

Prologue

ARC Juno Files - JANUS INITIATIVE

by

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No Such Thing Productions

INT. Bridge, Wreck of the Starship Adamantine - DAY

We hear the sound of a metal door being forced open. After several loud bangs, the door comes crashing off its hinges, and three people dressed in Aphelion Industries uniforms step onboard. They are all dressed in hazmat suits, and their voices are filtered through their suit-to-suit comms links.

The Adamantine's bridge is a ruin of scattered and broken equipment. Small pieces of something that might be glass or crystal crunches underfoot in a small greenish pool, and something dark is splattered across the walls and floor.

MOLLY

(in a very small voice) Jesus...

CAPTAIN RORI

(turns on a walkie talkie) H.Q.
this is Captain Rori with Aphelion
Recovery Crew Juno, onboard the
Adamantine. Repeat, this is ARC
Juno onboard the Adamantine. We-...
(steadying breath) We have a code
Violet. Repeat. Code Violet.

DECLAN

(lifts a piece of equipment and
lets it drop) What a mess.

MOLLY

Where's the crew?

DECLAN

I think you're standing in it.

MOLLY

Oh my god...

CAPTAIN RORI

Is that-

DECLAN

The woman. I think.

CAPTAIN RORI

Christ. (beat. re-focusing.) There
were two of them. Spread out. Stay
sharp. (seeing the first officer)
Molly... Why don't you go check out
the back.

(CONTINUED)

MOLLY
(quietly) I'm alright.

CAPTAIN RORI
You knew her?

MOLLY
Yeah. (She forces herself to take a deep breath) I just-... I'm going to take a few readings of this stuff on the dashboard. Start prepping for a possible quarantine.

CAPTAIN RORI
You sure?

MOLLY
(grim determination) That's my job.

DECLAN
Captain?

Officer Declan pulls something from the wreckage.

DECLAN
I've got data pads. (examining it) The screen's... cracked.

He presses a button on the side and there is a soft hiss and click as a small chip slides out.

DECLAN
Drive's been damaged.

CAPTAIN RORI
Any way to extract the archives?

DECLAN
Not sure. Maybe. The black box safe should hold most of the logs and basics.

Declan gets on the computer. We hear it boot up.

DECLAN
Huh.

CAPTAIN RORI
What is it?

DECLAN
Power's still on.

CAPTAIN RORI

So they didn't crash from a lack of fuel. Doesn't look like anyone was driving...

DECLAN

No. But these controls have seen better days. Still. I might be able to restore the files through the ship's computers. Uplink it to Aphelion's central system that way.

CAPTAIN RORI

Do it.

Declan works at the computer for a moment.

DECLAN

Ah, shit...

CAPTAIN RORI

What is it?

DECLAN

These files are fucked. I might be able to salvage something but-... no telling what it'll be. I can't even get the log numbers.

He clicks on one of the files, static filters through the ship's speakers.

DECLAN

This could take a while.

CAPTAIN RORI

Just do what you can.

Declan nods, and continues clicking and trying various files in the background.

Rori moves to inspect the thing on the floor that might've been a person.

CAPTAIN RORI

What's this glass and green stuff all over the floor?

MOLLY

Dunno. I've got it up here on the dash, too. Some sort of experiment maybe? Might want to take a sample.

(CONTINUED)

CAPTAIN RORI
(in agreement) Mm. (sighs to
herself) ... Christ, she was just a
kid.

Rori starts scraping samples of the crystal and liquid.

Molly suddenly recoils from the ship's controls, pale and
shaken.

MOLLY
(almost vomiting) Oh my god.

CAPTAIN RORI
(looking up) You alright?

MOLLY
This... growth on the command
module. It's... biological. I think
it's-

DECLAN
Captain? Captain. Hold on.
Something's coming through-

We hear the crackle and hiss of static. And then, fading
through the press...

CHEL
It's never been so quiet...

FADE OUT.

END.