

ALIEN - NO ESCAPE

Written by

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SPACE

Silence.

The golden crescent of a huge gas giant planet sits in an ocean of stars. Slowly a tiny black silhouette of a ship moves in front.

SUPER:

COLONIZATION VESSEL: BORROWDALE

SOULS ON-BOARD: 23,282

Suddenly small explosions flash all over the ship, soon it is enveloped by a brilliant white ball that grows and fills the screen.

White.

Slowly the light dissipates until the stars become visible again.

A tiny dot shoots away from the blast. It's an escape pod.

TITLE SUPER: ALIEN: NO ESCAPE

INT. LIFEBOAT

The interior of the lifeboat is filled with a cacophony of bangs, and creaks as the hull strains under the pressure. A dull thud shakes the craft as the shock wave hits the outer hull.

This is a small six metre octagonal compartment, with twelve jump seats around it's circumference, facing inwards. Only four people (one unconscious) occupy the lifeboat.

In the centre, are containers of supplies and survival equipment. Hanging from the ceiling, are straps and netting holding more supplies. They all swing as the lifeboat shakes.

Ward (30s) a young female officer, is sat in the only seat facing outwards towards a computer terminal and a small window. Her face is bathed in the golden light of the planet, everyone she knew was lost on the Borrowdale.

Ward climbs out of her seat to check on the unconscious man laid out on some containers. She quickly straightens his oxygen mask, then moves over to a young security officer Nass (20s) who's sat to the side. Nass is sweaty, dirty and wearing some body armour.

Ward pulls out a sterile wipe from her medi-pack and treats a cut on Nass' forehead. As she does Nass flinches violently making her jump.

WARD
Shhh, it's okay

Nass is clearly suffering from emotional distress

WARD (CONT'D)
(whispered)
Hold still

Nass sits up, his eyes darting around the compartment

NASS
(panicked shouting)
We need to get out!, we, we
can't...

Ward puts her hand on Nass' shoulder to calm him

WARD
It's okay relax, we're safe

Nass sits back in his seat

WARD (CONT'D)
Can you remember what happened?

Nass begins to figure out where he is. Ward notices Nass' hands are shaking

NASS
No, I was knocked out
(beat)
I err, I woke up on the escape deck

ALBRECHT (O.S.)
There was an outbreak this morning

Across the compartment sits Albrecht, an older woman (50s) who's dressed in a Weyland-Yutani bio-sciences uniform. She is holding on tightly to the straps securing her to the seat.

NASS
(pointing to Albrecht)
It, it was them!

ALBRECHT
We thought we had it under control
but...

NASS
 (to Albrecht)
 What were those fucking things...?

WARD
 (to Nass)
 Hold on!

Ward turns to Albrecht

WARD (CONT'D)
 (worried)
 An outbreak? Have we been exposed?

ALBRECHT
 No way to be sure, the orga...
 (breath)
 It has a unique replication cycle

Nass grabs Ward by the arm

NASS
 (intensely)
 They were fast, we...

WARD
 Shhh, it's okay

NASS
 (angry)
 No, listen!...

Ward grabs a medi-scanner from her medical kit and holds it out to Albrecht

WARD
 (pointing to the
 unconscious man)
 Check him
 (beat)
 Now!

Albrecht, begrudgingly unclips her belts and takes the medi-scanner from Ward. She begins scanning the unconscious man.

Nass is staring into space shaking his head

NASS
 I've never seen anything move like
 that...

Ward listens to Nass. Albrecht stares at the cuts around the unconscious man's face.

NASS (CONT'D)
They, they...

WARD
They? The crew?

NASS
(getting frustrated)
No! not us...

Albrecht finishes the scan of the unconscious man and closes up the medi-scanner, looking nervously down at the deck.

NASS (CONT'D)
(Shouting)
Don't you see?
(pointing to Albrecht)
These fuckers had something and it broke out

WARD
(incredulous)
No, it doesn't make sense, an outbreak couldn't of destroyed the ship!

ALBRECHT
We had to reestablish containment

NASS
They blew it up!

WARD
(to Albrecht)
Wait? YOU set the destruct?

Nass nods his head

ALBRECHT
(defensive)
That was unfortunate, we didn't have a choice.
(beat)
It spread remarkably fast

Nass pulls himself out of his seat, and stumbles towards Albrecht his eyes locked onto her

NASS
(aggressive)
You fucking company types!

ALBRECHT
I was merely saying...

WARD
 (urgently to Albrecht)
 Wait, are we still in danger?
 (beat)
 If we are, tell us!

NASS
 (pointing to the
 unconscious man)
 He's got it hasn't he?

Albrecht looks into Ward's eyes, Nass reads Albrecht's look as well.

NASS (CONT'D)
 We have to kill him!

Nass reaches down and slides a six inch knife from a plastic scabbard on his belt.

WARD
 What are you doing?
 (shouting)
 What the fuck are you doing!?

NASS
 (shouting to Ward)
 You didn't see it, if you had seen
 it you, you...

WARD
 (shouting)
 No!, We're not killing anybody

ALBRECHT
 Well, actually any of us could be a
 carrier... we think it effects
 memory

Nass looks around to Albrecht

NASS
 I better keep an eye on you too
 then!

Albrecht looks at the knife in Nass' hand

WARD
 Stop! We're not going to kill each
 other!

Nass grips his knife tighter and steps closer to the unconscious man.

Ward instinctively reached over for the knife but Nass grabs Ward around the neck, choking her. Nass looks intensely into her eyes.

NASS

(crying)

You didn't see what I saw!

(beat)

You didn't see it!

Nass pushes Ward back into the computer console.

Ward finds herself down on the deck, her ears ringing, she spits out a mouth full of blood as she attempts to get her breath back. Next to her head, Nass' boots shuffle up to the cargo containers and the unconscious man above.

Nass pauses, all of a sudden he looks confused, staring at the knife in his hand. He coughs a little, and swallows. He tries to clear his throat, he cannot.

Suddenly he winces in pain and holds his chest, spinning around, falling to his knees, and dropping the knife. He looks up to Albrecht, who's eyes widen.

NASS (CONT'D)

What's ...?

Albrecht is open mouthed at first, but then recognises what is happening. She quickly backs away towards the corner of the compartment.

Nass falls to his side onto the deck next to Ward

Ward immediately lifts herself up to grab the medi-scanner. Her instinct is to help Nass.

WARD

Hold still, it's alright, breath,
breath!

Blood still dripping from her broken nose, she places the medi-scanner on Nass's chest, it lights up.

Ward looks confused at the medi-scanner.

WARD (CONT'D)

What!?

Nass convulses and shakes violently on the ground. Ward looks up to Albrecht who's stood in the corner of the room.

WARD (CONT'D)
 (shouting)
 Help me!

At that moment blood explodes from Nass' mouth. Ward is sprayed with blood making her quickly recoil, dropping the scanner.

WARD (CONT'D)
 Shit!

Ward backs off from Nass. We see the horror on her face as Nass's silhouette convulses like a rag doll as blood sprays from his bulging chest. Ward, terrified, can't take her eyes off it.

Albrecht steps back into the white airlock area. The door immediately closes as she crosses the threshold, leaving her face in the window.

Then there's a strange sound from Nass' body. Ward stares at his gaping wound. A shape begins to move in the blood, it's a creature.

Ward quickly picks up Nass' knife from the puddle of blood on the deck. She points it towards the monster, her hands shake as she thinks what to do.

ALBRECHT (O.S.)
 (shouting through a
 speaker)
 No... no, don't hurt it!

Albrecht is watching through the airlock window. She looks fascinated by the creature.

ALBRECHT (CONT'D)
 Look, it's... incredible

Ward looks with confusion at how Albrecht is behaving.

WARD
 What?
 (shouting)
 Open the door!

ALBRECHT
 (afraid)
 I can't, I can't break containment

As Albrecht looks on through the glass, the faintest suggestion of a smile crosses her face.

WARD
(shouting)
You fucking bitch!

Ward looks back towards Nass' body, she holds the knife aloft as her arms shake with fear.

BANG!

The whole compartment shakes violently, Ward falls forwards.

In the airlock, Albrecht is thrown onto the small control panel, opening the door back into the main compartment.

RADIO (O.S.)
Borro...
(distorted voice)

Ward opens her eyes, she's on the deck again. She can taste her own blood. She looks around, she can hear the creature moving around somewhere under the seats on the far side of the compartment. She's lost the knife.

RADIO (CONT'D)
(distorted voice)
Borrowdale EEV, we're bringing you
in, prepare for docking.

Ward can't believe what she's hearing, a look of relief briefly crosses her face, she is saved!

Then Ward thinks for a moment, her face betrays the deep dilemma she is now posed with.

She looks over to the airlock door, which is now open, Albrecht laying across it's threshold.

Ward clambers up over the seats along the edge of the compartment, trying to keep as much distance from the monster as possible. She reaches the airlock doorway, jumping over Albrecht who is still gathering herself.

Albrecht slowly lifts herself up and opens her eyes to reveal a look of terror as the creature moves towards her.

INT. AIRLOCK

Ward turns the corner into the airlock tunnel. It's a five metre long passageway, with cream coloured quilted walls that lead to the outer hatch. Blood from Ward's uniform smears the clean walls as she runs and stumbles along it.

Behind Ward, are piercing screams as Albrecht's legs begin to flail around. The creature is attacking her out of sight around the corner.

Ward, trying not to be distracted by what's going on in the main compartment, uses a finger and her own blood to write something on the window of the outer hatch.

EXT. LIFEBOAT HATCH - SPACE

Silence.

We see Ward through the hatch window from the outside of the lifeboat, and the message she is frantically writing:

"DO NOT OPEN!!"

The camera pulls out to reveal a larger ship is now looming over the escape pod, and is about to bring it aboard with a robotic arm.

BLACK