Tetning: Thule Stasjon

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 Dedication: This is a script for my vision of a Prequel to John Carpenter’s *The Thing (1982)*. I do not think I can or will ever supersede Carpenter’s writing nor do I plan to as a fan; this story was heavily influenced by the original film and though the 2011 film was decent, I felt it did not do the original justice. In light of the possible remake of the flawless 1982 classic I decided to try to write a better prequel.

Summary

 A group of Norwegian Scientists discover an alien spaceship frozen in Antarctica along with long dead alien life onboard. However another discovery outside the ship is hiding a far darker secret that will change the fate of Earth forever.

Characters:

Edvard Wolner-Head of the station, close friends with Karl/Henrik, brother of Olivia, serious, wears a norwegian commander hat (comandante cap), a watch, smokes cigars, ambitious, bed/heater in office along with Jed’s. 47y

Peder-Head of security, close friends with Lars, military history, jokester, ‘second-in-command’, huge crush on Juliette, serious about safety/quarantine procedure, wears a black stocking cap and jumpsuit, carries an m1911. 33y

Karl Urek-Retired Military Medic as the only doctor, so lazy that he was the only one who didn’t go see the ship even under orders, kind, part cook with Jonas, traditional way of thinking, overweight, Grandpa figure, wears a thin watch and a stained white shirt. 62y

Olivia Wolner-Biologist, equipment operator, friends with Colin and Juliette, discovered the ship's signal, Edvard’s younger sister, 2nd to last recent addition to Thule Station because of Edvard, curious. 24y

Lars-Close friends with Peder/Matias/Jonas, military history/connections, wears *The Thing(1982)* clothing on outside and jumpsuit on inside, klutz, equipment operator, uses a scoped Heckler and Koch Hk93 rifle. 44y

Jonas-Friendly and active in the group, believes in supernatural/aliens, polar ice expert/researcher, part cook with Karl. 42y

Henrik Larson-In a relationship with Juliette, mechanic, nice guy, close friends with Edvard, uses a camera/video recording unit throughout the discovery, wears jumpsuit. 30y

Juliette-Palaeontologist, friendly, longtime friends with Peder and recently Olivia, in a relationship with Henrik. 29y

Colin-Cowardly, equipment operator, geologist, friends only with Olivia, most recent addition to Thule Station, owns a straight razor. Terrified of the unknown. Wears a thin jacket and thick khaki pants most of the time with a stocking cap and large coat outside. 22y

Matias-Helicopter pilot, close friends with Lars/Jonas, military connections, prefers twelve gauge shotgun, wears jumpsuit and *The Thing(1982)* on the outside. 30y

Jed-Crew dog, Alaskan Malamute, wanders around camp freely, resides in Edvard’s office. 5y

Alien #1: Pilots the Saucer from the cockpit in the center, activates hazard alarm and attempts to crash the ship intentionally in the Ocean.

Alien #2: Lands with Alien 3 on the Thing homeworld and is grabbed just before they leave. Wears protective layer along with A3.

Alien #3/Alien-Thing: Assimilated on the ship and tries to attack the pilot. Escapes the ship via escape hatch and crawls from the ship before freezing in the ice.

Settings: Norwegian camp-consists of main building, the (tool) shed, the (generator) shack, and the rec-room/garage. The Main building consists of three bunk rooms, the radio room and storage, laboratory, Edvard’s office, the kitchen, and the winter gear room/iceblock room. The winter gear room is not in good condition with rotten boards and clutter not used since the early twentieth century and earlier. The tool shed has tools, a torch, and propane tanks. The shack contains the generator that powers the camp. The rec-room/garage is a recent addition that has a pool table, bar, TV, etc, and a repair garage at one end. The Main building and the shack are old, the tool shed is newer, and the rec-room is newly built.

Alien Ship-branching catwalks span from the cockpit to other parts of the ship. Thousands of Containment cells for different species line the walls/floor however very few creatures are completely intact. The containment units range in size and number of occupants but are mostly intact with only one exception. A burned out cockpit contains the burned/frozen remains of the Pilot along with a silent alarm blinking and three pods. The cockpit also has four large screens for steering, multiple small screens for vitals/ship functions, a large back entrance to the rest of the ship, and an emergency escape hatch. The bottom of the ship breaks off into a small saucer and the official entrance/exit.

Costume Ideas: Everyone has distinct differences such as hats/coats/pants/jumpsuits/etc, Lars/Matias keep their outside looks consistent but unique inside. Peder, Lars, Matias, Jonas, and Henrik all wear full body suits below their normal clothes. Everyone else wears unique combinations of sweaters, coats, pants, boots, hats and gloves. All wear backpacks for gear. The Aliens wear protective suits mistakenly thought of exoskeletons except for the pilot.

***Thule Stasjon Script***:

Act 1. Scene A

Scene opens with glimpses of the Flying Saucer crashing to Earth with the inside of the cockpit in burning chaos. As it spins out of control the pilot is shown to be fighting some sort of thrashing/screaming creature before it pans out to the crash in the ice. Close in on the hatch where some animal frantically crawls from the smoking hole and starts climbing the slippery side of the crash wake. As its movements slow from the cold, it is engulfed in water as the screen fades to black and then the title appears from the depths: *Tetning-Thule Stasjon*

Scene 1B

Antarctica, Late Summer 1982. (Song: Silent Hill 3-Ordinary Vanity with a cold wind intermixed) Pans over the white wilderness to a helicopter slowly coming into view. It’s a Bell 206 Jetranger which flies across the plain in a similar way to Macready and Copper in the original to Thule Station, which is preparing to finish packing up for winter: Jonas finishes geological documents while Karl sneaks liquor from a flask while picking away at the medical station’s mess nearby. Peder and Lars are goofing off with their military-grade guns and thermite charges outside of camp when the helicopter comes into view and they notice it incoming. Juliette helps Henrik finish up with the garage when they hear the helicopter and she looks through the window of the rec-room. Colin checks the clock at the radio and listens carefully to the dull sound of the helicopter faintly grow before the radio loudly screeches and he jumps before turning down the volume and looks to see if anyone saw him.

Matias: (On the radio) This is LOKK-206, preparing to land. You there this time Colin?

Colin: Yes sir! Loud and clear.

Matias: Finally. (Joking) I was starting to think you guys were gone for good. Troll hasn’t heard from you in almost a week since the storm.

Colin: Not that our radio could even reach Troll Station. I’ll let Edvard know you’re here. (Shuts off radio and gets up. Matias lands and shuts down the helicopter)

Shift to Edvard who is sitting in his organized office watching a film with Jed. It is oddly quiet and dark even with the noise from the TV when Colin knocks on the door and peeks his head in. Jed lifts his head immediately but Edvard barely looks up.

Edvard: What is it?

Colin: Matias is back with everything from Troll.

Edvard: Did you record it in the log?

Colin: Uh no, not yet. I came to tell you first-

Edvard: Find my sister and go help her unload the helicopter and then go finish up with the radio. When you’re done help Olivia install the new radar equipment, that should brighten up her day.

Colin: Yes sir.

Colin leaves with Jed quietly trailing behind and Edvard looks at the heater in the corner of the room before pushing a switch on his intercom.

Shift to Lars and Peder shooting at thermite targets. Lars shoots three times before hitting one and the walkie talkie starts making noise. Peder silently taps Lars’ shoulder to make him stop and takes off his earmuffs.

Edvard: (On walkie talkie)-eder! Peder. Can you and Lars go help Matias unload the fuel from the helicopter, it’s beginning to freeze in here.

Peder: (Messes with the walkie) Sorry Edvard say again? You aren’t coming in clearly. I didn’t get an ‘over’.

Edvard: (Mutters something) Just go help Matias when you’re finished smartass. *Over.*

Peder: (Chuckles with Lars and shuts the walkie off)

 Lars shoots several times before his last bullet hits the target and he clenches his right hand. Peder smirks until chuckling at the last shot. Lars begins reloading when Peder taps his shoulder.

Peder: You’re really a terrible shot.

Lars: (Reloads his gun) It feels funny with thick gloves on, even if I could feel my fingers.

Peder: (Grabbing his gun and the box with the Thermite charges and ammunition) Whatever stops the tears. Grab the rest will you? (Lars slings his rifle and begins collapsing the table)

Scene 1C

Shift to the helicopter where Matias helps Colin and a dressing Olivia get the radar equipment out to the station by sleds. After they leave he looks around and grabs a kerosene can to bring to the rec-room heater and warm himself up. Through the window of the door Lars and Peder are seen grabbing a couple cans each. Eventually he hears Juliette and Henrik come in behind him and he turns to acknowledge them.

Shift to Olivia and Colin moving the new radar equipment into place of the dusty equipment from the forties next to the radio.

Olivia: (Slightly grinning) Just move it back there, I think I can handle hooking up the new radar.

Colin: (Nodding and pulling the old equipment to the other side of the room) So why do you need this new equipment? (Brushes his jacket and pants off) I thought Edvard said the signal detection was a malfunction.

Olivia: The signal was detected at the max distance and was sporadic but consistent. We just need to narrow it down if it even exists. Besides we do need to update our equipment a little more often than every few decades. (Stands up) You can go clean up if you want, I got the rest.

Colin: (Nods and starts to leave) Ok, see you later.

Olivia turns on the radar and its pulse detects a specified area nearby and she quickly and excitedly writes down the coordinates.

Scene 1D

Shift to Edvard’s office where Olivia shows him a map of the region including the mountains, plains, and a circled Thule Station.

Edvard: (Pinching the bridge of his nose) So let me get this straight: right after testing our new radar you detected the signal only nine kilometers away from the Station?

Olivia: Yes.

Edvard: Well why didn’t the old equipment detect the signal if it’s so close?

Olivia: (Circling the source of the signal and draws an arrow to the mountains) I think the signal bounced off the mountains here and confused the old equipment.

Edvard: (Grudgingly acknowledges it) Alright, alright. So what do you want?

Olivia: I want to fly out and check the area while it’s still daylight.

Edvard: Absolutely not! Matias hasn’t refueled the helicopter yet and I won’t risk you both freezing out there in the dark on a wild goose chase with our only kerosene.

Olivia: (Falling back on a prepared defense) Then the snowcat, just one day. We’ll be back in a few hours at most.

Edvard: (Hesitates before looking at his watch) You want to go so badly? Fine. Find Peder and Henrik and go get the snowcat ready, (he checks his watch) you only have a few hours before it gets dark.

Scene 1E

Shift to Peder and Henrik in the front of the snowcat while Olivia tries detecting the signal. Henrik is visibly irritated but determined while Peder keeps a lookout but the landscape is pure white with light snowfall and a slight breeze.

Henrik: (To Olivia) You know this could have waited until tomorrow; Juliette and I just packed this up and I’d much rather be with her. (Peder rolls his eyes and pretends to look out more)

Olivia: Well think of it this way: if I’m wrong then this will be our last trip out at all and you guys can stay shacked up all winter. (To Peder) You still don’t see anything? (The Snowcat ride becomes slightly rougher and Peder grows increasingly annoyed)

Peder: Not yet. (Turns his head towards Olivia) I thought you said it was close.

Olivia: I don’t understand, we should’ve passed it by-(Snowcat lurches up and then falls several feet to slam down. Everybody groans as the tracks stop spinning and the lights come on)

Peder: Is everybody ok? (Both nod before Olivia opens the door to get out)

Henrik: (Opens his door) What did we hit? (Peder grabs the walkie talkie and opens his door as Henrik inspects the damage under the Snowcat)

Olivia: Guys… (Everyone grasps the shape of the surrounding area as the snow clears to show a circular shape and a central high point that the snowcat is stuck on. The *Shape Theme* begins as the sky grows darker and it pans out)

Scene 1F

Scene opens on the site the next morning bright and early. The snow is cleared away with Olivia on the tractor before she parks it next to the helicopter, currently being unloaded with tools and thermite. Henrik films the discovery as Jonas finishes drilling holes on the perimeter of the misshaped ice in accordance with the flags with Peder and Lars assisting. Everyone else except Karl and Jed is present at the snowcat on the other side of the helicopter discussing the site by a table with varying papers on top.

Colin: …it’s hard to tell. According to the backscatter effect the structure is from around the Middle Paleolithic period but it’s difficult to get a good reading from up here. (Before Edvard speaks he interrupts him) Sir exactly what are we digging up?

Edvard: (Increasingly annoyed with Colin) That’s what we’re trying to find out. (Turns to Jonas) Will the thermite clear the area?

Jonas: No, there’s too much ice. but we may be able to clear a small space on the highest point that we can study though. (Doubtful) If we even make it to the top.

 Shift to everyone several hundred yards away. Henrik films, Lars detonates, and Edvard counts down with his watch.

Edvard: ...3...2...1...Fire! (Lars detonates the thermite as everyone looks on).

 As everyone starts moving back Peder notices the steam from the crater isn’t stopping and he motions them back before continuing alone. Before he gets too close loud cracks form and warn him to jump back as the center begins crumbling outward. He quickly runs back to see Edvard getting the rest of the group to safety before it catches up with them and no casualties are suffered. When the steamy fog from the crater dissipates it reveals the massive flying saucer and every person reacts in their own way from shock to awe.

Edvard: (Clears throat) Right. So who should go down? (All glance at each other as the *Despair Theme* begins to increase)

Scene 1G

 Scene shifts to Peder, Olivia, Colin, Henrik, and Edvard exploring the top of the saucer as the rest of the crew checks the perimeter on the surface. Colin studies several metal pieces as Henrik continues to film and occasionally take pictures. Eventually they approach the hatch.

Olav: It’s a door.

Edvard: Or a hatch. Either way can we get it open?

Peder: (Examining the hinges and the seal) We might not need thermite to get through this. It looks like the metal didn’t rust shut so it depends on the hinges. We have a crowbar but I’m not sure if it’ll be enough.

Edvard: (To Olivia) Give Peder a hand. Colin! What did you learn about the metal?

Colin: It’s like no material I’ve ever seen: it kept the heat and dispersed it evenly across the surface, (Anxiously looks at the hatch) and melted any ice. As far as I can tell it’s stronger and lighter than any steel alloy I can think of and will be impossible to cut through, even with thermite.

 As they are speaking the other members of the crew continue to walk the perimeter before one of them notices something odd and calls over several other members. Their excitement continues to grow as the focus stays with Colin.

Colin: (Clears throat) Edvard I think this came from outer space.

 At that moment Peder and Olivia successfully pry the hatch open and a large gust of wind rushes out in a brief but haunting sound. Colin takes two steps back, Edvard flinches but remains still, and Lars and Olav are surprised but recover quickly to try again. Everyone helps with Peder lighting a flare to see inside but keeping it away from the metal. Edvard soon notices the excitement and activity on the surface of the ice.

Edvard: Colin.

Colin: Yes sir!

Edvard: Go see what’s going on up there.

Colin: (Visibly relieved) Yes sir. (Pockets the metal samples and quickly runs back to the rope)

Edvard: (Briefly contemplates) This can be big, Olivia. This discovery can set us up for life. We could get the Nobel prize over this and more!

Peder rolls his eyes at this but Henrik is all the more excited until he tries filming inside the hole which is too dark. Olivia nervously approaches her brother as Colin begins racing back from the rope even faster than before trying not to slip.

Olivia: Edvard, it’s almost winter. How are we supposed to study this below -40?

Edvard: (Caught off guard before quickly coming up with a plan) We’ll keep this secret until next summer, then Alpha team can help us get everything to Tr-

Colin interrupts him before dropping to his knees gasping for air. All eyes are on him as Henrik switches to a flash camera nearby.

Colin: Sir!

Edvard: (Annoyed he was interrupted) Yes Colin. (Colin continues gasping as Olivia checks on him) Well what is it?

Colin: (Gulps and points) It’s an alien! Under the ice! (Pans on everyone’s reactions briefly before lastly Olivia)

Edvard: (In shock) A specimen? Preserved.

Olivia: Oh my God. It’s a saucer. (Zooms out to show the misshaped ice forming the wake of the crash and the two small groups before shifting back)

Henrik: . . . An alien.

Colin: (Calmer but still out of breath) Jonas marked the site and wanted to see what you wanted done with it.

Edvard: (Nods his head while grinning) Tell everyone to help Jonas and Juliette get the specimen out of the ice in one piece, they’re in charge until we get back. (Turns to Peder, Henrik, and Olivia) We’re going inside.

Scene 1H

 Scene shifts inside the large cockpit below the entrance when the *Sterilization Theme* begins to play. Peder is lowered with a rope tied to his belt, one hand on the ladder, and the other holding a slightly shaking flare. After landing and untying himself he pulls out his pistol and waits for Edvard to climb down. Peder uses the flare to light a lantern from Edvard’s backpack and finds a high place for it to light the area. Olivia climbs down and helps Henrik before giving him an old flashlight. All look at their surroundings as Peder’s flare dies out, as does the score, and Henrik begins taking flash pictures to Olivia’s notice.

Olivia: Edvard are you sure it’s a good idea to study the specimen now instead of summer along with the ship? Perhaps we can wait for a proper team to-

Edvard: No! (Catches himself) I mean, we can study the specimen during the winter while we have time. Who knows what we’ll discover? (Olivia gives in and ignores it to look at her surroundings with the others in silence as the crescendo/middle of *Despair* plays)

The Cockpit is a vaulted area with burns and bits of debris all over except for the top of the roof and much of the ladder which is still shiny, smooth, and white as porcelain. To the left are several broken pods that are empty but decayed inside. The front shows four large broken screens with cables and tubes hanging from the ceiling in front of a large fossilized Pilot melted and preserved within his chair. The left of the alien has small screens with several controls and the right has mostly controls including a red button that glows in and out. As Olivia and Peder check out the alien carefully, Edvard has Henrik help him check the door and try to see if they can get it any wider.

Olivia: Wait. If this is the pilot, then who’s outside in the ice?

Peder: (Chuckles) Maybe his buddy went looking for help. Hell would you want to stay here?

Henrik pries the door wide enough to get through as Edvard walks back and Olivia sees the blinking red alarm, brushing off the dust or frost as *Despair* ends. Peder looks at the pods and Henrik tries to figure out the door.

Edvard: We’re through, find anything?

Peder: So far we think the light is a distress beacon for the ship. It’s the only source of. . . (Olivia presses the button and it fades to black to Edvard’s shock then visible anger)

Edvard: Olivia, what the Hell is wrong with you?

Olivia: I was curious ab-

Edvard: We don’t know anything about this ship and now you just turned off something that’s been blinking for a hundred thousand years! We won’t be able to examine this until next summer and you just shut off the only power source so far. (Calms down before realizing something and continues) Stay with Peder or Henrik when we explore the ship and don’t touch anything else or you’re off the team. (Olivia says nothing and takes it as they move on)

Peder: He’s right. Whatever we find in there we don’t touch unless we plan on bringing back with us. Who knows what’s inside? (All peer into the black hole before Peder lights a flare and steps through gun drawn)

Scene 1I

 Scene shifts to them exploring the ship on walkways stretching into the darkness. The ship appears entirely intact inside except the bottom floor has loose objects piled in the front along with a small saucer. In front of the door is a large device that looks similar to a weapon the size of a basketball and Peder only brings it in the cockpit later. The four men explore and notice the walls contain thousands of containment cells of varying sizes but none are open and few even have remains left inside. Olivia and Henrik split off from Edvard and Peder with the latter exploring the lower decks wherever they can and the former continuing the upper walkways.

Olivia discovers a unique container that is broken and covered in black blood, dust, and frost. Henrik examines the broken cell as Olivia tracks the trail to the opposite wall where a skeletal body is crumpled in the corner.

Henrik: Poor bastard. Probably broke out of his cell after the crash and starved. (Sees the ancient dried blood with his flashlight) Or bled out.

Olivia: Yeah. I wonder if anyone else survived the crash. (Notices the skeleton is in the right position in relation to the crash but is too big for the cell and no other pods in the ship are damaged)

 Scene shifts to Peder and Edvard exploring the lower levels in silence with locked doors and everything piled up towards the front including another small saucer. Eventually they go back to the cockpit and meet up with Olivia and Henrik.

Henrik: Maybe they were sightseers and picked the wrong place to land.

Olivia: I don’t think they landed. The cockpit was burned out and the doors were broken. (Looks up) Except the main entrance.

Peder: Edvard and I saw the wreckage downstairs and all the doors were locked. There weren’t any more crew members as far as we could tell. (Looks at the weapon, the pods, and the hatch before continuing) I think this ship is a prison transport. (Henrik almost laughs out loud and Olivia seems skeptical but both she and Edvard take him seriously)

Edvard: How?

Peder: Two dead aliens and a third froze outside with only one broken cell out of thousands? I don’t think so. I think they landed for repairs or crash landed, a convict escaped, killed the guards, burned the cockpit, and froze out in the ice. That blinking light might have been a distress beacon or an alarm for this ship. (Olivia and Henrik keep discussing alternative theories with Peder but Edvard remains silent to ponder before interrupting the three of them)

Edvard: (Loudly) Enough. There will be plenty of time to ponder on this at the station while we study the specimen through the winter. In the meantime, grab your gear. (The alien weapon found by Peder is too big for any bag so he places it near a pod in disappointment while Henrik puts his camera away)

Scene 1J

 Scene shifts to the four climbing out of the crater over the edge of the ice with the help of Matias and Lars before heading to the ice block to meet the others. Jonas, Juliette, and Colin put the last of the gear away in the snowcat and discuss what should be done when it gets back to camp.

Juliette: . . .winter gear room can work. (All pause as the others arrive and they all look into the ice)

Edvard: (Claps hands together) Matias, I do believe you brought beer in the helicopter. (Lars, Jonas, and Peder grin as he turns to retrieve it)

Colin: I never believed in any of this.

Jonas: (Smiles) I always did.

Juliette: I doubt any of us are ever going to look at the stars the same ever again. (Henrik nods with her and Peder looks from the sky back at the saucer. Matias hands everyone a beer and gives one to Henrik and Colin as Edvard lifts his glass)

Edvard: A toast to the future of humanity, a future which could not have been possible without all of you. (Avoids looking directly at Olivia)

Everyone: Cheers! (Henrik takes several pictures of the group before they load the ice block onto several sleds and haul it with the snowcat as the light begins to fade)

Scene 1K

Scene shifts to Karl putting on his coat and stepping outside with Jed as the rest of the crew arrive led by Edvard and Matias in the helicopter. Matias starts packing up the helicopter for winter, Henrik takes his film to develop and cut, Lars and Jonas help Juliette and Peder with the iceblock where they can, Olivia parks the snowcat in the garage, and Edvard walks up to Karl as the rest of the crew get the iceblock to the winter gear room. Colin parks the tractor before walking over to Olivia as the sky fades into black.

Edvard: Did you clear the winter gear room?

Karl: Well I started to but I didn’t have a place to put most of it. And what the hell is that?

Edvard: (Mutters ‘Lazy oaf’) The reason we needed it cleared. Colin! You and Karl quickly move everything to the sides, everyone else on the block. (Olivia opens the door and then helps the others move it into position)

A moment of silence descends as everyone focuses on the creature inside the ice. Karl is not very interested but watches, Colin is anxious but keeps stepping around it, Jonas shows wonder and glee along with Henrik who returns to take a few more pictures of the ice, followed by Jed at the noise; Lars, Peder, and Matias start drinking and relaxing in the corner observing. Edvard continues to organize in his excitement.

Edvard: Olivia, Juliette. I need you two to collect a tissue sample. Jonas can begin removing ice and we will examine the creature directly. (Henrik quickly leaves followed by Karl while several others look dismayed)

Olivia: Edvard it’s been a long day, I think we can hold off on getting the thing out of the ice until tomorrow morning at least. (Edvard begins to argue before checking his watch)

Jonas: I’ll tell you what Edvard: we’ll drill out the holes and remove the top portion of the ice tonight and finish tomorrow morning bright and early.

Peder: Not like it’s going anywhere.

Edvard: (Nods before turning to Olivia) Alright, collect and study the tissue sample and then you can be done for the night. (To Jonas) Go get the saw and break open the top level of the ice after Olivia is done with the drill, then you can be done. Everyone else head to the rec-room for a toast. (Lars, Matias, and Colin eagerly leave but Peder hesitates and stays to talk to Edvard while continuing to drink. Olivia and Jonas go and get a drill and a saw. Juliette looks over the ice before a realization hits her and she heads to Edvard. Peder pays attention to what they say)

Juliette: The ice won’t last the night. If it melts then the creature will be exposed and rot.

Edvard: Then open the doors when Jonas is finished, the other one’s sealed anyway.

Juliette: It won’t be enough, we need actual airflow through here. (Referring to the decay and holes in the structure. A drunk Peder gets an idea and slips out)

Edvard: What do you propose? The windows can’t open.

Juliette: I don’t- (She’s interrupted by the loud sound of one of the sleds plowing through the wall. Everyone in the room jumps at the noise before a second and third hole is broken through by a very drunk Peder and Lars with crowbars)

Edvard: (Furious) What the hell is the matter with you?!

Peder: (Ignoring Edvard) I hope that’s enough airflow for you. If it’s too much the doors still work! (Chuckles with Lars as they head back to the rec-room. Juliette smiles and shakes her head while Edvard silently fumes)

Edvard: No respect. (Jonas and Olivia have the drill set up as Juliette turns back) Be sure to help Henrik with the pictures and the video unit before he’s finished, we only need the important parts. I’ll take care of the paperwork for the documentation of the creature and the site. (Olivia is busy but notices what he just said)

Scene 1L

 Open with Jonas and Edvard mapping out and cutting the ice, Karl sneaking past with whiskey to get out of work, Olivia and Juliette study the tissue sample in a petri dish using the electric microscope, and Henrik puts the finishing touches on the tapes before moving them to the shelves in the Lab and waiting for Juliette.

Olivia: (Eagerly glances into the microscope) This has the most unique cell structure I’ve ever seen! Where was this taken again?

Juliette: (Doesn’t look up and continues writing) The cranium, or at least the skin above it. (Pauses and looks at Henrik who is eagerly watching Olivia work) Why don’t you think Peder cared about the quarantine procedure?

Henrik: (Barely registers what she said) Huh, what? Oh he was probably drinking before he talked to Edvard about it.

Olivia: (Turns to Juliette and breaks Henrik’s daze on the dish) Well all of this was buried in the ice for over a hundred thousand years so he probably wasn’t thinking too hard on it. Are you finished with the film, Henrik?

Henrik: (Brief disappointment before nodding) Yes. Ready to head out?

Olivia: You two lovebirds go ahead, I’m going to clean up around here first.

Several minutes pass before something catches Olivia’s eye. Looking back at her drawing of the cells, she notices the position changed for several. Carefully she observes and sees the cells begin moving on their own.

Olivia: (Pales as the pencil falls from his hand) Oh my God. (Quickly seals the still mostly-frozen tissue sample and continues to watch the cells as the scene pans out)

Scene 1M

Shift to Jonas leaving the storage room and Olivia frantically telling Edvard what she found.

Edvard: (Clearly in disbelief) You’re telling me that these cells survived millennia under the ice.

Olivia: (Still shaken) I know what I saw, Edvard! They abandoned the damaged cells and clumped together for survival!

Edvard: Ok, I believe you. What did you do with the sample?

Olivia: I put the petri dish and the sample in the freezer so no one is contaminated.

Edvard: Smart move. You should go tell Peder, we wouldn’t want anyone to take any unnecessary risks. (Turns to step outside the storage room)

Olivia: Edvard, do you think it’s a good idea to remove the creature from the ice? If individual cells can reanimate then maybe this will too...and then there’s quarantine protocols and proce-

Edvard: Alright calm down there. Look, the thing’s still frozen and so is the sample. We’ll do this slowly and by the book, got it? No unnecessary risks. (Olivia visibly calms down, smiles, and walks past Edvard who slightly frowns and plans ahead)

Scene 1N

 Scene shifts to inside the rec-room where everyone is relaxing and having a good time. Lars, Peder, Matias, and Jonas drunkenly sing and everyone hums along. Juliette and Colin warm up by the stove as Henrik chatters on and on about the spaceship to Karl, struggling to keep his eyes open. While Olivia enters first and walks to Peder, Edvard stands near Colin.

Edvard: (Loud enough to grab everyone’s attention) Everyone! After studying the tissue sample we have confirmed that this has no cell structure that we have ever seen before. This is definitely not from our world (Colin shows apprehension) but with the spacecraft and this specimen in our possession we have merely scratched the surface of what we learned. This will be a momentous change in human history, and that would not be possible without all of you. Each and every single one of your names will go down in history as Pioneers of science! Congratulations and cheers! (Raises his glass and everyone raises theirs and cheers)

After everyone turns back Olivia begins speaking to Peder and Edvard quietly talks to Colin.

Edvard: Colin, you are not to contact Troll Station to report this. Is that understood?

Colin: (Slightly confused at the broken procedure he nods) Um, ok. Are you planning on doing it?

Edvard: (Glances away) Yes, but right now the last thing we need is for them to get involved and muck things up. It wouldn’t take long for us to get swindled out of the discovery. (Move to Olivia and Peder who moved to the bar near the end of the rec-room to talk. Peder is clearly tired but listening)

Olivia: -they’re not dead yet so I put the samples in the freezer.

Peder: (Nods and stops yawning before answering) Alright, does Edvard know?

Olivia: Yes but I thought you should know. Even though you were (acknowledges Lars and Jonas) busy.

Peder: (Seriously considers the situation) Ok. Here’s what we’re going to do: we don’t know how dangerous its cells are so when we dissect it we’ll wear protective gear and keep it on ice just in case. (Glances around) I don’t think we should tell the others yet.

Olivia: (Snaps her head in surprise) Wait, what? Don’t you think that’s incredibly dangerous?

Peder: Look around, Olivia. (Gesturing to the drinkers and those by the stove) We just discovered that we’re not the only beings in the universe. If we start telling everyone the cells are still alive then they’re all gonna freak out and who knows what’ll happen. Besides the samples are back in the freezer and no one is stupid enough to lick it. (Stands up and smiles at Olivia though she’s not entirely satisfied. He pats her shoulder and speaks confidently)

Peder: Don’t worry Olivia. Those aliens were smart; we’ll be smarter. (Walks back as Henrik and Jonas are led away by Edvard to a window. Olivia thinks about the spaceship and eventually leaves to study the pictures in her room)

Colin notices Olivia leaving and grows suspicious enough to listen in on Edvard’s quiet conversation with Henrik and Jonas. As it hones in on Edvard, Colin’s face drains of color and he abruptly leaves without saying anything.

Henrik: (Slowly nodding) Alright, Edvard. I promise to leave the samples alone.

Edvard: Jonas?

Jonas: (Eyes widen and straightens) Right! I’ll keep away from the specimen. (Scratches his head as Henrik speaks to Juliette and both leave) Sorry, it’s been a long day. Look as incredible as the alien is, no one’s messing with it tonight. It’s late.

Edvard: (Checks his watch) Ok, that’s all I needed to hear. Goodnight Jonas. (Turns to walk to Karl)

Jonas: Right. Goodnight, Edvard. (Rejoins Matias and Lars who are putting on their coats to head out)

Scene 1O

 Peder, Lars, Matias, and Jonas leave while discussing the saucer followed by a grumpy Karl for not being left alone by the warm stove, and Edvard with Jed who turns off the light behind them. Everyone goes to bed except Edvard and Karl who go into the storage room followed by Jed. Both contemplate in silence at the blurry and disfigured form inside the ice. Jed doesn’t sit or lay down and continues pacing behind them.

Karl: So it really is an alien.

Edvard: Yes...Why didn’t you come out like I asked earlier?

Karl: Well I figured you guys could handle it and wouldn’t need me to get in the way of this discovery.

Edvard: Bullshit. You were just being lazy. (Both chuckle as Jed begins to whine, catching both men’s attention)

Karl: (Grins as Edvard grows serious) I don’t think Jed likes him very much. (Yawns loudly and begins walking up the steps) Goodnight, Edvard. ‘Night Jed. (Jed quickly trots behind Karl and squeezes out the door before it shuts)

 Edvard looks back at the block and peers closely into it; even getting within inches of the cut ice before walking back to the door. Just before he leaves, he hears something and stares at the slightly melted yet drilled out ice block. Finally he shuts the light off and enters his office where Jed is still pacing.

 Scene shifts to outside the camp where it’s a peaceful and star-filled night. Juliette stares at the moon through a window while Henrik sleeps nearby. Edvard watches a film on his television while filling out the required documents for the discovery but is slightly distracted by Jed’s whining and pacing. Olivia keeps studying the spaceship and specimen pictures before growing impatient and leaves it for the night as Karl walks by the door to his room. Scene shifts back to the ice block where some of the melted cut ice begins to shift and move, causing some ice to spill out. Shift to the lab where someone opens the freezer to steal the frozen petri dish.

Scene 1P

Shift back to the ice where more and more ice is thrown out until a thin line of ice covers the shuddering Thing. Finally a stiff tentacle is extended to the edge of the ice for a grip before retreating with a screeching hiss. A new limb extends followed by another resembling a white exoskeletal spider claw before different limbs grab the sides and hauls itself out of the ice to plop on the ground. After several moments it notices the noise from down the hall and the light under the door; attempting to crawl towards the source before realizing most of it is still stiff and frozen. The pulsing organic part grows several arms, claws, and tentacles of varying sizes and drags itself out the large door into the darkness. Scene pans out to an increasing wind where a scream matches the wind so it’s hard to tell which is which.

Act 2. Scene A

The next day begins with a wide awake Karl cooking breakfast with a groggy Jonas assisting. Peder, Lars, Matias, and Jed are missing and Edvard, Henrik, Juliette, Olivia, and Colin attend breakfast. Henrik, Juliette, and Olivia are already eating while Henrik talks to Edvard and Colin arrives and silently sits.

Karl: I’m surprised you even got up this early, Jonas. Hit the bottle a little hard? (Chuckles)

Jonas: You’d never let me live it down. (Yawns) Besides, happy to help. (Continues handing out plates to Henrik and Edvard)

Henrik: (Sees the plate placed in front of him) . . .so why-. Oh, thanks Jonas. (Edvard doesn’t eat and listens to Henrik who’s about to continue before looking at the plate and then Colin) Actually why don’t you take it Colin, I’m not that hungry yet. (Juliette finishes and puts the dishes in the sink before heading out to the storage room followed by Olivia who just finished eating as they continue)

Colin: (Snaps out of his daze as Henrik hands him the plate of food and Edvard gets up from the table) What? Oh. Thank you Henrik. (Smiles and takes it as Olivia and Juliette rush back in freaking out)

Olivia: It’s gone!

Jonas: (Stops eating) Huh?

Juliette: The alien’s missing! (Everyone reacts with confusion before Edvard and Henrik get up to quickly follow them. The others follow except Karl who’s still eating.

Scene 2B

Pan to the storage room where everyone examines the ice in curiosity. There’s no trail but the door is cracked open and ice, frost, and snow litters the ground. Edvard stares at Jonas as Olivia ponders in silence. Henrik is looking for how it got out while Colin seems calmer than his first visit.

Henrik: Jonas. Did you remove too much ice? (Lame attempt at a joke but no one is in the mood to laugh)

Jonas: What? No. I only drilled and sawed through it. I didn’t remove the ice like Edvard said. (Everyone looks at Edvard and Karl when he enters the room)

Karl: What’d I miss? (Looks inside the block) Ooh, apparently everything.

Edvard: The specimen’s missing, we haven’t taken it out yet.

Jonas: Do you know where it went?

Karl: (Almost laughs but realizes they’re serious) No idea. Edvard and I looked at it last night and everything was fine. (Tries to uplift the others with his own joke) Maybe it didn’t like us and ran off. (Chuckles though Colin grows pale and Olivia ponders this)

Olivia: Edvard, the cells-

Edvard: (Silences her) Not another word, Olivia. (Speaks to the others) Look, it’s bound to be around here frozen somewhere else. (Turns to Jonas and Henrik) Go get the guys up and search for it before it gets warmer outside and rots.

Scene 2C

 Shift to outside where everyone is looking around. Lars and Matias are grumpy but search near the helicopter and generator shack; Juliette and Henrik search inside the rec-room while Edvard checks the main building with Karl. Jonas, Olivia, and Colin search the garage with the latter taking a pipe wrench as a concealed weapon. Peder checks the tool shed alone with his pistol out but doesn’t find anything. As everyone finishes searching, Juliette checks on Peder who’s heading to the garage and Henrik walks around the corner of the rec-room building for a last sweep. Just as he gives up to turn around a noise gets his attention under the building. Peering in with his flashlight does little to illuminate much of the creature, but just as Henrik considers calling to the others it groans and whimpers as if in pain.

Scene 2D

Henrik: It’s ok. I’m not gonna hurt you. We are friends. (Smiles and acts friendly and the creature seems to react with chirping or purring though little moves under the skin) Don’t worry, we’ll get you out of there. (Backs out and turns to yell at the others) HE-

A vividly colored tentacle shoots out and wraps around Henrik’s mouth and much of his head, dragging him to the ground. Jonas walks around the building as Henrik struggles with the creature dragging him under. His screams are muffled through the tentacle as he desperately tries ripping it off and squirm away to no success.

Jonas: Henrik? (Keeps walking and sees his legs kicking near the edge of the snow) Henrik! (Grabs his leg to try dragging him out) Everyone get over here quick! We need help!

As everyone runs around the corners of the rec-room (Peder, Juliette, and Colin from the Left and everyone else on the right) Henrik is dragged into the Thing and Lars and Matias pull Jonas out before he’s lost too.

Matias: There’s nothing you can do!

Juliette: Henrik! (Colin holds her back as Peder draws his pistol)

Peder: Get back! (He shoots several times to no effect though the creature thrashes wildly. Everyone gets back as Lars spots a kerosene can near the rec-room entrance)

Olivia: Oh my God.

Jonas: What do we do? (Lars lights the top of the kerosene can as a molotov before throwing it at the Thing)

Edvard: Wait!

With no way out the creature is engulfed in flames and screams an unimaginable alien sound as it desperately tries crawling through the floor into the rec-room, catching the building ablaze. The others can see it thrashing behind the glass and stare in shock and awe. Karl and Matias run and grab two fire extinguishers from the generator shack as the creature stops and falls to the ground unmoving. They hose the building inside and out but leave the Thing to burn longer. A dismayed Edvard and a hysterical Juliette put out the fire on Henrik and the creature. Everyone silently ponders this and look at each other in disbelief of what just happened. Much of the east half of the building is burned beyond repair but the inside wasn’t as bad.

Scene 2E

Scene shifts to the radio room where Colin desperately tries reaching Troll Station. Everyone is present including Jed and react accordingly. Juliette is beside herself, Olivia sits near to comfort her, Peder reloads his gun, Lars seems to be praying or thinking, everyone else waits with Edvard standing behind Colin.

Colin: I repeat! This is Thule Station reaching Troll Station can anybody hear me?!

Edvard: Try the American base, they’re close.

Colin: (Sighs and reads off the document into the mic in English) <Thees es Thul Stashion, colling U. S. oatpost nomber three-dash-one, over.>

Edvard: I think it’s <Outpost 31>.

Colin: (Nods) <Thees es Thul Station, colling US outpost nomber 31, over!> (Silence ensues and Colin slumps in his seat as the others grow worried)

Edvard: The storm may have gone north. Try the Soviets. If anyone has a working radio it’s them.

Colin: (Shakes his head) I don’t know Russian.

Edvard: Karl. (He looks over and understands)

Karl: (Scratches the back of his head) My Russian’s a little rusty but I’ll do what I can. (Reads the document out loud). {Soviet...Base...Bitch-}No.{East? West.} Alright. (Writes down the translation on the document) Here’s what you say: {Soviet Base West}...{I Thule Station}...{We found something!}...{Send help!}

Colin: *Sovetskaya baza Vostok...Ya Tule Station...My nashli chto-to!...Otpravit’ pomoshch’!*

Edvard: What did you say?

Karl: I said who we are and that we need medical assistance immediately, or at least I think so. (All turn back to Colin who still isn’t receiving anything after a second try)

Edvard: Maybe it’s on a different frequency-

Colin: (Exasperated) I can’t reach the next room with this thing!

Juliette: What do we do?

Edvard: (Clears throat) I think that we should work. We suffered a tragic loss today and we must put it to rest. Olivia, Karl, I’m going to need your assistance with an autopsy of the alien.

Everyone is shocked and horrified by this request with Olivia showing open disgust and Lars showing anger. Peder speaks first.

Peder: That is a man’s corpse out there! Our friend.

Edvard: All the more reason to dissect it so we can bury him.

Peder: (Almost responds before acknowledging it with a nod) Fine, but we are going to be careful and not take any risks for contamination. (As the others begin to agree Olivia realizes what he said)

Olivia: Wait! Before we open up the alien there’s something we need to tell you about its cells.

Edvard: Olivia, we talked about this.

Peder: No, she’s right. (Motions for her to continue)

Olivia: It’s not completely dead. Its cells become dormant in the cold but they can still survive even on their own. So far the only thing that stopped it was the fire and we may have to...cremate Henrik to be sure it’s not buried with him. (Everyone understands and nods, even Juliette)

Scene 2F

Shift to the lab where Lars, Matias, and Jonas have just put the creature, with Henrik’s legs still outside the body, on the dissection table. They brush their gloves and coats outside while everyone including Jed watches Olivia, Edvard, and a nervous Karl cover themselves with protective gear before the dissection begins. When they open up the middle to reveal a half-digested Henrik with little shredded clothing remaining above his legs, Juliette gags and runs out soon followed by Peder. Olivia cannot comprehend what she’s seeing in front of her, Karl comprehends it but cannot believe his own eyes, and Edvard keeps a stoic poker face while looking inside. As it continues and Henrik is cut out but not removed, the others disperse to their own rooms one by one starting with Colin and ending with Jonas as the last one observing.

Scene 2G

Karl: It’s some kind of...digestive track. Henrik was pulled...into the stomach itself.

Olivia: (After looking at its face) Why didn’t it use it’s mouth?

Edvard: Henrik was too large probably.

Olivia: (Shaking her head) It could’ve easily eaten him differently. Wait- (Checks Henrik’s head)

Edvard: What is it?

Olivia: (Another realization hits her and she steps back) It’s a shapeshifter. (Karl drops his knife and steps back while Edvard raises his hands out of the creature calmly)

Karl: How?

Olivia: I’ve counted its legs and tentacles at least three times and they don’t match up. Henrik was pulled into the side of this creature instead of its razor layered mouth to its stomach which easily absorbed him. Also there are clearly different colored appendages everywhere (referring to the tentacles, spider legs, claws, and the body itself)

Karl: Is it dangerous? (Edvard notices something and picks it out with long pliers)

Olivia: The fire did a better job stopping it then ice, but it will be hard to tell the true extent of the danger of this thing until we test the cells against others. (While speaking they both turn towards Edvard who’s holding a twisted metal implant with the pliers)

Karl: What’s that?

Edvard: I was hoping you would tell me.

Karl: Well it looks like a metal implant. Maybe for a hip. Where did you find it? (Edvard uses the implant to point where he found it and Olivia steps close) Wait it was outside the body?

Edvard: Yes. Maybe it removed it while digesting Henrik since it couldn’t eat it. (Both agree by nodding but Olivia takes a close look at where it was found and sees nothing wrong with the area. Edvard looks over the body once more before clearing his throat) Alright, Olivia would you grab the tissue sample so we can test the original cells? (Karl pales at this and watches Olivia. Jonas thinks they’re going to do boring cell study so he leaves)

Olivia: It’s not here.

Edvard: What?

Olivia: I put it right here last night. (Turns to see a confused Karl and a very stern Edvard) I’m telling the truth!

Edvard: We’ll see. Take a new sample and begin studying it until I get back.

Olivia: Where are you going?

Edvard: To find your missing sample.

Edvard leaves while Karl takes off any contaminated protection and reluctantly gets the materials and Olivia ponders near the fridge before helping. As the light fades into twilight, the camera pans across the rest of the crew dealing with Henrik’s death: Lars, Jonas, and Matias share a somber toast in the burned-out rec-room and merely shake their heads at Edvard’s questions. Peder is walking from Juliette’s closed door and he doesn’t know where the petri dish is either.

Scene 2H

Shift back to an uncomfortable Karl looking through the microscope while Olivia assists with two uncontaminated petri dishes: one with plant cells and the other with a sample of blood. Henrik’s top half of his body is still inside the Thing showing nothing but blood on bones; his lower half is burned but still covered with clothes.

Karl: (Shaking his head) They completely ignored the plant-based cells and moved away. (Olivia injects organic cells into the dish and gives Karl room. (Five infected vs eight new ones)

Olivia: What did they do to the organic cells? (He swallows before leaning back to answer and Olivia takes the opportunity to see for herself)

Karl: (As it happens to one of the cells) They ‘ate’ them, probably for the nutrients-

Olivia: Wait. (Watches the infected cells imitate the new cells. Six vs seven new ones) Look. (Karl peers in while Olivia continues) They’re imitating them. Why?

Karl: Maybe it’s to survive in a new environment. (Leans back) A natural defense, a large one at that. (Olivia looks once more into the microscope as some commotion occurs down the hall which turns both of their heads. Karl looks back at Olivia) These cells might be extremophiles. I’ll need to see how hot or cold I can get them before they buckle.

Olivia: (Goes to leave as shouting begins to increase but stops by the door) Be careful Karl.

Karl: (Grins) I won’t take any more samples without gear on, I promise. (As Olivia leaves Karl looks at the Thing for a moment before looking back through the microscope)

Scene 2I

 Shift to Olivia who passes Jonas in the hallway before seeing Edvard and Peder ordering Colin to open the door and banging on it. Lars and Matias stand nearby but leave when they notice Olivia enter.

Olivia: What’s going on? (Edvard studies her as Peder answers)

Peder: Edvard was looking for the petri dish and Colin locked the door. He wanted me to just unlock it but I was hoping Colin was smarter than this.

Olivia: Why? (Both shrug or don’t answer and she brushes it off) Edvard, I need to talk to you and Peder about what we learned so far.

Edvard: See if you can talk some sense into Colin first, then we can talk. (Peder is very interested in what Olivia had to say but grudgingly agrees with Edvard)

Olivia: (Knocks on her own door to no response) Colin?

Colin: (Muffled from the other side) Olivia? Did you kill it?!

Olivia: Kill what? What are you talking about?

Colin: The thing that was banging on the door of course! (Peder bursts out laughing and Edvard looks annoyed) What was that?

Olivia: It was just Peder and Edvard looking for a petri dish. Look, can you unlock the door? We just need to look around for a missing petri dish.

Colin: (Mutters something to himself). . . can’t hear a word that- (Opens the door and Peder barges through before Olivia has a chance followed by Edvard) Hey! (Colin is holding a baseball bat and retreats before seeing it’s Peder)

Peder: (Still smiling) Open the door next time to check dumbass. (Turns and waits outside as Edvard and a reluctant Olivia search around Colin’s side, then Peder’s, and finally Olivia’s)

Edvard: (While looking on her disheveled desk and through the trash can) You took a lot of pictures from Henrik’s collection.

Olivia: So? (Begins searching through the drawers next to Edvard) I was studying the crash and was theorizing on how the creature ended up outside the ship. It doesn’t- (Freezes as Edvard, Colin, and Peder walk over and see a spotless petri dish exposed in the clustered drawer. Edvard pulls it out and examines it before looking at Olivia)

Colin: Uh…

Peder: Olivia…?

Olivia: I- I don’t- (Turns to Peder and Colin) I didn’t take it. I don’t know how this got here but I didn’t put it there. (Frantically defends herself) It’s spotless! It couldn’t be the same one! (Edvard stops staring at the glass and calmly answers Olivia)

Edvard: Of course it’s not. This is all a complete misunderstanding. (Peder and Colin are confused at Olivia but Edvard continues)You don’t have to say another word, Olivia. Now what was it you were going to tell us? (Olivia pales and swallows as Colin grows nervous at her reaction and Peder grows serious)

Olivia: We need to tell the others, it’s very important. (Peder nods, Edvard doesn’t react, and Colin brings his bat)

Scene 2J

 Shift to the radio room leading in the hallway where everyone except Karl is including Jed.

Olivia: This organism is way more dangerous than we thought. By itself it’s a shapeshifter but its individual cells are far worse.

Peder: (Serious though with an attitude) No shit. (Lars chuckles but Jonas nudges him. Olivia continues)

Olivia: All of its cells can reanimate and become sentient on their own in the right conditions. (Looks at Edvard) And they can absorb and imitate other cells. (Shift to Karl who experiments with individual cells instead of groups with heat and cold. Shift back to the group and the fear and confusion is shown on their faces while Olivia continues) I’m worried that if we aren’t careful then we may end up bringing home an alien disease. We don’t even know what could happen! (Karl sees a normal-looking cell attack another and he drops his pencil)

Edvard: (Raises his hands) Woah, woah, woah. Calm down. We still don’t know what this thing is; there’s probably things about it that we cannot even comprehend yet. (Shakes his head as Olivia doesn’t answer) So what do you want? Do you want us to burn it over a slim chance? No. I refuse to let that happen.

Peder: (Agreeing with Olivia but seeing Edvard’s point) Where did you collect the cells?

Olivia: Under the burned remains.

Peder: Is there a chance that the skin of the alien was the only place where these cells could be found? (Olivia falters at this logic while Juliette and Edvard nod) You said the creature could shapeshift, so it doesn’t need to attack us to imitate us. (This relieves the tension and he continues as Jonas, Matias, Lars, and especially Colin try to leave) Here’s what we’ll do: we’ll put the creature on ice until the summer when the rescue team arrives. (Turns to Edvard directly) But until then we don’t mess with it at all and someone keeps a constant eye on it. Got it? (Everyone agrees in their own way but suspicion begins)

Scene 2K

Colin is shown to lock his door and hide in his room while Olivia leaves to put the pictures back. She walks by Edvard who enters Juliette’s room. Karl is shown to be still working on the cells when Olivia arrives and it shifts back. Juliette stares at Henrik’s dark blue sheets and says nothing as he sits next to her.

Edvard: I miss him too, he was my friend. (She says nothing as he continues) It’s going to be ok. We’re going to get through this, I promise. (He puts a hand on her shoulder and she accepts it warmly)

Juliette: (Turns and gives him a grateful hug) Thank you Edvard. (He nods and hugs her back as it shifts back to Olivia entering the lab with the all the alien photos to compare)

Olivia: Have you found anything else? (Karl takes off the protective gear and prepares a new sample)

Karl: Well, the cells aren’t extremophiles: but they’ll freeze and become inactive below zero degrees and die if exposed to enough heat. (Pauses before continuing) Also they all seem the same so that’s probably how it changed so quickly. (Almost to himself) It’s fascinating, yet terrifying. (Olivia looks up from the pictures and both show concern. Score begins)

Scene 2L

 Shift to Peder who is holding a small box with something in it entering Juliette’s empty room. He sighs and sits down before putting the box on the light blue bed.
Peder: I’m sorry I never got this back to you, Henrik. You deserved better. (Closes his eyes as Juliette walks in with a towel wrapped around her waist and hair)

Juliette: Oh-! Peder? (Peder stands up embarrassed and averts his eyes)

Peder: Juliette! I am so sorry! I’ll leave immediately! (Starts walking around her but she grabs his arm gently to which he immediately freezes.

Juliette: Wait! Don’t go. (He looks into her eyes) Please.

Peder: (Nods) Ok. (He turns and closes the door before turning to face her. Juliette gets really close to Peder and he backs up to the door)

Juliette: When that monster attacked Henrik, you didn’t hesitate to act. You were always there for us. To protect us, and you did. (She looks up into his eyes as she traces her fingers up his chest) You protected me, allow me to repay you back.

Peder says nothing and she reaches behind him and locks the door. When she looks into his eyes pleading he finally gives in and kisses her passionately to which she responds. Soon she helps him get his sweatshirt and then shirt off and they continue, matching each other in movement and reaction. Soon during the makeout session both open their eyes slowly before widening them in fear. Peder and Juliette become fused at the mouth and muffled screaming is heard and thrashing between the two of them begins, smashing the room.

Briefly switch to Colin who is trying to watch a black and white film and hearing the commotion next door, turns up the volume in annoyance. Lars and Jonas are playing cards with peanuts and they hear the commotion but roll their eyes and keep playing as Matias walks in and goes to bed. Edvard is shown to enter his office followed by Jed as the scene shifts.

Scene 2M

 Shift back to Karl and Olivia still in the lab, reviewing their notes and organizing a few things.

Olivia: (Yawns) We should tell Edvard what we discovered and move this outside. (Looks at Henrik with regret) After we take care of Henrik first.

Karl: (Agreeing) Peder too, he’ll need to know how dangerous this thing can be. (Stretches) We can do that in the morning. Go tell the others, I can get the rest. (Olivia is slightly surprised at the offer but lets it slide)

Olivia: Alright. Goodnight Karl, sleep tight.

 As soon as she leaves Karl pulls out his flask and takes several swigs before relaxing and sitting next to the microscope. Turning he looks at the microscope and looks at one more slide, injecting normal cells with infected imitating cells out of curiosity. He sees the new cells absorbed and multiply the others and he nervously sweats while continuing as the focus shifts to the corpse behind him.

Scene 2N

Shift to Olivia talking to a very annoyed Edvard outside his office.

Edvard: (Nodding his head quickly) Alright, fine. We’ll cremate Henrik but the alien is not to be harmed.

Olivia begins to answer when a large thump is heard and glass is heard breaking, turning both of their heads. It continues and they both run to the Lab and see the unthinkable: Henrik is attacking Karl, wrapping his arms and legs around him and digging his body into his flesh. His mouth is covered by Henrik’s arm and he tries to scream but can’t make any sound; continuing to struggle and thrash. Bones break and dig in while new tendrils erupt from Henrik’s skull, arms and legs to overwhelm him. Olivia pulls the hazard alarm in the lab and everyone runs to the other doorway by the radio room with Lars and Jonas in the front and Colin making up the rear.

Jonas: Karl! (Much of the lab equipment is destroyed with a fire from the torch on the table and Karl’s thrashing)

Juliette: Henrik? (Peder holds her back with the others)

Olivia: (In terror, desperation, and fear) Burn it! (Karl’s eyes roll in the back of his head and he crumbles to the floor as Henrik continues)

Lars frantically searches but it’s Jonas who finds Karl’s crate of scotch and turns it into a molotov before throwing it at Henrik. Lars joins in while Peder holds everyone back and Matias runs out of the room. Juliette is visibly distraught and Edvard is frozen in place watching the scene unfold. Henrik, Karl, and the Alien-Thing are burned to a crisp and much of the lab is destroyed including many documents and the fridge. Finally Matias pushes through with the fire extinguisher and puts out the fire. It takes a second for everyone to register what just occurred and respond.

Scene 2O

Matias: What do we do now, Edvard. (Everyone turns to him and he is hesitant, not comprehending the situation)

Peder: Edvard?

Edvard: We. . . (Mouths words but doesn’t speak. The others realize he can’t handle the situation)

Lars: We’re taking them all outside and finishing this. (The others turn and look at him with shock or grim faces) I just saw a dead skeleton kill somebody, we do not take any chances. (Everyone agrees except a mute Edvard and a somber Juliette) Everyone head outside and find something to protect yourselves. Peder can you help me with the bodies? (Peder hesitantly nods before they put on their gear and carefully get the bodies outside in a pile)

Scene 2P

 Scene shifts to outside where everyone is around the fire with several Kerosene cans nearby. Colin has a shovel, Lars has a rifle, Matias has a shotgun, Juliette a shovel, Matias has a pickaxe, and Peder has a crowbar. Olivia and Edvard don’t carry weapons which are seen as odd or possibly suspicious.

Lars: We lost our mechanic, our medic, and now most of our lab. (Looks at Olivia and Edvard and the others follow suit) Now what is this thing?

Olivia: (Thinks carefully before answering) It’s a shapeshifting organism that can absorb and imitate any animal on a cellular level. (The others finally put the pieces together and some begin to look at each other in suspicion)

Matias: Where’s Jed? (Everyone quickly notices he isn’t there and look at Edvard)

Peder: Edvard.

Edvard: (Almost in a daze) I um, locked him in the office. Didn’t want him near it.

Lars: (Talks to Olivia) Is there a way to make sure none of us are infected?

Olivia: Well we can still use the microscope from the lab to see who’s infected. We just need uncontaminated blood to test it all.

Lars: (Back to where he started) Is there another way? (Olivia tries thinking but can’t think of a solution. Soon the others grow nervous)

Jonas: The implant. (Olivia looks up and remembers what he’s talking about. Edvard doesn’t say anything and the rest look confused)

Lars: Implant?

Olivia: Yes! While we were examining Henrik, Karl pointed out an implant outside of his body. We thought it was for digestion but it probably couldn’t replicate it so it spat it out!

Lars: (Nodding) Ok. So how do we check? We don’t have an x-ray machine lying around.

Olivia: No. . . but there may be another way. Do you have fillings? (Lars looks at her with confusion before he and Jonas understand. Lars opens his mouth and Olivia checks)

Olivia: (Breathes a slight sigh of relief) You’re clear. (Checks Jonas with Lars) So are you. It can’t replicate inorganic material.

Colin: What about you? (Everyone looks at Olivia and she freezes. Lars steps closer and she reluctantly opens her mouth)

Lars: (Gripping his rifle slightly tighter) Not clear.

Juliette: Olivia?

Olivia: (Desperate) I take good care of my teeth! (The others start to look at her with skepticism) I’m serious! I made the test to see who isn’t infected! That has to mean something!

Peder: This isn’t getting us anywhere. Why don’t we just contact Troll station and tell them to send a task force for this.

Olivia: (Turns quickly) No! We can’t let anyone come here until we’re sure all of it is destroyed! (Another realization hits her) None of us can leave.

Peder: What?

Olivia: We can’t risk that thing escaping to civilization! We have to confiscate the keys...at least until this is over. (The others stare at her, unsure if she’s being paranoid or saying what’s necessary)

Peder: (Hesitates and then nods) You’re right. It’s too risky for it to escape. (He walks around and collects the keys to add to his keychain that he didn’t already have)

Lars: (Points his rifle generally toward Olivia as Jonas checks Matias) Alright stand over to the left. (Olivia is nervous but complies)

Jonas: (To Lars more than the others) Clear.

Lars: Check the others. (To Matias) Go grab that crate of scotch from the kitchen and make some more molotovs. Everyone without fillings leave your weapons over to the right. (Everyone but Edvard and Peder starts arguing with Lars with the latter even nodding his head. As Jonas tries and fails to reason with them Lars fires a shot into the air which gets everyone’s attention) I’m not going to ask again. (Everyone complies and Matias comes back with a crate full of molotovs) Take what you can. (While Matias and Jonas load up with molotovs he turns back to Olivia) Ok. So now how can we tell for you? (Colin, Juliette, Edvard, Peder and Olivia glance at each other)

Olivia: (Pissed off but restrained at Lars) It’s simple now: we each take a sample and test it against yours, Jonas’, or Matias’. (Matias looks up and sees Peder’s m1911 in his holster) I’m not sure how many clean needles we have left after the fire. (Matias mutters something to Lars)

Lars: Peder you still have your pistol.

Peder: (Barely glances down to it) Well yeah, of course. It’s my only protection.

Lars: Give it to Jonas. When we’re done with the tests you can have it back. (Jonas steps closer and Peder’s vision is drawn to him)

Peder: What? No. I’ve been packing this for years, it’s my only defense! (Lars grips his rifle tighter as Peder’s hand is near his own)

Jonas: (Starts to slowly reach for it) Look it’s no big d- (Peder takes a slight step back and draws but Lars shoots one bullet right into his forehead. The gun flips away and Peder’s head flies back as he falls to the snow)

Juliette: PEDER! (Lars points his gun at her but says nothing. Edvard stares at Peder while she breaks down and Olivia comforts her as Jonas picks up the gun with a grim look)

Lars: (Swallows and clears his throat before talking to several hated looks) Everyone head to the kitchen for the test. (Turns to Matias) Keep an eye on them, Jonas and I will move Peder to the storage room. (Jonas is clearly uncomfortable with it but keeps it to himself)

Olivia: You should burn his body. (Matias motions her to move)

Lars: You’re probably right, but this way I will know for sure. (She nods in understand before heading inside. He shakes his head sighs before checking Peder’s corpse for the keys and then drags his body with Jonas to the storage room)

Scene 2Q

 Everyone is waiting in the kitchen with Matias keeping watch as Lars and Jonas come in with a torch, a propane tank, and tools. Colin is shown to be terrified of the possibilities but backs down to Matias.

Olivia: What are you doing?

Lars: We’re building a flamethrower. (Turns to Olivia directly) We originally grabbed the charges but we didn’t want to blow the building up in the process. (Turns to Jonas) Start working on a test with Matias, I can finish this on my own. (Leaves with the gear and both are unsure of what to do)

Olivia: I can help. (Matias steps back with the shotgun but Jonas is more willing)

Jonas: You can?

Matias: No. Tell us what to do. You stay back.

Olivia: Why would I lie about this? (Matias lowers the gun and she backs up slightly) Fine. (Turns to Jonas) Check the lab for the med kit. It should have enough sterile needles and syringes for all of us. Everything else is with the microscope.

Scene 2R

 Scene shifts to Lars entering the lab as Jonas studies the slide next to six petri dishes with names on them. The two isolated ones are Olivia’s and Jonas’.

Lars: Find anything? (Jonas turns around startled)

Jonas: Jes-. (Sighs) Damnit Lars. Yes. I just tested Olivia’s blood, she’s clear. (Lars nods) Good. Matias, send Olivia in here. (She enters and sees their relaxed faces and she’s unnerved) You’re clear, Olivia. (She visibly relaxes and nods slowly) Told you I wouldn’t lie about it. (Jonas shows a guilty look but turns back to the slides)

Jonas: Let’s test the others.

Olivia: Peder first. (Lars looks back at her and then nods at Jonas)

Jonas: (Confused but lets it go) Alright. (Tests Peder’s and suddenly pulls back almost backing over Lars)

Lars: (As Olivia checks) What the hell Jonas?! (Olivia frantically turns)

Olivia: We need to burn Peder now!

Lars sees both their faces and puts a grim one on as he runs down the hallway with the flamethrower closely followed by Olivia and Jonas. This gets the others’ attention and the paranoia and nervousness increases with Matias unsure of what he should do. The three run into the storage room and Peder’s corpse is missing.

Scene 2S

They run back to the kitchen just as the power goes out and everyone begins to panic and argue.

Lars: ENOUGH! Matias! Jonas! Olivia! Get over here now. (He lights a flare and the others stop panicking as he continues) It got outside and cut the power to kill us or distract us! We can’t let it escape!

Juliette: (Still hyperventilating) What do we do?!

Olivia: We need to find Peder now! We can fix the generator after he’s dealt with! (The others agree and Matias speaks up)

Matias: Everyone should move to the rooms and lock the door.

Olivia: Not until we’re all tested (Looks at the others and they look at her as if a traitor)

Lars: Alright. Everyone move to Jonas’ room, Matias you keep watch but leave the door open in case he comes back. (Jonas and Matias nod and the others are forcefully moved) Olivia, you take the flamethrower. (She’s uncomfortable with it but agrees without hesitation as he turns to Jonas) We’re going after him.

Scene 2T

 Show Lars, Jonas, and Olivia cautiously looking in and around the generator shack. The only damage was burns around the generator and wiring.

Jonas: Great. The damage doesn’t look too bad but we don’t have Henrik.

Lars: Then let’s hope Matias is as good with this as he is with his helicopter. (Neither smile as Olivia checks the helicopter and makes sure it’s still in storage)

Olivia: (Relieved) Helicopter’s ok.

Lars: Were you worried that he was hiding in there?

Olivia: No. I was afraid he might’ve sabotaged it.

Jonas: (As they leave) At least he didn’t take it. Who knows how smart it really is. (Olivia falters in her step at this and contemplates the possibility)

Scene 2U

 Shift to them checking out under the main building and the rec-room where Henrik was attacked before they walk around to the charred door.

Lars: Alright Jonas and I will check inside. Watch our back. (Olivia nods and turns to ponder on the tool shed and the helicopter as they step inside)

When some clinking catches her attention Olivia looks around before slowly walking to the garage. The door is open and she slips inside the dark room but waits. The clinking and tinkering continue as she creeps up on Peder hotwiring the snowcat. His skin is blotchy and grey, the eyes are white and lifeless, and his forehead is speckled with green blood. Right as she sees his face he gets the snowcat started and she runs around and hoses the side of it with flames. The creature shrieks and thrashes inside and outside the snowcat as Olivia steps closer and lets it have it.

Olivia: GUYS! I FOUND PEDER, HE’S IN TH- (Two appendages lash out and grab Olivia with the flamethrower and pull her into the flames)

Lars and Jonas run around from the outside in time to see the garage and the rest of the building erupt in flames with a haunting roar from inside. They share looks of horror and the garage explodes from the flamethrower while the rec-room continues burning from the other direction.

Act 3. Scene A

Inside the freezing room the survivors hear an explosion and Matias turns all the way to the door. Colin and Juliette are terrified but Edvard remains calm but uneasy while Matias is overly stressed.

Juliette: What was that?!

Edvard: I don’t know!

Matias: (Before turning) Everyone shut up!

Colin panics and breaks for the lab, shoving Matias into the doorway and knocking him out unconscious while disarming him. Juliette closely follows him to the radio room and Edvard walks the other direction towards Matias and the other rooms.

Scene 3B

Shift to Lars and Jonas walking back as Matias stumbles out of the main building putting on a mask.

Lars: Why aren’t you watching the others?!

Matias: They attacked me from behind after we heard an explosion. (Looks past them) Ah. Where’s Olivia? (He sees their looks and grows somber) Oh.

Lars: (After a moment) We have to end this. (Jonas is confused but Matias nods) It’s the only way to be sure.

Jonas: How? Olivia was the only one who could have figured out another test. (Referencing the generator. The other two don’t answer him and he understands) No!

Matias: Jonas…

Jonas: No! Olivia believed in them, we have to try!

Lars: Olivia’s gone. She said to burn Peder’s body when I had the chance and I didn’t. (Looks at Jonas seriously) I won’t make the same mistake twice. (Jonas is still unsure)

Matias: (Puts a hand on his shoulder) There’s no way for us to test them, Jonas. (He looks at the generator and the burning building before surrendering and nodding his head to which Matias pats his back and Lars shoulders his rifle)

Scene 3C

 Shift to Juliette who is banging on the door to the lab which Colin has locked and crying in desperation for him to let her inside. He stares at the door in fear and paranoia and starts dragging over a heavy piece of testing equipment to the door. Desperate, Juliette finds a fire axe and prepares to cut her way through when she’s shot by Lars before she has a chance to swing, landing face down in the small hallway. Jonas comes up behind Lars as Matias hands him a molotov.

Without hesitation he throws it and she shrieks in rage and pain, transforming to quickly get away from the flames to the back corner where she continues changing. While she screams, Colin plugs his ears and cowers next to the radio. Skin rips, bones break, and body parts are rearranged as the three men struggle to light the next molotov and Lars holds it off with his gun.

The Juliette-Thing barrels toward Lars and he shoots several shots before Matias pulls him out of the way and she barrels past him through the window into the snow. She tries putting herself out but Matias and Jonas dump kerosene while Lars lights his last molotov. The three breathe a sigh of relief that they stopped another one.

Jonas: (Turns back to the door to the radio room) Who do you think is behind the door?

Lars: Colin. (Turns to Jonas) You go inside and see if you can get him to answer the door, or at least keep him distracted until we come around. We’ll go look for Edvard. (Jonas nods and Lars gives him the keys)

Scene 3D

 Jonas enters through the main entrance and locks the door behind him, checking the rooms on his way to the radio room. He knocks on the door to no response and listens close to the door to hear distinct sounds.

Jonas: Colin I know you’re in there. (Still no response but some noise is heard in the background) Look, Colin I’m on your side here but I need you to work with me. (After no response) Alright. (Unlocks the door but it doesn’t budge) Damnit, Colin.

Jonas searches around and uses the axe to pry the door before resorting to cutting it open. Right as he swings his head turns towards a shadow and Edvard barrels into him from down the hall. Shift to Colin who quickly backs from the door as the axe punches through and Jonas’ anguished screams pierce through him. He sees the attack under the door and Jonas is silenced though there’s still kicking, thrashing, and other horrible noises. Colin checks his pocket and there’s nothing but a straight razor. He briefly looks at the storage room before a thump from the hallway grabs his attention again. Knowing he’ll freeze to death running or staying inside he decides to go out on his own terms, slitting his wrists and then his throat before sitting in the chair at his post by the radio.

Scene 3E

Shift to Lars and Matias frantically breaking down the locked door to the main building. Hearing the noise and knowing he’s been caught, Splitface tries to escape outside through the window but they see him. They run back outside and Lars shoots it while Matias throws his last molotov. Lars uses his last molotov to finally stop the creature while Matias keeps it at bay and the two use ropes to drag it to the burn pit.

Matias: Poor Jonas. (Turns) What about Colin?

Lars: (Anger and determination in his eyes) He’s next. (They walk through the Lab to find his corpse in his chair. Matias is disgusted and stomps outside while Lars stops at the ice block to stare at it and sigh. Then he remembers) Jed.

Scene 3F

 He cocks his gun and slowly opens the door to Edvard’s office. He holds his breath and rushes in to Jed jumping over him, knocking him down and the gun from his hand before running out the door. Lars frantically grabs the gun and chases Jed outside as Matias turns and sees the commotion from the storage room.

Lars: Jed!

Matias: Wha-

Lars: Shoot him! That’s not a dog! (Matias shoots but Jed is too far) START THE HELICOPTER NOW!

Matias runs to prepare the helicopter for takeoff and Lars runs and grabs the thermite charges as *Humanity Pt. 2* begins to play. Lars gets back and loads the charges into the helicopter before jumping in.

Lars: Come on! Come on! (Matias finishes and the blades start to turn) Go! GO!

 The helicopter slowly takes off and they start following the dog at a far distance, Lars desperately using the binoculars to find it as they rise.

Lars: Which direction was it heading?!

Matias: (Confused, shaking) N-north! North I think! The ship! We can’t let it escape!

Lars: What would it do with a buried ship? (Thinks for a moment) What if he isn’t going to the ship? (At Matias’ confused look he continues) The American Base!

 Lars desperately scans the horizon for the dog while Matias checks his direction as the camera pans out to the credits.

Post Credits Scene

A Flying saucer hovers over a red rocky planet covered in a thick mist that reveals shapeshifting life, ranging from disgusting insects to the largest grotesque monsters. They constantly attack and absorb each other in an endless cycle. It is humid and there is no visible vegetation, mountains, or oceans to decorate the shifting mass on the surface of the planet. One half is shown in pitch black shadow and the other is horrifically revealed in the warm light of a Blue Giant Star.

Shift to inside the cockpit where a screen shows the planet’s surface while another identifies the planet in a red warning hue with a long untranslated list. One alien is revealed to pilot the ship with three eyes, blue hair, four large arms and two small arms, and multiple ligaments at the base. Two others descend to the planet wearing all-encompassing exoskeletal armor and carrying plasma weapons and two containers inside a small saucer.

The two fly the saucer to the surface and destroy the surrounding area before landing. The two exit and eliminate the few incoming creatures before carefully collecting a small pile of remains in the two storage containers. As the two prepare to disembark a large creature catches them off guard and pounces on one of the aliens. Its companion shoots it but others run out and attack and the other is forced to flee into the ship with only one container. They rip apart the alien as the small saucer takes off with several Things hanging on. The inside of the small saucer pulses red detecting a containment breach but the alien ignores it as it approaches the larger ship.

As it passes through the hangar doors and a blue hue all things are destroyed except for the crew member and the captured Thing. The containment alarm is still blinking on the dash of the small saucer but the inside stops pulsing red. The alien parks the saucer while communicating to the pilot in some form of report before eventually putting the Thing in a small pod. The crew member takes off its exoskeletal armor nearby and leaves the Thing in between two different species within their pods. The pilot looks over several planets to choose next, eventually choosing Earth which is identified with a green hue and a small untranslated list. A landing course is set to a prehistoric South America and the pilot begins work on one of the pods.

The Thing moves to the side of the pod across from an exoskeletal spider which leaps at it and scratches the surface but can’t break through. As the spider continues to act ferociously the Thing slowly grows a long thin black and bloody spike and pierces both pods through the spider, killing it instantly.

An alarm alerts the other aliens to the break and one of them checks it out while the pilot watches on the small screens from the cockpit. The crewmember checks the two pods carefully before the Spider-Thing breaks through the small pod and attacks the alien. The pilot sees what happens along with the vital signs ending and activates a quarantine alarm which begins a countdown. As all the doors shut and lock across the ship the pilot’s attention is drawn to the vital signs restarting (*Beep...Beep beep...*) and earth begins to come into view as the crewmember tries unlocking the door. Outside the infected crewmember tries several ways to unlock the door from facial recognition to codes but the alarm keeps it out.

Understanding what is happening the pilot plots a crash course into earth which triggers an obstruction warning. The huge shift in the ship alerts the Alien-Thing that his disguise didn’t work and he shoots the control panel with the plasma gun to cut the power and break through the door itself. Seeing earth and hearing the Alien-Thing rapidly approach behind, the pilot steers for the ocean but the Thing attacks and the camera pans out to the ship spinning out of control to Antarctica.

The hull catches on fire as the two fight within the flashing cockpit. Alarms blare, screams are heard, electricity cackles, smoke and blood fills the room as the camera pulls back to the full crash into the ice.

The ship crashes near the edge of the ocean but the hull is still hot, causing the surrounding ice to melt and water begins to pour into the top of the crevice. As the timer on the hazard alarm expires the Thing frantically tries to escape through the hatch in the roof before the cockpit is incinerated. It climbs out of the burning hatch to a dark blizzard with minor burns and quickly scuttles away from the rushing water which sweeps over the hatch and closes it shut.

It begins to slow down from the cold and grows several smaller limbs to help it scuttle faster, eventually climbing the ice in the wake of the crash. The water soon catches up to the Thing, making it more slippery and difficult to climb. Just before the top the Alien-Thing slips into a crack in the ice and the water overwhelms the creature in darkness. Soon the thrashing stills and the camera points up to the black night as the *Eternity* Theme plays.

The End