

BACK ON EARTH

"Pilot"

written by

Keren Green

EXT. SPENCE'S HOUSE - SMALL TOWN, CALIFORNIA - DAWN

SUPER: "California, 2010"

YOUNG SPENCER "SPENCE" GRANT, 7, small for his age and pale, struggles to carry a heavy bag down the front steps. He uses all his strength to lift it high enough for...

GIL GRANT, 30's, unshaven and tired, leans over the back of the pickup truck and grabs the bag. He tosses it into the back with the rest of the gear.

GIL
That's it. Go on, climb on in and
buckle up.

Young Spence skips over to the rear passenger side door.

An upstairs light turns on. Gil stares at the lit up window then glances around -- something's not right.

With resolve, he climbs down from the back of the truck. The first light of day breaks through as Gil climbs into the driver's seat.

INT. TRUCK - SPENCE'S HOUSE - DAWN

Young Spence looks out the rear window.

SUSAN GRANT, 30's, strong and stern, stares at the truck from the window in her bathrobe. After a moment, the curtain falls back across the window.

GIL
Ready?

Young Spence turns back to Gil and nods with a big toothless smile. Gil grins as he starts the engine.

EXT. SPENCE'S HOUSE - DAWN

The truck kicks up dirt as it speeds down the drive, then disappears down the road.

EXT. ROADS - DAWN

The truck speeds down the empty road, sunrise behind them.

INT. TRUCK - DAWN

Gil glances at Spence in the back seat.

Young Spence smiles back at him, excited.

A BRIGHT LIGHT appears in the rear-view mirror. Gil tries to adjust the mirror, it doesn't help. He can't see anything. He glances at Young Spence again, concerned.

Gil punches the gas. The engine roars as they speed down the highway. The bright light stays with them.

GIL

Hang on.

Gil yanks the steering wheel hard.

INTERCUT - INT. TRUCK/EXT. TRUCK

The truck bounces over the shoulder, down a hill, and into an orange grove.

They speed down the row, between the trees.

The bright light fills the entire cab as it gains on them.

Gil takes another sharp turn and swerves around orange trees.

YOUNG SPENCE

What's happening?

Young Spence cranes his neck to look behind them.

GIL

Stay down!

Gil floors it.

The truck flies through the orange grove. Its tires skid as the truck swerves across a muddy patch.

Gil struggles as he loses control.

YOUNG SPENCE

Daddy, I'm scared!

BAM! The truck slams into an orange tree.

Front and side airbags SMACK into Gil and Young Spence. Gil pushes the airbag out of his way as he attempts to restart the engine. It stutters and won't start. He turns to Young Spence.

GIL

Get out. Run as fast as you can
and don't look back.

YOUNG SPENCE
No. I don't want to --

GIL
Go, Spence! Right now!

Tears stream down Young Spence's cheeks as he reaches for the door -- A GREY ALIEN, short, bald, big eyes, peers in through Young Spence's door window.

Young Spence snaps his hand back from the door as he screams.

INT. SPACESHIP HOLDING AREA - NIGHT

Blinking lights and a strange HIGH-PITCHED HUM fill the otherwise sterile chamber.

Young Spence lays on a metal table. He opens his eyes.

He turns his head and sees a symbol engraved in the wall: two intersecting ovals with an inverted triangle over them.

GIL (O.S.)
I told you, I don't know!

Young Spence gasps, wide-eyed, and turns his head in the direction of Gil's screams.

He climbs down from the table and tiptoes into the corridor.

INT. SPACESHIP - CORRIDOR TO EXAM ROOM - NIGHT

Young Spence clings to the walls as he tiptoes toward the sound of his father's cries.

He stops just outside of an examination room.

Gil, locked into an upright table, cries out in agony as the Grey Aliens stick a strange, metal object through his skin.

Young Spence gasps.

A GRAIL ALIEN, looks like a Grey, only much taller and thinner, turns toward Spence.

Young Spence takes a step backward.

BOOM! Several doors are blown off their hinges in unison.

The ASHTAR COMMAND, made of up various species of humanoid alien warriors, storms in.

Weapons fire. Strange lights and sparks fly in all directions as walls and equipment are struck.

The Grail falls to the ground. A thick black liquid oozes from his wound.

Eyes wide, Young Spence turns on his heel, and sprints back down the corridor.

INT. SPACESHIP HOLDING AREA - NIGHT

Young Spence, panicked, races in and searches for a place to hide. He climbs under the table, then covers his ears and closes his eyes.

After a few moments, the gunfire ceases. The ship is quiet. Young Spence warily pulls his hands down from his ears and opens his eyes...

Bent down before him is DAEGAR, 30's, a Nordic warrior alien, human-looking, his long blonde hair worn in dreads. Daegar holds his hand out to Spence.

DAEGAR

Come on out of there.

Young Spence stares at Daegar, unsure.

Daegar sighs, not a lot of patience for children.

DAEGAR

There's really no other options.
You'll have to trust me.

Young Spence considers this, then takes Daegar's hand and crawls out from under the table.

Daegar pats the boy's shoulder and leads him back to...

INT. SPACESHIP - CORRIDOR TO EXAM ROOM - NIGHT

ALIEN SOLDIERS stop and stare as Daegar leads the boy back through the battle remains.

Daegar places himself strategically between Young Spence and the exam room.

Young Spence cranes his neck to see: Soldiers pack Gil's dead body into a silver body bag.

Young Spence's eyes deaden, an emptiness falls over his face.

DAEGAR

This way.

A door slides open and Daegar leads Young Spence onto his docked craft.

TITLE: BACK ON EARTH

EXT. BACK YARD - SPENCE'S HOUSE - DAY (FLASHBACK)

The sun radiates through the perfect summer day as Young Spence, Gil and Susan play whiffle ball. Susan tries to tag Young Spence, but Gil picks him up and runs the bases with him - just out of Susan's reach.

The small family tumbles to the ground laughing.

INT. ELRIN'S OFFICE - MOON BASE TRAINING CENTER - DAY

SUPER: "Galactic Coalition Moon Base, Today"

Through the window: in a black, star-filled sky, earth hangs in the distance. Tiny and... So. Far. Away.

ELRIN (O.S.)

Human?

SPENCE, now 17, dressed in a one-piece training uniform with blue stripes down the sides, stares out at earth.

LIRA, 16, Moon-Eyes alien, humanoid, crazy pale skin, white hair, extra-large eyes, and dressed in the same uniform, elbows Spence in the side.

Spence snaps his attention back to...

ELRIN, 30's, Anaknu Alien, humanoid, ten-feet-tall, a slight greenish tint to his skin.

SPENCE

Yes, sir.

Spence and Lira stand at attention in a line with three other different species, all wear the same blue-striped uniform.

Elrin towers over Spence.

ELRIN

Somewhere else you'd rather be?

SPENCE

Among my own kind would be nice.

Elrin bends down, hands on knees, at Spence's eye level. Spence stares straight ahead, avoiding eye contact.

ELRIN

Oh, we'd all prefer that. I imagine your teammates more than most. You're holding them back. You know you don't belong here. If your father wasn't an Ashtar general --

Spence glares directly in Elrin's eyes.

SPENCE

Daegar is not my father.

Grim, Elrin crosses to his desk. With the wave of his hand, a holographic evaluation system opens and hovers over the desk.

ELRIN

I'm pushing blue team back to level two. If we do end up at war with Orion, we'll all be a lot safer if the five of you are nowhere near the battle.

Elrin slides his hands over the hologram. Photos of the five teens appear on the hologram. Above their photos it reads: "BLUE: Level Three"

Lira steps forward.

LIRA

I miscalculated.

Spence and the others shoot her a sideways glance.

Elrin sits, hand to his head -- this should be good.

TAWQ, 17, Cetian alien, humanoid, a species with pointed ears, clenches his jaw as Lira speaks.

LIRA

The new navigation system is far more complex. I overshot a jump. I request that you don't hold my team accountable for my error.

Elrin isn't buying it. With a single finger he slides the team back to level two. Devastation falls across their faces.

KHARZAG, 16, Alpha Centaurian alien, humanoid, dark-skinned, looks ill as he closes his intense red eyes.

ELRIN

When one of you fails...

TEAM IN UNISON

We all fail.

ELRIN

Now, get out. You're dismissed.

YUNILLE, 17, Argharian alien, humanoid, almost Asian in appearance with white eyes, rolls her eyes at Lira, as they file out.

EXT. MOON CITY STREETS - DAY

The black, star-filled sky ever constant as the crowded city hums with activity under a clear dome.

ALIEN RESIDENTS, in the middle of their busy day, move about the city. STREET VENDORS wave their goods at every passerby. CITY OFFICIALS, PILOTS, and SOLDIERS go about their business. Not a human among them.

The blue team steps through the steel doorway, heads hung low.

The moment the enormous doors BANG closed behind them, Spence and Yunille both turn on Lira.

SPENCE

I don't need you to cover for me.

YUNILLE

What was that?

LIRA

Elrin hates Spence, I figured that maybe if he thought it was my fault... I don't know. It was worth a shot.

TAWQ

"The new system is complex?"

LIRA

It was the only thing I could think of.

KHARZAG

No one in my clan has ever been pushed back. Ever. This will be a stain on our records forever, you all get that, right?

Yunille glares at Spence, arms crossed.

YUNILLE

He was right about one thing,
Spence is holding us back.

SPENCE

I made one mistake. One. In two
years. The rest of you have made
plenty.

LIRA

Yeah, but all the ships exploded.

Tawq gets in Spence's face.

TAWQ

If it had been a real battle, we'd
all be dead from your one mistake.

SPENCE

There is a reason we train in a
simulator. No one actually got
hurt.

YUNILLE

To err is human.

Spence shoots daggers at Yunille as he pushes past Tawq and
storms away.

PINJ, another Anaknu alien, imposing, not only in height, but
width as well, purposely shoulders Spence as they pass.

PINJ

Filthy earth worm.

Without hesitation, Tawq charges. He shoves Pinj into a vendor
cart. Strange looking fruits roll to the ground as Pinj falls
against it. VENDOR quickly closes his cart and hurries out of
the way as Pinj pulls himself back up to his feet.

PINJ

(to Tawq)

What's your problem?

TAWQ

You're the one with the problem.

Kharzag, Yunille, and Lira stand beside Tawq - all ready to
defend Spence. Pinj studies them, then glances back to Spence.

PINJ

Ah, sorry, I didn't realize he was
your pet.

Spence taps Pinj on the shoulder. Pinj turns around and Spence punches him square in the face. It hurts Spence more than Pinj.

SPENCE

(to team)

I've got this. Stay out of it!

Tawq holds his hands up, he's all yours. The team watches as...

Pinj knocks Spence down with one punch. Spence clings to his arm. Pinj tries to shake him loose but Spence won't let go.

Finally, Pinj grabs Spence by the collar and tosses him across the street. Spence lands hard - the wind knocked out of him.

Pinj rubs a tiny scratch on his hand, then looks at the team.

PINJ

I hope he had his shots.

He spits at their feet as he stomps off. Lira, Yunille, Kharzag, and Tawq race for Spence.

KHARZAG

Wow, Hume, you really showed him.

LIRA

Are you okay?

Spence groans as Lira rolls him over onto his back. Bruised and bloody, he looks up at the team with a giant grin.

SPENCE

Ready to have some fun?

He opens his clenched fist to reveal Pinj's ID bracelet.

The teens all smile at one another -- they're always ready.

INT. PUBLIC UNDERGROUND TUNNEL - DAY

Spence, Tawq, Kharzag, Yunille, and Lira dodge CITIZENS as they sprint through the busy glass-walled tunnels.

They slide to a stop at the mouth of an offshoot. One-by-one the teens slip down the darkened path. The last to go, Spence grins to himself as he disappears into the darkness.

INT. DARK TUNNEL - DAY

The empty tunnel ends at huge, floor to ceiling, circular doors. Spence places his hand on the wall panel.

The doors slowly open.

TAWQ
This the servants' entrance?

LIRA
Employee entrance.

YUNILLE
Cleaning ships sounds more like a
servant's gig.

SPENCE
I work on the engines too.

TAWQ
Illegally.

As Spence leads the others through the open doorway, Kharzag holds Lira back.

KHARZAG
Stop. Just... stop. He hates all
of our species even more than they
hate him.

LIRA
He doesn't hate the four of us.

KHARZAG
Only because he has no other
options.

Lira pulls away and follows the others through the doorway.

INT. FLIGHT DECK - DAY

Empty. Quiet. Spence walks in like he owns the place.

SPENCE
This way.

Ship after ship line the deck - it's stunning. The four
teammates gawk at their surroundings as they follow Spence.

BOLSTER (O.S.)
Spencer?

Startled, Spence spins to find himself face to face with
BOLSTER, flesh covered A.I., humanoid but all computer.

SPENCE
Hey, Bolster. You startled me. I
didn't think anyone was in here.

Bolster studies the team.

BOLSTER
What are you doing?

SPENCE
Uh, we... this is my team, we have a big test this week and I wanted to let them get a feel for the real thing, you know... It's different than the simulators. We really need the points.

BOLSTER
You always purse your lips and tilt your head after you lie.

Lira and the others attempt to hide their laughter. Spence slips a screwdriver up his sleeve from the workbench.

BOLSTER
And blue was pushed back to level two. There will be no simulator work for another year.

SPENCE
Wow. That was fast. Look...

Spence crosses to Bolster, arm over his shoulder.

SPENCE
You've taught me everything I know about these engines and I just wanted to...

With a turn of the screwdriver behind Bolster's neck, Bolster freezes and shuts down. The teams gasps, stunned.

KHARZAG
By the One! What did you just do?

SPENCE
It's cool. It's only for a few minutes. We'll all stand in the same positions when we reboot him and I'll complete my sentence. He'll think he glitched.

YUNILLE
This is so illegal.

SPENCE
We doing this or what? We only have a few minutes.

Spence makes a bee-line for the control room. The others follow, way more wary now.

INT. CONTROL ROOM - FLIGHT DECK - DAY

Spence sits before the hologram computer system. His hands fly across the system -- he's good. And fast.

He holds the ID bracelet up to the scanner. BEEP. Data scrolls. It stops on a photo of Pinj.

SPENCE

There you are. Pilot. Seriously?
That guy? Well, that just won't
do.

Lira leans in over Spence's shoulder. He glances up at her.

SPENCE

He seemed better suited for
janitorial duty, don't you think?

Lira giggles. Kharzag scans the data open across the hologram.

KHARZAG

Hume, this ain't cool. Shut it
down.

TAWQ

What's up yours?

KHARZAG

Look at this! We have access to
all of the Coalition's data. Shut
it down now!

Yunille notices an odd blinking.

YUNILLE

What's that? Over there...

Spence looks.

SPENCE

I'm not sure. It wasn't there a
second ago.

He taps it. A Video opens.

ON VIDEO: footage of Young Spence and Gil's abduction.

Spence stares at Gil, strapped to the table, as he screams in agony. The video freezes on the Grail's POV of Young Spence, eyes wide, peeking into the exam room.

LIRA

Wait. Spence, is that you? I
didn't know you were harvested?
Who's the other human?

Spence wipes his face as he finds his composure.

SPENCE

My father.

YUNILLE

Av-Nte! That Anaknu targeted you!

Spence's fingers fly across the system. Nothing. He scans the ID bracelet again. Nothing.

SPENCE

His file's gone. Like he never
existed.

KHARZAG

Shut it down!

YUNILLE

Shut it down!

Spence kills the system. The teens stare at one another for a second -- did that just happen?

SPENCE

We need to get out of here.

They all bolt for the door.

INT. FLIGHT DECK - DAY

The group races across the flight deck. Spence stops beside Bolster.

TAWQ

Are you insane? Go! Go!

Spence hesitates, he hates leaving Bolster like that, but races out after the others.

INT. DAEGAR'S OFFICE - DAY

Daegar reviews data at his desk. BUZZ... a warning BLINKS in front of him.

DAEGAR

Go ahead.

ON SCREEN: A SOLDIER appears in a video call.

SOLDIER

(on screen)

General Daegar, we've had a system breach. It appears that Orion was granted access to our system for four full minutes.

DAEGAR

Q'al! Point of access?

SOLDIER

The flight deck, sir.

DAEGAR

Inform Council Leader Mika that I am investigating the situation. That'll be all.

Daegar disconnects the call and pulls up the flight deck's surveillance feed. ON SCREEN: Spence shuts down Bolster. Daegar rubs his brow as he watches. Frustrated, he forwards through the footage: Blue team races out, leaving Bolster shut down. Daegar freezes the image.

DAEGAR

What have you done now?

A ball of bluish-white light appears. Daegar immediately stands at attention as the ball of light transforms into...

MIKA, Light Being, elegant humanoid, a silver sheen covers her skin, and a gentle calmness permeates her being.

DAEGAR

Council Leader. I am looking into the situation and can assure --

Mika glances at the frozen image of Spence on his screen. They share a knowing look.

MIKA

I'm bringing them in, Daegar.

He crosses over to her.

DAEGAR

I know these kids. They make bad decisions at times, but they're not spies.

MIKA

You know all that is at stake. I entrust you to do your duty. By the One.

Daegar bows.

DAEGAR
By the One.

Mika transforms back into a ball of light and vanishes as quickly as she appeared.

Daegar leans back against his desk, head in his hand. His DEVICE SOUNDS. He answers and without waiting for anyone on the other end to speak...

DAEGAR
Orion accessed our system. They stole our data and from the looks of it, you helped them.

INT. THE CRATER - DAY

Moon Base saloon. Skirmishes, love affairs, and shady dealings, doused with alcohol and loud music, pack in the working-class ALIENS.

Spence speaks into his device as he pulls bits of metal from his pocket.

SPENCE
(into device)
I want to know what you've been hiding from me!

HO-KUR, another Cetian, but much stockier than Tawq, holds his hand up in front of Spence. Spence places the metal bits into Ho-Kur's hand.

INTERCUT - INT. DAEGAR'S OFFICE/INT. THE CRATER

Daegar grimaces, he doesn't have time for this.

Ho-Kur counts the pieces then nods to the back. Spence, Lira, Yunille, Kharzag, and Tawq keep their heads down as they push their way through the crowd to the back.

DAEGAR
We have footage of all of you running from the scene. If you helped Orion...

SPENCE
They made sure I saw the video... from that night. Of... Tell me that's a coincidence?

Daegar freezes, taking that in.

SPENCE

Why would they target me?

DAEGAR

Listen to me, the five of you will be charged with espionage. It is an executable offense.

Spence shares a "we are so fucked" look with his teammates.

Daegar's fingers fly across his system as he speaks. A map of the city appears. A flashing dot over The Crater.

DAEGAR

We're bringing you in now. If someone set you up, they can be traced. We will find him.

Spence grabs a drink from the tray of a passing ALIEN WAITRESS.

SPENCE

He was Anaknu. Huge. A pilot. But I looked, he's already been deleted from the system.

Spence chugs his drink.

DAEGAR

There are other ways to track beings. Doors left unlocked, you know that.

(beat)

You'll have to trust me. And Spence, you're under age.

Spence instantly drops his device and crushes it with his foot. He looks to the others.

SPENCE

They know we're here.

Yunille, Tawq, Lira, Kharzag, and Spence bolt for the back door as ASHTAR SOLDIERS push their way in through the front door.

EXT. BACK OF THE CRATER - MOON CITY STREETS - DAY

The team sprints out the back door and down the street.

SPENCE

Whoa. Whoa. Over here!

Spence ducks down behind a generator. The others follow him. He pulls out the ID Bracelet and pries the center piece open with his teeth.

YUNILLE
What are we doing?

SPENCE
Seeing what's behind door number
one...

Spence removes a tiny chip from the center of the device. There's a serial number etched into it. He almost smiles.

SPENCE
This isn't Coalition issued. We
trace the serial number and get
the proof.

LIRA
What proof?

SPENCE
I don't know. Whatever we can find
that shows we were set up.

KHARZAG
Hume, this is insane. Way more
insane than all of of your other
stupid schemes combined.

LIRA
Yeah. And we're in way more
trouble this time, too. I'm in.

Kharzag rolls his eyes -- of course she is.

SPENCE
(to the others)
I swear I'm going to get us out of
this. You have my word.

Yunille, Kharzag, and Tawq study him. What choice do they have? Tawq points at him, threateningly.

TAWQ
If we don't live to regret this...

Yunille spots SOLDIERS round the corner.

YUNILLE
No time. We're doing this.
Kharzag!

KHARZAG
This is such a bad idea.

Kharzag pulls a small cube from his pocket. He places it on the ground in front of them and closes his eyes.

A FLASH and a film hovers between them and the soldiers.

SOLDIER #1 glances behind the generator: no one's there.

The teens hold their breath, unmoving, as they watch Soldier #1 search the area in front of them. He turns.

The teammates turn on their heels and run.

KHARZAG

(whispers)

Go! Go! Go! It'll only hold for
another thirty seconds.

Soldier #1 turns back - did he hear something? He still doesn't see them.

SOLDIER #1

(into earpiece)

I've got movement.

COMMAND CONTROL (V.O.)

Visual?

SOLDIER #1

Negative.

INT. DARK TUNNEL - DAY

Spence presses his hand to the panel. Nothing.

SPENCE

I'm locked out.

Lira grabs Spence's hand and squeezes it in her own.

SPENCE

No.

LIRA

You have a better idea?

SPENCE

Av-Nte. I hate this.

Lira takes a deep breath as she stares at the door. With Spence's hand in hers, she runs straight at the steel doors. Lira disappears through the doors as Spence slams into it.

SPENCE

Q'al!

He holds his now bloody nose as Lira steps back through the door, reappearing beside Spence.

LIRA

Sorry! I know what I did wrong. It won't happen again.

Spence glares at her and begrudgingly takes her hand again. Lira runs through the doors again, this time Spence disappears beside her.

INT. FLIGHT DECK - DAY

Lira and Spence appear through the other side of the door. Lira beams with pride. Spence doesn't hesitate, he yanks the panel off the wall and rewires the system. The circular doors open and Kharzag, Yunille, and Tawq step through.

Spence closes the doors again. Sparks fly as he yanks a couple wires out.

YUNILLE

That won't hold them for long.

SPENCE

Maybe just long enough. Come on.

Tawq heads straight for the far lockers. He tries to open several -- all locked. He clenches his jaw and punches a hole straight through a locker door.

Satisfied, he calmly unlocks the door from inside and opens it. Helmets, suits, clothing, etc. He pulls out a duffle bag and shoves the gear into it.

Spence stops in front of a ship.

SPENCE

This one.

He taps into the control panel on the podium beside it. The gangway lowers. Yunille, Kharzag, and Lira run aboard.

Spence glances over to Bolster, right where he left him.

Loaded duffle bags in hand, Tawq marches toward the ship.

TAWQ

What's the holdup, Hume? Time to go.

SPENCE

Right behind you.

Tawq climbs aboard as Spence hurries over to Bolster. He turns the screwdriver behind his neck and Bolster reboots.

It takes Bolster a second to gain his bearings. He turns to Spence, furious.

BOLSTER
Spencer... Coalition Code 4789
strictly forbids --

SPENCE
I'm so sorry, but you have to
listen now. I messed up big time.
I swear we didn't do it. You know
me. You know I hate Orion. We were
framed. I'm going to find the
proof but I need your help.
Please. I'm begging you...

Bolster cocks his head as he studies Spence: he doesn't purse his lips nor tilt his head.

BOLSTER
I understand.

The ship fires up. Spence pats him on the shoulder and hurries aboard. One last glance at Bolster and the gangway closes.

INT. SHIP - DAY

Yunille smiles from the pilot seat.

YUNILLE
(to Spence)
You're right. It is different than
the simulator.

She feels the weight of Kharzag's worried stare behind her.

YUNILLE
Relax Kharzag. I've got this.

Spence punches the numbers from the tiny computer chip into the system on the control panel.

SPENCE
Locate origin coordinates.

COMPUTER SYSTEM (V.O.)
Searching.

SPENCE
(to Yunille)
What are you waiting for?

YUNILLE
Right. Hang on.

She slips the ship into gear.

Through the window: Soldiers storm the flight deck, weapons ready. A sadness washes over Spence, he looks down at Bolster.

SPENCE
(whispers)
Open the gate. Open the gate...

INT. FLIGHT DECK - DAY

Bolster stares at Spence through the ship's window as Soldiers charge toward them. He glances down at the tablet in his hands.

BOLSTER
Prepare to open gates!

Soldiers turn, looks of horror on their faces.

SOLDIER #2
No! What are you doing?

SOLDIER #1
Fall back! Fall back!

Soldiers bolt for the safety doors. Soldier #2 slams the button. ALARM SOUNDS as the doors seal in front of them.

They watch as the giant gate slides open - straight out into space - its freezing pressure washes in.

Bolster watches, unaffected by the lack of oxygen, as the ship lifts off and clears the deck. Just like that... they're gone.

INT. SHIP - DAY

Spence, Lira, Kharzag, and Tawq share looks of relief.

YUNILLE
Whooh! So much better than the simulator!

COMPUTER SYSTEM (V.O.)
Origin confirmed. Coordinates locked in.

Earth spins in a hologram over the the control panel.

COMPUTER SYSTEM (V.O.)
Navigation set for Earth. Arrival time, twelve hours, sixteen minutes.

Spence and the others turn to the image of the little blue planet, stunned and confused.

SPENCE

Wait. What?

Mouths agape. They're headed to earth.

INT. DAEGAR'S HOME - MOON BASE - NIGHT (FLASHBACK 2010)

The sterile surroundings don't exactly exude warmth or a feeling of home. Daegar and Spence sit across from one another. Daegar stares at Young Spence, now a broken, empty shell of the child we saw in the beginning.

DAEGAR

We should establish some rules.

Nothing. Not even a twitch as the boy stares back at him.

DAEGAR

For starters, you need to know that I am extraordinarily busy, so do not expect me to... play with you or anything like that.

A tear falls across Young Spence's cheek - he wipes it away.

YOUNG SPENCE

When can I go home?

DAEGAR

This is your home now.

INT. HIGH COUNCIL CHAMBER - NIGHT

Twelve high-back chairs surround a long table. Daegar waits alone, lost in thought. The glowing ball of LIGHT appears at the head of the table. Daegar jumps to his feet and bows as Mika appears.

MIKA

It would seem that altering one's destiny is beyond our power.

DAEGAR

We've never been certain of his destiny. I have not lost hope.

MIKA

I know you've grown fond of the boy. However, I am unwilling to risk the Coalition on hope. I am ending the experiment.

DAEGAR
They're children.

MIKA
They're fugitives and I will not value their lives over billions of innocent beings. It's over. You are to track and eliminate the Blue Team. My word is final. By the One.

Mika returns to a ball of light. Daegar stunned, almost forgets himself... He quickly bows.

DAEGAR
It shall be done. By the One.

And she vanishes.

INT. SHIP - NIGHT

The ship bursts into Earth's atmosphere.

Yunille holds tight to the controls as the vessel shakes violently. Strapped in their seats, Spence, Lira, Kharzag, and Tawq hang on for dear life.

LIRA
What is happening?

YUNILLE
I don't know. I never landed in the simulator.

KHARZAG
What?!

SPENCE
Maybe slow down, you think?

YUNILLE
I don't see any land... Oh wait, there it is!

TAWQ
Slow down, slow down, slow down!

YUNILLE
Hang on!

Kharzag squeezes his eyes shut. They all hang on tight.

EXT. LUCAS MORGAN'S RANCH HOUSE - NIGHT

SUPER: "California"

A self-sufficient, off-grid ranch. CRICKETS sing in the quiet night as LUCAS MORGAN, 60s, rocks on his front porch lost in a bottle of whiskey and self-pity. Out of nowhere... BOOM!

Lucas practically jumps out of his skin.

LUCAS
 Jesus H. Christ! What in the
 goddamn hell are those sons of
 bitches doing now?

He hurries inside. After a moment, he returns, rifle in hand. Lucas stumbles down the front steps and heads off into the darkness alone.

EXT. MORGAN RANCH - NIGHT

Spence, Yunille, Kharzag, Lira, and Tawq examine the damage on the ship which now sits in the field, tilted on its side.

LIRA
 (to Spence)
 You can fix it, right?

SPENCE
 I don't know. Maybe...

TAWQ
 What do you mean, maybe? Thought
 you knew what you were doing.

SPENCE
 It's dark. I can't even see it! I
 need to get under it.

Yunille, hears something and hushes them.

YUNILLE
 Someone's coming.

They all turn toward the sound, alert.

YUNILLE
 Kharzag...

Kharzag pulls a device out of his jacket and aims it at the ship. With the click of a button, a silky wave flutters over the ship and renders it invisible.

SPENCE

Let me do the talking. Stay behind me and keep your heads down.

The group exchange looks, no one wants to argue this one.

Lucas appears over the ridge. Rifle aimed at the group.

SPENCE

Whoa! Whoa! Don't shoot! We're lost.

Lucas lowers his rifle. He sways slightly as tries to focus on the group... just some teens.

LUCAS

What's your name boy?

SPENCE

Spencer Grant. Me and my friends got in a... car accident... a ways back. That way. On a road.

LUCAS

You kids shouldn't be out here. There's things... it's not safe.

SPENCE

We could use some help. Maybe a safe place to rest until daylight?

Lucas grimaces like it hurts to even consider such a thing.

INT. LUCAS MORGAN'S HOME - NIGHT

The door BANGS open and Lucas stumbles inside. He makes a bee-line for the counter, grabs a bottle, pours whiskey into the glass, then takes a swig from the bottle.

Spence, Tawq, Yunille, Kharzag, and Lira follow him inside, cautious as they look around.

Lucas waves over his shoulder at the living room area as he stumbles toward the hallway.

LUCAS

You can sleep on the sofas. Need a bit of shut-eye now myself.

And he disappears down the hall, leaving the group a bit out of place by the door.

TAWQ

Such an elite race.

SPENCE

Shut-up.

Spence glances around, a human home - unkempt and cluttered but oh so familiar. He's back.

INT. FLIGHT DECK - MOON BASE - DAY

Daegar strides across the flight deck toward Bolster.

DAEGAR

I am going after Spence and will require an A.I system to assist in the search. You have the most experience with him.

BOLSTER

This is a search and rescue?

DAEGAR

That's correct.

Bolster watches Daegar tilt his head and purses his lips.

BOLSTER

I see.

DAEGAR

Prepare a ship for immediate departure.

Daegar storms out.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LUCAS MORGAN'S HOME - DAY

JULES, 16, an African American mixed-race human, stands in the center of the room, stunned.

Sound asleep, Spence, Lira, Yunille, Tawq and Kharzag are spread out across the furniture.

Jules tiptoes over to Tawq for a closer look - his ears are definitely pointed. She turns to Lira... holy shit, she's so pale. Lira's enormous, black eyes open.

Panicked, Jules gasps and takes a step back as Lira falls straight through the couch and disappears somewhere in it or under it.

Jules screams and bolts from the room as Spence and the others jump up, alarmed.