
2) Version History

Ver. 1.00 (5/1/07) - Script complete; most, if not all spelling/grammar mistakes in the dialogue is intentional and reflects that in the game.

3) Introduction

Hi, this is Shadow Revnyx, and this is a game script for Sigma Star Saga, as you can see. This guide will be detailing the dialogue that makes up the plot for this game. Certain parts of the plot will be referenced in brackets [] and are not officially parts of the game. Some of these actions are part of the scenes, and some are expected of the player. Dialogue with the other NPCs is not included.

Any suggestions, additions, or corrections to this guide are welcome (granted that you have read my guide before doing so). I will try to make this script as complete and easy-to-use as possible. Be warned, however, that this script will be filled with spoilers, so if you want to find the story out for yourself, you shouldn't read this document.

To contact me, my e-mail is SuperSaiyanShadow@hotmail.com. If and when you contact me, please make sure that it is indeed not in this script, and state your purpose clearly (with as few spelling and grammatical errors as possible).

Enjoy the story!

4) Game Script

4a. Prologue

[NOTE: This narrative only appears at the start of a New Game]

My name is Ian Recker. In another life back on Earth, I was a fighter pilot. Someone must've figured I was pretty good at it. They gave me a squadron of star jockeys codenamed Sigma Team. We were the first ones into the Krill battles, but I was the only one who made it out alive.

The Krill found Earth sixty years ago, a humbling day for humanity. Their starships swarmed over the Atlantic. Gouged out a hunk of ocean floor the size of Canada. The sea boiled for three years, turning the sea life into gumbo. Melted ice caps and exposed mantle sludged into the hole like a wet rag. Good time to be a map maker.

From our scorched Earth and worldwide hysteria, the Allied Earth Federation was born. Over the past fifty years they've built up Earth's defensive lines and cracked the Krill language. We've come to understand their words, customs, even their technology. When those devils come back for seconds, Earth would be ready.

Unfortunately, I wasn't...

[The fight against the Krill begins. In the middle of the battle, Recker steers

his ship above the clouds. He is joined by four other Sigma pilots.]

Recker : A Krill Battleworm is dropping out of orbit. Sigma Team, follow my lead.

[The four Sigma pilots get shot down. A huge Krill ship with six laser cannons appears. When the last laser fires, a Sigma Ship will fly up into the laser cannon, destroying the ship. Recker drops under the clouds again and faces a Krill Battleworm. After defeating it, Recker lands and goes to see Commander Tierney.]

Recker : Commander Tierney, sir!

Tierney : At ease Recker. You know I like to keep things informal.

Recker : Yes sir.

Tierney : Let me be the first to congratulate you on a job well done. Those Krill monsters'll think twice after today.

Recker : Thank you sir. But we lost good men. Some were old friends.

Tierney : I realize that, pilot. And that's why I'd like to offer you a chance to hit the Krill where it really hurts. But don't be hasty. You'll want to think this one through. The AEF has taken extensive measures to conceal what I'm about to tell you.

Recker : It won't leave this room sir.

Tierney : You're probably aware of the men we've lost gathering intel in Krill space.

Recker : Yes. Fifty men presumably captured or executed.

Tierney : What you don't know is that many of these men are alive, and now serve the Krill. The Krill use them in various low-risk capacities that profit from military training...to the Krill, their knowledge of Earth and the surrounding planets is invaluable. An opportunity exists that I want you to exploit.

Recker : And that is?

Tierney : Enlist into the Krill armada.

Recker : Become the enemy? Why?

Tierney : We've engineered a scenario involving a Delta Class Krill Starbase. We can get you in. Once there, serve the Krill with diligence. Seek promotion through their ranks. Once you gather the intel we need, we'll extricate you immediately.

Recker : What exactly am I looking for?

Tierney : Complete specs on the Krill's new super weapon. Details about it are sketchy at best, but we believe it's a planet killer. We need you to find out what it is before it's too late.

Recker : Then I have no choice.

Tierney : The clock is ticking. You're the only one I can trust with this

mission. You need to decide how far you're willing to go for your planet.

Recker : All the way, sir, straight to the devil's door.

Tierney : Good man. Get onto their Starbase, gain their confidence at the highest levels possible, and transmit any information you can about that weapon.

Recker : Understood.

Tierney : Better crack this open now. No telling what those devils drink, or if they even have bathrooms.

[Tierney and Recker share a toast.]

Recker : To Sigma Team. [They drink.] You mentioned a plan to get me in.

Tierney : It's already begun.

[Recker's vision blurs.]

Recker : What's... What...did You... Do...?

[Recker faints.]

Tierney : Sorry pilot. It had to be a lethal dose. Go out proud, son, like your friends. Make the ultimate sacrifice.

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4b. Chapter 1 - "In the Employ of the Krill"
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[The screen is black, and there are sounds like a ship landing, some steps, a hatch opening, and some movement.]

Grunt 1 : See? See?! It moved again! It's breathing! That thing is alive and breathing!

Grunt 2 : You're imagining things.

Grunt 1 : I did no such thing! Watch this! I'll prove it to you!

Grunt 2 : Hands off you bloodthirsty fool! That'll kill it for sure! Let's just push it back into space. We'll say the crate was empty.

Grunt 1 : Are you crazy? Stand between Commander Bloss and a new Earthman?! No way.

Grunt 2 : Fine. Remember you found the Earthman, I found the gun.

Grunt 1 : Hold on... Nope. No good. The breathing stopped again. Guess...
...things... ...after all...

[The screen turns white.]

Medic 1 : ...badly... ...extensive damage...

Medic 2 : ...try to... ...no use...

Medic 1 : Bah, look at what those grunts did. There's hardly anything left to work with.

Medic 2 : This guy's been through plenty alright. It's a wonder he's still alive at all.

Medic 3 : He can't croak soon enough for me! Commander Bloss has signed the carcass over to my office!

Medic 1 : Feh...If you need an Earthman sample so badly, snap off a finger. He won't need 'em where he's going.

Medic 2 : Would you two back off? I need room to operate.

Medic 1 : Waste of time. This fellow's at Death's door. No way can he fight in this condition.

Medic 3 : Then he's mine either way. He won't last five... ...in the...

Medic 1 : ...slipping... ...hand me... ...still...to save...

Medic 2 : ...too late...

[Recker wakes up and sits up on a bed/operating table. A Krill medic is standing next to him.]

Medic : Ahh, you're coming around. Try not to strain your muscles.

Recker : Nngh....

Medic : Do you know where you are? Can you recognize me?

Recker : You... ...you are... ...a Krill...

Medic : I'll admit I'm surprised. You should be quite dead by now. You are on a Krill Starbase. A fairly run down one, but a Starbase nonetheless.

Recker : ...how...

Medic : Your security shuttle had the misfortune of crossing paths with one of our warships. We found your body while salvaging the wreckage. I'd daresay Earth was glad to be rid of you, judging by the maximum security cell! It must have been expensive to banish you to space. You must have quite a history.

Recker : I remember... ...it was dark...stale... How long... ...have I been asleep?

Medic : Well now, I wouldn't call it sleep. You were delirious for the first eight days and unconscious for nearly three weeks after that.

Recker : ...a month... ...it's all so confusing... ...hard to remember... Why... Why are you helping me?

Medic : I'm sorry to say that restoring you to a functional state is no rescue. Commander Bloss has plans for you. Unless I'm mistaken, he plans to meet you in the ring.

Recker : He wants...to fight me?

Medic : Bloss is, or was in his youth, a fighting champion. On this Starbase, it's the only Krill pastime we have. The crew is very excited to see their first Earthman fight.

Recker : We're fighting... ..to the death?

Medic : Well, that all depends. I think I can buy you a bit more time... Try to rest. They'll be skinning you in the morning.

[Alarmed, Recker stares at the Medic as the screen fades out. When the screen fades back in, Recker is sleeping. The medic walks in.]

Medic : [waking up Recker] Wake up kid, you're on!

Recker : Moan...

Medic : They're ready to skin you.

Recker : Skin me? What do you mean?

Medic : Don't worry. It's not as bad as it sounds. They just want to fit you for a parasite.

Recker : Everything you said sounds bad.

Medic : Down the hall. You'll see. And if I might make a suggestion... Don't try to escape. It would be bad for both of us.

[The medic exits the room. Recker gets up and goes to the Skinning Room.]

Recker : What's this?!

[The parasite goes to Recker as the screen fades to white. When it fades back, Recker is in the ring in front of Bloss.]

Bloss : Get up, Earth dog!

[Recker gets up.]

Recker : Ugghhhh... Who... Who are you?

Bloss : You will address me as Commander Bloss!

Recker : My gun... You gave it back?

Bloss : I've given you more than that, if you'd bothered to look! I've also fitted you with a Krill parasite!

Recker : What is this?! Some kind of body armor? Aaaah! It's alive! It's biting my head! It's crushing my neck!

Bloss : Every Krill soldier wears a parasite! You are no different.

Recker : Hey... I can breathe again... I feel...stronger than before.

Bloss : The physical advantages are just the beginning! But I'll explain all that later. I'm sure my medical staff mentioned my little game.

Recker : Yeah. I won't go easy on you.

Bloss : Me? Hoh no! I just observe...and take a few bets. You'll be fighting Hen'nk, the previous champ. Now get ready... Begin!

[Hen'nk is lowered to the ring, and the fight begins. When Hen'nk is destroyed, Recker goes in front of Bloss.]

Recker : Is that the best you've got?

Bloss : Splendid! Yes, from the moment I saw you under lock and key I knew you'd prove valuable! Your human leaders would vomit if they knew we had our hands on one of their most hated outcasts! I'll make you an offer.

Recker : I'm listening...

Bloss : How would you like to pay back the fools who exiled you? I'll let you live, and in exchange you can perform a couple er... Odd jobs.

Recker : You mean betray my planet.

Bloss : Ha ha ha. Does that bother you?

Recker : Not really. Does this mean I'm free to go?

Bloss : Hah! Leave! Take the grand tour! I'll even let you keep your sidearm! But never forget, my very loyal creature is fused to your spine, and my men are watching. Prove you can be relied upon and you will go far in the Krill forces.

[Recker leaves the ring and goes to the COMM ROOM to call Tierney.]

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Tierney : Recker! Alive and kicking I see!

Recker : No thanks to you!! You tried to kill me!

Tierney : Control yourself Recker. Your voice will carry.

Recker : I don't see what difference it makes since I've got a bug on my head listening in on every word! I'm as good as dead already!

Tierney : That parasite won't be reporting anything.

Recker : But that's not what Bloss said.

Tierney : He's lying. After your last mission we found Krill pilots dead in the wreckage. We've done extensive studies of their parasites.

Recker : And?

Tierney : It's harmless biotechnology. Mindless reactive creatures... To the Krill, no different than a wristwatch. Now listen carefully. I've just now pulled up our intel on Bloss. He's the lowest ranking commander in the Krill service. There's a reason his Starbase is positioned in the middle of nowhere. Give him an angle that offers career advancement and you'll have him eating out of your hand.

Recker : When should I contact you again, sir?

Tierney : I'll signal you.

Recker : How?

Tierney : Like this... Hear me in your ear? We implanted a chip behind your ear. I can send you a one-way signal.

Recker : Thanks for consulting me first.

Tierney : Ha!! Use that anger; it will help sell your story. I'll be in contact again soon.

[After the call ends, Recker goes to see Bloss in his office.]

Bloss : Ah, you're back, Earthman. I just got an urgent call from Krill High Command. It's time to cash in that favor you owe me.

Recker : I'm your man.

Bloss : We're dropping this station onto a heavily forested planet. A lot of hostile life forms in the area. If I set you up with one of our Krill Fighters, can you blaze a path for us? I'd rather not risk one of my own men.

Recker : Just call me Ensign Expendable.

Bloss : Then get yourself to the launch bay.

[Recker heads toward the launch bay. On the way, a crewman stops him and talks to him.]

Crewman : Just heard the news. You're flying a Krill Fighter?

Recker : Seems that way.

Crewman : Ok, well this ain't like no human crate. Krill Fighters are living beings, just like your armor. Don't spook it whatever you do.

Recker : The ship's alive?

Crewman : It chitchats with your personal parasite, that's how you control it. You'll also be sharing your energy and experience with any ship you pilot.

Recker : So if my ship gets the sniffles?

Crewman : Just take care of her and she'll take care of you. While you're in the Control Cavity, you and your ship share life and limb. So you can see why saving your progress is a good idea before flying.

[Recker goes to the NAV COMPUTER, selects the NEW MISSION, and proceeds to the launch bay to begin the mission]

Crewman : OK human! Listen up! See that number up there? That's your Target Counter! When it reaches zero... The threat is over. Take 'em down!

[After completing the mission, Recker returns to the Starbase and heads for Bloss's office. The crewman from before stops him again.]

Crewman : Not bad Earthman! Commander Bloss will want to see you!

[Recker proceeds back to Bloss's office.]

Bloss : Not as easy as it looked, eh Earthman? Why don't you hook up with the landing party. Give you a chance to use that firecracker you're always carrying around. You like to blow stuff up right?

Recker : Who's leading this party?

Bloss : Don't get ahead of yourself kind. I've already got a team lead, troublesome as she is. She's a hand-me-down from the front lines. Guess High Command thinks it's funny to drop their garbage on me.

Recker : Front lines?

Bloss : A month back over Earth. We gave this kid the best Battleworm in the fleet and she still managed to get taken down by a single human fighter. Total incompetent.

Recker : A girl?

Bloss : She was stripped of rank and sent here as punishment. Ha! But a few months with Bloss should straighten her out. She's probably in the Skinning Room. Why not drop by and say hi?

Recker : ... [to himself] So that's who shot down Sigma Team! A lousy Krill girl!

[Taking Bloss's advice, Recker goes to check out his leader in the Skinning Room.]

Recker : Wha...?

[A picture of Psyme, a Krill girl, getting skinned is shown.]

Psyme : What's with you Earthman? Never seen anyone get skinned before?

Recker : ...er...

Psyme : So you're the new guy, huh? [laughs and walks a few steps around Recker] You're not much to look at. But my parasite seems to like you.

[Psyme walks a few more steps.]

Recker : [turning to Psyme] Thanks, I guess.

Psyme : But then, my parasite is a primitive animal. How about you? What did they fit you with?

[Psyme walks a few more steps.]

Recker : Excuse me?

Psyme : Your parasite. Let's take a look. [circles Recker a little more; Recker turns to her] Heh heh heh. Bloss sure gave you the runt of the litter! It's a good fit for you though. Next to our Krill soldiers you're pretty shrimpy.

[Psyme walks a little more.]

Recker : Are you finished?

Psyme : [makes a mocking sound] And sensitive too! I'll have to learn to play nice. It's Psyme in case you're wondering. Easy to remember. Rhymes with Rhyme.

Recker : What?

Psyme : My name. Bloss said you're tagging along. Be at the landing hatch in five minutes. It's next to the launch bay.

[Psyme laughs as she leaves.]

Recker : Whew.....they sure don't make 'em like that on Earth.

[Recker leaves the Skinning Room and proceeds to the landing hatch himself. When Recker walks in, Psyme and three crewmen are waiting for him there.]

Psyme : If everyone's here, let me go over our mission. This starbase has been conducting scans of the nearby Forest Planet for the past month. Krill High Command is no longer satisfied with long range scans. They think landing a team on the surface will yield different results.

Crewman : What kind of data are we supposed to be looking for?

Psyme : High Command knows, but they aren't saying. There is something about the planet that makes it unique. Whatever we're looking for, it should turn up in routine geological surveying.

Recker : Hah. Now there's something we have in common! Arrogant top brass!

Psyme : Enough out of you Earthman. Why don't you make yourself useful at that NAV station. Drop us out of orbit and take us down. Don't worry, even a child can do it.

Recker : This "star" base can land?

Psyme : Would you rather we call it a land base? Shut up and do as you're ordered!

[Recker goes to the NAV COMPUTER and selects LAND. When the Starbase lands, Recker heads out, followed by the three crewmen and Psyme. There is a blast, and Recker walks up to Psyme.]

Psyme : That blast was the Shell fleet deploying. By now you must already know that our ships are living things. Standard operating procedure any time we land a starbase is to set the fleet loose to patrol the surrounding airspace. They make good eyes and ears, but our ships aren't capable of evasive maneuvers. When a ship is in danger, it summons the nearest pilot into its Control Cavity. The pilot acts as its logic center until the threat is eliminated. The beauty of this design is that we can breed our ships to outnumber pilots 100 to 1. It's been the key to our success in dominating this sector of space.

Recker : When you said the ship "summons the pilot"... You mean it... Calls you or something?

Psyme : You don't know? [laughing] Ha! This will be rich. Try to keep up.

[Psyme leaves, and Recker follows, going south, west, and north. Recker sees the three crewmen get summoned. Psyme walks up to Recker.]

Psyme : Hot! I was hoping we'd see some action!

Recker : Where did they go?!

Psyme : The ships are spooked by something. They're summoning pilots.

Recker : You mean they can just suck people into the sky?!

Psyme : Sure! That's what your parasite is for, idiot! It's a link between you and your ship! If you're summoned, just take aim and destroy anything that moves. Once the ship relaxes, you'll be sent back.
[Psyme starts to get summoned] Whoops.....Here I go!

[Recker's vision blurs.]

Recker : Oh, man! Here it comes!

[Recker is summoned to a Krill Fighter and takes out a number of targets. Afterward, Recker is sent back. Psyme is there waiting for him.]

Psyme : So? How was it?

Recker : That was amazing! We don't have anything like that on Earth! My parasite...and that ship...It was like I was in its head!

Psyme : I wouldn't get too attached to that ship.

Recker : Why not?

Psyme : Because, silly. You never know which ship will be summoning you. It could be a different one every time. Which reminds me. Everything you experience is remembered by your parasite. That means the stronger you become, the stronger the ship you inhabit will be.

Recker : Weird. On Earth, our ships do all the work. We just pilot them.

Psyme : Which is why you won't benefit any from that peashooter you carry. Don't forget that. If you're going to strengthen the bond between you and your parasite, it'll be in the stars. Build up your parasite's experience level, and your ships will fly tough!

Recker : Got it.

Psyme : I'm going to scout ahead. We need to gather data on the area.

[Psyme heads north, and Recker follows. Eventually, he climbs a tall ladder. When he reaches the top, the ground starts to shake, and he sees Psyme and the three crewmen. Recker walks up to Psyme.]

Psyme : What have you men found?

Crewman : There is definitely something here, ma'am.

Psyme : I feel it. Rumbling. Like a Vehicle approaching.

Crewman : It's deep underground. I can't tell how far.

Psyme : This might be what we're looking for. Stay here and record it. Then return to the starbase with your readings.

Recker : Where are we going?

Psyme : To find out what's causing this hunk of rock to shake. Somehow I doubt High Command sent us here for a simple foot massage.

[Psyme walks off to the west. Recker also heads west and makes his way to the dot on his map. When he gets there, Psyme is waiting for him. Recker walks up to Psyme.]

Psyme : I was right. The humans beat us here.

Recker : Humans?!

Psyme : That's an Earth symbol by the doorway, isn't it?

Recker : I don't believe it! This looks like some kind of mining operation! What could they be up to so far from Earth?

Psyme : Looks like your overlords have been doing some moonlighting!

Recker : Earth doesn't have overlords! Well, jeez, I don't know. Maybe we do.

Psyme : It would take a great deal of resources to secretly excavate a planet in Krill space. Shush! I'm getting orders from the station.

Recker : Don't look at me! You can talk through that creature?

Psyme : I said quiet! Wow, I can't believe I have to explain this to a grown man. Ok, look... Female Krill have the ability to speak through their parasites when the fleet is overhead. Surely you've noticed the difference between male and female Krill?

Recker : Hard to miss.

Psyme : Anyway, we're attacking the settlement.

Recker : What?

Psyme : You feel like dishing out a little payback to your Earth friends? I'll set up a remote DATA PLUG here. Use it to SAVE your progress.

[A Data Plug appears.]

Recker : Data Plug's for saving. Got it.

Psyme : When you're ready to hail a ship, just step into the middle of this circle. [circle appears] We use these as lures to attract the nearest ship. Don't step into the circle unless you're ready for a battle. I'll be right behind you when you do.

[Recker steps into the circle and is summoned to a ship. After making his way through the mine and defeating the giant drill at the end, Recker gets sent back, where Psyme is waiting for him.]

Psyme : Well Recker! How did it feel to trample your own species? Pretty

liberating, eh!

Recker : Nothing about that felt good.

Psyme : While you were flirting with that clanking monstrosity, I did a little reconnaissance. I think your Earth people were digging for the same thing we were searching for ourselves. I was able to secure their Scanning Tool, as well as their readings. They're much more accurate than ours.

Recker : Leave it to us humans to take the least subtle approach.

Psyme : I'll take the readings, you hold onto this tool.

YOU RECEIVED THE SCANNING TOOL!

Psyme : The SCANNING TOOL should be easy enough for even you. Press the L or R BUTTON to switch from your GUN to that TOOL. The scanner will activate automatically. Give it a try on the way back to the starbase. I'll see you there.

[Psyme goes off and leaves Recker to get back on his own. When he gets back on the Starbase, Psyme is there.]

Psyme : Well, mission accomplished, huh? I guess that's that. You know, I have to admit... I thought you'd embarrass me somehow, but you managed to stay in one piece.

Recker : It's what I do. So what now?

Psyme : I'll process the readings we got from the human mine and compare them to our own surface readings. The final data will go to Krill High Command for review. In the meantime, show that scanner to Commander Bloss...He'll want to see it.

[Psyme walks off to do her stuff and Recker proceeds to Bloss's office.]

Bloss : Recker! Come over here!

Recker : What, am I in trouble?

Bloss : Hardly! You wiped out a solid mile of human scum! Far as I'm concerned, you're good as a Krill.

Recker : Uh... Thank you sir!

Bloss : So it disappoints me to see it end here.

Recker : End? What are we doing?

Bloss : Relax kid. I'm trying to tell you that you've been promoted.

Recker : Promoted?

Bloss : Krill High Command reviewed the readings from the Earth Mine the moment we got them. Said it was exactly what they needed. Destroying the human infestation put you over the top. I'm finally in with the chief mucky mucks now thanks to you. They won't forget my name after today. And I'll make sure I remember yours.

Recker : So where am I being promoted to?

Bloss : For starters, hold onto that Scanning Tool, you'll need it. You're heading to Starbase 2. It's stationed in orbit above a Fire Planet. And find Psyme. I'm throwing her into the deal. She'll be someone else's problem for a change.

Recker : You mean mine.

Bloss : Watch your back.

Recker : Yes sir.

[As Recker exits Bloss's office, Tierney calls.]

Tierney : Recker! This is one way audio only. I need to speak with you in the COMM ROOM.

[Thus, Recker heads over to the COMM ROOM and calls Tierney.]

Recker : Commander! Commander Tierney, come in!

Tierney : You got my signal. Good.

Recker : I- I attacked...I had no choice!

Tierney : It doesn't matter.

Recker : Doesn't Matter?

Tierney : You got a look at their findings I take it?

Recker : Yes, how did you know?

Tierney : Look Recker. Both Earth and the Krill are following the same set of clues. The Forest Planet was only a stepping stone.

Recker : So you knew about the operation on that planet?

Tierney : Of course I did. I initiated it.

Recker : You sacrificed those people for this geological data!!

Tierney : Yes.

Recker : But the data is in the hands of the Krill High Command, and I'm being transferred to another base as some kind of war hero! So things are looking pretty screwed up from my end!!

Tierney : Keep your voice down! Sure, we wanted the data. But now we just need to know what the Krill plan to do with it.

Recker : You're keeping me in the dark, Commander!

Tierney : You know what you need to get the job done. That will have to be enough. Tierney out!!

[Recker turns his back to the screen as the call ends.]

Recker : Sigh... That arrogant... I'd better get to Psyme before I miss the

boat.

[Recker goes to the landing hatch, where Psyme is waiting for him.]

Psyme : You ready to leave this heap?

Recker : More than.

Psyme : Ok. Go to the NAV COM just like you did before. But this time, instead of landing, choose FIRE PLANET to enter that destination. The ELEVATOR in the next room will take you straight to the launch bay. The list of available Starbases will change from time to time, so just know this might be a one way trip.

Recker : What about the Forest Planet? Shouldn't I toughen up my parasite before we leave?

Psyme : That's up to you. But the sooner we get to Starbase 2, the better I'll like it. I'll be in the shuttle. Don't keep a lady waiting.

[Recker chooses the FIRE PLANET as his next destination and launches.]

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4c. Chapter 2 - "False Friendships"
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[Once Recker lands on Starbase 2, he reports to Commander Zelly in her office.]

Recker : Recker reporting for duty!

Zelly : Welcome to Starbase 2, Mister Recker. You will address me as Commander Zelly. You will find that I run a very tight ship, unlike your previous Commander's putrid animal stable. He briefed you on the purpose of your transfer?

Recker : Yes ma'am. He suggested that High Command was pleased with my piloting skills and saw fit to promote me.

Zelly : A transfer and a promotion are two very different things Mister Recker. You should know that I read all about how you came to be in Bloss's service. A crack pilot found clinging to life in a human prison ship. Rather unconventional way to join our ranks, wouldn't you say?

Recker : Yes ma'am, I would.

Zelly : And here you stand, adorned in the armor of a Krill, wandering among us? Can I rely upon you to follow my orders? Even those that may turn you against your own kind?

Recker : Maybe you missed the footnote in Bloss's report.

Zelly : Oh, about the human mining facility? Yes, I read it. But don't pretend one skirmish proves your allegiance to Krill Command...I still find it suspicious.

Recker : If you don't trust me yourself, what is your purpose in bringing me here?

Zelly : Oh, I didn't bring you here dear boy. The order came from the

Tyrannical Overlord.

Recker : The Tyrannical Overlord?

Zelly : Our leader. The head of the Krill High Command.

Recker : He's in charge? Why the interest in me?

Zelly : That information is beyond me. But I do know that while you're here, you'll follow my orders to the letter. Clear?

Recker : Very.

Zelly : Good. We are to continue the work begun on the Forest Planet by Commander Bloss.

Recker : Another geological survey?

Zelly : Blune will fill you in. [Blune enters] He will be commanding the mission.

Blune : Don't expect any special treatment Recker. I'd just as soon see you dead and out of my hair.

Recker : Thanks.

Blune : But since I have no say in the matter, welcome aboard.

Recker : Quite a sense of humor you have.

Blune : Not really.

Zelly : That will do. Blune, please bring Psyme in for her briefing. Recker, you are free to tour starbase. You will find your quarters at the end of the hall. Dismissed.

[Recker walks out of Zelly's office and goes to his quarters. Once there, Recker gets a call from Tierney.]

Tierney : Recker...come in. Find the COMM ROOM and contact me ASAP. Tierney out!

Recker : Great. I have no access to that room. Now what am I going to do?

[Searching for a way into the COMM ROOM, Recker ends up talking to a certain Tech.]

Tech : You transferred here with Psyme? Man, what a hothead.

Recker : I'll say. Is she always like that?

Tech : Look, I'm supposed to clean the COMM ROOM. If you do it for me, I'll give you all the dirt on Psyme. Whadaya say?

Recker : I'll need an access key.

Tech : That's no problem. I have an extra.

You got the COMM ROOM KEY!

Tech : Make sure you clean around the touch panel. Dust builds up there and drives Commander Zelly nuts.

[Now with the COMM ROM KEY in his inventory, Recker gets into the COMM ROOM and calls Tierney.]

Tierney : Recker, good.

Recker : What is it this time?

Tierney : Are you getting settled?

Recker : Yes. I'm operating under a woman named Commander Zelly. She doesn't trust me one bit. Completely by the book. I've been teamed up with a female soldier named Psyme, and now some guy...Blune. He's the commander's right hand man. A real Earth hater.

Tierney : He'll have valuable information, so do whatever you can to get close to him. Also, I've anticipated a more thorough investigation into your past by Krill High Command. We've recently discovered a piggybacked signal on AEF's lines. It's very likely a Krill wiretap. We're dummyping up some documents that support your story, and we'll be placing the files where the Krill can find them. If they investigate your past, they'll find a detailed account of exactly who you said you were.

Recker : They are sending me down for another survey of this Fire Planet. Tell me now Commander, is there another Earth base down there?

Tierney : No. We have no knowledge of this planet or why the Krill would want it. As soon as you have concrete data, send it over. Tierney out!

[After all that, Recker proceeds to the landing hatch to begin the survey. Blune and Psyme are there waiting for him.]

Blune : If everyone's here, let me explain our mission. Krill High Command requires detailed scans of this planet. But to do that, we need to be able to find fissure that will allow for a deep reading.

Psyme : No problem. We handled something like this before.

Blune : But you weren't suspended over a boiling sea of lava at the time. Naturally, the weakest points on the landmass are best for scanning, but don't allow for the weight of the starbase. So, we'll need to land further out and set up force fields to act as bridges to span the crevices on foot.

Recker : Sounds dangerous.

Psyme : It's worse than you think. The kind of force fields he's talking about require beacons to be set up right against the edge of the crevice.

Blune : So you'll need to go down to the surface, and post the beacons first. That will tell the crewmen here on the base where to project the force fields.

Psyme : What's the hold up? Let's go already.

[Blune and Psyme wait for Recker to select LAND on the NAV COMPUTER. Once

Recker does this and heads out, Psyme and Blune follow.]

Psyme : Let's split up. Give a holler if you find a good beacon spot.

Recker : What am I looking for?

Blune : A discolored plot of soil is best. It means the ground is soft, but not flowing with magma. We'll need 3 BEACONS set up to triangulate properly.

Recker : Three beacons, got it.

[Recker goes off to find the three beacon spots. When he finds one, Psyme and Blune come to the spot and set up one of the beacons.]

Psyme : Good. This is exactly what we needed.

Blune : It's done. Let's find two more spots similar to this one.

[They go off again, leaving Recker to search for the second beacon spot. When Recker finds it, Blune and Psyme come and set up the beacon.]

Blune : Good find Recker.

Recker : Two down.

Psyme : Only one more to go. Then crossing between these land masses will be a cake walk.

Blune : Keep your eyes peeled for that last one.

[The two walk away and Recker goes off to find the third beacon spot. When that is found, the pair comes again to set up the beacon.]

Psyme : Excellent. Now we can triangulate the force field locations within a hair's breadth.

Recker : Done. So now what?

Psyme : I've sent coordinates detailing all of the areas we need to cross to the crew.

Blune : We just sit back and wait for the force fields to appear. Wait! what's that...?

Recker : Look out!! [an alien bug appears above the beacon] What is that thing?

Blune : Must be an indigenous life form.

Psyme : It's probably attracted to the beacon's light. We'll have to scatter these aliens before the beacons can be properly activated.

Recker : I can handle it.

Psyme : If this is an infestation, your peashooter will be useless. I'm calling in a ship.

Blune : Have it summon Recker. I want to see this guy fly.

Psyme : Sigh...Fine. You're up Recker. Clear a path through these bugs.

Recker : Affirmative.

[Recker gets summoned to a ship. After successfully destroying the bugs, he is sent back to where the Starbase landed. Psyme and Blune are there.]

Recker : That does it. All three beacons should be cleared.

Blune : We have a strong signal from all three. Nice flying Recker.

Psyme : Base reports all force fields are now active. We should be able to explore those new areas now.

Blune : Remember, our missions objective is to find a fissure deep enough to take a clear reading of the planet.

Recker : I'll head back in the direction we came. There were some places I want to check out.

[Recker leaves to go find the fissure. When he finds it, Psyme and Blune come to check it out. Psyme commences scanning.]

Psyme : What did you find?

Recker : Does this fissure look deep enough?

Blune : We'll know in a minute.

Recker : Why do you suppose Krill High Command is so interested in this planet?

Psyme : It's hard to say. High Command has conducted more of these kinds of scanning missions in the past few years than in our people's entire history. Since the original excavation on Earth it's been the Tyrannical Overlord's favorite pastime.

Recker : You said excavation of Earth?! Are you referring to the first attack on Earth that started the war?

Blune : Let's get something straight Earthman. The Krill are not at war with you.

Recker : Not at war? What do you call the last 60 years?! Psyme, you yourself led an attack just last month! How can you say you're not at war?

Blune : No one is trying to conquer your planet Recker. The excavation of Earth was deemed necessary by Krill High Command. Your people responded in violence.

Recker : You nearly destroyed all life on Earth! It caused cataclysmic global damage! Don't you see that your actions have consequences? You have created an enemy of billions of people!

Psyme : That's their mistake. They can't stand against the Krill. Our armada is endless! We can stamp them out effortlessly whenever we choose!

Recker : Yeah?! Well you did a pretty sloppy job of wiping us out last month, didn't you?

Psyme : For your information, that was just a follow up visit to assess the damage to your planet! Your idiot pilots forced the battle!

Recker : I refuse to believe you planet butchers were making a house call!!

Blune : Give it a rest both of you. Understand Recker. Your people are like frightened animals. We drew a little blood, and they bit us. It's as simple as that.

Recker : Are you actually saying that the attack on Earth was for our own good?

Blune : I'm saying that with time you will see that things aren't so black and white. For now, let's see what the scans turned up.

Psyme : I've got it. This is impossible.

Blune : What?

Psyme : These readings. They're the same. Recker, you must not have cleared out the old data from the Forest Planet scans.

Recker : Don't blame me! We're not even using the same equipment!

Psyme : But then... How is it that both the Forest Planet and this planet are experiencing tremors that display exactly the same pattern?

Blune : It's a malfunction. Two planets can't exhibit this level of synchronicity. There must be another answer. Psyme, see if there's a larger entrance to this fissure. One we could take a ship into.

Psyme : These readings suggest several openings. But it would be a hazardous journey.

Blune : We need more information. Recker, can you navigate small spaces?

Recker : You know I can. Call a ship.

Blune : I'll ride shotgun. We'll proceed to the source of the tremors and see if we can't get to the bottom of things.

Psyme : Here's a DATA PLUG. You'd better record your progress first.

[The circle appears to Recker's right. He goes and gets summoned to a ship. After successfully making his way down the fissure, Recker and Blune face off against a huge worm. When that is defeated, both of them are sent back.]

Psyme : You're back! What happened?

Recker : We ran into trouble. Some sort of giant worm was holed up inside the fissure.

Blune : It was Recker's fancy flying that saved our skins. I was sure we were dead meat. When it was time to fire I just froze up.

Recker : Forget it.

Blune : I can't. If not for you, I'd be worm food now. Ah, I've got just the thing to thank you...Here.

You got the KRILL PUCK!

Recker : What is this thing? It looks like a hockey puck.

Blune : It's a very old weapon. Kick it to cut a path through enemies or obstacles that get in your way.

Recker : I'll have to give it a shot. What can I say? Thanks!

Psyme : If you boys are finished, I'd like to get this new data back to base. You did manage to take readings down there, correct?

Recker : The existence of that creature should be data enough.

Psyme : All right then, let's get back to base. Maybe you can use that Puck thing to find a better route.

[Psyme and Blune leave. When Recker gets back on the ship, Blune and Psyme are already there.]

Blune : Psyme and I will report to Commander Zelly. She will want a conference with High Command in the Lab. No offense Recker, but I think you should sit this one out.

Recker : Whatever. I'll be in my quarters.

[Psyme and Blune leave. Recker gets to the COMM ROOM and calls Tierney.]

Tierney : I'm listening kid.

Recker : Things are going smoothly. I've allied with Blune and we've uncovered something strange on the Fire Planet. It sounds crazy, but the Forest and Fire worlds are somehow synchronized.

Tierney : What are the Krill doing with this information?

Recker : I don't know. They're having a closed conference in the Lab.

Tierney : Can you get in there?

Recker : They've decided to exclude me for some reason. But I suppose I could find a way to drop in.

Tierney : How close is your relationship with the Krill girl? Will she confide in you once the meeting is adjourned?

Recker : Blune might. But not Psyme or Commander Zelly.

Tierney : I need you in that room. Synchronized planets...this is what we've been waiting for.

Recker : I'll get in there somehow. Recker out.

[To hear the conference, Recker crawls through the ventilation system until he gets to the Lab. Blune, Zelly, and Psyme are there talking to the Overlord.]

Zelly : ...And at this point, our human pilot was locked in combat with the creature.

Overlord: Most unusual.

Blune : Tyrannical Overlord sir, I have never seen or heard of a living creature of such magnitude! Forgive me for asking sir, but is this the ultimate weapon you've referred to?

Zelly : What insolence!

Overlord: It's quite all right Commander Zelly. No, this living thing you've found is of no consequence. It is nothing more than a parasite, living off the matter I wish to exploit.

Blune : A parasite? Then the matter you're speaking of, it's...

Overlord: Much larger, yes. Tell me more about these tremors.

Psyme : Your Excellency, the patterns we scanned on the Fire Planet match the ones you directed us to on the Forest Planet.

Zelly : The similarities are frightening.

Overlord: Then we have found two of the six remaining specimens.

Zelly : There are six planets with identical quake patterns?

Overlord: Yes. And I am disgusted to hear that the humans were already exploiting the Forest Planet when our forces arrived. Such failure is unforgivable.

Zelly : Then you will deal with Commander Bloss?

Overlord: In due time. First I have a more pressing matter.

Zelly : Yes, Overlord?

Overlord: Psyme has informed me of a traitor in your midst.

Zelly : [gasps] What? Psyme! Why did you not come to me with this information?

Psyme : There have been long range transmissions from Starbase 2 that do not coincide with transmissions from the other stations, or High Command. The fact that Earth had a mining operation in place suggests that they have been eavesdropping on our plans.

Zelly : What about the human pilot? Surely he's the leak.

Overlord: I have verified his story through my own means. And he entered into our service only recently, which does not explain the presence of humans on the Forest Planet. But as a precaution, once I know the location of all six synchronized planets we will dispose of him. That will be your responsibility Psyme.

Psyme : It would be my pleasure sir.

Blune : Just in case, I should go and verify that he is in his quarters.

Zelly : Let us initiate a lockdown. Perhaps we'll catch the fly in our web.

[Recker backtracks through the ventilation system. Since his previous route is blocked off due to the lockdown, he crawls in a different direction and lands

by a locker in his room. Soon, Blune and Psyme come in.]

Blune : Recker!

Psyme : What are you doing at that locker?

Recker : Snooping. I heard there was a lockdown.

Blune : You found something?

Recker : This was inside. What is it?

Psyme : An access key?

Blune : It's for the Comm Room. I assigned it to a crewman just before you and Recker were transferred here. It looks like we've found our leak.

Recker : What's this all about anyway? Sounds like a witch hunt.

Psyme : Family business. It doesn't concern you.

Recker : Fine. How bout getting the door on your way out.

[Psyme and Blune leave the room. After they leave, Recker heads toward Zelly's office.]

Zelly : Recker, good timing. I just summoned Psyme.

[Psyme comes in.]

Psyme : Psyme reporting for active duty, Commander Zelly. I hope there are no hard feelings about what happened in front of the Overlord?

Zelly : None.

Recker : Am I missing something?

Psyme : Just stuff.

Zelly : I take it you are both well rested? High Command has completed their analysis of the Sync Data.

Recker : And?

Zelly : It closely matches a third planet, but it is very distant.

Psyme : And they'd like us to check it out?

Zelly : You will both be transferred with the Sync Data. Share your findings with Commander Nomak. He has a starbase positioned there.

Psyme : We'll depart immediately.

Zelly : Before you go, there is one additional detail.

Psyme : Yes, Commander?

Zelly : I'm sure you've both heard by now. The spy. She was found and executed.

Recker : Executed?

Zelly : Although I'm quite sure we'll have no further problems, I'd like to take the added precaution of transferring you both by cargo vessel rather than a conventional shuttle. It will help alleviate temptation in the event that the traitor was not working alone.

Psyme : Is that really necessary?

Zelly : This way the list of potential traitors is reduced to three. You, Recker, and myself.

Blune : What about Blune and the crew?

Zelly : I plan to clean house once you depart. Report to the launch bay immediately.

[Psyme and Recker leave the room and head for the launch bay. When they get there, Blune is there and a crate is on the Elevator.]

Blune : Commander Zelly informed me about your unusual transfer.

Psyme : I don't trust her. This feels wrong to me.

Blune : It's just a precaution I'm sure. But I still can't understand the importance of these missions. Recker, High Command said that thing we battled on the Fire Planet was a parasite.

Psyme : That's enough Blune.

Blune : What kind of planet has a half-mile long parasite living on it? This is getting way out of hand!

Psyme : It's none of our business what High Command does. Don't forget that High Command is carrying out the will of the Tyrannical Overlord. This is his wisdom you're questioning so show some restraint!

Blune : It's getting too crazy, Psyme! I want out of this! Do me a favor Recker. When you get to that new starbase, look up a guy named Ek. Tell him I want a transfer.

Recker : I'll see what I can do.

Blune : I'll never underestimate an Earthman again. You've been a loyal friend.

Recker : Thanks. Watch your back.

[Blune watches Recker and Psyme get in the crate. In the crate, Recker and Psyme get settled as they launch.]

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4d. Chapter 3 - "A Cure for the Common Cold"
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[The cargo ship drops out of space warp.]

Psyme : Feels like we dropped out of space warp. We should be at Starbase 3 in a few hours.

Recker : Psyme, I'm concerned about Blune.

Psyme : Me too. Commander Zelly will take drastic action now that she's found a security breach.

Recker : What do you know about her? What is she capable of?

Psyme : The crew will be replaced, that's for sure. Maybe incarcerated.

Recker : Or killed? Like that crewman?

Psyme : Why do you feel so responsible for all this? I thought you were the standoffish hired gun.

Recker : Wouldn't anyone in my place feel the same?

Psyme : You sound frightened.

Recker : Well look at me! I'm a million miles from Earth stuck in a crate! Who knows if I'll ever see Earth again! Or if it will even be there when I do!!

Psyme : You're such a big baby.

Recker : I know you're not impervious to all this madness.

Psyme : Pfffff...You don't know meat all Earthman.

Recker : I've learned a bit. You blew an attack on Earth and got demoted. You're probably bitter about it. Now you've got no friends so you throw attitude in everyone's face even when they're trying to help you.

Psyme : ...

Recker : Why don't you do something about it? If you work hard I bet you could get your post back.

Psyme : I already worked hard to get where I was before! Forget my old life! All I want is a second chance at that human pilot that brought me down! I'll show him what I'm really made of.

Recker : This pilot... What can you tell me about him?

Psyme : Not enough. Only that he survive by the skin of his teeth. I took out his entire squadron before he brought me down. I'm told his name was Sigma. Ever hear of him?

Recker : Sorry, can't help you there. Psyme, doesn't it bother you that you shot down those pilots? For all you know they were good men!

Psyme : Simmer down!! You know, for a murderous convict and alleged human hater, you sure go soft when it comes to your mother planet.

Recker : ...

Psyme : Come clean with me. Why were you banished from Earth?

Recker : It's complicated.

Psymer : We've got time.

Recker : ... Fine. I used to work for my uncle... Err... Uncle Sam. He put me in charge of some guys, and I sort of got a big head. Forgot how to lead by serving others... I... ...When my guys needed most, I was only looking out for myself. It cost them their lives. After that I was removed from the job, and exiled into space.

Psymer : Your uncle must have been an important man. How long was your banishment?

Recker : I am beginning to think it was permanent. Returning to Earth might not be in the cards for me anymore.

Psymer : You must regret your crimes then.

Recker : ... Yes. But I can't live them down. all I can do is live with the consequences of my failure. Look, Psymer... If I ever get back to Earth, I'll find this pilot that ruined your life. We'll finish him off together.

Psymer : You're sweet.

Recker : yeah...

Psymer : You need to let it go. Even I know there's more to life than keeping score. You should learn to stop and enjoy the moment from time to time.

Recker : What could possibly be good about being locked in a box for hours?

Psymer : This...

[Psymer smirks at Recker, and Recker looks warily back; she leans over and kisses him. The screen fades to black, and when it fades back, the ship is landing and both are sleeping (0.0). Psymer wakes up, gets up, and walks up to Recker.]

Psymer : Recker, wake up!

Recker : [wakes up] Hm...Huh? What's going on?

Psymer : Didn't you feel that? We've landed.

Recker : Oh, yeah. Sure is quiet.

[The crate is dropped.]

Psymer : That was the loader arm dropping us I think.

Recker : Whoa... It's getting cold!

Psymer : Sure is. Let's ditch this crate. That is, unless you'd like to stay in here.

Recker : Aww, it wasn't so bad.

Psymer : [Psymer winks] You'd better not be referring to my kiss.

Recker : Err... I'll get the hatch.

[Recker and Psyme emerge from the crate and walk out on the surface of the Ice Planet.]

Recker : Where are we?

Psyme : What happened to Starbase 3?

Recker : Looks like we've been delivered to the Ice Planet by mistake.

Psyme : It's no mistake. This is Zelly's idea of a joke. Or worse, she's ready to take things to the next level. I sort of went over her head earlier.

Recker : Oh, great. Thanks for dragging me down with ya.

Psyme : What are friends for?

Recker : Friends, huh?

Psyme : We'd better look for signs of life, or a way to alert Starbase 3 that we're down here.

Recker : Call for help on that bikini slug.

Psyme : I told you before! I can only communicate when the fleet is overhead.

Recker : Then I guess it's up to me to scout ahead. [walks off a small distance and turns back around] Holler if you find anything.

[Psyme opens her scanner and leaves Recker to his scouting. Recker spots a human settlement and goes in. Recker calls Psyme, and she comes in shortly after.]

Psyme : Did you just call me?

Recker : I shouldn't be so surprised, but here I am, standing in the presence of yet another unexplainable human settlement!

Psyme : It's not a mining operation. No heavy equipment or displaced land.

Recker : Any tremors?

Psyme : [pulls out her scanner] I'll check.

Recker : I can't believe there are humans out here! You said this planet was remote even by Krill standards!

Psyme : Uh oh.

Recker : Uh oh what?

Psyme : Brace yourself. We've got another match. This makes three planets now, all shaking in unison. That means the human knew about two of the planets before we did!

Recker : Come again?

Psyme : Keep this under your hat. Earlier we met with the Tyrannical Overlord, head of the Krill High Command. He said that both the humans and the Krill were searching for six matching planets.

Recker : I know. I eavesdropped on your meeting.

Psyme : [Psyme puts down her scanner] What?! How could you do that?! Our necks are on the chopping block as it is. [Psyme gasps]

Recker : I want to know what this is all about, and you should too! This alien matter could be a weapon!

Psyme : Who knows? It could just as easily be starship food! You know, your meddling is getting out of hand, and I'm going to be the one who gets bit on the backside!

Recker : I'm going to look around inside the compound.

Psyme : Go! I've had it up to here with you!

[Recker goes off and eventually exits the compound. He sees a girl with a gun shooting three zombies.]

Recker : What is this?!

??? : [screams] Help! Help me! They're everywhere!

Recker : Hang on!

??? : Aim for the head!

[After Recker takes care of the deadbeats, the screen fades to white and a picture of the girl is show.]

Recker : Were those... Human beings?

??? : Yeah...what's left of 'em. You're a man, right? Like, a human man?

Recker : Oh, right. I'd almost forgotten about the Krill armor. Regular human, same as you.

??? : Err...Why are you dressed up like that? You look ridiculous!

Recker : I'll explain later. Who are you?

Scarlet : Scarlet Keys. I work here. Or I did, up till the accident anyways. Are you with a rescue team? Or a decontamination squad? You're not going to stick me in a plastic bubble are you?

Recker : No, no. Look, Miss Keys you said?

Scarlet : You're cute. You can call me Scarlet.

Recker : Ok, Scarlet. I'm only posing as a Krill to get information out of them. It's important that you play along. We'd both be in serious trouble if my cover's blown.

Scarlet : Double agent gig. Ok, sure.

Recker : First, I need you to tell me what this compound is here for.

[Psyme walks out from the human compound.]

Psyme : I heard shots! Oh, I see... Good catch Recker!

Scarlet : Who's this?

Psyme : [laughs] Me? Oh, I'm Recker's girlfriend. He's lost his taste for scrawny little Earth girls.

Scarlet : [gasps and turns to Psyme] Just when I thought men couldn't stoop any lower!

Recker : Um...She's not serious! Really!

Psyme : What's with the bloodbath?

Recker : I found Scarlet-

Psyme : Scarlet?

Recker : [Scarlet turns to Recker] -under attack by a horde of diseased humans. They looked crazed somehow. Like, well...

Scarlet : Like B-movie zombies.

Psyme : Are there more humans here? Like you?

Scarlet : Nope, nuh-uh. I've ID'd all of the scientists and support team. I'm the only uninfected person left.

Recker : How did this happen?

Scarlet : We were sent here by AEF to breed a very specific strain of virus. We were successful, but a byproduct of the virus contaminated our food stores somehow. By morning everyone was infected. I was watching my carbs, so I sort of dodged that bullet. Girl's gotta watch her figure, right purple?

Recker : You said you were breeding a virus. What for?

Scarlet : We were given a sample of Krill genetic material. The virus was required to multiply and destroy the material utterly. It was quite a challenge, since the sample was completely foreign to us, but we...

Psyme : Stop. Am I at risk?

Scarlet : No, I doubt it. The virus running amok here is not the pure strain. Like I said, just a byproduct. The real virus only exists in code until we manufacture it. I still remember the formula...Maybe I could whip some up for you?

Psyme : [Scarlet turns to Psyme; Psyme points a gun at Scarlet] Well, that's all I need. Recker?

Recker : Hold on. You can't kill her!

Psyme : Why not? We can't leave her here to breed a virus that will destroy the Krill!

Recker : Then she's coming with us. We'll have better chances of surviving if we stick together.

Psyme : [Psyme puts down her gun; Scarlet turns back to Recker] You're not thinking of trading up are you?

Recker : Of course not! I mean, it's not like... Bah, let's just go! Come on!

Scarlet : Where are we going?

Recker : There's a Krill starbase in orbit. We need to let them know to scramble the fleet so we can warp out of here.

Psyme : What about her? She can't be summoned into a Krill ship.

Scarlet : I don't want to go on a Krill ship!

Recker : Well we can't stay here. Hmmm. [walks up to Scarlet] Scarlet, are those flares? On your belt?

Scarlet : Oh, these things? The light will only rile up those dead humans though. It's the first thing I tried.

Recker : But now there are three of us, plus we know a station is up there expecting us. I could plant the flares in a wide formation while you two cover my back. If they're still scanning up there, we might catch their eye.

Scarlet : I'd guess TEN FLARES ought to do it. Find dry spots and jam them pointy side down.

YOU GOT 10 FLARES!

[Recker watches as Psyme and Scarlet walk off to the west. Scarlet shouts a "Come on!" and Recker is left to plant the flares. After Recker finds the first dry spot, he jams down the first flare.]

Recker : Good. 9 more to go.

[Recker goes on and finds the next dry spot.]

Recker : All right, 8 more to go.

[Recker goes on and finds the next dry spot.]

Recker : Fantastic! 7 more to go.

[Recker goes on and finds the next dry spot.]

Recker : Okay, 6 more to go.

[Recker goes on and finds the next dry spot.]

Recker : Good. 5 more to go.

[Recker goes on and finds the next dry spot.]

Recker : Hmmm...4 more to go.

[Recker goes on and finds the next dry spot.]

Recker : Good. 3 more to go.

[Recker goes on and finds the next dry spot.]

Recker : Gettin' close! Only 2 more to go.

[Recker goes on and finds the next dry spot.]

Recker : Yes! Only 1 more to go!

[Recker goes on and finds the last dry spot.]

Recker : That's 10! Gotta get back to the girls before they kill each other.

[Recker gets back to the girls.]

Psyme : Recker! Get over here!

Recker : [walking over] Did they see the flares?

Psyme : Yes. The fleet is scrambled, so expect aerial skirmishes again...

Recker : Good, now we can fly out of here!

Psyme : No, they detected us from the ground. We'll need to get the hatch of Starbase 3 fast. It's landed somewhere up ahead. Earthgirl and I've been blasting out a path that should point us in the right direction. One more should do the trick.

Scarlet : [The cave's entrance is blasted open.] Now, tell him the bad news.

Psyme : It's good news. They are going to dust the entire site to eradicate the virus. We have to get to the hatch before this happens or we'll be atomized.

Recker : How long do we have?

Psyme : Once I get the signal, we have 5 minutes.

Recker : [Psyme turns around; the signal is received] What was that?

Psyme : [turns back to Recker] The signal! Run ahead. Maybe you can stall the blast!

[Scarlet shouts a "Let's go!" and Recker runs ahead to the Starbase. When he gets there, Psyme and Scarlet follow, and bombing sounds are heard. Ek and a crewman are there waiting for the arrivals.]

Ek : There you are, finally! Commander Zelly said your arrival would be unusual. Let's see, we've got Recker and Psyme, and... [shocked sound] Look at this! What do we have here? A pretty little Earth female!

Recker : [The bombing sounds stop] Hey!

Psyme : Cool off Recker. This is Scarlet. She's a gift for Commander Nomak, so hands to yourself!

Ek : That's a crying shame, that is! I lost my pet a week ago today! Could do with a replacement. [the screen shakes] Whup! Sounds like the site blasting's begun. Good thing you didn't dawdle, eh? Miss Psyme, be a good girl and wash that pet before giving her to Nomak. Get some of that Earth stink off her.

Psyme : Idiots.

Ek : [Psyme leads Scarlet away.] Bah well, best not to keep the boss waiting. You'll find Commander Nomak in his office.

[Recker heads off to Nomak's office.]

Nomak : Ah. You must be Recker.

Recker : Yes sir! Reporting for duty sir!

Nomak : Looks like I'm your third boss since enlisting. That's a lot of transfers, especially for an offworld soldier.

Recker : If I may interject sir! I have a message from Blune, my previous team leader. He is requesting a transfer from Starbase 2.

Nomak : Hah. That Zelly wench drives every man to wit's end. I'll see what strings I can pull. Ah, your pals are here.

[Psyme and Scarlet enter.]

Nomak : Who's the pink skin?

Psyme : This is Scarlet, Commander. Just a little thank you for the promotion.

Scarlet : [walks forward] Say What?!

Recker : Psyme, have you lost your mind?!

Nomak : Wellllll! Pay attention Recker! Psyme here really knows how to suck up! She'll be a great officer in the new order, eh?

Psyme : I would serve you very well Commander.

Nomak : I'm sure. There's no shuttle between starbases for the moment. We're using every available ship to wipe out that nasty virus. Can't be too careful. [Scarlet turns to Nomak] So you kids clear out. I want to get better acquainted with my new pet here. Get the door on your way out.

Scarlet : [Scarlet turns to Recker] What are you doing?! Don't leave me with this lunatic!

Psyme : [Psyme and Recker turn toward each other] You heard him Recker! Enjoy your pet, sir.

Recker : You! You did this just to spite me!

Psyme : Maybe next time you'll remember your place. Come on!

[Psyme leaves. After turn to Scarlet for a brief moment, Recker leaves too. He goes to see Ek at the landing hatch.]

Ek : Hey Recker. Commander had me look into that transfer for your pal Blune.

Recker : And?

Ek : You said he's on Starbase 2 working for Commander Zelly? Because it looks like that starbase has gone off line.

Recker : Is that normal?

Ek : No.

[Psyme comes in.]

Psyme : What's going on?

Recker : There's no contact with Starbase 2.

Psyme : It must be Zelly. I wouldn't put it past her to can the entire staff.

Recker : Maybe Blune too.

Ek : This is highly irregular. I'll notify Commander Nomak. There should be a shuttle in the bay by now. Take it back to Starbase 2 and check it out.

Recker : Will do. Psyme!

Psyme : [turning to Recker] What?!

Recker : I'll go alone. Just try to keep Scarlet out of trouble, would you? I think you owe her that much.

Psyme : What do I owe her for?

Recker : Wake up!! If not for Scarlet, you'd still be buried in snow! Zelly tried to bump you off, don't you get it?!

Psyme : sigh... Very well.

[Recker now goes back to the Fire Planet. When he arrives, he sees that the crewmen are dead and goes to talk to Zelly in her office.]

Zelly : Welcome back Mister Recker. I trust you and your partner arrived safely at Starbase 3?

Recker : There was a slight detour, but nothing we couldn't handle.

Zelly : I've been doing some spring cleaning as you can see.

Recker : Yeah, I see it.

Zelly : High Command was very disappointed to learn of a spy within our ranks. It was necessary to alleviate all doubt. Only one task remains. I've just spoken with your new commander, Nomak. He's allowed me to enlist your services one last time.

Recker : What do you have in mind?

Zelly : Before I thinned the ranks, one of my crewmen went missing. Blune. I want you to find him and finish him. That way High Command will have only you, Psyme, and myself to blame if there are further holes in Krill security.

Recker : You want me to kill Blune?

Zelly : It will be a simple matter. He took a shuttle to Starbase 1, faking a transfer to cover his tracks. He won't see it coming. Not from you.

Recker : And what's to keep you from bumping me off next?

Zelly : I have shielded you from certain details. Rest assured, Mister Recker, you are no great threat to me. Get it done and report back to me. Dismissed.

[Recker now makes his way to the Forest Planet to find Blune. When he gets to Starbase 1, he goes to Bloss for some information.]

Bloss : Long time, kid! Commander Zelly said you're looking for an AWOL pilot.

Recker : So I can execute him. Is this really standard Krill procedure? Eliminating an entire Starbase crew?

Bloss : You mean she really killed them all? Phooo...Foul woman that one. Worse than the Tyrannical Overlord I'd bet.

Recker : Well Blune's blood will be on her hands. Where is he?

Bloss : I gave him some busy work on the Forest Planet to buy a little time. You'll find him somewhere down there. [Recker starts off but is stopped by Bloss's voice] But Recker...

Recker : [turning to Bloss] Yeah?

Bloss : Don't trust Commander Zelly for a second.

[With those last words in mind, Recker lands the Starbase and goes off to seek Blune. Recker eventually finds him.]

Recker : [walking up to Blune] Blune! I found you!

Blune : Hello Recker. Though I'd never see you again. Psyme...?

Recker : She's fine. Zelly tried to make it look like an accident. She dumped us on a virus infested Planet, but her plan failed.

Blune : Glad to hear it. Something huge is going down. High Command ordered Commander Zelly to slay her crew once they analyzed the scan data of the first three planets.

Recker : She said the crew was killed because of a security breach.

Blune : That's just a cover story. High Command wants to be the only ones who know which planets are synchronizing. Once they've found them all, you and Psyme will be eliminated.

Recker : Blune...I'm here because Zelly sent me.

Blune : I figured as much. Were you instructed to bring me in alive?

Recker : [turns his back to Blune] ...

Blune : Dead. Then High Command is really cleaning things up. Don't think I'll go without a fight.

Recker : [turns toward Blune] Don't be ridiculous. I'm not going to kill you. All I want is answers.

Blune : Let's look at the facts. We've found three synchronized planets, one with a mile long parasite living beneath the surface feeding on some sort of living matter. It's a safe bet that all three planets contain this matter.

Recker : Kind of a stretch but okay.

Blune : From what you've told me, two of them had human settlements on them. And the Overlord had me searching for six planets total.

Recker : So that means Krill found one of them, and Earth found two. If this is some sort of arms race, Earth is ahead.

Blune : So you think this matter is a bio weapon?

Recker : Yes. Your overlord is going to use the matter to create a weapon to destroy Earth. Maybe other planets too.

Blune : How could you know this?

Recker : I listened in back at Zelly's office.

Blune : That was a big risk. And something you would certainly be tempted to share with Earth.

Recker : Don't think I haven't considered it.

Blune : You have to be more careful! You could end up exiled by both Earth and the Krill!

Recker : Ha ha... I'll be like you.

Blune : No, I will be dead.

Recker : Come on! There's got to be a way to convince her I killed you.

Blune : Yeah, I've got an idea. But it won't be pleasant.

[The screen fades to white and a slicing sound is heard, as well as a parasite's screech. A parasite's tail lies writhing on the ground as the screen fades back.]

Recker : Blune!

Blune : Gasp...Gasp... Take...it...

Recker : What have you done?!

Blune : My parasite's tail... It will live... But it had a good grip... On my spine...

Recker : This looks bad... Will you be ok?

Blune : My chances are pretty good. The parasite will try to regenerate. Leave me here. But Recker... We can't follow Earth or Krill blindly anymore. Good people are being slaughtered on both sides to protect this weapon.

Recker : I know.

Blune : On both sides. Think about what that means before you take action.

Recker : I will.

Blune : I'll find you later. Don't worry about me. Go back to Zelly while that tail's still warm.

[Recker walks up, takes the tail, and gets back to Zelly's office.]

Zelly : Is it done?

Recker : [puts tail and Zelly's desk] It is. I'm leaving. Your security is air tight now.

Zelly : If it isn't, we'll both know where to look.

[Recker leaves and gets back to Starbase 3 and Nomak's office. Psyme is there as well.]

Nomak : [as Recker enters] Greetings Recker. I trust all of your loose ends are tied up?

Recker : Yeah. I should be done with Zelly for good. Where is Scarlet?

Nomak : The Earth girl? She continues to misbehave. Ek is breaking her in. She'll acknowledge her master in time! Ha!

Recker : Let me see her.

Nomak : It will have to wait. Take these.

You got the KRILL BOOTS!

Recker : What's this for?

Nomak : It's a way to remove obstacles. With the radiation gone, Psyme was able to detect a black box on the Ice Planet.

Psyme : I found it on long range surface scan. It should contain data on the virus they were breeding.

Nomak : Having the black box could help us create an anti-virus in case the humans try to breed one again.

Recker : Why not get the information from Scarlet?

Psyme : Would you give this Earth girl thing a rest?! She's a prisoner of the Krill now, OK? Let us deal with her.

Recker : I don't like what I'm seeing here. She's a scientist, not a soldier. She could be an asset. Instead you're treating her like an animal!

Nomak : You test my patience Mister Recker! This is my station and I'll run things as I see fit! You have your orders, now get out of here!

Recker : I'll bring your black box. But we may need Scarlet Keys to interpret the contents of the box. Think it over before you do something rash.

Nomak : Your concern is noted, Recker! Now clear out!

[Recker walks out of the office, lands the starbase, and goes off to find the black box.]

You got the BLACK BOX!

Recker : This must be the BLACK BOX. I'd better get it back to Commander Nomak. Maybe I can Use it to free Scarlet from those idiots.

[Recker gets back to the starbase and Nomak's office, where Nomak and Psyme are waiting.]

Recker : Here's your box.

You turned over the BLACK BOX.

Nomak : [Recker steps back] Excellent. I will begin analysis at once.

Recker : As I mentioned earlier, the girl Scarlet may be helpful on this.

Psyme : Give it a rest, Recker!

Recker : [turns to Psyme] Psyme... What happened to your face?

Nomak : [Recker turns back to Nomak] Recker, you've been a good soldier. But this obsession with the Earth girl is getting you into trouble that you don't need. Psyme has learned this lesson the hard way.

Recker : You did this to her because I asked her to watch Keys?

Psyme : I...I deserved it. I was insubordinate.

Recker : So this is how you run your starbase? Treating people like animals?

Nomak : That's all you are, Earthman! Don't forget your place in my presence!

Psyme : [alarm sounds] What's happening?

Nomak : A hostile organism is inside the ship! It's the virus!

Recker : The virus was never fully developed. It must be the byproduct strain.

Psyme : How did it get here? Could one of us have been a carrier?

Nomak : It must have been carried by one of the Earthlings!

Recker : Don't jump to conclusions! I'll check it out! You both wait here.

[Recker exits and kills off the viruses. When the last virus is killed, Tierney gives Recker a call.]

Tierney : Recker! Report ASAP!

Recker : Roger that! Oh, I forgot it's a one way signal. I'll have to risk the COMM ROOM again.

[Recker goes in the COMM ROOM and calls Tierney.]

Tierney : Tierney here.

Recker : All right Commander. I've got details, but this time I want answers.

Tierney : I called you, but fair enough.

Recker : When you sent me here, how many planets did you know where synchronized?

Tierney : Allied Earth Federation knew about two of them. A third was discovered shortly after, but the report never reached us. It's probably still documented at the lab.

Recker : I've removed all critical intel from that lab, sir, so unless I'm mistaken I'm the only one with the coordinates for the fourth planet.

Tierney : What do you want?

Recker : Tell me how many planets there are.

Tierney : Blackmail, Recker? Really... I suppose I've no choice but to compromise Earth security. Is that what you want?

Recker : I'm waiting.

Tierney : There are six planets, all synchronized. We have three of them ID'd. What was the status of the laboratory?

Recker : All dead but for one survivor. Scarlet Keys.

Tierney : The virus she was creating is critical to our success. Is it safe?

Recker : As long as she is. They never completed a working version. It's still in her head.

Tierney : Until we have the ID of all six planets, Miss Keys' safety is priority one. Now transmit the coordinates of the fourth planet.

Recker : I don't have them.

Tierney : What?! But you said-

Recker : I have the black box. It will need to be analyzed before I can identify the next planet.

Tierney : Now if you're through making ridiculous demands, I have an urgent matter that concerns us both. An attack on your Starbase is imminent.

Recker : What? Why didn't you say so!

Tierney : The Earth armada is here to recover the virus and the black box.

Recker : Good. Then we can end all this craziness.

Tierney : You have to repel the attack.

Recker : What?! Attack the Earth fleet? Why?!

Tierney : We need the Krill to lead us to the last two planets! If Earth takes the black box now, we're back to square one! The only future for humanity is either to use the virus to destroy the Krill homeworld, oh find the Krill weapon before they do. And for that we need you, Miss Keys, and the black box intact. Attacking our own fleet is in Earth's best interest! You must use every resource at your disposal!

Recker : How can you say that?! Call them off!!

Tierney : We're operating in the dark! I don't have that kind of authority!

Recker : I'm done killing Earth's soldiers, sir!

Tierney : Billions more will die if you stand there and do nothing!! You must attack!! Attack now, or their blood will be on your hands!

Recker : At least let me transfer Scarlet! DON'T MAKE ME DO THIS!! TIERNEY?! TALK TO ME!!

[Tierney ends the call, and Recker goes to Nomak's office.]

Nomak : [as Recker approaches] Recker! I need you! Earth is here for the black box. Get to the launch bay! We have a surprise waiting for them!

Recker : What kind of surprise?

Nomak : We recovered a downed ship in last month's attack on your homeworld. It's fully restored, fitted with Krill weapons. This is your chance to shine, boy. As of this moment, you're a double agent! Fly into the fleet, get inside their lines, and wipe them out!

Recker : But...Scarlet...

Nomak : No arguing! They are right on top of us!

Recker : Not until you let her go.

Nomak : Do this and the Earth girl is yours! GO!!

[Recker leaves for his new mission. At the launch bay, Psyme stops him.]

Psyme : Recker, wait up!

Recker : Psyme! I can't do this!!

Psyme : I know you still care about your people! But these pilots will kill all of us! You've got to defend this station!

Recker : I can't betray them!!

Psyme : Look! See this ship? It's one of Sigma's, better than new! You said you'd get him for me! Did you mean what you said?

Recker : ...

Psyme : Sigma will be leading the attack, I just know it! Please, Recker!
[steps closer to Recker] When you come back we'll make things right!
We can start over together! Promise me!

Recker : I... I will! But not for revenge...and not because of someone's orders! I won't let you go alone! I'll do it for you.

Psyme : We're out of time, GO!!

[Recker goes and defeats the Earth fleet and its giant robot. After he lands, Recker finds Ek lying on the floor of the launch bay.]

Recker : Gasp...Gasp... Wha... That's Ek... Dead!

[He now proceeds to Nomak's office.]

Recker : [while walking in] I can't stay! I have to get out of here.

Nomak : Calm down, Recker. It'll pass...

Recker : I just destroyed the last line of defense for my people!

Nomak : You are safe here.

Recker : Ek is dead. I found his body in the launch bay.

[Psyme and Scarlet walk in.]

Psyme : Ek squealed like a girl. And you will too Nomak.

Recker : Psyme, what are you doing?

Psyme : That Attack was too close! I'm through taking orders from you imbeciles! Tell me everything you got from that black box! Do it now or you're history!

Nomak : Don't do anything crazy! What are you turning on me for?

Psyme : It's the High Command that's turned on all of us! We're doing their dirty work and they're slaughtering us left and right! For the last time, what is on that black box?!

Nomak : Nothing! It was empty! Just these Sand Planet coordinates, I swear!

Psyme : That's all we need. Let's go!

Scarlet : [turns to Recker] Hold on! I have to tell you something first... I took a tissue sample from Ek. It was nothing like the tissue we were given to base our virus on. Allied Earth Federation lied to us.

Recker : [Recker and Psyme turn to Scarlet] So the virus was never intended to destroy the Krill?

Scarlet : No. But it destroyed the tissue sample we were given. We just don't know what the sample was!

Psyme : You'd better come with us.

Scarlet : Thanks Psyme. And thanks for saving me from this maniac.

Nomak : The Krill Overlord will not allow this!

Recker : What about him?

Psyme : Leave him! It's the only way to guarantee a Starbase will be waiting for us.

Recker : We'd better get to the launch bay fast.

[Recker, Psyme, and Scarlet leave for Starbase 4.]

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4e. Chapter 4 - "Traitors and Thieves"
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[When the trio arrives on Starbase 4, a crewman awaits them.]

Crewman : No sudden moves. Go directly to the Professor.

[Recker, Psyme, and Scarlet go to meet Professor Zart.]

Zart : I am Professor Zart. Welcome to Starbase 4, or as we call it here, Zart Laboratories.

Recker : Hah! Did you name it yourself?

Zart : Show respect! Don't you realize I am science advisor to the Tyrannical Overlord? Why would you jump ship and abandon Commander Nomak like that? Surely you knew you would be placed under house arrest upon arrival?

Psyme : Naturally. But we also knew that Nomak would inform you that the virus is harmless to Krill physiology. And that your Starbase would be moved here to accommodate our visit.

Zart : True! High Command was very pleased to learn that this dustball planet was the fourth! But again, you are no fool. Why risk coming here?

Psyme : Because the situation has become volatile. We need to straighten some things out with his majesty. You are our best chance of getting his ear. We want our freedom. All three of us.

Zart : What do you offer in return?

Recker : Information about the virus.

Zart : That is hardly worth your lives! The virus is no longer a threat.

Psyme : Not to the people of Krill. But unless I'm wrong it will be quite effective against the Tyrannical Overlord's precious alien matter!

Zart : My word!!

Recker : Even the human scientists never knew what they were creating. It was Earth's failsafe plan in case your overlord got the alien matter first.

Zart : Where is this virus now?

Scarlet : In a safe place, along with a few samples that were transferred to Earth. Let us go free, and I will dictate the makeup of the virus to you exactly.

Recker : You can use the formula to create an anti-virus. If Earth deploys it against his Excellency's alien matter, an anti-virus will be his only defense.

Zart : You were indeed wise to come directly to me. I will contact High Command and the Tyrannical Overlord.

[Recker, Scarlet, and Psyme depart and go to the landing hatch. They talk to the crewman there.]

Crewman : Professor Zart wants to see you!

[Thus, the three go back to Professor Zart's lab.]

Zart : I've been given instructions. High Command accepts your offer. You are free to use this facility to create an anti-virus on the condition that you turn it in upon completion. Do this and I will guarantee your freedom.

Recker : Good.

Scarlet : Here is a schematic of the virus. We will need to create both the virus, and the anti-virus to be certain it all works.

Zart : Let's take a look. Hmmm. ... We will need to create a Genome to my specifications. But certain base genetic elements will be required.

Scarlet : I would assume some fossil record exists on the planet below.

Zart : It would take only a single preserved specimen to extract the genetic code we need.

Scarlet : Looks like we'll have to scavenge for genetic building blocks.

Recker : Psyme, we'll need someone to look after our interests here. We can't allow ourselves to get backed into a corner again.

Psyme : You'd better keep your hands to yourself.

Scarlet : We'll see!

Psyme : I hope you get a sunburn, pink skin!

[Scarlet leaves. Recker gets to the landing hatch, lands the Starbase, and heads out. Scarlet follows him out.]

Recker : Ok Scarlet. How do we do this?

Scarlet : Hold on! Now that we're alone, I need to know what's going on

between you and that alien girl. Is cuddling up to her part of your assignment?

Recker : No! Yes! What I mean is, I've been ordered to earn the trust of the Krill around me. It's necessary.

Scarlet : So when this is over, you go your separate ways?

Recker : Absolutely.

Scarlet : Good. Because I hate to see a perfectly good human wasted on that Krill trash!

Recker : Heh. You think I'm perfectly good, do you?

Scarlet : Don't read into that! Anyway, we need to split up. I'll check this way. Remember, we're looking for fossils.

[Scarlet walks off to the west. Recker goes off to find the fossils. Recker finds the first one, and it attacks him; Recker defeats it.]

Recker : I got a FOSSIL! If I had ALL SEVEN, I could complete the skeleton!

[Recker finds the second one, and the fossils attack him; Recker defeats them.]

Recker : I got a FOSSIL! Only 5 more to go!

[Recker finds the third one, and the fossils attack him; Recker defeats them.]

Recker : I got a FOSSIL! Only 4 more to go!

[Recker finds the fourth one, and the fossils attack him; Recker defeats them.]

Recker : I got a FOSSIL! Only 3 more to go!

[Recker finds the fifth one, and the fossils attack him; Recker defeats them.]

Recker : I got a FOSSIL! Only 2 more to go!

[Recker finds the sixth one, and the fossils attack him; Recker defeats them.]

Recker : I got a FOSSIL! Only 1 more to go!

[Recker finds the last one, and the fossils attack him; Recker defeats them.]

Recker : I got the LAST FOSSIL! I'd better find Scarlet!

[Recker gets back to the starbase. Scarlet is waiting on the landing hatch; Recker walks up to her.]

Scarlet : [as the starbase lifts off] You brought something?

Recker : Yeah! Check this out! I had to fight a huge skeleton to get it!

Scarlet : I'm sorry, I thought you said a skeleton? You're not some fantasy nerd are you? Did you find the +1 dagger too?

Recker : Hardy har har. Look.

Scarlet : Wowee!! A living dinosaur bone!

Recker : Told ya!

Scarlet : Let me extract a sample... Here it comes... Coolness! We found the GENOME! Let's get it back to the Lab.

[Scarlet walks off. Recker gets back to the Lab; Scarlet follows.]

Zart : Did you find the Genome?

Scarlet : Right here.

Zart : Let's get started. We'll breed the virus in one tank, and the anti-virus in the other.

Scarlet : Don't worry Psyme, I didn't put the moves on loverboy. Err Psyme, are you all right? [Psyme faints; Recker and Scarlet turn to Psyme] What happened to her?

Recker : I don't know!

Zart : Uh oh. I know what this is. How to explain this to off-worlders... Mister Recker, how well do you know Psyme?

Recker : Meaning?!

Zart : When a Krill girl... well... Take a closer look.

Recker : What is that growing on her back?

Scarlet : [gasps] Holy Toledo! What have you done Recker?!

Recker : Nothing! Just a kiss!

Zart : You'll have to take her to a pool of water. Somewhere clean. The process can run its course there. I can't keep her on the station in her condition. Medic! [A pair of medics come in.] Take Psyme to the launch bay and prepare a ship for Recker. he's adopted some...er...new responsibilities.

Recker : Wha...How could this happen?

Scarlet : You put the moves on her?!

Zart : You'll have to sort things out later. Find a pond and submerge her.

Recker : But we're over a desert planet!

Zart : Then take her somewhere with water! Just go, before she bursts right here on my floor!

Scarlet : I can't go! I have to watch the virus! You're on your own you filthy scumbag!!

Recker : Oh crumb.

[Recker goes to the landing hatch, where the medics are waiting.]

Medic : We put Psyme on board. Two of us will travel with you. I recommend the Forest Planet if you're looking for pure water appropriate for

this kind of thing.

[The medics walk off to the launch bay. Recker follows after setting his destination to the Forest Planet on the NAV COMPUTER. The medics arrive on Starbase 1 with Recker.]

Medic : We will remain here with your daughter until you find an appropriate location.

Recker : Psyme is not my daughter! Oh man! This can't get any worse!

Medic : Once you've found a spot for the blessed event, and signal us. We will bring her.

Recker : Ok. Got to find a pond!

[Recker lands on the Forest Planet and finds a pond.]

Recker : This pond looks good enough. I'm signaling! I'm signaling! Oh man, I'm going to be a dad!!

[The medics bring Psyme in and put her in the pond; Recker's eyes follow Psyme. The medics back off a bit as Psyme floats to the middle of the pond.]

Medic : Here she is. This should be a private moment between the two of you, so we will excuse ourselves. Uh, good luck pal!

[The medics exit the area.]

Recker : Here goes.

[Psyme starts to bubble, the screen fades to white, and something sounds like it is breaking out of its shell. When the screen fades back, Psyme is hovering above the pond with her new wings. Psyme flies to and lands at the edge of the pond as Recker goes over to her.]

Psyme : Ahhhhhhhh, that was amazing!

Recker : Are you ok? Where's the baby?

Psyme : What baby you imbecile?!!

Recker : Err.....

Psyme : Did you think I was carrying a child with a body like this? You are by far the dumbest guy I've ever met!

Recker : Well how was I supposed to know you were going to sprout wings like a blasted dragonfly?! Why did this happen anyway?

Psyme : Boy you are thick! Krill females have two maturation phases, one for us and one for our parasites! What's wrong with you?!

Recker : I had no idea. Wow. So I had nothing to do with this?

Psyme : Well... The parasite doesn't mature by age, it sort of...erm... Responds to, uh... Feelings and stuff.

Recker : Oh, I SEE! Hah!!

Psyme : It's NOT FUNNY!!

Recker : Phew...Oh man! Ok, so now you've got wings. Can you fly around flower to flower? What other freaky things don't I know about your species?

Psyme : Well moron. The wings are for you.

Recker : Huh?!

Psyme : You triggered them to develop, so it's customary that I give them to you. Let me just... shimmy... out of... Here!

YOU GOT THE GIRL WINGS! Wings like a GIRL!!

Psyme : I won't be growing them again anytime soon, so take care of those. Your parasite will do all the work I'm sure.

Recker : Wow. So...uh, what does this mean? Like, between us?

Psyme : It means I follow nature's course and eat you.

Recker : CRIPES!!

Psyme : I'm kidding. It just means I like you. That's it. There, you dragged it out of me. I know I'm Krill so just forget I said it already.

Recker : Psyme- [Psyme runs off] PSYME!! Come back!

[Recker gets back to the starbase and goes back to the Sand Planet. Once there, Recker finds Psyme waiting for him at the landing hatch. He confronts her.]

Recker : Psyme! There you are. How come you ran off like that?

Psyme : Later. Something's not right here.

Recker : I'll check it.

[Recker and Psyme walk into Zart's office and look around.]

Recker : The virus! And anti-virus! They're gone!

Psyme : It must've been Scarlet! I never should have trusted her!

Recker : Hang on. I could have been Professor Zart.

Psyme : The anti-virus would have taken longer to incubate. So whoever the thief was would have needed to either wait until both were done, or steal them separately as they were completed.

Recker : Scarlet would have waited for the anti-virus.

Psyme : And Zart would have only needed the original virus, and the Genome. So there's a time span between suspects. I need to find out when the crew went missing. Search the control center for clues.

Recker : Ok.

[Recker goes to the COMM ROOM and calls up Tierney.]

Tierney : This had better be good Recker.

Recker : It's good all right. Someone's made off with the virus. That germ you were willing to sacrifice the entire Earth fleet for, it's gone without a trace.

Tierney : No, it's quite safe.

Recker : How? You think Scarlet Keys has it?

Tierney : I have it.

Recker : That's impossible.

Blune : Recker, I gave it to Commander Tierney.

Recker : Wha- Blune! What on Earth are you... ARE you on Earth?

Tierney : You know, Recker, war affects the lives of many people. Some would go to great lengths to see it end.

Recker : You were working for Tierney all this time?

Blune : No, of course not. But after our last meeting I was able to trace your line back to Commander Tierney. I'm sorry, but you gave me an opportunity. I took advantage of it.

Recker : And you truly believe that giving this virus to Earth will save your people? Did our good Commander Tierney tell you its true purpose? Blune knows that it's not meant to eradicate the Krill people. Its sole purpose is to kill the alien matter.

Blune : Recker, you were right. That alien matter is a bio weapon. If the Krill find all six planets first, they will use it to destroy Earth, and many planets after it. I believe the Tyrannical Overlord and High Command are working against the people's interests. That is why I went to Earth.

Recker : And I suppose Tierney promised to use the virus to kill the alien bio weapon.

Blune : Yes.

Recker : If you infect the alien matter, what will happen to the six planets?

Tierney : They will, unfortunately, become uninhabitable.

[Psyme comes in and stands to the left of Recker and the Comm system. Recker turns to Psyme.]

Psyme : Well well! Looks like I didn't get that memo.

Recker : Psyme! I can explain-

Psyme : Don't bother. I heard enough. It's Mister Tierney I want to talk to.

[Recker turns back to Tierney.]

Tierney : Hello Psyme. I've heard impressive things about you.

Psyme : Cram it. In my hand is the anti-virus, created from your original strain.

Tierney : ...

Recker : I thought Blune stole it!

Blune : I... I didn't know about any anti-virus! You must believe me...the virus was the only thing in the lab!

Psyme : That's because the anti-virus had not incubated yet. Looks like we're in the driver's seat now!

Tierney : Recker, I order you to seize that anti-virus!

Recker : Maybe we'll just call up the Tyrannical Overlord. I'm sure he'd love to have it.

Tierney : Enough! You are relieved of duty! Return to Earth immediately with the anti-virus or you will be charged with high treason!

Recker : And I suppose you will report me through the proper channels? The same way you arranged that shindig with a high ranking Krill officer? Blune? has he introduced you to anybody else around the office? Gone out for coffee?

Tierney : Cool down!

Recker : This is all a solo act, isn't it? Does anyone else know you ordered me to destroy the fleet? Or gut that mine? Who are you accountable to?! No one! You can't threaten me without implicating yourself!

Tierney : What do you want?

Recker : There are still two planets out there. If you're willing to pull me out now you must know of at least one other.

Tierney : And what would you do with that information? Steal the bio weapon for yourself?

Recker : I'd do that before I'd put it in the hands of you or the Krill Overlord.

Tierney : Do not bring the anti-virus to the Krill. Can we at least agree on that?

Recker : Psyme?

Psyme : If he gives us the name of the fifth planet.

Tierney : I don't know which is the fifth planet, but... But I can explain the method you can use to find it.

Recker : Go on.

Tierney : Recker. You realize this information will not help you. You do this and there's not a home to return to. Earth, Krill, everyone will want you dead.

Recker : Then I will hope for a stalemate. Talk.

Tierney : Sigh...When the first human POW leaked information to Earth about the bio weapon, we planted probes on every unstable planet within range of the Krill's influence. With three of these Probes, we could triangulate based on long range resonances. Within days these probes were discovered and jammed by the Krill. We only managed to get locations of two planets in time, the Forest Planet and the Ice Planet. We immediately set up bases on each to find other ways of identifying all six planets.

Psyme : So these probes are already on the four planets we know of. Easy. We only need three after all.

Tierney : Unfortunately one of them was the entry point for the Forest mining operation.

Recker : Yeah, I pretty much blew that place up.

Psyme : So that's it then. We'll hold onto the anti-virus. If you're lying, it goes straight to the Tyrannical Overlord.

Tierney : The time for deception has passed. And Recker... You are on your own. Over, and out.

Recker : [turns to Psyme as Tierney ends the call] ... Well, Psyme. Anything you want to ask me? About Tierney? My mission?

Psyme : I think I got the picture.

Recker : Are you surprised?

Psyme : No, not really. I've suspected you were soft on Earth for some time. But the sob story about your friends... Was that just cover?

Recker : I wish it was. But no, I was never convicted and sent to some space prison. The only reason I'm out here in the first place is to ease my guilty conscience.

Psyme : I don't appreciate being lied to. But I suppose I did some lying of my own. I don't have the anti-virus. This is from a beverage machine.

Recker : Holy Moley! You bluffed your way through that entire conversation?!

Psyme : I didn't become an officer at my age by being a pushover.

Recker : So where's the anti-virus now?

Psyme : Let's think it through. We know Blune didn't get it. That leaves Professor Zart or Miss Keys. If it was Scarlet, she couldn't have gotten far, because she'd be on foot. If it was Zart, I'd need to plot every course and check Krill docking logs. Fun stuff.

Recker : But we can't wait on finding the three Probes. Blune is probably on his way to find them first!

Psyme : Then you'd better go it solo. I'll find Miss Keys. I'll set up a frequency for the probes and our Comm system to share. That way we can use them as long range radios. The probes must be on the Fire, Ice, and Sand planets. Go find them! And Recker...

Recker : Yes?

Psyme : I'm still your superior. Lie to me again, and I'll kill you.

Recker : This can't be good for our relationship.

[Recker lands on the Sand, Ice, and Fire planets to find the probes. He finds the first probe on one of the planets.]

You found a PROBE!

Recker : Psyme, come in!

Psyme : Go ahead.

Recker : I found the first probe. I hope changing the transmission frequency does the job.

Psyme : We won't know till you find the next probe. Get out of there and haul your tail to the next planet.

[Recker goes off to one of the remaining planets and finds the second probe.]

You found a PROBE!

Recker : Psyme! This is it! Looks like it's linking to the first one.

Psyme : Great. I bet all this running around is good for your glutes.

Recker : You should try it. Two planets in one day.

Psyme : Well this is a triathlon. You have one planet to go. Good luck.

[Recker goes off to the last planet and finds the last probe.]

You found a PROBE!

Recker : Ok, the last one is activated and seems to be linked to the other two. Now how do I read this thing?

Psyme : We're talking about a resonating pulse. It will be audio, so I can decode it from here.

Recker : Are you picking up anything?

Psyme : Yes, but the signal is only strong enough to get a locale of one planet. But something's wrong. It's been removed from the star charts as a condemned world. A Forgotten Planet.

Recker : That's weird. So no way to ID the last planet?

Psyme : Unfortunately no.

Recker : Well, one is better than nothing.

Psyme : It may be worse than nothing. There is no starbase there.

Recker : We'll need to pull a favor then.

Psyme : How?

Recker : Who do we have dirt on? Besides Blune?

Psyme : Well, there's Commander Zelly on Starbase 2. But she wouldn't help. She hates us.

Recker : She hates you. I'm her loyal servant who executed Blune, remember? Man, looking back I almost wish I had.

Psyme : Don't say that. Blune may be a screw up, but at least he thinks he's doing what's right for the people. At least he's not a back stabber.

Recker : Charming as ever. Anyway, I think Zelly is our best shot.

Psyme : Then I'll have to stay here. Try not to tick her off.

Recker : Then I'm off to Starbase 2.

[Recker arrives at Starbase 2 and notices that the starbase is once more filled with crewmen. However, none of them know who Zelly is; Ammer is now the commander of this starbase. Thus, Recker goes and visits the new commander.

NOTE: This scene is completely optional, but it is a scene. Thus, I will insert the dialogue here because it seems to make sense to place this before the next scene. This scene can be accessed before or after the next scene.]

Recker : Are you Commander Ammer?

Ammer : I don't see you in my appointment book. Who are you and what can I do for you?

Recker : I am Recker. Previously assigned here to Commander Zelly.

Ammer : You are human!

Recker : Yes. Can you tell me where to find the Commander?

Ammer : I'm afraid the only commander on this starbase is, and has always been me!

Recker : But I served with her here. I spoke to her the other day in this very room!

Ammer : You must be mistaken. Many starbases look alike, and they are rotated from time to time. You wouldn't be the first to walk into the wrong classroom so to speak.

Recker : I...suppose so. How embarrassing for me!

Ammer : Pay it no mind. Well, I have things to attend to!

Recker : Yes me too. Forgive the interruption.

[Whether he talked to Ammer or not, Recker heads over to the COMM ROOM to call up Psyme.]

Recker : Psyme. This is urgent. Come in.

Psyme : Go.

Recker : Commander Zelly is gone. They've erased all record of her existence.

Psyme : Incredible. They are cleaning away every footprint. Pretty soon you and I will be the only ones left who know what's going on.

Recker : Has she been transferred? Or killed?

Psyme : I noticed while working on SB2 that they have a detention section.

Recker : I'll check it out.

[Recker goes to the detention section and finds Zelly chained to the wall.]

Recker : Commander Zelly. Is that you?

Zelly : Don't...look at me Earthman.

Recker : I'll get you out of here.

Zelly : ...

[Recker frees Zelly, and the alarm goes off.]

Recker : They've found us. Quick, who did this to you?

Zelly : The Tyrannical...Overlord... Turned on me... I...knew too much...

Recker : I'll take care of the crew. Can you find your way out?

Zelly : Yes...but... You mustn't let... anyone escape... ...Not a single one, Recker.

Recker : Count on it.

[After killing all the crewmen, Recker goes and kills Ammer in his office. Zelly comes in after Ammer is shot down.]

Recker : Looks like his schedule's clear now.

Zelly : Recker, why did you come back?

Recker : I'm attempting to sabotage the Overlord's bio weapon. He's been using all of us to search for it.

Zelly : I knew there were six special planets. But I don't know why he needed them.

Recker : Well, Psyme and I found one he's missing. It's a Forgotten Planet...no starbase there. Without one, we're helpless.

Zelly : You need me to transfer a station there.

Recker : Can you do it without the Overlord finding out?

Zelly : Effortlessly. Starbase 5 will find new orders, placing it above the Forgotten Planet within a few hours. The crew will follow commands upon your arrival.

Recker : How can I make it up to you?

Zelly : You already have. But Recker, do one thing more.

Recker : Yes?

Zelly : Take out the man at the top.

Recker : Will you be safe here?

Zelly : Yes, it will take a while for High Command to catch on.
Congratulations Mister Recker, you've just hijacked a Krill
Starbase. [The COMM ROOM sounds] Looks like you have an incoming
transmission in the Comm Room.

Recker : I'll take it here. [The transmission is forwarded to the office;
Recker turns toward the desk.] This is Recker!

Psyme : I found our stray sheep.

Recker : Where is she?

Psyme : I'll tell you in person. Get to Starbase 4 on the double.

Zelly : [Recker turns to Zelly] You make a lovely couple. I wish you both a
safe voyage.

[Recker makes his way to Starbase 4 and its Lab. Psyme is waiting there.]

Recker : You've located Scarlet?

Psyme : The reason my surface scans couldn't pick her up before is because
she's underground.

Recker : Where underground?

Psyme : Looks like a temple of some sort. Beneath the ruins. She must have
the anti-virus. Why else would she hide there?

Recker : When Blune arrived to steal the virus, she must have run off with
it.

Psyme : Which means Blune killed Professor Zart to get it.

Recker : Makes sense.

Psyme : I've moved a Krill Fighter to the launch bay and loaded the
coordinates into the NAV computer. Pilot the ship into the temple,
make your way to the central chamber and grab Scarlet. Oh, and make
sure you SAVE your progress before launching!

Recker : I'll be back in no time.

[Recker goes into the temple and gets to the central chamber. After dealing
with the contraption in the central chamber, Scarlet the speck comes out of the
bottom right corner of the room.]

Recker : Ok, I've made visual contact with Scarlet.

Psyme : Pick her up already!

[Recker's ship descends to Scarlet and picks her up. Recker escorts her back to

the Starbase.]

Scarlet : That was a close one. Thank goodness you got my note about hiding in the ruins.

Recker : Note?

Scarlet : I left you a note on the table! The note written in English?! The note only you could read?! Wow. You are a total brain case.

Recker : Ah. Errr, what matters is that you have the anti-virus, right?

Scarlet : Yes. Take it.

You got the ANTI-VIRUS!

Scarlet : It's your problem now.

[Scarlet walks on ahead. Recker gets to the Lab.]

Psyme : Ok, now that we actually have the anti-virus we can keep Tierney on a short leash. We know Earth has a virus to destroy the weapon if it falls to the Krill.

Scarlet : And if Earth gets the bio weapon, then you still have me.

Recker : So for the time being, the play field is level. The only thing we DON'T know is why both Tierney and the Tyrannical Overlord need six planet's worth of alien matter to form the weapon. Why wouldn't one do the job?

Scarlet : All of the matter must be linked together for a reason.

Psyme : We'll find out soon enough. Commander Zelly sends a greeting. Starbase 5 has taken position over the Forgotten Planet.

Recker : Let's head out.

[Recker makes his way to the Forgotten Planet.]

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4f. Chapter 5 - "Insights from the Dead"
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[Recker, Scarlet, and Psyme descend and step off the ELEVATOR. A crewman has been waiting for them.]

Crewman : Officer on deck! What are your orders Commander?

Recker : Commander? Me?

Crewman : Absolutely! Just name it!

Recker : How 'bout my own personal fighter?

Crewman : Any fighter in the fleet.

Recker : No kidding! Hey, I know just the one!

Crewman : A collector, eh? I will have it delivered at once sir.

Recker : Man, this is incredible!!

[The crewman exits. Recker makes his way to his own office. Psyme and Scarlet follow.]

Psyme : Aren't you going to sit in the chair? It's yours, right? [Folly, Lolly, and Sliss appear; Recker turns to them.] What are you three doing here?

Sisters : Hee hee hee!

Recker : Who are they?

Psyme : Recker, these are my little sisters! Watch it, they're trouble.

Scarlet : Good grief.

Sisters : It is our pleasure Mister Recker.

Recker : You three look pretty young. Are you here to visit Psyme?

Sisters : Visit? No. We do not visit! We are here to serve you, not visit her. She is not ready to serve a commander. She is bad!

Psyme : They outrank me. Can you believe it?

Recker : You mean, all three of them?

Psyme : Lolly, Folly, and Sliss are Tri-Oplets.

Scarlet : Triplets?

Psyme : Like triplets, but with a single consciousness. Tri-Oplets are considered by Krill to be a single entity.

Recker : Weird.

Psyme : You can say that again. Bug off girls.

Recker : No, wait! Maybe they can help. What do you girls know about this Forgotten Planet?

Sliss : It is haunted!

Lolly : Hee hee!

Folly : Ghost and specters!

Scarlet : What proof is there of that?

Sisters : We feel the ghost and the ghost feels us back. Ghost is cold. Ghost is angry!

Recker : I'm going to the surface to check it out.

Scarlet : I've already been to the zombie scene. I'm sitting this one out.

Sisters : Psyme stays too! Our turn with big brother. Big brother goes with us!

Psyme : Looks like they have a crush on you. Better watch your step.

Recker : The feeling is hardly mutual.

Lolly : Ghost calls Lolly. Makes me warm and sleepy! [Lolly disappears.]

Folly : Specter begs to see Folly. Have to go. [Folly disappears.]

Sliss : The legion whispers to Sliss. Angry words, get noisy! [Sliss disappears.]

Recker : Now don't tell me THAT's normal.

Psyme : Who knows with them. Guess it's your turn to baby sit.

Scarlet : They are really creepy. Will you be OK?

Recker : I don't believe in ghosts.

Psyme : I'll scatter the ships just in case.

[Recker watches Scarlet and Psyme leave the office. Recker lands the Starbase and goes to find the Tri-Oplets. He finds Lolly first. NOTE: It doesn't matter where Recker finds the first Tri-Oplet. They all turn out to be Lolly.]

Recker : There you are! What are you doing?

Lolly : Lolly senses FEAR. Lolly can not hear sisters. Get Folly. Get Sliss.

Recker : You want me to get your sisters?

Lolly : Go. Find.

[Lolly disappears and Recker goes and finds Folly.]

Recker : Are you Folly? Or Sliss?

Folly : Folly senses STRENGTH. Can hear Lolly but no Sliss. Find Sliss for Folly!

Recker : You want me to find the third sister huh?

Folly : Go. Find.

[Folly disappears and Recker goes and finds Sliss.]

Recker : You must be Sliss.

Sliss : Sliss senses LIFE. Sisters can talk again. Mind clear now.

Recker : Fear, Strength, and Life. What does it mean?

Sliss : Feelings of planet. Loud. Loudest at NEXUS.

Recker : The planet is talking to you? Is the nexus the planet's voice.

Sliss : Nexus. Go. Find.

Recker : But I've already been everywhere!

Sliss : Nexus quiet before. Loud now.

Recker : Sigh...Guess I'll retrace my steps.

[Recker meets the Sisters at the nexus.]

Recker : There you are! Is this place the Nexus you were talking about?

Sisters : Yes. Very loud!

Recker : I don't hear anything.

Sisters : Loud! Too loud!! Hurting!

[The screen flashes white with a pulsing sound. A DATA PLUG and a circle appear as the ground shakes. Recker steps into the circle and is summoned into a ship. When the phantom monster is defeated, Recker is sent back and Psyme enters.]

Psyme : [Recker turns to Psyme] I saw it all from the starbase! What is going on?!

[The Sisters appear and the ground shakes tremendously. Ghosts fog up the screen and something appears. Recker turns to it.]

??? : W h o A r e Y o u ?

Recker : My name is Recker, from Earth.

??? : A n d T h e s e ?

Psyme : We're Krill. Who or what are you things?

??? : I O T

Sisters : Talk faster!

Iot : We are all that remains of the race of Iot, destroyed long ago by your kind!

Psyme : Well I've never heard of you.

Iot : You dabble in chaos and feed on cataclysm! You pursue death and ruin with eager hearts!

Psyme : What are you talking about?

Iot : Murder is your contest, torment is your prize! Earth Man! Do your people seek to regain what was lost? Krill Woman! Do your people seek to spill their own blood?

Recker : I don't understand.

Iot : The Sleeping Flesh! You seek it for your masters! But fools be he who would wake it!

Recker : Sleeping Flesh? Is that the name of the alien matter?

Psyme : Is it a living thing that makes the planets tremble together? Are

they communicating somehow? Is it music?

Iot : Is it a slumbering child that will awaken in fury! Seven of them we made! We foolish fathers of Iot! We planted seeds of death and destruction! A terrible harvest was wrought and like fools we fell in agony!

Psyme : You created the Living Flesh?

Iot : Yes! Horrible weapons! Instruments of death. Small and unformed! Worlds varied we chose in which to parent them. Unique would be their attributes! Seven children! Seven chances at perfection!

Psyme : So basically you knocked up some planets to make a super baby?

Recker : Wait, seven?! We thought there were six!

Iot : The seventh child, the first to awaken! Like savage birds, the Krill came upon its ocean nest! They stripped it from its mother. In anger it awoke! Here they released it upon us. It ended this world where you now stand. And then its life ran dry.

Psyme : So the Krill used your weapon against you? Serves you right!

[The ground shakes.]

Recker : Iot. This water planet they stole the Living Flesh from? What was its name?

Iot : E a r t h .

[The ground shakes.]

Recker : Devils! The monsters butchered our planet to destroy another!!

[The ground shakes.]

Iot : No crime goes unpunished man of Earth. One planet as of yet remains. No mercy will be given to those who destroy life.

Psyme : The Krill Homeworld!! That's the sixth planet! Tell me I'm right!!

Iot : Soon the Sleeping Flesh will awaken. In its footsteps will be calamity. Then we will sleep. Our retribution will be complete.

Recker : You can't allow this! Sure they're Krill, but you'll be wiping out billions of innocent people! Tell me how to stop it!!

Iot : It can not be stopped.

Recker : Your people ruined my world! At least give me a chance!!

[The ground shakes.]

Iot : We will never forgive the Krill.

Psyme : He's not asking you to forget what happened! We just want to stop the Krill Overlord from controlling this weapon!

Recker : If we don't do something, it will all happen again! Is that what you

want?

Iot : Perhaps... You deserve a chance.

[The screen flashes white.] You got the WARP TOOL

Recker : What is this?

Iot : An essential mechanism used in life by the IOT. In times of need it may aid you. Nothing more can I do. You must go. The child stirs. Soon all will end.

Psyme : You heard him, let's get out of here!

[Folly, Lolly, and Sliss disappear; Recker turns to Psyme.]

Recker : Where are your sisters going?

Psyme : Who cares?! Let's get out of here!

Recker : It's only a matter of time before these tremors reach lethal proportions! Hurry!

[Psyme leaves and Recker gets back to the Starbase within three minutes. He arrives at his office to find Blune pointing a gun at Scarlet and Psyme lying on the ground.]

Recker : What is going on here?!

Blune : [Psyme gets up] Keep your distance Recker! All I need is the anti-virus!

Recker : She doesn't have it! I do!

Blune : Then hand it over! It's the only advantage the Krill still have over Earth! Tierney will be able to use the virus and destroy the weapon once and for all! As long as that Anti-Virus is out of our hands, Earth is threatened!

Recker : Listen. You don't have all the facts. The virus needs to go to the Tyrannical Overlord.

Blune : That's insane! Whose side are you on?!

Recker : My own. The Overlord and High Command have been tricked by aliens called the Iot. The bio weapon they're searching for is INSIDE the Krill home planet! Your planet!

Blune : You lie.

Psyme : If I know my sisters, they went straight to the Overlord. By now he knows that the Sleeping Flesh is beneath his feet! He won't let it destroy his own planet. He'll need the virus!

Blune : What about Earth? You'd leave your planet defenseless!

Recker : I'm telling you, the Krill Overlord will use the virus himself! He'll destroy the weapon!

Blune : This is preposterous! Give me the anti-virus or you force me to kill

her.

Recker : Blune!

Blune : Please don't make me!

Scarlet : Recker, don't!!

Recker : ... Take it. You did the right thing Recker. [Blune disappears and Recker turns to the girls. Scarlet turns to Recker.]

Scarlet : Recker. You shouldn't have given up the anti-virus!

Recker : It had to be done.

Scarlet : ...

Psyme : Well now Earth knows all six planets and has a clear shot at the bio weapon! Krill is doomed either way!

Recker : Not necessarily. I transferred the Sigma Fighter to our hanger. Load it up.

Psyme : Where are you going?

Recker : Earth. To tie up some loose ends.

Scarlet : I'll be in the ship.

[Scarlet and Psyme leave. Recker gets to the launch bay and launches in his Sigma Fighter. He catches up to Blune and proceeds to chase him.]

Recker : Blune! Turn back!

Blune : Don't follow me Recker! I need to upload the anti-virus to Tierney!

Recker : Blune! The Krill planet will be destroyed! The war will continue... Worse than before!

Blune : How can I trust you? You're the leader of Sigma Team! Tierney hired you to seize the weapon!

Recker : By giving Earth the anti-virus you're condemning your own planet!

Blune : I wish I could believe you Recker. But you've told one lie too many. I have to upload the anti-virus. It will all be over in 30 seconds.

Tierney : Recker! Are you mad? Call it off!

Recker : Upload the virus to me Commander! There is still a chance to stop the bio weapon!

Tierney : I won't do that Recker! Hold your fire!

Recker : No!

[Recker shoots down Blune within the 30 seconds.]

Recker : Blune? I'm so sorry.

Tierney : You're too late. The anti-virus is ours. Turn yourself in now and I'll guarantee your freedom!

Recker : ... You win.

[Recker and Scarlet arrive on Earth. They step off the ELEVATOR to Headquarters.]

Scarlet : I'm home. I never thought I'd see Earth again.

Recker : This is where we say our goodbyes. I have work to do.

Scarlet : You're going after the virus?

Recker : I'm going after Tierney.

Scarlet : You know Psyme would kill me if I let something happen to you.

Recker : She won't care. Not anymore.

Scarlet : What's that supposed to mean?

Recker : The Comm line was open. Psyme knows I'm her enemy now. I won't see her again. And I don't deserve to.

Scarlet : Please, look at me. Whatever happens, you mustn't let them destroy the original virus!

Recker : I won't. Wish me luck.

[Recker goes through Headquarters, shooting down all the soldiers. After all of them are dead, Recker gains access to the Lab. Tierney and Zart are there; they turn to Recker.]

Tierney : Come in Recker. You remember Professor Zart, don't you?

Recker : Zart! I thought you were dead!

Zart : Hello again Mister Recker.

Recker : You're working with Tierney? But I thought Blune stole the virus!

Zart : Of course he did. We had to part ways after your blonde girlfriend stole the anti-virus. But now that we have both...

Tierney : We will destroy the original virus.

Recker : But... But you commissioned the original virus yourself! You set up the laboratory on the Ice Planet! This makes no sense!

Tierney : Allied Earth Federation commissioned the virus. I just want the bio weapon. And now that I know the Krill will be eliminated by the hatching process, the virus only serves to threaten the weapon when I wield it!

Recker : But if the Krill world is destroyed, the weapon serves no purpose!

Tierney : You fool! This isn't about winning one silly campaign! It is about becoming the dominant force in the universe! I can accomplish this! When the Sleeping Flesh hatches, and each world is laid wasted, I

alone will be able to master its awesome power!

Recker : You're mad!

Tierney : I won't let anything stand between me and ultimate power! The virus!
Destroy it!!

Recker : Stop!!

[The screen flashes red and the virus behind Tierney explodes.]

Zart : It's done. All traces of the virus are gone.

Tierney : Well done. Your payment will be forthcoming. [Zart is electrocuted
and collapses.] You've gotten a lot smarter Recker. That electric
charge was originally meant for you once your mission was completed.

Recker : I was an idiot to believe anything you said. The devil was in the
details after all.

Tierney : Yes he was. And here is one last detail you overlooked.

[The screen blurs and Recker falls.]

Recker : ...Groan...

Tierney : Remember that little chip I put behind your ear? For all our little
one-way chit chats? At this range it also gives me direct control of
your central nervous system. It's time to say goodbye now.

Recker : YAHRRGHHHH!!!

[The screen fades to black. When it fades back, Recker is on his back.]

Tierney : This is truly Earth's finest hour. The hatching can not be stopped.
The Krill are defeated. And now! I am the most powerful man On
EARTH!! Ho! Ha ha ha! HAAAAH HA HA HA HAAAAH!! ... What? Who's
there? [Folly, Lolly, and Sliss appear.] What is this! Get out of my
office! The power... it is... meant for me... ... [Tierney is
lifted off the ground and... squeezed?] HRGH! EARRRRRRGH...!!!

[The screen goes red and fades to black.]

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4g. Chapter 6 - "Conclusion"
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[As the screen fades back, Recker is lying on an operating table, surrounded by
4 soldiers. His parasite is off to the left, confined to a tank.]

Soldier : We found Tierney's body. What remained of it anyway. Tell us how you
did it. Need I remind you we have direct control over your body?
Talk, you!! Forget it. He won't talk. Shut him down so we can go.

[A grenade rolls in through the door.]

Soldier : Huh?

[The grenade explodes and the soldiers are put out of their misery. Scarlet
walks in and the soldiers blink out of existence. She walks over to the

parasite and Recker gets up.]

Recker : Scarlet? You shouldn't be here.

Scarlet : We're getting out of here. There's still time.

Recker : To do what?

Scarlet : Psyme's still out there somewhere. And I'll be she's in trouble.

Recker : That doesn't concern us anymore.

Scarlet : Come on, you can't hide it from me. You love her.

Recker : ...

Scarlet : I know when I'm beaten. I'll stay out of the way. I just want one thing... For my troubles... ...

[Scarlet steps up to Recker and kisses him.]

Recker : ... She'll never trust me again. Not now.

Scarlet : It was misplaced trust before. Now you can start earning the real thing.

Recker : She would probably still be at Starbase 5.

Scarlet : 'Atta boy. Grab your bug hat and let's go.

Recker : Oh yeah. Guess I'll use it one last time.

[Recker walks over to the parasite's tank and Scarlet shoots it free from its confines. The screen fades to white and when it fades back, Recker is back to wearing the parasite.]

[NOTE: (Only for New Game +) If you want to see Scarlet's ending or the best ending, Recker must revisit the Lab. He goes into the room in the back.]

You found the VIRUS SAMPLE!

[Recker now heads back to the Launch Bay. Scarlet is waiting there for him.]

Scarlet : [turns to Recker] Let's go!

[Scarlet and Recker board the ELEVATOR and go to Starbase 5. After landing at the Starbase and walking off the ELEVATOR, Recker turns to Scarlet.]

Recker : Sit tight. I want to check things out.

[Recker gets to his office and Scarlet comes in shortly after.]

Recker : This place is quiet as a crypt.

Scarlet : According to this data, the tremors on the Forgotten Planet have backed off a bit. It should be safe to explore.

Recker : Psyme wouldn't be there. She's probably gone to warn the Krill Overlord not to wake the Sleeping Flesh.

Scarlet : Sure enough. A shuttle left for Starbase 6 in orbit over the Krill Homeworld. We can follow her trail easily. I'll send the data to the Nav Room.

Recker : Once we reach Starbase 6 the Krill will be all over us. I want you to stay in the shuttle, understood?

Scarlet : No problem. I'm not stepping foot in that place.

[Scarlet walks out and Recker head over to the Nav Room, choosing the KRILL PLANET as his next destination. Scarlet waits as Recker boards the ELEVATOR. Once they land, Recker goes off to kill all the Krill on the Starbase. Once they are all shot down, Recker gets to Psyme's office.]

Recker : Psyme! Are you OK?

Psyme : YOU!!!

Recker : Give me a chance to explain!

Psyme : How dare you keep this up! You keep lying to me, even to the end! It's my own fault you know. I never should've let my guard down! I was so stupid! And gullible! But not now!! Now I know who you are and I'm going to finish you off!

Recker : Psyme, I'm so sorry you had to learn the truth over the comm line! Tierney must have told Blune everything... I honestly thought I could reason with him and settle things peacefully!

Psyme : But when he showed resistance you did what you Sigma pilots are trained to do. Same as you did to me back on Earth!

Recker : Yes! I shot you down! That's my job! Defending Earth from invaders!

Psyme : I was demoted because of you! Scorned and humiliated!! And then I listened to you! And your foul sob stories... Even KISSED you! I'll never forgive you for it!!

Recker : What about me!! You burned my teammates out of the sky! How does that feel?! All I've known is pain and hatred since that day!! And now, I can tell you to your face!

Psyme : So let's cut the chit chat and fight!

Recker : No!!

Psyme : Tell me why not!

Recker : Because now I know the truth! I don't hate you and I never did! We were pit against each other by evil men. They don't care about us or the good of our planets! All they want is the power to control us! And by fighting for them you're giving them more of that power!

Psyme : I don't know how you do it. All I wanted was a fair fight, but now you've gone soft and ruined it, just like everything else. Ha ha... You know... I would have walked away from everything if you'd only had the courage to ask me.

Recker : ...

Psyme : What I felt for you was real.

Recker : Psyme...

Psyme : But for you it was all a game. Don't follow me again.

[Psyme disappears and Recker turns around as Scarlet comes in.]

Scarlet : Recker! What happened? Was Psyme here?

Recker : ... She's gone.

Scarlet : We can't stay. Not in orbit over the Krill Homeworld while that monstrous thing wakes up. We've got to get away.

Recker : ... I can't leave her. ... Not again. ... Will the ships on this starbase still link with my parasite?

Scarlet : You're asking me?

Recker : I'm going to the surface. I'm gonna get her back. She's all that matters to me now.

Scarlet : Ok, but hurry! I don't want to be anywhere near here when that planet blows!

[Scarlet leaves and Recker lands the starbase. He makes his way to the Overlord's chambers.]

Overlord: Welcome.

Recker : ... Who's there?

Overlord: You've managed to infiltrate my private chambers Mister Recker.

Recker : So you're the all powerful Overlord?

[Recker walks up to the Overlord. Psyme stands off to the right of the Overlord.]

Overlord: You have journeyed so far only to meet your end here, at the foot of my throne.

Recker : Psyme!!

Overlord: But it somehow seems fitting. You have served my cause with such diligence. It is only fair that you should see the heart of the Krill Empire before you die.

Recker : You've got to stop! If you wake up whatever's down there, your planet will be destroyed in the process!

Overlord: I see that you have spoken to the race of Iot. Or rather what remains of them.

Recker : Yeah, and they told me everything! How your forefathers tore one of these creatures out of Earth and nearly destroyed it!

Overlord: Yes. One of our more benevolent acts. Had it grown to full size, you would not be standing in my presence today.

Recker : What does that mean?

Overlord: When my predecessor exhumed the creature from your Earth world, he already knew about the one dwelling within Krill. In retaliation he released the creature on Iot, the wretched beings that impregnated both of our worlds. Against a weapon of their own forging the fools stood no chance.

Recker : They said you stole the creature from Earth for yourselves! That's why they planted one inside Krill!

Overlord: They lie.

Recker : So you're saying you tore a hole in Earth for its own good? I don't believe you!

Overlord: Do I not show concern for my own world? Why else would my Krill return to your Earth in these recent days, other than to monitor the healing of the wound? When the creature comes forth from our planet, the damage we sustain will be much more severe!

Recker : Then why don't you do something about it!

Overlord: The prize outweighs the losses.

Psyme : But your highness! Krill is our mother world!

Overlord: Ahhh, that was the sentiment of those weepy eyed simpletons on the High Command as well. Rest their souls.

Recker : You are a monster! Psyme! Listen to what he's saying!

Psyme : ...

Overlord: She will not be deceived by you again Earthman!

Recker : Psyme, let's get out of here! You don't have to die here with this madman!

Overlord: The birth of a deity is at hand. I must prepare myself. Psyme.

Psyme : Yes...?

Overlord: Dispose of Mister Recker.

Psyme : ... [Something lands] What's that noise?

[Recker is summoned into a ship.]

Zelly : Be a good girl and inform his highness there's been a change of plan.

Psyme : Sir! It's Commander Zelly! She must have summoned him into a ship!

Overlord: Take care of it. [Psyme is also summoned into a ship. Rocks begin to fall in the chamber.] The moment is at hand! The Sleepers Awaken!

[Recker fights Psyme in her Battleworm once again.]

Psyme : Now let's settle this once and for all!

Recker : I won't fight you!

Psyme : You don't have to! You're going to die either way!!

Recker : Look around! Your world is ending in chaos! You've got to fight the real enemy!

Psyme : I'm powering up weapons! Leave or else!!

Recker : I refuse to lose you again!! Psyme?! PSYME!!

[NOTE: Whether Psyme lives or dies in the ending depends on whether Recker destroys her guns first or the Battleworm's eyes first. The battle ends when all of the ship's guns or eyes are destroyed. Recker gets sent back to the Overlord.]

Overlord: I am surprised you were man enough to destroy her Mister Recker. I see that you, like me, would sacrifice your own to see your goals achieved. Exactly what I was hoping for. I will enjoy keeping your company on this blessed occasion. This life is too short for planetary allegiance, soldier. Soon, the galaxy will be decimated, and once I have usurped its power, I will unleash a wave of destruction beginning with your blue, gutted planet. Everyone you've ever known, burned from existence.

[Rocks levitate off the ground as the background turns white. A picture of a Sleeper's hand breaking through the planet's surface is shown.]

Overlord: Ah, can you feel it? The pangs of birth resonate already through the first creature's deafening wail. The first planet is dying, Recker. A million forest beings eradicated as their world is crumbled about them to give birth to a new life. He comes first, the Sleeping Flesh.

[A picture of several Sleepers awakening is shown.]

Overlord: And as he spills out into the cosmos, so also emerge his five brothers. Each clawing and carving their way to the surface of their own planet, decimating eons of life and history in the process. The destruction of an entire galaxy in the course of a moment. And now, like starving dogs they tear a once another's flesh. The dance is divine, and when it is complete only one beast shall remain.

[A picture of a Sleeper is shown.]

Overlord: It is with him, the Flesh Deity who as we speak spills chaos on this planet, with him that I will merge and claim reign to the stars. In another moment, Earthman, you will be nothing more than another corpse drifting through my space. Your actions have been in vain. Already my creature is victorious, and having consumed the strength of his brethren, he now waits to feed on me. Can you hear him coming? Can you hear him calling for his master? Together we shall consume the universe!

[The Overlord levitates out of his throne. One of the Flesh Deity's limbs hook onto the Overlord.]

Overlord: I... [Another limb hooks on.] Will be... [Another limb hooks on.]

UNEQUALED [The last limb hooks on; the Overlord laughs maniacally.]
IN POWER!

[The Overlord laughs maniacally again and the screen turns white. When the screen turns back, Scarlet enters.]

Scarlet : What is going on! What was that thing!

Recker : This is the end!! Just hold onto me!!

Scarlet : No...We have to do something!

Recker : Like what?!

Scarlet : I still have the virus... We must use it, but we must move quickly!

Recker : But Tierney destroyed it! I saw him!

Scarlet : Trust me!!

Recker : ZELLY! GET US OUT OF HERE!!

[Scarlet and Recker are summoned to a ship, somehow.]

Scarlet : We've got to find the heart of the monster!

Recker : What's your plan?

Scarlet : We'll weaken it... Create an opening into its bloodstream! And insert the virus there!

[Recker goes through the monster and finds a giant head.]

Recker : Is that...the Overlord?

Scarlet : He's merged with it! That's the weakest spot! Destroy it!

[Recker destroys it.]

Recker : We did it! It's now or never!

[NOTE: This next sequence of pictures depends on whether or not you got the virus in the New Game + or not. If you're just playing the normal game, than it will display Scarlet's death. If you got the virus in the New Game +, than the scene where Scarlet lives will appear.]

== Scarlet Dies ==

[A picture of a sad Scarlet leaving the ship is shown.]

Recker : What are you doing? Use the virus!

Scarlet : I have to go now... I should have told you.

Recker : Told me what?

Scarlet : Earlier, when I ran away... I gave myself the virus. It was the only way I could think of to keep it safe. I'm sorry.

[Pictures of Scarlet diving off the ship and then toward the giant head are shown. The monster explodes and the ship speeds away.]

== Scarlet Lives ==

[A picture of a missile falling heading away from the ship is shown.]

Scarlet : Its loaded and ready!

Recker : FIRE!!

[A picture of the missile heading towards the giant head is shown. The monster explodes and the ship speeds away.]

[NOTE: This marks the end of the game script. Which ending you get depends on who lives or dies. Please consult the next section for the dialogue in those endings.]

5) Endings

5a. Recker's Ending

[Recker stands alone with his helmet off on Earth. He is looking up.]

Recker : Blune... Scarlet... Psyme... Everyone I knew and loved is dead. Was there something I could have done differently? Were we always destined to suffer and die in this war? I thought somehow, after all was said and done... That we could find a way to be happy... I was wrong. If you're listening, please... Forgive me. ... Earth is safe now. This mission is over. It's time to begin a new life. A better life.

[The screen scrolls up and displays the credits. Once that is over, the box art and a picture of Psyme is shown.]

5b. Psyme's Ending

[Psyme is lying on the ground with Recker bending over her with his helmet off on Earth.]

Recker : Psyme! Psyme! Wake up!

Psyme : ...moan... ... [wakes up] What... Where am I?

Recker : You're with me... Safe, on Earth.

Psyme : I knew somehow... You wouldn't do it...

Recker : I had to disable your ship. I'm really sorry. But it was the only way to give you a soft landing. If you'd stayed on Krill, you'd be gone now. I'm so sorry Psyme!

Psyme : I could...only stand there...and watch. He...destroyed everything Recker. You were right all along... But how did you defeat that...that thing?

[Psyme gets up and walks up to Recker. Recker stands up too.]

Recker : It was Scarlet... Her body contained a copy of the virus. She sacrificed herself to save us all from that creature.

Psymer : She carried the virus all along?

Recker : No, I don't think so. She must have injected herself with it before Blune stole the sample from the Lab. It's the only explanation. ... I can't stand it! There must have been another way!

Psymer : Recker, some people...they hold to a higher authority. They realize there are more important things than just themselves. And when those people find themselves in dire circumstances, amazing things can happen. A seemingly insignificant life can save an entire world from chaos and ruin. It's wrong of you to dishonor her sacrifice. Accept what she did for you, and hold her memory in high esteem.

Recker : You're right... I just wish there was something I could have done differently.

Psymer : Were you in love with her?

Recker : ...

Psymer : It's ok. You don't have to answer.

Recker : ... You know, the first time I met you I didn't like you very much.

Psymer : Yeah?

Recker : But once I got to know you, well... That's when I really wanted to strangle you. Now though...

Psymer : You find me irresistible. Hee hee... Come on, show me around this planet of yours. I want to see everything!

[Psymer kisses Recker.]

[The screen scrolls up and displays the credits. Once that is over, the box art and a picture of Psymer is shown.]

=====
5c. Scarlet's Ending
=====

[Scarlet stands with Recker with his helmet off on Earth. Recker is looking up.]

Recker : First Blune... Now Psymer...

Scarlet : There was nothing you could have done.

Recker : I just can't believe that. How can I live, knowing my actions cost them their lives?

Scarlet : One day at a time, just like everyone else.

Recker : ...

Scarlet : Never forget them, but try to remember everyone you saved here on Earth, Recker! Against all odds you won! You're a hero!

Recker : Then why does it feel like I lost?

Scarlet : You didn't lose me. Come on. I'll buy you dinner.

[Scarlet walks off to the left.]

Recker : Psyme... I'll never forget you!

[The screen scrolls up and displays the credits. Once that is over, the box art and a picture of Psyme is shown.]

=====
5d. Best Ending
=====

[Psyme is lying on the ground with Recker bending over her with his helmet off on Earth. Scarlet stands to the left.]

Recker : Psyme! Psyme! Wake up!

Psyme : ...moan... ... [wakes up] What... Where am I?

Recker : You're with me... Safe, on Earth.

Psyme : I knew somehow... You wouldn't do it...

Recker : I had to disable your ship. I'm really sorry. But it was the only way to give you a soft landing. I'm so sorry Psyme!

Psyme : I could...only stand there...and watch. He...destroyed everything Recker. You were right all along...

[Psyme gets up and walks up to Recker. Recker stands up too.]

Psyme : How did we escape from that...that thing?

Scarlet : We'd smuggled out a copy of the virus. Recker flew into the creature and destroyed it from the inside, right where the Overlord was fused to it.

Psyme : He deserved worse! He sacrificed out planet for his pet monster! What would drive a man to such action!! The Overlord I remember from my youth would never have done such horrific things.

Recker : Power is a dangerous and corrupting force. He wouldn't be the first to fall victim to it.

Scarlet : But now that your people are free of him, they can start over and rebuild.

Psyme : That's impossible! There's nothing left.

Recker : We did it. Earth is as beautiful now as it ever was. Our way of life and our world are still worth defending...worth dying for. Even if the planet's a little broken in.

Scarlet : The Krill will need real leaders after today. People like you.

Psyme : Well, maybe some day I'll go back and pick up the pieces.

Recker : You're staying?

Psyme : Right now, I just want to get to know you. The REAL you.

[Psyme kisses Recker.]

[The screen scrolls up and displays the credits. Once that is over, the box art and a picture of Psyme is shown. An extra picture of Scarlet is also shown.]

6) Rewards

These rewards appear after the credits and the box art.

== 1st Screen ==

Reward: SIGMA FIGHTER has been unlocked!

Requirement: Beat the game once.

Notes: You get to pilot the Sigma Fighter in some random encounters.

-> You also unlock New Game +, which must be played to get the 3rd screen.

== 2nd Screen ==

Reward: PERFECT COMPLETION!

Requirement: Collect all Gun Data.

Notes: appears with a picture of Psyme

== 3rd Screen ==

Reward: CONGRATULATIONS! BEST ENDING!

Requirement: Save both girls and get the best ending.

Notes: appears with a picture of Scarlet

-> Only available by beating New Game +

7) Credits

Thanks to:

- WayForward for making this game
- nanthan400's walkthrough that helped me get through the game
- you for using this script