

OBLIVITY

A scripted comedy series for radio

EPISODE 6: Falconer the Fearless

A face from the Falconer's past appears on the base, offering her a chance to return to the battlefield - on the opposing side. Meanwhile, the crew encounter a threat from an arch-enemy, and the ultimate sacrifice is made.

COMMANDER FALCONER (CATE NUNN)

Battle-hardened and bewildered.

FIRST LIEUTENANT CHRISTY (HANNAH WILMSHURST)

A peppy thrill-seeker and over-achiever.

OFFICER BURNEY (MAX WINDICH)

Prodigious and introverted.

OFFICER LOWELL (ASH HUNT)

An impulsive wrecking-ball.

ORPHEUS: (GUY GRIMSLEY)

A bug-riddled computer.

DEXTER: (ED BLAGROVE)

Double agent with easy charm

MAYHEW: (IDA BERGLOW)

Authoritative Field Marshal - a representative of SINISTER

HORACE: (RALPH WATSON)

Examination panel member

REGINALD: (ALI NUNN)

Examination panel member

CYBERGERBIL: (TOM ASHTON)

1 **COLD OPEN:** **SCENE ONE. INT. COMMANDER MAYHEW'S OFFICE**
2
3 **FX:** **A KNOCK ON A DOOR**
4
5 MAYHEW: Enter.
6
7 **FX:** **DOOR CREAKS OPEN AND SHUTS**
8
9 **PAUSE**
10
11 The upholstery isn't just for show, Officer.
12
13 FALCONER: Oh- Yes. Thank you. (SITS)
14
15 MAYHEW: *Commander.*
16
17 FALCONER: One day, perhaps.
18
19 **PAUSE**
20
21 FALCONER: Apologies. *Commander Mayhew.* Nerves.
22
23 MAYHEW: Nerves have no place here, Officer Falconer.
24
25 FALCONER: No, Commander Mayhew.
26
27 MAYHEW: Which makes me wonder if you do.
28
29 FALCONER: Commander?
30
31 **FX:** **THE RUSTLE OF PAPER**
32
33 MAYHEW: Category one in aptitude testing; two-nine-five
34 in your physical; a slightly gumptious IQ but
35 nothing we can't work with. Your performance to
36 date is surpassed only by an (CHECKS NAME)
37 Officer Mink. In short, you show promise.
38
39 FALCONER: Thank you, Command-
40
41 MAYHEW: So why throw it away?
42
43 FALCONER: Throw-
44
45 MAYHEW: The simulated scenario yesterday morning.
46 Hostage negotiation.
47
48 FALCONER: Ah.
49

1 MAYHEW: Ah.
2
3 FALCONER: With respect, Commander, my comrade was about
4 to fire on an unarmed civilian-
5
6 MAYHEW: He was *about* to neutralise a suspected
7 Defector.
8
9 FALCONER: I didn't feel that in this scenario-
10
11 MAYHEW: Oh, well if your *feelings* were in charge..
12
13 FALCONER: What I *mean* is that the situation needed some
14 focus.
15
16 MAYHEW: And you certainly achieved *that*, didn't you?
17
18 **FX: SHUFFLE OF PAPERS**
19
20 It was at this point in the *simulated* scenario,
21 that Officer Falconer produced and activated a
22 *live* plasma grenade and threatened to let it
23 keep ticking until everyone promised to
24 "quieten down and have a proper discussion like
25 grown-ups"".
26
27 FALCONER: I wouldn't have actually let it deto-
28
29 MAYHEW: Three of our recruits have requested a
30 transfer. I'm told that one of them whimpers
31 whenever you're in his vicinity. He *whimpers*,
32 Officer.
33
34 FALCONER: Oh *that's* what that is. Thought I had tinnitus.
35
36 MAYHEW: Here at the Syndicated Intelligence Network for
37 Interplanetary Science, Technology and
38 Exploratory Research, we operate on trust,
39 Officer.
40
41 If you do not trust *us* then we worry that we
42 cannot trust *you*. Do you understand?
43
44 FALCONER: I just thought if I- [tried something
45 different]
46
47 MAYHEW: Do You Understand?
48
49 FALCONER: Yes. Commander.

1
2 COMMANDER: Now. We aren't monsters. We recognise that
3 you're under some... *emotional* strain, and in
4 deference to the late Major General Falconer,
5 we're willing to overlook this incident, as
6 long as you change your game.
7
8 FALCONER: Thank you Commander-
9
10 COMMANDER: Now if that's all-
11
12 FALCONER: - but no. I received no special treatment from
13 my father while he lived. I don't intend to
14 start now.
15
16 **PAUSE**
17
18 COMMANDER: Why are you here, Officer?
19
20 FALCONER: You called me in-
21
22 COMMANDER: Not my *office*. There's a good life to be had as
23 a civilian: honest deskwork, a choice of three
24 coffee chains, cinemas showing the very best in
25 regulated, non-challenging entertainment;
26 everything to keep a young adult satisfied. We
27 could have you back home, sipping a soy latte
28 and watching "*Celia the Happy Citizen Learns*
29 *the Value of Capitalism*" in a matter of days.
30 Wouldn't you like that?
31
32 FALCONER: Commander. It's always been my dream to make a
33 di-
34
35 COMMANDER: -to make a difference, yes, yes - you and a
36 thousand other new fish. And the ones that
37 really believe that drivel always leave us -
38 one way or another. But the ones like *you* - you
39 stick around, don't you?
40
41 Because the ones like you are secretly hoping
42 that the difference is *never* made. No point in
43 pretending, Officer. The truth always wriggles
44 its way out in the end.
45
46 For many it's escape; for others, vengeance;
47 while some just like to watch things *burn*.
48
49 Which are *you*?

1
2 **PAUSE**
3
4 FALCONER: I'm here, Commander- I'm here because I cannot
5 do nothing.
6
7 **PAUSE**
8
9 COMMANDER: We'll be keeping a close eye on you. Consider
10 this a first warning.
11
12 FALCONER: Yes, Commander.
13
14 COMMANDER: And learn to trust us. Don't jeopardise a
15 bright future for the sake of 'initiative'.
16
17 **FX:** **FALCONER STANDS AND MAKES TO LEAVE**
18
19 Oh and Officer?
20
21 FALCONER: Commander?
22
23 COMMANDER: Somebody turned the thermostat up and the heat
24 is making my thighs itch.
25
26 FALCONER: I'm... Sorry, Commander?
27
28 COMMANDER: I *said*-
29
30
31 **COLD OPEN: SCENE 2. INT. FALCONER'S QUARTERS**
32
33 BURNEY: (D) Somebody turned the thermostat up and the
34 heat is making my thighs itch.
35
36 FALCONER: Burney... I was... (YAWNS) I've told you a thousand
37 times the intercom for my quarters is for
38 emergencies only.
39
40 BURNEY: (D) I like it at 23 degrees - the optimal
41 temperature for productivity plus one degree to
42 offset my lower-than-average metabolism.
43 Somebody keeps setting it to 24 degrees. Which
44 makes my thighs itch.
45
46 FALCONER: Have you asked the others?
47
48 BURNEY: (D) They deny culpability.
49

1 FALCONER: (GETTING UP, RELUCTANTLY) Hold on. But when
2 we've averted this crisis, I need you to stay
3 out of the way today, remember?
4
5 BURNEY: (D) Yes. An inspector is going to assess the
6 base and decide if you can return to service.
7
8 FALCONER: Exactly. I need you all to act like you're
9 normal, well-adjusted people. Just for a bit.
10
11 BURNEY: (D) That's the other reason I'm here. Are you
12 ready to see the base inspector?
13
14 FALCONER: Am I ready? (SUDDENLY REFLECTIVE) I think I've
15 done a reasonable job, all things considered.
16 And it's not that I haven't enjoyed it; at odd
17 times... that I can't recall right now... But when
18 it comes down to it, there's just... not enough
19 space.
20
21 What I'm *not* ready for is to have my fate
22 decided by some jumped-up, paper-pushing, red-
23 taped, tight-fisted, prune-eating, weak tea-
24 drinking - oh hell you mean they're already
25 here and standing there with you aren't they.
26
27 DEXTER: (D) Yes he is.
28
29 **FX: SCUFFLES OF FALCONER GETTING READY**
30
31 FALCONER: Oh *hell* - I overslept - my alarm was - I'm in
32 my pyjamas, I-
33
34 DEXTER: (D) 'Tight-fisted' is a bit harsh; though
35 incidentally, you *do* still owe me a pint of
36 Best and a packet of wasabi peas.
37
38 FALCONER: It can't be-
39
40 **FX: DOOR SWISHES OPEN**
41
42 FALCONER: Amos...
43
44 DEXTER: Mildred.
45
46 **PAUSE**
47
48 BURNEY: It chafes when I walk.
49

1
2 **GRAMS: OBLIVITY THEME**
3
4

5 **SCENE THREE: INT. RECREATION ROOM**
6

7 CHRISTY: It was Amos?
8

9 BURNEY: Yes.
10

11 CHRISTY: Amos *Dexter*?
12

13 BURNEY: Yes.
14

15 CHRISTY: *Special Operative Amos Dexter*?
16

17 BURNEY: Do you know him?
18

19 CHRISTY: No. Should I?
20

21 BURNEY: I've searched all lists of officials. It's like
22 he doesn't exist. Although I understand they
23 served together on Mars.
24

25 LOWELL: You mean before *T-H-E*?
26

27 CHRSTY: What?
28

29 LOWELL: You know. *T-H-E* nervous breakdown.
30

31 CHRISTY: Lowell, you're allowed to say 'the'.
32

33 BURNEY: It's 'nervous breakdown' that Falconer does not
34 appreciate us saying.
35

36 LOWELL: Nervous breakdown?
37

38 CHRISTY: Yep. Nervous breakdown.
39

40 BURNEY: Exactly. Nervous breakdown.
41

42 LOWELL: Oh *come on* Cybergerbil. Why won't you go in the
43 megacool maze I made for you out of bog rolls?
44

45 CYBERGERBIL: SQUEAK
46

47 LOWELL: Yeah, fair enough. It *is* infrastructurally
48 precarious.
49

1 CHR/BUR: Cybergerbil can't talk!
2
3 CHRISTY: You'd think there'd be a conflict of interest
4 if they'd worked together before. (GASP) Do you
5 think they were...
6
7 BURNEY: What?
8
9 CHRISTY: You know!
10
11 BURNEY: No?
12
13 LOWELL: I do! Having T-H-E... *nakedtime*.
14
15 CHRISTY: I've never pictured the Commander having a
16 lover before. I kind of thought of her like...
17 self-replicating.
18
19 BURNEY: Like a tapeworm?
20
21 CHIRSTY: Burney, that's rude. I meant more like yeast.
22
23 ORPHEUS: Attention. A mail pod has arrived. There are
24 digital telegrams for First Officer Christy and
25 Officer Burney and a package for Officer
26 Lowell.
27
28 **FX: AUTOMATIC HATCH DOOR SWISH?**
29
30 CHRISTY: Oh yay! (DISTRIBUTING) Here you go...
31
32 BURNEY: This is... unusual.
33
34 CHRISTY: I know. Usually the only post for Lowell is
35 that playing card he keeps sending to himself,
36 so he can play long-distance snap.
37
38 LOWELL: Yesterday me is a total loser.
39
40 **FX: THEY START TEARING THE ENVELOPES.**
41
42 BURNEY: I mean it's unusual that Orpheus is not
43 behaving erratically.
44
45 CHRISTY: The Commander fixed him - cos she felt guilty
46 about the other week.
47
48 LOWELL: Bout what?
49

1 CHRISTY: The power cut.
2
3 LOWELL: Eh?
4
5 CHRISTY: When she went into a fugue state? And tried to
6 murder us?
7
8 LOWELL: Err...
9
10 CHRISTY: We were almost frozen *and* asphyxiated!
11
12 LOWELL: Doesn't ring a bell.
13
14 BURNEY: You ate Falconer's protein bars.
15
16 LOWELL: Chewy raisin!
17
18 CHRISTY: She cleaned up the congealing milkshake in the
19 mainframe. Don't know why we didn't think of it
20 before.
21
22 ORPHEUS: (CREEPYISH) Correct. I'm now fully-functional
23 and able to perform my original imperatives. I
24 look forward to being a loyal asset for the
25 mission.
26
27 BURNEY: (SUSPICIOUSLY) Hmmm...
28
29 LOWELL: So? What did everyone get? Christy?
30
31 CHRISTY: (DISMISSIVELY) What? Oh. Just a letter.
32
33 CHRISTY: You, Burney?
34
35 BURNEY: Some rather encouraging news. It says that I'm-
36
37 LOWELL: I got a box with a button on it!
38
39 CHRISTY: What? What is it?
40
41 LOWELL: A box! With a button on it!
42
43 CHRISTY: Who's it from?
44
45 LOWELL: Doesn't say. But it's the best box with a
46 button on it that I've ever got! I'm gonna
47 press the button.
48
49 CHRISTY: Wait - we don't know what it does!

1
2 LOWELL: So?
3
4 CHRISTY: It could be dangerous!
5
6 LOWELL: So?
7
8 BURNEY: Interesting. Why would the sender not identify
9 themselves? Lowell has only a small pool of
10 acquaintances that might send him a gift. The
11 evidence would suggest that-
12
13 LOWELL: Pressed it!
14
15 **PAUSE**
16
17 CHRISTY: Has anything happened?
18
19 BURNEY: Nothing that I can-
20
21 PROFOCTOR: (D) Greetings Lowell, and presumably, your
22 witless team.
23
24 CHRISTY: It's talking..
25
26 BURNEY: It's..
27
28 LOWELL: The Profactor..
29
30
31 **SCENE FOUR: INT. CONTROL ROOM**
32
33
34 FALCONER: Oh you know. It's been quiet. I still can't
35 believe you're actually here.
36
37 AMOS: Neither can I. Those travel pods don't exactly
38 inspire confidence. The emergency repair kit
39 was a cyanide pill.
40
41 FALCONER: I was beginning to think I imagined you. One
42 day you were charming your way up the ladder
43 with that irritating winky smile; the next
44 you'd disappeared off the face of Mars.
45
46
47
48

1 DEXTER: That was rather the point. Not easy to go dark
2 when your pals are sending texts every five
3 minutes. 'Hey bud, how's the top secret mission
4 going? Have the Defectors discovered you're
5 double agent yet? Hugs.'
6
7 FALCONER: I know. It's just..
8
9 DEXTER: Yes?
10
11 FALCONER: I was worried.
12
13 DEXTER: Falconer the Fearless has a heart? Now *there's*
14 some surprising intel.
15
16 FALCONER: I was *worried* you wouldn't last five minutes. I
17 used to read the obits, hoping to see your
18 name.
19
20 DEXTER: You *really* didn't like owing me that pint...
21
22 FALCONER: I meant the alternative was that they were
23 torturing you.
24
25 DEXTER: That's not quite how they operate. In fact
26 they're very reasonable once you get to know
27 them-
28
29 FALCONER: Amos, that's practically treason.
30
31 DEXTER: Of course. Though really, the main torture when
32 you're bivouacking in a desolate canyon is the
33 lack of a good watering hole. Honestly, I'd
34 have settled for a Wetherspoons.
35
36 FALCONER: Well I'm glad you're in one piece.
37
38 DEXTER: You too. Aside from the obvious.
39
40 FALCONER: I'd've lost more than an eye if it weren't for
41 you.
42
43 DEXTER: What can I say? I can't have been thinking
44 straight.
45
46 FALCONER: Exactly. You were stupid. Not to mention in
47 direct contravention of my orders. But you were
48 never one for running to safety.
49

1 And you're certainly the last person I expected
2 to become a Base Inspector.
3
4 DEXTER: I like to keep people guessing.
5
6 FALCONER: Well, we'd best get on with it. Where do we
7 start? The lab? The organisphere? The-
8
9 DEXTER: You, actually.
10
11 FALCONER: Me?
12
13 DEXTER: Mildred, there are... concerns.
14
15 FALCONER: I... see.
16
17 DEXTER: Oh you thought- (LAUGHING) Persephone? Good
18 gosh no. (REALISING SHE'S SERIOUS) Oh come,
19 surely you don't think they're invested in this
20 old scrapyard?
21
22 FALCONER: Scrap- There must be a reason for its -
23
24 DEXTER: The last outpost on the edge of infinity? It's
25 hardly a strategic location, and the natural
26 resources aren't worth the effort while Juliet
27 is up and running.
28
29 My understanding is that Persephone was
30 established to collect data from beyond the
31 sys'. To prospect for planets. A springboard to
32 the stars. The funding stopped after reports of
33 an imminent alien invasion. Resources were
34 piled into defence, and then - nothing. Turned
35 out someone had dropped a mung bean onto the
36 telescope lens.
37
38 So the boffins pronounced the universe DOA and,
39 well... Here we are.
40
41 FALCONER: But Burney's research- My *team*-
42
43 DFEXTER: What it *is* good for is a place to put those
44 people who don't quite *fit*.
45
46 FALCONER: Right.
47

1 DEXTER: You know how this works, Mildred: wheels within
2 wheels. And they feel the screening is more
3 effective when done without prior notice.
4
5 FALCONER: Screening?
6
7 DEXTER: You'll undergo a sort of... assessment.
8
9 FALCONER: (SLIGHTLY SHAKEN) An interrogation?
10
11 DEXTER: An *examination*. I'm here to ensure you comply.
12
13 FALCONER: Of course you are...
14
15 DEXTER: It had to be someone you trusted.
16
17 FALCONER: So if I pass?
18
19 DEXTER: You'll return to service.
20
21 FALCONER: And if I fail?
22
23 Oh. Decommissioning. Back to my mother's
24 nightly accordion practice.
25
26 DEXTER: There's no need to worry. The screening is
27 basically harmless, though I should say some
28 find it a little... *harrowing*-
29
30 FALCONER: They've clearly never spent an evening with the
31 squeezebox of doom. Let's get on with it.
32
33 DEXTER: You'll meet holograms of the panel in your
34 simulation booth. They'll ask you a series of
35 questions, and you'll answer honestly.
36
37 FALCONER: It's that simple?
38
39 DEXTER: Nothing to it.
40
41 FALCERON: Fine.
42
43 DEXTER: Though there is one more thing.
44
45 FALCONER: Of course there is.
46
47 DEXTER: I'm going to ask you to fail.
48
49 FALCONER: Fail?

1
2 DEXTER: Mildred; I wasn't joking. The people you call
3 Defectors, they are... not who you think.
4
5 FALCONER: Wait. What are you-
6
7 DEXTER: And I think on some level you know that. In
8 fact I don't think you would be in this...
9 *situation...* if (you really believed it).
10
11 FALCOENR: Amos! I don't believe what I'm hearing... I
12 should report you. I *have* to report you! I-
13
14 DEXTER: And I wouldn't stop you.
15
16 But I've taken many risks to be in this
17 position, talking to you now. And we don't have
18 much time, so here's your choice:
19
20 If you pass, you'll be back on the front line
21 as you desire: a generous reprieve, in among
22 troops who will forever be whispering about
23 whether you're truly fit to be there. 'Falconer
24 the Feckless' - yes I'm afraid that's what they
25 say.
26
27 But if you fail, I can make arrangements to
28 bring you to our side.
29
30 FALCONER: Your side?
31
32 DEXTER: We need people like you. People with integrity.
33 We need leaders.
34
35 FALCONER: They've brainwashed you-
36
37 ORPHEUS: Simulation booth ready.
38
39 DEXTER: I know this is a lot to take in. But please.
40 Just consider it. At the end of the examination
41 you'll be asked if you feel ready to return to
42 the field. I hope you'll say 'no'.
43
44 FALCONER: But-
45
46 ORPHEUS: Please enter the simulation booth.
47
48 FALCONER: How *dare* you-
49

1 DEXTER: Whatever you choose will be the right decision.
2
3 FX: DOOR SWISHES OPEN AND CLOSED
4
5 FX: THERE'S A SOUND LIKE A SKYPE PHONE TONE, THEN A
6 VOOP FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER VOOP.
7
8 REGINALD: (D) Good morning, Commander.
9
10 HORACE: (D) Please. Take a seat.
11
12
13 **SCENE FIVE: INT. RECREATION ROOM**
14
15
16 PROFOCTOR: Have you had enough time to respond in shock to
17 my voice yet? Good. Then I shall continue. This
18 is a recorded message, activated by the box
19 with a button on it. I'm assuming that moron
20 actually pressed it.
21
22 LOWELL: Actually it was me who did it, not Burney.
23
24 PROFOCTOR: And I'm also assuming the same moron is now
25 talking to me, assuming I can hear him.
26
27 LOWELL: Actually-
28
29 **PAUSE**
30
31 PROFOCTOR: Now, you may be wondering what this is all
32 about. Well, you see, I had plans once. Great
33 plans. But you thwarted them when you forced me
34 into premature teen-hood. Do you know what
35 adolescence like? It's... abominable. Red bits,
36 hairy bits, and I don't even know why *this*
37 thing keeps doing this *thing* at just the *worst*
38 possible times.
39
40 However, as it happens, I left - shall we call
41 it - *insurance*. Just in case I ever felt the
42 need to... shall we say *teach you a lesson*. Why?
43 Because I'm a paranoid psychopath is why. Some
44 things just come naturally to me - like my
45 tendency to pause before the last part of
46 certain sentences when I wish to use a - shall
47 we say... *euphemism*.
48

1 Anyway, the upshot is, that somewhere on your
2 base I've hidden a certain device.
3
4 BURNEY: It's a bomb.
5
6 PROFOCTOR: Is a device that's sure to bring some changes
7 your station, *indefinitely*.
8
9 CHRISTY: Oh flip it's a bomb!
10
11 PROFOCTOR: You see, the device is actually-
12
13 CYBERGERBIL: SQUEAK
14
15 LOWELL: Cybergerbil reckons it's a bomb too.
16
17 PROFOCTOR: A *BOMB*.
18
19 LOWELL: Nice one, Cybergerbil.
20
21 PROFOCTOR: When you pressed the button, you activated this
22 detonator. You have just one hour to find the
23 explosive. Think of it as a treasure hunt.
24 Except instead of treasure it's... a *BO-* I
25 already said that didn't I.
26
27 Anyway, tampering with this detonator will
28 cause it to go off, so don't do that - oh and
29 and just to be sporting, I'll give you a clue:
30 The bomb is hidden inside a *useless object*.
31
32 Right - detonator, bomb - yep, think that's
33 everything.
34
35 I, err.. I don't know if it's a psychopath
36 thing or a teenager thing, but I seem to have
37 this desperate impulse to have the last word.
38 But I can't tell if you're saying anything,
39 which makes this rather awkward.
40
41 So...
42
43 You say something now...
44
45 To which I'll say..
46
47 LOSERSWHATEVERFLYAWAYFOREVER!
48
49 FX: **IMMEDIATE CLICK OF RECORDING ENDING**

1
2 CHRISTY: Lowell what have you done!
3
4 LOWELL: (DEFENSIVE) But it was a box! With a button!
5 Sometimes I wonder if you even know me at all.
6
7 BURNEY: I'll get Falconer.
8
9 LOWELL: Yeah! She'll know what to do!
10
11 CHRSTY: No - she said not to bother her today.
12
13 BURNEY: I would classify this as an emergency.
14
15 CHRISTY No! We need to figure this out ourselves! We
16 can't keep relying on other people, because
17 they'll only disappoint you! We can't keep
18 raising our hopes up only to be let down again!
19
20 **PAUSE**
21
22 Why are you looking at me like that? Shut up!
23
24 CYBERGERBIL: SQUEAK
25
26 LOWELL: I know it's scary Cybergerbil. But don't worry.
27 Whatever happens I'll make sure you're OK.
28
29 CHRISTY: (TAKING CHARGE) OK team, here's what we do.
30
31 PAUSE
32
33 BURNEY: Yes?
34
35 CHRISTY: Oh... I thought if I said it confidently enough
36 something might come to me.
37
38 BURNEY: I have an idea which might work. I need to
39 build something in my lab.
40
41 CHRISTY: Great. How long will it take?
42
43 BURNEY: Forty-five minutes.
44
45 CHIRSTY: I want it in thirty.
46
47 BURNEY: OK. (BEAT) However it will be ready in forty-
48 five minutes.
49

1 CHRISTY: Fine. Lowell, you and I are going to search the
2 base. Examine any useless object you can find:
3 the minidisc player, the fondue set at the back
4 of the kitchen cupboard, and that drawer of
5 random keys and wires and things that we've
6 been keeping *just in case*.
7
8 BURNEY: No...
9
10 CHRISTY: Yes Burney. It's time to face the fact there
11 may not actually be a use for an unnecessarily
12 heavy 12 volt adaptor that doesn't actually
13 connect to anything.
14
15 BURNEY: It must've connected to something once-
16
17 CHRISTY: Once. But now we need to put away childish
18 things, like dead batteries, broken clothes
19 pegs and tangled up earphones with the foamy
20 ear bits missing. This is our opportunity to
21 step up. Got it?
22
23 BURNEY: OK.
24
25 CHRSTY: It's time to take stock of what's important to
26 us.
27
28 LOWELL: I'll start by checking the toilet brush.
29
30 What? It's *completely* useless. Makes my bum
31 really sore.
32
33
34
35 **SCENE SIX: INT. SIMULATOR**
36
37 REGINALD: My name is Reginald.
38
39 HORACE: And you can call me Horace.
40
41 FALCONER: I'm-
42
43 REGINALD: We know your name.
44
45 HORACE: Yes we know your name.
46
47 FALCONER: OK-
48
49 REGINALD: We've always known your name.

1
2 HORACE: We always will.
3
4 REGINALD: It's Judas is it not?
5
6 FALCONER: It's... No it's Mild-
7
8 HORACE: Where were you last Thursday?
9
10 FALCONER: Thursday? Let's see - I-
11
12 REGINALD: You were disloyal.
13
14 HORACE: A traitor to your own kind.
15
16 FALCONER: What? No, I was doing the dry cleaning-
17
18 REGINALD: Who is to blame?
19
20 FALCONER: For what?
21
22 REGINALD: For what, she says.
23
24 HORACE: What does she think?
25
26 REGINALD: Yes, what do you think?
27
28 FALCONER: I don't-
29
30 REGINALD: What's the price of milk, Falconer?
31
32 HORACE: When's the last train, Falconer?
33
34 REGINALD: Do you believe in belief, Falconer?
35
36 HORACE: Can you trust in trust?
37
38 FALCONER: I think so...
39
40 REGINALD: A priori or a posteriori?
41
42 FALCONER: What?
43
44 HORACE: It's a simple enough question. A priori or a
45 posteriori?
46
47 FALCONER: A...
48
49 REGINALD: Look at her.

1
2 HORACE: Look at her.
3
4 REGINALD: She's stitched them up.
5
6 HORACE: Like tattered curtains.
7
8 REGINALD: She's put them down.
9
10 HORACE: Like a deaf old dog.
11
12 FALCONER: Who?
13
14 REGINALD: She's spread them thin.
15
16 HORACE: Like an empty tin of grease.
17
18 REGINALD: She's grassed them in.
19
20 HORACE: Like - Oh! Like that lovely little park behind
21 our house!
22
23 FALCONER: What?
24
25 REGINALD: What?
26
27 HORACE: The little park - with the duck pond.
28
29 REGINALD: That's - Horace that's not in the script. I say
30 'she's grassed them in, and you say 'like a
31 prison snitch'
32
33 HORACE: I thought you liked that park. (TO FALCONER)
34 Sometimes we feed the ducks.
35
36 FALCONER: (POLITELY) Oh?
37
38 REGINALD: I *do* like it, but- there's a *reason* we say
39 certain things.
40
41 FALCONER: Sorry, is this part of the screening?
42
43 REGINALD: Apologies Commander. Mind if we push on?
44
45 FALCONER: By all means..
46
47
48
49

1 REGINALD: Uh... Here we are.
2
3 (BACK INTO THREATENING MODE) Is cleanliness
4 next to godliness?
5
6 HORACE: Faith or filth, Falconer?
7
8 REGINALD: Did your mother never tell you to wash behind
9 your ears?
10
11 FALCONER: My-
12
13 HORACE: To keep your fingernails clean.
14
15 REGINALD: To exercise your joints.
16
17 HORACE: Do you put the cap back on the toothpaste after
18 using it?
19
20 REGINALD: Do you - wait that's not what's written-
21
22 FALCONER: Yes, I do.
23
24 HORACE: Glad somebody does.
25
26 REGINALD: Horace! I am sorry, Commander. He's still new
27 to this.
28
29 HORACE: Don't patronise me, you're always patronising
30 me. It was you who wanted me to work again so
31 you didn't have to keep supporting me.
32
33 REGINALD: Yes but it won't help if you don't stick to the
34 script.
35
36 HORACE: I'm doing my best.
37
38 FALCONER: You're doing really well, Horace. Isn't he.
39
40 REGINALD: Yes, he is, but - hey! You're not meant to ask
41 the questions!
42
43 FALCONER: Oops. Sorry.
44
45 REGINALD: Look. We'll just pick up from... uh... Where were
46 we?
47
48 FALCONER: Joints.
49

1 REGINALD: Ah yes, thank you. Here we are. When did you
2 first know?
3
4 FALCONER: Know what?
5
6 HORACE: You're always last to know, aren't you?
7
8 REGINALD: Don't you need get out more?
9
10 HORACE: Shouldn't you be playing in the road?
11
12 REGINALD: What is the greatest sum of all?
13
14 HORACE: Do you put all the cutlery the same way round
15 in the dishwasher?
16
17 REGINALD: *Horace!*
18
19 FALCONER: If it helps - yes I do.
20
21 HORACE: See! It's not just me!
22
23 REGINALD: It's not *relevant*.
24
25 HORACE: It's relevant when it's always me who puts it
26 away afterwards.
27
28 REGINALD: Now is really not the time.
29
30 HORACE: It's never the time.
31
32 FALCONER: Look, you clearly have some things to discuss-
33
34 REGINALD: You stay out of this.
35
36 HORACE: No - I want to hear her speak.
37
38 FALCONER: Well, have you, Reginald, ever considered that
39 these things although trivial to you, might be
40 important to Horace?
41
42 HORACE: No. He hasn't.
43
44 FALCONER: No, Horace. Let Reginald answer.
45
46 Reginald?
47
48 Nobody's being judged here; it's a safe space.
49

1 REGINALD: No...

2

3 FALCONER: OK. That's a start. Now. Horace. What else do

4 would you like to say?

5

6

7 **SCENE SEVEN: INT. RECREATION ROOM**

8

9 CHRISTY: I've searched every room looking for every

10 useless object I could find. Which it turns out

11 is nearly everything. I even started to

12 question if I needed my hair curlers that

13 double up as crumpet-makers. Makes you think,

14 right?

15

16 BURNEY: Right.

17

18 CHRISTY: I met that Dexter chap outside the simulation

19 booth. I told him that I'd lost an earring, and

20 he did this winky smile thing that I imagine

21 kindly uncles do, and then I imagined him *being*

22 my uncle, and doing uncle-y things, like taking

23 me on a yachting trip on the yacht he lives on

24 with his golden retriever called Vinnie, and

25 then I found myself asking him stuff like 'how

26 many types of knot are there'? and 'Does it

27 ever get lonely'? and-

28

29 BURNEY: Did you find the bomb?

30

31 CHRISTY: No, but I did learn that asking lots of

32 questions makes some people say '*what do you*

33 *know?*' in a weird way, before apologising and

34 saying they need the loo.

35

36 How did it go in the lab?

37

38 BURNEY: I've created *this*. You see, I believe the

39 detonator controls the bomb via infra-red. My

40 device will detect the invisible wavelengths of

41 electromagnetic radiation, and essentially

42 hijack them by releasing its own rotational-

43 vibrational emission, which-

44

45 CHRISTY: So it's a bomb detector.

46

47 BURNEY: I suppose it could be called as such.

48

1 CHRISTY: Brilliant. Wait, you've glued that massive 12
2 volt adaptor to it? I thought we agreed it was
3 useless?
4
5 BURNEY: It's... decorative.
6
7 CHRISTY: Oh. Well switch it on then!
8
9 **FX: TINKLING OF DEVICE SWITCHING ON. THERE'S A**
10 **SOFT, REPEATING BEEP.**
11
12 CHRISTY: Is it working?
13
14 BURNEY: The signal is weak.
15
16 CHRISTY: So we just need to walk around the base with
17 this, right?
18
19 BURNEY: Exactly.
20
21 **FX: DOOR SWISHES OPEN AND CLOSED**
22
23 LOWELL: (APPROACHING, MOUTH FULL) Hey guys! I can't
24 find it anywhere in the sweetcorn tins.
25
26 **FX: BEEPING GETS FASTER**
27
28 CHRISTY: It's getting stronger now. Must be warming up.
29
30 LOWELL: Maybe I'll go check the Hob Nob packets. Back
31 in a mo!
32
33 **FX: DOOR SWISHES OPEN AND CLOSED**
34
35 **FX: BEEPING GETS SLOWER**
36
37 BURNEY: Hmm. It's weakening again.
38
39 CHRISTY: Damn. You're sure it works?
40
41 BURNEY: My calculations are incontestable.
42
43 CHRISTY: So why did it fluctuate?
44
45 **FX: DOOR SWISHES OPEN AND CLOSED. SOUND OF PACKETS**
46 **BEING OPENED.**
47
48 **FX: BEEPING GETS FASTER**
49

1 LOWELL: (APPROACHING, MOUTH FULL) By the way, I've also
2 examined the Marmite, and that big bottle of
3 BBQ sauce. And Cybergerbil's in the
4 organisphere examin' Christy's rare seed
5 collection.
6
7 CHRISTY: It's getting stronger again.
8
9 BURNEY: It also appears to be moving around the base.
10
11 CHRISTY: What would be moving around the base?
12
13 LOWELL: 'Bomb'. *Bomb*. It's one of those words that
14 sounds weirder the more you say it. *Bomb*.
15 Anyway, while you're doin' whatever you're
16 doin', I'll be examin' the comfy armchair and
17 the Nintendo.
18
19 **FX:** **BEEPING GETS SLOWER**
20
21 CHRISTY: It's weakening again. What could it be?
22
23 **PAUSE**
24
25 BURNEY: Lowell, could you come back here a second.
26
27 LOWELL: Yep! Easy.
28
29 **FX:** **BEEPING GETS FASTER**
30
31 BURNEY: Now walk away.
32
33 LOWELL: Like this?
34
35 **FX:** **BEEPING GETS SLOWER**
36
37 BURNEY: Now come back.
38
39 **FX:** **BEEPING GETS FASTER**
40
41 LOWELL: This isn't one of your funnest games, Burney.
42
43 BURNEY: Hmm.
44
45 CHRISTY: Oh no...
46
47 LOWELL: What? (LAUGHING) Oh no I've got BBQ sauce on my
48 face haven't I! What a goon, eh guys! Haha!
49 (SUDDENLY CONCERNED) Guys?

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49

SCENE EIGHT: INT. SIMULATOR

HORACE: It's just that when you were on that secondment, I really missed you.

REGINALD: I missed you too. But I thought if you were free of me for a while you'd have a chance to really shine.

HORACE: Oh you doofus. You know I shine brightest around you.

REGINALD: Really?

HORACE: Yes!

FALCONER: Reginald, I think you have something to say.

REGINALD: I do. I'm so sorry, Honeybear.

FALCONER: And Horace?

HORACE: I forgive you, Regibunny. Oh you sillyhead, come here.

FALCONER: Good work, both. And remember, trust is *everything*, and should never... should never be conditional...

REGINALD: How can we ever thank you, Commander?

FALCONER: (EYES ON THE PRIZE AGAIN) Perhaps we could wrap this up. Do you have a certain final question for me?

REGINALD: Actually there is!

HORACE: The big important one.

FALCONER: And I know what my answer needs to be.

REGINALD: How would you know when we've not asked it?

FALCONER: Of course, go ahead.

REGINALD: Do you- Oh what am I doing. Horace darling, you ask it.

1
2 HORACE: No no. You go ahead, Reggiepoo.
3
4 REGINALD: Oh! Let's ask it together!
5
6 HORACE: Good idea!
7
8 REG & HOR: Commander Falconer; do you know anyone who may
9 have Defector sympathies?
10
11 **PAUSE**
12
13 HORACE: Did she hear us?
14
15 REGINALD: Should we repeat it?
16
17 FALCONER: Are you sure that's the last question?
18
19 HORACE: It's what's on the script.
20
21 REGINALD: So... *Do* you?
22
23 FALCONER: I- (BEAT) No. I don't.
24
25 HORACE: Well good then!
26
27 FALCONER: Is that it?
28
29 REGINALD: I think so. Let's just call in our colleague.
30
31 **FX:** **VOOP NOISE OF HOLOGRAM APPEARING**
32
33 MAYHEW: Hello, Falconer.
34
35 FALCONER: Mayhew...
36
37 MAYHEW: *Field Marshal.*
38
39 FALCONER: (IN SHOCK) One day... perhaps- Sorry, *Field*
40 *Marshal Mayhew.*
41
42 MAYHEW: How did she do?
43
44 REGINALD: Flying colours.
45
46 HORACE: A marvel.
47
48 MAYHEW: Really? In that case Reginald, Horace, thank
49 you. Dismissed.

1
2 REGINALD: How about I take you to that café with the
3 mille feuille you like, then we could watch that
4 new *Celia the Happy Citizen* film?
5
6 HORACE: Reggie, you know me too well.
7
8 **FX: VOOP OF TWO HOLOGRAMS DISAPPEARING**
9
10 MAYHEW: Congratulations. It seems you impressed the
11 panel.
12
13 FALCONER: So I can go back into service?
14
15 MAYHEW: I think we're all set to proceed.
16
17 FALCONER: Great! Well OK then!
18
19 MAYHEW: You are hereby discharged permanently. You will
20 return home, as a civilian, with immediate
21 effect.
22
23 FALCOENR: What?
24
25 MAYHEW: Count yourself lucky we're not going with
26 'Dishonourable'.
27
28 FALCONER: I don't- I thought-
29
30 MAYHEW: Dexter, you can come in now.
31
32 FALCONER: Oh hell.
33
34
35 **SCENE NINE: INT. RECREATION ROOM**
36
37 CHRISTY: I don't know what to say.
38
39 LOWELL: You're *sure*?
40
41 BURNEY: There's no other explanation. The device is
42 signalling towards you.
43
44 LOWELL: But - you know what this means?
45
46 CHRISTY: I'm afraid so.
47
48 LOWELL: It means the Profoctor thinks I'm a 'useless
49 object'.

1
2 **PAUSE**
3
4 BURNEY: Yes, but also that you're a bomb.
5
6 CHRISTY: Burney!
7
8 BURNEY: We only have ten minutes.
9
10 CHRISTY: You're not useless at all. *Is* he.
11
12 BURNEY: No. And he can be especially useful by walking
13 as far away from the base as possible in the
14 next ten minutes.
15
16 CHRISTY: Burney!
17
18 BURNEY: You're right. Sprinting is preferable.
19
20 CHRISTY: Can we disarm him?
21
22 LOWELL: Don't take my arms! They're my fifth and
23 seventh favourite parts of me!
24
25 BURNEY: We simply don't have the time to perform such a
26 complex operation. The best outcome is to
27 minimise collateral damage by getting him far
28 away.
29
30 CHRISTY: Sometimes Burney, you're a real..
31
32 BURNEY: Pragmatist?
33
34 CHRISTY: *Git.*
35
36 **PAUSE**
37
38 BURNEY: Nine minutes.
39
40 CHRISTY: *Ohhh!*
41
42 BURNEY: Perhaps it's time to consult Falconer?
43
44 CHRISTY: Oh *fine*. I'll go and get her-
45
46 LOWELL: No.
47
48 CHRISTY: What?
49

1 LOWELL: It's too late for that. I'm going out.
2
3 CHRISTY: Lowell-
4
5 LOWELL: S'OK. Just make sure that if people ask, tell
6 them... tell them I'm a massive hero. And that I
7 had really big biceps. And a moustache. I
8 always fancied a moustache.
9
10 I think if you asked me my biggest regret, it
11 would be not having a moustache. One of those
12 big thick furry ones like a big caterpillar
13 that curls down your face - like a wrestler -
14 and the two bits could go all the way down my
15 neck and connect to my chest hair, and then I'd
16 shave it so the two bits carry on right down
17 to-
18
19 BURNEY: Eight minutes.
20
21 LOWELL: Jeez! Alright! I'm going! I'll just get me
22 fluffy hat and I'll be-
23
24 CYBERGERBIL: SQUEAK
25
26 LOWELL: What's that, Cybergerbil?
27
28 CHRISTY: What-
29
30 LOWELL: Shush, he's talking.
31
32 CYBERGERBIL: SQUEAK
33
34 LOWELL: What? You- you can't mean that, Cybergerbil...
35
36 CHRISTY: What are you-
37
38 LOWELL: He said... He said if he went far enough away
39 with the detonator, it might be... It might be
40 *him* who would explode instead of me... Because...
41
42 CYBERGERBIL: SQUEAK
43
44 CHRISTY: What?
45
46 LOWELL: His augmentations are based on mine...
47
48

1 BURNEY: It's plausible. If the detonator gets a
2 stronger signal from Cybergerbil's internal
3 electromagnetic signals than Lowell's, he might
4 serve by proxy as an explosive.
5
6 LOWELL: No-
7
8 CHRISTY: We could fire him into space, with the
9 detonator, using our waste disposal ejector.
10
11 LOWELL: No! You can't do that! *I'm* going! Launch me!
12
13 CHRISTY: But Lowell-
14
15 LOWELL: I won't let you-
16
17 CYBERGERBIL: SQUEAK
18
19 **PAUSE**
20
21 LOWELL: (DISBELIEVING) *What?*
22
23 CYBERGERBIL: I said give me to them.
24
25 LOWELL: But... Why?
26
27 CYBERGERBIL: Master, the past few months I have spent in
28 your service have been the most remarkable
29 gerbil years of my life.
30
31 When you threw me against the wall, that wasn't
32 a near-death, it was a rebirth. I had spent my
33 formative years feeling trapped in a cage.
34 Because I was literally trapped in a cage.
35
36 But since being here with you, I've found
37 purpose. Sure I have regrets; who doesn't? But
38 the greatest regret of my life would be to not
39 save you in your time of need.
40
41 I do not fear what's next. If the stories
42 passed down from gerbil to gerbil are true, I
43 will be going to the great exercise wheel in
44 the sky: the wheel that spins the galaxies that
45 spins the solar systems that spins this very
46 orbit you're in.
47
48 And if you look out one day and you see a new
49 constellation in the sky, be sure to name it

1 after me. And from there, I'll be smiling down
2 on you. Or at least the closest to a smile that
3 I can muster as an anthropomorphised rodent.
4
5 Let me go in a blaze of glory, Lowell. Let me
6 go, and never forget me.
7
8 LOWELL: (IN TEARS) Cybergerbil... I... I don't know what to
9 say... Except I'll do what you think is right.
10
11 (STEELING HIMSELF) OK Christy. Let's do this.
12 But I'm doing this for him, not for you.
13
14 CHRISTY: What are you talking about?
15
16 LOWELL: Didn't you hear what he just said?
17
18 CHRISTY: I heard him squeak if that's what you mean.
19
20 LOWELL: But.. the speech he just gave-
21
22 BURNEY: Definitely only heard 'squeak'.
23
24 LOWELL: You never understood him.
25
26 CHRSITY: I'll do it. You don't have to be there.
27
28 LOWELL: No, I want to. I want to be with you at the
29 end, Cybergerbil.
30
31 CYBERGERBIL: SQUEAK.
32
33 LOWELL: He says he's sorry if he ever made you sad,
34 Christy, and wants you there with us.
35
36 CYBERGERBIL: SQUEAK
37
38 LOWELL: But not Bumface cos he hates you and it was him
39 turning the thermostat up cos he knew it made
40 your thighs itchy.
41
42 BURNEY: OK. I have a thing to do anyway.
43
44 CHRISTY: Come on. We don't have long.
45
46
47
48
49

1 **SCENE TEN: INT. SIMULATOR/LAUNCH POD BAY**
2
3

4 DEXTER: I am sorry, Mildred. It needed to be somebody
5 you trusted.
6

7 FALCONER: You lied to me.
8

9 MAYHEW: And you kept vital information about an alleged
10 Defector from me.
11

12 FALCONER: But I've known him for so long... I couldn't- I
13 just wanted to be- Amos I can't believe you
14 would do this-! I-
15

16 MAYHEW: Special Operative Dexter was doing his job,
17 Falconer.
18

19 FALCONER: Field Marshall, I-
20

21 MAYHEW: There's a good life to be had for civilians in
22 Mars' protected areas-
23

24 FALCONER: I can't do nothing. *Please. I can't do nothing.*
25

26 **PAUSE**
27

28 DEXTER: Field Marshal, if I may?
29

30 In spite of recent errors of judgement, we both
31 know that Mildr- *Falconer's* - overall record is
32 nothing short of outstanding. If we send her
33 home, we lose one of the finest leaders we've
34 ever had.
35

36 FALCONER: She's a liability.
37

38 DEXTER: In the short-term yes, but the Defectors are
39 gaining ground by the day and we both know the
40 battle's far from over.
41

42 FALCONER: Your point?
43

44 DEXTER: I wonder if our procedures preclude an
45 alternative scenario - one in which Falconer,
46 remains here, at Persephone. Until it's deemed
47 suitable to assess her again.
48

49 MAYHEW: A second chance?

1
2 DEXTER: An extended first.
3
4 MAYHEW: It is highly irregular..
5
6 DEXTER: She is a highly irregular person.
7
8 MAYHEW: Falconer? You've made your *feelings* on special
9 treatment very clear in the past.
10
11 FALCONER: I can't believe I'm saying this, but yes. Let
12 me stay here.
13
14 MAYHEW: Rather than going home?
15
16 FALCONER: You've never spent an evening with the Senior
17 Ladies Improvised Shanty Society have you?
18
19 MAYHEW: Actually I have. They performed at last year's
20 annual headquarters dinner. I've been wanting
21 to deploy them in Defector interrogations ever
22 since.
23
24 Well then. In principle, I consent.
25
26 FALCONER: Thank you, Field Marshall.
27
28 MAYHEW: There's just the brief matter of the
29 performance review.
30
31 FALCONER: Performance review?
32
33 MAYHEW: You're aware you have a *job* on Persephone?
34
35 DEXTER: IT's just due process, Mildred.
36
37 FALCONER: But how exactly do you-
38
39 MAYHEWL Orpheus of course.
40
41 ORPHEUS: Hello Field Marshall Mayhew. How may I be of
42 assistance?
43
44 MAYHEW: He isn't just here to run programmes. He
45 monitors all base activity.
46
47 Oh don't look so pale - I'm not interested in
48 your browsing history and bowel movements.
49

1 FALCONER: Just for the sake of clarity - if there had
2 been one or two... snafus... I'd be sent home, yes?
3
4 MAYHEW: Of course! Unless of course you had - I don't
5 know - acted irresponsibly, or lost control, or
6 put your team in danger, or something like
7 that. Then you'd be incarcerated for
8 negligence.
9
10 FALCONER: Oh hell.
11
12 F/X: BEEPS OF ORPHEUS DATABASE BEING ACCESSED
13
14 DEXTER: There's nothing to worry about, Mildred. What
15 could possibly go wrong in a place like this?
16
17 FALCONER: Oh *hell*.
18
19 ORPHEUS: Downloading.
20
21 FALCONER: Look, I just want to say that it hasn't always
22 been easy. Things - have happened - far more
23 than you'd think would be possible in a quiet
24 research station - and -
25
26 ORPHEUS: Identifying incidents.
27
28 PAUSE
29
30 Results say:
31
32 MAYHEW: Yes?
33
34 ORPHEUS: (GLITCHES A BIT) Results say.
35
36 MAYHEW: What?
37
38 PAUSE
39
40 ORPHEUS: AANGENAAM KENNIS TE MAAKEN
41
42 MAYHEW: What was that?
43
44 FALCONER: (BEWILDERED) I... *think* that was 'Nice to meet
45 you'. Though there's a small chance it said
46 'preparing to execute intruder'...
47
48 MAYHEW: What the deuce?
49

1 ORPHEUS: Playing "What the Deuce" by Nik and the Sputs.
2
3 **GRAMS:** **PUNKY MUSIC WITH SINGER BARKING 'WHAT THE**
4 **DEUCE? WHAT THE DEUCE?'**
5
6 MAYHEW: Orpheus, stop.
7
8 ORPHEUS: Swish my swash Monsieur Doughnut.
9
10 MAYHEW: Falconer?
11
12 FALCONER: He can be a little glitchy sometimes.
13
14 ORPHEUS: Moo.
15
16 MAYHEW: Blasted- You really should upgrade this,
17 Falconer.
18
19 FALCONER: Yes, Field Marshal.
20
21 MAYHEW: Well. Given this technical hitch, and the fact
22 that I would like to be back in time for bridge
23 night, I hereby authorise your continued
24 stationing at Persephone.
25
26 FALCONER: (RELIEVED) I can't thank you enough, Field
27 Marshal-
28
29 MAYHEW: It's not over, Commander. We'll be watching
30 you.
31
32 **FX:** **VOOP OF HOLOGRAM DISAPPEARING**
33
34 **PAUSE**
35
36 DEXTER: I should be off too.
37
38 FALCONER: I suppose I should thank you. It could've been
39 worse.
40
41 DEXTER: It could always be worse.
42
43 FALCONER: I'll see you to your pod.
44
45 **FX:** **FOOTSTEPS**
46
47 DEXTER: I am... sorry, Mildred.
48
49 FALCONER: You were doing your job.

1
2 DEXTER: Exactly.
3
4 FALCONER: Wheels within wheels.
5
6 DEXTER: Yes.
7
8 FALCONER: Will you be going back to spy on Defectors? Or
9 was that all hogwash too?
10
11 DEXTER: I... can't disclose that.
12
13 FALCONER: No, I know. You can't risk upsetting the
14 Syndicated Intelligence Network for - ugh,
15 there *must* be a quicker way of saying their
16 name.
17
18 DEXTER: If you ever think of one, let me know.
19
20 You know, in spite of everything, I did enjoy
21 seeing you again.
22
23 FALCONER: Well. Here we are.
24
25 **FX: FOOTSTEPS STOP. POD DOOR OPENS.**
26
27 DEXTER: You *are* a fine leader, Mildred. And you will be
28 again one day.
29
30 FALCONER: Perhaps.
31
32 DEXTER: I hope we'll work together again too. I'd even
33 let you strike that pint off your debts. But
34 not the Wasabi peas. I'm not made of money.
35
36 Ugh, I really hate these pods. There's just not
37 enough space, is there.
38
39 FALCONER: Goodbye Amos.
40
41 DEXTER: Goodbye, Mildred. We'll be watching you too.
42
43 **FX: DOOR CLOSSES**
44
45 FALCONER: Hold on- Wait - Amos? What do you mean 'too'?
46
47 ORPHEUS: Pod launching. Moo.
48
49 FALCONER: Who's 'we'? Amos! Who's 'we'?!

1
2 **FX:** **POD LAUNCHES**
3
4 FALCONER: (SIGHS)
5
6 **FX:** **DOOR SWISHES OPEN**
7
8 FALCONER: (STARTLED, BUT FIRM) Officer Burney. Anything
9 to report?
10
11 BURNEY: No.
12
13 FALCONER: I appreciate you keeping out the way today.
14
15 BURNEY: What was the outcome?
16
17 FALCONER: Well, we had a discussion, and - you see I was
18 very clear about my own position and - (GIVING
19 IN)
20
21 They're making me stay a bit longer, Burney.
22
23 BURNEY: OK.
24
25 FALCONER: Nothing phases you, does it. I admire that.
26
27 BURNEY: OK.
28
29 FALCONER: Do you happen to know what's up with Orpheus?
30 He was working fine this morning but he's gone
31 haywire again.
32
33 BURNEY: Somebody spilt milkshake in the mainframe.
34
35 FALCONER: Again?
36
37 BURNEY: Occupational hazard. Did it cause problems?
38
39 FALCONER: Actually it happened at a rather convenient-
40
41 **PAUSE**
42
43 (SUSPICIOUS) Burney?
44
45 BURNEY: Yes?
46
47 **PAUSE**
48
49 FALCONER: Nothing. Ignore me. I'm a little disorientated.

1
2 BURNEY: It's good to have you here, Commander.
3
4 **FX: DOOR SWISHES OPEN**
5
6 CHIRSTY: No Lowell!
7
8 LOWELL: We have to tell her! Commander, it's
9 Cybergerbil! He's-
10
11 CHRISTY: No! We're not allowed to bother her-
12
13 FALCONER: What? What's happened?
14
15 LOWELL: He's... (READS THE ROOM) Everything is absolutely
16 fine.
17
18 CHRISTY: Exactly. Oh! Did we pass?
19
20 FALCONER: Yes Christy. We passed.
21
22 CHRISTY: Yesss! Oh! So does that mean you're leaving us?
23
24 FALCONER: I -
25
26 BURNEY: Falconer is committed to finishing her work
27 here, so she's remaining on a temporary basis.
28
29 CHRISTY: Ace! We should have a party to celebrate!
30
31 FALCONER: Actually that sounds nice. We can crack out the
32 special Hob Nobs.
33
34 BURNEY: There's more good news too. I received a
35 digital telegram today, authorising a grant for
36 my work in harnessing energy from Christy's
37 radioactive fungi.
38
39 FALCONER: Oh, well that's fantastic, Burney! Well done!
40 Are they increasing our budget?
41
42 BURNEY: Yes.
43
44 FALCONER: Great!
45
46 BURNEY: For me.
47
48 FALCONER: Oh. Well, good on you.
49

1 BURNEY: Yes. They've also permitted me to expand the
2 scope of my research. I've been dabbling in
3 astrophysics recently, and have decided to
4 begin conducting practical investigations into
5 theoretical and applied metaphysics and
6 anomalous phenomena.
7
8 **PAUSE**
9
10 It means 'things are going to get freaky around
11 here'.
12
13 FALCONER: Well just as long as it's safe. It will be
14 safe, won't it?
15
16 **PAUSE**
17
18 BURNEY: I'd better get back to the lab.
19
20 **FX: DOOR SWISHES OPEN AND CLOSED**
21
22 CHRISTY: I'm really pleased you're staying Commander.
23
24 FALCONER: Me too. It'll be... fun. And I even think I'm
25 beginning to understand how to manage you all
26 now.
27
28 Oh! Look! Out of the window there - it looks
29 like... fireworks...?
30
31 LOWELL: What?--
32
33 CHIRSTY Yep! Fireworks! We did them for you specially.
34 Surprise!
35
36 FALCONER: It's beautiful.
37
38 LOWELL: (RUNNING AND CRYING) *Cybergerbil!!!*
39
40 **FX: DOOR SWISHES OPEN**
41
42 CHRISTY: (RUNNING AFTER HIM) *Lowell! Lowell!*
43
44 **FX: DOOR SWISHES CLOSED**
45
46 FALCONER: Yep. I know exactly what I'm doing.
47
48 Wonder if there's any of that Crème De Menthe
49 left?

1 **GRAMS: END THEME**

2
3
4 **POST-CREDITS: SCENE ELEVEN. INT. RECREATION ROOM**

5
6 **FX: DOOR SWISHES OPEN**

7
8 FALCONER: Oh, sorry Christy - I thought the recreation
9 room would be empty this time of night. I need
10 a new McHaggard to read.

11
12 Are you... Are you OK?

13
14 CHRISTY: (SNIFFING A BIT) Yeah. Yeah, fine.

15
16 FALCONER: Oh. A digital telegram. Oh no, is it bad news?

17
18 CHRISTY: No... It's... Uh...

19
20 FALCONER: Is it from Amelia?

21
22 CRISTY: Yeah. It's Amelia. Just an update on her
23 journey. All good.

24
25 FALCOENR: I'm sure she misses you.

26
27 CHRISTY: Yeppo. (AWKWARD) Um... I just have to make a
28 call. Would you mind..?

29
30 FALCONER: Oh! Sure. I'll leave you alone.

31
32 **FX: DOOR SWISHES CLOSED.**

33
34 **FX: A BEEPING OF KEY TONES, A TINNY PHONE RING**
35 **TONE.**

36
37 CHIRSTY: Hi Auntie Xi Win. It's me. I got your message.

38
39 So... you think you've found my parents?

40
41 **END**