

PROLOGUE

(Scene Set: The general mood of the play is dark and both the lighting and sounds should reflect a muted feel. The lighting needs to be minimal with only the essential lighting developing an eerie abstract feel which will enhance the effect of the ominous outer space. There should be a constant sound of either a low tone or the NASA space recordings. This sound should be playing while the audience enters and continues throughout the play, even between scenes and intermission(s).)

(The set is a long, rectangular table that looks very metallic located at SL. There is one light on the table which the characters will push as a communicator. Five metal chairs are set around the table. The lighting and sound effects will be the greatest impact to the play. There are several Voice-Over (V.O.) areas and lighting cues. But, at all times, the lighting and sound effects should feel real and not as spectacle.)

(The scene begins with characters at different parts of the stage. And, each character is in the dark until dim light is shone on them.)

(As the scene opens we see dim light on CASEY sitting in a chair behind the table. He is looking down and then looks at the audience. He nervously scratches his neck.)

HEATHER

(Speaks in the dark from SR)

It all happened so fast.

CASEY

(Shakes his head and doesn't hear HEATHER)

Log Number 485625. We lost Jason.

LUCY

(In dimmed light at SL leaning against the wall.)

I still can't believe it. Jason is gone.

KELVIN

(In dimmed light. USL pacing.)

Something went wrong on the space walk. The ground gave way. He fell and, and-

HEATHER

(In dimmed light.)

Casey was responsible for this loss. I don't know. The oxygen on the surface was too concentrated. We all felt a little light-headed. But, Jason reacted differently.

LUCY

They told me he fainted. I don't know what happened exactly, but I blame Casey.

CASEY

I take full responsibility for what occurred on the surface of P1142. I guess I feel that it's important to stay with protocol. Jason did not follow it.

KELVIN

He reached for some concentrated stone fragments.

HEATHER

It had some type of chemical reaction.

LUCY

He was scared. Even though I was on the ship I heard him scream in the transmission loud and clear. I heard him scream.

KELVIN

That's when he began to float.

HEATHER

It was as if he were a balloon floating from us. Then, he fell.

CASEY

We each knew the risks. We knew what the mission was about. Jason knew the risks. He made his choice. We are out here to find another inhabitable planet.

(Determined)

We need to find another inhabitable planet. And, now, we lost our geologist for this mission. I assigned Jason's duties to both Kelvin and Heather. But, Lucy seems to be taking it hard. I think Jason and Lucy started to become close to each other and forgot what this whole thing is all about. They shouldn't have done that.

LUCY

We will still find him. I will not give up on him.

CASEY

This is Captain Casey Landers. End log.

(All the dim lights go out.)

HEATHER (V.O.)

(In the dark.)

See through all of the tomorrows.

ACT I

Scene One

(CASEY, LUCY, KELVIN *and* HEATHER *are around the table.*)

(*The scene opens as, simultaneously, CASEY hits the table and the lights shine on the scene.*)

(*We see CASEY and LUCY standing, fiercely facing one another.*)

CASEY

He knew the risks!

LUCY

Yeah, but you still just left him out there! He still might be alive.

HEATHER

Not likely.

LUCY

What?!

HEATHER

If the fall didn't kill him the atmosphere will.

LUCY

Will. It will kill him. That means you left when he might have still been alive.

HEATHER

(*Looks away. Embarrassed.*)

I, I didn't mean-

KELVIN

What Heather meant was we wouldn't have had enough time to save him anyway. Lucy, you have to understand.

LUCY

(*Looks angrily at CASEY then at KELVIN.*)

Why are you protecting Casey? Huh? Is it because you were in on it?

KELVIN

(Stands)

What?

LUCY

Yeah.

CASEY

What exactly are you implying Lucy?

LUCY

Implying? I was on this ship holding orbit while you idiots not only lose an important scientist but someone who I-

KELVIN

Enough Lucy! Stop it! He was my friend too, remember? I knew him longer than you-

LUCY

Like that matters-

HEATHER

(Stands.)

Lucy. I understand your irritation. But, Casey was right. Jason knew the risk. And, Casey made the best choice he could at the time.

LUCY

I see. Well, you'll excuse me. I need to engineer this ship. I'll try to do the best job I can.

(LUCY stares back at all of them. Then, she quickly exits SL. The rest of them stare at one another. CASEY slowly sits.)

CASEY

We were all there. We made the right decision. Otherwise, we might all be dead.

HEATHER

(Sits.)

Yes. We did.

KELVIN

Yeah, we'd all be dead.

(KELVIN walks SR.)

BLACKOUT.

Scene Two

(KELVIN is sitting at the table with electronic pads, papers and other items on the table. The lights come on as he looks as if he is calculating information.)

(A beep is heard.)

KELVIN

(Touches the light on the table.)

This is Kelvin.

LUCY (V.O.)

You requested the status of the standard containment at this time?

KELVIN

Yes.

LUCY (V.O.)

Thirty parts per million.

KELVIN

Fine. We're safe for now. Keep it at maximum. And, Lucy?

LUCY (V.O.)

Yes?

KELVIN

We need to talk.

LUCY: (V.O.) Yes, we do. Lucy out.

(KELVIN shakes his head, rubs his eyes, sighs then leans back in his chair as he rubs his eyes with his palms.)

HEATHER

(Enters SL. She sees KELVIN.)

Well, pulling an all-nighter?

KELVIN

(Looks up at HEATHER.)

How about a six-monther.

HEATHER

Good one. I'm with you on that one.

KELVIN

You know ever since Jason's been gone I feel like I haven't slept.

HEATHER

Because of what happened or because of the extra workload?

KELVIN

Both. I don't know. I knew this might have happened. That we could lose someone on this mission. I just didn't think it *would* happen.

HEATHER

None of us did.

KELVIN

But, did we make the right choice?

HEATHER

It wasn't our choice it was Casey's.

KELVIN

Yeah, I know. But, you and I could have over-ridden him. Remember, you and I are doctors.

HEATHER

Not that kind of doctor-

KELVIN

Does it matter? I thought you studied medicine.

HEATHER

Yeah. But-

KELVIN

We could have done something. But, we didn't. And, one of our companions is gone. We left him on that planet. He was my friend and I just left him there.

HEATHER

This is all for the greater good. Not for one of us, but for humanity.

KELVIN

We're not the only probes out here you know.

HEATHER

Yes, I do know. But, we may be the right one who will find the right planet for humanity to flourish. And, if we miss it-

KELVIN

Don't worry. I'm not insisting we go back. I just want to make sure we did make the right choice.

HEATHER

We did.

KELVIN

I'm glad you're sure, because I'm not.

HEATHER

You said you and he were good friends.

KELVIN

(Holds his head as if it hurts.)

Huh? Oh, yeah. He and I were good friends for a while.

HEATHER

You okay?

KELVIN

Just a headache. That's all. Probably from staying up all these late nights. You know, before the whole global problem thing Jason and I used to exchange notes. I tried to understand his geological specs and he tried to understand my chemistry equations. It was fun, before,

(Pause)

But we kind of drifted away. Then, all hell happened and the future became the present. And, so we tried to at least to do the best we could. But, once we got on this ship we just did our jobs. And, we never let our friendship get in the way.

HEATHER

That's true. I don't even remember you and he talking to each other much like buddies. You just did-

KELVIN

Yeah. It was all about focus. Especially during the first couple months of this mission.

HEATHER

That was hard. It seems like a while ago since we started all this.

KELVIN

It does. It's been so strange. I don't even remember starting this mission. I'm not sure if we made the right decision leaving Jason there. I mean, if one life isn't worth risking saving than why are we saving any life?

HEATHER

What, what do you mean?

KELVIN

I mean, each life is a life. So, what makes one life worth more than another?

HEATHER

It isn't about the value of a life it's the choices we make that make the difference.

KELVIN

Is it? Think about it. What if it were you, me or Lucy out there when it happened?

HEATHER

Then, we would be lost.

KELVIN

Exactly. But, what about Casey?

HEATHER

Well, he's the captain.

KELVIN

Exactly. So, his life is worth more?

HEATHER

Now, I didn't say that. We each make our choices and we have to understand the consequences of those choices.

KELVIN

Yeah. Choices. So if we make the wrong choices we are doomed by them?

HEATHER

The choices make us who we are. We each have to learn the consequences of our actions.

KELVIN

You mean like what humanity has done with the Earth?

(Pause.)

With no chance for redemption?

HEATHER: We, those of us who are on these probes are the chance for redemption.

KELVIN

And, Jason?

HEATHER

Yeah.

(They stare at one another for a moment. HEATHER finally looks bothered and away then stands.)

HEATHER

Well, I had better go back to the lab. I need to finish a couple of experiments on the sample we found yesterday.

KELVIN

Yeah.

HEATHER

Okay. Talk to you in the morning.

KELVIN

Okay.

(HEATHER begins to exit.)

KELVIN

Heather.

HEATHER

(Turns to see KELVIN.)

Yes.

KELVIN

Think about what I said.

HEATHER

Which part?

KELVIN

All of it.

HEATHER

You too.

(A moment passes. Then, HEATHER exits SL.)

(KELVIN works on a few calculations. Suddenly he holds his head in pain. A metallic screeching is heard. He looks up and around, confused.)

Goes back to his calculations. The lights dim a bit and a green light is shown coming towards him. A metallic scratching sound is heard again. KELVIN stands. He looks at the green light.)

KELVIN

What? What was that?

(The green light goes to SR. KELVIN follows as the lights dim even more. The screeching is louder.)

KELVIN

What was that you're saying? Tomorrow?

(The lights quickly dim to black, as the screeching is very loud.)

KELVIN

What is it? What is it?!

(Suddenly he is startled.)

(The lights quickly come on as LUCY is standing next to KELVIN, touching his shoulder. KELVIN, glassy eyed and shocked, quickly turns to LUCY.)

KELVIN

I can see through all of the tomorrows.

LUCY

(LUCY grabs KELVIN.)

Hey, wake up.

KELVIN

(Looks around and back at the table.)

What? What happened?

LUCY

You were sleepwalking. Must be all the stress.

KELVIN

Yeah. The stress. I didn't feel like I was asleep.

LUCY

Well, you looked it.

KELVIN

(Still recovering.)

Yeah. Well, what are you doing here?

LUCY

We need to talk.

KELVIN

(X back to his work.)

Oh. You mean Jason?

LUCY

Yeah, I mean Jason. You act as if he's been dead for years when it's only been a few days.

KELVIN

And you've done a pretty good job avoiding Casey.

LUCY

Yeah, that's because I would kill him if I could.

KELVIN

I bet you would. I've wanted to talk to you about Jason since we had that first meeting back from that space walk.

LUCY

(Sits on the table.)

Well, what did you want to say?

KELVIN

I don't know. I honestly don't know. I guess I thought maybe you would want to talk about it.

LUCY

Oh, so you are the psychiatrist?

KELVIN

No.

LUCY

I knew you took on Jason's geological tasks but I didn't know you were also a therapist.

KELVIN

I'm not. Heather's the closed person we have to a physician, medic or therapist. So, cry on her shoulder if you want some sympathy.

LUCY

Yeah, like I trust her. Look, he and I knew what was going on and that neither of us might not make it through it at any time. I guess I didn't think it would happen. And, to tell you the truth, I don't think it actually did happen.

KELVIN

What do you mean?

LUCY

I mean, he still might be alive-

KELVIN

It's not possible-

LUCY

I reviewed your and Heather's data on the planet's atmosphere and it's affects on the human body. And, if I'm correct, I checked it over four times, then he is slowly dying down there. And, you left him there to die.

KELVIN

It's not possible. He was my friend too. I didn't leave him alive.

LUCY

Then, what about the calculations-

KELVIN

I don't know. But, it's not possible.

LUCY

I think that I am right.

(Picks up one of the computer pads and types on it. Then, shows it to

KELVIN.)

Look for yourself.

KELVIN

Fine.

LUCY

Casey decided that he was expendable and that the mission was more important. Or, maybe there was another reason. I don't know. And, I don't think I trust Heather either. I am so tired of talking about the tests and the mission and-

KELVIN

It is important. It's paramount.

LUCY

Not to me!

KELVIN

Why not! It's the human race we're talking about! It's life as we know it!

LUCY

I don't care!

KELVIN

Why not!

LUCY

Because the only life that matters to me was left on P1142! Don't you understand, I was going to marry that man.

(Cries)

I was going to marry him. I lost someone I was going to marry before. I am not going to let it happen again. And, you left him there. You, his best friend.

KELVIN

Marry?

LUCY

Yes.

KELVIN

You were going to marry Jason.

LUCY

Yes.

KELVIN

But, I thought we all were just focused on the mission. The mission comes first. Otherwise, you couldn't have been chosen to be a part of this mission. The psych evaluations, the testing-

LUCY

The testing. Yeah. I don't even remember all that.

(Pause.)

All I know is, at first, we were dedicated to the mission. But, once we fell in love we decided that once this mission was over we were going to make the best of the time we had together. So, we were just going to have a small wedding and live as happily as we could.

KELVIN

You mean until the end.

LUCY

And, we still don't know when exactly that would happen.

KELVIN

Would you two still have gone on missions? After you were married?

LUCY

Together, I guess. No, we couldn't have. We were just going to live out whatever time we had left. I don't know. It didn't matter. Ever since the damn problems started on earth all that seems to be important is science. Scientific ideas, scientific facts, data storage, the storage of human history, the discovery of what to come, how to save humanity-

KELVIN

Yeah, and?

LUCY

And, the list goes on. But, in the entire fast paced life to save humanity we're a part of out here in our probes, we are losing ourselves. We lost ourselves to technology once. Then, we lost ourselves to power and that finally brought on all this.

KELVIN

So, what are you saying?

LUCY

I'm saying society is gone already. People don't live lives they live time. Always trying to make time and busy ourselves in it. And, lose ourselves so that we can sit at our part of the ship and play with numbers or ideas or ponder our little worlds. I felt very lonely once. Then, I found Jason. I don't want to feel alone anymore.

KELVIN

What you're saying. It's nothing new. It's all modern philosophy.

LUCY

I know, but people don't seem to see it. And, in the middle of all of this you lost a friend and I gained a love.

KELVIN

I didn't even know.

LUCY

Of course not. Ever since this mission started you have been busying yourself with your work. And, he did the same. Hell, so have I. I know, the first few months are always grueling, but after that it dies down.

KELVIN

I guess we just get used to it.

LUCY

Well, Jason and I didn't. We used to go to each other's quarters and spend time talking. Really talking. Not about work or problems, but, ideas and feelings.

KELVIN

Jason always seemed stiff to me ever since we agreed to come on this mission.

LUCY

That's because you are brainwashed like everyone else. Like Casey and Heather who want to help humanity, but don't care enough about their own friend.

KELVIN

Yeah, I was his friend, but Casey and Heather hardly knew him.

LUCY

Don't you remember? A couple days before the space walk when you guys were going over the mission he said something funny. You know, with his quirky sense of humor and everyone laughed.

KELVIN

Yeah, we were all tense because the walk was going to be so intense. He just took the spacesuit and place the helmet on and made bubble noises.

(Smiles)

He acted like he was underwater. It was so stupid. But, I don't know, it just struck us all as funny.

LUCY

Then, Casey just left him there. Correction, you, Heather and Casey left him there to die.

KELVIN

There is nothing we can do for him now.

LUCY

Really?

(Points to the computer pad.)

Make sure you know that. Because, you know, you were going to be his best man.

KELVIN

Yeah?

LUCY

(LUCY starts to leave. Stops, turns around and looks at KELVIN.)

Kelvin?

KELVIN

Yeah.

LUCY

What did you mean when you said, “I can see through all of the tomorrows”?

KELVIN

I don’t remember saying that.

LUCY

Oh.

KELVIN

Wait. I thought I heard Jason say that.

LUCY

In your sleepwalking dream?

KELVIN

In my dream? I guess.

LUCY

Think about what I said. We may still have time.

KELVIN

We may not.

LUCY

Do the calculations. We may still have time.

KELVIN

Do you remember volunteering for this mission?

LUCY

Actually no. Last thing I remember is going through the psych test. How about you?

KELVIN

No. I don’t. And, I still don’t know why.

(LUCY exits SL)

KELVIN

(shakes his head and goes back to his calculations. He stops and looks up.)

Takes another pad and computes something. He looks up. He pushes the light on the table.)

Heather.

HEATHER (V.O.)

Yes, what is it Kelvin?

KELVIN

We need to talk.

HEATHER (V.O.)

About what?

KELVIN

Jason.

HEATHER (V.O.)

I see. Okay. Heather out.

(KELVIN looks at the pad then out at the audience. He is angry. He hits the table and pushes papers on the floor.)

BLACKOUT.

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