

COLONIZE THIS

"pilot"

written by

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TEASER

EXT. EARTH - SOME SORT OF TRAINING BASE - DAY

UNDISCLOSED POV:

A BEAUTIFUL MAN (30ish, America's sweetheart, think Jake Gyllenhaal) swings across a ropes course. With a controlled leap, his stomach muscles twisting in exertion, he lands in the mud. It sprays up onto his chiseled chest. He wipes a bit of sweat off his upper lip.

Nothing else matters.

Because this dude is FUCKING HOT.

BECK (V.O.)

You know that moment when you realize
you're destined to be with someone?

INT. EARTH - TRAINING BASE - TESTING ROOM - LATER

The beautiful man (whose name is NOAH) is also smart - he's now sitting at a desk filling in SCANTRON BUBBLES with ease, slaying the test in front of him. He glances up at the camera, gives a little half-wave/half-smile combo.

BECK (V.O.)

Everything they do is perfect.
Everything about them ignites you.
Completely derails you when you see...
their...

INT. EARTH - TRAINING BASE

Noah drinks from a water fountain. He has a great butt, obviously. We focus on it.

BECK (V.O.)

What was I... Right. He's smart, he's
sweet, you can see yourself raising a
kid together, but you also want to sit
on his face until he suffocates.

EXT. EARTH - FIELD BEHIND TRAINING BASE - AFTERNOON

Noah plays soccer with some friends.

BECK (V.O.)

You're so in love that you want to
scream it from the rooftops - I mean,
I don't have roof access with my
current living situation - but you
know what I mean.

INT. EARTH - SPACE X - ROCKET SIMULATOR

Noah is strapped into a seat, wearing a full SPACE SUIT. He lands the simulator, and erupts into cheers with his co-captain, KAL BOSE (36, also handsome, kind of a know-it-all, Indian) who slaps him on the back.

BECK (V.O.)

There's just one... small... problem.

Noah blows a kiss through the window of the simulator and the camera swings around and we see

INT. EARTH - SPACE X - HOLDING BAY

CHRISTINA ARKEN, (26, brunette, also super hot, think the IRL version of Lana Kane from Archer) giving him a cute two-finger wave from behind a simulation computer. She's an ASTROBIOLOGIST.

BECK (V.O.)

(re: Christina)

That's not me.

The camera keeps panning to REVEAL:

Our main character, BECK DAVIS (30, mousey, unimpressive, think a Kaitlin Olsen vibe) leaning against a MOP and BUCKET leering through a glass window behind Christina.

BECK (V.O.)

This Lord of the Mops is me.

Beck's practically drooling over Noah, wears a grey JANITOR'S OUTFIT.

BECK (V.O.)

And Noah doesn't know I exist. Also, he's about to depart on a mission to colonize Mars.

END OF TEASER

INT. SPACE X - BECK'S ROOM

TITLE CARD: YEAR 2043

Beck sits on her bed and speaks into a SCREEN on the wall - a futuristic version of SKYPE. CAROL DAVIS, (60, Beck's Mom) fills the screen. Beck wears a hand-written make-shift NAME-TAG on her janitors outfit that reads "ASTRONAUT DAVIS". She clearly wrote it herself.

CAROL

So you only go on the mission if someone calls out sick?

BECK

Yup, I'm like an understudy astronaut.

CAROL

Oh my gosh, well, we're so proud of you. Our daughter, the astronaut.

BECK

Yeah, uh, what's Dad doing?

In the background, Beck's dad, HAROLD DAVIS (balding, 65), is SMACKING a drone around and cursing.

CAROL

Your father's drone keeps accidentally herding our sheep onto Mr. Callihan's land.

HAROLD

It's no accident! That son of a bitch hacked our drone, Carol!

CAROL

Tell us more about your mission, sweetie.

BECK

I actually gotta go, training calls. Today we're learning, um, how to get out of a black hole. Love you guys.

CAROL

Ok, sweetie. Have a wonderful birthday.

BECK

Thanks Mom, sure will. The big 3-0.

Beck quickly turns off the screen and breathes a sigh of relief.

She turns and looks in the mirror, then rips off the "ASTRONAUT DAVIS" name-tag, revealing "JANITOR DAVIS". She sighs.

BECK

(sotto)
The big 3-0.

EXT. SPACE X - MARS SIMULATION PODS

Beck pushes her janitor cart down a hallway, past various rooms with astronaut NAMES above each door. On the wall behind the employee, a DIGITAL TICKER reads: DAYS TIL LAUNCH - 2

As Beck passes each room, we get a glimpse into what each astronaut is doing:

- "PATRICIA CLEMMONS" (32, African American, neurotic, rule-following, a professor), reads a book, absentmindedly tears open a freeze dried food package.

- "KAL BOSE" (from the teaser) does pull-ups on a beam while watching cat videos on Youtube.

- "CHRISTINA ARKEN" - This unit is empty.

- "NOAH REDDY" - Beck peers into the window of Noah's unit, but its also empty.

CUT TO:

INT. SPACE X - LOCKER ROOM

CHRISTINA (O.S.)

"I've been watching you all week. In a sexy way, not a creepy way."

Christina's head comes into frame. She's lying on her back on a bench in the empty locker room, reading from a note in her hand. A grunt is heard.

CHRISTINA

"I know I'm technically with someone else, but... I want you so bad. Meet me on the simulator tonight so we can bang".

NOAH REDDY (Beautiful Man from the teaser) pops into frame - he's been going down on Christina. Noah has had the easy life of a hot guy - he's a very stupid smart person that would still be in the Peace Corps if not at Space X. You really want to hate him despite the fact that he's been labeled as a "good dude".

NOAH

It's kind of hard to keep track of the alphabet when you're talking so much.

CHRISTINA

I'm sorry, I thought it'd be nice to read the note you sent me right before we did it on the training simulator for the first time.

NOAH

Uh-huh.

CHRISTINA

(angry)
Because you know what today is, right?

NOAH

Tuesday?

Christina narrows her eyes.

NOAH

(nervous)
...Meatball hoagie day?

CHRISTINA

It's our one-year anniversary, Noah.

NOAH

Right - Hey, speaking of hoagies, do you think the cafeteria's still open this late?

CHRISTINA

(losing it)
We only have a couple days left on Earth and you know that we won't be able to do this much longer!

NOAH

I won't be able to eat meatball hoagies for much longer either, Christina!

Christina stares at him.

CHRISTINA

You better be kidding.

NOAH

(he's not)
I am.

Noah snatches the note and puts it in his shirt pocket.

NOAH

Give me that and stop distracting me.

He flips her over and they go at it.

INT. SPACE X STATION - MEANWHILE

Beck crouches in front of a toilet, TOILET BRUSH in hand. She squares off against a small robot named CHARLES who kind of resembles Marvin from the Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy.

BECK

(re: Charles, losing her
temper)

Hold it like this and scrub.

The robot takes the plunger and throws it in the toilet.

CHARLES

(Bartleby-esque)

I prefer not to.

Beck grabs Charles by the neck and slams his head into the toilet paper dispenser a few times.

BECK

Goddamn it, Charles, you piece of
shit. And to think we feared the robot
apocalypse.

CORTEZ (45, Asian-American, ex-criminal, Beck's best friend) restocks the paper towels.

CORTEZ

Your cousins rebuild organs, Charles.
You should be ashamed of yourself.

Beck shoves Charles out of the stall. Outside the bathroom, two ASTRONAUT TRAINEES walk by.

TRAINEE

Can you believe a day on Mars is a
full half-hour longer than on Earth?

CORTEZ

(mimicking)

Did you know that day on Mars is a
full half-hour longer than here on
Earth?

BECK

What would you do with that extra half-hour, Corty?

Cortez takes an AIR FRESHENER off of the bathroom counter and HUFFS IT.

CORTEZ

Spend it catching up on my reading list.

Cortez hands Beck the air fresher and she HUFFS IT too.

BECK

Gym membership for me. Apparently it only takes 30 minutes a day to stay in shape.

They look at one another and burst out laughing.

BECK

(on a more serious note)
Maybe if I had an extra 30 minutes a day, I'd be able to figure out what I'm good at.

CORTEZ

Hey, that's no way to talk. You're good at a lot of stuff. You drank the most Pepsi ever recorded at that sponsored event at the station last summer.

BECK

(nodding, remembering)
The doctor on call thought I was going to die.

CORTEZ

And you didn't.

BECK

I dunno, I just thought my 30th birthday was going to be different. I'm a janitor and I've never even been in love. 30 years old and I haven't lived.

CORTEZ

I'm 45 and I'm in the same boat. You just sorta get used to it. It's not all that bad.

Beck nods and HUFFS the air freshener again in bleak acceptance.

INT. SPACE X STATION - HALLWAY

Beck and Cortez wheel their janitorial cart down the hallway. Beck drags Charles, the robot, behind her. She drinks some MOUTHWASH from the cart.

CHARLES

I must go to a charging dock, or I will die.

CORTEZ

(to Beck)
Hey, there's your boyfriend.

BECK

Shut up. Does he see me?

CORTEZ

Yes, he's coming right toward us.

BECK

Shut up, shut the fuck up.

CORTEZ

I'm not saying anything.

BECK

(freaking out)
Just be cool, Corty, Jesus.

At the other end of the hallway, Noah walks towards them. He is lightly sweaty from his recent love-sesh with Christina. He stops in front of Beck.

NOAH

(that half-smile)
Hey.

We see the rest from Beck's POV:

Noah takes off his shirt in slow motion. The abs. The face. A bright light somehow illuminates his body, making him appear like a some great Greek God.

NOAH

(re: his shirt)
Could you wash this for me?

Beck receives the shirt and is physically unable to say anything in response. She just swallows weirdly and stares at Noah's body. Noah smiles at Cortez, like: Women love me.

What can you do? Cortez nods - even he is distracted by Noah's good looks.

NOAH
(winks)
See you later.

Noah exits. Beck snaps back.

BECK
Apparently it only takes 30 minutes a day to stay in shape.

CORTEZ
Yeah, we're in the hallway now.

Beck blinks and looks around.

BECK
I think I just woke up from a coma.
What year is it?

CORTEZ
Are you ever going to say anything back, or are you just going to keep mentally cataloging these interactions to jerk off to later?

BECK
(scoffs way too loud)
What? I don't do that.

INT. SPACE X - BECK'S DORM ROOM - LATER

Beck masturbates furiously in her cot.

INSERT: BECK'S FANTASY

It's just Noah handing over his sweaty shirt in slow motion again, exactly as he did in the hallway.

NOAH
(slow, sexual)
Can you wash this for me?

BACK TO SCENE

A CALL from the screen in Beck's wall derails her climax. She answers.

BECK
This better be important.

INT. SPACE X STATION - OFFICE

Beck sits in a dimly lit office. Across from her sits, ALBERT SNEED, (40, a recovering alcoholic, annoying, a control freak, head of the Mars One Mission). He takes his job very seriously.

SNEED

Hi Beck. Thanks for coming all the way down here.

BECK

I live upstairs.

SNEED

(isn't listening)
And how was the traffic?

BECK

There was none, because I walked.

SNEED

Perfect. So we're working on a management project and I would love for you to be a participant, since you are insignific... very valued at this company.

BECK

I am on my break, but -

SNEED

Perfect. I'll send in the admin.

Sneed leaves. Beck twiddles her fingers. Charles the Robot enters.

CHARLES

Good day, human.

BECK

Charles?

CHARLES

Yes, I am the robot formally known as Charles. I was recently reassigned from a janitorial to a much larger, multi-faceted, management position.

BECK

Yes, I recognize you from that... dent I gave you.

CHARLES

Human, I have some unfortunate news. I have been assigned to fire members of the team who are not fulfilling their duties. You may work the next two weeks, but after that, you must find alternate employment.

BECK

"Human"? Come on, Charles, buddy, it's me, Beck! What's with all this "human" business. You're kidding, right?

CHARLES

I am not programmed to jest.

BECK

Is this because I called you a toaster?

CHARLES

The termination list includes: Leaking toxic gas into the training facility-

BECK

Ok, that happened once -

CHARLES

Explicit language in the workplace -

BECK

Never cursed anyone out who didn't deserve it, next -

CHARLES

Various video footage of alcohol consumption -

BECK

Prove it.

A SCREEN appears on Charles' chest, that shows Beck on a surveillance camera, drinking more MOUTHWASH in a closet.

BECK

That could be anyone.

The screen cuts to another image of Beck sniffing paint thinner and stumbling around.

BECK (ON THE VIDEO)

Easy, Beck, old girl -

BECK

Come on! I've been a loyal employee to Space X for the last eight years. Also, I can't move back home because I sort of told my family I'm an astronaut.

CHARLES

I am detecting your stress levels are rising, but I am not programmed to feel empathy.

BECK

You're really being a dick here. I mean, we were cleaning toilets together this morning. We're on the same level.

CHARLES

I suppose my worth has surpassed yours. Perhaps in the future if you are able to maintain your performance capabilities at a basic human level, you will be able to secure your employment status.

BECK

Well, now you're just mocking me.

CHARLES

I am simply stating facts.

Beck jumps up, pushing her chair out behind her.

BECK

(lunging)
C'mere, ya socket fucker!

CHARLES

Aforementioned explicit language!

Beck tries to grab Charles, but he uses the desk as a barrier to wheel away from her. She finally catches him and begins to slam his head against the desk, exactly as she was in the bathroom. Sneed re-enters the office. Beck freezes, Charles' head in her hands.

BECK

...did I pass the simulation?

SNEED

No, but Charles did. Congratulations, Charles.

CHARLES
Thank you, sir.

SNEED
(to Beck)
And you are fired.

INT. SPACE X - LAUNDRY ROOM - LATER

Beck furiously stuffs SPACE X CLOTHES into a washing machine in the laundry room. A ROBOT similar to Charles is malfunctioning in the corner - it has been recently beaten up by Beck.

BECK
I can't believe I got fired and that goddamn Roomba got promoted! Life is so unfair.

CORTEZ
What are you going to do?

BECK
Not go back to Jersey, that's for sure. Space X wants me to work for two more weeks. The nerve. If I didn't need the money, I'd burn this place down.

Cortez sees a SHIRT sticking out of Beck's bag.

CORTEZ
Hey, you forgot a shirt.

BECK
(hiding the shirt)
Uh, no, I didn't.

CORTEZ
Is that Noah's? You can't - you're going to get me fired, too.

Beck grabs the shirt.

BECK
(like Golum)
You can't have it, it's mine!

Cortez lunges for it, and Beck hisses at him. Cortez manages to grab the shirt. Beck holds on. They wrestle.

BECK
It's the last of Noah I have left! I'm never going to see him again!

CORTEZ

I need this job to prove to my parole officer that I'm a worthwhile member of society, and you're not bringing me down with you!

BECK

Let go, you half-way home son of a bitch -

The shirt RIPS IN HALF. Corty and Beck SCREAM. The NOTE from Noah to Christina falls to the floor. They both pause, chests heaving. Beck snatches up the note and scans it. Her eyes BULGE. Her jaw DROPS.

BECK

(in shock)
Corty.

CORTEZ

What? What is it?

BECK

You won't even frickin' believe me if I tell you.

CORTEZ

(snatching the note)
"...I know I'm technically with someone else ...but I want you so bad... Meet me on the simulator tonight SO WE CAN BANG"?!?!?!?!"

BECK

Oh my god.

CORTEZ

Oh my god.

BECK

He wants to tell me before he leaves on the mission.

CORTEZ

And he wants you to meet him...

BECK

But that's... crazy. That's crazy, right?

CORTEZ

People have done crazier stuff for love. Romeo roofied Juliet and then killed himself and they still made it work.

BECK
 (earnestly)
 Are those friends of yours?

CORTEZ
 You have to do it. You can't repress
 your emotions. My cousin did that
 once, and he ended up murdering
 someone.

Ideally, the guitar riff to Eminem's "Lose Yourself" would come
 in faintly.

CORTEZ
 Beck, this is destiny calling out to
 you. You only have one shot.

BECK
 One opportunity. To seize everything I
 ever wanted.

CORTEZ
 And you've wanted this for years. If
 you don't go after Noah, you'll never
 know what could have been.

BECK
 ...And I just got fired, so I
 literally have nothing to lose.

CORTEZ
 Go get your man.

Beck steels herself, as the music swells:

BECK
 (determined)
 I'm gonna bang Noah on that space
 ship.

INT. SPACE X - MISSION ONE SPACE SHIP- SLEEPING CHAMBER

TITLE CARD: 9PM - NIGHT BEFORE THE LAUNCH

Beck sits inside the sleeping chamber - a room designed with
 beds that will house the astronauts as they sleep through their
 journey to Mars (*a la* Passengers). Beck is totally naked. She
 sprawls across one of the beds.

BECK
 All right, Beck ol' girl, nothing to
 be nervous about. It's your birthday.
 So, Happy Birthday to you. You're a
 frickin' lioness.

You're getting what you deserve. He's hot, sure, but he's just a man. Just a human man. Just the hottest human man you'll ever touch.

INT. SPACE X MISSION ONE SPACE SHIP-SLUMBER CHAMBER-AN HOUR LATER

Time has passed. Beck is in the same spot, but she's getting a little antsy. She swings her legs around in boredom, and rolls her eyes around the room, looking for any source of entertainment. She spins a complicated-looking dial on the wall. She picks her nose a little.

Beck walks around the room a bit. She finds a row of INDUSTRIAL, METALLIC DRAWERS and looks around inside. She finds a bottle of MOUTHWASH and pops the cap off. Sips it.

BECK

Just a little something to take the edge off.

Beck goes back over and sits down where she was again, posing seductively.

BECK

Oh boy, a tad more nervous than I thought I'd be.

Beck pats her pockets and comes up with a small bottle of WHISKEY. She chugs that too.

BECK

All right... any... moment now.

TITLE CARD: ONE HOUR LATER

Beck's eyes are beginning to droop.

BECK

Fight it, Beck, you got this. You're a lady lion... a lioness... a lion's nest...

She passes out.

INT. EARTH - SPACE X - LAUNCH BASE - MORNING

TITLE CARD: 7AM - DAY OF THE LAUNCH

Patricia, Kal, Christina, Noah and Charles the Robot walk down a hallway to the SPACE SHUTTLE in slow motion, in full astronaut regalia, carrying their helmets. A crowd has gathered at the base of the ship.

They align for a photo op, and Noah steps forward. He beams pearly whites at each camera. The crowd LOVES him. Sneed meets Noah at the base of the ship, and the two of them shake hands and pose.

SNEED

(under his breath)

Smile bigger. We have a lot of funding riding on this mission.

NOAH

Absolutely, sir.

(raises voice so all can hear)

As the first group of civilians to travel to Mars, we will pave the way for future generations, for life. In. Space!

The crowd roars. Noah eats it up.

SNEED

Okay, enough with the theatrics. Just don't fuck anything up.

NOAH

I've never made a mistake in my life, sir.

SNEED

Let's keep it that way.

INT. SPACE X MISSION ONE SHIP - MOMENTS LATER

The astronauts board the ship. They settle into their seats and buckle up. As Sneed introduces each astronaut, a previously taken HEADSHOT fills the monitors. We cut between this and the astronauts settling into their seats and strapping in.

SNEED

(to the crowd)

The American public has participated in four rounds of voting, culling 200 candidates down to 4. We present you with Noah Reddy...

Noah's picture fills the screen -

SNEED

...an ex-member of the Peace Corps who will aid in the architectural construction of Mars.

Christina's face fills the screen -

SNEED

Christina Arken, an astrobiologist and Harvard graduate...

Kal's face fills the screen -

SNEED

Kal Bose, a physician with a love for plant and animal studies...

Patricia's face fills the screen -

SNEED

...Patricia Clemmons, an ex-Stanford professor and poet, with a passion for the culinary arts...

Charles' robot face fills the screen -

...And last but certainly not least, the AI known as "Charles" will be sent with the crew for maintenance purposes. Now, we'll actually be able to watch the astronauts depart from a live feed inside the ship, and we can follow them live all the way until they break the atmosphere -

He points, and we see what we crowd sees - Christina gives the camera a thumbs up.

NOAH

(interrupting)

Excuse me, Mr. Sneed? Before we take off, I need to make an announcement. This woman to my left is the love of my life.

PATRICIA

(surprised)

Me?

NOAH

No, Patricia. Stage left.

PATRICIA

Oh, that makes way more sense.

NOAH

(continuing)

I knew it from the moment we met, one year ago from yesterday, on an anniversary I wouldn't and definitely didn't forget.

The audience eats this up.

NOAH

(rehearsed)

Here on Earth and now on Mars, I love
you forever, for all of my life. I
guess what I'm asking is, will you be
my Space Wife?

The crowd loses their shit. Sneed rolls his eyes. The feed cuts
to Christina. She's beaming, tears in her eyes.

NOAH

I'll take that as a yes, folks! We're
gonna make a stop on the way to Mars
so I can put a moon rock on that
finger!

Noah reaches out a hand, and Christina grasps it.

SNEED

(shaking his head, to the
press)

He's not going to stop at the moon,
it's not in the budget.

To a thundering applause, the COUNT DOWN BEGINS.

LOUDSPEAKER

Eight, seven- ignition sequence start-

INT. SPACE X - MISSION ONE SPACE SHIP - SLEEPING CHAMBER

The rocket blasters ignite. This rouses Beck, who is still
sleeping in the back of the ship. As her eyes open, the
mechanical door to the Sleeping Chamber CLOSES, sealing her
inside.

BECK

(snorting)

What the shit -

LOUDSPEAKER (O.S.)

Five -

BECK

Something is wrong, something is
happening that is very wrong.

Still naked, Beck scrambles to the window and peers through,
down a long hallway, to see the four ASTRONAUTS all strapped
in. Beck pounds on the door, but it's soundproof - no one can
hear her.

LOUDSPEAKER

Three, two -

Eyes bugging out of her head, Beck throws open a closet door and crawls inside, bracing herself.

BECK

Sweet mother of god-

LOUDSPEAKER

And, liftoff. We are witnessing the first ever group of human beings exiting the Earth's atmosphere on their journey to colonize Mars...

EXT. MISSION ONE SPACE SHIP

The ship rockets into the sky, eruptions of smoke and fire billowing beneath it.

INT. FRONT OF MISSION ONE SPACE SHIP

Close up on the astronauts launching with the reserved serenity of Tom Hanks, Kevin Bacon & friends in Apollo 13.

INT. BACK OF MISSION ONE SPACE SHIP - SLEEPING CHAMBER - CLOSET

Beck star-fished in the closet, screaming, wetting herself, cursing. She passes out from the pressure, wakes up again, passes out again.

LOUDSPEAKER (O.S.)

It's a beautiful day for America, and a beautiful day for mankind.

INT. SPACE X - HEADQUARTERS

Sneed and everyone else working on the mission watches the ship and CHEERS. They've done it. The Mars Mission is on its way.

EXT. OUTER SPACE - MISSION ONE SPACE SHIP

The ship breaks through the Earth's atmosphere. The BOOSTERS detach and send the ship into space.

INT. MISSION ONE SPACE SHIP - FRONT OF SHIP

Christina blows Noah a kiss. He catches it. The astronauts take off their helmets and congratulate one another.

INT. MISSION ONE SPACE SHIP - SLEEPING CHAMBER - CLOSET

Beck throws up a little.

INT. MISSION ONE SPACE SHIP - FRONT OF SPACESHIP

A METHODICAL BEEPING ensues from the front of the ship. Charles, who is plugged into the mainframe of the ship, lights up.

CHARLES

Activating gravitational stability.
Passengers are free to roam around the
cabin.

The astronauts get up, shaking hands, stretching. Charles lights up again.

CHARLES

Movement detected. Movement detected.

Noah looks toward the SCREEN at the front of the ship. A HEAT-DETECTED IMAGE appears, stumbling around the Sleeping Chamber - it looks vaguely human.

NOAH

What?

Sneed's face appears on a separate screen.

SNEED

Noah, buddy, how's everything going up
there?

NOAH

So good, um, we're going to touch base
with one another before the big sleep.
So, be right back.

Noah turns off Sneed's screen.

INT. SPACE X

Sneed turns toward the crowd.

SNEED

In a few minutes, the crew will enter
a slumber period, where they will
hibernate until they get to Mars.

The crowd OOHS.

INT. MISSION ONE SPACE SHIP

The beeping continues. Noah grabs a HAMMER from a nearby drawer and heads toward the back of the ship. Everyone follows.

CHARLES

Unidentified life form detected in the rear of the ship. Proceed with caution.

CHRISTINA

Let me go first, I'm a certified black belt.

Kal rolls his eyes and mouths, *we know*.

NOAH

No, I'll handle this. Patricia, if you smuggled your Shitzu aboard this ship, so help me God -

PATRICIA

No, I did not, and I really don't appreciate you bringing up Kingsly's name while I am still suffering from a very emotional good-bye this morning.

Christina watches the heat-detection monitor.

CHRISTINA

That thing's not a dog, it has fingers!

The beeping continues as the crew moves toward the back of the ship-

PATRICIA

Oh god, its an alien. I fucking knew I was going to get Sigourney Weaver'd on this trip.

KAL

John Hurt.

PATRICIA

Excuse me?

KAL

John Hurt had the alien that exploded out of his chest, not Signorney Weaver.

PATRICIA

Oh, thank you, Kal, for your accuracy. Please remind me again when a fucking alien is burying itself inside my body and exploding out of my chest cavity.

CHRISTINA
 (re: the screen)
 It's getting closer!

NOAH
 Everyone calm down. It can't be an alien if we've only left Earth for a few minutes. When would it have boarded the ship?

PATRICIA
 I'm sorry - I don't know what aliens do. Do I look like an alien expert?

CHRISTINA
 No, but to be fair, we're not sure you're much of an expert on anything.

PATRICIA
 For the last time, everyone, I'm a professor. I'm a literal expert on literature and poetry.

CHRISTINA
 It's really going to be useful to have an expert on feelings in space.

PATRICIA
 I'm not going to defend myself again. The American public voted, and I deserve to be here!

Sneed pops up on a screen on Charles' chest.

SNEED
 Hey guys, just checking in - all good?

NOAH
 (desperately cheery)
 Good as a cucumber, Mr. Sneed!

Noah THWAPS the screen OFF. They astronauts are all fighting now. The BEEPING increases as they near the FIGURE. Noah is sweating. He slowly opens the door to the Sleeping Chamber.

INT. MISSION ONE SPACE SHIP - SLEEPING CHAMBER

CHARLES
 Motion detected inside of closet chamber.

Noah creeps forward, raises the hammer. FLINGS the door open.

Beck cowers inside in all of her glory - she's horribly bruised and bleeding. Still naked. The BEEPING stops. The astronauts gape at her. Beck straightens up awkwardly.

BECK

Wow, that beeping was really doing a number on my hangover.

PATRICIA

...Why are you naked?

CHRISTINA

Why are you here?!

BECK

(to Noah)

First of all, I get it, you're hot - but you need to be a little more precise about timing. I was waiting for you back here all night.

NOAH

What are you talking about?

Beck looks toward Christina. She winks.

BECK

Oh, right... I mean, we don't have to discuss it now.

CHRISTINA

We're on a spaceship hurtling through space, so I think now is the PERFECT time to discuss what the fuck is going on here!

KAL

I would also like to know.

Patricia nods.

BECK

Right, "space". Wow, ok, this is super awkward. Christina, I hate to be the one to tell you this, but your man wants me. We kind of have a thing going on, and we were going to meet on the ship to "seal the deal".

CHRISTINA

(crossing her arms)

I don't believe that for one second.

BECK

Why not?

CHRISTINA

Look at you. Now look at me.

PATRICIA

She has a point.

BECK

First of all, rude. Second of all, I have your NOTE, Noah.

NOAH

I don't want to be an a-hole here, but... I don't know who you are.

Beck's eyes flit around the ship, between everyone's faces. She reaches in her pocket and takes out the NOTE, gives it to Noah.

BECK

You put this in your pocket and gave me your shirt. ...You said to meet you on the simulator. And what a simulation this is. Looks SUPER real.

Noah glances at the note and inhales sharply. Christina covers her mouth, eyes wide.

NOAH

That's the note I gave Christina when we first met. I had it in my shirt because we looked at it on our anniversary...

CHRISTINA

You were going to put our love note through the wash?!

NOAH

...and this isn't a simulation. This ship is heading to Mars. It's amazing you survived breaking through Earth's atmosphere.

The color drains from Beck's face.

BECK

So you're telling me... you're not... tryna bang?

CHRISTINA

OH MY GOD.

PATRICIA

OH MY GOD.

KAL

You have a much bigger problem to consider!

BECK

Ok, very funny guys. Fine, yes, my ego is bruised, but I am an adult. Noah, I gotta say, you're missing out on a wild ride, though. How do I get off this thing?

NOAH

Charles, cut the gravity.

BECK

(noticing Charles)

YOU! Why are you here? You got promoted AGAIN?!

CHARLES

Administering zero gravity.

Everyone begins to float.

BECK

WHOA! Put me down! I do NOT like this!

CHRISTINA

You actually launched with us. Believe us now?

Beck floats up by a window and gets a full view of EARTH becoming smaller and smaller as the ship travels farther and farther away.

BECK

Oh my God. That's... OH MY GOD!

Sneed PINGS again.

SNEED

(annoyed)

Guys - how's it going?

CHARLES

Re-activating gravitational stability.

Everyone lands on their feet but Beck.

CHARLES

Enacting slumber mode in 2 minutes.

SNEED

(from the screen, frustrated)
There are hundreds of people watching,
answer me...

NOAH

(to Beck)
Get down! My whole career is riding on
this mission, and you're not screwing
this up for me. Don't let Sneed see
you.

Christina PULLS Beck down, out of the view of the screen, using
her hand to cover Beck's mouth. Beck is freaking out, tries to
kick out at Christina.

INT. SPACE X

Noah's face fills the screen - he's obviously uncomfortable but
forcing a strained smile.

NOAH

(super cheery)
No problems here, everything is A-OK.
We're having a wonderful time, and
might I say, thank you, for being such
a fantastic mission control leader.

SNEED

(flattered)
Oh, well, you're quite welcome.

NOAH

That's all for now. I'll be back in
touch once we've landed. Bye-bye.

Sneed watches as the screen switches to black.

SNEED

Another success for Space X. Sandy,
break out the champagne and reset my
"Days without alcohol" counter to
zero.

INT. MISSION ONE SPACE SHIP

Everyone's still freaking out.

BECK

(hyperventilating)
Just for the record, this is farthest
I've traveled to get laid. And I hitch-
hiked to Joshua Tree once.

CHRISTINA

You can't even have sex on Mars. Read a goddamn pamphlet!

BECK

What do you mean?

KAL

There's no means to deliver a baby, so intercourse is forbidden on the red planet.

BECK

...But you can do other stuff though, right?!

PATRICIA

Oh hey, I didn't think of that.

NOAH

No! There won't be any "other stuff" going on, because I'm not getting anywhere near you!
(points at Christina)
I have a girlfriend!

CHRISTINA

A fiancee!

NOAH

A fiance is what I meant! Jesus!

KAL

I don't even think we even have enough supplies for you to survive on Mars.

CHARLES

Slumber mode in 30 seconds. Please assume Slumber Position.

BECK

(losing it)
This is clearly a huge misunderstanding.

PATRICIA

That's an understatement!

BECK

So, um, I'll hop the next flight back.

CHRISTINA

What do you think this is, American Airlines? You can't hop the next flight back. It's a one-way flight.

BECK

One-way...

CHRISTINA

As in there's no technology on Mars to send you back to Earth. We're going for the rest of our lives.

BECK

I'm gonna be stuck on a planet for the rest of my life where sex is forbidden? LET ME OFF. LET ME OFF THIS SHIP!

Beck begins trying to force open one of the random side doors of the ship.

PATRICIA

Stop doing that! You're going to break something!

CHRISTINA

No, let her. I would honestly consider giving my own life to watch her get sucked out into space right now.

CHARLES

Sleep mode activating.

A GAS fills the chamber. Everyone tries to fight it, half-climbing onto the beds. They're all getting loopy and drowsy.

NOAH

I'm ruined. I'm gonna be the first hated astronaut.

CHRISTINA

(to Beck)

Once we get to Mars, mark my words, I'm gonna murder you.

BECK

...So who all's meeting us there?

NOAH

NO ONE! WE'RE THE FIRST PEOPLE TO COLONIZE MARS! THERE'S NO ONE ELSE THERE!

Everyone passes out on the floor. Due to Beck's high tolerance, she manages to crawl behind Noah and spoon him.

BECK
(loopy, happy)
Happy Birthday, Beck, you son of a
bitch.

She passes out.

FADE OUT.