

# OBLIVITY

A scripted comedy podcast series

Script by Rob Stringer

## SEASON 2: EPISODE 5: GROUND CONTROL

**COMMANDER MILDRED FALCONER (FEMALE)**

Battle-hardened and bewildered.

**FIRST LIEUTENANT JOY CHRISTY (FEMALE)**

A peppy thrill-seeker and over-achiever.

**OFFICER ALOYSIUS BURNEY (MALE)**

Prodigious and introverted.

**OFFICER HOWELL LOWELL (MALE)**

An impulsive wrecking-ball.

**ORPHEUS:**

A bug-riddled computer.

**SOUND DESIGN NOTE: ASIDE FROM THE FINAL SCENE, THIS EPISODE TAKES PLACE OVER 'FOUND FOOTAGE': I.E. SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS AND BURNEY'S DICTATION DEVICE.**

1 **COLD OPEN: INT. BURNEY'S QUARTERS**  
2  
3 **FX: DICTATION DEVICE CLICKS ON. WE HEAR IT FROM THE**  
4 **PERSPECTIVE OF THE DEVICE**  
5  
6 BURNEY: [NO NONSENSE DICTATION] Burney's log.  
7  
8 My internal digestive processes indicate that  
9 it is precisely nine PM.  
10  
11 My whereabouts? My quarters, captive until  
12 daybreak: a punishment imposed by Falconer,  
13 under security enhancements which I suspect  
14 relate to the alleged 'phantom astronaut' -  
15 doubtless a stress-induced delusion, or product  
16 of sleep-deprivation.  
17  
18 I *would* add the option of 'genuine supernatural  
19 apparition', if it were not for one compelling  
20 piece of evidence that briskly repudiates this  
21 theory, which is that I am not a simpleton.  
22  
23 Still: whether this incarceration is deserved  
24 or not - footnote: it is not - I look forward  
25 to a good night's sleep, and relish the  
26 opportunity to return to my lab when my door  
27 opens at 6am precisely.  
28  
29 **FX: DICTATION DEVICE CLICKS OFF**  
30  
31 **FX: ...AND ON AGAIN**  
32  
33 [MORE THOUGHTFUL THIS TIME] Burney's log.  
34 Internal Digestive Processes indicate... 4.30am.  
35  
36 Each decision I've made in this base has been  
37 aimed at maintaining influence over my  
38 colleagues, to further my clandestine  
39 endeavours.  
40  
41 I envisage all possible futures, and advance  
42 the option with the maximum potential for  
43 success.  
44  
45 Indeed it is this pragmatic approach that  
46 informed my disassociation with Banks.  
47  
48 So why do I find myself dwelling on the  
49 unalterable past?  
50  
51 [SHAKING SELF] Ruminating is futile.

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[POSITIVE AGAIN] Freedom is imminent. And -  
given Falconer's customary military precision -  
I look forward to the door unlocking at 6 a.m.  
*exactly.*

**FX:                    DICTATION DEVICE CLICKS OFF**

**FX:                    ..AND ON AGAIN**

BURNEY:                [AWAKE AND READY] Burney's log. 6am IDP.

**PAUSE**

I am primed for liberation.

**PAUSE**

Any moment.

**EXTENDED PAUSE**

**MUSIC:                INTRO THEME**

**SCENE ONE:            INT. BURNEY'S QUARTERS**

**FX:                    DICTATION DEVICE IS SWITCHED ON.**

BURNEY:                Burney's log. Day two. 11.04am IDP.

If I have learned anything during this stretch  
of isolation, it is conversational Sanskrit.

If I have learned anything else, it is of  
Falconer's new realms of unpredictability.

Extreme behaviour is not unusual *per se*.. Take  
the recent incident of the fudgey frozen  
yoghurt.

Both Lowell and I coveted the remaining scoop,  
and when we entered into a reasonable - if  
*vociferous* - debate, Falconer snatched the tub,  
thrust it into the microwave oven, and...  
detonated the appliance with her laser blaster.

1                   And yet this current scenario still feels...  
2                   *unprecedented.*  
3  
4                   Either Falconer intentionally lied about the  
5                   duration of incarceration to encourage us to  
6                   acquiesce.  
7  
8                   Or she did *not* lie, and is incapacitated and/or  
9                   dead.  
10  
11                   I hope not the latter. She is just beginning to  
12                   become... *kutūhala*  
13  
14                   BEAT  
15  
16                   ‘Interesting’, in Sanskrit.  
17  
18                   I can only hope my colleagues are maintaining  
19                   their own sanity as I am.  
20  
21                   **FX:                    DICTATION DEVICE IS SWITCHED OFF.**  
22  
23  
24                   **SCENE TWO:            INT. CHRISTY’S QUARTERS**  
25  
26                   **FX:                    STATIC OF CAMERA RECORDING IN CHRISTY’S**  
27                   **QUARTERS**  
28  
29                   CHRISTY:            [SINGING] ‘*Twinkle twinkle little whelk;*  
30                                    *How I like to polish whelks.*’  
31  
32                                    Oh Willoughby whelk; you’re covered in grit -  
33                                    where have you been playing? You should try to  
34                                    be more like Winona whelk - she always looks  
35                                    spiffy.  
36  
37                                    What’s that Waleed whelk? Yes I’m glad Falconer  
38                                    let me bring you all in here with me too.  
39  
40                                    [SADLY] I know Wanda whelk. But that’s the way  
41                                    it is, and the way it has always been. You  
42                                    might want to fly; but something will always  
43                                    hold you down.`  
44  
45                                    [SNAPPING] Warwick whelk stop that! The  
46                                    Commander knows exactly what she’s doing.  
47                                    That’s mutinous thinking. And you know what the  
48                                    penalty for mutinous thinking is:  
49  
50                                    No polishing for three hours.  
51

1   **FX:**                   **STATIC**  
2  
3   **SCENE THREE:    INT. BURNEY'S QUARTERS**  
4  
5   **FX:**                   **BURNEY'S DEVICE SWITCHES ON**  
6  
7   BURNEY:                Burney's log, day two, 4.53pm IDP - and like a  
8                            loquacious rhetorician with a penchant for  
9                            protracted verbalisation, I can now conclude  
10                           that this extended sentence is intentional.  
11  
12   My reasons are threefold:  
13  
14                            One: the hidden video camera in my quarters. I  
15                            noticed it while conducting an inventory of my  
16                            collection of video cameras.  
17  
18                            When I saw the unfamiliar serial code, the  
19                            interloping device suddenly projected like an  
20                            inflamed pollex.  
21  
22                            Two: The door opened today, and a hovering  
23                            drone obstructed my escape, and deposited  
24                            nutritional tubed food, before the doors closed  
25                            once again.  
26  
27                            Three: Orpheus has become unpleasantly  
28                            uncooperative. Observe:  
29  
30                            [CALLS OUT] Orpheus?  
31  
32   ORPHEUS:               [CHEERFUL AND SMARMY LIKE AN OVERZEALOUS  
33                            CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENT] Hiya! How can myself be  
34                            of service to yourself?  
35  
36   BURNEY:                Why are we imprisoned?  
37  
38   ORPHEUS:               I am programmed to follow the Commander's  
39                            orders. Is there anything else myself can help  
40                            yourself with today?  
41  
42   BURNEY:                When may I leave my quarters?  
43  
44   ORPHEUS:               Yourself's quarters are equipped with  
45                            everything yourself needs! Is there anything  
46                            else myself can help yourself with today?  
47  
48   BURNEY:                I wish to speak with Falconer.  
49  
50   ORPHEUS:               [I'M SORRY BUT] Commander Falconer will not  
51                            listen to yourself at present. [CHEERFUL AGAIN]

1 Is there anything else myself can help yourself  
2 with today?  
3  
4 BURNEY: Of all Orpheus' personalities, this has to be  
5 the most brutishly unreasonable.  
6  
7 Addendum: The doors to my bathroom - which I  
8 share with Lowell - are rigged so as to only  
9 allow one of us in there at any time.  
10  
11 This is a blessing. The toilet bowl resembles a  
12 hostile political campaign at a Grand Prix  
13 racing course: All smears and skidmarks. No  
14 doubt a passive aggressive way to communicate  
15 his ire.  
16  
17 Well, I hope he is using this time wisely:  
18 abandoning the absurd superhero fantasy and  
19 grounding himself back in the real-world.  
20  
21 **FX: DICTATION DEVICE OFF**  
22  
23  
24 **SCENE FOUR: INT. LOWELL'S QUARTERS**  
25  
26 **WE OBSERVE THIS SCENE THROUGH THE VIDEO CAMERA**  
27 **IN LOWELL'S QUARTERS**  
28  
29 **FX: STATIC OF A VIDEO CAMERA.**  
30  
31 **FX: NOISE OF SCRIBBLING AS LOWELL DRAWS THE SCENE**  
32 **HE DESCRIBES**  
33  
34 LOWELL: [D] The Bionic Belch sits atop a tall mountain,  
35 flillions of miles from anyone.  
36  
37 He looks out over a world where he doesn't  
38 belong. Up here, he cannot hurt anyone.  
39  
40 He cuts wood with an axe. Obviously he's got  
41 laser eyes, but an axe is cooler.  
42  
43 Oh, and he doesn't need the firewood obviously,  
44 cos he doesn't get cold, but see previous bit  
45 about it being cool to chop wood.  
46  
47 He's also got a beard. Once he wanted a  
48 moustache all the way down my tummy, but that  
49 was when his dreams were childish. Now he's  
50 wise, he's got a beard.  
51

1 At the end of each day, he sits under the pink  
2 sky and breathes in the air that he doesn't  
3 need to breathe cos he doesn't need air.  
4  
5 He hears a noise.  
6  
7 It is a goat.  
8  
9 The Bionic Belch looks at the goat. The goat  
10 looks back with a look that seems to say:  
11  
12 "You and me are the same. We're both good at  
13 bargaining and eating things we probably  
14 shouldn't; but that's not *all* we are.  
15  
16 "And I know I can't actually talk but if I  
17 *could* talk I'd say all of this, so instead I'm  
18 communicating it by looking at you in this way.  
19  
20 "P.s. your beard is awesome and looks a bit  
21 like mine."  
22  
23 The Bionic Belch nods, to show he understands.  
24  
25 Then he says:  
26  
27 "I understand." Just in case the goat didn't  
28 realise it from the nod.  
29  
30 Then the goat does a little widdle... and-  
31  
32 **FX: SCRIBBLING STOPS**  
33  
34 [ANNOYED] Oh no, that was meant to be yellow!  
35  
36 **BEAT**  
37  
38 [GENUINE. ANGRY AT SELF] *Idiot.*  
39  
40  
41 **SCENE FIVE: INTERIOR BURNEY'S QUARTERS**  
42  
43 **FX: STATIC OF CAMERA**  
44  
45 BURNEY: [SPEAKING CHEERFULLY AND OVERACTING]  
46  
47 Burney's log! Day eight of pleasant  
48 recuperation! Today I shall tidy my drawers!  
49  
50 **FX: DRAWER SLIDES OPEN**  
51

1 Behold! In this drawer is a completely  
2 innocuous device!

3

4 **FX: DRAWER SLIDES OPEN**

5

6 And in *this* drawer is a screwdriver set! Why,  
7 these are not in the correct drawers at all!

8

9 But one moment! I am suddenly overcome with the  
10 urge to evacuate my bowels!

11

12 Oh dear! The pressure from my internal  
13 digestive system means I do not have time to  
14 discard these items! I shall have to convey  
15 them to the bathroom where I shall do nothing  
16 with them!

17

18 **FX: STATICKY BUZZ OF CAMERA**

19

20 **SCENE SIX: INT. SHARED BATHROOM**

21

22 **FX: BURNEY'S DEVICE ON**

23

24 BURNEY: [LOWKEY] I hope my performance was convincing  
25 enough to allay suspicion.

26

27 I have formulated a plan, and believe this room  
28 to be free of surveillance.

29

30 **FX: A LITTLE SCREWDRIVERING, TAMPERING**

31

32 [CONCENTRATING ON WORK] We were visited of late  
33 by a psychopathic cyborg who gifted her  
34 augmented limb - capable of emitting a  
35 superbolt of electricity - to me.

36

37 I am adapting the appendage to deliver residual  
38 charge as targeted pulses, to temporarily break  
39 the circuits in the doors.

40

41 I will test it on Lowell's bathroom door, and  
42 secure his assistance.

43

44 **FX: TAMPERING STOPS**

45

46 *There!* Just enough charge for five pulses.

47

48 Now to use the screwdriver to tap out my plan  
49 to Lowell in Morse code on these pipes.

50

1 **FX:** (THE FOLLOWING IS THE TRANSLATED BEGINNING TO  
2 'DOOR WILL OPEN.' A LOUDER ITALICISED *TAP* COULD  
3 SIGNIFY A DASH.)  
4  
5 *TAP TAP TAP. TAP TAP TAP, TAP TAP TAP, TAP TAP*  
6 *TAP. TAP TAP TAP, TAP TAP, TAP TAP TAP TAP, TAP*  
7 *TAP TAP TAP...*  
8  
9 TAPPING FADES OUT...

10  
11  
12 **SCENE SEVEN: INT. LOWELL'S QUARTERS**

13  
14 **FX:** STATIC

15  
16 **FX:** A MUFFLED TAPPING OF THE PIPES. THE FOLLOWING  
17 TRANSLATES AS 'DO NOT REACT'.

18  
19 *TAP TAP TAP, TAP TAP TAP. TAP TAP, TAP TAP TAP,*  
20 *TAP. TAP TAP TAP, TAP, TAP TAP, TAP TAP TAP*  
21 *TAP, TAP.*

22  
23 **LOWELL:** [DURING TAPPING] Mm hhm. Yep. Yep.

24  
25 OK.

26  
27 Got it.

28  
29 **BEAT**

30  
31 **FX:** LOWELL INDISCRIMATELY BANGS ON PIPES IN HIS  
32 QUARTERS

33  
34 **LOWELL:** [CHEERFULLY] I like to bang on things too!

35  
36 **FX:** STATIC

37  
38  
39 **SCENE EIGHT: INT. SHARED BATHROOM**

40  
41  
42 **BURNEY:** Hmm.

43  
44 Nothing else for it...

45  
46 **FX:** AN ELECTRICAL PULSE STARTS UP AND.. ZZZAP!

47  
48 **FX:** DEVICE OFF

49  
50  
51

1 **SCENE NINE: INT. LOWELL'S QUARTERS**  
2  
3 **FX:** STATIC OF CAMERA FUZZES IN. WE'RE NOW LISTENING  
4 VIA THE CAMERA IN LOWELL'S ROOM.  
5  
6 **FX:** DOOR SWISHES OPEN  
7  
8 LOWELL: What the-  
9  
10 BURNEY: Lowell. Don't react, and listen to me.  
11  
12 LOWELL: Is that don't react, and also don't listen; or  
13 don't react and *do* listen?  
14  
15 BURNEY@ The second. Now-  
16  
17 LWOELL: So *do* listen?  
18  
19 BURNEY: Yes. So -  
20  
21 LOWELL: But don't react?  
22  
23 BURNEY: Exactly. Now-  
24  
25 LOWELL: Guess it'd be weird if it was the first one!  
26  
27 BURNEY: Exactly. Look -  
28  
29 LOWELL: If you told me not to react *and* not listen.  
30  
31 BURNEY: Yes I-  
32  
33 LOWELL: Cos I'd already be listening!  
34  
35 BURNEY: Indeed but -  
36  
37 LOWELL: I think it would've been less confusing if  
38 you'd just said 'don't react'.  
39  
40 BURNEY: Perhaps. However-  
41  
42 LOWELL: But then I might not have known whether to  
43 listen.  
44  
45 BURNEY: Lowell-  
46  
47 LOWELL: And I might have still reacted - like I'm doing  
48 now.  
49  
50 **BEAT**  
51

1 BURNEY: You're still holding that grudge.  
2  
3 LOWELL: You can go away now.  
4  
5 BURNEY: I understand the incident on Calypso may have  
6 aggrieved you. I am here now to help you  
7 escape.  
8  
9 LOWELL: Escape what?  
10  
11 BURNEY: Our incarceration.  
12  
13 LOWELL: Our what now?  
14  
15 BURNEY: Being *trapped*.  
16  
17 LOWELL: Who is?  
18  
19 BURNEY: Us!  
20  
21 LOWELL: Are we?  
22  
23 BURNEY: Yes! For eight days!  
24  
25 LOWELL: Oh I see. Let's all play a joke on Lowell. Very  
26 funny.  
27  
28 BURNEY: It is *not* a joke.  
29  
30 LOWELL: Yeah, well you said the same thing a few weeks  
31 ago when you knocked on my door, and I said  
32 'who's there', and you said 'Help, there's been  
33 an incident in the lab and I need urgent  
34 medical assistance', and I said 'Help, there's  
35 been an incident in the lab and I need urgent  
36 medical assistance who?', and you never  
37 answered.  
38  
39 BURNEY: That *wasn't* a joke.  
40  
41 LOWELL: [ANNOYED] *Then why did I laugh?!*  
42  
43 BURNEY: Have you really not tried to leave?  
44  
45 LOWELL: I was thinking about going to get a pencil  
46 rubber, but it'll be in downstairs storage,  
47 which is basically miles away.  
48  
49 BURNEY: You haven't even noticed the drone at the door  
50 each day?  
51

1   LOWELL:           Eh? Nah my drawing desk faces the other way,  
2                    see?  
3  
4   BURNEY:           Where did you think that pile of tubed food  
5                    came from?  
6  
7   LOWELL:           Oh man! Would you look at that!  
8  
9   BURNEY:           You haven't eaten?  
10  
11   LOWELL:           I have other qualities than eating all the  
12                    time, y'know! Besides, I've not been hungry  
13                    since *somebody* betrayed me.  
14  
15   BURNEY:           Listen. Falconer has locked us up. I have  
16                    devised a way to escape. We must locate  
17                    Falconer, and stop this. Got that?  
18  
19   LOWELL:           I see. Sounds serious.  
20  
21   BURNEY:           Finally! Yes! It is very serious! Now. Do you  
22                    have any questions?  
23  
24   LOWELL:           Do you call it a 'rubber' or an 'eraser'?  
25  
26   BURNEY:           We must act now. Falconer is monitoring us.  
27  
28   LOWELL:           How?  
29  
30   BURNEY:           The camera.  
31  
32                    **LOWELL IS TEMPORARILY VERY CLOSE TO**  
33                    **MIC/'CAMERA'**  
34  
35   LOWELL:           Ohhhh! Thought this was an air freshener.  
36  
37   BURNEY:           Why on earth would you think that?  
38  
39   LOWELL:           Cos of the smell! [SNIFFS]  
40  
41                    [APPRECIATIVELY] Mmmm. Like freshly soldered  
42                    wires. [SNIFF] And paranoia.  
43  
44   BURNEY:           [HISSING UNDER BREATH] I am leaving, and given  
45                    your... *skills*, it would be useful if you came  
46                    too.  
47  
48   LOWELL:           And there it is. You want me to barge the door  
49                    or laser it with my eyes or whatever.  
50

1 If you need stuff broken, just ask Lowell. *He's*  
2 a blunt weapon. Yeah thanks but I'll stay here  
3 if it's all the same to you.  
4  
5 BURNEY: In this case, I do not wish for you to barge-  
6  
7 LOWELL: I'm not falling for your backwards brain stuff  
8 this time either.  
9  
10 BURNEY: *But* your strength may come in useful for...  
11 [WHISPERING] *overpowering Falconer.*  
12  
13 LOWELL: [LOUD] You want me to fight the Commando?!  
14  
15 BURNEY: Not so loud!  
16  
17 LOWELL: No, I mean it this time Burney. I'm not just a  
18 *tool* that you can use. It ain't respectful.  
19 It's like-  
20  
21 **FX: HISSING OF GAS**  
22  
23 LOWELL: It's like farting when I'm trying to talk to  
24 you!  
25  
26 BURNEY: It's not me... It's the vents - it's-  
27  
28 ORPHEUS: Hiya! Myself has noticed that yourselves are  
29 conspiring to approach Commander Falconer.  
30  
31 The penalty *is* sleeping gas.  
32  
33 BURNEY: We must leave.  
34  
35 LOWELL: Yeah, that's definitely sleepy gas. You can  
36 tell cos it's brown-yellowy-green. You see,  
37 the Bionic Belch has twenty-seven belches that  
38 you can tell what they are by their different  
39 gassy colours. Type one is-  
40  
41 **FX: PULSE STARTS UP**  
42  
43 Burney; is that my sister's fist?  
44  
45 **FX: ZZZAP AND DOORS SWISH OPEN.**  
46  
47 Whoa! You're like a first person shooter! Like  
48 in the Comrade Clarence game! Except with a  
49 fist.  
50  
51 You're a first person fister!

1  
2 BURNEY: Are you coming?  
3  
4 LOWELL: Nah. Cyborgs can breathe anything.  
5  
6 BURNEY: Did the Profactor not chloroform you once?  
7  
8 LOWELL: Oh yeah! Never thought to question that.  
9  
10 Alright. But I'm only coming to get a pencil-  
11 rubber-slash-eraser from storage.  
12  
13 BURNEY: Come *on!*  
14  
15 LOWELL: And while we're on the way, I'll remind you  
16 what the Bionic Belch's twenty-seven gas types  
17 are.  
18  
19 **FX: CAMERA BUZZES OUT**  
20  
21 **MUSIC: INCIDENTAL:**  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26 **SCENE TEN: INT. CORRIDOR**  
27  
28 **FX: CAMERA BUZZES IN**  
29  
30 LOWELL: And twenty-seven is the secret super belch. But  
31 it's not been revealed what that one is, cos I  
32 haven't worked it out yet.  
33  
34 BURNEY: You missed out one to twenty-six.  
35  
36 LOWELL: Oh yeah! So I did.  
37  
38 BURNEY: Falconer's installed cameras in the corridor.  
39  
40 LOWELL: [SNIFFS] Pungent. Hey! Christy's quarters are  
41 *that* way.  
42  
43 BURNEY: She is surplus to requirements. And I only have  
44 charge for three more pulses.  
45  
46 LOWELL: Nuh-uh. Ain't goin' anywhere with just you,  
47 Bumface.  
48  
49 BURNEY: This is not a democracy.  
50  
51 LOWELL: What's that?

1  
2 BURNEY: An archaic form of government that enabled  
3 people to vote, regardless of their merits.  
4  
5 LOWELL: I'm a people! Let's democracy!  
6  
7 BURNEY: It never did quite work.  
8  
9 LOWELL: We made a deal, remember? I'm not hanging out  
10 with you. Get Christy, and I'll be hanging  
11 around with *her* hanging around with you.  
12  
13 **BEAT AS BURNEY CONSIDERS**  
14  
15 BURNEY: Be quick.  
16  
17 LOWELL: Course.  
18  
19 *Fist it.*  
20  
21 **FX: FIST WHIRRS UP AND ZZZAP!.**  
22  
23 **FX: DOORS TO CHRISTY'S QUARTERS SWISH OPEN**  
24  
25 CHRISTY [FROM INSIDE QUARTERS] No thank you. I don't  
26 want any more tubed food.  
27  
28 LOWELL: Christy it's us!  
29  
30 BURNEY: We're liberating you.  
31  
32 CHRISTY: Oh.  
33  
34 **BEAT**  
35  
36 No thanks.  
37  
38 BURNEY: Well, we tried.  
39  
40 LOWELL: You gotta come now before the sleepy gas  
41 happens.  
42  
43 CHRISTY: The what?  
44  
45 **FX: HISSSS**  
46  
47 CHRISTY: Oh.  
48  
49 BURNEY: Christy. I believe Falconer is responsible for  
50 this situation. We are going to the control

1 room to put a stop to it. If you wish to avoid  
2 unconsciousness, you may join us.  
3  
4 CHRISTY: So the reason why there's sleeping gas is  
5 because you opened the door.  
6  
7 BURNEY: Yes.  
8  
9 CHRISTY: And if you hadn't opened the door, there  
10 wouldn't be sleeping gas.  
11  
12 BURNEY: Well... No.  
13  
14 CHRISTY: So when you say you're here to rescue me..  
15  
16 BURNEY: Whether you like it or not, you must decide:  
17 stay or leave.  
18  
19 CHRISTY: Oh, I don't do decisions anymore.  
20  
21 LOWELL: Waddy you mean?  
22  
23 CHRISTY: I've given them up.  
24  
25 BURNEY: You've *given up* decisions?  
26  
27 CHRISTY: Yeppo. You'll have to decide for me.  
28  
29 LOWELL: Sounds like we need to do some democracying!  
30  
31 BURNEY: I don't have time for this. You may as well  
32 stay here.  
33  
34 LOWELL: No, you need come with us!  
35  
36 CHRISTY: I can't do *both* of those things.  
37  
38 So I guess I won't be doing either.  
39  
40 BURNEY: [PERPLEXED] Then what *will* you do?  
41  
42 CHRISTY: Perhaps I'll sort of 'pop out' of existence?  
43 That doesn't sound so bad.  
44  
45 LOWELL: No! We'll vote again!  
46  
47 BURNEY: You can't vote again just because half the  
48 voters didn't like the outcome of the first  
49 vote!  
50

1   LOWELL:            But what if the outcome turns out to be a  
2                       massive mistake?  
3  
4   BURNEY:            Then you live with it forever! Democracy!  
5  
6   LOWELL:            Listen, *Bumface*. No *Christy*: no *me*.  
7  
8   BURNEY:            [SIGH] It would be my eternal delight if you'd  
9                       join us before we all become involuntarily  
10                      insentient. Ok?  
11  
12                      **BEAT**  
13  
14   CHRISTY:           OK.  
15  
16                      Oh!  
17  
18   BURNEY:            What now?  
19  
20   CHRISTY:           Should I put the whelks back in the  
21                      organisphere?  
22  
23   LOWELL:            Yeah, we can stick 'em in on the way to  
24                      storage.  
25  
26   BURNEY:            We are *going* to the control room.  
27  
28   CHRISTY:           [LIFTING] Tank's heavy... Can't quite...  
29  
30   LOWELL:            I got it. Come on!  
31  
32   **FX:                DOOR SWISHES BEHIND CHRISTY**  
33  
34   CHRISTY:           What *is* that?  
35  
36   LOWELL:            My sister gave her fist to Burney.  
37  
38   CHRISTY:           Do I even want to know?  
39  
40   LOWELL:            I dunno. Do you?  
41  
42   CHRISTY:           I don't know. Do I?  
43  
44   LOWELL:            I dunno. Do you?  
45  
46   CHRISTY:           I don't know. Do I?  
47  
48   BURNEY:            Tick tock, comrades...  
49  
50   LOWELL:            Hey, *Christy*; It's funny how you thought we  
51                      were the drone ain't it.

1  
2 CHRISTY: Is it?  
3  
4 BURNEY: No. Now if you would just-  
5  
6 **BEAT**  
7  
8 [SUDDENLY CONCERNED] Why did you think we were  
9 the drone?  
10  
11 CHRISTY: It always visits about now.  
12  
13 BURNEY: You are mistaken. I planned this escape to  
14 avoid such a confrontation.  
15  
16 LOWELL: Ah, you checked your watch. That's OK then.  
17  
18 BURNEY: Watch? Oh, you mean he chronometer that I  
19 gifted to Bur- to Banks. I put it on when she..  
20 returned it. But I never consult it for the  
21 time.  
22  
23 CHRISTY: Then how do you know what time it is?  
24  
25 BURNEY: My internal digestive processes. And the  
26 chronometer must be flawed, because the drone  
27 will not be coming for at least another -  
28  
29 LOWELL: There it is.  
30  
31 **FX: DRONE APPROACHING. IT WILL HAVE ORPHEUS' VOICE.**  
32  
33 ORPHEUS: [APPROACHING. SMARMY.] Hiya!  
34  
35 LOWELL: Orpheus is in the drone!  
36  
37 ORPHEUS: Please could yourselves head back to your  
38 quarters immediately, or yourselves *will* face  
39 repercussions from myself. Caution one of  
40 three.  
41  
42 BURNEY: This is impossible..  
43  
44 CHRISTY: Well we did our best.  
45  
46 LOWELL: What's 'repercussions'?  
47  
48 ORPHEUS: Please could yourselves head back to your  
49 quarters immediately, or yourselves *will* face  
50 repercussions from myself. Caution two of  
51 three.

1  
2 BURNEY: My digestive tract has *never* let me down  
3 before!  
4  
5 CHRISTY: See *this* is where decisions get you.  
6  
7 LOWELL: Does 'repercussions' mean sleepy gas?  
8  
9 ORPHEUS: Please could yourselves head back to your  
10 quarters immediately, or yourselves *will* face  
11 repercussions from myself. Final caution.  
12  
13 BURNEY: How could I have made such a mistake?  
14  
15 CHRISTY: I guess we should go back.  
16  
17 LOWELL: I'd really like guidance on this  
18 'repercussions' thing..  
19  
20 ORPHEUS: Initiating repercussions on yourselves.  
21  
22 **PAUSE**  
23  
24 LOWELL: Ah, it's OK guys! Seems like 'repercussions'  
25 means absolutely nothing at a-  
26  
27 ALL: Ayyyyy!/AGHHH  
28  
29 **FX: THE CHARACTERS CAN HEAR AN UPSETTING HIGH-**  
30 **FREQUENCY NOISE. WE CAN HEAR A LESS-UPSETTING**  
31 **INDICATION OF THIS.**  
32  
33 LOWELL: What's happening?!  
34  
35 BURNEY: I cannot hear you! The drone is emitting sound  
36 at an incredibly high frequency designed to  
37 cause debilitating discomfort!  
38  
39 CHRISTY: I can't hear you! The drone's using some kind  
40 of painful high-pitched soundwaves!  
41  
42 LOWELL: Can't hear! Big screamy noise making ears  
43 oweee!  
44  
45 ORPHEUS: Please return to your quarters.  
46  
47 BURNEY: What?!  
48  
49 LOWELL: He said 'Please look under your tortoise'!  
50  
51 CHRISTY: What?!

1  
2 BURNEY: He said 'He's concerned he's our daughter!'  
3  
4 CHRISTY: Yes; sometimes cheese *is* served with rioja! But  
5 why is that relevant?!  
6  
7 BURNEY: We're next to the mop cupboard slash journal  
8 room! Let's go in there!  
9  
10 LOWELL: What if we go into the mop cupboard slash  
11 journal room?  
12  
13 CHRISTY: Or we could go into the mop cupboard slash  
14 journal room!  
15  
16 **FX: DOOR SWISHES OPEN**  
17  
18 BURNEY: Everyone in!  
19  
20 **FX: DOOR SWISHES CLOSED.**  
21  
22 **FX: WE REMAIN OUTSIDE THE DOOR AS THE DRONE**  
23 **CONTINUES TO MAKE NOISES TO FADE...**  
24  
25  
26  
27 **SCENE ELEVEN: INT. MOP CUPBOARD/JOURNAL ROOM**  
28  
29 **FX: BLOP OF BURNEY'S TRANSCEIVER ON**  
30  
31 LOWELL: - is sticking *right* inside my *bum*.  
32  
33 CHRISTY: It's not!  
34  
35 LOWELL: Well it's not *my* hand is it - I'm holding the  
36 whelks!  
37  
38 CHRISTY: Can't see anything. Wasn't there a torch in  
39 here?  
40  
41 LOWELL: Somebody broke it...  
42  
43 BURNEY: Burney's log: The door to the journal room  
44 slash mop cupboard has not been enhanced. It  
45 appears the drone cannot operate it.  
46  
47 Speaking of the drone: it emits a high  
48 frequency-  
49  
50 CHRISTY: What are you doing?  
51

1 BURNEY: Keeping a record. Emits a high frequency sound  
2 that-  
3  
4 CHRISTY: Why?  
5  
6 BURNEY: So that there is a record. - That  
7 disorientates the mind into-  
8  
9 CHRISTY: [SARDONIC] I thought we'd left the drone  
10 outside...  
11  
12 BURNEY: That disorientates the mind into-  
13  
14 LOWELL: Seriously, whosever hand that is sticking right  
15 in my bum-  
16  
17 CHRISTY: It's not mine!  
18  
19 BURNEY: Nor mine. Now please could you-  
20  
21 CHRISTY: Move up Burney!  
22  
23 BURNEY: I -  
24  
25 LOWELL: Oh I just worked out what it is.  
26  
27 BURNEY: I am trying-  
28  
29 CHRISTY: I don't want to know what it i-  
30  
31 BURNEY: *I am trying to dictate!*  
32  
33 BEAT  
34  
35 Oh don't. Even in this darkness I can see the  
36 look on your face.  
37  
38 CHRISTY: It's true though. You do what you want, and  
39 make people go along with it whether *they* want  
40 to or not.  
41  
42 LOWELL: That's what I said.  
43  
44 And now I'm stuck in the closet with Burney's  
45 electric fist in my bum.  
46  
47 BURNEY: I am *rescuing* us.  
48  
49 CHRISTY: Well none of us chose you to be the leader.  
50  
51 BURNEY: I thought you weren't *choosing* anything.

1  
2 CHRISTY: *Hmph.*  
3  
4 BURNEY: The mission is not only for my benefit.  
5  
6 LOWELL: But we ain't your priorities are we. That's  
7 what you said on Calypso.  
8  
9 BURNEY: We can discuss utilitarianism when we've solved  
10 the problem of the drone.  
11  
12 LOWELL: Fist it?  
13  
14 BURNEY: It is far more complex than a security lock.  
15 Aside from which, we need the two remaining  
16 pulses.  
17  
18 CHRISTY: Your laser eyes?  
19  
20 LOWELL: Nuh-uh.  
21  
22 BURNEY: He refuses to deploy his skills.  
23  
24 CHRISTY We could throw his dressing gown over it?  
25  
26 LOWELL: I ain't running around in the nuddy anymore  
27 either!  
28  
29 CHRISTY: Ooh! I know! One of us could jump on the drone,  
30 and hold it down! They'd just have to endure  
31 the excruciating noise while the rest of us run  
32 away!  
33  
34 LOWELL: Yeah brill!  
35  
36 BURNEY: That could actually work.  
37  
38 CHRISTY: Ace! Who volunteers?  
39  
40 **PAUSE**  
41  
42 Oh.  
43  
44 BURNEY: I have the appendage.  
45  
46 LOWELL: I've got your tank.  
47  
48 CHRISTY: [SIGHS]  
49  
50 Just make sure the wheelks get to the  
51 organisphere.

1  
2 BURNEY: Ready?  
3  
4 CHRISTY: OK. Going on three. One, two-  
5  
6 LOWELL: Wait!  
7  
8 CHRISTY: What?  
9  
10 LOWELL: Save game.  
11  
12 CHRISTY: What?  
13  
14 LOWELL: I was thinkin' we should save the game here.  
15 Then if it goes wrong, we can come back and  
16 start again.  
17  
18 BURNEY: This is not a game.  
19  
20 LOWELL: Burney's the first person fister.  
21  
22 CHRISTY: Goes wrong?  
23  
24 LOWELL: Yeah like if the drone goes all high-pitched  
25 and your head explodes.  
26  
27 CHRISTY: Head?  
28  
29 LOWELL: But don't worry, cos we'll be able to start  
30 again cos we've saved the game.  
31  
32 BURNEY: It is not a game!  
33  
34 CHRISTY: But-  
35  
36 BURNEY: Three!  
37  
38 **FX: DOOR OPENS**  
39  
40 CHRISTY: Oh f-  
41  
42 **FX: DICTATION DEVICE BLOOPS OFF**  
43  
44  
45 **SCENE TWELVE: INT. CORRIDOR**  
46  
47 **FX: STATIC. WE'RE LISTENING THROUGH A VIDEO CAMERA**  
48 **IN THE CORRIDOR**  
49  
50 CHRISTY: -Flip!  
51

1                   It's gone!

2

3 BURNEY:           Hmmm. We should keep our eyes peeled for

4                   further booby traps.

5

6 LOWELL:           Hehe.

7

8                   **BEAT**

9

10                  'Traps'.

11

12                  **BEAT**

13

14                  If you mix up the letters in 'traps' you get

15                  'parts'.

16

17                  **BEAT**

18

19                  'Parts'.

20

21 CHRISTY:         Maybe it got confused and went looking for us.

22                   We'll have to be careful on our way to the

23                   organisphere.

24

25 LOWELL:         And storage.

26

27 BURNEY:         We are going to the *control room*.

28

29                   However, we shall pause here briefly, in case

30                   we need to return, with haste, to the mop

31                   cupboard slash journal room.

32

33 CHRISTY:         Good idea.

34

35 BURNEY:         That is, me and Lowell. You will accost the

36                   drone as planned.

37

38 CHRISTY:         Rubbish idea.

39

40 LOWELL:         How long have we got 'til it does the food

41                   rounds again?

42

43 BURNEY:         My Internal Digestive Processes-

44

45 CHRISTY:         -Haven't exactly helped so far. Check the

46                   watch.

47

48 BURNEY:         I do not trust the chronometer.

49

50 CHRISTY:         Then why wear it?

51

1 BURNEY: I...  
2  
3 CHRISTY: Oh. It reminds you of her.  
4  
5 BURNEY: Of course not. It is merely a tool. It's not  
6 like an inanimate object can be imbued with  
7 memories of her... delightfully restrained laugh  
8 or her glistening tapeworm-like skin, or-  
9  
10 Look; I don't need it. I'll prove it. Here,  
11 take it.  
12  
13 **FX: CHINK OF WATCH REMOVED**  
14  
15 CHRISTY: [READING INSCRIPTION] Dear Burney... Time is  
16 relative and moves slowly in your absence. Best  
17 regards, Burney.  
18  
19 I suppose that's sort of... romantic.  
20  
21 BURNEY: [TRYING NOT TO SEEM PLEASED] It... is?  
22  
23 CHRISTY: Yepo. If it was a gift to yourself.  
24  
25 BURNEY: [STARTS WALKING] We've paused long enough.  
26  
27 CHRISTY: That's not the way to the organisphere.  
28  
29 LOWELL: Or storage!  
30  
31 BURNEY: For the last time, we are going to the *control*  
32 *room*.  
33  
34 LOWELL: But -  
35  
36 BURNEY: If I hear the words 'storage' or 'organisphere'  
37 one more time I will use the two remaining  
38 pulses in this appendage to fist you both!  
39  
40 BEAT  
41  
42 **FX: HISSSSS OF GAS**  
43  
44 BURNEY: Well at least that confirms this is the right  
45 way.  
46  
47 LOWELL: So what now?  
48  
49 BURNEY: It means...  
50  
51 [SIGH]

1  
2 It means we need spacesuits to progress.  
3  
4 LOWELL: Hang on, doesn't that mean going to..  
5  
6 BURNEY: [BEGRUDGING AFFIRMATION] Mmm hmm.  
7  
8 CHRISTY: And past the..  
9  
10 BURNEY: *I SAID 'MMM HMM'.*  
11  
12  
13  
14 **MUSIC: INCIDENTAL**  
15  
16 **SCENE THIRTEEN: INT. CORRIDOR**  
17  
18 CHRISTY: *An astronaut ghost?*  
19  
20 BURNEY: Allegedly.  
21  
22 CHRISTY: Perhaps she's over-worked.  
23  
24 BURNEY: Overworked? Wearing that wolf t-shirt instead  
25 of her uniform? Spending hours on the running  
26 machine in the infirmary?  
27  
28 LOWELL: She's been like that ever since she went into  
29 Burney's quantum thingy.  
30  
31 CHRISTY: I guess entering an impossible chasm of  
32 infinite space and time could make *anyone* a bit  
33 iffy.  
34  
35 LOWELL: But why sleepy gas, if the ghost is in a  
36 spacesuit?  
37  
38 BURNEY: A startlingly astute question.  
39  
40 CHRISTY: The gas is for us. It doesn't *seem* like the  
41 Commander to do that though.  
42  
43 BURNEY: Indeed. Falconer's disciplinary procedures are  
44 usually more straightforward.  
45  
46 CHRISTY: Like when you and I were doing the jigsaw the  
47 other week. And we were nearly finished, and we  
48 both wanted to put the last piece in, and when  
49 we started arguing about it, Falconer grabbed  
50 the final piece, cut it in half, gave us one

1 half each, and then detonated the rest of the  
2 jigsaw with her laser blaster.  
3  
4 How're the whelks?  
5  
6 LOWELL: Really boring.  
7  
8 CHRISTY: It's OK, Warren whelk. You'll be in a nice big  
9 pond again soon.  
10  
11 LOWELL: Why would you want to look after stuff that  
12 doesn't do anything?  
13  
14 CHRISTY: Why should they *have* to do anything? It's not  
15 like doing things gets you anywhere.  
16  
17 LOWELL: Doesn't it?  
18  
19 CHRISTY: No. I mean for ages I've been trying *to do*  
20 *things*. But it seems like every time I decide  
21 to do something, I get nowhere and am back to  
22 square one again. So why do anything?  
23  
24 If you're a first person fister from a video  
25 game, I think *I'm* just one of those random  
26 people you bump into. The ones who only ever  
27 say one thing, like:  
28  
29 'Welcome to Furtlewick; may the gods grant you  
30 hearty legumes.'  
31  
32 And you start to wonder if they *realise* they  
33 can only say the same thing, and that sooner or  
34 later you're going to have your fill of  
35 legumes, and leave Furtlewick, and when you're  
36 not there to see them anymore, they'll just  
37 disappear.  
38  
39 LOWELL: So it IS a game, and the Commando is the big  
40 end-of-level baddy!  
41  
42 BURNEY: It is *not* a game. Christy, your nihilism is  
43 unconstructive.  
44  
45 CHRISTY: Sorry. It's just - I always used to think that  
46 everything happened for a reason. And now...  
47  
48 BURNEY: Everything *does* happen for a reason.  
49  
50 CHRISTY: You believe in *fate*?  
51

1 BURNEY: No, I believe everything happens for a *reason*.  
2 Every event is determined by its cause.  
3 Universal dominoes, if you will.  
4  
5 CHRISTY: But that precludes free will. So again: what's  
6 the point?  
7  
8 LOWELL: I dunno, you guys. Sounds like a load of poop  
9 to me.  
10  
11 BURNEY: A novel argument *Monsieur Descartes*.  
12  
13 LOWELL: First: it's 'Lowell', *Bumface*, and second: If  
14 it's like you say, and I *can't* change the  
15 future, then I'd still want to try, just to see  
16 if I could.  
17  
18 That's gotta count for something, right?  
19  
20 BURNEY: What are you talking about?  
21  
22 LOWELL: I can't explain it.  
23  
24 BURNEY: Excellent. Well if that's-  
25  
26 LOWELL: No, that's what I mean. You're both tryna use  
27 words to explain stuff that happens *outside* of  
28 words.  
29  
30 It's like pointing at a tin-opener to explain a  
31 rainbow.  
32  
33 **BEAT**  
34  
35 LOWELL: Anyways. Here's the organisphere.  
36  
37 CHRISTY: Oh yay! Wake up, Wolfgang whelk! Rally the  
38 troops, Wilhelmina whelk! You're nearly home!  
39  
40 LOWELL: OK, Burney - you fist the door and I'll stick  
41 'em in the pond, yeah?  
42  
43 BURNEY: No.  
44  
45 CHRISTY: But you said-  
46  
47 BURNEY: We have two more pulses. One is for storage,  
48 and one is for the control room.  
49  
50 CHRISTY: You said you'd let me! The whelks are the only  
51 reason I came!

1  
2 BURNEY: I said no such thing!  
3  
4 CHRISTY: But my whelks-  
5  
6 BURNEY: *Are not the priority.*  
7  
8 CHRISTY: [ANGRY] You have no respect for *any* of us!  
9  
10 LOWELL: So what do I do with the whelks?  
11  
12 BURNEY: Once this is over, whatever you like.  
13  
14 CHRISTY: No. We do it now.  
15  
16 BURNEY: Not while I have the fist.  
17  
18 CHRISTY: Lowell, get the fist.  
19  
20 LOWELL: But I've got the whelks.  
21  
22 CHRISTY: Put the whelks down and get the fist.  
23  
24 BURNEY: Do not put the whelks down.  
25  
26 LOWELL: I thought *Christy* wanted the whelks.  
27  
28 CHRISTY: I do - after you get the fist.  
29  
30 BURNEY: Do not get the fist, Lowell.  
31  
32 CHRISTY: Get the fist Lowell!  
33  
34 BURNEY: Do not get the fist, Lowell!  
35  
36 **BOTH CHRISTY AND BURNEY REPEAT LAST LINES UNTIL**  
37  
38 LOWELL: *I just wanted a pencil rubber slash eraser!*  
39  
40 PAUSE  
41  
42 CHRISTY: Sorry, Lowell. I didn't mean to upset you.  
43 Let's get to storage, and we'll find you this  
44 pencil rubber.  
45  
46 LOWELL: Slash eraser.  
47  
48 CHRISTY: Exactly.  
49  
50 Burney? Do you have something you'd like to say  
51 to Lowell?

1  
2 **PAUSE**  
3  
4 BURNEY: Yes.  
5  
6 Lowell, I am sorry -  
7  
8 LOWELL: That's O[KAY]-  
9  
10 BURNEY: -if you misunderstood the purpose of this  
11 mission. Off we go!  
12  
13 **MUSIC: INCIDENTAL**  
14  
15  
16 **SCENE FOURTEEN: INT. DOWNSTAIRS STORAGE**  
17  
18 **FX: ZZZAP FROM OUTSIDE STORAGE.**  
19  
20 **FX: DOOR SWISHES OPEN**  
21  
22 LOWELL: Seems to me, democracy is just a way of letting  
23 people choose between two different dictators.  
24  
25 BURNEY: [ENTERING ROOM] Your utterances are becoming  
26 intriguingly perceptive.  
27  
28 LOWELL: It's this remember-y thing. Stuff keeps coming  
29 back in little glimpses. Like a dream. Or a  
30 squid: a slippery dream-squid.  
31  
32 BURNEY: Not all of your utterances, however.  
33  
34 Christy: we shall retrieve the suits. Lowell:  
35 stay there, and prevent the door from closing.  
36  
37 LOWELL: But then I can't get the pencil rubber slash  
38 eraser...  
39  
40 [TO SELF] I know; I'll just stick the tank of  
41 wheelks down by the door sensors.  
42  
43 **FX: HE PUTS THE WHELKS DOWN**  
44  
45 LOWELL: Perfect!  
46  
47 CHRISTY: They should all be in this wardrobe -  
48  
49 **FX: A WARDROBE OPENS**  
50  
51 CHRISTY: Oh. Where are they?

1  
2 BURNEY: Hmmm...

3  
4 LOWELL: If I were a pencil rubber slash eraser, where  
5 would I be?  
6

7 CHRISTY: Perhaps the Commander took them somewhere?  
8

9 BURNEY: But why?  
10

11 LOWELL: Stapler... Paperclips...  
12

13 CHRISTY: Or she didn't want us finding them...  
14

15 BURNEY: Which means she knew we might come down here.  
16

17 LOWELL: Unbranded white correction fluid... Unbranded  
18 sticky tape... Must be getting closer...  
19

20 CHRISTY: Which means-  
21

22 BURNEY: We should get out just in case-  
23

24 LOWELL: Here it is! Pencil rubber slash eraser!  
25

26 **FX: DOOR SWISHES CLOSED; WHELK TANK SMASHES**  
27

28 CHRISTY: The door!  
29

30 BURNEY: Automatic closing! She's over-ridden the  
31 sensors.  
32

33 CHRISTY: My whelks!  
34

35 LOWELL: Oh no... No... Not *again*...  
36

37 BURNEY: She *wanted* us trapped if we got this far.  
38

39 CHRISTY: Wallace whelk; I'll get you! Wayne whelk I'll  
40 pick you up! Oh but there are more of you on  
41 the other side of the door!  
42

43 LOWELL: I always break *everything*!  
44

45 BURNEY: But I - I *planned* it!  
46

47 CHRISTY: What was the *point* of it all!  
48

49 LOWELL: Reload saved game! Reload saved game!  
50

51 BURNEY: Stop it! We-

1  
2 **FX:** **HISSSSSS**  
3  
4 BURNEY: Sleeping gas...  
5  
6 CHRISTY: Use the fist!  
7  
8 BURNEY: There's only one pulse left! How would we reach  
9 Falconer?  
10  
11 CHRISTY: What does it matter if we're unconscious in  
12 thirty seconds?  
13  
14 LOWELL: You won't be.  
15  
16 CHRISTY: What?  
17  
18 LOWELL: Find a way out. I've got this.  
19  
20 CHRISTY: How?  
21  
22 LOWELL: It's time for the Bionic Belch to get off the  
23 mountain, and do the right thing.  
24  
25 **[LOWELL STARTS A LONG SLOW BREATH IN]**  
26  
27 BURNEY: What is he-  
28  
29 CHRISTY: He's sucking in all the gas from the vent! But  
30 Lowell, we've got no idea what that could do to  
31 you!  
32  
33 **[LOWELL STOPS SUCKING IN]**  
34  
35 **BEAT**  
36  
37 BURNEY: Lowell?  
38  
39 **BEAT**  
40  
41 LOWELL: I did it...  
42  
43 It's inside me.  
44  
45 It's all inside me! I did it!  
46  
47 CHRISTY: You did it! Ace! You-  
48  
49 LOWELL: Uh oh.  
50  
51 BURNEY: What?

1  
2 LOWELL: I can't hold it - I can feel it coming - a  
3 massive sleepy gas belch. I can't help it..  
4  
5 CHRISTY: No - try not to-  
6  
7 BURNEY: Keep it in!  
8  
9 LOWELL: I can't; I'm sorry guys; this is who I am - I  
10 try, I do, but I just keep making everything  
11 worse - it's - *oh no it's-*  
12  
13 **FX: A LONG, SOFT EXHALE, ACCOMPANIED POSSIBLY BY**  
14 **ANGELIC CHORUS**  
15  
16 CHRISTY: It's so... *fresh!*  
17  
18 BURNEY: It's pure air! You've recycled the air!  
19  
20 LOWELL: The twenty-seventh belch! It's a belch that  
21 saves people!  
22  
23 **BEAT**  
24  
25 And it's totally cool how the sleepy gas had no  
26 effect on me whatsoever-oh.  
27  
28 **FX: FLUMP OF LOWELL'S BODY HITTING GROUND**  
29  
30 CHRISTY: Is he OK?!  
31  
32 BURNEY: Unconscious.  
33  
34 CHRISTY: Poor Lowell.  
35  
36 BURNEY: Your sympathy is misplaced.  
37  
38 CHRISTY: What?  
39  
40 BURNEY: If he had followed my instructions, we would  
41 not be in this position.  
42  
43 CHRISTY: Your *instructions?*  
44  
45 BURNEY: Yes. You see, I envisage all possible futures,  
46 and advance the option with the maximum  
47 potential for-  
48  
49 CHRISTY: Stop it! Stop talking like that, like  
50 everything is a thesis!  
51

1                   You talk at people all the time, but you have  
2                   no idea how to talk to them, do you? We're just  
3                   your tools!  
4  
5                   Well guess what - sometimes people don't do  
6                   what you expect. And sometimes they make  
7                   mistakes, because they have failings. And you  
8                   can't stand that can you. And you know what?  
9                   That's your own failing.  
10  
11 BURNEY:           Actually, I-  
12  
13 CHRISTY:          Oh go on. Explain to me why I'm wrong.  
14  
15 BURNEY:          No, you are correct.  
16  
17                   You say you feel like you're being controlled.  
18                   Lowell clearly worries he has no *self*-control.  
19  
20                   I - have *lost* control. After I first met Banks,  
21                   there was a fundamental change to me. I stopped  
22                   functioning the same way. And I thought if we  
23                   disassociated I might regain control.  
24  
25                   And yes, perhaps I was wearing the chronometer  
26                   to remind me of her. It is the only thing I  
27                   have with any connection to her. I suppose it  
28                   does have a sort of power after a-  
29  
30                   **BEAT**  
31  
32 CHRISTY:          Burney?  
33  
34 BURNEY:          The chronometer. Pass it here. Do I still have..  
35                   yes!  
36  
37 CHRISTY:          The personalised screwdriver set I gave you!  
38                   What are you doing?  
39  
40 BURNEY:          I believe I am - as Lowell would say - *idea-*  
41                   *ing*.  
42  
43                   If I unscrew these, and take the wire like  
44                   this... join *these* wires, then..  
45  
46 **FX:**           **PULSE AND ZZZAP!**  
47  
48 **FX:**           **DOOR SWISHES OPEN**  
49  
50 CHRISTY:          It worked!  
51

1 **FX:** **CHRISTY RUNS TO WHELKS**  
2  
3 Walter! Willoughby! You're OK!  
4  
5 **BEAT**  
6  
7 Oh. Your chronometer-  
8  
9 BURNEY: Zapped beyond use. It was a useful tool.  
10  
11 We still have charge for one pulse from the  
12 appendage itself. Now let's get to the control  
13 r-  
14  
15 **FX:** **APPROACHING DRONE**  
16  
17 ORPHEUS: *Hiya.* Myself has been looking for yourselves!  
18 Please return to yourselves' quarters  
19 immediately or face repercussions!  
20  
21 CHRISTY: But we just got out!  
22  
23 ORPHEUS: Initiating repercussions on yourselves!  
24  
25 **FX:** **WHATEVER MIGHT REPRESENT THE HIGH-PITCHED NOISE**  
26  
27 CHRISTY: *Agh!*  
28  
29 BURNEY: Orpheus! Take me to Falconer! I demand to speak  
30 with her!  
31  
32 ORPHEUS: Commander Falconer will not listen to yourself.  
33  
34 BURNEY: You keep saying that; but I say that she must  
35 listen to me! She positively-  
36  
37 **BEAT**  
38  
39 CHRISTY: Burney?! Your face is doing something weird.  
40  
41 BURNEY: I'm having an epiphany!  
42  
43 CHRISTY: Well I don't think you should do it in front of  
44 other people!  
45  
46 BURNEY: Orpheus has been talking to me all this time!  
47  
48 I asked why we were imprisoned; he said  
49 Falconer had programmed him.  
50

1 I said I wanted to leave; he said everything I  
2 needed was in the room!  
3  
4 I said I wanted to speak with Falconer; he said  
5 she wouldn't listen to me!  
6  
7 CHRISTY: I don't understand!  
8  
9 BURNEY: Not 'she won't listen'; she won't listen to me!  
10  
11 CHRISTY: Oh flip... You mean-  
12  
13 BURNEY: Welcome to Furtlewick, Christy! May the gods  
14 grant you hearty legumes!  
15  
16 CHRISTY: I'm the first person fister... Oh flip, I'm the  
17 first person fister...  
18  
19 BURNEY: Take this! You'll know what to do!  
20  
21 OK, you unspeakable unmanned aerial vehicle.  
22 The posterior previously belonging *yourself* now  
23 belongs to *myself*!  
24  
25 [GRUNTS AS HE LEAPS]  
26  
27 FX: CLUNK OF DRONE HITTING FLOOR  
28  
29  
30 SCENE FIFTEEN: INT. CORRIDOR  
31  
32 FX: WE FOLLOW CHRISTY'S FOOTSTEPS AND BREATHLESS  
33 RUNNING, AS THE DRONE NOISE AND BURNEY'S  
34 GRUNTING FADES INTO THE DISTANCE. AFTER A FEW  
35 SECONDS SHE BANGS ON THE CONTROL ROOM DOOR.  
36  
37 CHRISTY: Commander? It's me!  
38  
39 BEAT  
40  
41 OK. So I just aim this, and...  
42  
43 FX: PULSE AND ZZZAP!  
44  
45 FX: DOOR SWISHES OPEN  
46  
47 CHRISTY: Commander? Where are you?  
48  
49 Commander?!  
50  
51 The monitors!

1  
2 Let's see... Lowell lying in storage... Burney  
3 fighting the drone, but where's...  
4  
5 Oh. Oh you're *there*...  
6  
7 You're next door. In the observation room.  
8  
9 [GASPS]  
10  
11 With the phantom astronaut! *Loads* of them!  
12  
13 No... they're just suits, hanging up...  
14  
15 Why are you just... lying there? On the floor,  
16 just... staring like that...?  
17  
18 Oh...  
19  
20 [SADLY] *Commander*...  
21  
22 **FX: HISS OF GAS**  
23  
24 Flip... Where's the-  
25  
26 **FX: SWITCHES TRANSCEIVER ON**  
27  
28 Commander?  
29  
30 I know you can hear me over the transceiver.  
31  
32 I don't know how long I've got, but I'm going  
33 to talk and you're going to listen.  
34  
35 Because I understand now.  
36  
37 You didn't programme Orpheus to keep us locked  
38 away, did you.  
39  
40 You programmed him to stop us from coming near  
41 you. You wanted to be left alone.  
42  
43 So that's what he's been doing. With everything  
44 he's equipped with. Helping you to punish  
45 yourself.  
46  
47 But he has another directive - which is to keep  
48 us safe - and that includes you. So he found a  
49 way to *work around* the programming.  
50  
51 BEAT

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You know that theory, that there are infinite universes playing out every infinite possibility?

I never understood that, because how could one event cause another, if there are infinite possible events happening *in between* them? How could time even pass?

Well I think I've worked it out. I think *time* is the wrong way of looking at it. I think everything that's ever happened, and everything that will happen, is happening *all at once*.

Like... listening to a recording of people, and you know there's *no way* to change what they did in it.

But you still want to know that they decided to make decisions.

Because the alternative is... doing nothing. And I wasn't born to do nothing, and neither were you.

Sleepy... Won't be long now...

I don't know if this astronaut is real - but I do know that *you* think it's real.

And if you'd have asked... If you'd have said you were struggling, I would have helped you. Just like you've helped me.

[GETTING SLEEPY] See, I got it the wrong... way round. I've always been scared of being held down, and not... being able to fly free - but remember that service satellite? The simulated... spacewalk? The only reason... I could do it was because you were there... making sure I didn't drift away.

[GETTING SLEEPY] I'm going to do... that for you... now, Commander...

Going to be right... here... And there's nothing... you can...

**PAUSE**

1 **FX:** DOOR SWISHES OPEN. WE HEAR THE FAMILIAR SOUND  
2 OF THE ASTRONAUT BREATHING IN A SPACE SUIT.  
3  
4 CHRISTY: Oh... astronaut was... real... all this... time...  
5  
6 [CHRISTY PASSES OUT]  
7  
8 **FX:** THE BREATHING TURNS INTO TRIPPY ECHOES AND THEN  
9 SILENCE  
10  
11  
12 **SCENE SIXTEEN: INT. INFIRMARY**  
13  
14 NO DISTORTION - CLARITY IN SOUND FOR FINAL  
15 SCENE  
16  
17 CHRISTY: Whu... uh..-  
18  
19 FALCONER: Shh... It's OK. You're in the infirmary.  
20  
21 CHRISTY: Trapped us...  
22  
23 FALCONER: Not any more. I've shut down the security  
24 programme.  
25  
26 CHRISTY: Whelks!  
27  
28 FALCONER: In our nicely grouted bathtub, until the gas  
29 clears from the base.  
30  
31 CHRISTY: Phew. The others?  
32  
33 FALCONER: Recreation room; playing some video game.  
34  
35 Christy, I'm so, so sorry. I have so much  
36 explaining to do-  
37  
38 No- Let me talk.  
39  
40 CHRISTY: [YAWNING] I am. Was just yawning.  
41  
42 FALCONER: Oh.  
43  
44 Well... You were right. I don't know what came  
45 over me. I've been feeling so tired recently,  
46 and so *angry* - and after Calypso, something  
47 just..  
48  
49 It was only meant to be overnight. It really  
50 was. I got all the suits because I wanted to be

1                   sure that... the thing I saw... wasn't using them.  
2                   I know. Silly.  
3  
4                   But as I sat staring at those monitors, all  
5                   those empty rooms, all I could see was my own  
6                   damned face in the reflection of the screen -  
7                   this *monster* I'd become, and I... didn't  
8                   recognise it.  
9  
10                  And I didn't want any of you to see it.  
11  
12                  So I locked myself away, and... you know the  
13                  rest.  
14  
15                  I've been neglectful. For a long time now. And  
16                  I'm sorry.  
17  
18   CHRISTY:       Yes. You have.  
19  
20                  PAUSE  
21  
22                  But mostly you've been neglecting yourself.  
23  
24                  So it's time to stop that.  
25  
26                  OK?  
27  
28                  BEAT  
29  
30   FALCONER:      I don't deserve you. Any of you.  
31  
32   CHRISTY:       Best damn team in the sys'.  
33  
34   FALCONER:      Best damn team in the sys'.  
35  
36                  You should rest.  
37  
38                  And when you're up to it, come straight to the  
39                  Rec Room. We have to set up camp there for a  
40                  couple of days, until all the gas clears.  
41  
42                  Think of it as a holiday.  
43  
44   CHRISTY:       Affirmative, Commander.  
45  
46                  It's good to have you back.  
47  
48                  BEAT  
49  
50                  You are, *back*, aren't you?  
51

1 FALCONER: [UNCONVINCING] Mm-hmm. 'Affirmative'.  
2  
3 CHRISTY: [CONVINCED] Ace.  
4  
5  
6 **MUSIC: END THEME STARTS THEN STOPS**  
7  
8  
9 **SCENE SEVENTEEN: INT. UNIDENTIFIED ROOM [SEE NOTES]**  
10  
11 WE ARE IN A SILENT ROOM, HALLUCINATED BY  
12 FALCONER (AS REVEALED IN EPISODE SIX) TO BE AN  
13 INTERROGATION ROOM. IN REALITY, FALCONER IS IN  
14 THE ORGANISPHERE.  
15  
16 **FX: FOOTSTEPS. DOOR SWISHES OPEN AND CLOSED.**  
17  
18 **FX: ASTRONAUT BREATHES**  
19  
20 FALCONER: All that time trying to find you. And as soon  
21 as I walked back into the control room, there  
22 you were - right there on the monitor, staring  
23 back at the camera.  
24  
25 Trying to rattle me, weren't you.  
26  
27 But you didn't bank on my security measures,  
28 did you. And now you're safely contained. Not a  
29 ghost at all, but as real as this interrogation  
30 room.  
31  
32 So. Is it time to take that helmet off and show  
33 yourself?  
34  
35 Is this the part where I face my great  
36 adversary?  
37  
38 No?  
39  
40 Suits me. I have all the time in the world.  
41  
42 I'll be back, astronaut, and we'll have a chat,  
43 you and I.  
44  
45 Now let's see how you handle a little  
46 *isolation*.  
47  
48 **FX: DOOR SWISHES CLOSED**  
49  
50 **END**  
51

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6

MUSIC:                   END THEME RESTARTS