

AURA

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. IRIS' BEDROOM - NIGHT

A little girl sits in her bed in a nightgown. Young IRIS VEGA (8). Long dark brown hair, one purple eye and one blue eye.

Her father walks into her room and sits down beside her.

LANCE VEGA (43), brown hair with the sides shaven and a grey beard. He wears a fitted beige sweater with his sleeves rolled up and slim black dress pants.

LANCE VEGA
Good night Iris.

YOUNG IRIS VEGA
No, not yet... Can you tell me the story again?

LANCE VEGA
Again? Really?

YOUNG IRIS VEGA
Please~

LANCE VEGA
Okay, sweetheart.
(beat)
It was on a distant planet.

EXT. PLANET

The light from an unknown star shines on the planet. What isn't water, is covered by a planet-wide rainforest.

LANCE VEGA (V.O.)
Your mother and I went on our first mission together.

A spaceship comes into view, sleek and beautiful.

INTERCUT WITH - INT. IRIS' BEDROOM - NIGHT

Iris watches her father with adoration.

LANCE VEGA
I was assigned to protect her and the other scientists on an expedition of a new world.

EXT. RAINFOREST - DAY

A team of scientists exit a spaceship, followed by their military escorts. A dense rainforest surrounds the ship.

Young Lance Vega, chiselled features and a soft heart. Young Andrea Vega, beautiful and intelligent.

LANCE VEGA

It was beautiful. There were so many new things to see. Your mother included. I couldn't take my eyes off of her, and she knew it too.

They exchange glances.

LANCE VEGA (CONT'D)

She looked at everything with such wonder.

(beat)

But not everything on the planet was as peaceful as we would have hoped.

EXT. RAINFOREST - NIGHT

Lance leads his team through the trees. A storm downpours rain as they make their way.

They approach what appears to be an old research station.

LANCE VEGA

There were these creatures, like lions, but bigger. They had long spikes down their back, all the way to the tip of their tail.

Lance notices brush move, now on high alert.

LANCE VEGA (CONT'D)

They stalked us as we approached the research facility.

INT. ABANDONED RESEARCH STATION

They enter one by one. Lance silently commands his soldiers, positioning them at the exits.

LANCE VEGA

The building was overrun by plant-life, unlike anything we've ever seen before. It was glowing.

(MORE)

LANCE VEGA (CONT'D)

Your mother was star-struck, and so was I.

Lance stares at Andrea again, taking in the beauty of her and the new plant-life around her.

LANCE VEGA (CONT'D)

It lit up the entire room. We continued to walk through, following this plant through the room.

Everyone admired the facility.

LANCE VEGA (CONT'D)

Suddenly, I heard a low growl come from down the hall. When I looked, the entire end of the hallway was gone. I walked towards it with my weapon drawn and just as I took one more step... AH!

Lance scares Iris in her bed. She jumps and screams and then laughs in excitement.

LANCE VEGA (CONT'D)

A spike flies right at me. It pierced my rifle. It must have been this long.

Lance measures the size of the spike with his hands.

LANCE VEGA (CONT'D)

The creature leapt out into the hallway, right in front of me. I threw my rifle away and grabbed my sidearm. I yelled to my team. CONTACT, HOSTILE ON ME! They all came running and shielded the scientists from the beast's gaze.

YOUNG IRIS VEGA

Were you scared?

LANCE VEGA

Of course, I was. But that wouldn't stop your dear old dad, now would it?

YOUNG IRIS VEGA

No.

He tickles her. She laughs uncontrollably.

LANCE VEGA
 Hmm? I can't hear you!

YOUNG IRIS VEGA
 No! No!

Lance stops and they both laugh.

LANCE VEGA (V.O.)
 Now, you know your mother. She
 showed no fear. She pushed through
 my men and ran to my side.

YOUNG ANDREA VEGA
 Don't hurt it!

LANCE VEGA
 She turned to the creature and
 slowly walked towards it. I don't
 know how, but it seemed to calm
 down. Until...

SOLDIER #1
 Sir.

YOUNG LANCE VEGA
 Stand down!
 (to andrea)
 Are you sure about this?

ANDREA VEGA
 Yes.

YOUNG LANCE VEGA
 Okay. Just, be careful.

SOLDIER #1
 Sir, I don't--

The soldier takes a step forward. The creature reacts.

LANCE VEGA (V.O.)
 It shot out spikes from it's tail.
 I grabbed your mother and shielded
 her just in time. However, I wasn't
 so lucky.

YOUNG IRIS VEGA
 Can I see it?

Lance pulls his collar to the side, showing the scar where
 the spike pierced his shoulder.

YOUNG IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Cool!

He let's go of his collar.

LANCE VEGA

My team opened fire and the creature ran. Never to be seen again. That night, your mother took care of me.

Lance lays on the floor. The spike deep in his shoulder. Andrea holds him in her arms, trying to stop the bleeding.

LANCE VEGA (CONT'D)

If it wasn't for her I probably wouldn't be here.

Lance looks back at the doorway to Iris's room. ANDREA VEGA (42) an older but still beautiful woman stands there.

IRIS VEGA (V.O.)

My father used to tell me that story every night.

Iris notices her mother.

YOUNG IRIS VEGA

Mommy!

Andrea walks into the room.

ANDREA VEGA

Hey sweetie, time for bed okay?

YOUNG IRIS VEGA

Awe, do I have to?

ANDREA VEGA

Yes, it's getting late.

LANCE VEGA

Good night pumpkin.

Lance and Andrea kiss Iris on the forehead then walk towards the door.

YOUNG IRIS VEGA

Will I ever get to go on an adventure like you and mommy?

ANDREA VEGA

Of course my darling. You can do anything you put your mind to.

Iris smiles and closes her eyes.

Lance and Andrea turn off the light and close the door. The room glows blue, lighting up with stars and a realistic map of space.

IRIS VEGA (V.O.)
They were the best in the universe.

INT. TRAINING ROOM DELTA

An empty grey room the size of a small gymnasium. IRIS VEGA (21), the same little girl, but older, with streaks of dark red highlights in her hair stands in front of a class of young teens.

She wears training combat gear and a tech gauntlet on her forearm.

IRIS VEGA
Scientists used to believe that evolution for humanity had come to an end. That we had nothing else to learn. They were wrong.

Iris holds her fist in front of her and jolts her hand open, creating a purple and blue orb of light.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Aura. Something that we could only have dreamed of, until now.

The orb pulses.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Quantum field manipulation they called it. The ability to harness and control, on a quantum level, fields of energy. Now, who wants a little demonstration?

The class cheers.

TESZ (22) walks in. A tough looking human male. He wears similar gear to Iris'.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
I'd like you all to meet Tesz. He will be assisting me in showing you the applications of Aura in a variety of combat scenarios. Are you guys ready?

CLASS #1

Yes Ma'am!

IRIS VEGA

Okay, let's get started.

Iris types into her gauntlet. After a moment, a wave of energy flows around the center of the room, activating an invisible barrier.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Just in case.

A kid pokes the barrier, it ripples with a variety of colours, then turns clear again.

Iris types into her gauntlet once again. This time a boulder materializes beside her.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

This, is a solid hologram. It's made up of what we call hard light. Not as strong as the real thing, but it works just as well. But that's not what you came here for now is it?

CLASS #1

No!

IRIS VEGA

Okay, well let's start off with something simple then.

Iris extends her hand out towards the boulder.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Lift.

She spins her and raises it. Her aura simultaneously forms around her hand and the boulder, lifting it into the air.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

It's all about practice. The stronger you get, the more you can lift.

Iris plants her feet.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Now for the most important skill you'll learn from this academy. The barrier.

She tosses the boulder at Tesz. He reacts, bracing himself.

A red and black aura flows up his arm as a barrier appears in front of him.

The boulder connects, exploding it into tiny pieces. Tesz's aura absorbs the impact, sending black and red energy backwards.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

As you can see the barrier absorbs kinetic energy and evenly distributes it around you. If you're not careful, it can be very dangerous. But if you're smart--

TESZ

You can send it right back.

Tesz focuses his aura into his right arm.

He throws a punch. A shock-wave of red and black aura propels itself forward across the room.

In one swift motion, she moves her hands through the air, guiding the energy.

Their aura combines together, mixing all of the colours.

The energy makes flies up and over Iris like a wave, then comes down and into the palm of her hand. She turns towards the class and extends her fist. She opens it up, using the energy to create an orb. The colours shift from all four down to two.

The entire class cheers.

IRIS VEGA

And there you have it. That concludes our demonstration for the day--

CLASS #1

No!!!

IRIS VEGA

Oh what? You want more?

CLASS #1

Yeah!

IRIS VEGA
All right, all right.
(to tesz)
You ready?

Tesz nods.

He draws his side-arm. Iris throws her hand forwards.

Tesz rapidly fires. Iris forms a barrier, catching the bullets in mid-air. She thrusts her hand forwards, sending the bullets flying back towards Tesz in all different directions.

She forcefully closes her hand, bringing all the bullets speeding down at Tesz.

He throws his arms out to the side, sending an aura shock-wave, destroying them all.

He charges Iris.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Remember kids, play to your strengths.

Iris takes a step, shovelling both hands forwards. Her Aura forms a pool of energy around Tesz, lifting him high into the air.

Tesz spins around for a moment. He then regains his balance and forms his aura around his body. He dives down, punching the ground on impact.

The force of the blast propels Iris backwards. An annoyed look crosses her face as her aura absorbs the damage.

Iris' aura flows to her legs as she kicks her foot forward, sending out a massive shock-wave of energy.

Tesz throws up his guard and creates a barrier around himself.

The power of Iris' blast sends him flying backwards. He lands on the ground with an angry look on his face.

A woman claps as she walks up. CORA ATWOOD (40), a fit female with short cropped hair, dressed in a black T-shirt and camo pants.

CORA ATWOOD
Nice work, both of you.

Tesz stands up and dusts himself off before walking over.

IRIS VEGA
Thank you Ms. Atwood.

TESZ
Show off.

IRIS VEGA
You're one to talk, taking it off
book like that.

TESZ
I didn't--

Cora holds up her hand, motioning him to be quiet.

CORA ATWOOD
(to class)
All right kids, that will be all
for today.

The barrier around the room fades.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
I hope you all have had a wonderful
time learning about Aura and what
we're doing here. See you in the
years to come! Dismissed.

The class thanks them all and waves goodbye.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
Now, there will be a meeting in
Training room F at 13:00 hours. I
suggest grabbing some lunch before
that. You both deserve it. Good job
today.

Iris and Tesz salute their teacher.

IRIS VEGA/TESZ
Yes Ma'am. Thank you.

They both make there way out as Cora dematerializes.

INT. VIEWING ROOM

Cora stands in the middle of the room, crowded by screens.
Each monitor shows a different training room with labels
under them.

She stares at Iris and Tesz on the screen and then turns her
attention to training room Bravo's monitor.

INT. TRAINING ROOM BRAVO

Four students are squared off, taking cover behind barricades and pillars. A flag stands at each end of the room.

THEIA ATWOOD (22) Spunky and aggressive. Human. Cora's daughter. Short faded pink hair.

KERA (20) A cute and innocent looking girl. Long black hair and blue eyes.

REESE (21) A half-alien male. Blonde hair and blue eyes. One eye has a circle inside of it, similar to a gear.

MALEK (22) A half-alien male. Black hair. Half Asian and half Psyform, an alien race with increased physical abilities and aptitude.

Reese and Theia move in closer, now side by side behind cover. Reese looks at Theia.

THEIA

I'm moving in.

Reese nods. He taps an invisible button on his temple. In seconds a full mask materializes over his face. One eye socket glows red.

REESE

Go.

They both exit their cover simultaneously. Reese locks onto the positions of Kera and Malek, firing short bursts at each of them, keeping them pinned down.

Theia moves in, sliding to the closest cover and gaining ground. Reese advances with his weapon ready.

Malek raises his arm, creating a barrier as he breaks out of his cover.

He rushes to Kera's aid, the barrier absorbing each bullet fired. He ducks behind cover with Kera.

MALEK

What's the plan.

KERA

(timid)

I... I don't know.

Bullets roar overhead, Kera shutters.

MALEK

Dammit. Okay, I got an idea.

Malek holsters his gun.

MALEK (CONT'D)

Barrier, now.

Malek stands up. A dome of pink and green energy forms around them. He raises his hand, seemingly griping something in mid-air. His blue and orange aura spirals around him.

Reese sees strands of Malek's aura float in mid-air, stretching to the other side of the room.

REESE

Shit!

He turns around and notices the flag flying towards Malek. Reese throws his gun to the side and catches the flag, spinning it before planting it into the ground.

Reese continues the motion, turning back around, lifting his gun into his hands with his blue and green aura, then kicking his foot to the side, sending a pillar sliding in front of their flag.

He advances.

MALEK

Ha, well that's fair.

Malek looks down at Kera.

MALEK (CONT'D)

Go protect the flag, I'll cover you.

KERA

You sure?

Malek draws his gun.

MALEK

Yeah. I'll get his attention.

KERA

Okay...

Her barrier lowers.

Malek slides over the cover and rushes Reese, alternating between shooting and blocking bullets with his barrier.

Kera scrambles up and runs to her flag, positioning herself in front of it.

Malek and Reese brawl in the middle of the room. Kera notices Theia sprinting towards her. In a panic, she throws her hands forwards, creating a barrier in front of Theia.

SMASH. Theia punches through, her pink and black aura swirling around her fist.

Kera throws up another barrier. Theia punches through it once again.

Now a few feet away, Theia winds up a punch and Kera protects herself, creating a barrier around herself and closes her eyes.

Theia fakes her out, spinning and grabbing the flag.

An alarm sounds and a scoreboard appears on the wall behind Kera: RT - 8 wins.

Reese presses the button on the side of his mask. It dematerializes as he reaches his hand out to help Malek up.

REESE

That was a close one. You almost had me there.

MALEK

Ha, yeah right. Mr. Undefeated.

REESE

Don't give me all the credit. I've got a pretty great teammate.

MALEK

You can say that again. She's a beast.

Theia stands in front of Kera.

THEIA

Kera.

She pokes her head. The barrier sends out a ripple of energy with each contact.

THEIA (CONT'D)

Hellooo? Earth to Kera.

She opens her eyes. Her barrier starts to lower as she looks up at Theia, who's waving the flag back and forth.

KERA
Awe... we lost.

THEIA
Yeah, but you both put up one hell
of a fight! Your barriers are
getting so much stronger. I don't
think I would have been able to get
through any more of them even if I
tried.

KERA
You're just saying that...

Theia puts her hands on Kera's shoulders.

THEIA
Listen to me. You did great, okay?
She kisses her forehead. Kera looks up and smiles.

KERA
Okay. Thanks.

THEIA
Now why don't we go get some lunch?
Sound good?

KERA
Yeah, sounds good.

They both start to walk to the exit when they see Reese and
Malek staring at them.

THEIA
What are you two looking at?

The two guys are startled by this and quickly look away, in
every direction but theirs.

THEIA (CONT'D)
Yeah, that's what I thought.
(to kera)
What do you say? Next time, me and
you versus them.

Kera looks up at Theia lovingly and nods her head.

Cora comes into view, materializing as she walks.

CORA ATWOOD
Well done everyone.

REESE, KERA, MALEK
Thank you Ms. Atwood.

THEIA
Hey mom.

CORA ATWOOD
Hello sweetie.

THEIA
What's up?

CORA ATWOOD
Class meeting in training room F,
13:00 hours. I expect all of you to
be there. Now go get some rest.
Nice work today.

REESE, KERA, MALEK
Yes ma'am.

Cora nods and begins to turn away.

THEIA
Mom.

CORA ATWOOD
Yes?

THEIA
Can I talk to you for a second.
(to kera)
I'll catch up in a minute.

Theia makes her way to her mother's side. She waits till
everyone else leaves.

CORA ATWOOD
What is it dear?

THEIA
Any news on dad.

CORA ATWOOD
No, there isn't. I'm sorry.

THEIA
He's been gone for three months.
I... I miss him.

CORA ATWOOD
I know, so do I. We're doing our
best to find him.

THEIA
But what if he's--

Cora takes her daughter's hands. Cora's hologram fluctuates on contact.

CORA ATWOOD
He's fine. It's just a routine surveillance mission. There's no need to worry. He will be back soon, I promise.

Theia holds back tears. She nods.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
Now go catch up with your friends. Okay?

THEIA
Okay, thanks mom.

Theia walks away. Cora then looks down presses an invisible button. She dematerializes.

INT. VIEWING ROOM

Cora blinks a few times, adjusting to the change. She walks to the desk ahead of her and grabs a clipboard.

She looks at her gauntlet. A digital screen shows the time, 12:24.

She heads out the door.

INT. TRAINING ROOM ECHO

Cora walks down the viewing room stairs. Her last four students are focused on their projects.

She walks to the other end of the room, checking on each student working as she does so.

SOREN (21) brown hair and tattoos of space ships down his arm. An aura drive major working on a spec drive core. Parts of it glow with an array of colours as he tinkers with it.

ALEXA (20) an alien woman with dirty blonde hair and a darker skin tone. An environmental major, and BRE (20) a platinum blonde haired woman with a wing tattooed on her back. An Aura Barrier major. They work together on a small scale Bio-dome, testing harsh planetary environments to aura shield emitters.

Bre keeps the barrier stable. She checks the energy output on the computer beside her with one hand and adjusts the barrier with her other hand.

Alexa types into her computer, measuring life signs of the plants inside the dome.

JORDAN (20) an alien male with black hair and a sleeve tattoo of explosions. A munitions major.

He works on aura modified bullets, each separate munition wired up to a screen. He lowers a small computer chip and sets it on a bullet casing.

Jordan then types into the computer and presses enter, activating the computer chip. A small barrier appears around the bullet, sparking with energy.

Cora stops and turns around, addressing her students.

CORA ATWOOD

Class.

Her students stop and face her.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

There is a meeting in training room F at 1300 hours. I suggest wrapping up what you're doing and taking 5 before the briefing. Go get something to eat.

STUDENTS

Yes Ma'am.

CORA ATWOOD

I'll see you all there. Oh and good job today.

INT. MESS HALL

Cora's students gather in the crowded mess hall in small groups of their own.

Jordan and Soren sit and talk about technology and future advancements.

Tesz and Malek walk with their food towards another table. They barely speak to each other.

Alexa and Bre sit with a few other girls from different classes, chatting about newly discovered planets.

Iris sits down next to Reese and sets her plate down. They smile at each other. Theia and Kera sit on the other side of the table.

IRIS VEGA
Hey guys.

REESE, THEIA, KERA
Hey.

IRIS VEGA
How'd the training go?

THEIA
We crushed it. 8 and 0.

IRIS VEGA
Good job!

Theia looks at Kera.

THEIA
Sorry...

KERA
It's okay. I'm proud of you. Both of you.

REESE
Thanks.

THEIA
Thanks babe.

She kisses her cheek and holds her hand.

IRIS VEGA
So do you guys have any idea what this meeting is about?

THEIA
No, I haven't got a clue.

IRIS VEGA
Reese?

REESE
Nope.

IRIS VEGA
Weird. I wonder what it's about.

KERA

My brother told me in his last year they were put up against other classes. You think that could be it?

IRIS VEGA

Maybe. If so, I think we should get ahead of the game. Yeah?

REESE

What are you thinking?

IRIS VEGA

We need to come up with a plan. Figure out our strengths and weaknesses and such.

REESE

Sounds good.

Iris moves her plate out of the way and the rest do the same. She presses on the middle of the table and it lights up. A navigational system appears.

Everyone clears off the table; Iris touches the middle of the table. It lights up. A navigational system appears.

IRIS VEGA

Okay, just as a basis. Positioning. Whose our front line.

Theia raises her hand.

THEIA

I got it.

IRIS VEGA

All right. Who else?

She marks a T on the map.

REESE

Tesz would be the best bet.

THEIA

That's if he even follows the plan.

IRIS VEGA

Right, we'll have to work on that. Now, we've got our front line, we need a back line. Who's the best shot?

Iris marks down an TZ on the map.

REESE

That would be either Jordan, or me.

THEIA

Getting a little cocky I see. Don't let our 8 wins get to your head.

Reese chuckles.

REESE

Don't worry, I wont.

IRIS VEGA

Okay, I think I got this.

She starts marking down names one after another.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

If we have you here, and Jordan here. That means we can have Bre here and Kera, you'll be here. That leaves Alexa and Soren here and then Malek will be here and I'll be here.

REESE

What if we don't get to work together? We don't even know how big the teams are either, or if this thing is even going to happen.

IRIS VEGA

True... But in any case, this is a pretty good fallback right?

REESE

Yeah, I guess so.

IRIS VEGA

Think you guys can fill the rest of the class in on this?

Iris starts to pack up.

REESE

Where are you going?

IRIS VEGA

I'm going to go see what else I can figure out.

REESE

But we'll find out in like 10 minutes.

IRIS VEGA

Yeah, I'm not waiting.

REESE

Okay... Want me to come along?

IRIS VEGA

No, I'm okay. I'll be in and out in a flash.

Iris grabs a bit of food off her plate and takes it with her.

INT. TRAINING ROOM FOXTROT

The doors to the room open to reveal Iris, she walks in.

Iris looks around the room. Three times bigger than most of the other training rooms and empty.

She moves to the monitor at the other end of the room. She logs in and opens up blueprints of the room.

Iris navigates to find the saved holo layouts folder.

The screen displays: Meeting Room.

Lights around the room beam to the floor, creating a visible hologram, not yet solidified. A stage appears with a podium.

IRIS VEGA

That's not it. Hmm...

Iris flips through the different blueprints; TR 1, TR 2, TR 3, Final Exam.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Final Exam? Is that what they were talking about?

She checks over her shoulder, looking for anyone around.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

I feel like this is cheating.
(beat)
Screw it.

She presses it. A message appears, ERROR: INSUFFICIENT SIZE.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

What?

Another message appears. OVERRIDE? Y/N

She presses Y.

The lights swirl and move around, creating a new layout;
Pillars and walls of light appear scattered around.

The grey walls fade and become a desert landscape. Ruins and
tunnels appear in the distance.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Whoa.

Iris walks around, examining the layout. The light passes
through her as she obstructs its path.

CORA ATWOOD

A bit early, don't you think?

Startled, Iris turns around.

IRIS VEGA

Oh, yeah... Sorry.

CORA ATWOOD

No, it's fine. So, what do you
think?

Iris looks around.

IRIS VEGA

It's cool.

CORA ATWOOD

Yeah, I thought so too. Think
you're ready?

IRIS VEGA

Always.

LATER

The room has returned to normal.

Cora stands in front of her class. She starts to walk through
them, handing out metallic pins.

CORA ATWOOD

I just wanted to congratulate you
all on passing last years finals.

She makes her way to the front of the class.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

This year, will be much more difficult. As many of you might have guessed, this meeting is about the next step in your training. There are 3 stages, and you must get through all of them before you can get into the final exam.

Everyone in the class looks around nervously.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

First off, advanced aura combat. Here you will learn how to quickly control your Aura and manipulate it in combat effectively. For example, portals.

Cora creates a portal beside her and draws her weapon. She fires a single shot into it. The bullet flies through the portal and comes out of another one across the room, speeding right back at her.

She throws up her hand, catching the bullet with her aura. She releases it and the bullet drops.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

Secondly, you will learn how to survive in harsh environments. From the deep ocean, to the harsh climates of other planets.

The class looks around at each other again, nerves through the roof. Kera takes a step closer to Theia.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

Lastly, you will have to put all of the knowledge you've learned to the test in solo combat against waves of enemies. Every third year student has gone through these tests before their final exam. Pass, and you'll finally become a member of our military fleet.

Iris stands up tall with confidence and smiles.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

Your first class starts... Now!

Just then, beams of light project down an entire arena. Walls, pillars and barricades appear around the room, towers and fortifications on each end. Most of the students start to panic and frantically look around.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
 Capture the flag! Red Vs. Blue. See
 you on the other side.

Cora dematerializes and disappears.

The pins that Cora handed out start to glow. Some blue, and some red. Every student quickly checks who's on who's team.

INT. VIEWING ROOM F

The viewing room overhangs off of the side of Training Room Foxtrot. Cora walks to the glass where another teacher stands.

LT. ARGOLL (67) Male, a well built Lirzan soldier with a deep voice and somewhat lizard-like.

LT. ARGOLL
 Do you think they're ready?

CORA ATWOOD
 There's no doubt in my mind.

They look out of the glass, down at the students who are taking cover.

LT. ARGOLL
 What about that girl Kera. She
 seems to be further behind than the
 others.

INTERCUT WITH - INT. TRAINING ROOM FOXTROT

Each student makes a break for their team's bases, picking up weapons from stashes placed around the room.

Kera follows behind her team, almost straggling behind. Kera picks up a leftover pistol laying on the ground and then hides behind an inner pillar inside their base.

CORA ATWOOD
 Don't count her out just yet. She's
 got potential. Even if she doesn't
 see it yet.

LT. ARGOLL

If you say so. And what about your daughter?

CORA ATWOOD

Careful.

Cora shoots him a dirty look. Lt. Argoll laughs, his voice like a low bellow.

LT. ARGOLL

No disrespect Major. She seems very capable.

Theia slides out from cover and rushes the blue teams base, her aura surging around her body like armour. Malek stands in her way as she rushes forward. She startles him. He fires uncontrollably at her.

LT. ARGOLL (CONT'D)

I admire her combat style, it's much like my own.

CORA ATWOOD

It's going to get you both killed.

Each bullet absorbs into Theia's armour-like aura. She weaves from side to side, dodging sniper shots from one of the red towers.

Theia breaks through Malek's defences with an Aura-surged uppercut.

LT. ARGOLL

I think it's effective.

Another sniper shot echo's from the tower as Theia rushes behind cover. The shot pierces her barrier and into her shoulder, sending her stumbling behind a barricade.

Reese looks up from his scope for a moment, then sets his sights on other targets.

REESE

Heh, gotcha.

LT. ARGOLL

And who would that be?

CORA ATWOOD

Reese. One of our best marksmen.

REESE (V.O.)

(coms)

Juggernaut's down, move in.

CORA ATWOOD
And a great leader.

REESE
Alexa, Bre, left side. Go. Tesz,
keep an eye on that flag.

Tesz stands with his gun drawn inside the flag room, his aura flowing wildly around him.

TESZ
Shut the hell up. I know what I'm
doing.

LT. ARGOLL
Top of the class?

CORA ATWOOD
Close.

Iris ducks behind cover, out of sight. She takes a deep breath and then her aura envelops her body, making her invisible.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
That would be Iris.

A shimmer moves across the room as bullets fly past it.

LT. ARGOLL
Ah, Lance and Andrea's kid. Should
have known. That cocky son of a
bitch was always one step ahead of
us.

CORA ATWOOD
You can say that again.

Cora gets a message on her earpiece. She seems concerned.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
Excuse me.

Lt. Argoll watches her leave the room, then turns back.

INT. TRAINING ROOM FOXTROT

Theia sits behind cover, holding her shoulder with one hand. She looks around, on edge.

The shimmer moves towards Theia unnoticed.

It hugs against the side of the barricade. The shimmer wavers and then Iris reappears in its place. Theia jumps and points her gun at Iris.

THEIA
Oh, Jesus Christ!

Theia tries to calm down.

THEIA (CONT'D)
Since when the hell can you do that?

IRIS VEGA
I'll tell you later. Right now we've got a game to win. Think you can move?

THEIA
Yeah, I'm good. But that asshole's got us pinned down.

IRIS VEGA
I got that covered.
(coms)
Okay, we're ready.

A shot. Then an explosion. The side of the red tower gets blown off, causing it to collapse.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Go!

Iris and Theia break out from behind cover, rushing the flag room.

REESE
Shit!

As it collapses, Reese jumps out the side. He lands on the top of the flag room.

TESZ (O.S)
(coms)
What the hell was that?

REESE
Nothing, I got it.

Reese sets his sights on the other sniper. Just before he fires, he sees Iris and Theia out of the corner of his eye and aims his gun down a second too late.

REESE (CONT'D)
Shit. You've got incoming.

A shot from the blue tower makes Reese take cover, kneeling behind a barricade on the roof.

Theia and Iris charge into the flag room.

REESE (CONT'D)
Damn! You're on your own, I'm pinned down.

Iris and Theia stop in front of Tesz.

REESE (V.O.) (CONT'D)
(coms)
Alexa, Bre, fall back.

TESZ
(coms)
It's too late for that. I can handle these two.

A bullet hits the barricade Reese is hiding behind.

REESE
Shit!

He looks around for a way out, blocked in on all sides. He looks down.

REESE (CONT'D)
Awe hell...

Reese enhances his fist with his aura. He smashes a hole in the roof, sending himself and debris falling into the flag room.

Reese stands up from the wreckage, shaking his hand in pain.

REESE (CONT'D)
Son of a bitch!

THEIA
Well that was stupid.

REESE
Just making it a fair fight.

Theia smirks.

THEIA
Bring it on.

Reese looks at Tesz, giving him a worried smile.

He moves in on Theia, throwing fist after fist. Theia counters each attack, landing multiple blows in return.

Angrily, Tesz moves in on Iris.

TESZ

I've been looking forward to this.
No holds barred.

He throws a flurry of punches at Iris, each strike infused with his aura. She dodges each attack, moving backwards and goading him on.

IRIS VEGA

That all you got?

Tesz focus' all of his anger into a haymaker of an attack. Iris counters and knees him in the chest, knocking the wind out of him. He falls to the ground.

A buzzer sounds. Kera stands with the flag in her hand, Theia moves up and congratulates her. Tesz turns around, clutching his stomach. An angry look still on his face.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Your anger got the best of you.
While your eyes were on me, Kera was able to get the flag. Basic strategy.

Iris stretches out her hand.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Now come on.

Tesz thinks for a beat.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

We're going to have to work together as a team if we want to pass the final exam. You in?

TESZ

Yeah...

Hesitantly, Tesz takes her hand. She helps him up.

The surrounding holo buildings all disappear as Lt. Argoll walks towards them.

LT. ARGOLL

Well done everyone.

The students gather around, confused by the new person in the room.

TESZ
Who the hell are you?

Reese nudges Tesz to be quiet. Cora walks up.

CORA ATWOOD
This class, is Lt. Argoll.

Everyone salutes.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
It was his idea to run this drill.

LT. ARGOLL
I had to get a reading on all of
your skill levels.
(beat)
I'm impressed, for the most part.

TESZ
What do you mean for the most part?

LT. ARGOLL
Some of you... are too cocky for
your own good.

Soren holds back Tesz's angry reaction.

LT. ARGOLL (CONT'D)
My point exactly. If you can't keep
your anger in check boy, it will
consume you.

CORA ATWOOD
I think that's enough excitement
for now, don't you? You've all
earned a good days rest. Dismissed.

They all begin to leave the training room.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
Iris, could I talk to you for a
moment?

IRIS VEGA
Sure.

She turns to Reese, Theia and Kera.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
I'll catch up.

They nod.

CORA ATWOOD

Follow me.

Iris follows her. They walk to the other side of the room. Cora looks back to make sure no one else is around.

She then waves her hand, creating a wormhole inside the wall and walks through it.

Iris follows her, admiring the wormhole.

INT. CORA'S OFFICE

Cora walks in. Her office is clean and organized, a modern feel to a futuristic world. She leans against the front of her desk. Iris enters.

CORA ATWOOD

Have a seat.

She motions Iris to sit in the chair across from her. Iris complies.

IRIS VEGA

What is this about?

Cora looks down, trying to gather the right words to use.

CORA ATWOOD

I... don't know how to tell you this but... the ship your parents were on. The Lyra. It was shot down a few hours ago.

The glow on Iris' face disappears. She looks lost, confused.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. I know this is sudden, but, I thought you'd want to know right away.

Iris looks up at Cora, fighting back every tear that starts to form.

IRIS VEGA

They're gone?

CORA ATWOOD

We don't know for sure, but as of right now, they're MIA.

Iris dismissively laughs and looks away.

IRIS VEGA

MIA...

(beat)

You're not even going to look for them are you?

CORA ATWOOD

We're doing everything we can. The area is heavily fortified.

Iris shakes her head.

IRIS VEGA

Just... never-mind.

Iris stands up and walks out.

CORA ATWOOD

Iris...

Cora remains in the room alone, thinking of what she could have done differently.

EXT. HALLWAY #1

Iris walks up to her room. The gauntlet on her arm glows, unlocking the door. She walks in.

INT. IRIS' ROOM/#6

A normal sized room. Futuristic and cozy. A queen sized bed, a night-stand and a big window sit in the corner. An inset dresser sits next to the closet and a lamp on the night-stand projects a hologram of space. Pictures and posters of famous military personnel hang on the walls.

She enters her room, closing the door behind her. She sets her backpack down beside her bed and flops down.

After a beat, Iris picks up her tablet, a transparent screen with black handles on the side. She swipes through it, bringing up her e-mail and opening a video attachment.

A video of her mother appears, sitting in a chair on a spaceship.

ANDREA VEGA

(on screen)

Hey baby girl.

Tears start to form in Iris' eyes, flooding with more emotion every second.

ANDREA VEGA (CONT'D)

I hope everything is going well.
I'm sorry we didn't get to say
goodbye, but we should be back in a
few weeks. See you soon!

Iris breaks down. She sits in her bed, alone, crying her heart out.

LATER

Iris sits leaning against the wall on her bed. A knock at her door, somehow sounding hollow. She wipes the tears from her face.

IRIS VEGA

Come in.

After a few seconds, a hologram appears. A full-sized human AI. SAROS (Artificial Intelligence). Properly mannered and a bit uptight.

SAROS

It is currently 5:30 PM. Dinner
will be served in the mess hall.

IRIS VEGA

Okay, thank you.

Saros nods. He turns and dematerializes.

Iris stands up and tries to compose herself. She walks over to her mirror, fixes her hair and straightens her jacket. Iris stares at herself, trying to look normal. After a few moments, she turns and leaves the room.

INT. HALLWAY #1

Iris closes her door. She looks up and down the hall, no one in sight. She makes her way to the mess hall, feeling like she's all alone.

INT. MESS HALL

Iris walks into the crowded mess hall. A bunch of students are gathered around eating their dinner, as well as teachers and other military personnel.

Iris moves through the crowd, not as upbeat as she usually is. She gets to the automated food station and chooses her meal.

She looks around the room with a saddened expression on her face. Everyone around her is happy and excited.

Her food dings and dispenses onto a plate. She takes her food and turns around, looking at her usual table.

Reese, Theia and Kera sit there. She looks towards the door, debating on what to do.

Theia notices her standing there and waves her down. With a soft smile and nod, she moves to join them.

THEIA

You've GOT to admit it, it was a lucky shot.

Iris sits down at the table.

REESE

Yeah, sure...

IRIS VEGA

(to Kera)

Hey.

KERA

Hey.

THEIA

I'm serious. I bet you couldn't do it again if you tried.

KERA

This has been going on for a while.

Iris fake smiles.

REESE

Just because YOUR barrier didn't hold up, doesn't mean that I got "lucky"!

THEIA

Oh now you're beefing my barrier?

Reese jokingly laughs.

REESE

Yeah? What of it?

THEIA

Oh here we go! Bring it on then!

REESE

Anywhere, anytime.

THEIA

Yeah? How about right now, training room Alpha. Unless you're scared.

REESE

Fine, let's go then.

THEIA

All right, your funeral.

Reese and Theia stand up. Theia looks down at Iris and Kera.

THEIA (CONT'D)

You guys coming?

IRIS VEGA

No, I'm okay.

KERA

I'll catch up.

Theia kisses Kera's forehead and walks away, following Reese out.

KERA (CONT'D)

Good luck!

THEIA

Thanks!

Iris and Kera sit in silence. The sounds from the mess hall start to pick up. Iris plays with her food, not eating.

Kera looks at Iris with concern.

KERA

Are you okay?

IRIS VEGA

Yeah...

KERA

You're sure?

IRIS VEGA

Yeah. I'm fine.

KERA

Okay... I'm sure that whatever is going on will work out in the end. Trust me.

Iris looks up at Kera. She musters a smile.

IRIS VEGA

Thanks.

KERA

Anytime.

Kera stands up.

KERA (CONT'D)

Well I should go make sure they don't kill each other.

Iris smiles and laughs a small bit.

IRIS VEGA

Yeah.

KERA

See ya.

Iris nods.

IRIS VEGA

See ya.

Kera makes her way out of the mess hall. Iris sits alone at the table.

INT. TRAINING ROOM ALPHA

A very long grey room. Theia stands at one end, Reese at the other.

He sets his rifle on a holo block, then checks his sights; Theia stands dead center of his scopes.

REESE

This doesn't seem very fair.

THEIA

Screw that, just come on! Shoot already!

REESE

All right.

Theia's aura starts to grow around her, bits of it extend outwards.

He aims down his sights, takes a breath and exhales slowly, squeezing the trigger. BANG!

The bullet flies down the room. It connects with the strands of Theia's aura, slightly altering its course.

Theia dodges. The bullet barely missing her skin tight barrier.

THEIA

Easy.

Kera walks in.

KERA

Are you two crazy?

THEIA

It's fine. Watch.

REESE

(under breath)

Cocky son of a bitch. How about this?

He fires again. Theia dodges once more.

THEIA

That the best you got?

Reese smiles to himself and shakes his head.

REESE

Well, you asked for it.

He presses an invisible button on his temple, materializing his mask. His red eye glows ferociously.

THEIA

(excited)

Here we go.

Theia readies herself, overflowing her aura.

Reese aims down his sights again. His aura grows around him. It seeps into his rifle and covers the bullet.

He fires. The bullet speeds down the room.

Theia throws a punch. It connects with the bullet, shattering it on impact. A shock-wave of aura fills the room.

The sound echoes and then bleeds into silence. Theia stands up straight, clenching her wrist in mild pain.

Reese looks up in astonishment.

REESE

No way!

He stands up and walks to Theia.

THEIA

Looks like I win.

Reese shakes his head in defeat.

REESE

Yeah, you win.

THEIA

That last one had one hell of a punch, no pun intended. Since when can you do that?

REESE

Just something I've been working on. That's the first time I've tried it.

KERA

That was really dangerous. Are you all right?

THEIA

Yeah, I'm fine.

Kera walks up to Theia and takes her hand. It's red and bruised.

KERA

This doesn't look fine.

REESE

Sorry about that.

THEIA

I'll be more careful next time.

KERA

Please. Now let's get you to the medic.

INT. HALLWAY #2

Iris walks down the hall towards her room. Her sadness still filling her soul.

INT. IRIS' BEDROOM

She enters her room and lays down on her bed. She sighs.

A deep voice sounds on the speaker.

BRIGADIER GENERAL (V.O.)

(speaker)

Attention students. A few days ago, we got reports of our enemies moving around the Gamma quadrant near Seleka 9. The Lyra was dispatched earlier this morning to investigate and report back.

Iris covers her ears and curls up at the mention of her parent's ship, drowning out every word in whatever way she can.

EXT. SPACE

A covert and sleek military space-ship exits a wormhole and approaches a planet. Letters printed on the side of the ship spell out: Lyra.

EXT. SELEKA 9

Seleka 9. An uninhabitable world with constant storms covering almost all of its surface.

As the planet draws closer, storms break, showing untouched lands.

INT. LYRA/COMMAND DECK

A man takes his hand off of a pedestal in the middle of the room. The Aura drive whirls to a stop as LANCE VEGA (56) walks up to his crew members.

LANCE VEGA

What do we got?

CREW MEMBER #1

Scanners still aren't picking up anything.

LANCE VEGA

Probably the storms. All right,
we'll touch down and see what's up.
Think you can get us in there?

CREW MEMBER #1

Sure thing.

Lance, the captain, walks up to the front of the command deck. A woman stands there looking out at the storms swirling around the planet. ANDREA VEGA (55) notices her husband's approach.

ANDREA VEGA

You think this is such a good idea?

Lance hugs his wife from behind.

LANCE VEGA

It'll be fine. Besides, we will be
in and out before they even notice.

EXT. SELEKA 9

The space-ship continues on its course.

BRIGADIER GENERAL (V.O.)

Unknown to us, the planet was
guarded.

A giant energy beam fires through the storms, piercing the shields of their space-ship.

The beam collides with the ship, causing a chain reaction.

The engines explode, sending the wreckage through the atmosphere. Fire and electricity consume the ship as it passes through the clouds.

INT. SELEKA 9

The ship crashes through the veil of storms, pieces of it rain down, scattering over miles and miles of the planet's surface.

What's left of the ship crash lands, creating a massive crater on impact.

BRIGADIER GENERAL (V.O.)

I regret to inform all of you... we
have lost contact with the Lyra.
There were no survivors.

INT. IRIS' BEDROOM

Iris' heart drops. The colour in her face disappears. Her eyes start to well up with tears rolling down her face.

INT. HALLWAY #2

Reese, Theia and Kera stand in the hallway. Theia's hand freshly bandaged. Their expressions turn to sadness and disbelief.

INT. CORA'S OFFICE

Cora stares out her office window. She holds back all of the emotions that she can.

BRIGADIER GENERAL (V.O.)

It was a great loss, they will be missed. I'm sorry.

INT. IRIS' BEDROOM

Iris turns over and cries into her pillow.

LATER - NIGHT

Iris sits in her bed, holding her glass viewing screen, replaying her mom's last message over and over again.

IRIS VEGA

Saros?

He materializes at the side of her bed.

SAROS

Yes?

IRIS VEGA

I need you to find something for me.

SAROS

What is it miss?

IRIS VEGA

I need to see the last transmission logs from the Lyra. I need to know what happened.

SAROS

I'm sorry, I can't do that. Those files are restricted to military personnel only.

IRIS VEGA

You don't understand. They were my parents. I need to see them!

Saros stays silent.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Never-mind. Just go...

SAROS

Iris.

IRIS VEGA

GO!

A sad look crosses Saros' face.

SAROS

I am sorry for your loss.

Iris ignores him. He looks down and then disappears.

Iris sits alone in her bed, crying. After a few moments, she can't take it anymore. She hits her bed, her aura faintly forming in the air around her.

Iris' anger rises. She gets up and walks out of her room.

INT. TRAINING ROOM BRAVO - NIGHT

Iris walks towards the rooms control table. She types into it and creates a hologram punching bag.

She picks up gloves off of the table and puts them on, tightening the straps as she moves towards the hologram.

She approaches it with ferocity and throws a punch, her aura enhancing the hit. The bag absorbs the blow. She throws another, and another, each hit absorbed by the hologram.

Frustrated she takes a breather and steps a few feet back. Her mind races, remembering her parents.

Her anger rises as she swings. This time her aura overflowing.

Blue and purple energy flow around her, almost electrifying the air. Her fist connects with the bag, shattering the hologram into pieces.

Iris stands still, taking in her hollow victory.

Theia walks in.

THEIA
Are you okay?

IRIS VEGA
(dismissive)
Not now.

THEIA
It's not like you to let your anger
get the better of you.

Iris keeps quiet. Theia walks closer to her and Iris motions her to stop.

THEIA (CONT'D)
I heard what happened. I'm so
sorry.

IRIS VEGA
Everyone heard.

THEIA
Did you need somebody to talk to?

Iris looks away.

IRIS VEGA
No.

THEIA
You're sure?

IRIS VEGA
I SAID I'M FINE.

THEIA
Okay, I'll be in my room if you
need me.

IRIS VEGA
Theia... I'm sorry. Thanks for
coming.

THEIA
No problem. See you tomorrow?

IRIS VEGA

Yeah.

Iris smiles at Theia. She nods and walks away, looking back in concern before she exits.

INT. TRAINING ROOM FOXTROT - DAY

The whole class gathers in the empty training room.

They look around the room confused. Theia walks up to Iris.

THEIA

Hey, you okay?

IRIS VEGA

Better today, thanks.

MALEK

So where is he?

Lt. Argoll appears behind Malek, putting his hand on Malek's shoulder.

MALEK (CONT'D)

WHOA!

Surprised by this, Malek jumps away.

MALEK (CONT'D)

Don't do that!

LT. ARGOLL

Your first lesson. Invisibility.
The better you get, the more of
yourself you can mask. Observe.

Lt. Argoll disappears again. This time, a faint shimmer moves around the room.

LT. ARGOLL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

All of you must learn the basics of
this skill. It could save your life
one day.

He reappears.

LT. ARGOLL (CONT'D)

However, I noticed one of you has
already got accustomed to this
skill. Iris. I'll be leaving the
rest of this to you.

Tesz scoffs. Iris shoots him a dirty look and Tesz looks away, feeling bad for her.

IRIS VEGA
What? Why? Where are you going?

LT. ARGOLL
I have some business I have to attend to. I won't be long.

The Lieutenant hands Iris a holo-cube. After she takes it, he disappears completely.

IRIS VEGA
Okay? Umm... First things first I guess. We start with something small, like this.

Iris holds out her holo-cube.

TESZ
I thought we were learning how to turn invisible? Not play with blocks.

IRIS VEGA
We are, just... watch.

Tesz rolls his eyes.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Now, you first surround the object with your aura. Then imagine the light around it, you have to feel it out.

Her aura starts to flicker and flash.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Then, you flip it.

The block starts to turn invisible from the top down until it's completely cloaked.

A small shimmer outlines the block.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
I'm still working on it, but that's the gist of it. Now why don't you guys try. Here.

Iris types into her gauntlet, creating a bunch of blocks on the ground.

LATER

Iris walks up and down the line of students. Each one of them struggles with the task.

Some of them start to get it right, turning their blocks invisible.

She walks by each of them.

IRIS VEGA
Good. Good job. Nice.

Iris notices Tesz intently staring at his block, his aura warping around it.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Tesz?

He ignores her, focusing his aura more around the block and himself.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Tesz!

She moves in closer.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
TESZ!

TESZ
WHAT!?

He looks up in frustration and notices her. His anger subsides for a moment, thinking of Iris' parents.

TESZ (CONT'D)
Sorry.

Iris, confused by the apology takes a beat.

IRIS VEGA
You're trying too hard. You're going to hurt yourself. Just remember, it's not about strength. It's about staying calm and blocking everything else out. Okay?

TESZ
Okay. Okay, I'll try.

He turns his attention back to the block.

Tesz closes his eyes and focuses, clenching both hands around the block. His aura forms around it, sparking and partially refracting light.

Spots on the block begin to turn invisible. Tesz notices this and starts to push himself harder. In doing so, it starts to fluctuate. His anger rises again.

He takes a quick look at the others watching him, then calms down again.

After a few seconds the block turns invisible, only a shimmer remains.

The entire class claps.

IRIS VEGA

Good job.

Tesz looks around, trying to hide his embarrassment with pride.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Okay, now that everybody's got the basics down... wait a second. Where's Kera?

The class looks around. Kera is gone.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Has anyone seen her?

THEIA

She was here a minutes ago.

She starts to walk around the room, looking for Kera.

THEIA (CONT'D)

Marco?

KERA

Polo!

Kera turns visible just as she hugs Theia from behind.

KERA (CONT'D)

Gotcha!

THEIA

Whoa! What? How'd you learn that so fast?

KERA

I don't know. I guess Iris is just that good of a teacher.

Kera smiles and Iris does as well, shaking her head in disbelief.

IRIS VEGA

Okay, is everybody ready then?

The class nods.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Good. Now for the next part.

Iris closes her eyes and breathes out.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Follow the same principle, but be careful. It's not as easy as it looks.

Her entire body envelops in her aura. She then turns invisible, reappearing after a moment.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Now your turn.

LATER

Iris watches the rest of the class.

IRIS VEGA

Wow, some of you are getting this way faster than I did. Especially Kera, and--

Iris looks around for Kera.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

And shes gone again.

Theia and Kera appear beside Iris.

THEIA

Sorry. What was that?

IRIS VEGA

Where were you two?

THEIA

Nowhere.

Iris shakes her head, dismissing the conversation.

IRIS VEGA

Right. Well, while you two were off doing... whatever. The rest of the class got it down. So now I'm thinking we kick things up a notch.

THEIA

Combat training?

Iris nods.

IRIS VEGA

Combat training.

THEIA

Yes!

IRIS VEGA

All right, everyone pair off. Kera, would you mind giving me a hand?

KERA

Sure.

The class pairs off. Iris and Kera, Reese and Theia, Malek and Jordan, Soren and Tesz, Alexa and Bre.

IRIS VEGA

All right, the goal of this exercise has two fronts. First you have to be able to use your invisibility during combat. At any time. Secondly, you have to be able to track people while they're invisible. The better they are, the harder it is to track them. Kera, would you mind demonstrating?

Kera nods then she turns invisible.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

There are a few ways to find someone that's cloaked. As you can see, Kera is good enough that there are no ripples in the air anywhere, so that's out. Now you have to rely on your hearing. Everyone listen very carefully.

The class quiets down.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Kera, would you mind moving around?

The class listens and hears a faint sound of footsteps, then silence.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Good. Did all of you get that?

Everyone else nods.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
The most difficult enemies will be almost undetectable.

SOREN
What are the other ways?

IRIS VEGA
There is one other way I thought of, but I haven't gotten the chance to test it out yet.

THEIA
Why not give it a shot?

IRIS VEGA
I guess I can try. Okay.

Iris raises her hands, closes her eyes and concentrates.

Her aura flows around her in strands. It seeps around the room. After a beat, she opens her eyes.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
There.

She moves her hand to the location she's looking at and closes her fist. Strands of her aura surround the point and entangle the area, revealing Kera.

KERA
AH!

THEIA
Whoa... how did you do that?

Iris lets Kera go. Kera walks back over.

IRIS VEGA
I just used my Aura to detect irregular energy fields nearby. I'm still testing it out, but it looks like it works.

KERA

Seems like you've got it down to me.

Kera shivers and Iris laughs to herself.

IRIS VEGA

Thanks. Okay, everyone got that?

The class nods.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

(to kera)

Why don't you go join Theia and Reese.

KERA

Sure.

The class gets into their positions.

IRIS VEGA

(to class)

Remember. Listen and look for a shimmer. That's your best option for locating your enemy. All right, begin.

The class starts their training, blinking in and out of sight while they fight.

Iris walks back and forth, observing her classmates.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

(to class)

If you can't hold your cloak for long, try short bursts to throw your opponents off. And remember to keep your barrier up underneath. You don't want a stray bullets to take you out while you're cloaked.

Lt. Argoll walks up beside Iris. They both stand and look at the rest of the class.

LT. ARGOLL

Teaching suits you.

Iris notices him and laughs under her breath, brushing off his compliment.

IRIS VEGA

Thanks.

A few moments of silence pass between them.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Why did you leave this to me?

LT. ARGOLL
You want the truth?

IRIS VEGA
Of course.

LT. ARGOLL
I knew your father. He was a good man.

IRIS VEGA
What does that have to do with anything?

LT. ARGOLL
We have all lost people that we love. I was stationed here the day after my wife had passed. I found that teaching helped quell the anger I felt. And look at them.

The entire class spar one another, phasing in and out of sight.

LT. ARGOLL (CONT'D)
You've taught them well.

They continue staring at the class.

LT. ARGOLL (CONT'D)
Each and every one of them has your back. They believe in you and they want to help you get through this.

IRIS VEGA
Thanks.

LT. ARGOLL
Now, go on. Why don't you get some practice in yourself.

IRIS VEGA
Yes sir.

Iris jogs over to the other students and gets in on the action.

Cora walks up to the Lieutenant.

CORA ATWOOD
So, how did they do?

LT. ARGOLL
Very well.

CORA ATWOOD
Good. It's going to be a tough in
the coming weeks.

INT. TRAINING ROOM CHARLIE

Sargent SCOTT HARRIS (38) Tall, dark brown hair and well
built. A handsome man.

He stands in front of the class with an open wormhole to his
side.

SCOTT HARRIS
Portal combat.

Scott raises a holo plank and puts half of it into one of the
portals.

SCOTT HARRIS (CONT'D)
Useful, but dangerous.

The portal closes and slices the plank in half.

SCOTT HARRIS (CONT'D)
I need a volunteer? Any of you know
how to create a portal yet?

Jordan raises his hand, the only one in the air.

SCOTT HARRIS (CONT'D)
(to jordan)
Would you mind coming up to the
front of the class?

He cautiously walks up.

SCOTT HARRIS (CONT'D)
If you wouldn't mind.

He gestures to his side. Jordan follows his commands and
creates a portal.

Scott puts his hand into it and looks around the class. They
are all silent.

SCOTT HARRIS (CONT'D)
Watch closely.

He looks at Jordan.

SCOTT HARRIS (CONT'D)
Close it.

JORDAN
Are... are you sure?

SCOTT HARRIS
Yes.

He reluctantly releases his aura. The portal forcefully closes around Scott's arm. The whole class cringes.

They look back up. Scott's natural aura holds open the portal around his arm, struggling to keep it open.

SCOTT HARRIS (CONT'D)
If you're not careful, you might just lose a limb.

He takes his arm out, and the portal closes rapidly.

SCOTT HARRIS (CONT'D)
Don't lose focus.

INT. TRAINING ROOM CHARLIE

Staff Sargent IRIEL (132) A young Astril woman. An allied alien race. Beautiful and sleek.

She floats through the air with her light blue, pink and orange aura, touching down with grace.

IRIEL
The most difficult technique you will ever attempt to learn in your life. Flight. It took me 90 years to master it.

She looks at the class.

IRIEL (CONT'D)
Now, it's your turn.

INT. TRAINING ROOM LIMA

CAPTAIN MITSUGU, (36), a lean man wearing dark clothing stands in front of Iris and her classmates.

He moves both his hands through the air, like unsheathing blades. His green and black aura solidify into two swords.

Captain Mitsugu shows off his skills; Dual sword attacks, swift movement through the air and slicing through holo pillars.

In one motion, he butterfly kicks into a portal and lands in the middle of his students, swinging his swords up and stopping them inches from two students necks.

He chuckles to himself and then relaxes his hands. His aura swords dissipate into thin air.

INT. TRAINING ROOM KILO

A holographic blizzard roars. Heavy snow covers the entire room.

The entire class trek's through, keeping a watchful eye out for any movement.

MALEK

(mic)

I can't see anything!

IRIS VEGA

Stay on your toes! We could have incoming any second.

Iris hears a shot echo in the distance.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

BRE!

A dome barrier forms around the whole class.

They all look around confused.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Is everyone okay?

The class responds, everyone but Reese, who's laying in the snow, unconscious.

The entire environment fades away and returns to an empty grey room.

CORA ATWOOD

Fail! Try again.

INT. TRAINING ROOM SIERRA

The class continues their training; Some students combat each other with aura swords. Others weave in and out of portals to attack.

Cora stands beside Lt. Argoll watching the students train. She then gets a call on her earpiece.

CORA ATWOOD
 (into earpiece)
 Yes?
 (beat)
 Understood.

LT. ARGOLL
 What was that about?

CORA ATWOOD
 Class gather round, I have an announcement.

The class stops sparing and makes their way to Cora.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
 According to our sources, the enemy is making a move on our outposts. We will be sending all available personnel to defend these locations. This includes Lt. Argoll and your other teachers. It will be my job to stay behind and make sure all of you combat ready ASAP. We're upping our time schedule. Final exams start in two weeks. This is no joke. We're preparing for war.

Cora turns to Lt. Argoll.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
 Good luck lieutenant.

LT. ARGOLL
 (nods)
 Thank you.

INT. TRAINING ROOM HOTEL

Theia, Iris, Kera and Reese walk through an abandoned building, entirely made up of solid holograms. A sign on the wall reads Anti-Aura Zone.

They stay in their formation. Theia up front, Iris second, commanding and watching the right side. Kera third, watching the left side and Reese watching their backs. Everyone's gun is drawn and held at the ready.

They come up to a doorway. Iris taps Theia's back. Everyone stops. She takes a second to examine the area, then taps twice on Theia's back again.

In one synchronized motion they move; Theia swings into the doorway, weapon in hand and takes to one knee. Iris leans out, aiming above Theia's head.

No one is there. Iris taps twice on Theia's shoulder again. They all begin to move into the room.

Inside the room, they scan everything with their eyes. Reese turns around every little while to check their flank.

They come up to a doorway, a hall on the other side. Theia and Iris split up, taking one side of the door each. Kera follows behind Iris and Reese behind Theia.

Iris nods to Theia. Theia takes the lead, moving out and facing one direction. Iris follows, facing the other direction and Kera breaks through the middle, checking both directions.

Reese hugs the doorway, checking on Iris' commands and their flanks.

Iris without looking, motions Reese to move. He moves through the doorway and takes over Iris' lookout. After a moment, they move back into their positions.

INT. TRAINING ROOM KILO

A high tech training room. Environmental simulation and holographic enemies.

The whole class follows their formation, walking in their space suits. Form-fitting and futuristic. Their helmets display oxygen pressure and atmospheric readings as well as their enemies movement.

IRIS VEGA

(mic)

Contact, twelve o'clock. Barrier's up.

Holographic enemy forces move in, firing at them. Their barriers absorb the bullets as they come in.

They return fire.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
THEIA, BREACH AND CLEAR!

Theia crouches and gathers her aura. She then launches herself across the battlefield with great force, landing and creating a shock-wave of energy in the middle of all of their enemies.

She looks around at what she has just done. All enemies are gone.

THEIA
Clear!

IRIS VEGA
(mic)
Good job. All right, everyone form up.

INT. VIEWING ROOM K

Cora stands watching her students. She smiles in approval.

CORA ATWOOD
They're getting there.

INT. TRAINING ROOM ECHO

Everyone is tired from training and takes a breather to get drinks, sit down and rest.

Soren reaches out his hand as Malek attempts to drink his water. Soren's aura appears over Malek's mouth, diverting the water all over him instead.

MALEK
Awe man, what the hell!

The rest of the class laughs.

INT. TRAINING ROOM UNIFORM

A section of the room emulates the command deck of a spaceship. Iris stands at the captain's helm, commanding everyone.

IRIS VEGA
Bre! Kera! Monitor our shields.
Tesz, Jordan what's the status of
our forward guns.

JORDAN
Right cannon offline.

TESZ
Left cannon at 32 percent.

IRIS VEGA
Reese, how long until our main gun
is operational?

REESE
Two minutes out.

IRIS VEGA
Full power to our forward shields.
Buy us some time.

A bunch of energy beams connect with the front shields.

BRE
WE NEED MORE POWER!

IRIS VEGA
I got it!

Iris sets her hand on an input device next to her and
releases her aura into it.

The beams continue to blast the front of the ship.

KERA
It wont hold forever!

REESE
I have a shot.

IRIS VEGA
Take it!

The gun charges up fully and then blasts a beam of energy
forward, blowing up the enemy ships.

The entire class cheers.

INT. TRAINING ROOM ZULU

Cora addresses the class.

CORA ATWOOD

All right everyone. This is the last test before your final exam. You will face waves of enemies and have to defeat them on your own. Each wave increases in difficulty. This will be your toughest battle yet.

Some of the class seem worried. The others show confidence.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

I have one last thing to show you before we begin. The schools record is held by one man. Lance Vega.

Cora looks at Iris for a moment.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

This is how it's done.

The class moves to the outer corners of the room. Cora types into her gauntlet and lights shine down from the ceiling, creating a hologram recording.

Lance Vega stands in the middle of the room, geared up and his weapon at the ready.

He scans the room with his eyes. Enemies materialize in the corners of the room and start to engage him.

Time seems to slow. His aura flows around his body and then surrounds his automatic rifle. It seeps into the chamber and encases the bullet.

The chamber ignites. The bullet is propelled out, speeding towards the enemy. It connects and pierces through it, creating a massive hole on impact.

Another shot. And another.

Time begins to return to normal. His automatic rifle fires at an incredible speed. Every bullet encased in his aura, amplifying it.

Waves and waves of enemies appear, each getting taken out just as fast.

Lance uses a variety of weapons and aura attacks until they surround him. They all fire.

He throws up a dome barrier, absorbing all of the gunfire he can.

He absorbs the kinetic energy and reflects it, sending it back at his enemies.

Lance stands there with his arms at his side, bodies scattered around him. He holsters his gun.

Cora shuts down the recording.

IRIS VEGA

Wow. He really was the best.

CORA ATWOOD

That he was. All right Malek, you're up first.

MALEK

What?

CORA ATWOOD

You're first.

MALEK

What do you mean I'm first.

CORA ATWOOD

Just... get up there.

Malek proceeds to the center of the room.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

Now, your armor is registered to deliver the same amount of force as a real gun shot would. It won't kill you, but it will hurt like hell.

MALEK

What!?

CORA ATWOOD

This is what it will be like. Focus, and you'll be fine. Everyone else, follow me.

He watches everyone continue past him and walk up into the viewing room.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

One last thing. Your health bar is on your gauntlet. If you take too much damage, you're out. Keep you're barrier's up and good luck.

Malek tries to calm his nerves.

MALEK

I can do this. I can do this.

Cora engages the holo-program on her gauntlet as she walks up the stairs. Lights form all around the room and then solidify.

MALEK (CONT'D)

Hopefully.

CORA ATWOOD (V.O.)

Ready?

Malek collects himself.

MALEK

Ready.

MONTAGE

Malek begins. He quickly raises his weapon and fires as enemies flood towards him. An enemy grabs his arm from behind. He turns as his gun flies to the side, readying a punch.

Tesz punches the enemy with an Aura fist, sending them flying back. He lifts the gun on the ground back into his hands with his aura.

Reese aims and fires his sniper rifle, piercing through a clump of enemies. He notices enemies beside him. He pulls out his side-arm and points it at them.

Jordan fires an explosive round at each enemy, piles of enemies fall to the ground. A stray bullet breaks through his shields, scraping his arm. He takes the sniper off his back and aims. The sniper fires like a cannon, exploding on impact.

More enemies materialize.

Alexa creates a barrier around two enemies, lifting them into the air then slamming them into the ground. She throws them at another group of enemies.

Kera fires her pistol, taking out enemies as they approach. An enemy flanks her.

She flickers out of its vision for a moment and turns and fires. Another enemy charges.

Iris roundhouse kicks it with her aura as bullets bounce off her shield and the energy absorbs into her.

She sends out waves of her aura, blasting enemies away.

Theia appears in front of an enemy and uppercuts them, sending them crashing into the ceiling. She punches another, and another, taking them out with a single hit. She dashes with her aura to close each gap and land the next blow.

Enemies surround her and all fire at once.

Bre creates a massive dome shield, absorbing all of the shots. She then collapses it inwards, creating a shock-wave by impacting her inner barrier. Dust accumulates in the air, blocking the vision of her.

Tesz bursts out of the dust, rushing forward with his aura around him. He punches each enemy as they approach, his fist tearing holes in them.

He punches the last enemy straight through the chest.

END OF MONTAGE

A buzzer rings. Tesz takes his arm out. The whole class makes their way down to congratulate Tesz.

MALEK

Oh man, you killed it!

SOREN

Way to go.

TESZ

Thanks.

CORA ATWOOD

Well done.

Tesz nods.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

I'm impressed with all of you today. Final exams start tomorrow. Go get some rest. You all deserve it.

Malek looks at his classmates and smiles eagerly, then looks back at Cora.

INT. MESS HALL - NIGHT

The class gathers around a table in the empty mess hall. Malek stands at the door and checks down the hallway.

MALEK

We're clear.

He makes his way back to the group. Tesz pulls out a mini holo-projector.

SOREN

Where did you get one of those?

TESZ

(smirk)

Don't ask.

IRIS VEGA

So?

TESZ

Yeah, I got it.

He presses a button on it. A 3D layout of the training room appears.

IRIS VEGA

Nice. We need to be ready for tomorrow. Let's show them we can work together as a team. Is everyone in?

Iris looks around the table at everyone. They all nod one by one.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Okay. Let's do this.

Iris points at the screen.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Bre, Malek and I will take point.

INT. TRAINING ROOM TANGO - DAY

The training room is massive. The biggest training facility on the planet. A fully holographic combat zone.

A sandstorm whirls around the desert plane. Abandoned buildings and sniper towers are the only things left standing.

INT. HALLWAY #3

Bre, Malek and Iris walk down the hallway. Three students approach from another class. Iris and her team open fire.

The other class returns fire, advancing on their position.

INT. MESS HALL

The class leans in to listen to Iris.

IRIS VEGA

If we get cut off. Theia, Tesz,
you're up.

INT. HALLWAY #3

Just then, Theia breaks through the wall beside the other students. She uses close quarters combat to disarm and subdue them.

One student almost gets a shot off until Tesz becomes visible and chokes the other student out.

Iris nods to them. Theia and Tesz cloak and leave.

They continue walking, turn the corner and then make their way to the end of the hallway.

INT. MESS HALL

Iris looks to Reese and Jordan.

IRIS VEGA

Reese, Jordan, you're our eyes.
Watch our backs.

INT. TRAINING ROOM TANGO

Iris, Bre and Malek exit the hallway.

A sniper lays just above ground level, aiming down the dark hallway, waiting for a shot, the sand obscuring his vision at times.

BANG. A shot from the sniper hits Malek in the arm. He goes down.

Bre reacts, blocking the next shot with a spherical shield around all of them.

IRIS VEGA
 Dammit! You okay?

Malek lays on the ground, squirming in pain. Iris moves to his side.

MALEK
 God damn, it went right through my shields... Didn't plan for that.

IRIS VEGA
 (mic)
 Reese, take him out.

REESE (V.O.)
 Got it.

A few seconds pass and then BAM. A shot from Reese's rifle fires.

REESE
 Tango down.

MALEK
 Bastard.

IRIS VEGA
 You okay?

Malek checks the gauntlet on his arm. It displays a dim green light.

MALEK
 (in pain)
 I'll make it...

IRIS VEGA
 Good, we'll stick to the plan then.

MALEK
 (in pain)
 Great plan...

Malek gets to his feet, wincing in pain as he moves.

They make their way into the middle of the arena, an open sandy field. Pillars and old ruins scattered around. Bre keeps her barrier up the entire time, filtering out the sand and debris.

Malek sits down on a fallen down pillar.

BRE
 What now?

IRIS VEGA
Now, we wait.

MALEK
(sarcastic)
Great... Not like this hurts or
anything.

They look around the ruins, examining the area for other students.

Reese watches over them from a sniper tower with his helmet on. He scans their surroundings.

REESE (V.O.)
Iris, ten o'clock.

They turn and look; Three men walk towards them with their weapons drawn. They begin to surround the barrier.

STUDENT #5
Why don't you come out and play?

MALEK
I think we're good in here.

STUDENT #5
Is that so?

The student looks at his teammates and nods. They open fire, unloading their entire magazine into the barrier.

Nothing. Bre's barrier absorbs all of the energy and doesn't waver.

STUDENT #5 (CONT'D)
(to bre)
That's one strong barrier you've got, but it won't protect you forever.

REESE (V.O.)
(mic)
Should I take him out?

IRIS VEGA
(whisper into mic)
Hold off.

STUDENT #5
Look at you. Calling for help?

MALEK

We're ordering a pizza. You want anything?

STUDENT #5

Funny. I wouldn't be laughing after taking a shot like that. I bet it hurts like hell.

Malek glares at the man.

REESE (V.O.)

(mic)

Shit! Iris, they're cloaked! Behind you!

A big invisible barrier shimmers behind them.

STUDENT #5

You've got no where to go. You might as well come out and fight!

KERA (V.O.)

(mic)

We're in position. Give us the signal.

Iris nods to Bre.

IRIS VEGA

Have it your way.

Bre's barrier lowers, and Iris throws her hands into the air in front of her. The enemy students aim their guns.

Iris' aura surrounds the three students in front of her, freezing them in place. Bre turns around and sends out a shock-wave towards the invisible barrier.

The shock-wave vibrates it, shattering it into pieces and revealing the other students.

The enemy students open fire. Malek dives behind Bre as she throws up a partial barrier wall, absorbing the bullets. He winces in pain.

The rest of Iris' class engage. Reese and Jordan fire sniper shots from their respective posts.

Theia, Soren, Tesz and Alexa run in and de-cloak, fighting in hand to hand combat, amplifying their attacks with their aura.

Kera appears, startled by one of the other students. She puts up her hand and freezes him in place with her aura.

A shot from Jordan's rifle takes out the student that Kera froze.

Iris looks at the rest of the fighting. She sees her class winning.

Another shot from Jordan and Reese take out the two frozen enemies that Iris is holding with her aura.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

I guess that's that. Just this guy left.

MALEK

I got this one.

Holding his shoulder, Malek walks up to the last student and draws his gun. He points it at his head.

MALEK (CONT'D)

Bitch.

He fires.

The last student hits the ground. The light on his gauntlet turns red. He disappears.

A buzzer sounds.

MALEK (CONT'D)

What the hell was that?

REESE (V.O.)

(mic)

Something's happening, I'm on my way.

The whole room lights up and shifts, materializing a new field. The sound of a huge metal door opening echoes through the room.

Iris takes a step forward, a bright light beams around her. A portal opens up underneath her. She screams and falls into it as it closes behind her.

THEIA

IRIS!

Theia tries to grab her and misses.

The bright room begins to darken. Holographic clouds form overhead. Sparse plant-life appears, with it comes a lake.

Reese and Jordan catch up with the rest of the class.

REESE
Where's Iris?

KERA
I don't know. I think she triggered
some kind of trap.

REESE
Shit!

Reese types into his gauntlet and brings up a map.

REESE (CONT'D)
Dammit, sensors aren't working.
Must be the storm. We have to find
her.

He looks at his classmates.

REESE (CONT'D)
Why don't we--.

TESZ
Who says you're in charge?

REESE
Somebody has to step up.

TESZ
There's no way I'm following you.

THEIA
Tesz, shut the hell up. We don't
have time for this. Iris is missing
and we need to win this thing.
Reese is our best bet. You got a
problem that?

Tesz sighs in annoyance.

TESZ
No...

THEIA
Good.

REESE
Thanks.

THEIA
No problem. Now what's the plan.

INT. CELL BLOCK A

Iris falls through the portal.

She lands on the ground as it closes behind her. She looks around.

IRIS VEGA
Shit...
(coms)
Guys, you there?

STATIC.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Guys?

Still no response.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Dammit. Okay, just need to bust out
of here then.

Iris closes her hand and makes a fist. Her aura faintly forms for a moment and then dissipates.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
What the hell? Awe shit. Anti-aura
zone... Makes sense.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
I just have to think.

Iris presses buttons on her gauntlet. Nothing happens.

She smacks it in frustration.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Oh come on!

Iris surveys the area around her.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
There's got to be some sort of
power source around here.

INT. TRAINING ROOM TANGO

Reese looks at the team he now commands.

REESE

We need to get the sensors up and running again. Any suggestions?

He looks at each person. No one says a word.

SOREN

If you can find me a terminal I might be able to force a reset.

REESE

All right, it's a start. Now everyone form up. We'll follow Iris' formation. I'll take her position and Jordan, you circle around the back and watch our six.

JORDAN

Right.

The class moves into their positions.

REESE

I think I remember the terminal for this room being about half a klick north-west of here. We need to make it there in one piece. Bre, you think you can replicate that cloaking field?

BRE

You mean what the other team did?

REESE

Yeah.

BRE

I mean, I could try. But that kind of shield would spread my aura too thin. I don't think I could do that and cloak us at the same time.

REESE

Kera, do you think you could help with that?

KERA

Sure.

REESE

Okay, whenever you guys are ready.

Bre and Kera look at each other. They throw their hands to their sides and send out their aura.

REESE (CONT'D)

Hold it guys. There we go.

Kera and Bre's aura combine, melding into one. A barrier forms around all of them.

The barrier shimmers and then starts to turn invisible, cloaking everyone inside.

REESE (CONT'D)

Good job.

BRE

Everyone try to keep it down. We can't filter out sounds too well at this size.

REESE

Right. Let's move.

INT. CELL BLOCK A

Iris stretches her hand outside the bars, reaching for a switch at the other end of the hall.

Her aura flickers slightly around her finger-tips and glows for a moment near the switch.

IRIS VEGA

Come on... Come on!

She forces her aura to overcharge, grabbing the switch and pulling it down.

A sigh of relief as she steps back from the cell walls, confidently awaiting her escape.

Another cell door opens, she rushes to her door and looks out.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

What? Awe, that's bullshit.

Iris drops her head in defeat.

After a few moments, EBREN (22) a half human male with tribal marks on his skin walks out. He has dark hair and is wearing a hooded jacket.

He looks around in confusion and then starts to walk away.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Hey! Hey, over here!

Ebren turns around and notices Iris.

He looks around, noticing the switch she pulled to unlock his cell. Ebren turns and makes his way down the other hall, away from Iris.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Come on... Shit. So much for that
guy.

Iris leans against her cell wall. She thinks for a moment and shakes her head, annoyed.

INT. TRAINING ROOM TANGO

The group continues forward, walking down a pathway in the dark.

REESE

The terminal is somewhere around
here. Keep an eye out.

They come across a team from another class; Four students search around the grounds in front of an abandoned building. Weapons at the ready and their flashlights on.

They approach the other students slowly. One of them turns and makes his way towards them, searching as he moves.

Reese signals the group to stop. The man approaches, scanning the area with his flashlight. He stops and looks straight ahead, his flashlight shining through their invisible shield.

Everything looks normal.

The man turns around, still looking for any sign of his enemies. As he does, Reese steps out of the shield, grabbing him and forcing him back into it.

Reese silently strangles him until the light on his gauntlet turns red. He sets him down softly and then the man disappears.

REESE (CONT'D)

One down. We need to do this
quietly. Theia, Tesz, take point.
I'll get the one straight ahead,
Tesz, go left, Theia, right.

They nod. Theia, Reese and Tesz cloak themselves and exit the barrier.

Reese sneaks up to his target, who turns around at the last second. Reese covers his mouth with his hand and takes him to the ground, squeezing the air out of him.

Theia grabs her target from behind, surrounding him with her aura, cloaking him at the same time as she strangles him.

STUDENT #6 (V.O.)

(coms)

Any sign of them?

The student turns around. Looking for his teammates, no one is in sight.

A slight shimmer slowly moves in front of him.

STUDENT #6

What? Shit!

He raises his gun. Tesz de-cloaks and rushes him, covering the barrel of the gun with his aura-enhanced hand. The shot muffles.

STUDENT #7 (V.O.)

(through coms)

What was that? Hello? Does anybody read me?

Tesz throws the gun to the side and gets behind the man, grabbing his neck and choking him unconscious.

REESE

Damn, there's going to be more on the way.

The sound of thunder cracks in the distance, rain starts to fall.

Drops start to land on Bre and Kera's shield, distorting it. Reese looks up towards the storm.

REESE (CONT'D)

We can't hide out here anymore.

(coms)

Let's go guys. De-cloak and follow me.

Reese stands at the entrance of the building. The rest of the team arrives.

REESE (CONT'D)

Jordan, I need you to find a vantage point and let us know when we've got incoming.

JORDAN

Will do.

Jordan makes his way up the ruins.

REESE

All right, everybody inside.

They make their way inside the ruins, through a doorway.

INT. CELL BLOCK A-F

A sound of metal against metal comes out of nowhere. Iris' cell door opens.

A confused look crosses her face.

She makes her way out of the cell. Ebren jogs around the corner.

EBREN

Good, It worked.

IRIS VEGA

Thanks.

EBREN

No problem, any idea where we are?

IRIS VEGA

We're most likely under the training room.

EBREN

That makes sense. All the power cables are running up. Maybe a basement corridor?

IRIS VEGA

Maybe. All I know is that we have to get out of here.

EBREN

Yeah.

IRIS VEGA

Why did you help me anyway?

EBREN

I was just returning the favour.

IRIS VEGA

Ah. Well thanks again.

Ebren nods.

EBREN

Think you can get us out of here?

Iris looks at her hand and tenses it. Her aura fades in and out, struggling to overpower the anti-aura zone.

Iris relaxes, her aura fades.

IRIS VEGA

Hopefully.

Ebren looks at her hand, surprised.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

What?

He looks away.

EBREN

Nothing. Ready to go?

IRIS VEGA

Yeah. Let's go.

They move down the hallway.

INT. RUINS

Reese and his team move through the ruins, every inch of it looking the same as the last.

JORDAN (V.O.)

(coms)

We've got incoming.

REESE

Shit.

Theia stops.

THEIA

We're not getting anywhere.

The whole team stops.

REESE

You're right. Plan B?

Theia nods and then punches a hole in the wall beside them.

THEIA

Plan B.

REESE

What are you doing? Now they know where we are.

THEIA

They already know we're here. We have to be fast.

Theia takes the lead, smashing through each wall in her way.

INT. CELL BLOCK G-L

Ebren and Iris continue walking through the cell blocks.

EBREN

So, what do you plan on doing after the final exams?

IRIS VEGA

Is this really the time for that?

Ebren shrugs.

EBREN

Why not?

IRIS VEGA

Well... I think I want to explore the universe and all that. Maybe get stationed on a ship. How about you?

EBREN

I don't know. My dad wants me to follow in his footsteps, but I don't think that's really for me.

IRIS VEGA

What's he do?

EBREN

He's... captain of the Avalon.

IRIS VEGA

WHAT!? You're Captain Sali's son?

EBREN

Yeah...

IRIS VEGA

He's a legend. Those are some big shoes to fill.

EBREN

Says you. I'm not the only one with famous parents.

IRIS VEGA

Yeah, you're right...

EBREN

Sorry.

IRIS VEGA

It's okay.

Iris looks ahead.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Hey, I think I see a pathway up there. Let's go.

Ebren regrets the mention of her parents.

INT. RUINS

Theia crashes through another wall, revealing an old throne room. The terminal sits in place of the throne.

THEIA

See, I told you it would work.

The class runs past her.

MALEK

You weren't wrong.

They approach the terminal.

REESE

All we need to do is find out where she is. But we got to be fast.

SOREN

On it.

Soren logs into the terminal. After a beat, it shuts down.

SOREN (CONT'D)

Okay. There. Reset complete.

It turns back on.

REESE

All right, looks like she's in the
cell blocks. It's underground.
Let's go.

Reese starts to make his way out until a shot flies past him. Enemies approach through the way they came in. He throws up his barrier to protect himself. Another shot rings off his shield.

REESE (CONT'D)

Bre! Barrier!

Bre's barrier appears around the class. Reese lowers his shield.

REESE (CONT'D)

Okay, we got to go.

SOREN

Wait a second. I think I can open
the doors from here.

REESE

Really?

SOREN

Yeah, just give me a second.

REESE

We don't have a second.

SOREN

I know, I know.

BEEP.

SOREN (CONT'D)

There. Got it.

REESE

Okay, let's go.

SOREN

Uh oh.

REESE

What do you mean uh oh?

SOREN

It was a trap. It just opened all
of the cells in that block.

REESE
That can't be good.

INT. CELL BLOCK G-L

A big metal lock sound echo's through the cell block as Ebre and Iris run. They stop.

EBREN
What was that?

All of the cell doors open.

EBREN (CONT'D)
Oh shit.

Multiple enemy students flood towards them.

EBREN (CONT'D)
Guys, we don't have to do this.

Iris readies herself with what little aura she can muster through the dead zone.

IRIS VEGA
Stand back, I got this.

Waves of enemies move towards Iris, attacking furiously.

One by one Iris blocks and counters her attackers. A couple of punches and kicks connect on her. She works through the pain and continues fighting.

They begin to attack Ebre. He blocks and dodges a few hits.

EBREN
This is only supposed to be training. Why are they so agres--

Ebre takes a punch to the face. His nose starts to bleed.

EBREN (CONT'D)
Ah fuck!

He holds up his hand in defence. Iris steps in and strikes the student back, knocking him away.

EBREN (CONT'D)
Thanks.

IRIS VEGA
I thought I told you to stay back.

Iris chuckles.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Come on, we can take them.

Iris' aura returns to her again in small amounts. Each hit blasting into her enemies.

EBREN
You're not pulling any punches
either. You're going to hurt one of
them.

Ebren dodges more attacks and finally returns one. A small flicker of light shines where he hits. Just then, a surprised look crosses his face.

EBREN (CONT'D)
Oh, that's why.

Ebren starts to fight harder. He lands a punch.

EBREN (CONT'D)
There not.

And another.

EBREN (CONT'D)
Even.

And another.

EBREN (CONT'D)
Real.

Ebren catches his breath. Iris knocks down the last visible enemy.

EBREN (CONT'D)
Phew.

IRIS VEGA
No time for breaks.

Another wave of enemies exit the cell doors and flood towards them.

EBREN
Oh come on. How many do you think
are left?

IRIS VEGA
All of them.

She dashes forward, punching more enemies.

INT. TRAINING ROOM TANGO

The class defend their position. Hiding behind cover and returning fire.

THEIA

This is taking too long. Theia's in trouble. I'm going on ahead. I'll carve a path. Catch up when you can.

REESE

That's not the plan, we need to stick to the--

Theia enhances her body with her aura, increasing her speed and propelling herself forward. She dashes through the hole they entered through, blowing past the other students.

REESE (CONT'D)

Plan... Dammit. Let's finish this quick!

INT. TRAINING ROOM TANGO

A group of students move through the forest; Fully geared up with their aura enhancing different parts of their bodies and weapons.

A sound of something speeding through the trees gets the attention of one of them.

STUDENT #8

Hey, did you hear that?

He examines the area, rustling leaves and tree's moving startles them.

STUDENT #9

What the hell is that?

Theia breaks through the brush-line. The other students jump in fear and open fire.

STUDENT #8

Shit!

She rushes them, dodging bullets by sliding from side to side with bursts of her aura. Any stray bullets get absorbed by her barrier.

THEIA
GET OUT OF MY WAY!!!

Theia lunges and strikes one of them, sending out a shock-wave that blasts the other students away. They hit the ground and disappear. Theia continues onwards, sprinting as fast as she can.

INT. TRAINING ROOM TANGO

Reese and his team walk through the jungle, following the destructive path of Theia.

Reese looks down at his gauntlet to make sure they are going the right way.

The player number ticks down by 4 in an instant.

REESE
Damn, go easy on them Theia.

JORDAN
You really think that was her?

Reese looks at the path of destruction they are following and then looks back at Jordan.

REESE
You don't?

INT. TRAINING ROOM TANGO

Iris and Ebren make it up to the top and pass through an invisible barrier. Iris stops and looks around, not noticing what has just happened.

Ebren stops a few feet behind her and looks down at his arms. His markings start to glow light blue and yellow. His aura returns.

Ebren observes Iris, he thinks of what he should do. He shakes his head and looks away.

Iris turns around.

Ebren hides his tribal markings on his face and arm with his hooded coat.

IRIS VEGA
You okay?

EBREN

Yeah, it's nothing.

IRIS VEGA

Okay, good. I think we just passed through the anti-aura zone.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

You can take care of yourself from here right?

EBREN

Yeah, thanks for the help.

IRIS VEGA

You too. Good luck.

EBREN

Thanks.

Iris moves forwards, looking for a direction to go as Ebren fades into the background and disappears.

Iris notices a bunch of enemies approach, many teams from other classes show up. Iris ducks behind cover.

IRIS VEGA

Shit.

The other teams notice each other.

STUDENT #10

CONTACT LEFT!

STUDENT #11

OPEN FIRE!

A hail of bullets covers the battlefield.

Personal and dome barriers are thrown up. Some bullets penetrate barriers, eliminating them.

IRIS VEGA

Okay, if I just--

Bullets ricochet off of the cover Iris is hiding behind, she ducks.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Shit! I could use a little bit of help right about now.

Iris taps on her earpiece.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
 (coms)
 Guys, is anyone there?

REESE (V.O.)
 (coms)
 Yeah, we're on our way. Hold tight.

IRIS VEGA
 Just follow all the gunshots!

REESE (V.O.)
 (coms)
 Will do. Just a heads up, Theia's
 on her way.

EXPLOSION! Theia bursts out of the trees.

IRIS VEGA
 I see that.

Theia lands the middle of the field. She stops and looks at
 the students on either side.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
 Dammit...

Iris leaps over her cover and moves to Theia's side.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
 Whoa! Guys! Hold on a minute.

Iris stands beside Theia.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
 Let's at least make this a fair
 fight.

She looks at Theia and smiles.

THEIA
 Well? What are you waiting for?
 COME ON!

They all raise their guns as Iris and Theia enhance their
 aura fields and get ready for a fight.

SAROS (V.O.)
 (loud speakers)
 Unauthorized quantum field
 detected.

Everyone stops and intently listens to the announcement.

SAROS (V.O.)
 (loud speakers)
 Perimeter node. Neptune. I repeat,
 unauthorized quantum field
 detected. Perimeter node. Neptune.

Cora materializes into the middle of the field beside Iris and Theia. She holds an invisible button on her neck and then speaks through the loudspeakers.

CORA ATWOOD
 (loud speaker)
 EVERYONE LISTEN UP! The final exam
 is postponed until further notice.
 Please return to your dorms and
 await further instructions.

Cora dematerializes. The hologram disappears, returning the room to normal.

Everyone looks around, confused and concerned.

INT. DORMS

The whole class is sitting down in the common area; All of them are in their pj's. Theia and Kera sit close together, listening to the others talk. Jordan leans against the window, staring outside.

TESZ
 Why is this taking so long? This is
 bullshit. I want to get back to the
 game.

ALEXA
 (annoyed)
 Just give it a rest all ready.

Tesz shoots her a dirty look.

TESZ
 You're telling me you're not pissed
 off?

ALEXA
 Of course I am, but I'm not wining
 like a little bitch about it.

TESZ
 We've been sitting here for 3 hours
 and haven't been told shit. What
 was that announcement about anyway?
 Some quantum field detected?

ALEXA

It's our early alert system
dumbass.

REESE

Would you two give it a rest
already? Like, really.

He shakes his head and turns to Theia.

REESE (CONT'D)

Please tell me you've heard
something.

THEIA

No, nothing.

(beat)

I'm sure if it was something
serious, they'd tell us, right?

REESE

Yeah, I guess.

A light rumble sounds from outside, causing the lights to
flicker.

KERA

What was that?

JORDAN

Hey, did you guys see that?

IRIS VEGA

See what?

JORDAN

There's something going on out
there. Could have sworn I just saw
an explosion.

It rumbles and flickers again.

JORDAN (CONT'D)

Yup, that's definitely an
explosion.

MALEK

What do we do?

JORDAN

I don't know. Iris?

After a beat.

IRIS VEGA
I think we should check it out.

Iris looks around the room. Her classmates all agree.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Everyone meet back here in 5
minutes. Let's gear up.

INT. DORMS

The whole class arrives, one by one; Fully geared with training weapons and armour. Iris walks in last.

IRIS VEGA
Is everyone ready?

The class looks around at each other and nods.

SOREN
Ready.

IRIS VEGA
Good. Follow me.

Iris turns and is confronted by Cora.

CORA ATWOOD
Where do you think you're going?

IRIS VEGA
We're coming to help.

CORA ATWOOD
I appreciate the sentiment, but you
have no idea what you're getting
yourselves into.

REESE
Then why don't you tell us?

CORA ATWOOD
Why do you think I'm here.

Iris looks at her classmates and then motions Cora to talk.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
There's been a breach. We don't
know how, but the Ussal have broken
through our defences and they're on
their way here right now.

Their confidence waivers.

KERA

The Ussal?

CORA ATWOOD

Yes. We're sealing the city just incase.

THEIA

Incase what?

CORA ATWOOD

Incase they try to breach the city. The Avalon's on a intercept course right now. All we can do is sit tight and hope for the best.

IRIS VEGA

What about the Phoenix and Thunderbird?

CORA ATWOOD

They're on mission in another galaxy. We're trying to hail them but we're not getting any response.

ALEXA

Will the Avalon be enough? Isn't it still under construction?

CORA ATWOOD

It is, but it should hold up for now.

IRIS VEGA

We can help.

CORA ATWOOD

No. We can't. We'd only be in their way.

EXT. SPACE

The Avalon undocks from the space station. It's engines spark and ignite, propelling the ship forward.

INT. DORMS

A low rumble comes from outside again, the lights flicker.

CORA ATWOOD

What was that?

IRIS VEGA
We thought that was you.

CORA ATWOOD
What do you mean?

IRIS VEGA
It's been happening on and off for
the past little while.

CORA ATWOOD
Oh no!

Cora presses a button on her ear. Explosions and gunshots can be heard from her earpiece.

SOLDIER #2
--IN THE--! WE-- HOLD THEM OFF!--
BACK!--

Another explosion cuts the lights for a moment, causing the backup generator to kick in. The lights turn red and an alarm sounds.

SAROS (V.O.)
Alert. Evacuation in progress. I
repeat. Evacuation in progress.

CORA ATWOOD
Dammit, this isn't good. Stay here.
I'm not--

An Ussal breaks through the wall behind them, firing wildly at everyone in the room.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
Shit!

Cora reacts, lunging forward and shielding everyone from the hail of bullets. The class gathers behind Cora.

KERA
What do we do?

CORA ATWOOD
Get out of here!

IRIS VEGA
But we can help.

CORA ATWOOD
No you can't! You're not ready!

The Ussal throws his empty gun to the side. He snarls at Cora and her students behind the barrier.

IRIS VEGA
Yes we are!

CORA ATWOOD
No!

THEIA
Screw this!

Theia pushes her classmates aside and dashes at the Ussal, her aura pulsing with power.

CORA ATWOOD
Theia!

Right before Theia connects, the Ussal buffs his aura and backhands her.

It connects, propelling Theia's body back. A horrified look consumes everyone's face. Kera gasps.

Cora quickly drops her shield and catches her daughters body, sending them both back into a wall.

Cora winces in pain and then turns her attention to Theia.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
THEIA, are you okay?

Theia falls unconscious.

The Ussal takes a step, crushing rubble with his massive foot. Cora looks up, then towards her other students.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
GET OUT OF HERE!

The Ussal charges the rest of the class. They move back in fear into the hallway behind them. He throws a punch.

Just in time, Cora throws up her hand, creating a barrier for them.

The impact sends ripples of energy throughout the barrier.

The Ussal looks at Cora and her daughter. He moves towards them.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
GO!!!!!!

The class run's down the hallway, away from the battle. Cora clutches her daughter's body and watches the Ussal slowly approach.

She pulls out her sidearm, shooting him relentlessly with aura amplified ammo. The bullets get absorbed by its shield.

The Ussal steps forward onto Cora's leg, slowly crushing it with his weight. She screams in pain.

Cora swings her arm at him. He catches it and snarls.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

Go to hell.

In an instant, Cora's aura flows through her body and up her arm, creating a spear-like blade that pierces through the Ussal's throat.

Cora's aura disperses, causing the Ussal to fall onto the ground, dead.

Cora succumbs to the pain and falls unconscious.

INT. HALLWAY #4

The class runs through the hallway, making their way out. Explosions and collapsed walls block their normal exits.

They split up into different exit paths to find a way out.

IRIS VEGA

Shit!

She comes back into the hallway.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

No good.

Reese comes back from another exit.

REESE

Here either.

MALEK

Can't we just portal out of here?

IRIS VEGA

To where? We don't know where any of them are. We'd be giving away our position.

SOREN

Not if we went to somewhere remote.
Somewhere outside of the city.

IRIS VEGA

That's true, but I'm not leaving
anyone behind.

REESE

We're not. We'll get out of the
city and regroup. Then we'll come
back and kick some ass. Okay?

IRIS VEGA

Okay, you're right. Anyone know of
a place we can hold up outside the
city?

JORDAN

Yeah, I know a place. It's in the
mountain's to the west.

IRIS VEGA

Is it safe?

JORDAN

Yeah it should be. My dad used to
take me out there as a kid. It's as
remote as it gets.

IRIS VEGA

Do you think you could get us
through?

JORDAN

Yeah I think so.

IRIS VEGA

Okay good. Go ahead.

Another explosion.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

And be fast.

Jordan's aura surrounds him as he concentrates. A portal
opens up in the center of the hallway.

JORDAN

There we go.

IRIS VEGA

Reese take point. Check for
anything dangerous.

REESE

Got it.

Reese looks at Jordan. He hesitates, then braves the leap and steps through.

INT. DORMS

Cora and Theia lay unconscious against a wall in the corner of the room. The Ussal dead beside them.

Cora wakes, wincing in pain. She looks at her broken leg and then checks on her daughter.

CORA ATWOOD

Theia. Theia.

She looks around.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

We have to get out of here.

Cora looks at her gauntlet, broken. She presses on it anyway.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

Damn...

Cora looks at her leg again and takes a few deep breaths. She reaches out, sending her aura around her leg.

In one quick motion, she snaps it back into place and screams.

Theia wakes up in response.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

Oh, thank god.

THEIA

Ugh, what happened?

Theia regains her vision and notices the dead Ussal and flinches for a moment.

THEIA (CONT'D)

Phew, it's dead...

CORA ATWOOD

Theia, are you okay?

THEIA

Yeah, yeah. I'm fine.

CORA ATWOOD

I was worried about you. We don't have much time though. We have to get out of here. There's probably more on their way.

Theia sits up.

THEIA

There's more of those things?

CORA ATWOOD

Yeah, that was just a grunt, there's a lot worse out there than that.

THEIA

I'm.. I'm sorry...

CORA ATWOOD

It's okay. You had me worried there for a second.

THEIA

I know. I just thought I could do something.

CORA ATWOOD

Listen, these aren't your other classmates. They're real monsters, they're trained to kill.

THEIA

I get it. I'll be more care--

CORA ATWOOD

That's not what I mean. I know you. You could have taken him. You can't hold anything back anymore. It's either them or us. You're a soldier now.

Cora grabs her shoulder with one hand.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

You can do this.

The sound of giant footsteps comes from outside.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

(whisper)

Quiet.

Cora throws up her other hand, creating a small aura dome around them and turns it invisible.

Another Ussal enters the room. A bigger one than the last, geared with a weapon unlike anything of this earth. Like a cannon, but small in the behemoth's hands.

He looks around the room and notices his dead brethren on the ground. He walks up and moves the carcass up with his foot, examining the wounds. He snarls.

He holds a button on his neck and proceeds to talk. His voice sounds only that of a snarl weaved in different patterns. He takes one last look around. Seeing nothing else, he leaves.

Cora waits until the Ussal is out of earshot and finally de-cloaks.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

Okay, I think we're safe for now.
Help me up.

Theia stands up and then helps her mom up.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

You need to go find your friends
and make sure everyone else is
safe.

THEIA

But what about you?

CORA ATWOOD

I'll be all right, just go.

THEIA

(hesitant)
Are you sure?

CORA ATWOOD

Yes, now go on.

Theia takes one last look at the dead Ussal and then runs to catch up with her class.

INT. HALLWAY #4

Reese's voice crackles on Iris's earpiece.

REESE (V.O.)

(coms)
We're clear.

IRIS VEGA
Okay, head on through.

Alexa steps through while Iris cautiously looks around. Bre follows, then Soren and Malek.

More explosions go off in the background. Iris looks worried.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Pick it up guys.

A bullet flies from down the hall, piercing through Jordan's shoulder. He screams in pain.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
What the hell?

Iris looks at Jordan and then immediately turns around, creating a barrier, blocking another shot.

Another Ussal moves through smoke and flame, his aura protecting him. He continues firing his rifle.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Kera, take him and go!

Iris winces as the power of the Ussal's weapon starts to break her barrier.

Tesz steps forward, throwing up his barrier. Their barriers meld and strengthen.

Jordan's portal starts to waver. He keeps it open.

KERA
What about you guys?

IRIS VEGA
We'll be all right, just go.

Kera takes Jordan's arm and leads him through his portal. It closes behind them.

TESZ
What now genius? Think we can take
him?

They both flinch as more bullets hit their barrier.

IRIS VEGA
I don't know.

TESZ

Well... think of something! We
don't have all day!

The Ussal continues moving forward. Iris looks at her surroundings and notices the ceiling a few feet in front of the Ussal is partially collapsed.

Iris throws up her hand and then brings it down, collapsing the rest of the ceiling onto the ground and blocking the Ussal's path.

TESZ (CONT'D)

Great... that's only going to buy
us a few seconds.

IRIS VEGA

Exactly.

Iris examines the barrier.

She clenches her hands, causing it to turn invisible.

TESZ

You think that's going to work?

IRIS VEGA

Shh. Quiet.

The Ussal breaks through the debris and continues walking forward. It stops a few feet from the barrier.

It scans the hallway for Iris and Tesz. It towers above them both, not seeing what's right in front of him.

Iris and Tesz slowly take a step back.

A whooshing sound comes from behind them. Speeding by in the air is Theia, her aura even more intense than before.

She yells and passes through the invisible barrier, punching the Ussal with immense force.

The blast sends the Ussal flying backwards, blowing apart the hallway in the process.

Theia's aura flares, absorbing the recoil.

She lands on the ground and looks down the hall at the Ussal, lying dead on the ground.

THEIA

That was for my mother, you
bastard!

IRIS VEGA
Theia? How in the hell?

THEIA
Hey guys.

IRIS VEGA
Are you all right?

THEIA
I'm fine.

IRIS VEGA
What about Cora?

THEIA
She's okay. Nothing she can't
handle.

A sigh of relief crosses Iris's face.

IRIS VEGA
Okay, that's good.

THEIA
Where's everyone else?

IRIS VEGA
They're fine. Up in the mountains
somewhere.

THEIA
Good. What's the plan?

IRIS VEGA
You got me...

INT. DORMS

Cora hobbles to the hole in the wall and rests against it.
She looks out for any enemies, then tries to cloak herself.
Her aura sparks and fizzles. She fails to cloak.

CORA ATWOOD
That's just great...

Cora reluctantly moves outside. Fire and debris cover the
city streets.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
Can't see anything from down here.

She looks towards the roof and then her aura surrounds her legs. A spark, and then a boost allows her to get one arm up onto the edge of the roof and climb up.

She gets to her feet and looks around.

The entire military academy is in shambles; Random explosions in the streets, fires everywhere and enemy forces scattered around hunting people.

Cora looks out to the landscape, built in a hollowed out coastline. A dam surrounds the outer edges, holding back the ocean.

Controlled gateways pour access water down into a reservoir, serving as the cities water supply, filtering it through underground containment facilities.

A space elevator stands tall, connected to the dam. Green fields cascade down towards the inner city, with one pathway straight through the center.

Cora notices drop pods embedded in the ground outside the city.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

So that's how they got in. How'd we not catch that?

She turns around, taking a look at the mayhem inside the base. She notices the command tower.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

I got to get control of this, and that's my best bet. Just got to make it there in one piece.

Cora moves to the edge of the building, holding her side in pain and jumps down.

EXT. MOUNTAINS

Reese has his helmet on, his red eye glowing as he examines the city. Malek walks up to him.

MALEK

Find anything?

Reese turns off his helmet. It disappears.

REESE

No. It looks like we're safe for now, but I'm worried about everyone else.

MALEK

You got family down there?

REESE

Yeah, you?

MALEK

... Yeah.

REESE

Let's see what we can do to help.

Reese turns around. Kera patches up Jordan, Alexa and Bre talk amongst themselves and Soren watches the treeline.

Reese addresses the group.

REESE (CONT'D)

Guys. I don't want to put anyone else in danger. I want you all to stay here.

JORDAN

Where are you going?

REESE

I'm going back. I want to help.

KERA

I'll go with you.

REESE

No. It's safer if I go alone.

KERA

Theia's back there. I'm not leaving her behind, or anyone else for that matter.

Everyone looks around at each other, not saying a word until Jordan stands up. He winces in pain.

JORDAN

I'm coming too.

REESE

You can't you're injured.

JORDAN
I'll be fine.

Alexa, Bre and Soren nod and Reese looks at Malek.

MALEK
We're all with you.

REESE
Thanks.

An explosion goes off near one of the water treatment plants attached to the dam.

REESE (CONT'D)
Shit! What now?

Reese aims his rifle, looking through the scope. The Ussal are patrolling around the entire area, armed to the teeth.

REESE (CONT'D)
This isn't good. It looks like they're setting up charges to blow the dam.

MALEK
Bastards!

He turns around.

REESE
Everyone, listen up. We have to stop them before they set off those charges. We're splitting up into two teams. Malek, Jordan and I will head down to the dam.

KERA
What do you want the rest of us to do?

REESE
We need you to evacuate the city.

BRE
There's way too many people.

REESE
Listen, the city shields should be active, but they aren't. If that dam breaks, it's over.

KERA
We'll do what we can.

REESE

Good.

JORDAN

Do you think we can stop them?

REESE

We have to.

INT. BUNKER

Students and teachers gather in the locked room, scared and worried. The teachers try to think of a plan. A loud SLAM on the bunker door startles them.

STUDENT #13

What was that?

TEACHER #1

I'm sure it was nothing.

Another SLAM.

STUDENT #14

That's going to hold, right?

TEACHER #2

Get back!

Another slam, and another, everyone looks worried.

Silence fills the room. Then a loud growl pierces their ears. One final SLAM breaks open the doors.

All of the remaining students shrink back in terror, their teachers protecting them. The Ussal crouches through the doorway, cracking the frame and the walls around it as it squeezes through.

It reaches back, winding up a punch. The Ussal's fist comes crashing down. Just in time, a combination of blue, purple, red and black aura surrounds its body, freezing it in place.

IRIS VEGA (V.O.)

THEIA! NOW!

The Ussal starts to get crushed under the weight of their combined aura. Theia slides in front of it.

THEIA

GET AWAY FROM THEM!

She charges up her aura, punching the Ussal straight on. It flies back through the doorway. Iris and Tesz dodge the flying Ussal. It passes them and collides into the wall, collapsing parts of the building onto it.

THEIA (CONT'D)
You guys all right?

TEACHER #1
Yeah, we're okay. Thank you.

Iris and Tesz run into the room.

IRIS VEGA
Where's everyone else?

TEACHER #1
I don't know, but this isn't the only bunker.

IRIS VEGA
Right. Get to safety. We'll take it from here.

THEIA
(to teacher)
They're strong, but if it comes down to it, work together and don't hold back.

The teacher nods.

TESZ
Come on. We're wasting time.

INT. HALLWAY #5

Iris, Theia and Tesz race down the hall, scanning every room for other people that need help.

Tesz notices a massive hole in the wall up ahead with blood trailing out. They approach it cautiously.

Tesz looks into it and turns away in disgust. Theia and Iris walk to the opening and move inside.

INT. BUNKER

A pile of students and teachers lay on the ground, dead. People from other classes they passed in the halls, all slaughtered.

THEIA

No... We're too late.

Iris drops to her knees in defeat.

IRIS VEGA

Dammit!

She slams her fists against the ground.

TESZ

We have to go.

IRIS VEGA

YOU DON'T FEEL ANYTHING FOR THEM!?

Iris looks up at Tesz. He holds back all the emotions that he can. Iris sees this and her expression changes, showing concern for him.

TESZ

Of course I do. That's my little brother.

Iris looks and sees a young man in the pile.

IRIS VEGA

I'm sorry.

TESZ

I won't forgive them for this. That's why we have to go. I don't want this happening to anyone else.

Tesz reaches out his hand. Iris takes it, stands up and looks at both of them.

IRIS VEGA

We'll stop this. I promise.

EXT. COMMAND TOWER

Cora stands outside of the command tower. A massive building that controls all of the city and communicates with the space station.

She looks around for any enemies and then enters the building, still holding her side in pain. The doors close behind her.

Another massacre. Soldiers and staff lay dead all over the room, as well as a few Ussal. The entire first floor is torn apart, bullet holes and debris everywhere.

CORA ATWOOD
This isn't good.

She winces in pain.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
Gotta get to the top.

She moves through the room to the end of the hall and puts her hand on the elevator scanner. A slight glow appears and then diminishes. She takes her hand off of the scanner.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
Shit.

She looks at the stairs to her right and groans.

Cora puts her hand on the scanner again, this time she sparks what's left of her aura to jump-start the elevator.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
Come on...

The light finally kicks on and glows.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
Yes!

The doors open and she steps inside and leans against the interior of the elevator.

INT. ELEVATOR

Cora presses the last button. The doors close and the elevator starts to rise. Cora breathes heavily then coughs. She coughs again, harder than before, covering her mouth.

She looks at her hand and sees blood.

CORA ATWOOD
That's not good.

INT. HALLWAY #6

An Ussal kneels on the ground, beaten. It looks up and snarls. Tesz's fist comes down and knocks it out.

He holds up his fist and looks at it as his aura dissipates.

TESZ
Are we getting stronger? Or are these things getting weaker?

IRIS VEGA
Don't get overconfident.

TESZ
Yeah, yeah I know.

THEIA
He's right though. Don't you feel
it?

IRIS VEGA
Yeah, I do.

TESZ
Where to next?

IRIS VEGA
I don't know. Let's get to a
vantage point, see what's up.

INT. ELEVATOR

Cora rests her hand on the side of the elevator. She watches the floor number go up. As it ticks up and up, she starts to hear rumbling and small explosions.

Cora looks at her hand and tries to cloak. Her aura sparks and refuses to activate.

CORA ATWOOD
Come on. Come on.

INT. COMMAND TOWER/TOP FLOOR

A group of five Ussal patrol around the room scouring for their next enemy. The elevator DINGS and they all turn their attention over to it.

INT. ELEVATOR

Cora continues staring at her hand, trying to cloak.

CORA ATWOOD
Come on!

The doors start to open.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
Shit!

Cora quickly leans back against the wall, trying to hide from them.

INT. COMMAND TOWER/TOP FLOOR

The Ussal make their way towards the elevator.

INT. ELEVATOR

Cora looks worried.

CORA ATWOOD
(whisper)
Come on!

A huge claw appears. It grabs the inside of the doorway and an Ussal looks inside.

Empty. The Ussal snarls and withdraws.

INT. COMMAND TOWER/TOP FLOOR

The Ussal growl talks to his kin and they continue their patrol.

After they all turn their heads away, a small shimmer moves out of the elevator and behind a wall. Cora starts to de-cloak, just as she gets behind the corner.

She sees a door to her side. She enters the room, closing the door behind her.

Cora looks around.

CORA ATWOOD
(whispers)
I know it's in here somewhere.
There it is.

She spots a medical kit, quietly walks over and opens it on the table. She takes out a syringe and looks around for anyone. She then stabs herself in the leg, injecting the fluid into her body.

Cora cringes, then stands up straighter, allowing the medicine to do its work.

She heads to the other door across from her, walking as quiet as she can. She ducks the window and slides up to the far side of the door against the wall.

She peers out the door window checking on the Ussal. She looks at her hand and activates her aura for a moment. It works.

For a moment she thinks to fight, then realizes something.

She quietly activates her aura again, creating a portal through the wall beside her.

She peers around the corner checking for anyone inside. An Ussal stands there with it's back turned, looking at all of the communication equipment.

Cora moves towards it slowly, being as quiet as possible.

She waves her hand in front of her, creating a portal underneath the Ussal. It falls through.

The Ussal appears outside, falling past her window to the bottom of the building.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
Got to remember that one.

Cora starts to type into the console.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
I have to get our communications
back online.

EXT. POWER PLANT

Reese, Malek and Jordan hide in bushes just outside the station, watching the horde of Ussal stalking around.

REESE
What are they waiting for?

JORDAN
I don't know, but it can't be good.

A low growl.

REESE
Did you guys hear that?

Suddenly an Ussal de-cloaks and grabs Jordan's head, lifting him into the air.

Jordan's aura wavers as it tries to hold back the crushing strength of the Ussal.

REESE (CONT'D)
LET HIM GO!

Reese spins his rifle, turns on his helmet, aims and fires.

The bullet barely pierces the Ussal's shields, causing minimal damage.

MALEK
I think you just pissed it off.

The Ussal throws Jordan aside and strengthens his aura, sending a haymaker punch towards Reese.

Malek and Jordan evade, aura dashing backwards.

REESE
Not this time!

Reese aims again, overflowing his aura into his rifle. He fires a massive shot.

It pierces the Ussal's chest, ignoring its shields.

Just as the Ussal breathes its last breath, it falls and presses the detonator on its arm.

The entire dam wall behind the Ussal explodes. The ocean begins to flood into the city.

In an instant Reese throws his gun to the side and puts up his hands, creating a barrier to hold back the ocean at the breaking point.

Malek sees this and runs to Jordan. He grabs him and starts to make his way towards Reese.

Reese uses all of his strength to hold back the water. The dam wall starts to break more.

MALEK
REESE, WE HAVE TO GO!

REESE
NO! I CAN HOLD IT!

Malek opens up a portal. The other Ussal begin to rush them.

MALEK
NO YOU CAN'T, COME ON!

Reese looks at the Ussal, then back to the water and finally back to Malek.

REESE

... Okay!

He throws his hands towards the Ussal. The shield redirects a torrent towards them before breaking crushing them with a wave of water.

Reese, Malek and Jordan rush into the portal. It closes at the last second before the ocean water crashes through and makes its way towards the city.

INT. COMMAND TOWER/TOP FLOOR

Cora types into the computer. She notices the explosion.

CORA ATWOOD

Oh no...

She focuses on the computer and tries to find a solution.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

I've got to get the shields up.

EXT. CITY STREETS #3

Kera, Alexa, Soren and Bre rush civilians down the streets. They notice the explosion and pick up their pace.

KERA

Reese...

EXT. CITY STREETS #4

Iris, Theia and Tesz approach the outskirts of the inner city. The space elevator in clear view.

A beaten man protects his wife and two children from an Ussal's onslaught. Its fist comes crashing down.

Iris throws out her hand, creating a shield to block the punch just in time. She grips her hand fast, creating a shock-wave that knocks the Ussal backwards.

Theia rushes in with a sweep to the legs, Tesz follows up with punch straight down, sending the Ussal into the concrete.

THEIA

Are you okay?

The family nods.

THEIA (CONT'D)

You have to get out of here.

The same explosion sounds. They all look towards the dam. The water breaks through and rushes towards them.

IRIS VEGA

Theia, Tesz! Get them out of here.

THEIA

What about you?

IRIS VEGA

No time to argue. I'll be fine.

Theia looks at Tesz. He motions to leave.

THEIA

Dammit!

Her pace quickens. They take the family and start to run. Iris begins to analyze the situation.

IRIS VEGA

The city shields. If I can charge them, I might be able to bring them online.

She searches the area, making sure to keep an eye on the water rushing towards her.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

Where are they...

She notices a line in the ground.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)

There! Hopefully this works. I just need to--

She crouches down, placing her hands on it. She forces her aura into the line. After a moment, the shields kick online, sending a wave of energy up and around the city.

Iris looks relieved. She takes her hands off the ground and stands back.

INT. COMMAND TOWER - TOP FLOOR

Cora notices the shields come online through the window.

CORA ATWOOD

Who did that?

EXT. CITY STREETS #3

The barrier holds for a moment and then starts to waver, flickering in and out. The torrent of water swiftly approaches.

IRIS VEGA

No... No!

Iris throws her hands up, sending her aura into the city shields again. They recharge and hold steady, just as the waves to crash into it.

Water droplets spray through the shields at Iris. She flinches and solidifies her stance, barely holding back the ocean.

Secondary tides crash into the barrier. Iris screams, holding back all that she can.

Water starts to break through parts of the shield. She outstretches her hand and closes the breach.

Iris yells at the top of her lungs as she holds back the crushing weight of the ocean.

Just before she passes out, the barrier solidifies.

Iris hits the ground, unconscious.

LATER

Iris's eyes fade in and out as an ambulance-like vehicle pulls up. A man gets out and approaches her. She loses consciousness again. Medics run to her side as well.

Ebren crouches down, typing into his gauntlet. His fingertips light up. He hovers his hand over Iris, checking her vitals.

EBREN

Everyone get back.

He sets four small devices down around her and stands back. He sends his aura through them and lifts his hands up.

Ebren lifts her into the air with his aura-style stretcher.

EBREN (CONT'D)

Okay, let's get her out of here.

The medics surround her and take her away. Ebren looks at the city shields in awe.

EBREN (CONT'D)
That's insane...

EXT. ABOVE THE CITY - DAY

A small ship flies over. The city is damaged, but salvageable. The shields hold strong.

A few men replace the dam wall with an aura barrier. They type into their gauntlets and strengthen it.

Another ship lowers near the outskirts of the city, just above the water. Soldiers combine their aura, opening up two portals, draining the water from inside the city back into the ocean.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM

Iris lays in bed. Cora sits in a chair beside her.

IRIS VEGA
Ugh, what happened?

She looks around and notices her.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
What's going on?

Iris starts to get up.

CORA ATWOOD
Whoa! Whoa! Careful. Try not to move around so much.

She lays back down.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)
Using your aura like that put a huge strain on your body. You're lucky to be alive.

IRIS VEGA
I don't feel so lucky.

They chuckle.

IRIS VEGA (CONT'D)
Is everyone okay?

CORA ATWOOD

Yeah. Everyone's fine. You saved a lot of people out there today. Your parents would be proud.

Iris smiles and looks up at Cora.

IRIS VEGA

Thanks.

CORA ATWOOD

The doctor says you just need a good nights rest and you'll be fine.

Iris nods her head.

IRIS VEGA

Okay.

CORA ATWOOD

I'll see you in the morning.

IRIS VEGA

See ya.

She closes her eyes.

INT. TRAINING ROOM ZULU

In a holo assembly hall, the brigadier general stands at the front of the room. He addresses the whole academy with his staff beside him.

BRIGADIER GENERAL

Today we gather here to honor the lives that were lost yesterday. They will all be missed dearly.

(beat)

We also honor those who fought to protect this city. Without all of you, we wouldn't be here. I thank you and I hereby welcome you to the force.

He salutes then leaves the stage. Cora moves to take his place.

CORA ATWOOD

This isn't going to get any easier. From now on, all of you are soldiers. You're going to have to make tough decisions every day.

(MORE)

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

However, I believe in each and every one of you. Your new life starts now.

Iris smiles with pride.

INT. IRIS' ROOM

Iris continues to pack. She closes her bag and takes it to the door with her, turning around for one last look. She smiles and leaves the room.

INT. HALLWAY #2

She closes the door behind her and starts walking down the hall. Theia and Kera catch up with her.

THEIA

Hey!

IRIS VEGA

Hey!

(to kera)

So? Did you get it?

KERA

Yeah I did!

IRIS VEGA

Awesome! You're going to do great.

KERA

Thanks, I hope so.

IRIS VEGA

It's sad that you're not going to be coming with us though.

KERA

Yeah, but we'll see each other all the time. Don't worry.

IRIS VEGA

Yeah.

EXT. SHIP DOCK

Iris, Kera and Theia walk down the dock, the Avalon sits in the bay, locked into position. Reese trails behind them and then jogs up to them and smiles.

Saros materializes before Iris.

SAROS

Ma'am.

She motions them to continue on.

IRIS VEGA

Hey Saros.

Saros extends one of his hands forward.

SAROS

The files you requested.

She softly smiles.

IRIS VEGA

Thanks. I appreciate it.

Saros nods.

Theia and Kera stand together, saying their goodbye.

KERA

I wanted you to have this.

Kera hands her a gift wrapped box.

THEIA

What is it?

KERA

It's a surprise. Open it when you're settled in.

THEIA

Thanks.

Theia hugs Kera goodbye.

THEIA (CONT'D)

I'm going to miss you.

KERA

I'm going to miss you too.

They softly kiss then let go. Theia continues to walk with the rest of the group towards the ship.

KERA (CONT'D)

Be safe.

THEIA

I will.

Cora stands at the end of the landing platform, watching her students walk up. They stop in front of her.

CORA ATWOOD

Look at you three. I'm so proud of all of you.

Cora looks at the ship in admiration and then looks back at them.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

Good luck!

They salute and Cora smiles, saluting back. Theia runs into her mother's arms.

CORA ATWOOD (CONT'D)

Bye baby. Keep in touch.

THEIA

I will mom.

Theia snuffles and then she moves back in line with the others. Cora looks at all of them again and nods. They smile and make their way into the ship. The doors close behind them.

The ships engines kick on; It starts to raise, unlocking the holding clamps.

The ship moves out of the docking bay and towards the horizon. The engines blast to full and the ship takes off into the atmosphere, out of sight.

Cora and the others stand at the edge of the docking bay, watching it fly into the distance.

INT. THE AVALON/FLIGHT DECK

Iris, Theia and Reese walk in.

FLIGHT CREW #1

New recruits on deck!

Everyone in the room looks at them. Iris scans the room with wonder. She then notices Ebreon sitting at one of the stations and smiles.

INT. CREW QUARTERS 5-9

Iris stands in front of her door, her name engraved on its face. She opens it and walks in.

INT. THE AVALON/IRIS' ROOM

Iris walks in and looks around. A small room with a bed, locker, dresser and a window.

She closes the door behind her and sets her stuff on the side of her bed. She looks around, taking everything in.

She looks out the window, a black abyss of space with an aura shield around the ship.

INT. THE AVALON/THEIA'S ROOM

Theia lays on her bed. An identical room to Iris'. She holds the gift from Kera in her hands. She opens it and reads the note: I'll always be with you.

Theia starts to tear up. She takes out the gift. A sphere with Kera's aura swirling around inside.

She hugs the gift.

INT. THE AVALON/REESE'S ROOM

Reese sits in his room staring out the window.

INT. THE AVALON/IRIS' ROOM

Iris moves to her locker and opens it. A space suit hangs there, a helmet glistening below it.

She picks it up and stares into it. Her reflection stares back at her. She smiles.

EXT. THE AVALON

The space-ship flies off into the distance.

FADE OUT