ~~also~~ <sup>also</sup> get some idea of how ~~it~~ <sup>it</sup> was built.

~~as well~~

the canon

A skinny young man with straw-like hair raises his hand.

SKYLER

Question?

YORK

Will the Galactica be able to give us any support.

SKYLER

Negative. And we won't have fighter cover. We'll be on our own.

YORK

What about the Cadet...Cree I think his name is.

STARBUCK

Cadet Cree was under my command. If he is still alive, we'll try and rescue him.

Skyler ~~ends the briefing.~~ ends the briefing.

SKYLER

Gentlemen, I'm afraid experience will have to answer the rest of your questions. We launch in half an hour. Be assembled on the flight deck with full battle gear in fifteen minutes.

62. INT. ADAMA'S PRIVATE QUARTERS.

Adama sits deep in the shadows, a tired man. Tired of losing sons, tired of seeing others go through the same grief. A soft knock at the door ends his privacy.

62. CONTINUED:

ADAMA

Come in.

Skyler, wearing ~~the~~ mylar colored combat gear that looks like a cross between football and boxing equipment, respectfully enters.

SKYLER

You wanted to see me, sir?

ADAMA

(speaking from shadows)

In this room Skyler, I want you to call me father.

SKYLER

(sitting opposite Adama)

Yes sir...

(he smiles)

...I mean father.

Skyler becomes a little uneasy as Adama doesn't say anything. They just look at each other. After several seconds...

ADAMA

Suddenly you look a lot like <sup>your brother</sup> Zac... you're excited at the prospect of combat...your adrenaline is pumping, your mind racing...your confidence showing.

(Skyler glances at his watch)

I know, your men are waiting.

Adama adjusts the light so he is more easily seen.

ADAMA

(continuing)

Col. Tigh informs me that <sup>our</sup> a Cylon Task Force is building up. <sup>long RANGE SCANNERS SHOW</sup> Overkill is the word...and I think the Cylons plan to apply it to us.

SKYLER

How will that effect the mission.

ADAMA

It gives you only eighteen hours to get down, do your job, and get back to the Galactica. After that I have to move the Fleet, I won't be able to wait for you.

Skyler understands and nods.

## 14. GALACTICA BRIDGE - FAVORING ADAMA

ADAMA  
(continuing)

Finish your sweep of sector 9, then take a standby position near sector 11. Any questions?

STARBUCK (V.O.)  
(futzied)

Yes sir. Since when did astroids give off heat?

SKYLER  
(joining Adama)  
The man's got a good question.

ADAMA  
(to Starbuck after a glance at Skyler)  
Com-central to Recon leader, report you position when you near sector 11. That's all for now.

He puts down the head set. The CAMERA MOVES WITH Adama as he crosses to Athena.

ADAMA  
Athena, activate the probe's camera and let's see what we get.

She immediately programs the large screen. A static filled picture blinks to life, for the first time giving everyone a look at the astroids gray, dead looking, near side. But from the far side, a halo of heat radiates out. Tigh lets out a whistle as he joins them.

TIGH  
Something tells me I'd give a months pay to be somewhere else.

ADAMA  
(his first smile)  
I agree Colonel.  
(to Athena)  
How long before the probe passes the rim of the astroid's horizon and gives us a look at the far side?

ATHENA  
Fifteen minutes, sir.

## 15.. INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

He glances out his window at the five other ships.

STARBUCK

Okay fellas, that takes care of sector 9. Cree...move your ship to my right wing. The rest of you guys fall in behind us. We're going astroid hunting...maybe.

## 16. EXT. THE FIGHTERS

as they move into their assigned positions.

## 17. INT. CREE'S FIGHTER

The youth is very upset.

CREE

Lt. Starbuck...I'm really okay now... I mean, you don't have to keep me next to you...I won't mess up again.

STARBUCK (V.O.)

(futzted)

Cree...jsut relax and enjoy the trip.

CREE

Sir...Col. Tigh is going to wash me out as a Cadet, isn't he?

## 18. INT. STARBUCK'S FIGHTER

Starbuck rubs his face, tired.

STARBUCK

Cree...just do what I tell you. We'll talk about it back at base.

CREE (V.O.)

(futzted)

But sir, that'll be too late...

STARBUCK

(getting angry)

Cree...I said drop it. That's an order.

Starbuck looks out his cockpit window, then checks his scanner screen.

62. CONTINUED:

SKYLER  
 (rising)  
 I have to go Dad, the men... ~~are~~

His voice trails off.

ADAMA  
 ...are waiting, I know.  
 (rising, he hugs his son)  
 I love you son.

SKYLER  
 I love you too, Dad.

They look at each other a moment, then Skyler turns and leaves.

63. THE FLIGHT DECK - FAVORING STARBUCK

as he personally checks each mans' weapons and back pack. When he's approved the man's equipment, he slaps him on the helmet and the warrior boards the shuttle craft that will take them to the astroid. Skyler jogs into the shot.

SKYLER  
 We ready?

STARBUCK  
 (okaying the last man)  
 All set.

SKYLER  
 How about the men?

STARBUCK  
 They love the idea of fly now,  
 pay later.

Both men laugh as they board the shuttle. The CAMERA PANS UP to see Adama and Athena watching from above.

64 TIGHT SHOT - THE SHUTTLE CRAFT ENGINE

as it ignites in a birght orange flame.



## 69. VARIOUS ANGLES

As the assault team makes its way over the rocky terrain, crossing to asteroid's horizon and moving into the warm ambler light radiated by the canon and the gold dome that defends it.

## 70. ANGLE - A RIDGE

Skyler cautiously peers over it, and quickly pulls back, out of sight.

## 71. ANGLE - OTHER SIDE OF RIDGE

Skyler, crouching low, checks his pistol and carbine as Starbuck joins him.

STARBUCK

What have we got?

SKYLER

Look for yourself.

## 72. ANGLE - STARBUCK

as he peaks over the ridge.

## 73. STARBUCK'S POV

A cave entrance leading inside the mountain. Next to the entrance sits Cree's damaged fighter, guarded by three Cylons. ~~Starbuck looks for Cylons and leading a work force of Cylon looking people to the cave.~~

## 74. ANGLE - STARBUCK

As he ducks down next to Skyler.

STARBUCK

I'd say we found the back door.

SKYLER

How long do you feel it will take you to circle around and be ready to attack (KNOCK *in*) ~~from~~ the front door?

74. CONTINUED:

STARBUCK

How much time do we have left?

SKYLER

Fifteen hours before we have to  
be back to the Galactica.

STARBUCK

Give me six hours to <sup>in</sup> circle the  
mountain...let's say <sup>in</sup> eight hours  
~~and~~ we start shooting. That good  
for you?

SKYLER

(nodding)

Good luck.

Starbuck smiles and takes off, five of the men following him, Skyler waving the remaining five to move up to the ridge.

75. ANGLES - STARBUCK

As he leads his men through a gorge and into a valley.

76. ANGLE - SKYLER

as he watches a changing of the guards surrounding Cree's fighter. He ducks down, the CAMERA MOVING WITH him.

SKYLER

(to his men)

It looks like the guards are on  
three hour shifts. One hour  
before Starbuck begins his attack,  
we'll overpower the guards. One  
of us will stay with the fighter,  
two of us will dress in the Cylon  
uniforms and pretend we've got  
the others as prisoners. The closer  
we can get to the canon before we  
have to start ~~shooting~~ the better.

OUR ATTACK

77. THE VILLAGE

European looking with a touch of gingerbread...but made  
of a glass-like substance. Deserted and alien looking  
to Starbuck as he views it through his field glasses.

## 78. REVERSE ANGLE - STARBUCK AND HIS MEN

as Starbuck lowers the glasses. Kang, the young black weapons analyst is nearest Starbuck.

KANG

It doesn't look real, sir. It's more like a model or a...toy.

York, the straw haired youth, joins them.

YORK

It doesn't look like something the Cylons would build.

STARBUCK

Well York, you're going to be one of the first to know...you and I are going inside.

(turning to Kang)

Kang...if York and I aren't back in twenty minutes, get back to Captain Skyler.

KANG

Yes sir.

STARBUCK

Ready York?

York nods, and together, he and Starbuck begin a zig-zag run toward the village.

## 79. ANGLE - INSIDE THE VILLAGE

We see Starbuck and York cautiously peer around a building.

## 80. KANG AND THE OTHER TWO WARRIORS

Watch Starbuck through field glass. Suddenly sticky, mesh nets drop over the three men. Each man is instantly trapped, and the nets have an anesthetizing effect as the men are just as quickly unconscious.

## 81. THE GALACTICA'S BRIDGE - FAVORING ADAMA

as he joins Tigh who is watching the build up of the Cylon Task Force being projected on the large screen.

ADAMA

What's your estimate of the situation?

81. CONTINUED:

*The Cylons ARE* TIGH  
~~The~~ gathering faster than I  
 figured. And that means they'll  
 be moving towards us sooner.

ADAMA

When?

TIGH

~~They'll have their forces together~~  
 In about four hours.

ADAMA

The Strike Force has used up  
 five hours already and...

TIGH

The Cylons will be all over us  
 in about another eight. We can't  
 out run them and we can out fight  
 them at these odds. If we abandon  
 the Strike Force and make a run for  
 it now, we might have a chance.

(Adama's look is the  
 answer)

I just wanted you to be aware of  
 the option. This could be the  
 end of the human race.

~~I have an hour to train about~~  
 it?  
 (Estimote)  
~~They'll be here in an hour. I~~  
~~don't know if we can hold out~~  
~~for that long.~~

82. EXT MOUNTAIN CAVE - THROUGH FIELD GLASSES

We watch the Cylon guards around Cree's fighter as they are  
 replaced by three new one.

83. SKYLER AND HIS MEN

SKYLER

(lowering the field glasses)  
 Right on schedule. I just hope  
 Starbuck is on schedule too.

## 84. INT. VILLAGE GLASS HOUSE - STARBUCK

and York cautiously enter. The CAMERA PULLS BACK TO include the room and it's furnishing. They too have an "old world charm" except for the fact that they also are glass-like in appearance. Moving with commando precision and silence, Starbuck and York search the downstairs of the house. Finding nothing, Starbuck gestures towards the stairs with his carbine.

STARBUCK  
(a whisper)  
Cover me.

York nods, Starbuck quietly moves up the stairs to the landing. York follows. Reversing the order, York proceeds to the second floor.

## 85. INT. VILLAGE HOUSE - UPSTAIRS

York, then Starbuck reach the second floor. Again they find the rooms empty, eachtime they emerge from one they can only shake their heads.

## 86. INT. BEDROOM - STARBUCK

finding nothing, goes to the window and looks out at the street below. He spots something just as York enters the room. Starbuck waves York away from the window as he also takes cover. We can now hear footsteps from outside. Starbuck takes the chance of exposing himself as he leans around the window sill to see.

## 87. STARBUCK'S POV - THE STREET BELOW

Kang and the other two members of Starbuck's team are being led, hands tied behind them, through the street. Their captors are human-looking, ~~but with coral blue skin.~~ five in all, wearing black hooded jump suits.

## 88. ANGLE - STARBUCK AND YORK

as they watch their men marched by. They both jump in surprise when they hear the VOICE behind them.

VOICE  
Your men will not be hurt.

89. FULL SHOT - THE ROOM

Past Starbuck and York as they find themselves facing another of the human-looking villagers...this one a beautiful female.

MONA 27

My name is Mona 27, my people are called the Nari. Please lower your weapons, they cannot hurt me or help your men.

York looks to Starbuck, who nods as they each lower their carbines.

STARBUCK

You look human, are you?

MONA 27

Consider us...these dwellings, as experiments that out lived their inventor. Follow me and I will rejoin you with your friends.

She turns and leaves the room. York and Starbuck cautiously follow.

YORK

(whispering)

Sir, I don't think this is very safe.

STARBUCK

(quietly)

No woman is safe, York, but I don't think we have a choice.

90. ANGLE - MONA 27

as she leads Starbuck and York through the village.

MONA 27

We were created long ago...before you had discovered the technology to reach our world. A human was doing research on aging. We are her experiments. This village is the laboratory.

YORK

What happen to your...the human?

Mona points to a single grave beside the road.

MONA 27

It was the only grave on our world... until the Cylons came.

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90. CONTINUED:

She turns and leads them into a rainbow colored geodesic dome in the center of the village.

91. INT. DOME

As Mona, Starbuck and York enter. The light reflects the color of the building, giving the room a peaceful quality. Starbuck and York halt just inside the door when they see more Nari seated at a long table. Mona 27 moves to an empty chair and sits with her people. A tall male stands.

FIRST NARI

My name is the First Nari...I am what you would call a leader.... though the word has no meaning for us.

STARBUCK

(looking around the room)  
She said we'd find our men here.

The CAMERA PANS WITH the First Nari as he walks to a wall and touches it. The wall becomes transparent, revealing Starbuck's men behind it. They seem unaware of what has happened. Starbuck raises his carbine and points it at the Nari.

STARBUCK

Release them.

The Nari again touches the wall and it loses its transparency.

STARBUCK

(angry and frightened)  
I said release them.

FIRST NARI

(smiling shyly)  
I have, they're behind you.

Starbuck and York spin around as the rest of his men materialize in front of their eyes. They act as if nothing has happened.

KANG

Sir...where have you been...

Starbuck motions him to be quiet.

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91. CONTINUED:

STARBUCK  
(to the Nari)  
Their weapons?

FIRST NARI  
(again smiling)  
Outside, where they belong.

Starbuck and the Nari look at each other as if measuring opponents. Slowly Starbuck hands his carbine to Kang and indicates for York to do the same.

KANG  
(taking the weapons)  
Sir?

STARBUCK  
(his eyes still on the Nari)  
Take the men and wait outside.  
York, you stay here with me.

Kang and the others leave.

FIRST NARI  
You've come to our world to fight  
with the Cylons.  
(Starbuck doesn't answer)  
The Cylons came and made themselves  
our masters. We can't stop them and  
we can't stop you.

92. ANGLE - STARBUCK

as he slowly paces around the room. York, less sure, stays  
by the door.

STARBUCK  
You let the Cylons make you slaves?

FIRST NARI  
We were created to serve.

STARBUCK  
But how have you survived. This  
astroid has no food or water. You  
couldn't have reproduced all these  
years without them.

The First Nari looks at Mona 27. ~~Starbuck~~  
speaks.

~~Starbuck~~

93. ANGLE - MONA 27

Her face saddens as she speaks.

MONA 27.

We do not reproduce. We do not  
age, we do not die. We...exist.

She rises and crosses to a wall. Reaching through it,  
she takes out a an old notebook.

STARBUCK

What do the Cylons want with you?

She carries the book to Starbuck.

MONA 27

The secret of our creation, they  
want to duplicate the experiments  
in this book.

(as he takes it and looks  
through the pages)

But they do not understand the  
language. If they did, they could  
create a thousand armies of slaves  
and soliders.

94. STARBUCK'S POV

as he turns the pages.

STARBUCK (O.S.)

If the person who wrote this was  
human, it's a language I've never  
seen.

At first we are confused as they..but if Starbuck doesn't  
recognize it, we do. It is written in Hebrew.

FIRST NARI (O.S.)  
"She died without  
teaching it to us."

95. ANGLE - THE FIRST NARI

as he walks to Starbuck and Mona 27.

FIRST NARI

Our inventor gave us the power to  
subdue but not to conquer. When  
she died, we became a people without  
a purpose. Like reflections in a  
mirror.

MONA 27

(touching Starbuck)

That's what I ment when I said your  
weapons couldn't hurt me.

## 96. FULL SHOT - THE ROOM

York glances nervously at his watch.

YORK

Starbuck, we've gotten way behind  
schedule. There's only three hours  
left before...

He's afraid to speak openly and doesn't finish his sentence.  
Starbuck looks at the First Nari, who takes the back.

STARBUCK

(to York)

And what about them? You know  
what the Cylons will do to them  
after we complete our mission?

YORK

Sir, they're not human...they said  
so themselves!

Starbuck is angered by his own compassion for these strange  
people.

STARBUCK

Damn you, York...look at their faces  
and tell me they're not human.

## 97. ANGLE - PANNING OVER

the faces of the Nari, the CAMERA STOPPING on Mona 27.

## 98. ANGLE - YORK

as he moves to Starbuck. His voice is hushed and urgent.

YORK

Okay sir, then tell me what we're going  
to do.

STARBUCK

(as he looks at his watch)

I don't know, York...I don't know.

## 99. TIGHT SHOT - A WATCH

The CAMERA PULLS BACK to show that it's Skyler's. He turns  
to the warrior next to him, named CAPA.

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99. CONTINUED:

SKYLER

Capa...get back to the shuttle craft.  
Let Adama know that Starbuck and I will  
begin the attack...make it two hours  
by the time you get there. And then get  
your butt back here.

CAPA

Yes sir.

The solider takes off.

100. ANGLE - SKYLER

as he crawls to the top of the ridge and looks at the  
cave entrance through the field glasses.

SKYLER

(out loud but to himself)

Starbuck...for once I just hope  
you follow orders.

101. OMIT

102. OMIT

FADE OUT:

ACT TWO CURTAIN:

ACT THREE:

FADE IN:

103. INT. GALACTICA BRIDGE - FAVORING ADAMA

Athena reports to him.

ATHENA

Sir, one of Skyler's men, Marksman Capa, reports that both teams will begin the ~~the~~ attack in two hours. Any reply?

Adama looks to Tigh.

ADAMA

What's the latest on the Cylon Task Force?

TIGH

They've jumped to light speed and are moving very fast. They could be here in ~~two hours~~ two hours.

The CAMERA PUSHES IN on Adama as he stares at the large screen, studying the astroid, the approaching Cylons, and the Galactica and her fleet. A spark of hope suddenly enters his eyes.

ADAMA

Athena, patch me through to Skyler's man...what's his name...Capa. We just may have a way out of this.

104. INT. THE NARI CENTER

The First Nari and Mona 27 lead Starbuck through a room of paintings. Magrit, Van Gogh, ~~Rembrandt~~ Renoir, even a Warhol.

MONA 27

Our inventor called these "copies", which is also what she called us.

(indicating the paintings)

These, she said, were as good as any history book. She said they are the story of her world and people, through their eyes.

Starbuck is caught between a Van Gogh and a Chinese work.

STARBUCK

Wherever this place is, it has many similarities to my own world.

104. CONTINUED:

MONA 27

Where is that?

STARBUCK

(turn to her)

It no longer exists...the Cylons destroyed it.

FIRST NARI

And now you come to destroy them.

York enters ~~and stays by the door~~ and stays by the door

YORK

Sir...we've got less than two hours to be in position for the attack. Captain Skyler will be counting on us.

The CAMERA PUSHES IN on Starbuck and the First Nari.

FIRST NARI

We won't betray you.

STARBUCK

And I won't forget you. ~~and I won't forget you. I will be no Cylon retribution after we destroy the canon.~~

*I promise you there will be no Cylon retribution after we destroy the canon.*

The CAMERA PANS WITH Starbuck as he leans over and kisses Mona 27 on the lips. She smiles.

MONA 27

What is that.

STARBUCK

It's called an "original."

105. ANGLE - PAST MONA 27

to INCLUDE York in the background. He clears his throat loudly. Starbuck turns and walks quickly out the door, York ~~follows~~ follows.

106. EXT. ASTROID - STARBUCK AND HIS MEN

They move with the speed of a Force March...breathing heavy, making up time and distance.

~~Starbuck and his men~~

106. CONTINUED:

STARBUCK  
*York,* How much time ~~is~~ *left?*

YORK  
 (breathing between the words)  
 A little over an hour, sir.

STARBUCK  
 Exactly.

YORK  
 (checking his watch)  
 One hour, seven minutes, Sir!

107. ANGLE - SKYLER

As he sees Capa, returning from the shuttle craft on the double.

SKYLER  
 Well... <sup>we were</sup> ~~is~~ just about to leave with-  
 out you.

CAPA  
 (collapsing on the ground;  
 next to Skyler)  
 Good thing you didn't...  
 (he pulls a piece of paper  
 from his jacket)  
 ...change in orders. I wrote it down  
 just as the Commander gave it to me.

108. MED. SHOT - SKYLER

as he opens the paper and reads. His brow creases.

SKYLER  
 (without looking up)  
 Get the men together, Capa.

109. INT. GALACTICA'S WAR ROOM - ADAMA

BRIEFS THE Quroum of Twelve.

ADAMA  
 (using computer animation)  
 ...provoking the Cylon Task Force to  
 chase us. As we move around the  
 astroid, ~~we will~~ ~~be~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~area~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~astroid~~ ~~and~~ ~~out~~ ~~of~~  
 sight of the Cylon Task Force...we  
 launch our fighters. As the Cylons

*Hopefully we will  
 control the Cylon  
 by then.*

109. CONTINUED:

ADAMA

pursue us, we use the canon to knock out the battle stars while our fighters circle the astroid and attack them from the rear, Any questions?

110. EXT ASTROID - FAVORING SKYLER'S MEN'

Capa raises his hand.

CAPA

How do we stop Lt. Starbuck from destroying the canon?

SKYLER

By getting their first. And  
(he checks his watch)  
we're already fifteen minutes behind schedule...let's move out.

111. EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE - THE THREE CYLONS

guarding the entrance and Cree's nearby fighter are relaxed. The CAMERA PULLS BACK TO include Skyler and two of his men on the rocks above the guards. On a hand signal, the Colonial Warriors jump and land on the Cylons, quickly knocking them out.

112. TIGHTER SHOT -

As Skyler's other three men rush in and help tie up the Cylons.

SKYLER

Three of you get in those uniforms.  
(he taps one man on the shoulder)

You stay and be ready to blow up this fighter once you hear the shooting start. After that, get back to the shuttle craft and wait. And remember, you're supposed to be a Cylon...act dumb.

The man laughs as he puts on the Cylon helmet. Skyler turns to the other men putting on the Cylon gear.

SKYLER

Pretend we're your prisoners but be ready to give us our weapons on a moments' notice.

back

## 113. ANGLE - SKYLER'S MEN

as they finish putting on the Cylon uniforms. Skyler, Capa, and the third Warrior hand over their carbines and tuck their side arms inside their jackets. With "Cylons" on each side of them, the five men march into the entrance of the cave.

## 114. INT. CAVE -

The rough rock walls immediately give way to sleek ~~simple~~ <sup>modern</sup> corridors. The CAMERA MOVES WITH them as they pass a check point.

## CHECK POINT CYLON

Found some more, huh?

The "cylon" nearest Skyler just waves, then prodes Skyler in the back with his carbine. Skyler stumbles and the check point guards laugh.

## 115. EXT. ASTRCID - STARBUCK

and his men, move cautiously from one boulder to another as they arrive at the base of the huge gold dome housing the canon. The CAMERA PANS UP to reveal two Cylon guards standing watch from a ~~small~~ platform on the dome. *Above that are the windows of the canon's fire control center.*

## 116. TIGHT SHOT - STARBUCK.

and his men as they huddle together out of sight.

## STARBUCK

(his voice hushed)

Okay...thirty minutes until we begin the assault. Break out your climbing gear and keep it quiet. They spot us now and were dead.

Each man digs into his pack and pulls out suction tips that are attached onto the toes of their boots, and a three pointed hand grip with a suction cup on each point.

## 117. THE GALACTICA BRIDGE - FAVORING ADAMA

as he gives Tigh the order.

## ADAMA

Begin moving the Fleet toward the Astroid.

118. EXT. GALACTICA

It's engines fire and the huge battle star begins slowly moving toward the astroid. The CAMERA PANS across the Fleet as one by one, engines are fired up, and the ships move out, following the battle star.

119. EXT. SPACE - THE CYLON TASK FORCE

complete with giant fighter escort, ominously moves toward the CAMERA.

120. INT. THE MOUNTAIN

Skyler and his men find themselves at an intersection of several different hallways.

121. ANGLE - A CYLON OFFICER

approaches them from one of the corridors.

122. ANGLE - SKYLER and

and his men see the officer coming. They quickly turn and start moving their "prisoners" down a different corridor.

123. ANGLE - THE CYLON OFFICER

becomes alarmed and calls out.

CYLON OFFICER

Just a minute guards...where are you taking them?

124. ANGLE - SKYLER

and his men turn <sup>and</sup> look at the approaching officer.

CYLON OFFICER

Have those prisoners been interregated?

The officer steps up to Skyler, looking <sup>at his</sup> ~~at his~~ in uniform.

CYLON OFFICER

Why these are Colonial Warriors... where did you capture...

He looks at the "cylons" guarding Skyler and the other two men. The Cylon Officer's scanning beam from his helmet

124. CONTINUED:

moves over the two guards and realizes that something is wrong...but before he can create a scene, he finds the muzzle of Skyler's side arm pressing against his belly.

SKYLER

You're pretty smart for a Cylon.  
Just stay smart and you'll stay alive.

CYLON OFFICER

You must be here...

Skyler prods the Cylon in the stomach.

SKYLER

You're getting stupid and raising  
your voice.

CYLON OFFICER

(softly)

I presume you're here to rescue that  
pilot of yours we shot down.

Skyler's men look at each other...but Skyler jumps in before their surprise at the mention of Cree is betrayed.

SKYLER

You guessed it, so lead the way. And  
just remember how much I want to pull  
this trigger.

The Cylon Officer turns and leads the way down one of the corridors. Skyler holds his pistol to the officer's back, the others follow, still looking like a detail escorting prisoners.

125. VARIOUS ANGLES -

As they move through the underground <sup>PASSAGES</sup> ~~etcetera~~...various  
other Cylons salute the officer as they pass.

126. ANGLE - SKYLER

and his men...each looking around and they move deeper and deeper into the Cylon fortress.

CAPA

(whispering to Skyler)

How are we going to find our way  
out of here?

~~THEY ARE ALL DEAD~~

126. CONTINUED;

SKYLER

What makes you think we'll ever live to worry about that?

Capa's mouth drops open in surprise.

127. ANGLE - THE GROUP

as they move through an air lock. The doors close menacingly behind them.

128. OTHER SIDE OF AIR LOCK

The group emerge inside a huge cavern. The Cylon Officer leads them across a suspension scaffolding. Skyler and his men glance down below.

129. SKYLER'S POV - A NARI WORK FORCE

is busy loading giant steel rails onto futuristic looking flatbed vehicles. The ~~are~~ are under the guns of Cylon guards. *NARI*

130. ANGLE - CAPA AND SKYLER

Capa nudges Skyler and points over head. The CAMERA PANS WITH Skyler's gaze...looking up to see the inside of the huge gold dome and the giant crystal muzzle of the laser canon pointing through it.

131. ANGLE - SKYLER

~~as they continue following the Cylon Officer...crossing the scaffolding and moving through another air lock.~~  
as they continue following the Cylon Officer...crossing the scaffolding and moving through another air lock.

132. INT. CORRIDOR - THE CYLON OFFICER

slows his pace as they approach a door guarded by two more Cylons.

SKYLER

(a whisper to the officer)

When they open the door, make sure they enter the room first.



136. CONTINUED:

Sky

SKYLER

Cree can't even walk. Get those  
Cylon's out of their uniforms.  
(he smiles as he pulls  
a needle from his first  
aid kit)  
Then let's put them to sleep.

137. ANGLE - THE CORIDOR

As the Cylon Officer, followed by four Cylon Guards  
who surround Cree, ~~and~~ Skyler, come out of the room.

*supported by*

SKYLER

(to Cylon Officer)  
How much time Capa?

Capa answers from inside the Cylon Officer's gear.

CAPA

Ten minutes sir.

The CAMERA MOVES WITH them as they briskly retrace their  
steps.

CAPA

Sir...in that room ahead...all those  
people, they looked human.

SKYLER

We can't worry about them now, Capa.

They quickly move out of the shot, PAST CAMERA.

138. INT. CAVERN -

As Skyler and his men stop halfway across the scaffolding.

SKYLER

(looking up at canon)  
Now where is the fire control room?

139. ANGLE - SKYLER'S POV

as he scans the giant canon's muzzle, then follows it down  
to a glass booth at it's base.

140. LOW ANGLE - SKYLER

as he points the booth out to the others.

SKYLER

That's it. Now, how do we get to it?

141. EXT. THE GIANT GOLD DOME.

Starbuck, his men now spread out, gives a hand signal, then opens up with his own carbine.

142. VARIOUS ANGLES - CYLONS

tumble from their look out posts around the dome.

143. VARIOUS ANGLES - STARBUCK'S MEN

using their suction climbing gear, begin <sup>climbing</sup> ~~climb~~ the dome, moving toward the windows of the canon's fire control room. ~~then to the canon's fire control room.~~

144. INT. DOME - ANGLE ON SKYLER

as the explosions from outside echo with ear shattering clarity.

SKYLER

Damn him, he's early.

A loud siren begins screaming and Cylon troops rush everywhere.

145. ANGLE - CYLON GUARDS

herding the Nari workers into cages.

146. A FORCE OF TEN CYLONS

as they rush past Skyler and his bogus Cylons.

CYLON COMMANDER

Follow me, we need help in the fire control room.

Skyler looks at Capa...both shrug and Skyler indicates for his men to follow.



## 152. EXT. DOME - STARBUCK

tosses another explosive charge into the fire control room and the explosion sends several Cylon bodies flying out. The other ~~XXXX~~ men rally around Starbuck and York.

~~STARBUCK  
(checking his carbine)  
Okay men, let's get in there and  
finish this.~~

~~Starbuck leading the way...the men rush the blown out windows  
of the control room and dive through them.~~

STARBUCK

(checking his carbine)

Okay men, let's get in there and  
finish this.

Starbuck leading the way...the men rush the blown out windows *of*  
the control room and dive through them.

## 153. INT. FIRE CONTROL ROOM

As Starbuck's men come diving through the windows and Skyler's men rush through the door. Just as everyone is about to blow away everyone else, Skyler enters, pulling the Cylon helmets off his men.

SKYLER

Hold your fire, hold your fire!

Capa brings in the barely conscious Cree and lays him on the floor.

STARBUCK

(lowering his carbine)

You're late...

SKYLER

You're early!

STARBUCKZ

(glancing at his watch)

Well you know the old saying, better  
early than never.

SKYLER

(looking at the debris filled room)

Starbuck, you jerk, the plan has  
been changed...~~the plan has been changed...~~  
~~the plan has been changed...~~...the Galactica

153. CONTINUED:

SKYLER  
(continuing)  
is counting on us to capture  
the canon, not destroy it!

154. INT. GALACTICA BRIDGE - ADAMA AND TIGH  
as they watch the screen.

ADAMA  
Five minutes and we cross the  
rim~~x~~ of the astroid. I hope  
Skyler was successful.

TIGH  
(pointing to the Cylon  
Task Force on the large  
screen)  
He'd better be, the Clons are only  
a few minutes behind<sup>^</sup> us.

155. EXT. GALACTICA  
as it and the Fleet ~~move~~<sup>MOVE</sup> toward the astroid.

156. THE CYLON TASK FORCE  
as it's fighters hit their turbos and speed up the chase.

157. INT. FIRE CONTROL ROOM  
Capa enters on the run.

CAPA  
Sir the Cylons are launching a counter  
attack against us.

Starbuck and Skyler look at eachother. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

The CAMERA PUSHES IN ON them as the deadly circumstances grip  
them from both sides.

FADE OUT:

CURTAIN: ACT THREE

ACT FOUR:

FADE IN:

158. EXT. GALACTICA

The Fleet approaches the rim of the astroid's horizon.

159. INT. THE BRIDGE

The large screen shows their approach to the astroid. Tigh sits at the helm, Adama paces behind him nervously.

ADAMA

How far behind us are the Cylons?

TIGH

Only a few minutes. They haven't set their fighters on us so they must be counting on the canon to finish us off.

ADAMA

(glancing at the screen)

Let's hope they're wrong.

Athena moves to a computer and calls out the findings.

ATHENA

We'll be in the canon's range in one minute.

160. INT. CANON'S FIRE CONTROL ROOM

York and the other Warriors hold off the Cylon counter attack while Skyler and Starbuck feverishly try to repair the canon's control system. Sparks crackle and jump from the electrical panels.

SKYLER

On three, I'll hold these cables to the terminels and you try to aim it.

STARBUCK

I hope it works.

SKYLER

It's got to wrok. Now...one, two, three!

160. CONTINUED:

Skyler connects the wires, Starbuck hit's several switches... both men look as the canon's three dimensional target display comes to life...revealing the Galactica and the Fleet moving across the horizon and into range..

161. EXT. GOLD DOME

as the huge crystal muzzle halting moves in response to the jerry rigged control system.

162. INT. CONTROL ROOM

Skyler lets out a cheer.

SKYLER

It's working...just barely...but it's working.

STARBUCK

Okay we can aim it... but it still doesn't fire.

163. ANGLE - CAPA

as he crouches and gives first aid to the ~~cadet~~ <sup>recovering</sup> Cadet Cree.

CREE

What's happening...

(he looks around)

...is this a dream or did you guys really follow me down here?

CAPA

The Galactica is about to be attacked by a Cylon Task Force...our only chance to save her is to get that canon working.

CREE

(clearing his head)

Help me up.

164. ANGLE - PAST STARBUCK AND SKYLER

as they continue working.

STARBUCK

No good, the entire firing system is burned out.

~~Starbuck: No good, the entire firing system is burned out.~~

164. CONTINUED:

Capa helps Cree to the console, the Cadet pushing his way between Skyler and Starbuck.

SKYLER

Capa, get him out of here...

CREE

Sir, I studied lasers before I entered the Academy...let me try something...

STARBUCK

(cutting him off)

Cree, we don't have time for grandstanding, now get out of the way.

CREE

I'm not grandstanding and you're not solving the problem, now let me see what's wrong.

Skyler and Starbuck look at each other briefly, Skyler nods.

STARBUCK

Okay Cree...but be quick.

Cree pops off several service panels exposing a maze of sparking and smoking wires.

CREE

Here it is.

165. INT. GALACTICA

Adama, Tigh, and Athena watch the large screen as they sweep over the astroid. Ahead of them is the mountain, the gold dome, and the muzzle of the giant canon.

ADAMA

Where are the Cylons?

Tigh changes the picture, the scanners now showing the Cylon Task Force of five battle stars plus fighters, in pursuit.

TIGH

They're closing fast.

ADAMA

Launch fighters and order the Fleet into a low altitude defense formation. And make sure we don't get in the way of that canon.

166. EXT. GALACTICA

As fighter after fighter blasts from the launch tubes.

167. INT. GALACTICA BRIDGE

TIGH

Fighters launched. It will take them one minute to circle the astroid and begin attacking the Cylons from the rear.

ATHENA

(calling out)

Contact with Cylon T-sk Force in thirty seconds.

168. INT. CANON FIRE CONTROL ROOM

Cree is busily patching wires and circuits together. Starbuck takes the fire control chair.

CREE

(stepping back)

Okay...here's what we've got.

STARBUCK

Just tell me I've got a loaded gun.

CREE

Affirmative...but...you've only got three or four shots at the most. I've used the canon's cooling circuits to replace the trigger housing. Everytime you fire this baby it gets red hot...and now it's gonna get hotter. This whole thing will ~~is~~ melt when you start shooting.

*YORK* enters and reports to Skyler.

*YORK*

Our carbine lasers are almost out of juice and the Cylons are getting ready to rush us.

SKYLER

Start pulling your men back slowly.

*(turning to Capa)*  
*Capa, give him a hand.*

169. ANGLE - STARBUCK

as he looks at the target display screen.

STARBUCK

There's the Fleet and here come the  
Cylons!

170. EXT. THE CYLON TASK FORCE

Five huge battle stars surrounded by fighters, begins to  
close in on the Galactica.

171. ANGLE STARBUCK

as he aims the giant canon at the lead Cylon Battle Star.

STARBUCK

Here we go!

He fires and the sound of the huge canon is awesome.

172. EXT. CANON

as a tongue of fire leaps from the muzzle.

173. EXT. CYLON TASK FORCE

The lead battle star explodes in a ball of fire that also  
destroys several nearby fighters.

174. INT. GALACTICA BRIDGE

Everyone cheers as they watch on the large screen.

ADAMA

They did it. They did it.

TIGH

(into headset)

Bridge to all Battle Stations.  
Here come the Cylon fighters...  
let's keep them busy until our  
boys get here.

175. EXT. GALACTICA

as Cylon fighters begin diving at it. Lasers flash in both  
directions.

176. INT. CANON FIRE CONTROL ROOM

Starbuck lines up the canon and fires but a Cylon Fighter get's in the way, taking the shot and saving the battle star.

STARBUCK

Damn...How many more shots can we  
milk out of this Cree?

CREE

Stop talking and shoot.

Starbuck lines up on the battle star again and fires...but nothing happens.

STARBUCK

Cree, it isn't working.

Skyler rushes over from the window, his carbine smoking.

SKYLER

Two battle stars are trying to get  
the Galactica in a cross fire.

Cree grabs two exposed cables.

CREE

Starbuck, line up your shot...and  
yell when your ready to fire.

Starbuck picks the battle star closest to the Galactica.

STARBUCK

Ready!

Cree brings the cables together.

CREE

Fire!

Starbuck does and Cree is jolted with an electric shock.

177. EXT. PAST GALACTICA

as the attacking Cylon battle star explodes. Another  
Cylon ship moves in to take its place.

178. INT. GALACTICA BRIDGE

Adama looks at the screen and issues the order.

ADAMA

Fire!

179. EXT. GLAACTICA

Her lasers strike the Cylon ship and it explodes.

180. INT. GALACTICA BRIDGE

Tigh looks at the screen

TIGH

Here come our fighters.

181. EXT. THE GALACTICA

The Colonial Fighters streak by and attack the Cylons at full speed. Cylon fighters, taken by surprise, begin exploding right and left. A Cylon battle star tries to defend itself from several Colonial Fighters diving on it from different directions. But the Fighters are too much for it and the battle star explodes.

182. INT. FIRE CONTROL ROOM

Starbuck lines up on the remaining Cylon battle star.

STARBUCK

It's going after our unarmed ships.

Starbuck is too busy aiming to notice that Cree is in very bad shape.

STARBUCK

Ready!

Cree looks at the smoking wires in his hands. The CAMERA PUSHES IN, seeing that the insulation is burned away. Cree's hands are raw and bleeding.

STARBUCK

Cree, I'm ready!

Cree touches the wired together. The pain is unreal.

CREE

(through clenched teeth)

Fire!

183. ANGLE - STARBUCK

as he fires the canon.

184. EXT. THE CANON

The laser blast streaks out from the muzzle, which glows from over heating. Cracks begin to appear up and down it.

185. EXT. CYLON BATTLE STAR

The last one...and it explodes in a series of explosions.

186. INT. FIRE CONTROL ROOM

The control panel bursts into flames, Cree is thrown across the room. Starbuck turns and rushes too him.

STARBUCK

Cree...hang on...you did it buddy,  
you did it.

187. INT. CORRIDOR OUTSIDE FIRE CONTROL ROOM

Capa and the other Colonial warriors slowly retreat, as the Cylon counter attack forces them back.

188. INT. FIRE CONTROL ROOM.

As Capa's men begin backing into it. Skyler fires out the window.

SKYLER

Starbuck, any ideas how to get out  
of here. That canon's going to blow.

Starbuck looks at Capa and his men retreating under the counter attack, then looks at Skyler.

STARBUCK

How many Cylons are you shooting  
at?

SKYLER

(looking out window  
as he shoots)

I'd say fifteen or twenty.

STARBUCK

Hey, Capa...how many Cylons *you got?*

188. CONTINUED:

Capa looks at Starbuck in disbelief.

CAPA

How many girl friends have you got?

STARBUCK

(he thinks a second, then  
yells above the noise)

Okay men, we're going out the window.

The men quickly begin taking rope ladders out of their back packs. Two men help Cree to his feet and carry him toward the window.

STARBUCK

Careful with, he's the only Cadet  
to wash out of the Academy and make  
hero in the same day.

The Strike Force fire at the Cylons below as they climb out the window and begin moving down the ladders. Capa and York are still at the door way, holding back the Cylons.

CAPA

(to Starbuck)

Hey what about us...these Cylons  
are starting to get mad.

1 Starbuck reaches into his pack and pulls out a brown plastic looking lump about the size of a football.

STARBUCK

Here Capa, toss this at them.

SKYLER

(seeing what Starbuck has)

Hey Starbuck, is that a mushroom bomb?

STARBUCK

(tossing it to Capa)

Yeah, and don't tell me Drug Warfare  
is against the rules.

Capa looks at Skyler uncertainly.

SKYLER

Don't look at me Capa...throw it!

Capa shrugs and throws the mushroom bomb through the door.

## 189. INT. CORRIDOR

The mushroom bomb rolls toward the Cylons and explodes in a cloud of smoke at their feet. Instantly they stop shooting. The smoke clears and reveals the Cylons sitting on the floor in a stupor.

## 190. EXT. DOME

As Starbuck and Skyler, the last to leave, climb out and down the ropes.

SKYLER

(looking up at the canon)  
Let's move pal, that muzzle is ready to melt.

Starbuck looks up at the top of the dome.

## 191. ANGLE - STARBUCK'S POV

The huge crystal muzzle glows with a white heat. The dome around it cracks, spewing steam and colored gasses.

## 192. ANGLE - THE BASE OF THE DOME

Capa and York hold the rope ladders as Starbuck and Skyler make it to the ground. The other Warriors are already blasting their way to safety, easily knocking off the stray Cylons still able to hold a weapon. Starbuck and Skyler grab their carbines and join the others in the dash for safety.

## 193. ANGLE - THE STRIKE FORCE

as they make it to the cover of a large rock formation. All the men look back as a deep rumble announces the end of the canon. Starbuck and Skyler start to fight over who gets to look through the field glasses. Skyler points to the rank on his shoulder.

STARBUCK

Promise you won't say anything to Adama about the mushroom bomb?

SKYLER

Promise.

Starbuck lets go of the field glasses. The rumble grows in intensity and each man looks.

## 194. FULL SHOT - THE CANON

The crystal muzzle melts, starts to sag, then shatters in a preliminary explosion. The canon collapses into the dome and a terrific secondary explosion shatters the entire mountain top with a gigantic fireball.

## 195. ANGLE - THE STRIKE FORCE

as debris rains down on them. Starbuck is the first to raise his head as the dust settles.

STARBUCK

That's what's called making a mole-hill out of a mountain.

## 196. INT. GALACTICA BRIDGE

Adama and Tigh watch the last of the Cylon fighters retreating with Colonial Fighters in hot pursuit.

ADAMA

They won't get far without their battle stars. How did we do Colonel?

TIGH

We lost four fighters...and one of our transport ships is beyond repair. We're transferring the personal to temporary quarters on the live stock freighter.

Athena, holding a head set to her ear, swivels around in her chair.

ATHENA

Strike Force reports one fatality, three wounded...  
(she smiles)  
...and they've rescued Cadet Cree.

ADAMA

Who was the fatality?

Athena holds up her hand to silence him as she listens over the head-set.

ATHENA

Specialist Kang was the fatality.  
(another beat)  
And they request permission to bring aboard two aliens.

Adama and Tigh look at each other questioningly.

## 200. CLOSE UP - THE FIRST NARI

The CAMERA PULLS BACK to include Adama, CONTINUES TO PULL BACK, revealing that we are on the Galactica flight deck. Adama, Tigh, Athena, and many others have greeted the returning warriors and are being introduced to the Nari.

## FIRST NARI

Commander, I once heard a story about a man named Columbus who travels all the way around his world and meets a group of people called Indians. Both human, yet so different from each other that suspicion clouds their friendship four hundreds of years.

## ADAMA

My world also has stories like those. They were the beautiful lessons of childhood that somehow are forgotten as we grow older.

The Nari holds out the book that was shown Skyler in the village.

## FIRST NARI

You have freed us from an oppressor and given us back our strange little world. Now, we the Nari must decide if we wish to be like the reflections in a mirror, or do we want to make more of our world, and ourselves.

## ADAMA

How can we help?

## FIRST NARI

(giving Adama the book)

Take this book. It is the story of our creation and of our creator. Try to understand the language it is written in, try to discover the secrets that we ourselves do not know.

## 201. ANGLE - STARBUCK AND THE OTHERS

as they listen to the Nari.

## FIRST NARI (O.S.)

Keep the story of the Nari alive, be our...Columbus...take us where we cannot go.

202. ANGLE - ADAMA AND FIRST NARI

Adama and the Nari touch hands.

ADAMA

I wish we could take your people with us...but our ships are over crowded as it is.

NARI

Thank you but we love our little world. And now that the Cylons are gone, it again offers us all we need. Good bye, Commander.

ADAMA

Good bye.

Adama steps back as the Nari turns to Starbuck.

FIRST NARI

Mona 27 asked me to give you this.

He leans over and kisses Starbuck on the cheek. Starbuck is a little flustered as Skylar and the others chuckle.

FIRST NARI

(sensing all's not right)  
Did I do it wrong?

STARBUCK

No sir...nothing's wrong. Tell Mona I said she isn't a copy, she's an original.

They clasp hands briefly, the Nari turns, waves to the others and boards the shuttle craft. Athena moves next to Starbuck and elbows him.

ATHENA

Who's Mona?

Starbuck, feeling trapped, turns to Adama.

STARBUCK

Sir, request permission to take a squad and go on re con patrol.

~~Adama: I wish we could take your people with us...but our ships are over crowded as it is.~~

203. ANGLE - FAVORING ADAMA

ADAMA

Permission granted Starbuck, though I'm a little surprised to hear you volunteering.

204. ANGLE - PAST THE GROUP

as the shuttle craft is launched.

205. ANGLE - SKYLER

PULLS Starbuck aside, away from the others.

SKYLER

Hey...one question...what were you doing with that mushroom bomb.

STARBUCK

(palying dumb)

What mushroom bomb.

SKYLER

The one you stupefied those Cylons with.

STARBUCK

Oh that one. Well Skyler, I was planning on saving it for a special occassion but it's gone now, so let's forget it.

He turns and starts to walk away but Skyler stops him.

SKYLER

Wait a minute...what special occassion?

STARBUCK

(whispering)

Col. Tigh's birthday. One of the cooks owes me some money and I was going to let him off the hook if he put some of the...

(he looks around nervously)

...stuff...in the Colonel's cake.

Starbuck smiles and walks away. Before Skyler can pursue *him*,  
~~Starbuck~~ Adama joins his son.

206. ANGLE - ADAMA AND SKYLER

As Adama puts his arm around his son.

ADAMA

Skyler, I'd like you to do me a favor.

SKYLER

Yes sir.

ADAMA

Take the helm and let's get the Fleet under way.

SKYLER

The helm, of the Galactica?

(Adama nods)

Yes sir!

207. EXT. SPACE - THE GALACTICA

as her engines fire up. One by one the fleet follows her lead. The human race continues it's long journey.

FADE OUT:

CURTAIN ACT FOUR: