

Here Be Dragons - Episode Ten

"Kit and Kin"

by

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Black Lace and Laser Beams  
Productions

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SCENE ONE

INT. Engineering, U.S.S. Rusalka - DAY

We hear Pip banging around, making some final adjustments to the intake pipes. She closes a hatch.

PIP

Okay! That should do it. Ophelia,  
can you run a diagnostic on Intake  
Pipe 4?

OPHELIA

One moment please...

We hear the computer processing, followed by a musical chime.

OPHELIA

Diagnostic complete. Intake Pipe 4  
operating within standard  
operational parameters.

PIP

Booyah! Score one for Team  
Engineering.

OPHELIA

You now have 57 invoices left on  
your To-Do List.

PIP

Yeah, yeah. Anything else that  
requires being beached?

OPHELIA

No.

PIP

Anything that might kill us if I  
don't do it right now?

OPHELIA

No.

PIP

Awesome! I'm going outside! Bye  
Ophelia, don't wait up!

Pip runs out.

FADE TO:

EXT. Beach - DAY

(CONTINUED)

We hear the usual beach sounds... seagulls, waves... Pip pushes open the hatch of the Rusalka and takes a deep breath of fresh air.

Off in the distance (fading in as Pip approaches) we hear the sounds of Scarlett giving a swim lesson.

SCARLETT

Head up, Harper, that's it. Just keep kicking! You're doing great.

HARPER

(spitting out water) This is torture.

SCARLETT

Well, if you want to stay a part of my crew, you'll endure it. Come on, don't be so dramatic! You can do this.

PIP

Hey guys! How's the swim lesson coming?

HARPER

Hellishly.

SCARLETT

Quit being a baby. She's doing MUCH better than this morning. She'll be a regular dolphin in no time, if she'd stop whining.

PIP

Any chance of a break soon?

SCARLETT

Sure!

HARPER

Really?!

SCARLETT

As soon as I can tell the difference between your front stroke and you signaling for help.

Harper groans.

SCARLETT (cont'd)

Maybe later, Pip.

PIP

Oh... okay...

She wanders over to where Atlas is sunbathing not too far away.

PIP (cont'd)

Hey, doc.

ATLAS

Pippa! I was wondering where you'd gone off to... How are the repairs coming?

PIP

All the fun stuff's done. Just have some tweaking left...

ATLAS

My god, you're filthy. Why don't you go for a swim? Get some of that grease off.

PIP

I was thinking I might go exploring! Wanna come?

ATLAS

Darling, I love you, you're my favorite, but I haven't seen proper sunlight in weeks. Besides (holds up her book) I have a date with Cthulu, so I'm not leaving this chair until I have a hearty case of sun poisoning. You understand, don't you, dear?

PIP

Yeah...

ATLAS

Excellent. You have fun now!  
(calling after her) And try not to track too much sand back inside!

FADE TO:

2 SCENE TWO

Pip is alone on the beach.

PIP  
First real day out we've had  
together and everyone's busy...  
what's the point of a beautiful  
island vacation if nobody's going  
to actually enjoy the beautiful  
island? Might as well have stayed  
submerged...

A small sound. Pip stops.

PIP (cont'd)  
Hello?

Another sound. Pip starts pushing her way through the brush,  
towards the noise.

PIP (cont'd)  
Hello? Um... We come in peace?  
Sorry to bother you... My crew and  
I just picked up your island on our  
radar, and we had some repairs to  
make so we stopped... It's a very  
nice island! Or... I think it is...  
Haven't been on many islands... But  
it's nice to meet you! My name's  
Pip... Hello?

We hear her push aside some brush, and then the sound of  
dozens of seals. They're all stretched out along the coast,  
barking and playing.

PIP (cont'd)  
Whoah...

CUT TO:

Some moments later, Pip drags Harper down the beach.

HARPER  
Pip, SLOW DOWN! I can barely feel  
my legs as it is!

PIP  
(ecstatic and not listening) There  
must've been fifty of them at  
least! Harper it was so cool. I've  
never seen so many seals in my  
life!

(CONTINUED)

HARPER  
(amused) Have you ever seen a seal  
in your life?

PIP  
I've seen pictures...

Pip pulls back the brush, to reveal... nothing.

PIP (cont'd)  
... What?

HARPER  
Wow. Well Pip I've gotta hand it to  
you... that is a... really empty  
beach.

PIP  
Where did they go?!

HARPER  
Back to the water, probably. Or  
you're completely crazy. Too much  
sun can do that, y'know.

PIP  
They were right here! Fifty of  
them! And they were HUGE! And  
rubbery! And loud, and- HEY! Where  
are you going?

HARPER  
Back to the Rusalka. Taking a leaf  
out of the doctor's book-- I'm  
taking a nap.

PIP  
(calling after her) You're boring!  
You're gonna miss out on all the  
adventure! ... Fine. Nerd.

She kicks sand. We start to hear a baby crying.

PIP (cont'd)  
Oh! Oh god, what is that?! What-

We hear her push aside some more brush. There's a baby  
laying there, now covered in sand.

PIP (cont'd)  
Oh! ... ooooooh... crap...

CUT TO:

## 3 SCENE THREE

EXT. The Beach - Moments Later

Pip races past the rest of the crew towards the Rusalka.

HARPER

Hey, Pip! Where've you been? Do you want to-

PIP

(calling over her shoulder) Uh, no thanks! I'm tired! I stepped on seashell! I'm not feeling too good! Don't wait up!

She practically leaps back down the hatch and slams the door behind her.

beat.

SCARLETT

What the hell was all that about?

ATLAS

Well, when you've got to go...

FADE TO:

## 4 SCENE FOUR

INT. Ops, U.S.S. Rusalka - DAY

It's about an hour later. Scarlett, Harper and Atlas are all settling back into their stations. We hear Scarlett fiddling with the controls (a sound something like hydraulics).

SCARLETT

Look at that! That's the smoothest descent we've had this whole trip. Way to go engineering!

ATLAS

Looks like she adjusted some of the external sensors too. Still no sonar, but the cameras are getting a much clearer picture.

SCARLETT

Once we have sonar and communications back up, we might even be able to call this a real

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SCARLETT (cont'd)

submarine. (She claps her hands. Play Time is over kids.) Okay! Now that we're all rested and refreshed, next order of business is finding our next port of call. Uninhabited beaches are fun, I certainly prefer this island to the last one, but we have to make a fuel stop eventually. Atlas, as our acting Master of Sail, that's your highest priority. So if we sink-

ATLAS

I won't let you down.

SCARLETT

Harper, how's our monster cataloguing coming?

HARPER

Well, we have a record of every encounter we've had so far. But I haven't found anything on the Hounds. I've referenced over half the books in the library. Still nothing.

ATLAS

Maybe they're a new species.

HARPER

Or maybe there was only ever one. We don't know if there have been any more attacks on ships since we left, and it's not like we can call Killian to ask.

SCARLETT

Well keep looking. We have to operate as if there are more of them out there.

HARPER

And what happens if we actually find them?

SCARLETT

Then... we observe. And hopefully we'll have a working ship to shore relay so we can report back to Canaveral. ... Speaking of working, where's Pip?

(CONTINUED)

HARPER

Probably lying down somewhere. I'll go find her.

SCARLETT

Alright. Oh, and be sure to tell her- HOLY CRAP!

HARPER

What?! What is it? What happened?!

SCARLETT

Nothing! Nothing, I just-... Jesus, that was the biggest seal I've ever seen in my life.

ATLAS

What? where?

SCARLETT

Just went by the starboard cameras. Scared the bejesus out of me.

ATLAS

And I thought Pip was jumpy.

SCARLETT

Oh shut up. Harper, just-... let her know she did good today.

ATLAS

And if she's still feeling under the weather-

HARPER

I'll send her straight to you.

ATLAS

Good girl.

SCARLETT

Go on. Scoot!

FADE TO:

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SCENE FIVE

INT. Pip's Room, U.S.S. Rusalka - Meanwhile

We hear the baby making small, happy baby noises, as Pip plays with her.

(CONTINUED)

PIP

There now! Who's a happy baby?  
You're all cleaned up, no more sand  
in your face... I'm really sorry  
about that. I don't normally kick  
sand at babies... I don't normally  
pick them up off the beach either.  
But it's not like I had much of a  
choice...

She picks the baby up and it makes more baby noises.

PIP (cont'd)

I've never adopted a child before!  
But I read a lot of parenting books  
during my developmental stage, so I  
probably know the basics.

The baby squeals.

PIP (cont'd)

That's another thing. You gotta be  
quiet. And I mean like SUPER quiet,  
'cause your auntie Scarlett- don't  
worry, you'll meet her later -  
she's kind of my boss and I am NOT  
allowed to have a baby or any kind  
of pets... So she can't know you're  
here. But only until you're  
eighteen! Then you'll be old enough  
to join the crew, so she should be  
more okay with the whole stowaway  
thing. So just keep quiet until  
then and it'll be perfect! Nobody  
will ever even know you're here.

HARPER

Nobody will ever know who's here?

Pip screams and the baby starts crying.

PIP

Harper! Oh, look what you did!

HARPER

What **I** did?! What did **you** do? What  
is that?

PIP

Nothing!

(CONTINUED)

HARPER  
Is that a baby?!

PIP  
Celia, come on, remember what we  
talked about!

HARPER  
You named her? Pip!!

PIP  
What was I supposed to do?! Harper,  
she was all alone! Somebody  
abandoned her on that beach, with  
nothing but an old grey blanket.  
They just left her there, where  
anybody could have kicked sand on  
her!

HARPER  
(confused) What?

PIP  
Or she could have died! I couldn't  
leave her!

HARPER  
(sinking onto the bed) Scarlett's  
gonna kill you.

PIP  
I know. You've got to help me.

HARPER  
Why me?!

PIP  
'Cause if you'd stayed and looked  
for seals with me, I never would  
have found Celia in the first  
place. So TECHNICALLY, this is your  
fault. Which means, she's your baby  
too.

HARPER  
Pip, I don't know the first thing  
about babies and neither do you!  
... For example, why is the baby  
wrapped in- is that my sweatshirt?

PIP  
She was cold! And you weren't using  
it.

(CONTINUED)

HARPER

I thought you said she had a blanket?

PIP

It was gross. I put it in the laundry.

HARPER

(sighing) Well, there's probably some baby clothes up in the gift shop. Maybe some diapers too. Come on... take... Celia with you.

PIP

Hey, Harper? ... Thanks.

FADE TO:

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SCENE SIX

INT. Ops, U.S.S. Rusalka - Meanwhile

We hear the door open. Atlas enters.

ATLAS

Well, there's no word from Harper, or Pip. Which means they're probably off playing somewhere. Honestly, sometimes it's so easy to forget they're both supposed to be adults, the way they-... Commander? Scarlett, are you alright?

Scarlett is studying one of the monitors.

ATLAS (cont'd)

Have you been standing there since I left?

SCARLETT

It's following us.

ATLAS

What?

SCARLETT

(grimly) The seal. He's following us. See? There. Starboard side.

(CONTINUED)

ATLAS

I see a seal...

SCARLETT

It's the same seal. For twenty minutes. He's following us.

ATLAS

Well THAT'S rather paranoid, don't you think?

SCARLETT

I think I've earned the right to be a little paranoid, don't you agree, doctor?

beat.

ATLAS

Well. We can increase our speed. Shake him off. He's probably just interested in the cameras, because they're shiny.

SCARLETT

Yeah... maybe...

ATLAS

I'll speed us up. He can't keep up with us forever.

CUT TO:

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SCENE SEVEN

INT. Gift Shop, U.S.S. Rusalka - Meanwhile

Harper and Pip are sitting on the floor picking out baby clothes.

PIP

Good call coming to the gift shop. Man, Killian must've thought of everything.

HARPER

Pretty sure he just forgot this was here. But we have diapers, so that's the most important thing. And I have to admit, you are weirdly good with kids.

(CONTINUED)

PIP

Yeah, we got lucky. What about this shirt?

HARPER

"Captain Cutie"

PIP

It's either that or "Mermaid in Training" but I think we've had enough fake mermaids for one lifetime.

HARPER

Agreed.

PIP

Still... Too cheesy?

HARPER

You're gonna make Scarlett and Atlas jealous.

PIP

It's not my fault they're not as cute as a baby! There's just no competition.

HARPER

(laughing) Don't let Atlas hear you say that. (pause, then gently) Hey, Pip? You know you can't-

PIP

I was thinking maybe we could head down to the mess later and make some baby food... mush some fruit... put a steak in a blender, that sort of thing.

HARPER

Babies don't eat steak.

PIP

Well OBVIOUSLY not without help.

HARPER

Does she even have teeth?

PIP

I mean... probably...

(CONTINUED)

HARPER

Babies can't do any kind of solid foods until they have teeth.

PIP

Celia, come here... let mommy get a look at your- WHOAH!

HARPER

Oh... Wow... Those are fangs.

PIP

They're not fangs, they're just... extra supremely pointy.

HARPER

What the hell kind of mutant baby has that many teeth?

PIP

Maybe she's part shark.

HARPER

What?

PIP

Or her dad was a vampire!

HARPER

(chasing a train of thought) Say that again.

PIP

(confused) ... her dad was a vam-

HARPER

No! Not that. The other thing. That maybe she's-

PIP

Part shark? Harper, what's wrong?

HARPER

I need to see that blanket. The one you found with Celia.

PIP

It's down in the laundry.

HARPER

Show me.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

INT. Laundry, U.S.S. Rusalka - Moments Later

Pip and Harper enter the laundry room.

PIP

It should be done by now. Here,  
hold Celia for me, will you?

HARPER

Sure.

PIP

Careful with her head!

HARPER

I will be!

We hear Pip open the washing machine.

HARPER (cont'd)

Pip?

PIP

It's... It's empty.

HARPER

What?

PIP

It's gone! Celia's blanket...  
Someone must have taken it...

HARPER

What did it look like?

PIP

It was grey... Dark grey, with  
these little light grey and brown  
spots.

HARPER

Did it feel kind of weird?

PIP

What do you mean?

HARPER

Sort of thick? Almost rubbery?

PIP

Yeah.

(CONTINUED)

HARPER  
Like a seal pelt?

PIP  
Oh.

HARPER  
Pip, I don't think that's a baby. I  
think you found a Selkie.

The girls look at Celia, who laughs and gurgles.

FADE TO:

8 SCENE EIGHT

INT. Ops, U.S.S. Rusalka - Meanwhile

Scarlett is still standing by the monitor. Atlas is seated beside her.

SCARLETT  
Do you have to fold your damn  
laundry here?

ATLAS  
No, but I don't want to miss this.  
The Great Standoff of Scarlett and  
The Seals! That's one for the  
history books! ... How many are  
there now?

SCARLETT  
Twenty-six at my last count, but I  
might've missed a few.

ATLAS  
And that big fellow is still in  
front?

SCARLETT  
Yup. For three hours.

ATLAS  
That's the fifth time we've  
increased our speed. They're  
keeping up remarkably well.

SCARLETT  
I haven't seen any of them try to  
surface for air. Not once.

(CONTINUED)

ATLAS  
... this is creepy.

SCARLETT  
It's like they want something.

Atlas lets out a little shriek.

SCARLETT (cont'd)  
What?! What is it?

ATLAS  
Nothing! Sorry, there was something  
in the basket and it felt like a  
snake. Sorry.

SCARLETT  
(to herself) I need another  
vacation.

ATLAS  
Ugh it's so-... It's not slimy  
but-... What IS this?

SCARLETT  
Looks like an old towel.

ATLAS  
It's got a zipper... Look! Sort of  
hidden along the seam here. It's  
black, so it almost blends in, do  
you see it?

Thud.

ATLAS (cont'd)  
What on earth-

SCARLETT  
That seal just hit us!

ATLAS  
We hit a seal?

SCARLETT  
No. The seal hit us! Look!

And sure enough, the seals begin ramming The Rusalka. Thud.  
Thud thud. Thud.

ATLAS  
I don't think they're doing any  
real damage. But I've never seen a  
seal so agitated.

(CONTINUED)

SCARLETT

They're gonna get themselves wrapped up in the propeller. I'm sounding the ship to ship relay, maybe it'll scare them off.

ATLAS

Commander, I think they want something.

SCARLETT

They're seals. What could we have that they want? I don't have any fish in my pockets, do you doc?

The door slams open and Harper comes running in.

HARPER

Has anybody seen the laundry?!

SCARLETT

Whoah, slow down kid, where's the fire?

HARPER

I just-... I lost something in the laundry, and I really need it back. It's a blanket. It's small and grey-

ATLAS

With little grey and brown flecks?

HARPER

Yes!

ATLAS

And a zipper? (She holds up the pend) And a distinctly seal-shaped outline?

beat.

ATLAS (cont'd)

Funny. It's a good thing you called it a blanket. I might have thought it was a Selkie pelt. I would hate to have made that mistake.

SCARLETT

A what?

(CONTINUED)

HARPER  
I can explain.

ATLAS  
You're disgusting.

HARPER  
It's not mine!

SCARLETT  
What is going on?

ATLAS  
Harper's stolen a pelt from a  
Selkie!

HARPER  
Nobody stole anything! Well...  
that's not strictly true... We  
might all be accomplices in a  
slight kidnapping-

SCARLETT  
WHAT?!

HARPER  
But really it's probably fine!

SCARLETT  
Okay, whoah! Stop. Back up. What  
the hell is a Selkie?

HARPER  
It's a species of merperson... A  
shapeshifter that looks like a  
seal. The stories goes, when a  
Selkie sheds its pelt, it becomes a  
beautiful woman.

ATLAS  
Men would hunt Selkies and steal  
their pelts. Then they'd force the  
Selkie in her human form to marry  
them, and then hide their pelts so  
she'd never be able to return to  
the sea.

SCARLETT  
That's horrible.

HARPER  
But that's only if the Selkie is  
separated from her pelt. If she  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

HARPER (cont'd)  
finds it again, she'll abandon her  
land family, and be able to escape  
back to the sea. And you'll never  
see them again.

SCARLETT  
And you took one of their pelts?  
Wait a second! Is this why we're  
being attacked by seals?!

HARPER  
We're being attacked by seals?

Thud. Another selkie bounces off The Rusalka.

SCARLETT  
It's not a particularly pressing  
issue.

HARPER  
They must be looking for Celia.

SCARLETT  
Who's-... oh please don't tell me  
you named her after seals.

HARPER  
That island must've been their  
home. She wasn't abandoned, she  
must've wandered off, or been put  
down for a second...

ATLAS  
Where is she?

HARPER  
With Pip.

Another thud.

ATLAS  
We'd better go get her. Before they  
really start losing their temper.

FADE TO:

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## SCENE NINE

INT. Pip's Room, U.S.S. Rusalka - Moments Later

We hear a knock from the outside.

HARPER  
 (slightly muffled) Pip? ... Pip?  
 You in here?

PIP  
 Go away.

HARPER  
 I found Celia's pelt... Well...  
 Atlas and Scarlett found it... They  
 want to see her...

PIP  
 No!

ATLAS  
 Pippa-

PIP  
 You brought them?!

HARPER  
 Kind of, yeah...

PIP  
 Harper!

SCARLETT  
 Pip? It's Scarlett. Will you open  
 the door? ... Please? We're not  
 gonna take Celia away from you. We  
 just want to talk.

beat.

We hear the door open.

SCARLETT (cont'd)  
 (seeing Celia) Oh... Pip she's-

PIP  
 She was all by herself! They just  
 left her there, all on her own!

SCARLETT  
 (gently) We know. Harper told us.

(CONTINUED)

ATLAS

It's not your fault. You couldn't have known what she was, and... she is... really... terribly cute.

SCARLETT

May I hold her?

Pip hands her Celia. Scarlett rocks her gently. Celia makes a happy noise.

PIP

Be careful with her-

SCARLETT

Yeah, I know... This isn't my first rodeo... (pause) You did the right thing.

PIP

Really?

SCARLETT

Yeah. I would've done the same thing.

PIP

(hopeful) So, I can keep her?

There is a somewhat awkward silence. We hear a few faint thuds against the hull.

beat.

HARPER

Pip... Her family's outside.

ATLAS

They've been following the ship, since we left the island. They've been looking for her.

PIP

No...

HARPER

Pip, I'm sorry...

PIP

They abandoned her! They left her behind!

(CONTINUED)

HARPER

They didn't. You know they didn't.  
But even if they had, that doesn't  
mean they don't love her!  
Sometimes-... Sometimes you have to  
leave the ones you love behind...  
But that doesn't mean you don't  
love them anymore. It just... means  
you're loving them from far away.  
And they do love her, Pip...  
Listen...

They're quiet for a moment, and we can hear another few  
thuds against the hull. Celia makes more baby sounds.

PIP

... I'm never going to get to see  
her again.

HARPER

You don't know that. She might find  
her way back.

PIP

Might. (beat) Can I have a minute?

ATLAS

We'll leave the pelt here for you.

HARPER

Do you want me to stay with you?

PIP

No. I-... I kind of want to be by  
myself, if that's okay.

HARPER

Yeah... Sure thing.

SCARLETT

We'll wait upstairs.

PIP

Yeah. Okay.

They leave. We hear the door close behind them. Celia  
gurgles, and Pip lets out a sigh.

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## SCENE TEN

INT. Corridor, U.S.S. Rusalka - Moments Later

Scarlett, Atlas and Harper are all gathered together below the entry hatch. The Rusalka has surfaced. We hear some faint thuds against the hull.

HARPER

Do you think she's going to be okay?

SCARLETT

I don't know. It's... hard. Being attached like that, and having to-... It's gonna take some time.

ATLAS

Do you think she's coming?

HARPER

Yeah. She'll be here. She probably just needs to-

We hear the door open. Pip steps into the hall, holding Celia and the pelt.

PIP

Okay. I'm ready.

SCARLETT

Hang on a second... Just... Stand right there. ... smile?

We hear the click/flash of a polaroid camera. Scarlett hands Pip the photograph.

SCARLETT (cont'd)

To remember her by.

PIP

Thanks.

ATLAS

Do you want help with the pelt?

PIP

No... I can do it.

Pip lays the pelt out on the floor, and lays Celia on top of it.

(CONTINUED)

PIP (cont'd)  
Bye Celia.

Celia gurgles. It's almost a goodbye.

We hear Pip zipping up the pelt. We hear a warping sound, or a faint "pop". Celia lets out a tiny seal bark. Pip picks her back up again.

PIP (cont'd)  
I'll take her outside.

HARPER  
Be careful!

Pip starts to climb the ladder up.

SCARLETT  
Hey, Pip?

Pip looks back at her. For a moment, Scarlett doesn't know what to say.

SCARLETT (cont'd)  
I-... You did good today. Really.

PIP  
(smiles faintly) Thanks commander.

SCARLETT  
Good luck.

We hear Pip open the hatch. Seagulls call. Waves lap at the side of the ship. We hear the barking of the Selkies.

Pip lowers Celia into the water. There's a faint splash. Celia barks. Pip gives her a watery smile.

PIP  
Yeah. I'm gonna miss you too.

We hear splashes and the barking of the other Selkies as they swim away.

PIP (cont'd)  
(calling after them) You take care  
of her, okay?!

Silence. The seagulls cry. Waves beat against The Rusalka. Pippa sighs.

FADE OUT.

11 EPILOGUE

INT. A Restaurant, New York City - NIGHT

We hear soft music and the clinking of glasses, the general sounds of a high end restaurant. Footsteps approach the table and a chair is pulled back. THE PROFESSOR looks up from her meal.

THE PROFESSOR  
... Ah. So you've found me.

KILLIAN  
It's good to see you again,  
Professor.

THE PROFESSOR  
Mr. Rhys.

KILLIAN  
So cold! Is that any way to treat  
an old friend?

THE PROFESSOR  
Who on earth told you we were  
friends? Emilie was a friend... You  
were a student.

KILLIAN  
A protégée... You've been ignoring  
my calls.

THE PROFESSOR  
Now, Killian, you know I hate  
talking to you.

KILLIAN  
How's work?

THE PROFESSOR  
Fired. Less than a week before I  
received tenure. Some old papers of  
mine inexplicably resurfaced... And  
the university board felt it would  
be "inappropriate" to have such a  
renowned crackpot shaping the minds  
of our future world leaders. A  
little heavy handed, don't you  
think?

KILLIAN  
I'm sure I don't know what you  
mean.

(CONTINUED)

## THE PROFESSOR

There's no such thing as coincidence, Killian. I know you were always a bit thick, but if I've taught you anything, I've taught you that. But you weaseled your way in here out of the gutter for some reason, so you must think it's important. So cut the crap. You're interrupting a very expensive dinner. What do you want?

When Killian doesn't answer, she lets out a soft, derisive laugh.

## THE PROFESSOR (cont'd)

Oh. This is about the project, isn't it. Let me guess, you've run out of government funding, and now you've come to steal something else from me? I'm afraid you're out of luck. If you're looking for a handout, I'd say try the Salvation Army, they're good at that sort of thing.

## KILLIAN

Project Rusalka is already well underway. The crew shipped out months ago, and the reports they've been sending back are... wild.

## THE PROFESSOR

Then why are you here? (beat) ...  
Oh... No.

## KILLIAN

It's hardly any fun without you. I can organize it, Atlas can do the heavy lifting, but nobody can analyze the data as well as you.

## THE PROFESSOR

Tough. You'll have to find someone else.

## KILLIAN

Oh, I have.

Killian pulls a file from his bag and slides it across the table to The Professor, who opens it.

(CONTINUED)

KILLIAN (cont'd)

Took me a while to track her down. But she's just a little peach! So helpful. But, of course, Atlas is keeping a close eye on things. You know how treacherous the ocean can be.

beat.

THE PROFESSOR

Are you threatening me?

KILLIAN

You know me better than that. I never make threats. Only promises and suggestions.

THE PROFESSOR

So 'Atlas' is working as your hired gun monkey now, is that it?

KILLIAN

Atlas is working very hard to turn your dream into a reality, Professor. And you're the only one who doesn't seem to be on board with that. But you will be. This project needs you. And I intend for you to re-join it.

He pushes his chair back and stands.

KILLIAN (cont'd)

My plane leaves for Canaveral first thing in the morning. I'll send someone to retrieve you. And you'll be back in the lab before you know it! (off her look) Cheer up, Professor! The gang's getting back together again! It's gonna be a blast.

FADE OUT.

END.