

DEEP 6

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(BLUE)
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DEEP SIX

1 EXT. THE OCEAN - DAY

Light blue sky fills the screen.

The CAMERA PANS lower revealing some thin clouds.

Finally the CAMERA SPLASHES below the surface of the water and continues to descend.

Hundreds of bubbles rise past as the camera swims lazily through azure seas sparkling with sunlight and teeming with brightly colored tropical fish.

The bubbles swirl past as we dive down, the water turning paler, the fish becoming duller and more scarce.

A large shark swims past us, on the prowl.

Deeper and deeper we dive.

Soon the water is black as night. Only the faintest slivers of light penetrate down here, and then quickly flicker and die.

Large shadowy creatures of the ultra-deep haunt the edges of our vision.

Strange luminescent fish with long pointy teeth dart past.

The sea bottom draws near, a flat plain scarred by an enormous impact crater, miles in diameter. WE glide over the outer wall, the crater floor looms beneath us.

On the bottom, a faint light glimmers.

It is an undersea station, a series of five cylinders linked by a central hub. It looks like a giant starfish resting quietly on the ocean floor.

Several hundred yards beyond the station, the faint lights of the bio-lab can be seen. This is where all the genetics research is done.

SUPER TITLE:

DEEPSTAR 6

DEPTH: 6 MILES

PERSONNEL: 2 OFFICERS

4 SCIENTISTS

4 TECHNICAL SUPPORT

PURPOSE: GENETICS RESEARCH

There are bold markings on the side of the docking bay:

DEEPSEA
TRAINING AND RESEARCH
STATION #6

2 INT. GALLEY

Breakfast.

Nine people are seated in the galley.

Nobody is talking, only the sound of CLANKING dishware.

DR. ABERNATHY glances across at DR. JERKINS. Jerkins is late forties, high strung. His eyes are a little red and a little swollen. He has the appearance of someone who is not sleeping well at night.

Abernathy takes out a small harmonica from his breast pocket.

Jerkins freezes in mid-bite at the sight of the harmonica.

Abernathy takes his hankerchief, polishing the harmonica. He taps it in his palm, breaking the reeds free.

Abernathy puts the harmonica to his lips and and is about to blow...

Jerkins starts to say something...

.... when Abernathy slips the harmonica back into his pocket. In some way, he has been teasing Jerkins.

DIANE NORRIS M.D. has seen this. She doesn't find it at all amusing.

DREW PIERCE takes a seat at the other end of the table with three of his fellow "support group", JAMES RICHARDSON (Diver), TONY SNYDER (Communications), and JOYCE COLLINS (Diver). There is already a plate of food at his place.

PIERCE

Good morning, campers.
 (looking down at his
 plate)
 I thought we were out of oatmeal.

COLLINS

That's eggs...

Pierce gingerly shoves them around on his plate, then looks up at Richardson, who is reading a fax letter written in a childish scrawl.

PIERCE

What have you got there, Ace?

RICHARDSON

Letter from Julie.

COLLINS

Check it out...

Collins holds up a fax of a picture drawn in crayon -- it's a stick figure man in a dive suit adjacent to a house under the water. All around are brightly colored trees, flowers and fish. The caption at the top reads: MY DADDY AT WORK

Pierce leans over to get a look.

PIERCE

Hey, that's pretty good...

RICHARDSON

Well, it ain't Rembrandt, pal...but to me it's priceless.

COLLINS

Isn't that sweet?

RICHARDSON

I told her it was beautiful down here.
With flowers and trees...

Snyder starts laughing, his mouth gorged with food.

SNYDER

Whata buncha shit...

COLLINS

Must be nice to have a family waiting
for you...

This is a conversation they've had a thousand
times, only this time Pierce gives Collins a
strange look.

RICHARDSON

After six months, it's the only thing
that keeps me going.

PIERCE

I could go another six months...as long
as they keep laying on that "extra-duty
pay".

COLLINS

Come on, admit it, Pierce. Wouldn't
you like to have a rug-rat of your own
waiting for you when you go topside?

But Pierce is busy looking at his watch.

PIERCE

Better get the eggheads to work.
(standing up, calling to
the other end of the
table)

Let's go! The bus for the fish factory
leaves in five minutes!

Valdez, Craven, Abernathy, and Jerkins get up,
shuffling towards the hatch. Collins and
Richardson also rise.

Snyder grabs Richardson's arm as he starts to
leave.

SNYDER
(almost whispering)
Did ya get them?

RICHARDSON
Yeah, I got 'em. You gonna fax my
letter to Julie this morning?

SNYDER
You bet. First thing.

Richardson glances around the galley to make sure
no one is watching, then digs into his pocket. He
palms Snyder a small bottle of pills.

PIERCE
If Norris finds out where you got
these, you're dead meat, pal.

SNYDER
She won't...thanks, man. I owe you
one.

RICHARDSON
(somewhat disgusted)
Yeah, yeah.

SNYDER
Hey, I just use them to help me to
sleep, you know? Christ, what do you
think I am? A fucking junkie?

He gives Snyder a scrutinizing stare, then exits the
galley. As soon as he is gone, Snyder opens the
bottle and pops two of the pills.

SNYDER
(continuing - to
himself)
Asshole.

3 INT. DOCKING BAY

As Pierce leads the others into the DSRV, he
Pierce starts to sing.

PIERCE
Hi-ho, hi-ho! It's off to work we go!
Come on, eggheads...sing along!

The scientists start to sing, half-heartedly along with Pierce.

PIERCE/OTHERS
 Hi-ho, hi-ho! It's off to work we go!
 (some funny verse in
 here)

The scientists start to file into the minisub.

Laidlaw stands by the airlock, shrugging into his "woolies" -- insulated coveralls. Norris walks up behind him.

NORRIS
 Can I have a word with you, Captain?

LAIDLAW
 Can it wait until I get back from the lab?

NORRIS
 It'll only take a minute.

Laidlaw sighs, nodding his head.

4 INT. MEDICAL BAY

Norris enters the medical bay followed by Laidlaw, she closes the hatch after he is in.

NORRIS
 Have you made a decision about rotation yet?

Laidlaw leans against the bulkhead, sipping his coffee.

LAIDLAW
 No. Valdez says they're on the verge of a major breakthrough. He just needs a few more days...

NORRIS
 Valdez has been saying that for weeks now. He's part of the problem...he's pushing too hard.
 (then)
 I think we should rotate the whole science team out.

LAIDLAW

What's another week?

NORRIS

To a veteran like you...nothing. But these men aren't Navy, they're scientists. They've been trapped in a can at the bottom of the ocean for more than six months now. They need a break.

(beat)

I don't want to go over your head on this...

LAIDLAW

(shrugs)

Look, Doctor...it's your call...

NORRIS

I'm telling you...I'm worried about them.

Laidlaw takes a moment to think.

LAIDLAW

Tell you what...why don't we review these requests on a case by case basis?

NORRIS

Fine. Here's a list...

LAIDLAW

(reading over the list)

Why do you want to transfer Collins?

NORRIS

(simply)

She's pregnant.

LAIDLAW

Does he know?

NORRIS

Of course she knows, she asked me to run the...

LAIDLAW

I said, does he know. Does Pierce know?

NORRIS

She doesn't want to tell him.

LAIDLAW
 (surprised)
 Why not?

NORRIS
 I don't know. He's not my friend.

Laidlaw is cut off by the videocom BUZZER. He crosses to the panel and punches the XMIT switch.

LAIDLAW
 (into videocom)
 Laidlaw...

Pierce's face blinks on the tiny monitor.

PIERCE
 (filtered)
 We're ready to pull out, Captain.

LAIDLAW
 I'm on my way.
 (to Norris)
 Let's talk about this when I get back.

NORRIS
 I'll be here.

CUT TO:

5 INT. DOCKING BAY/MAINTENANCE - MOMENTS LATER

Laidlaw enters the hatch to the DSRV.

6 INT. DSRV

Laidlaw crawls into the mini-sub.

It's very cramped. Pierce is in the pilot's seat in the conning tower, donning a headset. He starts flipping switches, humming quietly to himself.

Collins sits directly beneath Pierce, surrounded by video monitors, sonar equipment, recorders, etc. To her left is the cluster of forward viewing ports. They are covered to protect them from scratching.

In the passenger section in back, Drs. Valdez, Craven, Abernathy, and Jerkins are already strapped in.

Laidlaw takes his seat next to Collins, activating his monitors. Three screens labeled: PORT FORWARD STARBD flicker to life.

Pierce calls down to Richardson.

PIERCE

Close us up.

Richardson closes the hatch, sealing them in. Pierce works more controls, we hear a loud WHIRR, then a metallic THUD.

The DSRV start to sway back and forth as it drifts free of the Deepstar.

Pierce breaks from his humming into a song.

PIERCE

...so we sailed on to the sun, 'til we found a sea of green...

LAIDLAW

Oh, God please. Not again.

PIERCE

(starts to sing MUCH louder)

...and we lived beneath the waves in a yellow SUBMARINE!

In back, we can HEAR Abernathy join in on harmonica.

7 EXT. DSRV

As Pierce SINGS and Abernathy PLAYS, the minisub sails across the vast crater to the dim lights of the not-too-distant BIO-LAB.

CUT TO:

8 INT. DSRV

CLOSE ON A DISPLAY SCREEN -- The Advanced Seafloor Profile Sonar -- ASIPS -- a grid of green lines that outline the contour of the seafloor, slowly marching towards us, like an animated 3-D geodetic survey map.

LAIDLAW

Contact in five-hundred meters and closing.

Laidlaw concentrates on the constantly shifting sonar display.

LAIDLAW

Two hundred meters.

Pierce backs off on the throttle, the engine WHINING down as he hits the navigation lights.

9 EXT. DSRV

Two powerful work lights blaze to life on the minisub, their beams scattered by suspended particles in the water.

Ahead, the shadowy form of the Bio-Lab looms up.

10 INT. DSRV

1

On the ASIPS, the computer graphic image of the Bio-Lab nearly fills the screen. An animated overlay gives docking instructions to Pierce.

LAIDLAW

(continuing)

Fifty meters...forty...

Pierce keeps one eye out the viewport and one eye on his instruments as he carefully maneuvers the minisub alongside the station.

LAIDLAW

(continuing)

...thirty...twenty...ten...

11 EXT. BIO-LAB - DOCKING BAY

1

The minisub slips slowly into place next to the docking ring.

- 12 INT. DSRV 1
- The DSRV mates to the docking ring with a reverberating CLANG. Laidlaw presses the AIRLOCK PURGE switch and we HEAR the ROAR of compressed air.
- 13 INT. AIRLOCK - SAME TIME 1
- The compressed air purges the airlock free of water.
- 14 INT. BIO-LAB - DOCKING BAY 1
- Everybody leaves the sub.
- 15 INT. CONTROL ROOM 1
- Valdez and Craven turn on monitoring equipment while Collins hits the lights.
- Through the glass wall of the control room, the bio-lab lights flicker on, revealing the vast experimental laboratory.
- Abernathy and Jerkins, zipping up their sterile suits, step into the "HOT BOX".
- 16 INT. THE HOT BOX - CONTINUOUS ACTION 1
- The "Hot Box" is the long narrow corridor for disinfecting persons entering or leaving the bio lab. At either end there are two small pressure doors, set high off the deck.
- Abernathy and Jerkins move silently through the "Hot Box". Neither speaks or looks at the other.
- 17 INT. CONTROL ROOM 1
- Laidlaw and Valdez watch through the control room window as Abernathy and Jerkins go to work, setting up the day's experiments.

LAIDLAW
How close are you, John?

VALDEZ
Any day now we should have a
breakthrough.

LAIDLAW
Norris is putting a lot of pressure on
me to rotate your team out.

VALDEZ
You can't let her do that, Captain.

LAIDLAW
She's threatening to go over my head.

VALDEZ
All I need is a few more days.

LAIDLAW
I can't run interference for you much
longer. Let's go, Pierce.

Pierce and Laidlaw head for the docking bay.

18 INT. BIO LAB - DOCKING BAY

1

Pierce and Laidlaw are crossing the docking bay,
headed back for the minisub.

LAIDLAW
Look, I don't like butting into other
people's problems...

PIERCE
Uh, oh. Is this a Captain/Sailor or
Father/Son talk?

LAIDLAW
More like nosey fuck to dickhead.

Pierce "ahhhs" in recognition.

LAIDLAW

(continuing)

It seems to me that you had something nice going with Collins and then you just let it die. Collins is great gal and she's crazy about you, so I ask myself "why is Pierce acting like an asshole?"

Pierce scowls.

PIERCE

It didn't work out...so what? Happens everyday.

LAIDLAW

Don't you think you owe her an explanation?

PIERCE

What's there to explain?

LAIDLAW

Drew, I was there when you got married, I was there when she died, I was there when you put her in the ground. I know how much you loved her, but you can't let Kathy's death hold up the rest of your life. You've got to get on with...

PIERCE

(cutting him off)

Okay, you've spoken your piece. Thank you very much.

Pierce starts to leave.

LAIDLAW

Want some advice?

PIERCE

No.

LAIDLAW

Tough, here it comes anyway...give the thing with Collins another chance.

PIERCE

Is that an order?

LAIDLAW

No, it's just advice...good advice.

Just then, Craven enters the docking bay from the control room.

CRAVEN

Captain, you better come quick...it's Jerkins!

19 INT. CONTROL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

1

Craven, Laidlaw, and Pierce re-enter the control room. Valdez and Collins watch Jerkins storm around the bio-lab through the window.

LAIDLAW

Okay John, what's the problem?

VALDEZ

It's Jerkins...he's trapped Dr. Abernathy in the dive well and locked us out of the lab. He says he won't come out until he gets to talk to you.

LAIDLAW

(to Collins)

Can you get into the lab?

COLLINS

He's pressurized the hatch. We can cut through it, but it'll take time.

LAIDLAW

Let me talk to him.

Laidlaw presses the intercom button.

LAIDLAW

Robby. This is Captain Laidlaw.

JERKINS

Captain! I want to go home right now! If you don't send me home right now I'm going to flood the airlock and kill that noisy fat bastard!

LAIDLAW

Just settle down, Robby. Dr. Norris has already told me you want to go home and I've been working on that.

JERKINS

Norris said I could go home a month ago!

LAIDLAW

I know, Rob. I know. And we are going to send you home...

VALDEZ

(into intercom)

All I'm asking for is a few more days...

JERKINS

I want to go RIGHT NOW!!! I'm sick of this place! I'm sick of these stupid experiments! And I'm sick and fucking tired of Abernathy and THAT STUPID FUCKING HARMONICA!!!

LAIDLAW

Okay, Rob! Okay!

(to Valdez)

John, just butt out a second...Collins, patch me into the airlock.

JERKINS

NO! Nobody talks to him! Not until he promises not to play that....thing!

LAIDLAW

I just want to make sure he's okay, Rob. Let me do that, okay...just let me make sure he's okay.

(to Collins)

Tie in the airlock.

Collins flips some switches.

20 ANGLE ON THE MONITOR

2

As the airlock camera flickers to life. Abernathy leans against the airlock wall.

LAIDLAW

Eddie, are you okay?

ABERNATHY

Nothing a good meal and a loose woman wouldn't cure.

LAIDLAW

Hang on. We're going to get you out of there as soon as possible.

JERKINS

Not until he gets rid of that STUPID FUCKING HARMONICA!!! For six fucking months that's all I hear! Mary had a little lamb, little lamb, little lamb! Jesus Christ, LEARN A NEW FUCKING SONG!!!

ABERNATHY

(Mock serious)

It helps me relax.

Laidlaw rolls his eyes. He fights to control his temper in dealing with these "men of science".

LAIDLAW

Dr. Abernathy, I want you to promise not to play your harmonica in front of Dr. Jerkins, okay?

ABERNATHY

Yeah, sure. I just thought he was a music lover.

LAIDLAW

Now Dr. Jerkins, how about letting Dr. Abernathy out of the airlock. He's promised not to bother you with his harmonica anymore. Okay?

JERKINS

I want to go home. How many times do I have to tell you?

LAIDLAW

I told you...we're working on it.

Abernathy rakes his lips across the harmonica, SCREECHING up and down the scales several times in quick succession.

JERKINS

(filtered)

GODDAMMIT! There he goes again!! I'm going to KILL that SON OF A BITCH!!!

Abernathy snickers. He knows this makes Jerkins nuts and delights in it like a schoolboy.

ABERNATHY

Sorry. I had to relieve some stress.

JERKINS

Stress! I'll show you stress, you fat fuck!

Jerkins flips the FLOOD switch "on" and "off" quickly.

21 INT. BIO-LAB - AIRLOCK 2

Several gallons of frigid seawater splash down on Abernathy. He screams.

22 INT. DEEPSTAR 3 - COMMUNICATIONS 2

JERKINS

How do you like that stress, asshole?!!

LAIDLAW

Jerkins!

JERKINS

I want to go home!

Valdez reaches over and presses the MUTE button on the intercom. He turns to Laidlaw.

VALDEZ

Captain, we have to get him out of there before he does something stupid. If he harms those specimens, we could lose weeks of hard work.

LAIDLAW

What do you want me to do, John? All I can do is try to talk him into coming out.

VALDEZ

Let me talk to him.

Laidlaw thinks about this for a long moment.

Through the window, Jerkins has been shouting and waving his arms. Suddenly, he throws something at the window where it bounces off with a loud BONK.

LAIDLAW

(to Valdez)

Okay...you try.

Valdez switches the speaker back on.

JERKINS

...listening to me?!!

VALDEZ

Yes, Jerkins...we're still listening.

23 INT. BIO LAB

2

Valdez tries to reason with Jerkins, his voice BOOMING over the intercom.

VALDEZ

Jerkins, nobody has asked you to compromise anything here. You're part of the scientific elite and we're on the verge of a new age.

JERKINS

What a bunch of bullshit!

VALDEZ

The life we are creating now will help mankind tame the underwater frontier. Just like our forefathers used the ox and the dog...

JERKINS

What? Like this thing?

Jerkins plunges his hand deep into one of the smaller specimen tanks, pulling out a small, disgusting-looking sea creature. The thing SCREECHES loudly, thrashing about in Jerkins' hand.

JERKINS

(continuing)

What the fuck is this thing? Is it a dog? Noooo! Is it an ox? Noooo! What is it?!! No one knows! We're just building these things for the hell of it!!

Jerkins shakes the sea creature at the monitor, it SCREECHES again as his grip tightens.

JERKINS

(continuing)

And what about 1138?!! What good is that thing to anyone?

He gestures to a large cryogenic chamber, frozen vapor trailing off its side. A large red sign on the door reads:

DANGER:
HOSTILE LIVE SPECIMEN
DO NOT OPEN

VALDEZ

1138 was a mistake, I admit that.
But...

JERKINS

They're ALL mistakes!

VALDEZ

Mistakes are important steps in the scientific process...

JERKINS

No!! We don't know what we're doing!!!
Can't you see that?!! ARE YOU BLIND?!!

Just at that moment, Dr. Abernathy starts up with a chorus of "Mary had a little lamb."

Jerkins goes beserk.

JERKINS

(screaming into the airlock)

GODDAMNIT!!!

And with that, Jerkins heaves the SQUEALING sea creature in the direction of the airlock. It hits the control panel, where it crashes against the PURGE button with a loud SPLAT!

24 INT. BIO LAB - DIVE WELL

2

Hundreds of gallons of water rush into the dive well, instantly immersing Dr. Abernathy.

- 25 INT. CONTROL ROOM - SAME INSTANT 2
 Laidlaw, Collins, and Pierce watch helplessly.
- PIERCE
 Holy shit...
- 26 INT. BIO LAB - DIVE WELL 2
 Abernathy struggles, drowning in the swirling frigid water.
 With a deafening WOOSH of compressed air, the dive well purges.
- 27 EXT. BIO LAB - DIVE WELL 2
 The airlock door opens, flushing Dr. Abernathy to the sea.
- 28 INT. BIO LAB - CONTROL ROOM 2
 Valdez' jaw drops to the floor. Craven gasps and makes the sign of the cross.
- 29 INT. BIO LAB 2
 Jerkins stares at the airlock control panel with a blank expression. His mind can't comprehend what has just happened.
- 30 INT. CONTROL ROOM 3
 Laidlaw is the first to get over the shock. He turns to Collins and Pierce.
- LAIDLAW
 Okay, get him out of there.
- CUT TO:
- 31 INT. BIO LAB - THE HOT BOX - MOMENTS LATER 3
 Collins and Pierce carry in heavy welding equipment from the docking bay.

Collins drops down by the sealed hatch next to the bio lab and fires up the cutting nozzle, tuning it to a bright blue flame. She flips down her welding mask and starts to cut the hatch.

CAMERA FOLLOWS Pierce as she heads back down the corridor.

32 INT. BIO LAB - CONTROL ROOM

3

As Pierce enters, Valdez, Craven, and Laidlaw watch Jerkins in the bio-lab through the window.

LAIDLAW

Is she cutting through the hatch?

PIERCE

Yeah, figure about five minutes.

Through the window, Jerkins is strangely silent. He shuffles around the room aimlessly.

In his arms he cradles another of the bio-engineered creatures, stroking it gently.

33 INT. HOT BOX

3

Collins cutting through the hatch.

34 INT. CONTROL ROOM

3

Laidlaw punches the intercom button.

LAIDLAW

(into videocom)

Collins, are you through that hatch yet?

35 INT. HOT BOX

3

Collins shouts at the videocom, not bothering to look up from her work.

COLLINS

Negative. Two more minutes.

36 INT. CONTROL ROOM

3

LAILAW
(into videocom)
Step on it.
(to Craven)
Do we have something to knock him out
when she cuts through?

CRAVEN
(nodding)
Sodium Pentathol.

LAILAW
Get it ready.

Laidlaw then turns to Pierce.

LAILAW
(continuing)
Get a couple of shotguns out of the
sub.

PIERCE
You've got to be kidding...

LAILAW
Just do it!

Pierce exits, shaking his head.

37 INT. BIO LAB - SAME TIME

3

HISSS!!!! -- Jerkins spins to see sparks cascading
from the hatch where Collins is cutting through.
A trapped, haunted expression creeps over his face.
He crosses the lab to the cryogenic chamber marked
"1138".

38 INT. HOT BOX

3

Collins cuts through the last few inches of hatch.

39 INT. CONTROL ROOM

3

Dr. Craven draws several cc's of Sodium Pentathol
into a syringe.

40 INT. BIO LAB

4

The heavy metal hatch falls through, hitting the deck with a loud CLANG!

Jerkins twists the large, red handle to "OPEN".

Foul-smelling green water spews out from around the sides of the chamber door.

ANGLE ON VALDEZ - ECU

VALDEZ

NOOOOOO!

As he screams in frustration and terror we:

CUT TO:

41 INT. DOCKING BAY - SAME INSTANT

4

Pierce is jogging back to control room with two shotguns when suddenly, the lights go out.

Pierce stumbles in the dark, CRASHING to the deck.

PIERCE

Son-of-a-bitch...

Then the harsh red emergency light flicker on.

Pierce gets to his feet, moving to the control room door. He tries to open it.

Nothing.

Pierce opens the door's emergency access panel and pulls down on a handle. There is a HISS of compressed air escaping, but the door doesn't move.

Crouching down next to the hatch, Pierce gets a handhold on the hatch and strains to lift it. The door slowly GRINDS open, but it's clear it won't stay that way on its own.

Pierce peers through the ever widening slit in the door, while on the other side...

...Dr. Valdez and Laidlaw peer back.

42 INT. BIO-LAB - CONTROL ROOM - CONTINUOUS ACTION

4

Laidlaw and Valdez are pulling up on the hatch, Dr. Craven stands behind them.

As soon as the hatch is high enough, Pierce props it open with his shotgun and steps inside.

PIERCE

What the hell is going on?

VALDEZ

Jerkins opened 1138...I heard him scream...and then the lights went out. Then the door closed and sealed.

PIERCE

They do that automatically when the power dies.

(then)

Where's Collins?

CRAVEN

She was in the bio-lab...with Jerkins.

Pierce dashes for the hatch to the "Hot Box". He pulls down the manual handle and spins the undogging wheel.

Laidlaw points to the red light blinking over the door.

LAIDLAW

You've got a fire in there.

CRAVEN

Don't go in!

He yanks the hatch open. Smoke rolls. He peers into the hot box.

PIERCE

Lights are out in there...

Pierce grabs an EBS unit and a handlight off the wall and steps inside.

Laidlaw curses, pulls the second shotgun from the hatch -- it closes -- grabs an EBS and follows Pierce.

43 INT. BIO-LAB - HOT BOX

4

Pierce steps down into about two feet of water, his flashlight stabbing through the thick smoke that fills the "Hot Box".

As he starts wading through the knee-deep water, Laidlaw comes up behind him.

LAIDLAW

Goddamn it! You've compromised the whole station. There's procedures for dealing with...

PIERCE

Piss on procedure.

They look at each other, then Laidlaw shrugs as if to say "what the fuck" and hands Pierce a shotgun.

PIERCE

(continuing - over his shoulder to Valdez)

Dr. Valdez, what the fuck does this 1138 look like?

VALDEZ

Well, it's a segmented exoskeltoid, roughly symmetrical...

PIERCE

(cutting him off)

I mean...does it have teeth or what?

VALDEZ

Oh...yes. Several thousand very sharp teeth.

LAIDLAW

(under his breath)

You had to ask.

Suddenly, Pierce freezes as his flashlight beam picks up something floating in the water.

44 ANGLE ON JERKINS GOO

4

Pierce's beam plays over a large clump of blood and goo, coming to rest on a face recognizable only by the broken pair of glasses that hangs near the end.

LAIDLAW

What the hell is that?

PIERCE

It's Dr. Jerkins...I think.

As Pierce looks up A BLACK WRITHING SHAPE SUDDENLY HURLS ITSELF AT HIS FACE.

Pierce and Laidlaw SHOUT in fear, staggering back.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

They both fire at the shape, blasting it down into the water.

The gunshots ECHO through the small corridor for a moment as Valdez yells:

VALDEZ

Did you get it?

PIERCE

(grinning)

Yeah, I think I killed it.

Pierce prods the thing carefully with his shotgun, then picks up the riddled body of a creature, shining his light on it.

Valdez peers down from the hatch, takes one look, and:

VALDEZ

No, that's 1257. It can't hurt you.

Pierce tosses the ugly motherfucker back in the water.

PIERCE

Goddamn right.

He and Laidlaw ease through the cut-out hatch into the bio-lab.

45 INT. BIO LAB

4

Pierce sweeps his flashlight across the lab, cutting through the sprinkler system's rainy drizzle.

One side of the lab is burned, covered in a blanket of foam. Some of the specimen tanks are broken open, others have been blackened from the smoke.

WE HEAR:

zzzzzt! POW! crackle.

The flashlight beam follows the NOISE, coming to rest on the power control bus. It has been smashed. Sparks still arc from the loose wires. Insulation still burns.

LAIDLAW

Here's the cause of the fire.

PIERCE

Yeah. Looks like something smashed into it.

He looks over the control panel, finds the EMERGENCY BATTERY switch, and flips it ON.

Harsh red emergency lights flicker on, giving them a better view.

They search the lab.

PIERCE

Collins? Collins...

There is no sign of her.

LAIDLAW

Pierce...

PIERCE

Yeah...

LAIDLAW

I'm sorry, Pierce.

A beat as Laidlaw looks for something else to say. He looks around.

LAIDLAW

(sighs)

Norris was right...Christ, what a mess.
I better go call topside...tell them we
have a problem.

He looks at Pierce.

LAIDLAW

(continuing)

You okay?

PIERCE

Fine.

LAIDLAW

Okay,..stay sharp.

Laidlaw turns and leaves the lab.

Pierce watches him go. He leans up against one of
the larger plex specimen containers, the back of
his shirt wiping away some of the foam and carbon.

46 ANGLE ON COLLINS 4

In the specimen tank, breathing off an EBS unit.
She looks out.

47 ANGLE ON PIERCE 4

Totally unaware that Collins is right behind him.

Suddenly a loud THUMPING on the tank propels him to
his feet, shotgun up and ready as he spins.

He sees Collins and can't believe it. Setting the
shotgun down he climbs up on top of the tank.

48 BACK TO SCENE 4

Pierce reaches into the tank and grabs Collins'
wrists and pulls her up.

She grins, their eyes lock.

COLLINS

Nice timing. My EBS unit was almost
empty.

Pierce softens, a wave of relief rushes over his face. He holds her gaze for a moment, it looks like they might embrace.

Then Pierce breaks the spell...

PIERCE

Don't mention it.

49 INT. BIO-LAB - CONTROL ROOM 4

Laidlaw sits at the computer console, typing in a communication to the surface.

50 ANGLE ON MONITOR 5

DEEPSTAR COMMAND - PRIORITY ONE
FROM CPT. LAIDLAW
HAVE POSSIBLE CONTAMINATION - DS6
REQUEST PROCEDURE - ESCAPED LAB SPECIMEN

Laidlaw presses the SEND button and sits back.

A second later, the monitor types back:

///MESSAGE RECIEVED///
///STANDBY///

There is a long pause. Then:

///CPT. LAIDLAW - PRIORITY ONE///
///FROM DEEPSTAR COMMAND///
/// ADVISE STERILIZATION - DS6///
///DIRECTIVE 7-12 IN EFFECT///

51 BACK TO SCENE 5

VALDEZ

What is directive 7-12?

Laidlaw scratches his head.

LAIDLAW

I'm not sure. Looks like some plan for dealing with escaped lab specimens.

52 ANGLE ON THE MONITOR

5

As Laidlaw types.

DEEPSTAR COMMAND -PRIORITY ONE
FROM CPT. LAIDLAW
REQUEST CLARIFICATION
DIRECTIVE 7-12

There is another pause as Laidlaw waits for a reply.

Suddenly, the monitor goes blank.

LAIDLAW
Looks like we're on our own.

53 INT. BIO LAB

5

Collins and Pierce are reworking the power bus control panel.

COLLINS
That thing smashed the shit out of main junction. Some of the standby circuits are still good...won't hold a full load.

PIERCE
It'll be enough until topside can get a repair team down here.

COLLINS
You think we're going home?

PIERCE
Yeah, sure. As soon as we find this 11-whatever and put it back in it's cage.

Collins face turns ashen.

COLLINS
(worried)
Didn't you kill it?

PIERCE
No...haven't seen it. Don't even know what it looks like.

COLLINS

You mean it's still loose...

Collins stops working as horrible realization crawls over her.

She rotates her head around slowly as Pierce continues to work.

54 COLLINS P.O.V. 5

As she PANS around the Bio-Lab looking for...

55 ANGLE ON RIPPLE 5

...a small black thing resting quietly just below the surface of the water. It could be anything...a bit of debris...anything.

Collins freezes.

Pierce starts to say something to Collins when he notices she is standing perfectly still.

Collins quietly points in the direction of the little ripple.

Pierce stares hard at the spot for a long moment.

IT MOVES.

Pierce turns back to Collins, mouthing a question without making a sound.

PIERCE

(only moving lips)

Is that it?

Collins nods.

Pierce looks back to the specimen tank where he had set down his shotgun.

He'd never make it.

Pierce tosses his thumb behind his back.

PIERCE

(only moving lips)

Let's get the fuck out of here.

Collins nods again. She carefully shifts her footing, angling her body towards the exit.

She and Pierce take a careful step towards the door.

The thing beneath the water TURNS SHARPLY.

COLLINS
(harsh whisper)
It's on to us...

PIERCE
GO!

Collins and Pierce highstep through the water, moving quickly for the "Hot Box". The thing beneath the surface takes off, moving quickly in their direction.

56 INT. HOT BOX - CONTINUOUS ACTION 5

Pierce and Collins doubletime through the "Hot Box", splashing through the water as they go.

57 ANGLE ON THE RIPPLE 5

As it moves into the "Hot Box", bearing down on them.

58 BACK TO SCENE 5

Pierce stumbles slightly and Collins pulls him along, neither one of them bothering to look back.

And it's a good thing because the ripple is picking up speed...moving in for the kill.

59 INT. CONTROL ROOM 5

First Collins then Pierce jump through the hatch.

60 ANGLE ON HATCH 6

As the ripple swims right up to the hatchway, Pierce's hand hits the CLOSE button.

SUDDENLY, SOMETHING LARGE AND BLACK BREAKS THE SURFACE JUST AS THE HATCH DOOR SLAMS SHUT.

WHAM!!!

The hatch reverberates as 1138 SLAMS against it.

61 BACK TO SCENE

6

Laidlaw, Craven, and Valdez are a little surprised to see Collins but before they can say anything:

WHAM! WHAM! WHAM!!!

LAIDLAW

Can it get through the hatch?

VALDEZ

It will eventually.

62 ANGLE ON HATCH

6

WHAM!!!

This blow puts a dent in the hatch.

63 BACK TO SCENE

6

PIERCE

(out of breath)

Let's get...while the...gettin's good.

LAIDLAW

Saddle up.

64 ANGLE ON HATCH

6

WHAM!!!

The hatch is bending in more.

65 BACK TO SCENE

6

Pierce doesn't need any further incentive. He rushes to the docking bay hatch.

He begins to lift, the others join him.

66 ANGLE ON HATCH

6

WHAM!!!

The hatch warps from the blow, retaining bolts SQUEAL as they are pulled from the bulkhead.

67 BACK TO SCENE

6

As they pull up the door, but there's too many cooks, someone's hand slips and door CRASHES back down.

PIERCE

Shit!

68 ANGLE ON HATCH

6

WHAM!!!

The "Hot Box" hatch is pushing out from the sides.

69 BACK TO SCENE

6

As Laidlaw turns to Valdez and Craven.

LAIDLAW

Give us some room!

(to Pierce and Collins)

On three...one...

WHAM!!!

LAIDLAW

(continuing)

...two...

WHAM!!!

LAIDLAW

(continuing)

...three!

They heave, forcing the hatch up with a sickening SCREECH.

Laidlaw motions Craven and Valdez through.

70 ANGLE ON HATCH

7

WHAM!!!

The "Hot Box" hatch CRACKS.

71 BACK TO SCENE

7

As Collins, Pierce, and finally Laidlaw moves through the hatch as the others hold it open.

The docking bay hatch SLAMS back down...

72 ANGLE ON HATCH

7

WHAM!!!

...just as the "Hot Box" hatch falls to the deck with a CLANG! Water rushes into the control room.

73 INT. BIO-LAB - DOCKING BAY AIRLOCK - CONTINUOUS ACTION

7

Laidlaw looks back when he hears the Hot Box hatch fall, he's amazed at 1138's strength. Valdez and Craven are the first into the airlock, followed by Collins, then Pierce. Laidlaw brings up the rear...

...accidentally bumping the shotgun, knocking it down. The hatch CRASHES down on Laidlaw's back.

He SCREAMS.

Pierce and Collins rush back to him, trying to lift the hatch, but with Laidlaw wedged in the hatchway, they can't get enough leverage.

WHAM!!!

1138 is beginning to work on the next hatch.

Pierce and Collins heave against the airlock hatch. Laidlaw groans, blood running from the corners of his mouth.

74 ANGLE ON CONTROL ROOM HATCH 7

The control room hatch is bending from 1138's successive blows.

75 BACK TO SCENE 7

Laidlaw can hear 1138 battering his way through the control room hatch. He tries to push Pierce away.

LAIDLAW

Forget it! My back is broken!

PIERCE

No way!

COLLINS

(straining)

Lift!

LAIDLAW

Pierce! That thing's going to break through any second! Save yourselves! Get out of here! That's an order!

PIERCE

(pulling on the hatch
with all his might)

Shut up!

76 ANGLE ON THE CONTROL ROOM HATCH 7

WHAM!!!

The bottom of the control room hatch punches from the sill, rivets flying.

77 BACK TO SCENE 7

Pierce strains, frantic now. Laidlaw coughs violently, Pierce glances down. A look passes between them and Pierce suddenly realizes...

PIERCE

NO!!!!

Pierce dives for the Laidlaw's arm, but too late -- Laidlaw punches the FLOOD switch on the airlock control.

WOOSH! Sea-water starts to pour into the airlock.

PIERCE

SHIT!!!

He pounds the airlock controls, trying to shut off the flood, but it won't respond.

He spins to the hatch, hauling on it with all his might, water cascading over him.

Water pours into the minisub.

Pierce keeps trying to lift the hatch. Collins grabs his arm.

COLLINS

Let's go!

PIERCE

NO!

Water splashes over Laidlaw's head.

COLLINS

You can't help him!

Collins drags Pierce back into the minisub, SLAMMING the hatch tight.

78 INT. DSRV - CONTINUOUS ACTION

7

As Pierce listens in anguish to the WATER as it fills the airlock.

Collins moves to the main control panel, grim.

COLLINS

We've got to pump this water out.
Pierce, start the engines.

CLOSE ON PIERCE -- Blank. In his mind he can hear Laidlaw dying on the other side of the fucking hatch.

COLLINS
(continuing; sharply)

Pierce!

Pierce moves to the pilot's seat, firing up the engines, numb.

Collins starts the pumps, looks up at Pierce -- he still can't believe what just happened. He suddenly, violently pulls the release lever.

79 EXT. OCEAN

7

As the minisub detaches from the bio-lab airlock. It hangs motionless, then suddenly surges away.

80 INT. DSRV

8

Pierce powers the sub away from the lab.

Valdez and Craven grab for hand-holds as the sub lurches forward.

Pierce, looks out the viewport at the airlock.

Collins watches him.

COLLINS
There was nothing you could do.

PIERCE
He was my friend! He deserved better than to die like that!

Then...

PIERCE
Fuck it...

He jams on the throttle.

81 EXT. DSRV

8

As it sails for the distant DeepSTAR 6.

CUT TO:

82 INT. DEEPSTAR 6 - DOCKING BAY

8

Richardson is stacking cases of equipment and luggage by the docking bay airlock when he hears the SOUNDS of the the DSRV arriving.

Richardson punches the videocom.

RICHARDSON
(into videocom)
They're back.

NORRIS
(filtered - O.S.)
On my way.

The airlock hatch opens with a loud HISS. Valdez and Craven climb out, followed by Pierce and Collins.

Norris enters the docking bay.

She looks at the others.

They stare back, limp. Emotionless.

Norris looks for the right words.

There are none.

Finally:

NORRIS
(to everybody)
Get your gear together...we're going home.

VALDEZ
When did the order come down?

NORRIS
It hasn't yet. Snyder's calling topside with a request for extraction right now. But I want to be ready to start decompression the moment the order comes.

CRAVEN
Great. The sooner we get out of here, the better.

And with that, Pierce exits the docking bay.

83 INT. COMMUNICATIONS

8

Snyder is typing in a message on the keyboard, an exasperated look on his face. Snyder knows his shit about communications and computers.

Right now though, he isn't making much progress.

Pierce glances at him on his way to his quarters.

PIERCE

What did topside say about Laidlaw?

Snyder throws up his hands in disgust.

SNYDER

They haven't 'said' anything. I keep sending a signal but all I get back is this bullshit!

He gestures to the monitor.

84 ANGLE ON MONITOR

8

///DIRECTIVE 7-12 IN EFFECT///

85 BACK TO SCENE

8

Pierce is puzzled.

PIERCE

What the fuck does that mean?

SNYDER

Beats me.

PIERCE

Try it again.

Snyder's fingers fly across the keyboard as he types in a message then presses the SEND button.

86 ANGLE ON MONITOR

8

///DIRECTIVE 7-12 IN EFFECT///

87 BACK TO SCENE

8

Snyder looks up at Pierce.

SNYDER

See?

PIERCE

Something's fucked up somewhere...

SNYDER

I checked all the...
(hears something on his
headset)
...hang on.

Snyder cocks his head, quickly adjusting the volume on his headset.

SNYDER

(continuing)

Sonar contact!

PIERCE

Where?

SNYDER

On the surface...no, wait! It's
leaving the surface...headed towards
us.

PIERCE

Rescue sub?

SNYDER

Too small...maybe a one or two man
sub...wait! There's another one.

PIERCE

Put it on the speaker.

Snyder flips a switch and communications is filled with the SOUND of the SONAR.

WE HEAR a distant SPLASH followed by a HISSING.

SNYDER

Shit! There's another one. Topside is
sending a whole fleet to take us home.

Pierce is puzzled.

PIERCE

Not likely. Punch up a visual as soon as the first one is in range.

As Snyder punches up the visual sonar, Collins walks past. Pierce pulls her over.

PIERCE

Hey, check this out...see if you can tell what it is.

Collins studies the visual sonar as it comes to life.

88 CLOSE ON SONAR

8

As an animated diagram of the ocean above DeepSTAR 6 boots up. A small blip is dropping down to the center of the screen.

COLLINS

Can you get an ID off that?

Snyder punches in a command to the computer. Sidebar information about the size and shape of the object appears next to the blip.

SNYDER

(reading off screen)

Metal cylinder...two meters long...one meter wide...

Collins realizes what they've been listening to...

COLLINS

(realizing)

Oh, sweet Jesus Christ...

She punches the videocom.

COLLINS

(continuing - yelling)

...DEPTH CHARGE!!!

89 EXT. OCEAN

8

A depth charge EXPLODES!

90 INT. COMMAND CENTER

9

BOOM!!!

The explosion rocks the station.

Snyder grabs onto the console as Pierce and Collins tumble back.

Lights dim and flicker in the station, computer displays blink off, then on again.

91 INT. SICK BAY

9

Norris is thrown to the deck.

Craven and Valdez are pelted with medical instruments as a shelf pulls from the wall.

Norris scrambles to the videocom.

NORRIS

Damage control!

92 INT. COMMAND CENTER

9

As Norris' voice CRACKLES through the speaker, Pierce and Collins scramble to their feet, racing for the damage control board.

PIERCE

Snyder, run a hull check!

But Snyder ignores him. He's trying to pry the top off his pill bottle, his hands shaking badly.

93 CLOSEUP - DAMAGE CONTROL BOARD

9

A computer monitor constantly displays the various systems aboard DeepSTAR 6. The computer is showing sidebar information about the damage incurred.

94 ANGLE ON PIERCE AND COLLINS

9

As they run up to the damage control board, Richardson dashes in from the docking bay.

PIERCE

We've got a pressure leak in section seven...

RICHARDSON

I'll get the gear!

He runs off into the docking bay.

- 95 INT. MEDICAL BAY 9
Valdez pulls an overturned equipment cart off of Craven. She is bleeding badly from a cut over her eye.
- 96 EXT. DEEPSTAR 6 - SAME TIME 9
A depth charge EXPLODES over the docking bay.
- 97 INT. DOCKING BAY - SAME TIME 9
Richardson is gathering some equipment together when the shock of the explosion knocks him to the deck.
- 98 INT. COMMAND CENTER 9
Snyder's pills go flying, scattering across the deck and falling through the grating.
Pierce and Collins grab onto a support beam, as the explosion causes the station to shudder.
- 99 EXT. DEEPSTAR 6 9
The cargo sub is blasted loose from its docking ring mooring and sinks to the sea floor.
- 100 INT. DOCKING BAY 10
ALARMS go off as water begins to spray from the cargo sub's hatch.
Richardson jumps to the hatch, fighting the water as he tries to re-seal the hatch.
- 101 ANGLE ON PIERCE 10
Pierce scans the damage control board.

102 ANGLE ON DAMAGE CONTROL MONITOR

10

The oxygen system display is a row of tanks, each colored in blue. As the next depth charge hits...

BOOM!!!

The display is a blur of static as another depth charge rocks the station.

An ALARM starts to SHREIK.

CLOSEUP - PRESSURE GAUGE as the needle drops quickly to zero.

PIERCE

SHIT!!!

He checks the computer display, two more tanks have turned red.

PIERCE

They've hit the oxygen system...we're losing pressure!

103 INT. DOCKING BAY

10

BOOM!!!

One of the docking bay support struts breaks free, crashing to the deck with a loud metal CLANG.

Richardson springs to the strut -- above him the hull is beginning to bend.

104 INT. COMMAND CENTER

10

Collins has seen the strut fall. She runs to help Richardson.

She stumbles across Snyder, still on his hands and knees, looking for his pills.

Norris gropes her way through the hatch from sick bay.

NORRIS

Pierce!

PIERCE

Over here! Give me a hand!

105 INT. DOCKING BAY 10

Collins drags the torch set over to the broken support strut. As Richardson lifts the strut, she fires up the torch.

106 INT. COMMAND CENTER 10

As Pierce and Norris frantically attempt to stem the sudden loss of air pressure.

PIERCE

(to Norris)

Patch in the trunk valve, see if we can hold pressure in the system.

NORRIS

(trying it)

Negative! I'm sealing off the loop.

(does it)

Shit! No pressure! The lines must be ruptured!

An ALARM CLAXON BLEATS furiously.

107 EXT. DEEPSTAR 6 10

Another depth charge EXPLODES!!!

108 INT. MEDICAL BAY 10

The medical bay rocks. Valdez gropes through the wreckage of the medical supplies for something to bandage Craven's bleeding scalp.

109 INT. COMMAND CENTER 10

Pierce and Norris can't stop the loss of air.

NORRIS

See if you can find where the leak is!

Pierce snatches up the keyboard and starts to type in some quick commands. But he can't make the system work the way Snyder can.

PIERCE

Oh, fuck...I can't make it work!
Where's Snyder?!

He looks over at Snyder, who is trying to dig a pill out from between the cracks.

PIERCE

(continuing-yelling)
Snyder, Goddamnit! Get over here and help us!

Snyder looks up, panicked.

110 EXT. DEEPSTAR 6 11

As a depth charge EXPLODES over the crew's quarters.

The hull caves in.

111 INT. CREW'S QUARTERS 11

As the bulkhead collapses. Hundreds of gallons of water rush inside.

The hatch automatically slams down, sealing with a HISS.

112 INT. COMMAND CENTER 11

Pipes burst, spraying water onto electrical consoles. Sparks shoot out.

Norris reaches over to turn valves, stemming the flow of water.

Pierce tries to make the computer system work but he is obviously lost.

He looks back at Snyder.

PIERCE

Snyder, for God's sake...help me!

Suddenly, Snyder staggers to his feet. He stumbles over to Pierce and takes the keyboard away from him.

With badly shaking hands he starts to type.

CLOSE ON THE DISPLAY -- As another tank goes from blue to red.

113 INT. DOCKING BAY

11

Richardson jams a packing case against the wall, Collins jumping up on it with her torch.

He holds the strut in place as she starts to weld the strut to the bulkhead.

BOOM!!!

Collins grabs the strut to keep from falling. The hull above her warps dangerously.

BOOM!!!!!!!!!!

The whole station is plunged into darkness. Lights and consoles sputter, fail, sputter. Finally they come back on.

Richardson is on the floor. Collins still clings to the strut, grimly welding it in place.

114 INT. COMMAND CENTER

11

Norris attacks an electrical fire with an extinguisher.

Try as he might, even Snyder's magic fingers can't stem the destruction.

He turns to Pierce, frantic.

SNYDER

We're fucked! The whole system is coming apart and there's nothing we can do!

NORRIS

Pierce, we need that air to decompress!

PIERCE
Not to mention, breathe....

Then he realizes something.

PIERCE
Hold it, hold it. Listen...

He slaps a switch to kill the ALARMS. The station is suddenly, eerily, quiet -- only the rasping WHOOSH of Norris' extinguisher and the HISS of Collin's torch.

PIERCE
(continuing)
They've stopped...

ON THE DISPLAY -- The last tank goes red.

SNYDER
The oxygen is all gone. It's all
fucking gone...

Pierce speaks quietly, angrily.

PIERCE
Well, at least now we know what
directive 7-12 is.

Richardson and Collins drag in from the docking bay. Collins removes her welding mask.

RICHARDSON
(continuing)
Well, that's the ballgame, folks.

SNYDER
Fuck it! Let's cast off in the escape
pod and go!

PIERCE
(shaking his head)
Without the oxygen we can't decompress.
(looking at the others)
And if we can't decompress, we can't
leave the station.

NORRIS
How long can we last?

COLLINS

There's enough ambient air in the station for a couple of hours.

Richardson is studying the status board.

RICHARDSON

Pierce, look here.

Pierce turns as he points to the board.

RICHARDSON

(continuing)

This indicates that the exchanger is still functioning.

PIERCE

Yeah, that's great. The only problem is that's not on line and the main is ruptured.

RICHARDSON

So what's the problem? We could reroute the main through the bypass and patch the oxygen through the airlock pressure system.

PIERCE

(starting to get excited)

Yeah, that would work...

115 INT. THE BASEMENT - CLOSE ON DIVE SUIT - MOMENTS LATER 11
WE SEE the name "RICHARDSON" -- stenciled on white metal.

116 ANGLE ON THE DIVE SUIT 11

The dive suit is a pressure-tight shell just big enough for one man, with joints for movement and a large viewing port in the headpiece. It looks like Robbie the Robot.

Valdez, Craven, and Norris look on as Collins and Pierce help Richardson into his dive suit.

Collins watches as Richardson rolls up the drawing his daughter did and stuffs it in his shirt.

RICHARDSON
 (off her look)
 For luck...

Then Richardson hoists himself inside as Norris steps up.

NORRIS
 Watch yourself out there.

RICHARDSON
 (squirming into the
 suit)
 It's a walk in the park.

117 INT. DIVE SUIT 11

Richardson has "customized" the interior of his dive suit. Taped to the inside of the helmet are photos of his wife and daughter.

A pair of miniature, pink fuzzy dice hang near the atmosphere controls.

118 INT. BASEMENT 11

Collins checks that Richardson's tool basket is loaded and secure.

At the monitoring panel, Snyder switches on the diving suit's video assist system.

The camera mounted on Richardson's helmet comes to life.

119 ANGLE ON MONITOR 11

As Snyder turns away, walking over to check the camera. His face looms up on the monitor, distorted by the wide angle effect.

120 BACK TO SCENE 12

Collins presses a button and an electric winch on a track in the ceiling automatically picks up Richardson's dive suit. With an electronic WHIRR, the winch starts along the track towards the airlock.

On the other side of the basement, the massive hatch to the diving well starts to open automatically.

Snyder punches up the oxygen exchanger blueprints on a computer terminal.

Pierce looks over the electronic blueprints.

121 ANGLE ON TERMINAL

12

A schematic of the oxygen exchanger flickers past. One area is highlighted in flashing red with sidebar information describing the problem.

PIERCE

(pointing at screen)

He has to seal off the leak then reroute the mains through the bypass. We'll patch the bypass through the airlock control here and route it up to the decompression chamber.

(to Snyder)

I'm going to need a hard copy of this.

Snyder presses a button and a color copy of the blueprint zips out. He hands the copy to Pierce.

PIERCE

(to Valdez)

Give me a hand with the deck.

122 BACK TO SCENE

12

Pierce and Valdez start to pull up small sections of the deck, exposing an extensive labyrinth of pipes and wiring.

The winch stops. Richardson's diving suit swing directly over the open diving well. The winch WHIRRS again, gently lowering Richardson into the dive well.

123 INT. DIVE WELL 12

With a loud metallic THUD, the heavy diving suit comes to a rest on the bottom of the airlock. The winch automatically disconnects from the suit, the cable snaking back up through the open hatch.

124 INT. BASEMENT / EXT. AIRLOCK 12

The dive well hatch closes automatically, sealing with a HISS.

COLLINS

Hatch secure. He's all set to get wet.

A speaker above Richardson's monitor BOOMS with his voice.

RICHARDSON

(filtered)

Let her rip.

Collins steps over to a panel: AIRLOCK CONTROL.

CLOSEUP - FLOOD button, as Collins presses it.

125 INT. DIVING SUIT 12

A loud HISS sounds as water splashes up and over the view ports on the DIVING suit.

126 EXT. DIVE WELL 12

The airlock door slides open and Richardson steps out onto the ocean floor. Work lights on the diving suit cast pools of brilliant light. Beyond lies the absolute blackness of the deep ocean.

127 INT. BASEMENT 12

Norris, Craven, and Snyder watch the Richardson's P.O.V. monitor as his voice CRACKLES from the speaker.

RICHARDSON

(filtered)

I'm clear of the airlock.

128 EXT. OCEAN FLOOR 12

As Richardson moves away from the airlock, the lights on the station grow dimmer. Soon he is surrounded by total darkness.

His breath is labored, each step is an effort.

Suddenly, a large black object begins to materialize in his path...

129 INT. BASEMENT 12

The screen flickers with static.

RICHARDSON
(filtered)
...something up ahead...

But the monitor only shows a grey-black muddle.

130 EXT. OCEAN FLOOR 13

The black object reveals itself to be a structure the size of a small building, criss-crossed with an elaborate network of pipes, junctions and valves intersecting and branching off from each other, a plumber's nightmare.

Air spills from broken pipes in huge fountains.

RICHARDSON
...it's the oxygen exchanger.

131 INT. BASEMENT 13

The screen is fuzzy.

RICHARDSON
(filtered)
Okay, I'm at the recirculation mains.
Where do I cut?

Pierce looks over the blueprints.

PIERCE
Find ENZ-6538.

132 EXT. OXYGEN EXCHANGER

13

Richardson scans the exchanger, his light coming to rest on a large main -- ENZ-6538 -- nestled in between smaller pipes.

RICHARDSON

Yeah...I've got it.

PIERCE

(filtered)

That's your main, cut it where it splits off and use the good end to patch into BNC-34.

Richardson reaches into his tool basket for his torch and fires it up. Bubbles spew from its nozzle as he starts to cut the pipe.

133 INT. BASEMENT - ON MONITOR

13

As Richardson's torch cuts through the main, Pierce starts to reroute the bypass. ("Hand me that wrench, etc.")

PIERCE

Is he through the main yet?

A burst of snow blurs the monitor image. Static obscures Richardson's reply.

SNYDER

(into headset)

Say again?

134 EXT. OXYGEN EXCHANGER

13

The torch cuts through the pipe.

RICHARDSON

(filtered)

Yeah, I'm through. Now what?

135 INT. BASEMENT

13

Pierce consults the blueprint.

PIERCE

Go ahead and patch it to BNC-34.

RICHARDSON

Affirmative.

136 EXT. OXYGEN EXCHANGER

13

Richardson is patching the main when something gets his attention.

He looks over at a filter vent. The cover has been torn off (blown off) and a tiny trickle of bubbles slip from the opening.

RICHARDSON

What was that?

137 INT. BASEMENT

13

The image starts to break up.

NORRIS

Snyder, fix this thing...

Snyder adjusts the set but the static grows.

138 EXT. OXYGEN EXCHANGER

13

Richardson shuts down the torch, turning towards the vent.

RICHARDSON

I thought I heard something.

He peers over into the vent.

WHOOOSH!!!!

A FLURRY OF BUBBLES FLARES UP IN FRONT OF RICHARDSON!

Richardson curses under his breath, shutting down the vent.

RICHARDSON
Nothing. Just a bypass venting.

He turns back back to the pipe...

...AND SOME BIG UGLY MOFO JUMPS IN HIS FACE!!!!

139 INT. BASEMENT - CLOSE ON MONITOR 13

AS 1138 LEAPS TOWARDS RICHARDSON'S CAMERA.

The image breaks up, Richardson's SCREAM becoming garbled with the static.

140 BACK TO SCENE 14

Everyone freezes for an instant.

Then:

NORRIS
Tell him to return to the airlock.

But Snyder is paralyzed.

Norris snatches the headset away from him, yelling into it.

NORRIS
Return to the airlock!

COLLINS
I'm going out there...

She races for the other dive suit.

NORRIS
(into the headset)
Richardson!!!

THUMP!!!

The noise at the airlock door causes everyone to freeze.

Pierce springs to the dive well hatch and peers into the small viewport in the top.

He smiles.

PIERCE

It's him!

Collins presses the dive well OPEN button and the massive hatch swings up.

Richardson's helmet comes to the surface. Pierce drops to the floor next to the helmet, wiping the faceplate with his sleeve.

141 IN THE DIVING SUIT

14

Pierce looks in through the viewport.

PIERCE

(muffled)

Hang on, Buddy! We'll have you out in a second!

Richardson looks back with a blank and distant stare.

142 BACK TO SCENE

14

Pierce jumps up, grabbing the hook from the winch. He fastens it to the back of Richardson's helmet.

Collins hits the switch and the winch starts to pull the diving suit out of the airlock.

Suddenly Craven screams.

Richardson's diving suit has been torn in half, the bottom part missing just below the arms. Cables and tattered flesh hang loosely from underneath as water and blood drip into the open airlock.

PIERCE

Holy Mother of God!

Stunned silence as the winch pulls the suit to the end of the boom, stopping with a loud metallic CLANG.

Something in the bits of floating debris catches Valdez's eye -- the drawing that Richardson's daughter did of him, torn and spattered with blood.

He bends down to pick it up.

THE GAPING BLACK MAW OF 1138 BREAKS THE SURFACE OF THE WATER, biting off Valdez' hand at the wrist.

SCREAMING, Valdez draws back a bloody stump. He staggers back across the deck, slamming into the bulkhead.

143 ANGLE ON NORRIS AND CRAVEN

14

Norris and Craven both leap for Valdez. Norris grabs his bloody arm but it slips from her grip. Craven grabs it in two hands. Propping him up with one hand, Norris rips the sleeve off his jumpsuit to fashion a tourniquet.

144 ON THE AIRLOCK

14

Pierce and Collins throw themselves on the hatch, forcing it closed.

A black claw forces its way out of the hatch, fighting for leverage.

Collins picks up a wrench and starts beating the claw back. Chunks of the shell break off, spraying them in the face.

The claw retreats back, Pierce and Collins force the hatch shut and lock it.

Dead silence. Pierce and Collins heave from exertion. Norris and Craven are already guiding Valdez to the ladder.

THUMP!!!

The impact causes the hatch to shudder violently. They scramble from the hatch.

THUMP!!!

The second impact shatters the viewport.

THUMP!!! CRASH!!!

The third impact torques the hatch hinge.

PIERCE/COLLINS

(to Snyder)

Purge! Hit the fucking purge!!

Snyder is shaking, lips quivering with fear. His mind is grinding gears.

Suddenly, he finds first.

CLOSEUP - PURGE button as Snyder's hand slaps it.

A deafening ROAR fills the basement as compressed air is quickly funnelled into the dive well.

Pierce and Collins stagger back against the railing as water geisers out of the shattered viewport like a fountain.

THUMP!!!

The hatch starts to spray water from the edge.

THUMP!!! CRASH!!!!

Water EXPLODES out of the dive well.

The hatch rips free and flies open, pinning Collins against the railing.

Pierce jumps over to her and tries to pull her free.

Water sprays from the dive well, several inches already cover the floor.

1138 rises up, shrouded in a spray of water.

The dive well still ROARS, the water level rapidly rising.

Pierce pushes against the hatch with all his might but it won't budge. Collins is trapped.

PIERCE

(yelling)

SNYDER!! SHUT OFF THE FUCKING PURGE!!!

But Snyder's clutch has burned out. He panics and claws for the ladder.

PIERCE

(yelling)

SNYDER!! GET OVER HERE AND HELP ME!

Craven is standing on the ladder, pushing Valdez through when Snyder pulls her off.

She falls back to the deck, landing in the water with a SPLASH!

Snyder flies up the ladder and through the hatch.

Craven looks over at the dive well.

1138 slithers out of the dive well and onto the deck.

Pierce is still trying to free Collins.

PIERCE
(yelling over the noise)
SHUT IT OFF!!!

Craven staggers through the waist high water towards the dive well control panel.

CLOSE UP - PURGE BUTTON as Craven turns it off.

The water spray from the dive well fizzles out.

Pierce pushes with both feet against the hatch. The hatch falls forward with a WHUMP! Collins is freed.

Across the room, the automatic winch has returned Richardson's suit to the rack. It releases it and the half-suit CRASHES to the deck, falling over into the water and sinking with a SPLASH.

1138 sinks beneath the surface, swimming for Craven.

She screams, scrambling for the ladder.

CRAVEN
Pierce!

145 INT. COMMAND CENTER

14

Norris rushes out of sick bay, hearing the muffled SHOUTS from the lab below. She looks up in alarm, moving towards the hatch.

Snyder grabs her, mad with fear, pinning her against the bulkhead in an iron grip.

SNYDER

No! It's down there!

146 INT. BASEMENT

14

Pierce hustles Collins towards the ladder as he rushes to help Craven.

Craven flails at the ladder but 1138 overtakes her, grabbing her in it's giant maw.

CRAVEN

(screaming)

Pierce! Help me...

Pierce reaches for her, but 1138 pulls her back.

CRAVEN

(continuing-pleading)

...please...help me...

1138 drags her under the water.

Pierce looks helplessly at the water where Craven went under.

Collins calls to him from the ladder.

COLLINS

Pierce! Come on!

Pierce turns and scrambles for the ladder.

Just as his feet hit the rungs...

1138 JUMPS OUT OF THE WATER AT HIS FEET, HISSING MADLY!!!!

Pierce leaps up the next few rungs, pressing hard into Collins.

PIERCE

GO!

COLLINS

I can't the hatch is locked!

Collins pounds on the hatch.

COLLINS
(continuing-yelling)
Snyder! Open the hatch!!!

Pierce glances down at the bottom of the ladder.

1138 circles the bottom of the ladder, it's spiny backbone just breaking the water.

Suddenly, it tilts it's ugly head skyward and HISSES, exposing several rows of sharp teeth -- a stinking, black pit of violent death.

PIERCE
(screaming at the hatch)
SNYDER! YOU OPEN THIS FUCKING HATCH
RIGHT NOW!!!!!!

147 INT. COMMAND CENTER

14

Norris and Snyder hear the muffled cries of Collins and Pierce through the thick hatch.

Norris starts for the hatch again but Snyder stops her.

SNYDER
No! You'll let it in!

Norris tries to break free of Snyder's grasp but his fear has made him strong.

Suddenly, she relaxes.

NORRIS
You're right...there's nothing we can do.

Snyder releases his grasp a bit, whispering...

SNYDER
Let's get in the escape...

POW!!!

Norris sends Snyder spiraling with a right cross to the chin then quickly crosses to the hatch cover.

149 INT. BASEMENT

14

Pierce watches from the ladder as 1138 works it's mouth, testing the ladder's rungs, getting ready for the big meal.

Not a pretty sight.

With the sudden WOOSH of compressed air, the hatch swings open. Collins and Pierce scramble through.

149 INT. COMMAND CENTER

14

Collins SLAMS the hatch shut, dogging it forcefully. Pierce collapses on top of it, his chest heaving.

PIERCE

It got Craven.

Collins rises up, her eyes meeting with Snyder's.

Snyder gives a slight start. Trying to stand and move back at the same time, he bumps into the map table.

But Collins is already on her feet, moving fast and low...

COLLINS

(thickly)

You son-of-a-BITCH!

...punching him in the face on the word "bitch."

Snyder tumbles backwards over the map table. Collins leaps after him, her fists flying.

She straddles Snyder, her fists slamming into his face again and again. Blood spatters from Snyder's nose.

Pierce grabs Collins from behind and pulls her off Snyder.

Snyder tires to get to his feet, instead staggering back against a console. He hangs there, trying to stem the flow of blood from his mashed nose.

SNYDER

What..what did you do that for?

Collins stares back furious as Pierce shuffles her into the medical bay.

PIERCE

Get your shit together, Snyder...or next time I won't hold her back.

CUT TO:

150 INT. SICK BAY

15

Valdez, conscious but weak, lays on the operating table.

Norris is cauterizing the stump, the red hot probe searing Valdez's flesh with a HISS, like drops of water on a hot stove.

Collins hands instruments to her, wiping Valdez's sweat-soaked face with a wet cloth.

Valdez GASPS, trying not to show the pain. Norris looks up at Collins.

NORRIS

The shot's wearing off. Prep another five cc's.

She does.

VALDEZ

We have to stop that thing.

NORRIS

Relax...

He strains to look at Norris.

VALDEZ

I should have listened...I should have known...

NORRIS

Don't exert yourself. I want you to stay calm -- take slow, deep breaths.

VALDEZ

...it's all my fault that those people have died.

Collins comes over with the syringe, taking Valdez by the shoulders to calm him.

COLLINS

Take it easy...you're in shock.

Norris thumps the syringe with her forefinger then quickly injects Valdez in his good arm.

The drug takes affect almost immediately.

VALDEZ

We found it...a new species... in the crater. I thought...I could use some of its characteristics as a work animal... an underwater beast of burden. Fantastic growth rate...strength... speed...

(he slows)

...too hostile. I wanted to keep... sample of its genetic material...thought we could cross it with...gentler traits. But topside...ordered me to save the organism intact.

COLLINS

Then it wasn't your fault.

VALDEZ

(slower)

I knew it was...too dangerous to keep...I should've destroyed it. But I was afraid...I would be...taken off...the project...

Valdez's eyes grow glossy.

VALDEZ

(almost gone)

Forgive me....Louise....

Valdez falls asleep.

Norris gets up, stripping off her bloody gloves. She runs some water in the sink, washing her face.

NORRIS

Don't exert yourself. I want you to stay calm -- take slow, deep breaths.

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VALDEZ

(almost gone)

Forgive me....Louise....

Valdez falls asleep.

Norris gets up, stripping off her bloody gloves. She runs some water in the sink, washing her face.

She turns as Pierce and Snyder enter the medical bay.

PIERCE
(gesturing to Valdez)
How is he?

NORRIS
I've done what I can...he'll be okay but we have to get him up top.

PIERCE
Yeah...along with the rest of us.

NORRIS
How much air do we have left?

COLLINS
Not much...whatever air is left in the station, enough for an hour or so, no more.

PIERCE
Richardson got the oxygen exchanger back on line but that fucking thing got inside before I could patch it into the decompression chamber.

NORRIS
Then we'll just have to go back down and finish patching it in.

SNYDER
With that thing down there?! No fucking way! We wouldn't have a chance! I vote we cast off in the escape pod.

PIERCE
Don't be an idiot. Without decompressing, we'd burst like a bunch of ripe melons.

NORRIS
(firmly)
We have to go back down..without that oxygen we'll die.

Pierce stands.

PIERCE
Then we'll have to kill that thing.

CUT TO:

151 INT. GALLEY - SHORTLY AFTER

15

Snyder comes in with four small cylinders tipped with stout needles -- SHARK DARTS. He dumps them next to Norris, and they start assembling the sectioned poles.

The air in the station is getting thin and hot and everyone is starting to sweat.

SNYDER
I could only find four of 'em...

NORRIS
They'll have to do.

Collins and Pierce are loading the shotguns when suddenly, Valdez appears in the hatchway.

NORRIS
You shouldn't be out of bed.

VALDEZ
I want to go.

Pierce and Collins exchange glances.

NORRIS
(starts to shake her
head)
I don't think...

VALDEZ
I want to to kill that son-of-a-bitch.

Norris looks over at Pierce. He shrugs.

NORRIS
(to Snyder)
Give him a shark dart.

Snyder hands Valdez a shark dart.

Valdez takes it in his only hand, studying it carefully.

VALDEZ

I'm not familiar with how this works.

PIERCE

It's loaded with a CO2 cartridge. Just jab the needle into that thing and the gas blows him up like a balloon.

NORRIS

We'll sweep that lab in two teams. Pierce, you take Snyder and Dr. Valdez with you. Collins your with me.

Snyder turns away to hide how badly he is shaking. Sitting on the padded examination table, he pretends to be intensely interested in his shark dart.

Everyone starts for the exit, except Snyder.

SNYDER

Hey! These cartridges expired six months ago. These fucking things are out of date!

PIERCE

Come on, quit fucking around. We're running out of time.

SNYDER

I'm not going down there with this defective piece of shit!

Norris swells. She's had about all of Snyder's shit she can stand. She snatches up Snyder's shark dart and points it at his crotch...

...then thrusts it into the padded surface of the examination table next to his thigh.

Instantly, the loud HISS of ESCAPING GAS is heard. Snyder jumps off the examination table as the vinyl cover begins to bulge, popping off the upholstery buttons.

Snyder scrambles to avoid the rapidly inflating cover as the high pressure gas in the shark dart fills the padded top.

PFOOM!!!

The vinyl is blown to shreds.

Everyone looks at the wrecked examination table.

NORRIS

Let's do it.

CUT TO:

152 INT. THE LAB - DS3

15

The sound of DRIPPING WATER echoes through blackness.

There is a slight THUD followed by a loud metallic CLICK as a small circle of light grows in the ceiling.

Pierce pokes his head cautiously through the hatchway. He shines his dive light around the interior of the lab.

It's three-quarters full of seawater.

PIERCE

(to himself)

Shit...

153 INT. COMMAND CENTER

15

Pierce pulls his head out of the hatchway and looks up at the others.

PIERCE

The dive well must be leaking...the lab is almost flooded.

The others exchange nervous looks as Snyder whines:

SNYDER

Oh, Jesus Christ! That thing could be

anywhere down there! Screw this
bullshit, let's cast off in the
pod...

NORRIS

Stow that crap.
(to Pierce)
Go on.

Pierce picks up his shotgun and starts to lower
himself into the hatch.

PIERCE

(muttering)
Navy...it's not just a job...it's an
adventure.

154 INT. THE BASEMENT

15

Pierce comes down the ladder, slowly easing his
body into the cold, dark seawater.

Norris comes next, followed by Snyder. Collins
helps Valdez bring up the rear.

Pierce dips his dive light beneath the surface of
the water, sweeping it back and forth slowly.
He wades chest-deep across the lab towards the
specimen tank.

Snyder, his shark-dart poised high above his
head, shuffles slowly to the right. Valdez
sticks close behind him.

Collins and Norris wade along the wall to the
left, their lights and weapons held out in front
of them.

SUDDENLY, SOMETHING SLICK AND BLACK BREAKS THE
SURFACE RIGHT IN FRONT OF THEM!

BLAM!!! BLAM!!! BLAM!!!

Norris jabs forward with her shark-dart as
Collins pumps three quick rounds through her
shotgun.

SCREAMS and SHOUTS fill the compartment as the
black thing thrashes around in the water, the
shark dart embedded in its skin, HISSING loudly.

Lights skew around the lab as Pierce shouts to be heard over the din:

PIERCE

Hold up! Wait a minute! Hold it!

The others quiet down one by one as they train their dive lights on the dying black thing...

...a pair of dive suit woolies.

It slowly turns, spilling air and sinking with a GLUB. A moment of embarrassed silence.

NORRIS

(ruefully)

I used up my shark dart.

PIERCE

Snyder, give her yours.

SNYDER

Fuck you! I ain't staying down here without a weapon!

Before Norris can respond...

VALDEZ

You can have mine.

Valdez quietly wades to Norris, and hands her his weapon. Pierce passes a couple of rounds to Collins who reloads her shotgun.

Tentatively they begin the sweep again.

Then, after a moment:

SNYDER

I think it split.

PIERCE

Yeah, I think you're right.

(then)

I'm going down and patch in the bypass.

Pierce hands his shotgun to Snyder. He braces himself, takes a breath, and dives under the surface.

155 INT. BASEMENT / UNDERWATER 15

Pierce dives down, searching with his light for the access panel. He finds it, setting his dive light on the deck. He gropes for the wrench and starts to reconnect a fitting.

156 INT. BASEMENT / ON SURFACE 15

The sound of WATER DRIPPING, the others waiting, their breath showing in the bitter cold.

157 INT. BASEMENT / UNDERWATER 15

Pierce tries to bolt a pipe together. The wrench slips with a loud metallic CLANG.

158 INT. BASEMENT / ON SURFACE 15

Snyder jumps at the noise.

SNYDER

What the fuck is he doing down there?

WHOOSH!!

They all have near heart attacks as Pierce bursts to the surface, panting:

PIERCE

It's jammed...

He breathes in deeply several times, then dives again.

159 INT. BASEMENT / UNDERWATER 15

Pierce really tugs on that mother and CLANG -- the wrench slips again.

Finally, he gets the pipe in place.

160 INT. BASEMENT / SURFACE 16

It's getting tense. Snyder swings his light back and forth, nervously. He's coming apart.

Norris and Collins are trying their best to stand an aggressive guard when...

...WHOOSH, Pierce comes up for air again.

PIERCE

Ta-da!

COLLINS

Did you get it?

PIERCE

It's patched in. We're all set to...

WHOOSH!!!

THE THING BURSTS UP BEHIND PIERCE!

Chaos. Dive lights flail in the darkness, slashing across the outline of the thing.

Snyder's nerve snaps. He drops Pierce's shotgun and runs for the ladder...

...his forgotten shark dart stabbing Valdez in the heart.

161 CLOSE ON VALDEZ

16

HISSSSS -- Valdez looks down in horror as his chest expands, a SCREAM building in his throat as blood gurgles from his mouth.

BLAPP!!!

Valdez's left side explodes in a grisly shower of ribs and muscle tissue. Collins and Norris are spattered with blood and bits of lung.

162 BACK TO SCENE

16

Snyder scrambles for the ladder, stumbling against Norris as she rushes forward to throw her shark-dart.

THWAP!!! HISSSS!!!

The shark dart punctures the thing's side, but hangs limply. The compressed gas escapes from the wound causing it to thrash about in agony.

Pierce backpedals as the thing sweeps towards him, its claws flailing. He ducks beneath the water as Collins fires her shotgun.

BLAM!!! BLAM!!! BLAM!!!

Two rounds punch through the thing's shell with a stinging SNAP. Her third shot goes high, rupturing high pressure hoses.

The hoses lash about as the thing pivots around in pain, HISSING madly. Its tail whips over its head.

BLAM!!!

Collins blows the end of its tail off. The thing SCREECHES.

Pierce breaks the surface next to Collins and hustles her towards the ladder.

Valdez's body slips beneath the surface of the water, his mouth frozen open in a cry of mute protest.

163 INT. COMMAND CENTER - CONTINUOUS ACTION

16

Snyder scrambles through the hatch, racing for the escape pod. He reaches up, pulling on a large yellow handle in the ceiling marked:

///ESCAPE///ESCAPE///ESCAPE///ESCAPE///

A ladder drops from the ceiling as Norris comes through the hatch.

NORRIS

Snyder! Stop!

He ignores her, climbing up, frantically unlocking the hatch to the escape pod.

Norris grabs him by the waist. He turns and pounds her with a vicious backhand. She tumbles to the deck.

He swarms up into the escape pod. Norris climbs up the escape pod ladder just as Snyder SLAMS the hatch in her face. She pounds on it, screaming:

NORRIS

Snyder, don't be stupid!

164 INT. ESCAPE POD

16

Snyder breaks the yellow and black safety seal and sets the switches to override.

Norris' VOICE carries faintly through the hatch.

NORRIS

(muffled)

Snyder! I am ordering you to stop!

He ignores her, sheer panic driving his brain as he fumbles with the ESCAPE control, twisting it to ARM.

165 INT. BASEMENT

16

The thing finally sweeps the shark dart out of its side, charging after Pierce and Collins. They scramble up through the hatch as it rips out the ladder inches below Pierce's feet.

166 INT. COMMAND CENTER

16

ANGLE ON NORRIS

As she hangs on the ladder in the short space between the escape pod and the command center as an ALARM CLAXON starts to bleat. She continues to bang on the hatch and scream, ignoring the big red warning stickers plastered around her:

//CAUTION: EXPLOSIVE BOLTS//

And now the lower hatch begins to automatically close. Norris is about to be trapped inside the docking ring....

...when suddenly, at the last second before she is pinned, strong arms reach up and pull her free.

She tumbles to the deck with Pierce.

167 INT. ESCAPE POD 16

Snyder pushes the launch button.

BLAMMO!!!

The explosive bolts fire simultaneously, rocking the escape pod and tossing Snyder back against his seat.

168 INT. THE COMMAND CENTER - SAME TIME 16

The ceiling shudders with the EXPLOSION.

The hatch to the escape pod warps, sending a shower of gas and debris. Water shoots past the seals, spraying Norris, Collins, and Pierce with terrific pressure.

169 EXT. DEEPSTAR 6 / EXT. ESCAPE POD - SAME TIME 16

The pod tears free from DeepSTAR 6 in a flurry of massive air bubbles as it races to the surface.

170 INT. THE COMMAND CENTER 17

Water gushes from the hatch seals, spraying the electronic consoles and shorting them out. Sparks fly out as the lights flicker and dim.

Pierce and the others crawl into the galley as the watertight doors start to close.

171 INT. GALLEY 17

The three of them slide through the airlock as the watertight door closes shut, sealing with a HISS. Norris sputters, coughing seawater from her lungs.

NORRIS

(coughing)

That bastard...I'm going to kill him!

Pierce gazes at the ceiling as if he could see through it.

PIERCE

He's already dead.

CUT TO:

172 EXT. ESCAPE POD

17

The pod rises from the seafloor at an ever increasing rate.

173 INT. THE POD

17

As the speed builds, the interior begins to vibrate. Snyder struggles to hold onto his seat.

CLOSEUP - DEPTH GAUGE as the needle starts to rise.

Snyder looks out the small window in the upper hatch. Bubbles race by against a pitch black background.

He giggles, a soft sound that builds as he pounds his seat arms, urging the pod to go faster. Snyder ignores the ALARM that goes off.

///DANGER///
///EXPLOSIVE DECOMPRESSION///

The escape pod is really shaking now, but Snyder doesn't care.

He's going home.

DEPTH GAUGE - The needle rises faster.

The escape pod lurches violently. Snyder throws out a hand to steady himself. It twitches.

A blister rises on the back of his hand.

Suddenly, the blister grows larger -- it becomes a vein, pushing to the surface of his arm. Snyder watches, fascinated, as the vein races up his arm past his elbow...

...then Snyder GASPS in pain.

DEPTH GAUGE - Rising faster.

WINDOW - The first glimmers of pale light.

SNYDER

In agony. Blood seeping from his ears and nose.

DEPTH GAUGE - Signing his death warrant.

SNYDER

CLOSE UP - Snyder's eyes -- red and bulging.

174 INT. ESCAPE POD 17

WINDOW - Light streams in. The water -- azure blue.

175 INT. ESCAPE POD 17

SNYDER

Veins push out across his face, his temples bursting, spraying out blood.

His mouth opens in a tortured SCREAM.

176 EXT. ESCAPE POD 17

Snyder's SCREAM carries faintly through the thick escape pod hull. The SCREAM CUTS OFF as the top hatch window is suddenly wiped with red.

Silhouetted by the distant sun, wreathed in air bubbles and sparkling light, the escape pod sails on towards the surface.

177 INT. GALLEY 17

This scene is currently under construction.

They are running out of air.

Pierce discovers that Collins is carrying his unborn child.

In a desperate final effort to survive, Pierce formulates a plan:

He will swim through the flooded Command Center to the Docking Bay and bring the surviving mini-sub to the decompression chamber. Norris and Collins will swim to the medical bay and enter the decompression chamber from that end.

178 INT. GALLEY - MOMENTS LATER

17

Pierce opens the door to the airlock and crawls inside.

PIERCE

Fifteen minutes...

Both women nod in agreement.

PIERCE

(sighing)

Well, here goes nothing.

He closes the door.

179 INT. GALLEY AIRLOCK - SAME TIME

17

Pierce sits in the tiny airlock, breathing deeply, filling his lungs with every atom of air they can hold.

He hits the OPEN switch.

The airlock quickly fills with swirling, frigid water. Pierce is completely immersed as the outer door slides open.

He swims out into the blackness beyond.

180 INT. COMMAND CENTER - UNDERWATER

18

Pierce swims across the almost fully flooded command center. He kicks under the map table and comes up next to the airlock door marked:

DOCKING BAY

A single red light shines from the control panel. He presses it.

Nothing.

Pierce give the button another try. Still nothing. Precious seconds tick past as he tries to figure the problem. Then, he kicks off from the bottom, swimming for the surface.

181 INT. COMMAND CENTER - CEILING 18

Pierce's head breaks the surface of the water only six inches from the ceiling of the command center. Behind him the escape pod hatch is still leaking like mad.

He takes several deep breaths and ducks down again.

182 INT. COMMAND CENTER - UNDERWATER 18

Pierce swims up to the door again. He pries open an access panel, using a crank to open the door manually.

The airlock door slides open and Pierce swims in.

183 INT. DOCKING BAY AIRLOCK - DS3 18

Pierce closes the door behind him, pressurizing the lock. As the water level drops beneath his chin, he takes several deep breaths and opens the next door.

184 INT. THE DOCKING BAY - DS3 18

Pierce and several gallons of water spill out into the bay. He gets to his feet, climbing into the accessway.

185 INT. DSRV-1 18

Pierce moves through the hatch, pulling it closed. He pulls himself into the pilot's seat and straps in.

186 INT. GALLEY - SAME TIME 18

The two women have lapsed into sleep. Norris sits in Snyder's chair, her feet drawn up underneath her. Collins lies on the floor.

Norris' head dips a little, then she falls, tumbling out of the chair.

NORRIS

Pierce...help me...

Then, she remembers. She starts shaking Collins.

NORRIS

(continuing)

Wake up...wake up.

But Collins is too far gone.

Norris drags her over to the airlock, opens the door, and pushes her inside.

187 INT. GALLEY AIRLOCK 18

Norris climbs inside after Collins, closing the door. She gives Collins another shake -- no response. Norris punches the FLOOD control.

Frigid water swirls around Collins and she awakens with a start. Her shout of protest is cut off as the water rises above their heads. Norris opens the outer door.

188 INT. COMMAND CENTER 18

Norris and Collins swim out of the galley airlock, their flimsy undergarments billowing as they navigate through the mass of debris that was once the command center.

They reach the medical bay airlock. Norris hits the OPEN switch.

Nothing happens.

Their lungs about to burst, Norris slams the switch again. A dreadful moment, then the hatch starts to open.

189 INT. MEDICAL BAY

18

Under the harsh red of the emergency lights, an unholy torrent of water pours in from the open hatch.

Collins pours into the medical bay, tumbling across the deck. Norris manages to grab the frame of the open hatch as the water thunders past her, tearing at her clothes.

Her finger finds the "CLOSE" switch, pressing it. The hatch motor GRINDS as it tries to close, then stops as something jams in the doorway.

A HUGE BLACK SHAPE SLIDES THROUGH THE DOORWAY.

The hatch SLAMS shut quickly, catching the thing by one claw. It thrashes wildly, its tail smashing Norris against the bulkhead.

190 INT. DSRV-1 - SAME TIME

19

Pierce cranks the starter, an exasperated look on his face. Nothing.

He hits it again, the starter WHINES but the turbine will not turn over.

PIERCE
(under his breath)

Shit...

He cranks it again. He'd pump the gas pedal if it had one.

191 INT. THE MEDICAL BAY - SAME TIME

19

Water sprays through the narrow opening in the hatch as the thing flails with an unearthly KEENING sound. Norris and Collins scramble away.

With a tremendous yank, the thing rips off a claw, breaking loose. The hatch slams shut.

Furious, the thing rises up, going for Collins. Collins backs away as Norris maneuvers down the bay.

Something catches her eye...

...the defibrillator unit.

She switches the unit on and grabs the shock paddles.

CLOSE ON DEFIBRILLATOR -- as the capacitor begins to suck up the juice with a loud electric WHINE, the voltmeter counting up quickly by thousands:

...2...3...4...5...

192 COLLINS

19

As the thing bears down on her.

BACK TO SCENE

Norris moves up behind it, holding the paddles out.

NORRIS

Let's see how you like this, you dumb, ugly, sack of fish shit...

She slaps the paddles on the thing's back.

ZZZAPP!!!!

Long sparks ARC across its shell, it SHRIEKS and recoils.

The thing hunkers down, HISSING at Norris.

CLOSE ON THE DEFIBRILLATOR -- as the capacitor begins charging again.

...4...5...6...7...

193 BACK TO SCENE

19

Collins hammers the controls to the decompression chamber but it refuses to open, an idiot light stating flatly:

//WATER IN HOLD//

The thing pauses, then sinks down, vanishing beneath the water.

The capacitor continues its steady climb.

...12...13...14...15...

A ripple races across the surface of the water towards Norris.

SUDDENLY NORRIS IS GRABBED FROM BELOW.

She's slammed against the bulkhead, one of the paddles flies from her hand and SPLASHES into the water. Norris BELLOWS in rage and pain.

Collins frantically pounds the little window in the hatch door.

Norris kicks out, trying to stay on her feet, groping for the lost paddle.

THE DEFIBRILLATOR -- WHINING in protest.

...22...23...24...25...

NORRIS

The paddle in her hand dips dangerously close to the water.

194 POV DECOMPRESSION CHAMBER - DS3 194

COLLINS

Suddenly behind her, through the window, Pierce enters the decompression chamber. Only he doesn't see what's going on because he's too busy wondering where the hell Norris and Collins are and why women can never be on time...

...33...34...35...36...

DEEP SIX: 2-DRAFT

...then he looks out the window.

The hatch to the decompression chamber flies open and Pierce grabs Collins and hauls her inside.

He starts for Norris.

NORRIS

GET BACK!!!

Suddenly, she is yanked beneath the surface.

ZZZZZZZZTTTT!!!!!!! POW!!!

There is a sharp electrical CRACK as the paddle hits the water. The power unit EXPLODES, sending a shower of sparks and debris.

Pierce is thrown back into the decompression chamber.

ZZZT!!! snap! ZZZT!!! snap! POW!!!

The creature rises up, HISSING wildly as thousands of volts surge through it.

Lights and instrumentation EXPLODE.

ZZZT!!! POW!!! snap! POW!!! ZZZT!!! ZZZT!!!

Pierce slams the hatch.

195 INT. DECOMPRESSION CHAMBER - DS3

19

ANGLE ON THE DECOMPRESSION CHAMBER

Pierce and Collins watch the fireworks through the thick little window, sparks of electricity briefly illuminating their faces.

196 INT. MEDICAL BAY - DS3

19

BACK TO SCENE

The thing convulses helplessly, thick smoke rolling off its shell.

ZZZT! ZZZT! pow. snap. ZZZzzzztt...

Finally, the last little spark fizzles out and the thing teeters over, falling into the water with a huge SPLASH.

197 INT. DECOMPRESSION CHAMBER - DS3

19

ANGLE ON THE DECOMPRESSION CHAMBER - SAME TIME

Collins and Pierce watch the creature die with rapt fascination.

Suddenly, this gives way to tremendous joy as they begin jumping up and down.

Finally, Pierce says something to Collins that makes her stop.

She moves close, putting her arms around his neck.

Their lips melt into one long passionate kiss as they slowly sink from in front of the window.

CUT TO:

198 EXT. DEEPSTAR 3

19

The deep sea station looks peaceful, dim lights barely glowing in the deep, dark ocean.

DISSOLVE TO:

199 INT. DECOMPRESSION CHAMBER - SEVERAL HOURS LATER

19

Pierce and Collins lay in a tangled heap, asleep on the floor. Collins begins to stir, pulling free of Pierce's arms. She opens her eyes and looks around the chamber as if she is unaware of where she is.

Suddenly, full-consciousness seizes her and she freezes.

Nothing.

Collins looks at her watch then up at the control board for the chamber. A green light glows reassuringly:

STAGE DECOMPRESSION COMPLETE

STANDBY

Collins blinks in disbelief. She reaches over and presses a button on the panel. There is a slight delay as if the computer does not understand the question.

Then the green light blinks again:

DECOMPRESSION COMPLETE

BEGIN EMBARKATION

A slight giggle escapes Collins. She grabs Pierce.

COLLINS

Wake up! Pierce, wake up!

She rolls him over, face up, his features frozen in a blank and distant stare.

She looks down in horror.

ON PIERCE

His chest cavity is a mass of swarming CRABS, feeding on his entrails.

ON COLLINS

As she SCREAMS.

CUT TO:

200 INT. DECOMPRESSION CHAMBER

20

BOOM

A depth charge explodes nearby, waking Collins with a SCREAM.

It takes her a moment to realize where she is, then she looks at her watch. She grabs Pierce and shakes him.

BOOM!

Another blast rocks the station and Pierce springs awake.

COLLINS
The bastards! They're doing it
again. Aw shit!

201 INT. DSRV-1 - MOMENTS LATER

20

Pierce and Collins board the minisub, moving as quickly as they can in the thin air.

Pierce climbs into the pilot's seat, sets some switches, then crosses his fingers.

He hits the starter.

Nothing.

BOOM!!

Pierce and Collins hold fast as the bulkheads RATTLE violently. Pierce scrabbles for the starter and stabs it.

Not a thing.

BOOM!!!

The minisub lurches. A gauge SMASHES.

PIERCE
(hoarsely)
You sorry piece of SHIT!

On "SHIT", Pierce SLAMS his fist into the console.

The motor catches.

Pierce lets out a WHOOP, gunning the motors.

COLLINS
Let's get the HELL outta here!

Pierce doesn't need to be told. He jams on the throttle.

BOOM!!!!

The explosion causes the minisub to pitch suddenly. Pierce is thrown hard against the bulkhead, loosing control of the sub.

The motors SCREAM.

202 EXT. DOCKING BAY 20

CRASH!

The minisub plows full speed astern into the station.

203 INT. DSRV-1 20

Alarms SHRIEK their warnings, the lights flicker wildly.

Pierce jams the drive into full ahead.

204 EXT. DSRV-1 20

CLOSE ON PROPELLER - as it hesitates, then spins furiously.

The stern of minisub is wedged tight in a gaping hole in the side of the station.

205 INT. DSRV-1 20

Collins works the damage control board, calling over her shoulder to Pierce.

COLLINS

We're stuck!

Pierce swears under his breath as he leans hard on the throttle.

206 EXT. DSRV-1 20

The minisub tugs forward. The motor WHINES in protest.

207 INT. DSRV-1 20

COLLINS

Pierce!

- 216 EXT. DSRV-1 21
The thing is wrapped around the bow of the minisub.
- WHAM!
- It SLAMS the side of the minisub.
- 217 INT. DSRV-1 21
 The minisub shakes violently.
 Pierce pulls back on the stick, his fingers fumbling over the switches.
 Collins gropes for something to hang on to, then is thrown again as the minisub shudders.
 She drops to the deck, crawling forward, her hand finding the control for the mechanical arm.
- 218 EXT. DSRV-1 21
 CLOSE ON THE ARM -- as it comes to life, extending itself.
- 219 INT. DSRV-1 21
 Pierce rides the helm with everything he's got.
 CLOSEUP - INSTRUMENT PANEL as motor temperature rises rapidly into the red zone.
 Collins tries to catch her breath, trembling from the lack of oxygen. The thing's gaping mouth presses against the front viewport, trying to chew its way inside.
- 220 EXT. DSRV-1 22
 The minisub rises in a flurry of air bubbles, the thing plastered onto the bow.
- 221 INT. DSRV-1 22

Collins smiles back.

COLLINS

Just like old times.

An ALARM bleats out a sudden warning. Pierce checks his panel.

PIERCE

We gotta leak...forward section.

Collins glances forward.

- 212 INT. DSRV-1 / ANGLE ON VIEWPORT 21
 ANGLE ON THE VIEWPORT
 As water streams from the sides of the plastic cover.
- 213 INT. DSRV-1 21
 BACK TO SCENE
 Collins moves forward...
 COLLINS
 Shit. Looks like a crack in the main viewport.
 ...pulling the cover off the viewport...
 ...she screams.
- 214 INT. DSRV-1 / VIEWPORT 21
 CLOSE ON VIEWPORT
THE THING'S MOUTH IS PRESSED HIDEOUSLY AGAINST THE VIEWPORT.
- 215 INT. DSRV-2 21
 CLOSEUP - COLLINS
 As she recoils, moving away from the viewport.

Pierce has had it with this shit. . He whips the throttle back to idle...

PIERCE

FUCK IT!

...then jams it forward with all his might.

208 EXT. DSRV-1 20

The minisub gives a start then jumps forward. It tears free with a sickening metallic SCREECH, leaving its stabilizer fin embedded in the hole.

209 INT. DSRV-1 20

As Pierce steers the minisub away from the docking bay, he glances out his stern viewport.

210 EXT. DEEPSTAR 3 21

PIERCE'S P.O.V. - As the depth charge drifts down slowly onto the top of the station.

K A B O O M ! ! !

The station EXPLODES!

211 INT. DSRV-1 21

The minisub vibrates violently as it is hammered by the explosion.

Pierce fights to stay in control as Collins hangs on for dear life.

The lights flicker, then die.

After a moment, the vibrations subside and the lights blink back on.

Pierce glances around the minisub, checking for structural damage. He looks at Collins and smiles.

PIERCE

Wow! What a ride, huh?

Collins manipulates the arm.

222 INT. DSRV-1 / EXT. DSRV-1 22

CLOSEUP - FORWARD VIEWPORT as the mechanical arm moves toward the dark form of the thing like a silver dart.

223 INT. DSRV-1 22

Collins is sweating bullets, gasping for air.

A terrible GRINDING sound causes Pierce to jump.

CLOSEUP - INSTRUMENT PANEL as the motor temperature gauge hits the end of the scale.

224 EXT. DSRV-1 22

CLOSE ON THE PROPELLER -- as it suddenly halts, gas and debris shooting past the driveshaft bearing seals.

225 INT. DSRV-1 22

Pierce shuts down the motors -- too late. The minisub, powerless, is tossed about as the thing slams them again.

WHAM!

The lights flicker, sparks and flames leap from the control panel. Water begins to spray into the sub.

226 INT./EXT. DSRV-1 22

CLOSEUP - FORWARD PORTHOLE -- the thing's hideous mouth.

227 INT. DSRV-1 22

COLLINS

concentrates fiercely, ignoring the violent pitching of the sub and the water that showers her.

- 228 INT./EXT. DSRV-1 22
CLOSEUP - FORWARD PORTHOLE -- the clawed end of the mechanical arm appears in front of the thing's mouth.
- 229 INT. DSRV-1 22
Collins drives the claw straight into the thing's mouth and squeezes the control grip.
- 230 EXT. DSRV-1 23
CLOSE ON THE THING'S MOUTH as the claw closes, catching the tender mouth parts.
The mechanical claw crushes the thing's mouth organs. Blood spurts into the water.
The thing goes berserk.
- 231 INT. DSRV-1 23
Pierce grabs his seat with both hands to hold on.
CLOSEUP - DEPTH GAUGE, the needle soaring for the surface.
Collins squeezing the control grip as tight as she can.
- 232 INT./EXT. DSRV-1 23
CLOSEUP - FORWARD PORTHOLE -- the thing convulses to get away from the sub. It twists violently.
- 233 EXT. DSRV-1 23
The whole sub rolls completely over.
- 234 INT. DSRV-1 23
Everything not bolted down is briefly airborne. The monitor panel crashes down, pinning Collins. She bellows -- a loud angry SCREAM.

Above Pierce, an emergency kit shakes open, spilling its contents. He's hit on the head by something that lodges in the maze of pipes and wiring at his feet.

A flare pistol.

Collins has lost her grip on the mechanical arm control, but the claw remains imbedded in the thing's mouth, locked closed. As it thrashes, the minisub pitches.

PIERCE

For God's sake, let it go!

COLLINS

(banging the control)

I can't, it's jammed!

CLOSEUP - DEPTH GAUGE Almost to zero.

Pierce's eyes flick from the depth gauge to the flare gun -- then to the fuel gauge (the tanks are almost full) and right next door -- the FUEL DUMP switch.

An idea is forming in Pierce's mind.

He reaches above his head, to the inside cover of the escape hatch marked:

//LIFE RAFT//LIFE RAFT//LIFE RAFT//

He pulls the arming pins.

Reaching down, he picks up the flare pistol and tucks it into his waistband.

235 INT./EXT. DSRV-1

23

CLOSEUP - FORWARD VIEWPORT The minisub lurches hard and suddenly the viewing ports are wiped with foam.

236 EXT. THE OCEAN

23

The minisub breaks the surface.

They've surfaced.

- 237 INT. DSRV-1 23
- Pierce pops the hatch, sucking in as much fresh air as his lungs will hold.
- 238 EXT. DSRV-1 23
- The life raft bursts from the hatch and begins to inflate.
- On the bow, the thing still struggles. It rocks the minisub, trying to swamp it.
- 239 INT. DSRV-1 23
- Pierce shouts down.
- PIERCE
Let's go! Abandon ship!
- Collins is trapped under the control panel. She's trying to wrestle it off, but it won't budge.
- COLLINS
I can't move...
- Pierce doesn't hesitate, he drops down by her.
- 240 EXT. DSRV-1 24
- The thing tips the minisub over hard, shipping water down the hatch.
- 241 INT. DSRV-1 24
- Pierce grabs the control panel and heaves. It just won't move. The sub heels over the other way, water pours into the hatch, drenching them.
- Water rises up past Collins shoulders, splashing over her face. She gulps for air, getting only ocean.
- Pierce is really tired of all of this shit -- he grabs the goddamn panel and hauls on it.
- His fingers slip on the heavy, wet metal.

Pierce looks around at the wreckage, searching quickly as another big wave comes down the hatch, totally immersing Collins head.

He finds a piece of pipe, wedges one end under the panel and jumps on the other end.

The panel lifts a little.

Collins bursts clear, sputtering seawater from her lungs. Pierce helps her up to the hatch.

Scrambling out the hatch, Collins trips and falters.

Pierce puts both hands on her ass and shoves her out the hatch. Climbing out after her, he pauses to turn back to the instrument panel.

With his foot, he kicks the FUEL DUMP switch.

242 EXT. DSRV-1

24

The fuel is ejected from the minisub with a ROAR, two geysers of fuel and seawater shooting up into the air.

Collins clings to the conning tower.

A growing pool of fuel forms around the sub.

CLOSE ON THE THING - as it rips free of the remote arm, leaving a large clump of bloody tissue.

Pierce pushes Collins into the now-inflated life raft and shoves it off with his foot. He remains on the sub.

COLLINS

What are you doing?

PIERCE

Get clear of the sub!

COLLINS

Don't be crazy, come on!

He steadies himself on the rocking sub, grabbing the flare pistol -- the fuel dump is nearly complete, fizzling out. He checks the load.

Suddenly:

COLLINS

BEHIND YOU!

Pierce turns to look -- the thing heaves itself up the side of the sub towards Pierce. It's open mouth a torn, bloody mess.

Pierce takes careful aim on the thing, pulling the trigger.

CLICK!

Nothing happens.

The thing gets a clawhold, pulling itself closer.

Pierce's nostrils flare at the stench as he checks the flare pistol. This time he remembers to cock it.

The thing HISSES.

PIERCE

Merry Christmas, dickweed!

Pierce FIRES.

The flare shoots right down the thing's mouth.

KA-BOOM!!!

The ocean explodes in a ball of flame.

243 EXT. THE RAFT - SAME TIME

24

Collins screams as the minisub is engulfed in a fireball.

The fire spreads quickly across the water.

Flames lick at the sides of the raft. Collins grabs a paddle, splashing them away.

Then she is free.

She looks up.

244 EXT DSRV-1 244

ANGLE ON MINISUB - as the sea burns furiously.

245 COLLINS 245

As tears run silently down her face.

CLOSE ON THE WATER - as a faint ripple starts across, swimming towards the raft.

246 BACK TO SCENE 246

Collins grabs the paddle, ready.

WOOSH!!!

A black figure rockets to the surface. She screams.

It's Pierce.

Gasping for breath, he tries to pull himself aboard, but he's so goddamn tired he can barely move.

Collins helps Pierce into the raft, the fuel tanks on the minisub EXPLODE.

They turn and watch as the sub burns, slipping slowly beneath the sea.

Then it's gone.

Pierce and Collins lay in the bottom of the raft, exhausted, not really believing they made it.

After a long, long time, Collins sits up.

COLLINS

Now what do we do?

Pierce sits up with a groan -- he is pretty badly burned in a couple of places.

He scans the horizon -- nothing but water.

Pierce just stares at Collins, her wet and matted hair, torn underclothes that aren't hiding much.

He smiles, then picks up one of the small plastic paddles in the bottom of the raft and hands it to Collins.

PIERCE

Row.

She sighs as she dips the paddle into the water.
Pierce picks up the other paddle and digs in as well.

247 EXT. THE OCEAN - WIDE SHOT

247

The raft is just a speck on a vast and beautiful ocean as we:

FADE TO BLACK

THE END