

Beyond
Webisode #2

by
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Collaborative Creation Effort
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EXT. RINGED PLANET X414 - TERRARIUM - DAY

Colors and foliage brighter than Earth's brightest
tropicals fill a larger than life green space.

The Hemingway crew follow Smyth through vibrant pathways.

Smyth stops at a sleek modern tech station and hands
everyone tiny ear buds with a nod. They all put them in.

SMYTH

Now we can all communicate.

Carter pulls his buds out and looks at them. Butala moves
away from Carter annoyed. Batley nods at Carter, clear he
needs to put the ear buds back in and listen.

BATLEY

Where are we?

SMYTH

Kyklos X414. The edge of your galaxy.

End looks around unimpressed. Ingram and McHugh view the
plant life closely. Vast colors change before their eyes.

END

We need to get back to Earth.

INGRAM

Or at least back onto the proper
coordinates and a path to Earth.

BATLEY

Get back to Earth for what?

MCHUGH

Captain, you might not want to get back,
but the rest of us have --

BATLEY

Families? You have families?

A stoic Butala steps between Captain and McHugh.

INGRAM

Earth is dying. She has a point.

BATLEY

Rainforests on fire. Ozone a thread from
disappearing. Ocean levels rising.

Carter chuckles. He pushes his way through to Ingram and
McHugh and holds a bright pink plant in his fingers.

CARTER

This is better? Phosphorescence creates energy here. Their entire system runs on the spectrum of color from various flora.

Butala stops and smells a vibrant rainbow leaf.

BUTALA

If you can't speak English, could you at least speak Earth?

SMYTH

Your machine-man is correct. We do not create energy here. It is created by our species. Flora and fauna.

End pretends to ignore the beautiful foliage and walks to the modern slim seamless screen.

END

Regardless of how energy is harnessed here; regardless of how bad off Earth is, it remains our home. We need to go back.

Ingram and McHugh agree with nods. They follow End.

SMYTH

If you'll all follow me, I have more. Maybe something for everyone.

They continue their walk through the massive terrarium. Plants of all colors hang above their heads. Some move as if by their own accord while other glow as they pass.

INT. RINGED PLANET X414 - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Smyth leads the crew into a massive stark modern room. Seamless holographic panels display various scenes along aisles. Some are familiar, Earth-like, others are not.

SMYTH

G.O.D. Galactic Organization Dissection.

End looks closer at a display as if she sees its secrets. Colors instead of pixels swirl as she closes in.

END

Dissection?

Batley turns around and takes in several panels.

BATLEY

God. You said God.

Smyth nods, and wipes the air near one display. Every other display changes. The crew is in awe as they circle.

Ingram moves closer to one display of an older couple walking along a beach holding hands.

INGRAM

Mom? Dad?

She touches the panel but the colors swirl and fade.

Carter looks from panel to panel until a dog catches his eye. End watches discreetly a panel of a man in uniform.

SMYTH

It senses your thoughts. Accesses your memories. It learns. Give it time.

Batley watches a panel with woods. A cabin appears with an empty tire swing. It swings gently. No leaves move.

The screen flashes to a WOMAN, 30s, and TWO CHILDREN, 6 and 8. They all laugh. Batley drops to her knees.

Butala runs to her side. Carter lifts her to her feet.

BATLEY

They are here?

She looks at Smyth who moves objects in panels with his finger. End, Ingram, and McHugh stand nearby and observe.

CARTER

He said it reads your mind. You're remembering her.

BATLEY

This is not a memory. They are here.

She grabs Smyth and shakes him. All the screens flash quickly from one scene to another in rapid succession.

BATLEY (CONT'D)

Take me! They are here! Take me to them.

End steps in to get Batley off Smyth but Butala stops her. He gestures for End to back off then pulls Batley away. As Batley lets go, the panels return to normal.

INGRAM

Commander End, we need to get back home.

Batley looks at her crew defeated.

BATLEY

Commander, figure out a plan to get us home. Doctor, take samples. We need them on Earth. Pilot, go with them.

Smyth waves a hand. Lights shine a path down several aisles. Smyth points in the direction of the lights.

SMYTH

You'll need materials. This way.

End, Ingram, and McHugh follow the lighted path.

BATLEY

Carter, find what you need. Technology. Innovation. Anything we can use. Upload it all to your brain.

Carter nods and walks the aisles.

BATLEY (CONT'D)

Butala, with me.

Smyth waves a hand again. The room darkens. One panel slowly lights up. Colors swirl into an image of the woman and children. They stare as if a camera is on them.

SMYTH

They will not know you.

Batley holds her locket in her hand and moves closer to the screen. With her other hand, she reaches out.

BATLEY

She's my wife. Of course she knows me.

SMYTH

Not here. They died on Earth.

Batley turns and glares at Smyth.

BATLEY

I know they died. I mourned them. That's my family. Don't tell me how they feel.

Smyth maneuvers the panel so it is gone in a flash.

SMYTH

If you died on Earth, you could be reunited. It's a choice. They are in the afterlife. Here on Kyklos X414.

BATLEY

Does everyone come here after they pass
on from Earth?

SMYTH

It's a choice. Your family won't expect
you here. They only know here and now.

Smyth brings up the panel again. The woman and children
look through a book together. The woman points and grins.

Lights on the pathway light one by one as McHugh walks
toward Batley and Smyth. She carries a glass crate.

MCHUGH

Captain, I have samples. End and Ingram
are gathering supplies for the trip home.

The path lights again as End and Ingram come back
carrying sacks of supplies.

END

I have to say whoever runs this place is
well organized. I haven't met anyone yet,
but everything is ready for us.

INGRAM

Captain, we are ready at your order.

BATLEY

Load the ship. We leave soon.

End and Ingram take the sacks and leave toward the
terrarium. Butala hesitates but stays with Batley. McHugh
fidgets but awaits orders next to Batley.

Batley looks at the screen. The woman and the children
laugh and they tickle one another.

BATLEY (CONT'D)

Let's go home.

INT. HEMINGWAY - BRIDGE - DAY

Ingram sits at her console. She lifts charts and pushes
buttons. Carter settles into his chair and console.
Butala stands guard at the doorway with Smyth.

Batley and End whisper near the control center. McHugh
closes drawers and overhead doors.

MCHUGH

Everything is secure, Captain.

INGRAM

All checks complete, Captain. Thrusters are charged. X414 fuel has installed.

CARTER

Using energy from an unknown source isn't our best decision.

Batley walks to the view screen then pushes buttons.

BATLEY

Coordinates are entered. According to the instructions, when we hit the black hole, the ship will blink through by way of the X414 nanotech.

Batley walks Smyth to the doorway.

BATLEY (CONT'D)

Everyone buckle in. Let's ride.

End and McHugh take seats and buckle in. Smyth exits the ship. Butala pulls levers and closes the hatch door then takes his seat. Batley stands by.

INGRAM

Captain, we are go. Waiting for launch sequence and instructions.

Batley holds her locket in one hand. She unhooks the bars and name from her jacket and places them on the console.

BATLEY

She is my wife. And she is here.

She pushes a button. The hatch door opens. Batley exits the ship. The crew, still buckled in seats, sit in awe.

INGRAM

What now?

END

She took off her rank. I'm on charge. We are going home. Thrusters ready?

INGRAM

Check. Check.

END

Lock the hatch, Carter.

Butala stands.

BUTALA
I'm staying with her.

End nods. Butala leaves the ship and follows Batley.

MCHUGH
We can't really leave them here!

END
We can. And we will.

Carter unbuckles and stands.

END (CONT'D)
Lieutenant Carter, sit. Pilot, prepare
for launch sequence three.

McHugh unbuckles and stands.

MCHUGH
I don't know what this place is. It might
be heaven or it might be hell. But her
wife and children are here.

Ingram closes safety boxes around launch buttons. She
takes a piece of paper off a clipboard, folds it, and
places it in her breast pocket.

INGRAM
I agree. We can still leave. We don't
have to rush out of here. The Captain
needs time to process.

INT. RINGED PLANET X414 - TERRARIUM - DAY

Smyth stands in the greenery. Batley storms up to him.
She places ear buds in her ears.

BATLEY
She is my wife. Those kids are my kids.
If they are here, I want to see them.
I'll handle it if they don't know me.

Smyth waves a finger and a holographic panel appears.

SMYTH
They are here. I will take you to them.

A hover vehicle drifts down from the canopy above.

BATLEY
She pointed to a photo of me. She will
know me. She has to.