

**STARCHASER**

The Legend of Orin

by

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FINAL DRAFT

"STARCHASER: THE LEGEND OF ORIN"

1 INT. MINEWORLD - BLACKNESS

Sounds grow louder until we hear a mixture of picks on rocks, electronic spitting and pneumatic pounding. There is also the sound of human suffering.

An pulsating reddish glow begins to shimmer over the blackness, revealing the rock of the mine walls, peppered with sparkling red crystals.

WIDEN to take in the incredible vastness of the slave mines of Trinia. Ragged, sweating men and women pound picks into the rock walls, blast away rock with laser-drills, shovel glowing red crystals into endless chains of ore cars.

An exhausted slave falls to his knees, exhausted. A MINE-MASTER, with metallic armor that makes it hard to determine whether he is human or robot, cracks his searing laser-whip across the man's back. The slave buckles in pain.

MINE-MASTER

Get up and dig, worm!

Another slave, ORIN, reacts to the mine-master's injustice. He grips his drill tightly. The look on his face says he'd like to ram it into the mine-master's back. He hesitates just long enough to let his anger settle as the exhausted slave creaks to his feet, continues his work.

Orin angrily grinds a laser-drill into the crystal laden rock. He is a thin yet muscular nineteen year old whose incessant years of mining have made him a man before his time. His pale skin, golden hair and blue eyes contrast the dimness of the mine.

Alongside Orin, an old man, HOPPS, picks away at the rock with feeble strokes. He looks to be in his seventies, with white hair and ribs with too little meat. His young, seventeen year old granddaughter, ELAN, is beside him, her strong arms swinging a pick with skill that contrasts her beauty. Hopps stops to wipe the burning sweat from his eyes.

ELAN

You've got to slow down, grandfather.  
You're too old to keep up this pace.

HOPPS

I've been digging for seventy years,  
Elan. Slowing down will only prolong  
my suffering.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

He raises his pick, hammers harder at the rock wall. Orin moves quietly behind Hopps, smiles at Elan, then dumps his bucket of crystals into the old man's ore bucket, filling it.

ELAN

(whispering)

Orin, don't. You won't survive doing the work of two.

ORIN

For the prettiest girl in the world I'd do the work of ten.

Elan smiles warmly at Orin, touches his cheek. There is a sudden crack of a laser-whip.

MINE-MASTER

No talking! The gods forbid it!

As Orin and Elan continue their digging, cut to:

2 INT. MINEWORLD - ADJACENT TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS

A small boy gropes along, bucket of water in one hand, the other feeling the rock wall. He is KALLIE, Orin's younger brother of nine. Although he appears to know his way about, he is blind, the scar of a mine-master's whip angled across his face.

KALLIE

Water. Water.

Kallie stops as he senses the hands of a slave on the bucket, splashing a cupful of water over his parched lips, quickly getting back to work as the angry eyes of a mine-master watch. Kallie moves along.

There is a sudden shudder. The miners protect themselves as rocks begin to fall. A piece of the mine ceiling collapses on a teenage boy, leaving only his legs visible. His mother drops to her knees beside them, tries futilely to pull him free, sobbing. A mine-master whips her.

MINE-MASTER

Leave him be! He's no use to anyone now!

Kallie stumbles into the mine-master who kicks him down.

Orin swings his laser drill around to defend his little brother. The mine-master coils his laser whip around it, struggling with Orin, who pulls him down. He's about to

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

strike him when another mine-master coils his whip around Orin's neck, yanks him back.

KALLIE

Orin!

The mine-master is about to kill Orin, stopped by loud electronic gong. Miners put down their equipment and move away. Kallie gropes about and finds Orin.

KALLIE (CONT'D)

Orin!

3 INT. MINEWORLD - FURNACE OF LIFE - CONTINUOUS

Hundreds of slaves, stretching into the distance, gather at the edge of a deep abyss with flowing lava at the bottom. On the other side is a giant scowling stone face carved into the rock wall. The slaves bow toward it and begin to chant the name "Zygon".

The furnace's mouth opens, radiating a fiery glow like the gates of hell.

Orin stands fast, looking off at the other cowed slaves, a look of rebellion in his eyes. The mine-master pushes him hard to his knees.

MINE-MASTER

On your knees!

The flaming mouth of the Furnace of Life opens wide, and out of its glowing interior emerges a towering man wearing a long, black cape and hideous horned mask.

SLAVES

(frightened whispers)

Zygon! Zygon!

ZYGON

(calm but intense)

The Gods of the Mineworld are angry. They have kept you alive since the beginning of time and ask very little in return. But again the Furnace of Life cries out in hunger. You must feed it more crystals or its life-giving energy will burn out forever. So dig harder...or die!

Zygon turns, walking back into the flaming mouth.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

A large container of crystal ore extends out over the lava cavern and into the flaming mouth. A moment later it returns, filled with small bundles of food. A mine-master cracks his whip.

MINE-MASTER

Pick up your gifts and get back to work!

The slaves rush madly for the food, fighting each other like animals. Orin gets into a tug-o'-war as another man tries to steal his bundle. Another slave breaks up the fight. Orin moves off with his bundle.

DISSOLVE TO:

4 INT. MINEWORLD - DRIFT TUNNEL - LATER

Kallie eats as Orin continues to drill at the rock. His drill strikes something and flashes, knocking him down.

Orin spots something glowing, pries away at the rock, exposing a golden, jewel-encrusted hilt. He grasps it and pulls up a fabulous sword. Hopps reacts with recognition.

HOPPS

(awed gasp)

Oh, my god!

ORIN

What's wrong, Hopps?

HOPPS

I thought it was only a myth...

Kallie tugs on Orin's shirt.

KALLIE

Remember what the mine-master said.  
We're supposed to give them anything...

Hopps clamps his hand over Kallie's mouth.

HOPPS

Not a word. They must not get this.

ORIN

What is it?

They hear someone approaching.

HOPPS

(to Orin, urgent)

Hide it!

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

Orin hides the sword in the food bundle as a mine-master strides up.

MINE-MASTER  
Why aren't you working?

Before the mine-master can see what Orin has, Hopps raises his pick, swinging it with wild rage.

HOPPS  
(shouting; crazed)  
No, no, noooo!

The mine-master lashes out with his laser-whip. It coils around Hopp's head. He drops his pick, grabs his eyes and collapses.

HOPPS (CONT'D)  
(screaming)  
My eyes!

MINE-MASTER  
Madman!

As the mine-master exits, Orin and Elan move to Hopps.

HOPPS  
(dying)  
The sword. The...sword...  
(points up)  
Up there...

Then he dies in Elan's arms.

ELAN  
(crying)  
Grandfather, why? -- He's gone. I have  
no one now.

ORIN  
(hugs her)  
You have me.

DISSOLVE TO:

5 INT. MINEWORLD - SLEEPING AREA

Orin is seated on a rock with Elan, trying to comfort her.

ELAN  
He died for no reason, Orin.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

ORIN

No, Elan. Hopps sacrificed his life for us.

ELAN

But why?

ORIN

I don't know. But whatever Hopps was trying to tell us had something to do with this...

Orin withdraws the sword from the food bundle. It suddenly begins to shimmer. Other slaves watch in awe as the sword flips into the air and jams into the ground.

The glowing image of a saintly old man with white hair and beard materializes.

SLAVE #1

It's alive!

KHA-KHAN

(filtered echo)

If, in the distant future, someone hears these words, perhaps it is not too late. By now you will have been slaving in the mines for more than a thousand years. Take heed! These dark corridors are not your true home. There is a world above. A magnificent universe to which you can return if you have the courage. He who possesses this sword possesses the power of truth. Find the blade and you will find your freedom.

The man fades away. Then the blade glows and vanishes. The golden hilt drops to the mine floor. Orin and the others look at one another in disbelief, fear and wonder.

SLAVES

(awed whispers)

He's gone! A world above? Freedom?

RAYMO, a scar-faced slave, scoffs at the others.

RAYMO

Lies! All lies!

ORIN

But why would anyone lie about an upper world, Raymo?

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

RAYMO

Bah! By believing the words of that demon you spit on the most sacred commandment...

(points up)

"Never dig up. Up is hell!"

ORIN

What if the commandments are wrong? What if there is a world beyond our own? By not trying to find it we could spend the rest of eternity digging and dying when there may be...something else.

RAYMO

What else could there be?

ELAN

I don't know, but on my grandfather's grave I swear, if there is a world above, I will find it. Who's with me?

RAYMO

No one's going with you. I'm turning you both in to the mine-masters for speaking out against the gods.

(lunges for hilt)

Now give me that piece of dirt!

They struggles as Raymo tries to wrest the hilt from Orin. He grabs a rock, about to smash his skull, but Orin knocks him out with a blow from the hilt.

KALLIE

(frightened)

Orin?

ORIN

I'm alright, Kallie.

SLAVE #1

If Raymo tells the mine-masters you will be killed, Orin.

ORIN

In that case I might as well die trying to find the upper world. We'll go together, Elan.

KALLIE

I'll go with you, too.

Orin puts a hands on Kallie's shoulders, kneels before him.

(CONTINUED)



5 CONTINUED:

ORIN

You'll have to be with us in spirit,  
Kallie. It's too dangerous for one as  
young as you.

KALLIE

I'm not too young. You don't want me  
because I can't see. Don't leave me,  
Orin. I'll die without you.

ORIN

You'll do just fine.  
(looks to Aunt Bella)  
Aunt Bella will look after you.

KALLIE

(crying)  
But what if you...don't come back?

ORIN

I'll come back, Kallie. I promise.  
(hugs Kallie)  
I love you, little digger.

DISSOLVE TO:

6 INT. MINEWORLD

Orin and Elan sneak through the mine, past slaves and mine  
masters.

KALLIE, a short distance away, gropes the rocks, following  
them, carrying a food bundle.

ORIN AND ELAN stop as they hear..

SECOND MINE-MASTER

You there! Back to work!

...then relax as they see the mine master whipping another  
slave. They continue on.

KALLIE continues searching for them.

KALLIE

Orin? Orin!

He walks into a mine master. The robot raise his laser whip  
to lash the boy when his chest explodes, shot from behind by  
Orin. Elan takes hold of Kallie.

ELAN

It's all right, Kallie, we're here.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

ORIN

You almost got yourself killed, you little fool.

KALLIE

You forgot the food.

MINE-MASTER (V.O.)

Hey, you! Why aren't you working?

ORIN

Quick! Get into the ore car. Hurry!

The three of them climb into the slowly moving ore train. The mine masters climb onto the last car. They move from car to car until they reach Orin, start to whip him. He snags one of their laser whips with his drill, yanks him out of the car. As he attacks the second mine-master, Elan grabs Kallie, helps him out of the car.

ORIN (CONT'D)

Run, Kallie, run!

Orin blasts the other mine master, then jumps out of the car.

MINE-MASTER

Stop!

As Kallie staggers off in one direction, Orin and Elan move the other way. As they reach...

THE ORE CAR TERMINAL at the edge of the lava chasm, the mine-masters surround them.

ORIN

Jump! NOW!

Orin shoves Elan into the ore transport, fends off the mine-masters with his laser drill. The ore transport begins to move out over the deep, lava chasm.

ELAN

(frightened)

Orin! Orin!

Orin leaps, barely making it to the edge of the ore transport. He dangles over the lava. Elan helps him up.

They're heading straight toward the flaming mouth of the Furnace of Life!

ORIN

Quick, under the crystals!

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

Orin and Elan duck under the crystals as the transport car disappears into the blazing mouth, consumed by the flames.

FOLLOW THE ORE TRANSPORT as it enters a long, steel passageway illuminated by stark fluorescent lighting.

The ore stir, then Orin helps Elan out of the crystals. They look in awe at their strange surroundings, and the flaming gas jets that shoot fire out of the faux "mouth".

Orin helps Elan out of the transport car.

7 INT. ORE PROCESSING CENTER - CONTINUOUS

The transport car emerges into the sprawling, futuristic processing center. Orin and Elan marvel at their incredible surroundings.

VOICE OVER

(synthesized)

All processing units to loading bay two.

ELAN

Where are we?

ORIN

I don't know.

VOICE OVER

Thirty-three thousand gross units to the Darbang System ready for shipping.

Orin spots some robot guards. He and Elan make a run for it.

Robot sentries fire down on them from above, striking Orin. He stumbles. Elan turns back to help him.

ORIN

No, no, keep going!

She rushes back to Orin, cuts down an approaching robot with her laser drill. Then she helps Orin up. They run...right into a half-dozen more robots. They turn to run back, coming face to face with Zygon!

ELAN

(gasps)

Zygon!

The robots grab Orin and Elan from behind.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

ZYGON

My congratulations. You now know what only one other slave has known in the last twelve hundred years. And, like him, you will die with the secret. You might as well know the rest of the lie.

Zygon lifts his mask off, revealing his pale human face.

ZYGON (CONT'D)

(sarcastic laugh)

Behold, the great god of Mineworld.

Zygon grabs Elan by the neck, lifts her off the floor.

ELAN

(choking)

Or...in!

ORIN

(screaming rage)

No! Stop!

Elan's body goes limp, then Zygon lets her fall to the floor.

ORIN (CONT'D)

No...

Zygon turns to dispose of Orin, spots the hilt in his waistband.

ZYGON

(recognizing it)

The "Sword With No Blade."

(he takes it)

Where did you get this?

(Orin just stares back)

I'm afraid it won't be of any use to you now.

Zygon starts to strangle Orin. The golden hilt begins to glow red hot. Zygon drops it. Orin uses the moment to break free from the robots, running across the processing area. The guards open fire with their blast rifles.

ZYGON (CONT'D)

Watch out for the crystals!

As Orin dives away from another barrage, a stray flash of laser strikes a load of crystals, exploding with a devastating blast which rips through the processing area, knocking Zygon and the others to the ground and opening a gaping fissure in the rock wall.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

As the smoke clears, Zygon and the others lie unconscious.  
Orin moves to Elan, picks up her lifeless body, hugs her.

ORIN  
(choked whisper)  
If there's a world above, I'll find it  
for you, Elan.

He kisses her placid face.

Zygon stirs. A robot helps him up. He shoves him away.

ZYGON  
Never mind me. Kill the boy!

Orin picks up the hilt and Elan's laser drill, runs through  
the gaping hole in the wall.

8 INT. ROCKY FISSURE - CONTINUOUS

The robots move after Orin, wounding him with their laser  
fire. But in doing so they start a cave in and are buried.

9 INT. ORE PROCESSING CENTER - CONTINUOUS

Zygon steps back as the rock wall collapses, sealing the  
fissure.

ZYGON  
A fitting grave for a slave of Trinia!

DISSOLVE TO:

10 INT. FISSURE - LATER

The robots are crushed under the rock. Orin sits on a rock.

ORIN (V.O.)  
Never dig up...  
(looks up)  
...up is hell.

DISSOLVE TO:

11 INT. NARROW SHAFT - VARIOUS SHOTS

Orin is nestled at the top of the shaft, his back braced  
against one side, his feet against the other. He blasts away

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

the rock with his laser drill. Days pass until he finally runs out of food and water.

DISSOLVE TO:

12 INT. NARROW SHAFT

Orin sleeps at the top of the steep, rocky shaft. Dust begins to fall on him, then the slimy heads of white worms (about one inch in diameter) drop onto his pale flesh. They open their suction-cup mouths and sink their hooklike fangs into him...and begin to suck out his blood!

Orin's eyes slowly open. Then he jerks up, spots the worms all over him. As he frantically tears them off he loses his hold on the steep rocks, sliding down the shaft.

He barely catches hold to an outcropping, dangling precariously over the deep, black shaft as his laser-drill clatters down the rocks. He gropes for it, misses. It falls into the blackness. As he struggles to climb back up...

DISSOLVE TO:

13 INT. NARROW SHAFT

Orin sits on a ledge. He takes the hilt from his waist, holds it out before his bitter eyes.

ORIN

What have you got to tell me this time,  
old man? Is this your magnificent  
universe?

Orin raises the hilt to throw it into the shaft, stopped as dirt begins to rain down over him. Then an odd light shimmers on his face. He looks up at an opening in the rock. Through it we see a small patch of blue-black sky and a single, twinkling star.

Orin reaches up toward the star, as if trying to touch it.

14 EXT. HOLE IN GROUND - NIGHT

All that can be seen is a sparse patch of grass around a hole of moist dirt. A hand, clutching the hilt, reaches out of the hole, gropes the edge of the grassy soil. A second hand slaps onto the edge, straining to get a firm grip.

Orin pulls himself up, climbing out into the night. He looks up at the stars, tears filling his eyes.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

ORIN  
 (begins to cry)  
 It's not a lie. It's not a lie.

DISSOLVE TO:

15 EXT. SWAMP - MONTAGE - NIGHT

Orin walks through a vast alien swamp...past eerie, pulsating plants...bubbling waterfalls...enormous tree roots.

16 EXT. SWAMP - NIGHT

Orin's kneels at the bank to scoop a handful of water, sees himself for the first time in his life. Then his reflected eyes grow narrow and green...and a huge snake emerges! Orin lets out a gasp and steps back. He turns to run, trips on a tree root, falls face-first into the swamp.

Orin pulls his face out of the slime, staring at a hideous looking pair of legs. Above the legs is a more hideous, humpbacked, half-man-half-robot "mandroid". BORO stares at Orin, then lets out a disgusted groan.

Orin gets up and runs...right into another mandroid, AHK. His face is a jumble of flesh and bionics, his exposed guts churning behind his stainless steel rib cage.

AHK  
 (bloodthirsty grin)  
 A human.

EEMA, a hideous female with skin pulled tightly over her metal skull, grabs Orin's hair.

EEMA  
 I want his hair!

ORIN  
 Ow! Let go.

A one-armed, hunchbacked mandroid, BORO, pulls on Orin's arm.

BORO  
 I get his arm!

Ahk pulls Orin away from the others.

AHK  
 Get your claws off him, you greedy swamp scum. Maybe the fleshy boy doesn't want to give up his body parts.  
 (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

AHK (CONT'D)  
 (to Orin)

Do you?

ORIN  
 (frightened)

No.

AHK  
 Well, that's just too bad, because  
 we're going to take them anyway.

Boro and Eema grab Orin.

DISSOLVE TO:

17 EXT. SWAMP - GIANT TREE - NIGHT

The tree is perhaps a thousand feet high, its base a mass of twisted roots that are themselves bigger than pine tree trunks. The tree is so large that smaller trees and shrubs grow on its branches. There is a flickering light deep within the rooty mesh that grows up out of the swamp water.

18 INT. MANDROIDS DEN - GIANT TREE - NIGHT

Orin's arms are bound spread-eagle to an overhanging root. Ahk sharpens a pair of metal clippers before Orin.

ORIN  
 I'm sorry I escaped. I'll go back.

BORO  
 Shut up, human! Your brain must have  
 worms eating it.

Eema raps Orin's arm with her metal claw.

EEMA  
 You make no sense.

Boro shoves Eema away.

BORO  
 Careful! You're bruising his arm.  
 (grabs Orin's arm)  
 This is mine!

Eema smacks Boro with her claw.

EEMA  
 No, mine!

Ahk plunges his clippers into Boro's neck. Eema backs off.

(CONTINUED)



18 CONTINUED:

AHK

You'll get what I give ya.

Ahk moves to Orin, clamps his clippers on Orin's jaw.

AHK (CONT'D)

Now, who wants his teeth?

Boro spots the golden hilt in Orin's waistband, takes it.

BORO

Ooooo! Gold! Jewels!

AHK

Give me that!

BORO

No! I found it!

EEMA

Let me see!

BORO

It's mine! It's mine!

Ahk holds the clippers out at Boro.

AHK

Let me have it or I'll cut your hump  
off.

Ahk reaches for the hilt. Boro jerks it away...slicing Eema in two. Boro looks at the hilt in fear, throws it away. It lands in a root, pointing upwards. Ahk rushes to get it, impaled on the invisible blade.

BORO

Ahk?

Boro moves to Ahk, touches him cautiously. He falls over, the hilt now hovering above him, his blood dripping down the invisible blade. Boro turns to Orin.

BORO (CONT'D)

You! You're doing this. This is human  
magic.

ORIN

No! I didn't...

(reconsiders, then  
deliberate)

Yes, you're right. It is human magic.  
I can kill you the same as I killed the  
other two.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

Boro backs up uneasily.

ORIN (CONT'D)  
 Stop! Bring me the magic object!  
 (Boro hesitates)  
 Have it your way. How do you want to die?

BORO  
 I bring! I bring!

Boro pulls the hilt out of Ahk, moves to Orin.

ORIN  
 Good. Now wave it just beyond my right hand.

Boro waves the hilt, cuts Orin's right hand free.

BORO  
 Ooohh!!

Orin grabs hold of the invisible blade, cuts his left hand free. He slowly backs away from Boro...then runs.

Two more mandroids block his path. Orin runs the other way.

BORO (CONT'D)  
 He killed everyone. He's dangerous.

FREG  
 Dangerous? Ha! I'll wear his feet.

Freg and the other mandroid run off after Orin.

Boro picks up the clippers, moves toward Ahk's right arm.

Orin races through the foggy swamp, the two mandroids in close pursuit. He trips on a root. The mandroids gain. Orin gets up and keeps running.

A hand reaches out in front of him, grabbing him by the throat. Orin gasps as a blast pistol aims at his face. And fires!

The shoot flashes past Orin, kills Freg. A second shots kills the other mandroid.

DAGG DiBRIMI, a tall man in a pilot's jumpsuit and quilted down vest, chomps his cigar, his pistol aimed at Orin.

DAGG  
 You've got exactly ten seconds to tell me what you're doing in this swamp or  
 (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

DAGG (CONT'D)

you'll be swimming with those two  
mandroids.

Orin holds up his hilt, thrusting it into Dagg's belly, then  
withdraws it. Nothing happens.

DAGG (CONT'D)

What in the hell are you doing?

Orin looks at the hilt, runs his hand past it. The invisible  
blade is gone. He turns and runs, tripped by Dagg. Dagg  
puts his boot on Orin's chest, pushes him under the swamp  
water, then lets him up.

DAGG (CONT'D)

Now, start talking.

ORIN

(coughing)

I came...from Mine...

DAGG

Damn! I knew you were a smuggler.  
Where's your ship?

ORIN

Ship?

Dagg grabs Orin by the hair.

DAGG

Don't play dumb with me. Nobody takes  
out crystals on foot.

ORIN

Crystals? You know of the Mineworld?

DAGG

The what?

ORIN

The world. Where I came from. Where  
we mine the crystals.

DAGG

Who mines the crystals?

ORIN

We all do. At least I did, until I  
came up here.

DAGG

Your tongue moves faster than a water  
snake's, kid. Everyone from here to  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

DAGG (CONT'D)

the Glass Nebula knows that robots have done all the mining for the last thousand years.

ORIN

What's a robot?

DAGG

Cut the crap!

Dagg points his blast pistol at Orin's face.

DAGG (CONT'D)

Now I want the truth...and fast!

Orin looks up in horror as a giant swamp slug rises up behind Dagg, grab him in its tentacles. Orin swings his hilt, cutting off a tentacle. The beast screeches, then lowers its fanged face over Orin. He slices a gash in its snout. The beast rears up in pain, drops Dagg, then slithers back into the swamp.

Dagg rises out of the water, wipes the slime away.

DAGG (CONT'D)

How the hell did you do it?

Orin looks at the hilt.

ORIN

I'm not sure.

DAGG

Yeah, well, thanks anyway.

(holsters gun)

Now, beat it, kid. I've got work to do.

Dagg climbs up onto the roots of the large tree.

ORIN

Please! I need your help. I promised Kallie I'd come back for him.

Dagg makes his way up to a high branch that has been set up for surveillance with a small, electro-telescope on tripod.

DAGG

Listen, water snake. I saved you. You saved me. We're even.

(louder)

Now, beat it!

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

ARTHUR'S VOICE  
(over radio)  
I beg your pardon.

Dagg picks up a radio handset.

DAGG  
I wasn't talking to you, Arthur.

He puts it down, looks through the electro-scope.

ARTHUR'S VOICE  
Oh.

Orin stays put as Dagg looks through his scope again.

19 EXT. PYRAMID - DAGG'S POV - TELESCOPE MATTE - CONTINUOUS

The scene moves in and out of focus, sharpening to reveal a mammoth pyramid in the distance. It is much like the pyramids of Giza, only bigger, its sides peppered with windows and lights. Several, large space freighters hover.

The electro-scope shifts to another view, revealing two armed robot guards.

DAGG (V.O.)  
Pumped up security. Any sign of that patrol ship yet?

20 EXT. SWAMP TREE - CONTINUOUS

He continues to scan the area.

DAGG  
(no response)  
Arthur?

ARTHUR'S VOICE  
Are you talking to me?

DAGG  
Who the hell do think I'm talking to?

ARTHUR'S VOICE  
Why don't you make up your mind. And don't worry about the patrol, I'll let you know as soon as I spot it.

As Dagg looks back through the scope a STARFLY--small, glowing ball of energy--hovers in his view. It buzzes around Dagg, who reacts like a child afraid of bees, swatting at it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DAGG

Get away from me, damn starfly.

The starfly buzzes right into Dagg's radio handset.

DAGG (CONT'D)

Hey! Get out of here!

Dagg swats again, knocks the handset off the branch. As he gropes for it he loses his balance, falls into the muddy swamp before Orin.

Orin can't help but laugh. Dagg tries to regain his "machismo" as he wipes the scum off his face.

As the starfly buzzes around Orin his smile disappears.

ORIN

(frightened)

What are they?

Dagg shakes the water off his cigar, shoves it in his mouth.

DAGG

They're pests, like you!

A starfly hovers before Orin, its glowing aura dancing on his face. Orin reaches out and gently touches the starfly. It giggles, then flies off.

ARTHUR'S VOICE

(watery crackle)

Dagg?

Dagg reaches into the swamp water, withdraws the handset. He shakes the water out of it. Another starfly flies out.

DAGG

(annoyed)

What is it?

ARTHUR'S VOICE

The pyramid patrol ship will be at your present location in about thirty-two point nine seconds.

DAGG

Thirty seconds! Why the hell didn't you warn me sooner?

ARTHUR'S VOICE

I tried, but something was fouling my signal.

Dagg quickly trots off.

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED:

DAGG

Come on! There's a patrol coming.

Orin just stands there.

ORIN

What's a patrol?

Dagg rushes back to Orin, sees the patrol ship coming fast.

DAGG

Damn!

He pulls Orin along with him. The patrol ship strafes the swamp where they were standing.

Dagg and Orin run through the swamp as blazing shafts of laser light flash past. They approach Dagg's medium-sized cruiser, the "Starchaser," parked in the muddy clearing.

DAGG (CONT'D)

Don't just sit there, Arthur, blast those bastards!

The hatch begins to close as Orin and Dagg disappear into the ship. As the patrol craft's laser fire splatters over the Starchaser's surface a laser-cannon spins around and blasts the patrol craft out of the air.

21 INT. STARCHASER COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

Dagg gets into his control seat, starts to switch on the ship's systems. A small speak with flexible neck rises up from the control console. This is ARTHUR, the talking, onboard computer.

ARTHUR

(mocking)

Keep the shields down, he says. There won't be any shooting. Huhh!

Orin looks around to see who's talking.

ORIN

Where is he?

DAGG

(annoyed)

He's not anywhere. He's the ship's computer.

ARTHUR

I wish you'd stop calling me a computer, Dagg. It's so impersonal.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

After all, you're body's just a machine  
made of flesh and blood. How would you  
like it if I went around calling you  
meat brain?

DAGG

(to Orin)

Strap yourself in.

Orin doesn't understand.

DAGG (CONT'D)

Suit yourself. Take us out of here,  
Arthur.

ARTHUR

You could say please, you know.

The ship lurches, knocking Orin on his ass.

22 EXT. SWAMP - THE STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

Its main engines belch blue flame and the ship rockets away  
over the vast alien swamp.

23 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

Orin looks out the windshield, marveling at the towering  
pyramid.

ORIN

What is that?

DAGG

That, my little water snake, is where I  
am about to do my business...the  
largest rubidimite shipping complex on  
planet Trinia.

The ship suddenly bucks as if it hit something.

DAGG (CONT'D)

What the hell did we hit?

ARTHUR

Just the base security shields.

DAGG

Damn! I never fly low enough.



24 EXT. SWAMP - CONTINUOUS

The Starchaser drops down low over the treetops.

25 INT. PYRAMID - SECURITY COMMAND CENTER

Several uniformed robots monitor scanning equipment. A red blip flashes across a grid on one of the screens.

SECURITY OFFICER

(synthesized)

Sir. We've got a low altitude nonscheduled entry coming in from the swamp.

SECURITY CHIEF

(synthesized)

Sounds like mandroids. They're probably running out of body parts. The gunners will enjoy the target practice.

(into mike)

General alert.

26 EXT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

Several security robots run to their battle stations. Laser cannons turn into position.

27 EXT. TRINIAN COUNTRYSIDE - CONTINUOUS

The Starchaser skims low beneath the treetops.

28 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

ARTHUR

Sighting frequencies are locking onto us, Dagg. I hope you've got a good plan this time.

DAGG

Give 'em a light show, Arthur.

ARTHUR

(groans)

Oh, not that again. The last time we tried decoy laser fire I got my aft panels vaporized.

DAGG

Arthur!

29 EXT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

The Starchaser fires out its pulsating stream of light, blasting away several robots.

30 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

DAGG

Heads up, kid!

Dagg jerks the controls to one side.

31 EXT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

The Starchaser turns sideways, flies through the narrow gap between two structures.

As it emerges, a laser cannon fire, hits the aft panel.

32 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

ARTHUR

Ow! I told you it wouldn't work.

ORIN

What's happening?

DAGG

Just a little welcoming fire. Hang on.

33 EXT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

The Starchaser evades more laser fire, heads for an open pyramid hangar bay. A huge atomic tank rolls up and blocks the crystal bay doors.

34 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

DAGG

Oh, great. They've got an atomic watchdog sitting right on the doorstep.

The tank fires at the Starchaser.

DAGG (CONT'D)

Damn! We need more muscle.

They take another hit.

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED:

DAGG (CONT'D)

I've got to find a way to knock it out.

They speed past a towering Gattling cannon.

DAGG (CONT'D)

There it is.

35 EXT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

The Starchaser flies around the Gattling cannon, which spins around, firing just behind it. The Starchaser speeds toward the atomic tank, then pulls up sharply. The Gattling cannon misses the Starchaser, destroying the tank.

The Starchaser settles down before the crystal bay doors. As robot soldiers fire at it, cut...

36 INT. PYRAMID - ADMINISTRATION OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Fembots are at computers, doing administrative work. A particularly sexy fembot with chromium curves in all the right places, carries a stack of printouts.

The scene shakes from the muffled thumps of the o.s. laser fire. Silica drops her papers.

SILICA

(annoyed)

Blasted security section. Why don't they ever tell anybody about their stupid drills?

As she leans down to pick up her papers...

37 INT. STARCHASER - COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

Dagg snaps his harness off, gets out of his seat.

DAGG

Keep an eye on the kid, Arthur. Don't let him out of your sight.

Dagg exits the cockpit.

ARTHUR

(grumbling)

I'm not a baby sitter, you know.

38 INT. STARCHASER - MAIN PASSAGEWAY - CONTINUOUS

Dagg moves to a six-pack of robots. He grabs a blast rifle off the wall rack.

DAGG

Okay guys, just the way we practiced it. Number one, you lead.

ROBOT #3

Excuse me, sir. I'm number three.

(points to another)

He's one.

DAGG

Never mind. Let's move it.

The robots make a sloppy "right face", trot off after Dagg.

39 EXT. CRYSTAL BAY DOORS - CONTINUOUS

Several security robots move in on the Starchaser, level their weapons as the ramp drops down revealing the six robots. Dagg hides in the middle of them. His robots cut down several security robots.

Like a quarterback behind his linemen, Dagg follows his robots through the bay to a steel crystal bay doors. He sets a fuse on a magnetic explosive and heaves it over the heads of the opposing security robots onto the door.

DAGG

Hit the deck!

Dagg drops to the ground. His robots dog pile on top of him. A moment later there is a deafening blast. The security robots are blown to bits.

40 INT. PYRAMID - ADMINISTRATION OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Silica has just gathered all her papers into a tall stack when the room is jarred by the blast. She drops half of her papers, then angrily throws the remainder down and storms toward the door.

41 EXT. PYRAMID - CRYSTAL BAY DOORS - CONTINUOUS

Dagg's robots appear dead. They begin to stir, then Dagg lifts himself up from under them. He rubs his shoulder in pain, moves to the steel door. It is carbon stained from the blast, but otherwise unscathed. He pounds on it.

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED:

DAGG

Damn! They've strengthened the access doors.

(to robot #3)

You got any bright ideas how we can get through that door?

ROBOT#3

Sorry, sir. I'm programmed for tactical, not engineering.

DAGG

Bargain robots. Damn!

Dagg looks up at a huge space freighter moored above him. He holds up his radio handset.

DAGG (CONT'D)

Arthur!

42 INT. STARCHASER COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

DAGG (V.O.)

Get off your butt and fly underneath that Marcabian transport ship! And no back talk!

43 EXT. PYRAMID - CRYSTAL BAY DOORS - CONTINUOUS

The Starchaser lifts off, hovers beneath the giant freighter.

DAGG

(into radio)

That's good. Now open the upper cargo doors.

The cargo doors on top of the Starchaser open.

Dagg aims his blast rifle at the freighter. He fires, cutting a small hole in the bottom of the ship. A stream of red crystals pours out, draining into the Starchaser.

The crystal bay doors behind Dagg open and Zygon steps out, his blast pistol aimed at Dagg.

ZYGON

Move and you're dead.

Dagg drops his rifle. Zygon fires, cuts Dagg's robots to pieces, leaving Dagg undefended.

44 INT. STARCHASER COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

Orin looks out the windshield at Zygon.

ORIN

Zygon!

He bangs on the control console.

ORIN (CONT'D)

Arthur!

Arthur's speaker pops up.

ARTHUR

Yes?

ORIN

Take us down!

ARTHUR

I'm afraid that won't be possible. You see I'm programmed to respond only to...

Orin grabs his hilt. Arthur ducks as Orin slams the invisible blade into the console, cutting a sparking laceration.

ORIN

(threatening)

I said, take us down!

ARTHUR

Consider it done.

45 EXT. PYRAMID - CRYSTAL BAY DOORS - CONTINUOUS

The Starchaser lowers to the angle pyramid face. The ramp opens and Orin jumps out, slides the pyramid.

46 EXT. PYRAMID - CRYSTAL BAY DOORS - CONTINUOUS

Zygon levels his blast pistol at Dagg's head.

ZYGON

The penalty for rubidimite smuggling is death.

Orin slides off the pyramid face, drops behind Zygon. He spins, spots Orin.

(CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED:

ZYGON (CONT'D)

You!

Orin raises his hilt, rushes Zygon. The invisible sword glows.

DAGG

Kid, no!

Zygon fires, hitting the invisible blade, sending Orin sprawling.

Dagg picks up his blast rifle, fires a volley at Zygon who returns fire, ducking for cover behind a tow vehicle. Dagg helps Orin to his feet as he continues to fire.

DAGG (CONT'D)

We've got to get back to the ship.

ORIN

No. I'll kill him, first.

Orin starts toward Zygon, but Dagg yanks him back, saving him from another laser trace.

DAGG

Down, kid!

The two of them are pinned down, evading still more laser fire from a troop of newly arrived security robots.

Suddenly a door opens in the pyramid behind them. Silica steps out.

SILICA

Who the hell ordered this drill?

Dagg grabs her around the waist, picks her up, using her as a shield.

SILICA (CONT'D)

Hey!

DAGG

C'mon! This is our ticket out of here.

SILICAN

(kicking and struggling)

Let me go!

Dagg uses Silica's polished, metallic body for a shield as he and Orin move through a barrage of laser fire. They make it to the ship and up the ramp.

(CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED:

SILICA  
Take your human hands off of me!

47 INT. STARCHASER COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

Dagg tosses Silica into a corner.

DAGG  
Get us out of here, Arthur. Fast!

48 EXT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

Zygon watches the Starchaser lift off and fly away.

ZYGON  
(contemplative)  
It is him. The Kha-Khan has returned.

DISSOLVE TO:

49 EXT. SPACE

The Starchaser streaks through the stars.

50 INT. STARCHASER COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

Silica is strapped to a workbench. Dagg works over her like a surgeon, playing with the circuitry in her back. Silica squirms in protest.

SILICA  
You'll never get away with this.  
Crystal smuggling is an interplanetary  
offense. And so is kidnapping.

Her body twitches as Dagg hits a "nerve."

SILICA (CONT'D)  
Stop that! You have no right to go  
probing around inside me.

CAMERA FINDS Orin, gazing out a porthole into the stars, his eyes glazed over with thoughts of the past.

51 EXT. SPACE - ORIN'S POV - TRINIA

As the planet recedes into the distance, Orin sees an image of Kallie's face.

(CONTINUED)



51 CONTINUED:

KALLIE

(crying)

Don't leave me, Orin. I'll die without you.

The image of Kallie fades away, replaced by one of Orin hugging Elan lifeless body.

ORIN'S VOICE

(a choked whisper)

If there's a world above I'll find it for you, Elan.

Orin is shaken from his reverie as:

DAGG

Arthur, where the hell are the personality circuits on these G-Two fembots?

ARTHUR

According to the internal schematics manual of the G-Two class government service fembot, all personal characteristic circuits are located in her, uh, in, hmmm. You're definitely looking in the wrong place.

DAGG

Well, where are they?

ARTHUR

They're in her...posterior.

Dagg shoots a glance to Silica's behind.

SILICA

You wouldn't dare!

Dagg grabs her metal ass. She squirms.

SILICA (CONT'D)

Help!

Dagg tapes her mouth shut, then opens up her ass panel, starts to probe her circuits.

ORIN

Dagg, why do you risk your life stealing crystals?

DAGG

Because, my little water snake, the tax collectors of this galaxy turn an

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED:

DAGG (CONT'D)

honest worker into a slave. Rubidimite crystals are the main source of fuel for the Bordogon fleet.

(finishes with Silica)

There, that should do it.

He slams her ass panel shut, rips the tape off her mouth. Silica turns to Dagg, smiles seductively.

SILICA

(sweet and sexy)

Hi...

DAGG

That's more like it.

She sits up, puts her arms around him.

SILICA

Has anyone ever told you that you're awfully cute for a meat body?

52 EXT. PYRAMID - NIGHT

The rubidimite loading has resumed. Worker robots clean up the wreckage from the earlier battle.

53 INT. PYRAMID - MAIN PASSAGEWAY TO SHIPPING AREA - SAME

Zygon and MAJOR TAGANI move down the passageway.

TAGANI

Security ran a crosscheck on the make of that space cruiser along with the description of the pilot. His name is Dagg DiBrimi.

ZYGON

Good. I'll take it from here.

He takes a digital data chip from Tagani, disappears through a heavy steel door which shuts behind him.

54 INT. ZYGON'S PERSONAL OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Zygon sits before his command console. He puts the data chip into a slot. A monitor rises before him.

ZYGON

All units. Security code red.

A digital dossier on Orin appears on the monitor.

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED:

ZYGON (CONT'D)  
Name, Orin...

55 EXT. SPACE - PATROL SHIP - CONTINUOUS

ZYGON'S VOICE  
Target is young male human...

56 INT. POLICE PATROL SHIP COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

A robot sits at the controls as an image of the hilt appears on his screen.

ZYGON'S VOICE  
...carrying a golden hilt...

57 INT. SLEAZY ALIEN BAR - CONTINUOUS

A three-breasted pole dancer gyrates as another police robot looks at a digital dossier of Dagg on his wrist computer.

ZYGON'S VOICE  
...traveling in civilian service class  
ship, type H, registered to Dagg  
DiBrimi.

58 EXT. A NEARBY MOON - CONTINUOUS

Another police bot stands by his ship, a huge planet hangs in the stars behind him.

ZYGON'S VOICE  
Use any means to locate. Once you have  
the hilt...

59 INT. ZYGON'S PERSONAL OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

ZYGON  
...the boy is to be vaporized!

60 EXT. BORDOGON - SPACE

It's a large, ringed planet with two moons. The Starchaser streaks down toward the surface.

61 EXT. BORDOGON - HIGH ANGLE - NIGHT

The Starchaser dives into a deep, dark cavern, gliding over a sunken city. It's a mass of twinkling lights, a mixture of old and new.

62 INT. STARCHASER COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

DAGG

Kid, this is Toga-Togo, the thickest den of thieves on Bordogon.

ORIN

When are we going back to Trinia? I've got to find the blade.

DAGG

Fat chance, water snake. I've got my own business to take care of.

Orin gets up out of his seat.

ORIN

Then let me out. I'll find my own way back.

DAGG

You'll walk, huh? Fifty million miles through a vacuum? Stick around, kid. That blade of yours may be right here.

(looks down at city)

Let's have those landing lights, Arthur.

63 EXT. TOGA-TOGO PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

It is a mass of space ships. The Starchaser squeezes in between two larger ships, bumps one, shuts down.

The the ramp lowers. Dagg, Silica and Orin exit the ship.

DAGG

Keep an eye on the Starchaser, Arthur. And if anyone goes near the cargo hold you have my permission to blow them into stardust.

SILICA

Where are we going, Dagg?

(CONTINUED)

63 CONTINUED:

DAGG

(uneasy)

Uh, I'd rather not tell you. It's a surprise.

(to Orin)

Well, this is where we part. I hope you find your talking blade.

Dagg moves off with Silica.

ORIN

But what do I do? Where do I go?

DAGG

Figuring that out, my little water snake, is what life is all about.

The Starchaser hatch closes behind Orin, leaving him alone in the vast parking lot.

EXT. TOGA-TOGO BAZAAR - NIGHT

There is an open-air slave auction in progress. The auctioneer, Z'GORK, stands at the front of a raised platform with a chained alien creature beside him.

Z'GORK

(mile-a-minute)

Two twenty-five...two twenty-five. Do I hear two fifty? Two fifty. You there with the two heads, how about putting them together and giving me two fifty. No two fifty? No two fifty? All right, two twenty-five, once. Two twenty five, twice. Sold!

Dagg pulls Silica to the auctioneer.

DAGG

Z'Gork! I'd like you to meet a friend of mine.

The auctioneer looks at Silica. His eyes widen as he checks her over.

Z'GORK

G-2! Where'd you get a government fembot?

DAGG

Never mind that. How much for her?

(CONTINUED)

63 CONTINUED:

SILICA  
(realizing; struggles)

No!

Z'GORK  
On consignment?

Z'Gork reaches for Silica to check out her circuits. She slaps his hand away.

SILICA  
Don't touch me!

Z'GORK  
Fifteen percent of whatever she brings.

Dagg hands her over to Z'Gork.

DAGG  
I'll be back in an hour.

SILICA  
(crying)  
Dagg.

DAGG  
Don't waste your tears on me, honey.  
You'll rust.

As Dagg exits Silica is led away by Z'Gork.

64 EXT. TOGA-TOGO - MAIN DRAG - NIGHT

The street is alive with a mixture of mean-looking aliens and strange land vehicles. Flashing neon and laser signs hawk gambling, sex, food, liquor.

Orin walks along, gawking at this strange new world. He bumps into a fierce alien with a long trunk, backs away, nearly run down by a sky cycle.

Orin looks into a shop windows, sees hundreds of bladed weapons on the wall. He moves inside, shows his hilt to the proprietor.

65 INT. BLADE SHOP - CONTINUOUS

The proprietor dumps a dozen nicked and rusty blades onto the counter.

PROPRIETOR  
Here, look...

(CONTINUED)

65 CONTINUED:

Orin looks them over. They look nothing like the one that was initially on the hilt.

66 EXT. TOGA- TOGO - DARK ALLEY - NIGHT

Dagg moves down the alley, checks to make sure no one is watching, then moves through a dark archway. A police robot steps out of the nearby shadows, having seen Dagg. He holds up his wrist radio.

67 INT. ALIEN BROTHEL - SAME

Several sexy alien women are draped over couches in the entry. They eye Dagg as he enters, moves to the back.

A huge, black man with a bazookalike weapon across his chest, watches as Dagg approaches MAGREB THE FENCE, a robed, Arabian looking man with a keffiyeh and a chronic smile. He is reclined on a bed of pillows, puffing at a water pipe, a woman on either side of him. He looks up at Dagg, smiles with recognition.

MAGREB

(heavy accent)

Dagg, my friend. It has been ages.

DAGG

Not long enough, Magreb.

MAGREB

Some men are honest. Some men are thieves. Only Dagg DiBrimi is both. What brings you to the slums of Toga-Togo?

DAGG

Money.

MAGREB

(a slight laugh)

What else.

Dagg reaches into his down vest. The black guard raises his weapon. Dagg stops, then slowly withdraws a glowing crystal.

DAGG

I've got a load of crystal, hot off the pyramid.

He tosses the crystal to Magreb who fingers it greedily.

MAGREB

How much?

(CONTINUED)

67 CONTINUED:

DAGG

Twenty tons. Half a million and it's yours.

MAGREB

For you I pay special price. Two hundred thousand. Take it or leave it.

DAGG

Looks like I'm not the only thief in Toga-Togo.

MAGREB

There'll be a ship waiting to pick it up in the Vagee Desert at noon tomorrow.

Dagg heads for the door. Magreb stops him with a question.

MAGREB (CONT'D)

Oh, Dagg. One of my nosey men thought he saw you with a young boy this evening.

(gestures to his girls)

My girls do not excite you anymore?

Magreb chokes with laughter. Dagg leaves without remarking. Magreb's smile evaporates. He gestures the black man over.

MAGREB (CONT'D)

You know what to do.

The black man exits.

68 EXT. TOGA-TOGO - BAZAAR - NIGHT

A large gypsy-like woman in a palmistry booth hawks customers.

FORTUNE TELLER

(mystical accent)

Fortunes! Futures revealed! Five starbacks!

Orin stops before her booth, looks off as if lost.

FORTUNE TELLER (CONT'D)

You are lost, yes?...

(Orin reacts)

...and are searching for something of great meaning?

He approaches her, eyes wide with interest.

(CONTINUED)



68 CONTINUED:

ORIN

Yes! How did you know?

FORTUNE TELLER

How does the flower know to bloom? How  
do the stars know to shine?

Orin hands her the hilt.

ORIN

Can you tell me where I'll find the  
blade?

FORTUNE TELLER

(examines hilt)

Such is not an easy task...but I  
believe I can help you.She gazes into her crystal pyramid; a sea of color dances on  
her face. Her eyes flash with intensity and concern.

FORTUNE TELLER (CONT'D)

Oooh! Mmmm!

(over-the-top drama)

The path to your goal is paved with  
danger. It is uncertain whether you  
have the strength to survive such a  
journey.

ORIN

Tell me, please.

FORTUNE TELLER

You will find what you are looking for  
in the darkest regions of the Novaluna  
Rain Forest.

ORIN

(excited)

Thank you.

SILICA (V.O.)

No! Let me go! Don't!

ORIN

Silica?

Orin spots Z'Gork hustling Silica to the auction platform.

Z'GORK

C'mon, honey, this won't hurt a bit.

Orin moves off toward Silica.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FORTUNE TELLER

(her accent gone)

Hey! That's five starbacks!

As she angrily settles back into her booth a shoddy looking SPACE DRIFTER shambles up to her.

SPACE DRIFTER

(desperate)

Please. I need your help.

FORTUNE TELLER

(extends hand)

That'll be five starbacks...in advance.

ON THE AUCTION PLATFORM, Z'Gork shows off Silica to the crowd.

Z'GORK

All right, ladies and germs, next up for bidding is this young, two hundred year old fembot. The perfect work slave for the most discerning of masters. Who'll start the bidding at five hundred starbacks? Five hundred! Five hundred! Do I hear five hundred?

A GREEN ALIEN raises his hand.

GREEN ALIEN

Two fifty.

Z'GORK

Bah! She's worth more than that junked. Four hundred! Do I hear four hundred?

AVIANA, a beautiful seventeen-year-old year with red hair like Elan stands at the back of the crowd with her big robot, MIZZO. Aviana has a look of royalty about her.

AVIANA

I've got to have her, Mizzo. She looks like she'd make a wonderful house maid.

MIZZO

(synthesized; worried)

Your father told me never to bring you here, miss. This isn't the best part of town, you know. How will I explain to him if you take home another robot?

Orin steps in front of Aviana, spots Silica.

(CONTINUED)

ORIN

Silica!

SILICA

Orin!

Mizzo pushes Orin back. Aviana raises her hand.

AVIANA

Four hundred!

ORIN

Wait! It's a mistake. She isn't a slave.

Silica tries to pull free of Z'Gork.

SILICA

Orin, help me!

Z'Gork yanks her back.

Z'GORK

If you want her, young man, you'll have to bid for her. Or else I'll have you thrown out of here.

(continuing, fast)

Four hundred. We've got four hundred. C'mon, you there with the fourteen noses, you'd think with such a bargain you'd be able to sniff it out. Who'll give me four fifty, four fifty, four fifty...

GRAY ALIEN

Four fifty!

Aviana and Mizzo move to the front of the crowd.

AVIANA

Five hundred!

Z'GORK

We've got five hundred. C'mon all you people out there. Only five hundred for this wonderful sample of a fembot?

ANOTHER BIDDER (O.S.)

Five fifty!

Z'GORK

Five fifty! We've got a five fifty, five fifty, who'll make it six?

AVIANA

Six hundred!

Z'GORK

Six hundred. We've got six hundred.  
Six hundred. Who'll go six fifty, six  
fifty? Do I hear six fifty? Six  
fifty...

ORIN

Six fifty!

AVIANA

Seven!

Z'GORK

We've got seven. Seven hundred...seven  
hundred...who'll bid...

ORIN

(cutting him off)

Seven hundred and fifty!

AVIANA

Eight hundred!

Z'GORK

Eight...eight...

ORIN

Eight hundred and fifty!

Z'GORK

Eight hundred and fifty...eight hundred  
and fifty...

AVIANA

(pissed)

One thousand!

Z'GORK

One thousand!!!

ORIN

Two thousand!

Z'GORK

(giddy)

Two thousand!

AVIANA

(to Orin)

You're crazy!

68

CONTINUED:

She storms off with Mizzo.

Z'GORK

Two thousand! Two thousand! It's unbelievable! I can't believe I'm getting two thousand. Going once...going twice...SOLD!

Silica claps her chained hands.

SILICA

Yay!

Dagg moves through the auction crowd, stops beside Z'Gork.

DAGG

Well, how much did we get?

Z'GORK

(restrained excitement)

A mere two thousand starbacks.

DAGG

(stunned)

Two thousand! Who the hell bought her, the governor?

Z'GORK

No...this fine, young gentleman.

Z'Gork gestures to Orin.

DAGG

(shocked)

Water snake!

ORIN

They tried to take Silica. I got her back for you.

The happy auctioneer takes out a receipt book.

Z'GORK

How would you like to pay for that, starbacks or...gold?

ORIN

What's a starback?

Z'Gork grows tense as he realizes the boy was only playing.

Z'GORK

(furious)

If...if...if you can't pay...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

68 CONTINUED:

Z'GORK (CONT'D)  
 (grabs Orin's arm)  
 ...then I own you. It's the law.

DAGG  
 (shrugs)  
 Sorry, kid, it's the law.

Dagg walks away, trying not to listen as Orin and Silica struggle with Z'Gork.

DAGG (CONT'D)  
 (reluctant shout)  
 Hold it, Z'Gork!

Dagg moves back to Z'Gork, angrily pulls a wad of bills out of his vest, slaps it into Z'Gork's hand. Silica grabs his arm, snuggles closer.

SILICA  
 You're some practical joker, Dagg. For a while there you almost had me fooled.

DAGG  
 Yeah...

As Dagg, Silican and Orin move off, the big black man from Magreb's brothel gestures to two police bots.

BIG BLACK MAN  
 You two, follow them.

The police bots move off after Dagg and the others.

Dagg realizes they're being followed.

DAGG  
 (sotto)  
 Can you run as quickly as you screw things up, water snake?

Orin looks back at the police bots.

ORIN  
 What?

Dagg pulls him back, turns down another street, starts running. The police bots take chase.

69 EXT. TOGA-TOGO - PARKING LOT - SAME

Dagg, Orin and Silica run through the parked ships as the robot cops converge from all sides, open fire. Silica is hit in the ass.

(CONTINUED)

69 CONTINUED:

SILICA

Ow!

Dagg yanks her behind some storage crates, out of the line of fire. He whispers something in her ear. She smiles.

The police search for them. Then Silica steps out, wiggling her metallic hips seductively. The police bots approach her cautiously. Then Dagg steps out behind them, knocks them down. More robots appear, open fire. Dagg lays down cover fire as Silica and Orin make a dash for the Starchaser.

DAGG

Arthur! Open her up!

The hatch lowers. Dagg and the others rush up the ramp as a barrage of police laser fire flashes past. The hatch closes and the Starchaser lifts off, knocking the head off a police bot as it zooms over the lot, then arcs upwards and out of the Toga-Togo canyon into the stars.

DISSOLVE TO:

70 EXT. PYRAMID - DAWN

Zygon stares contemplatively at the sunrise, then enters the pyramid.

71 INT. PYRAMID - MILITARY OPERATIONS AREA - SAME

Zygon passes through the area as ships are being readied.

72 INT. PYRAMID - TACTICAL COMMAND STATION - SAME

Major Tagani and another robot look over the operations display screen with a view of the solar system on it.

TAGANI

The Phi-Antara system will be secure within two weeks. As soon as our forces return from Raya and Horbinot we'll be ready for the final action.

Zygon enters.

ZYGON

Major Tagani! What's the status of DiBrimi and the boy?

(CONTINUED)

72 CONTINUED:

TAGANI

They've escaped our men in Toga-Togo.  
But the secret police have a lead on  
them.

ZYGON

Do I have to program every robot  
myself? Send out a sub-frequency order  
to all mechanicals in this sector. I  
want that boy found and destroyed at  
all costs.

TAGANI

If I may, sir, why all the fuss over  
one boy?

ZYGON

Twelve hundred years ago there was just  
one. This time there will be no  
mistakes. I will not fail.

73 EXT. BORDOGON - DAY

The Starchaser screams over the desert.

DAGG'S VOICE (V.O.)

Novaluna Rainforest?! Forget it,  
kid...

74 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

Dagg searches through a storage container.

DAGG

...I haven't got enough time to make it  
to the Vagee Desert, let alone go on  
some wild-goose chase to Novaluna.

ORIN

But I've...

DAGG

(anticipating; impatient)  
...got to find the blade. I know.  
Don't you ever think of anything else,  
like warp racing...or girls?

Dagg throws Orin a down vest.

ORIN

I think of my brother...and Elan.

(CONTINUED)



74 CONTINUED:

DAGG

Elan? Your girlfriend, huh? Why don't I take you to her after I'm done in the desert.

ORIN

She's...dead.

DAGG

Oh. Sorry, kid.

ORIN

(sudden anger)

Zygon killed her.

DAGG

Aw, now don't start that again.

75 EXT. BORDOGON - VAGEE DESERT - DAY

An endless sea of dunes. A Vagee nomad, seated on top of a reptilian camellike creature before a large tent, watches as the Starchaser lands.

The ramp lowers. Dagg and Orin approach the man. He silently motions with an upraised hand. for Dagg and Orin to hand over their weapons. Dagg flicks a cigar ash into it. The guard angrily grabs the blast rifle from Orin. Dagg hands him his blast pistol, then he and Orin enter the tent.

76 INT. SMUGGLERS' TENT - CONTINUOUS

Orin and Dagg stops before two seedy looking smugglers in garb that is similar to the guard. They all stare at one another for a beat of silence, then:

FIRST SMUGGLER

(heavy accent)

You're late.

DAGG

Yeah, well, the Vagee's not exactly a sandbox.

FIRST SMUGGLER

You have zee crystals?

DAGG

(mocking his accent)

You have zee money?

The smugglers do not appreciate the joke. The second smuggler nods toward a metal case on a carpet beside Dagg and

(CONTINUED)

76 CONTINUED:

the boy. Dagg opens it up. It is full of gold coins. He takes out his radio handset.

DAGG (CONT'D)  
Okay, Arthur, blow the ballast.

77 EXT. VAGEE DESERT - STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

The Starchaser's cargo doors open and a huge pile of crystals dumps out onto the sand.

78 INT. SMUGGLERS' TENT - CONTINUOUS

Dagg picks up the case of gold.

DAGG  
Sorry to dump and run.

The second smuggler notices the Orin's hilt.

SECOND SMUGGLER  
Just a moment.

He moves to Orin, puts his arm around him.

SECOND SMUGGLER (CONT'D)  
You are the one called Orin?

Orin's silence answers the question. The smuggler moves back to Dagg.

SECOND SMUGGLER (CONT'D)  
(conspiratorial whisper)  
He is worth a million starbacks, dead or alive.

DAGG  
Way overpriced.

Dagg heads for the tent exit.

SECOND SMUGGLER  
We could cut you in for...a third?  
Nobody's life could be worth more than that.

DAGG  
Not even yours?

The smugglers reach for their blasters.

(CONTINUED)

78 CONTINUED:

DAGG (CONT'D)

If we don't both walk out of here in the next few seconds my ship is programmed to blow the crap out of this tent.

SECOND SMUGGLER

(shrugs)

Just a thought. Sand in the wind.

79 EXT. VAGEE DESERT - SMUGGLERS' TENT - CONTINUOUS

Orin and Dagg head to the ship.

DAGG

Step lively, kid. I don't trust those guys as far as I can blast 'em.

ORIN

Why didn't you sell me, Dagg? You could have gotten back the money I owe you.

DAGG

Yeah, and never slept again. Those cutthroats would have peeled you like a grape.

They move up the ramp and into the ship. A beat later it takes off.

80 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

DAGG

Looks like you're my good luck charm, water snake. I didn't think we were going to get out of there alive.

Suddenly a starfly shoots through the cockpit bulkhead, spiraling around the others with a bit more agitation than normal. It moves in front of Dagg and Orin, trying to get their attention with a display of urgency.

DAGG (CONT'D)

Where the hell did he come from?

ARTHUR

Will somebody get rid of that energized pest. He's fouling my instruments.

Silica takes Dagg's blast pistol, aims it awkwardly at the starfly, following it.

(CONTINUED)

80 CONTINUED:

DAGG

What are you doing?

Orin takes the gun from her.

ORIN

No! I think it's trying to tell us something.

The starfly flitters over the case of gold, then goes right through it several times. The case pops open. Orin digs his hands into the coins, revealing a time bomb.

ORIN (CONT'D)

Dagg, I think those desert men gave us more than gold.

DAGG

Damn!

ARTHUR

(frantic)

It's a time bomb!?! Don't just stand there, get rid of it!

81 EXT. THE STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

It makes a sharp turn.

82 EXT. VAGEE DESERT - SMUGGLERS' TENT - CONTINUOUS

The two smugglers wait outside their tent. The first one checks his watch.

FIRST SMUGGLER

Any second now.

SECOND SMUGGLER

(snickering)

I'd pay half my share to see the look on the big one's face when he's blown into cosmic dust.

They look up at the sound of an approaching ship. The case of gold slams into the sand at their feet. They have just enough time to react in horror before they are blown to kingdom come.

DISSOLVE TO:

83 EXT. VAGEE DESERT - MATCHING SHOT - SMOKING CRATER - DAY

Where the smugglers' tent once stood is now a smoking hole in the sand. Two police bots stand on the rim, their space copter parked a few yards away. One of them looks through an thermal measuring device.

FIRST POLICE BOT

They were here less than an hour ago.

84 EXT. BORDOGON COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

Dagg's cruiser skims low over the rolling green hills.

DAGG'S VOICE (V.O.)

Alright, alright! I'll take you to Novaluna.

The Starchaser turns, heads for the mountains.

DISSOLVE TO:

85 INT. STARCHASER - DAY

Dagg is resting in his bunk, blowing smoke rings past Orin, who looks out the window.

ORIN

Can the blind be made to see in your world, Dagg?

DAGG

Sometimes. And it's not my world.

ORIN

I hope someday my little brother can see your world. I'm going back for him as soon as I find the blade.

Silica enters the small cabin carrying a tray of food.

SILICA

Lunchtime!

The cabin suddenly rocks with a muffled thud. Silica is knocked over, food splattering the cabin. Dagg is dumped onto the floor.

DAGG

What the hell...

Dagg moves back to his command seat.

(CONTINUED)

85 CONTINUED:

DAGG (CONT'D)  
I thought I told you to stay clear of  
the treetops, Arthur.

ARTHUR  
We're nowhere near the treetops.

Dagg reacts as a lone police rocket-copter speeds into view  
alongside the cockpit side window.

ROBOT COP'S VOICE  
(over radio)  
That was just a warning shot. Reduce  
speed and prepare for boarding.

DAGG  
That bot's about to get a laser enema.

86 EXT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

The Starchaser outmaneuvers the rocket copter, blasts it out  
of the sky.

87 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

DAGG  
Ha! Dusted the little bugger.

88 EXT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

As it zooms past a farm a half dozen more rocket space  
copters race out from behind the barn. They race after the  
Starchaser, firing lasers.

89 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

ARTHUR  
Nice going, Dagg. You just fell for  
the oldest trick in the book.

DAGG  
If you're so smart, why didn't you warn  
me?

90 INT. ROBOT LEADER'S ROCKET COPTER - CONTINUOUS

ROBOT LEADER  
Mounted one and two, move in.

91 EXT. BORDOGON COUNTRYSIDE - CONTINUOUS

Two more rocket copters fly out from behind the trees, gain on the Starchaser.

92 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

DAGG

They got the whole damn force after us.  
There's only one thing we can do...

ARTHUR

Good idea. I'll transmit our  
surrender.

DAGG

Nobody's surrendering. We're gonna  
play a little game of chicken with  
them.

ARTHUR

You're joking!

93 EXT. FARMLAND - CONTINUOUS

Dagg's ship drops down to just a few yards off the ground. The rocket copters follow, continuing to blast away with their lasers. A herd of alien rat-horses scatter. The cruiser speeds straight toward a ranch house and barn, then pulls up sharply. The two rocket copters don't have time to turn, slamming into the barn and exploding.

THE OTHER ROCKET COPTERS race after the cruiser, strafing it with laser fire. They move up tight on Dagg's tail.

94 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

ORIN

They're right behind us, Dagg.

DAGG

Give me full retros, Arthur.

ARTHUR

I'll do no such thing.

Dagg grabs a handful of controls, pulls back hard and fast.

95 EXT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

It slows rapidly. Two more of the rocket copters slam into the ion-engines, disintegrating.

96 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

The view out the window is clear sky and forested mountains. A few scattered laser shafts streak past from behind.

DAGG

Give her everything you've got, Arthur.  
We've got to make it to those  
mountains.

One of the police robots cuts them off, blasts out their windshield. The high winds tear through at Dagg and Orin.

ARTHUR

(in pain)  
Dagg! I'm hurt!

DAGG

(struggling with controls)  
Try to keep your systems functioning,  
Arthur. Just give me time to land this  
thing.

97 EXT. FORESTED FOOTHILLS - CONTINUOUS

Dagg's ship drops below the treetops.

98 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

DAGG

Come on, Arthur. Just a few more  
seconds.

ARTHUR

(dying)  
I...think I'm dying, Dagg.  
(electrical cough)  
If there's a heaven for computers...  
(voice goes bass)  
I'll...be...thinking...of...you.

The panel shorts out.

DAGG

Arthur? Arthur!



99 EXT. FORESTED FOOTHILLS - CONTINUOUS

The Starchaser slams into the forest floor, sweeping down the evergreens in its path, grinding to a stop. The two remaining rocket copters descend like vultures.

100 INT. STARCHASER COCKPIT - DAY

There are a few small fires in the cabin. The police robots enter. They scan the area without expression. Dagg lies face down on the control console. Silica is on the floor. They both appear dead. One of the robots kicks Silica, who does not stir. The other motions to Dagg's lifeless body. They move to him, turn him over. He is bloodied and unconscious.

POLICE ROBOT

Zygon will want this one for questioning.

101 EXT. FORESTED FOOTHILLS - CONTINUOUS

A short distance from the Starchaser, Orin's lifeless body hangs over a branch, his hilt a few paces away. A falcon swoops down and grabs it.

The falcon brings the hilt to a human figure, partially covered with falconing gear, seated on an alien rat-horse. The rider moves to Orin, checks him over, then pulls off the falconing mask to reveal she is a beautiful young lady, AVIANA.

Her robot servant, MIZZO, rides up on another rat-horse.

MIZZO

Whoa, you stupid organic beast, WHOA!

(stops beside her)

Really, miss, next time I hope you let me take a gravity cycle.

(spots Orin)

Oh, the boy from the auction. Bordogon security has an all-points out on him. I'll radio them at once.

AVIANA

You do and you'll be a sanitation robot for the next five hundred years. We'll take him back to the palace.

MIZZO

But, miss...

(CONTINUED)

101 CONTINUED:

AVIANA

Now!

She gallops off. Mizzo grabs Orin off the branch, rides off after her.

DISSOLVE TO:

102 EXT. BORDOGON FOREST - NIGHT

PUSH IN on a palatial estate amidst the pines.

103 INT. AVIANA'S BEDROOM

Orin lies unconscious on her canopied bed. Aviana wipes his forehead with a cloth. He opens his eyes, looks up at her.

104 ORIN'S POV - CLOSE ON ELAN

ELAN

Are you all right?

ORIN

(softly)

Elan?

The vision goes blurry once again, sharpening to reveal it is Aviana.

AVIANA

My name is Aviana. Who are you?

Orin leans up, wincing as the soreness of his body hits him.

ORIN

Uh...I'm Orin. Where am I?

MIZZO

You are in the most heavily guarded bedroom in this star system, so don't get any ideas.

ORIN

Ideas? About what?

AVIANA

Judging by the ridiculous sums you spend on surplus fembots, I guess the police had good reason to be tracking you.

(CONTINUED)

104 CONTINUED:

ORIN  
 (sudden alarm)  
 Police! Dagg!

Orin stands up, swoons, falls into her arms. He helps him back onto the bed, sits beside him.

AVIANA  
 You better take it easy.  
 (beat)  
 Who is Elan?

ORIN  
 (distant)  
 A friend...from the mines.

AVIANA  
 The crystal mines?  
 (Orin nods; Aviana is suddenly suspicious)  
 Oh! So you're a crystal runner. Had a friend on the inside, huh?

ORIN  
 (brightens)  
 Yes! But Dagg said everyone knows there are no humans in the mines. How is it that you know about my people?

AVIANA  
 (confused)  
 Your people? What are you talking about?

ORIN  
 I dug my way up from the Mineworld. The hilt said that...

Orin looks about for the hilt. Aviana takes it out of her tunic.

AVIANA  
 Is this what you're looking for?

She holds it up to his face. He recoils, pushes it away.

ORIN  
 Careful!

She slaps it into his hand.

(CONTINUED)

104 CONTINUED:

AVIANA

I think the crash scrambled your brains. Humans in the mines! My father would never allow it.

ORIN

Who is your father?

AVIANA

Why, Morbro, of course.

ORIN

Morbro?

AVIANA

Supreme Governor of the Bordogon system.

(off Orin's blank expression)

Don't tell me you've never heard of him.

ORIN

(angry)

I'm getting sick and tired of never understanding.

(holds up hilt)

Where is the truth you promised?

Orin angrily swings the hilt, inadvertently slicing through the bedpost. The canopy collapses, pulling Orin down on top of Aviana. She holds Orin up at arms length, blushing. He draws her closer. Mizzo pulls him away.

MIZZO

Shall I take him to the police now, miss?

AVIANA

No!

She looks at the hilt, tentatively feels for the blade. Nothing. Then she realizes...

AVIANA (CONT'D)

My planetary history lesson!

ORIN

What?

AVIANA

Come on!

(CONTINUED)

104 CONTINUED:

She grabs his arm, pulls him after her.

DISSOLVE TO:

105 INT. PYRAMID - TORTURE CELL

Dagg is strapped into a reclining, metal chair, his head held in place by two chromium tongs at his temples. An ominous-looking laser device is aimed straight at his forehead. Zygon stands before him as a police robot secures Dagg's wrists to the chair. The room is dim, save for the pulsating coils of the laser.

ZYGON

Try to imagine a needle, the thickness of a human hair, slowly thrust between your eyes and penetrating your skull.

DAGG

I'd rather not, if it's all the same to you.

POLICE ROBOT

(finishes with Dagg)

Ready, sir.

ZYGON

Last chance, Mr. DiBrimi. Where is the boy?

DAGG

I told you. We all crashed together. That was the last I saw of him.

Zygon nods to another robot, standing beside the laser device. He throws a switch and a hairline laser beam fires out, striking the center of Dagg's forehead, just above the eyes. He grimaces in pain. A second later the beam of light comes out the back of his head. Dagg's scream fills the small cell. The laser shuts off.

ZYGON

(harsher)

Where is the boy?!

DAGG

(dazed; in pain)

I don't know. I swear I don't know.

Zygon nods once more to the robot at the laser. As he is about to fire another beam, Dagg screams.

CUT TO:

106 INT. MORBRO'S ESTATE - LIBRARY - NIGHT

Aviana no longer wears her falconing clothes, but a tunic and pant suit. They are in a library with towering walls of books surrounding them. The rich, antiquity of the books is contrasted by a stark, computer console table in the center of the room.

COMPUTER

Religious myth. Entry number one eleven point three, the Book of Kha-Khan.

AVIANA

I knew it was in here. Tell us about the Kha-Khan.

COMPUTER

According to the book of Kha-Khan, twenty-two hundred years ago a human possessing a golden hilt was reported to have crushed a planetary dictatorship which spanned fifty-two solar systems.

The face of a man with a white beard appears on the monitor.

ORIN

He's the man who spoke from the blade.

COMPUTER

A thousand years later, another possessed of a bladeless sword freed galaxy thirteen from a tyrant by the name of Nexus who attempted to enslave the entire population with electronic mind control.

ORIN

(to computer)

I must find the blade. Tell me where it is...please!

COMPUTER

There is no record of the blade's continued existence since the defeat of Nexus. It was presumed lost after the final battle on Trinia.

ORIN

Trinia? But where on Trinia?

(CONTINUED)

106 CONTINUED:

COMPUTER

(repeating)

There is no record of the blade's continued existence since the defeat...

ORIN

I've got to get back to Trinia.

AVIANA

If what you say about the mines is true, we must tell my father at once.

MIZZO

Begging your pardon, miss, but he is a wanted man. Your father would likely have him arrested and ask questions later.

AVIANA

If my father can't help us, we'll just have to help ourselves. Mizzo, fuel up the ship. We're going to Trinia.

DISSOLVE TO:

107 INT. PYRAMID - SECURITY COMMAND CENTER

The security chief and security officer are at their posts.

SECURITY OFFICER

Sir. A nonscheduled craft just came out of sub-space on arrival coordinates.

The security officer checks his scanner screen which shows a cross-section of the craft with identifying information about it and its owner.

SECURITY OFFICER (CONT'D)

Identity scan indicates it's a personal transport belonging to...

(looks to chief)

...Supreme Governor Morbro.

SECURITY CHIEF

Route it through. I'll alert Zygon.

108 INT. PYRAMID - HANGAR BAY

Aviana's small ship lands.

109 INT. PYRAMID - PASSAGEWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Orin, Aviana and Mizzo approach a robot guard.

ORIN  
(sotto, uneasy)  
Are you sure this will work?

AVIANA  
Trust me.

They stop before the guard who blocks their way.

GUARD  
(synthesized)  
This is a restricted area. No one may  
enter without prior permission from the  
Commissioner of Mining.

MIZZO  
I think we'd better leave, miss.

AVIANA  
Show him the search warrant.

Orin takes a paper from his vest, shows it to the robot.

GUARD  
I'm sorry. This is a restricted area.  
No one may enter without prior  
permission from the Commissioner of  
Mining.

AVIANA  
Mizzo, shoot him!

MIZZO  
But, miss...

AVIANA  
I said shoot him!

Mizzo fires a blast of electrical energy, disintegrating the  
robot. Mizzo and Orin move to the door with Aviana.

MIZZO  
I hope you know what you're doing.

AVIANA  
So do I.

She punches some buttons on the access panel. Nothing  
happens. Orin takes his hilt from his waist.

(CONTINUED)



109 CONTINUED:

ORIN

Let me try.

He slices the invisible blade into it. Sparks fly as the blade cuts a line of white-hot, dripping metal.

110 INT. PYRAMID - REVERSE ON STEEL DOOR - CONTINUOUS

A large chunk of the door flops over. Aviana leads the others through into the central section of the huge pyramid.

AVIANA

There must be an elevator to the mine around here somewhere.

As they cautiously across an elevated walkway the door ahead of them opens and six robot guards come out. Behind them, six more appear. Then the elevator opens and Zygon steps out. Orin tenses.

AVIANA (CONT'D)

(relieved)

Commissioner. I'm glad you're here.

(to Orin)

Orin, tell Commissioner Zygon what you told me.

ORIN

(growing rage)

I don't have to tell him. He knows all about the humans in the mines.

Orin draws his golden hilt, ready to fight.

AVIANA

Orin!

ZYGON

(very calm)

Put down the hilt, boy. The game is over.

Orin stands fast. Zygon continues to speak, his eyes locked on Orin's. He moves toward him, backing Orin toward the railing.

ZYGON (CONT'D)

His story of the mine is just a clever diversion. We've already caught his partner. DiBrimi, isn't it? He confessed everything about the crystal raid and your little escapade in the Vagee Desert.

(CONTINUED)

110 CONTINUED:

AVIANA

Orin? Is it true?

ORIN

MURDERER!

Orin swings the hilt at Zygon, misses, slices through a support beam. Zygon grabs his wrist, wrenches the hilt from his hand. He swings at at Orin's head...

AVIANA

No!

...but the invisible blade does nothing. Orin grabs Zygon's arm, shoves it back, causing the blade to glow and slice off Zygon's cheek, revealing his sparking robot skull.

AVIANA (CONT'D)

You? A robot?

ZYGON

No. Not just a robot. I am the robot.

ORIN

Nexus!

ZYGON

The young Kha-Khan is perceptive for a human.

Zygon grabs Orin by the throat, lifts him off the floor like he did Elan.

ZYGON (CONT'D)

I have been putting the pieces back together for over a thousand years.

AVIANA

Mizzo! Blast them!

Before he can comply he is cut down by the security bots. They grab Aviana.

AVIANA (CONT'D)

(struggling)

You'll never succeed, Zygon. It would take millions of robots hundreds of years to take over this system.

ZYGON

You are as blind as you are mortal, my dear.

(CONTINUED)

110 CONTINUED:

Zygon shoves Orin into the arms of another robot. He glares at Aviana contemptuously.

ZYGON (CONT'D)

I not only have millions of robots, they have been slowly taking over for the last twelve centuries. Trinia, like dozens of other planets, was conquered by my forces, its human population driven underground to mine the crystals, allowing me to reprogram thousands of your mining robots into soldiers.

ORIN

I swear I'll stop you. And if not me, then another.

ZYGON

There is no stopping evolution. From the primordial ooze to man. From man to robot. The dinosaur went extinct and so will you. The Kha-Khan stopped me last time. This time you have only served to hasten the inevitable.

(holds up hilt)

Without this you are but a weak piece of flesh. Tell me, Kha-Khan, what is the secret of its power?

The robot holding Orin twists his arm behind his back.

ORIN

(thru pain)

I...don't...know.

ZYGON

You know. And you will talk.

111 EXT. FORESTED FOOTHILLS - STARCHASER - NIGHT

Through the broken windshield can be seen the flickering of a welding tool.

112 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

Silica operates on Arthur's open circuit boards with an electronic pen. She touches a circuit and Arthur's speaker head stirs.

SILICA

Arthur?

(CONTINUED)

112 CONTINUED:

ARTHUR

(staticky)

Wh... Where am I?

(clearing)

Oh, dear! What have you done to me?  
I'm naked! Put my ship back on, you  
perverted fembot.

SILICA

Hmpf! I was only trying to help.

(under her breath)

Ungrateful son-of-a-bit.

Suddenly the computer card crackles with an electrical arc,  
snapping at Silica's nose. She drops the card like a hot  
potato.

SILICA (CONT'D)

Ow!

113 INT. PYRAMID - CELLBLOCK

Dagg is sprawled on his back in a bunk in the small, steel  
cubicle. There is a barred opening in the door and another  
connecting the adjacent cell. He holds his aching head in  
his hands, reacting to the sound of a cell slamming shut.

DAGG

(a shout)

Hey! My head's making enough racket  
without your help.

Orin, in the adjacent cell with Aviana, recognizes his voice.

ORIN

Dagg! I thought you were dead.

DAGG

(half dead)

You thought right, water snake.

114 INT. PYRAMID - TACTICAL COMMAND STATION

Zygon and Tagani are in the center of the busy command area,  
examining a projection briefing map of the Bordogon system.  
The golden hilt lies on the console beside Zygon.

VOICE OVER PA

Battalion Commander to flight deck  
nine.

(CONTINUED)

114 CONTINUED:

TAGANI

There simply aren't enough robot troops in this sector to successfully take over the Bordogon system. To attack now would be futile, sir.

ZYGON

We must strike now. It won't be long before Morbro realizes his daughter is missing and tracks her here. If he discovers what we're doing he could mount a counter-offensive. I'm one solar system away from complete subjugation of intelligent organic life. I will not fail this time. What is our present status?

Tagani checks a computer screen.

TAGANI

All ships are being armed with xenon warheads. Fifteen attack battalions of one thousand troops each are standing ready. The last five battle cruisers are still under construction.

ZYGON

We'll have to make do without them. We have two things in our favor: surprise and something very dear to the Supreme Governor. He'll think twice before he destroys a warship with his daughter aboard.

115 INT. ORIN &amp; AVIANA'S CELL

Aviana is seated beside Orin on the bunk.

AVIANA

It must have been horrible, slaving in the mine your entire life.

ORIN

It was horrible, but not as horrible as the thought of my people suffering at this very moment, their entire world one big lie. I've failed them. I found a new world, but they'll never know it exists. All I had to do was find a stupid blade, and I failed.

(CONTINUED)

115 CONTINUED:

AVIANA

I'm sorry. If I hadn't been so impulsive you might have succeeded.

ORIN

No. It wasn't your fault.

AVIANA

You don't understand, Orin.

(begins to cry)

I didn't take you back here because I wanted to help you free your people. I did it for me. Because I wanted to be with you. Because...I...

Orin looks at her a moment, then lifts her chin, gazing warmly into her eyes. His is about to kiss her when their cell door opens. Two robot guards train blast rifles on them. One of them knocks Orin down, pulls Aviana out the door.

AVIANA (CONT'D)

Where are you taking me?

Orin gets up to help her.

ORIN

Let go of her!

The other guard slams him with the butt of his rifle, knocks him down, then kicks him back into the cell and shuts it.

AVIANA (V.O.)

Orin!

Dagg looks through the adjacent cell bars.

DAGG

You're lucky, water snake. He hit you with the soft end.

116 INT. PYRAMID - MILITARY OPERATIONS AREA

Dozens of robot soldiers march up a ramp into the cargo hold of one of the battle cruisers.

117 INT. PYRAMID - TACTICAL COMMAND STATION - CONTINUOUS

Zygon and Tagani stand before the tactical computers and more screens with digitalized views of the Bordogon solar system.

(CONTINUED)

117 CONTINUED:

TAGANI

The attack force is ready, Zygon.  
Bordogon's planetary radar sources are  
being jammed. Battalion commanders are  
awaiting your orders.

ZYGON

Thousands of years ago, on some obscure  
planet, a primitive chess computer was  
the first inorganic mind to beat man.  
In a few hours I will be calling  
checkmate in the last such game the  
humans and their kind will ever play.

Zygon presses a button on his console.

118 INT. PYRAMID - MILITARY OPERATIONS AREA - CONTINUOUS

Blue ion flame erupts from a battle cruiser. It lifts off  
the pad.

119 EXT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

A huge hangar door grinds open in the side of the pyramid.

120 INT. PYRAMID - DETENTION CELL - CONTINUOUS

Orin paces the cell. He stops, pounds his fist on the steel  
door.

Dagg is back in his bunk in the adjacent cell.

DAGG

Save your knuckles, water snake.  
There's no way out.

Orin gives up, moves back to his bunk. The starfly enters  
the cell, gets Orin's attention.

ORIN

Starfly! I need your help. Get me the  
hilt. Please. I know you can do it.  
I must have the hilt.

Dagg looks through the dividing bars, trying to see Orin.

DAGG

Who the hell are you talking to?

The starfly hovers before Orin's face.

(CONTINUED)

120 CONTINUED:

STARFLY  
(a whisper)  
Don't...need...hilt.

ORIN  
Yes! I need it. Get me the hilt!

The starfly buzzes into the wall.

121 INT. PYRAMID - DETENTION AREA CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

There is a robot guard standing outside the cells. The starfly moves through the wall beside him, buzzing down the corridor undetected.

122 INT. PYRAMID - ANOTHER CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

As the starfly rounds the bend it flies right into the face of another security robot. The bot raises his blast pistol, firing point blank at the little starfly, achieving nothing but a hole in the wall.

The starfly zips right into the robot's head. The bot is confused, looking to see where it went, then feels its own head. Then it slowly raises its pistol to its temple and fires, blowing its head off, leaving smoking shoulders...and the starfly. The starfly buzzes off as the bot falls to the floor.

123 INT. PYRAMID - TACTICAL COMMAND STATION

Zygon and Tagani watch the progress of their fleet on the digital screens.

TAGANI  
Attack squadron three, clear for ion-  
burn.

124 INT. PYRAMID - MILITARY OPERATIONS AREA - CONTINUOUS

Several of the huge ships, and their smaller fighter support ships, begin to take off from the cavernous interior.

125 EXT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

The ships streak out into the night sky.



126 INT. PYRAMID - TACTICAL COMMAND STATION - CONTINUOUS

Tagani and Zygon watch the screens as the ships begin to depart.

VOICE OVER RADIO  
Squadron leader three. All ships away.

Suddenly the screens become distorted with electronic interference.

ZYGON  
What's wrong with the screens?

TAGANI  
I'm not sure.

As Tagani adjusts some controls, the starfly buzzes through the wall, spirals around looking for something.

It finds the golden hilt resting on the computer console. It moves onto the hilt, its glowing form surrounding it, then rises off the console with it, floating away.

The hilt heads for a slot in the door, misses and hits the steel door. Zygon turns just as the hilt makes it through the opening. An instant later the screens clear.

TAGANI (CONT'D)  
That did it.

127 INT. PYRAMID - ORIN'S CELL

The hilt enters through the barred opening in the cell door. Orin grabs it out of the air and the starfly pops out of it.

ORIN  
Thank you.

DAGG (V.O.)  
You say something?

Orin moves to the opening in his cell door, looks out.

ORIN  
Guard! I have something for you.

The guard moves to the door, looks in through the opening. Orin thrusts his hilt into the door. The guard bot drops out of sight with a crash. Dagg looks through from his cell bars, trying to see what Orin is up to.

DAGG  
What's going on?

(CONTINUED)

127 CONTINUED:

Orin quickly uses his hilt to cut the door open, exits the cell. He moves to Dagg's cell, cuts an opening.

ORIN

Come on!

Dagg exits his cell, sees the "dead" robot.

DAGG

How the hell do you do that?

He takes the bot's blast rifle.

ORIN

We've got to get to Aviana.

DAGG

Hold it!

(Dagg stops Orin)

You don't even know where she is. If you want to get out of here alive, follow me.

Dagg moves off in the opposite direction. Orin watches him for a beat, then continues in the direction he was going. Dagg stops, looks off at Orin as he sneaks away down the corridor. He goes back for Orin.

DAGG (CONT'D)

Damn!

128 EXT. PYRAMID - NIGHT

More battle cruisers and take off into the night.

129 INT. PYRAMID - CORRIDOR

Orin and Dagg move down the corridor, then stop as several robots appear.

They move another corridor just as a robot rises in an elevator. As he reaches for Orin, Dagg smashes him on the head with his blast rifle. The robot smacks the the rifle out of Dagg's hands, forcing him back toward an open elevator shaft. Dagg punches the robot in the face, hurting his hand.

DAGG

Oh!

As the robot reaches for Dagg, Orin swings his hilt, cuts it in two. Orin moves off down the corridor. Dagg picks up his blast rifle, follows him.

130 INT. PYRAMID - MILITARY OPERATIONS AREA - CONTINUOUS

Orin and Dagg emerge from one of the connecting corridors, spot the ships.

DAGG  
Those aren't crystal freighters,  
they're warships.

Orin spots two robots leading Aviana into one of the battle cruisers (the flagship).

ORIN  
There she is.

DAGG  
Oh, that's great. Only how are we  
going to get to her without getting our  
heads shot off?

ORIN  
We'll just have to do our best.

Orin moves off.

DAGG  
(sarcastic)  
Gee! Why didn't I think of that?

Dagg follows Orin to a conveyor carrying battle tanks. They duck under a tank as it moves toward the flagship.

131 INT. PYRAMID - TACTICAL COMMAND STATION

Zygon and Tagani watch the screens.

ADMIRAL (V.O.)  
This is Admiral Kroon aboard the  
flagship, sir. All ships have cleared  
the atmosphere. Awaiting your  
permission to join the fleet.

ZYGON  
Flagship squadron, proceed with ion  
burn.

132 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Aviana is strapped into a seat beside the robot navigator. ADMIRAL KROON steps to the bridge railing, signals to his pilots with a nod.

133 INT. PYRAMID - MILITARY OPERATIONS AREA - CONTINUOUS  
The flagship's engines glow blue-hot. It rises and moves through the huge hangar doors.

134 INT. FLAGSHIP PASSAGEWAY - CONTINUOUS  
Dagg and Orin feel the engines rumble.

DAGG  
Damn! She's taking off.

135 EXT. PYRAMID  
The flagship squadron rockets out of the pyramid.

136 EXT. ABOVE TRINIA  
The fleet of attack ships gather above the atmosphere.

137 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

NAVIGATOR  
All ships in position, Admiral.

ADMIRAL  
Squadron One, cleared for light speed.

Through the view window the Admiral watches his ships streaking off at the speed of light.

AVIANA  
When your fleet is spotted you'll all be blown out of the stars.

ADMIRAL  
By the time the Bordogon Defense Command discovers us they will be smoldering flesh.  
(to pilots)  
Prepare for acceleration to hyper-light.

138 INT. FLAGSHIP PASSAGEWAY - CONTINUOUS  
Orin and Dagg are jarred by the jump to light speed.

DAGG  
Oh, great! We just went into light-speed.

(CONTINUED)

138 CONTINUED:

They continue through the passageway, ducking behind a bulkhead as two robot sentries pass.

139 EXT. BORDOGON - FORESTED FOOTHILLS - DAY

The Starchaser engines ignite.

140 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

Silica puts the last bolt in on a new windshield.

ARTHUR

What in the world is taking you so long? We've got to find Dagg. Next thing you know you'll be putting up curtains.

Silica smacks Arthur with her wrench.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

Ow! Hit me, will you? I'll show you...

The control console suddenly flashes to life. The Starchaser lurches, knocking Silica on her ass.

141 EXT. BORDOGON - FORESTED FOOTHILLS - CONTINUOUS

The Starchaser rises over the trees, shoots into the sky.

142 INT. PYRAMID - TACTICAL COMMAND STATION

TAGANI

(to Zygon)

All ships reducing to sub-light, sir.  
ETA to Bordogon, one minute.

143 EXT. SPACE - PLANET BORDOGON

Hundreds of ships appear with a strobing blur effect, orbiting the planet.

144 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE

NAVIGATOR

All but twelve squadrons have left hyperspace, sir.

(CONTINUED)

144 CONTINUED:

ADMIRAL

Good. Put all squadrons on standby for warhead activation.

145 INT. FLAGSHIP - PASSAGEWAY

Dagg and Orin continue searching for Aviana. Another robot patrol appears at the end of the corridor. Dagg and Orin duck into a recessed area, beside a towering steel door. They're trapped. Orin grabs the door handle but can't open it. Dagg gives him a hand.

The robot patrol is getting closer.

Dagg finally gets the big door open. On the other side is the transport and a hundred armed robot soldiers. The open fire. Dagg closes the door, locks it. The steel door begins to glow red hot.

Dagg peeks around the bend, spots the robot patrol just a few paces away. Dagg ducks back. Orin inadvertently bumps a button.

146 INT. FLAGSHIP TRANSPORT BAY - CONTINUOUS

The floor of the bay (a large exit ramp) drops down on its hydraulic hinges and the robots begin sliding out into space.

147 INT. FLAGSHIP PASSAGEWAY - CONTINUOUS

The robot patrol moves down another corridor just before reaching Dagg and Orin. They hurry off the other way.

148 EXT. SPACE - CONTINUOUS

The robot soldiers drift past the ship like jetsam.

149 INT. STARSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

One of the pilots beside the captain reacts to a flashing red light on the console before him.

ROBOT PILOT

Captain. Scanners are picking up debris from the flagship.

The Captain watches in horror as the robot soldiers slam into his window.

150 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

ROBOT NAVIGATOR

All squadrons reduced to sub-light,  
ready to deploy.

ADMIRAL

Arm all warheads.

As the navigator reaches for the firing button, Orin's  
invisible blade severs his arm.

AVIANA

Orin!

Dagg cuts down the Admiral with a laser blast. Orin frees  
Aviana, jumps down to the lower level, slices the pilot  
robots to pieces. Dagg drops down, gets into the command  
seat, takes control of the ship.

151 INT. PYRAMID - TACTICAL COMMAND STATION

SQUADRON LEADER #7 (V.O.)

This is Squadron Leader Seven. Urgent!  
Request direct link to Zygon.

ZYGON

This is Zygon.

SQUADRON LEADER #7 (V.O.)

Sir, we have a problem. The flagship  
appears to have jettisoned its ground  
forces. Request instructions.

ZYGON

Have you contacted them?

SQUADRON LEADER #7 (V.O.)

We tried, sir. There is no reply.

152 INT. ANOTHER SHIP - BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

SQUADRON LEADER #7

All communications with the flagship  
appear to have been severed. Request  
further...

A drifting battle tank smashes through the main window.

153 INT. PYRAMID - TACTICAL COMMAND STATION - CONTINUOUS  
 Zygon listens to the ship explode over the intercom. He looks toward where the hilt was.

ZYGON

The hilt!  
 (realizes it's gone)  
 No. It can't be.  
 (sudden rage)  
 Attack squadrons two and three, destroy the flagship!

154 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

ZYGON (V.O.)

All other squadrons proceed to target area and launch missiles manually.

AVIANA

They're going to destroy Bordogon.  
 They are shaken up by a hull strike.

DAGG

Get on those gun controls!

155 EXT. SPACE - FLAGSHIP SQUADRON - CONTINUOUS  
 Several attack craft close in on the flagship, firing.

156 EXT. BORDOGON - CANYONS - DAY  
 The Starchaser weaves through the towering canyons.

157 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

SILICA

We'll never find Dagg if you keep playing hide and seek down here.

ARTHUR

We be vaporized if we're spotted, you twit!

Silica looks past Arthur, out the window.

SILICA

Uh...I think we're spotted.



158 EXT. BORDOGON - CANYONS - CONTINUOUS

The Starchaser veers away as the flagship approaches, followed by a swarm of pursuing ships.

The ships drop deeper into the canyons, chasing past the towering rock formations and waterfalls.

159 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Dagg spots the Starchaser ahead. The flagship is closing in on it fast.

DAGG

Arthur, heads up!

160 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

SILICA

It's Dagg!

ARTHUR

Pull up! Pull up!

161 EXT. BORDOGON - CANYONS - CONTINUOUS

The Starchaser pulls up sharply, veers around, shoots down a pursuing ship.

162 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Dagg pulls a dead robot off the targeting computer, checks out the panel. He starts to punch some buttons, trying to figure out the system.

163 INT. ANOTHER BATTLE CRUISER - BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

PILOT

All squadrons now in position over target zones.

CAPTAIN

Deploy the missiles.

164 VARIOUS SHOTS: SHIPS

Bomb bay doors open, revealing racks of missiles.

165 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Dagg desperately hits more buttons.

DAGG

I've got to get into the main targeting computer and detonate the missiles before they're launched.

NAVIGATOR (V.O.)

Squadron leader. Warheads armed and ready.

AVIANA

Dagg! They're launching!

Dagg pounds the console with frustration.

DAGG

Damn!

The starfly appears, buzzes around Dagg. He swats at it.

DAGG (CONT'D)

Stop that!

ORIN

Dagg, it's trying to help us again.

The starfly moves to the computer panel, bounces on a button. Dagg presses it. A countdown starts. A klaxon sounds.

166 EXT. BORDOGON ORBIT - ATTACK SQUADRON - CONTINUOUS

The missiles explode in their launch bays with blinding atomic fireballs, disintegrating the ships one by one.

167 INT. PYRAMID - TACTICAL COMMAND STATION - CONTINUOUS

Tagani and Zygon watch as the blips that represent their attack fleet vanish from the display screen.

TAGANI

The fleet...it's gone.

ZYGON

Call in our forces from the Raya and Horbinot systems.

TAGANI

They'll never reach us in time. We've got to evacuate.

(CONTINUED)

167 CONTINUED:

ZYGON

No! He'll be coming for me, next. But I'll be ready for him.

168 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Dagg is in the control seat beside Orin.

DAGG

(to Aviana)

Plot a course for Novaluna.

ORIN

No! We're going back to Trinia.

DAGG

We just destroyed their fleet, but I'm not pressing my luck, kid.

Dagg punches in the navigational coordinates.

AVIANA

If it wasn't for Orin we'd probably be dead by now. We can't abandon him just when he needs our help.

Dagg sees the determination in their faces.

DAGG

Damn!

169 EXT. TRINIA - PYRAMID - NIGHT

The flagship speeds toward the distant pyramid, the Starchaser behind it. The laser-cannon emplacements are vacant. There are no signs of life.

170 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Orin and the others watch as the pyramid grows larger through their windshield.

ARTHUR

(nervous)

See, I told you. There's nobody home. We might as well go back.

ORIN

(to Dagg)

You promised!

(CONTINUED)

170 CONTINUED:

DAGG

Keep your shirt on, kid. They're home.

171 EXT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

The flagship flies around the pyramid, looking for a way in, but all the access doors are closed.

172 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

DAGG

Silica, they got a back door to this joint?

173 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

SILICA

I think there's an ventilation shaft in the processing area.

174 EXT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

The flagship and Starchaser move towards two giant vents, one open, one closed.

175 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

AVIANA

Which one is it?

DAGG

Let's hope it's the open one.

176 EXT. VENT OPENING - CONTINUOUS

The flagship flies into it. The Starchaser hovers at the entrance.

ARTHUR (V.O.)

Dagg, I'll just wait here.

DAGG (V.O.)

Get your butt in here, Arthur.

The Starchaser follows into the vent.

ARTHUR (V.O.)

I know I'm going to regret this.

177 INT. PYRAMID COMMAND CENTER - CONTINUOUS

Zygon watches the flagship and Starchaser on his screen. He presses a button.

178 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

ARTHUR

What's that noise?

SILICA

Uh-oh! We're not in the ventilation shaft.

ARTHUR

What!?

SILICA

(into radio)

Dagg! --

179 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

SILICA (V.O.)

We're in a crystal waste tube!

DAGG

Oh, terrific.

180 INT. CRYSTAL WASTE TUBE - CONTINUOUS

A deluge of rubidimite crystals flush through the tube, gaining on the flagship and Starchaser.

181 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Aviana checks the rear monitor.

AVIANA

It's gaining.

182 INT. PYRAMID - MAIN VERTICAL SHAFT - CONTINUOUS

The flagship and Starchaser zoom out of the waste tube just as the crystal waste flushes out. They rocket up the shaft.

183 INT. PYRAMID COMMAND CENTER - CONTINUOUS

Zygon presses another button.

184 INT. PYRAMID - MAIN VERTICAL SHAFT - CONTINUOUS

A tractor beam hits the flagship, begins to pull it back toward the enormous rubidimite grinder.

185 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

DAGG

(struggling with controls)

We're caught in a tractor beam. I can't break free.

186 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

SILICA

We've got to save him.

ARTHUR

We do?

Silica pulls back hard on the controls and...

187 INT. MAIN VERTICAL SHAFT - CONTINUOUS

The Starchaser makes a hard U-turn, heads back for the flagship. It cuts between the flagship and tractor beam, freeing the flagship but getting caught in the tractor. It's drawn down toward the massive grinder.

188 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

ARTHUR

Now you've done it. We'll be scrap iron for sure.

189 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

AVIANA

We've broken free!

190 INT. PYRAMID COMMAND CENTER - CONTINUOUS

Zygon is alarmed to see the flagship is getting closer.

191 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

ORIN

See if you can spot a way down to the mine.

Dagg spots tons of crystals in the shipping area below.

DAGG

Damn! Look at all the crystals down there. This little adventure might turn out to be very profitable.

AVIANA

Look! There's the mine elevator.

The ship is suddenly hit by laser cannon fire.

192 INT. PRYAMID - CONTINUOUS

More laser cannons open fire on the flagship. The flagship fires back, destroying cannons and robots.

193 INT. PYRAMID COMMAND CENTER - CONTINUOUS

Zygon watches the action.

ZYGON

Full alert! All units attack!

194 INT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

Robots rush to their ships and stations.

Hangar doors open. Dozens of small ships fly out after the flagship.

195 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

DAGG

Hang on! We've got company.

196 INT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

Robots fire at the flagship. Attack ships strafe it.

197 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Dagg shoots down several attacking ships.

(CONTINUED)

197 CONTINUED:

DAGG  
Just like old times, eh, water snake?

198 INT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

The flagship continues to pound the robots. A large laser cannon hits the flagship, jarring it.

199 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

DAGG  
That cannon is giving me a headache.  
Let's take it out.

200 INT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

The flagship turns toward the cannon, blows it off its foundation. It slams into a wall with a huge explosion.

201 INT. PYRAMID COMMAND CENTER - CONTINUOUS

Major Tagani is blown down by the explosion.

TAGANI  
Zygon, we don't have enough fire power.  
We must evacuate.

ZYGON  
Get back to your post!

As Zygon turns back to his controls, Tagani sneaks out.

202 INT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

The flagship shoots down another robot ship. As Tagani exits the command center the ship crashes into him, then deflects away, spiraling down into the crystal grinding shaft.

203 INT. CRYSTAL GRINDING SHAFT - CONTINUOUS

Just as the Starchaser is about to be pulled into the grinder, the other ship spirals into the tractor beam and destroys it, freeing the Starchaser. It races up out of the shaft ahead of the explosion.



204 INT. PYRAMID COMMAND CENTER - CONTINUOUS

ZYGON

All fighters, break off laser attack.  
Set ion engines for maximum overload  
and ram the flagship!

205 INT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

The fighter ship engines begin to overload and glow red.  
They ram the flagship. It goes down in flames, crashes onto  
the pyramid floor.

206 INT. FLAGSHIP BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Orin goes to Aviana, helps her up.

ORIN

Aviana, are you all right?

AVIANA

I think so.

Dagg lets out a groan.

DAGG

I can't get up.

They help him to his feet. He favors his leg.

AVIANA

Your leg must be broken.

207 INT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

The Starchaser lands by the flagship. The ramp comes down  
and Silica rushes out, meeting Dagg, Orin and Aviana.

SILICA

Dagg, darling, you're hurt.

She hugs him warmly.

DAGG

I'll live.

ORIN

I've got to get down to the mine.

AVIANA

I'm going with you.

(CONTINUED)

207 CONTINUED:

ORIN

No! It's too dangerous. Stay with  
Dagg.

She hugs him. He hugs her back, then moves off.

208 INT. PRYAMID COMMAND CENTER - CONTINUOUS

Zygon watches out the view window, sees Orin move down into  
the mine entrance.

209 INT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

Aviana sees Zygon heading in Orin's direction.

AVIANA

Zygon!

She moves after him.

DAGG

Aviana, come back!

CUT TO BLACK:

The jaws of the Furnace of Life open to reveal we are

210 INT. MINEWORLD

Slaves bow before the furnace, calling out Zygon's name. A  
figure steps out of the flaming mouth.

Aunt Bella looks up, recognizes the figure.

AUNT BELLA

Orin?

Kallie gets up, blindly moves forward.

KALLIE

Orin! Orin! I knew he'd come back.

Aunt Bella holds him back as Orin address the gathering  
slaves.

ORIN

Ever since I can remember there have  
been rumors...rumors that there was  
another world...that long ago there was  
more than just Mineworld. Some said is  
was a heaven, a paradise beyond  
imagination. Others said is was a hell

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

210 CONTINUED:

ORIN (CONT'D)

far worse than the world we know. But an old man saw the truth beyond the sword and gave his life so that I might reach out beyond these caverns, reach out to the greater world above. Well, I have reached...and I have touched the stars.

MINE MASTER

Don't listen to him! Zygon has warned against such false saviors.

SECOND SLAVE

He's right. Believing this fool will only bring disaster.

Fearful shouts begin to swell against Orin.

ORIN

(over shouting)

He says what he wants you to believe.

The slaves continue to argue.

ZYGON (V.O.)

The boy is right.

Orin turns to see Zygon step out of the furnace behind him, wearing his hideous horned mask.

ZYGON

I say what I want you to believe, because I want you to believe the truth.

The slaves begin to chant Zygon's name.

ORIN

Liar!

Orin draws his hilt, rushes toward Zygon who fires his laser pistol at the boy. Orin deflects the fire with his "blade", knocking the pistol out of Zygon's hand. A final thrust knocks Zygon's mask off and sends him to the ground.

The slaves gasp in awe.

Aviana comes out of the flames, spots Orin. But before she can reach him, Zygon grabs her by the throat.

ZYGON

Give me the hilt, Kha-Khan, or she will die like the other.

211 ORIN'S POV: ZYGON AND AVIANA

The image of Aviana is replaced by the similar image of Zygon strangling Elan; then the image returns to normal.

Orin reluctantly hands the hilt to Zygon. He shoves Aviana aside, then slices the hilt at Orin. The Kha-Khan flinches but the sword does nothing. Zygon throws it to the ground, grabs Orin.

He struggles with him, moving to the edge of the lava chasm, pushing him over.

Orin catches the rocky ledge. He strains to hang on, his grip slipping, the lava river steaming below.

Suddenly the starfly emerges from the rocky cavern wall, hovers beside Orin.

ORIN  
(straining)  
Get me...the hilt!

STARFLY  
(whisper)  
You do not need the hilt, Orin. There  
never was a blade.

As the words sink in, Zygon moves to the edge of the chasm. He steps on one of Orin's hands.

ZYGON  
It's over, Kha-Khan.

Orin grabs Zygon's boot. As Zygon tries to step away, Orin hangs pulls himself up. He gets to his feet, facing the towering robot. Zygon picks up his blast pistol, aims it at Orin.

With a sudden burst of intention, Orin holds up his hand, his fingers curled as if there were a hilt in it. A glowing blade appears. He slashes at Zygon's hand, cutting it off. Zygon holds up his sparking stub, reacting in shock.

ZYGON (CONT'D)  
But...how...?

ORIN  
You were right, Zygon. I did have the  
secret of the blade all along. Only it  
was so simple I couldn't see it.

Orin forces Zygon back to the edge of the chasm.

(CONTINUED)

211 CONTINUED:

ZYGON

No...

Orin makes a final swing, cutting Zygon in two. His sparking body crumples, falling backwards into the chasm, dropping into the smoking lava river. Then Orin's glowing blade vanishes.

Across the chasm, the slaves turn on the mine masters, cutting them down with their mining tools, forcing them over the chasm into the lava.

Aviana gets up, moves to Orin. They hug. Then Orin turns to his people.

ORIN

(calling out)

Spread the word throughout  
Mineworld...we are FREE!

The slaves let out a cheer.

212 INT. PYRAMID - MILITARY OPERATIONS AREA

The Starchaser speeds through the pyramid interior, strafing robots on the ground, blasting the remaining fighter ships.

213 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

Dagg is at the controls. Silica ties a splint to his leg.

SILICA

That should keep your leg cozy.

ARTHUR

If it doesn't give him gangrene.

SILICA

Here, let me take those for you.

Silica takes the controls.

DAGG

It's okay, Silica, I can manage.

She heads the Starchaser for the last two fighter ships.

SILICA

I've get those creeps who shot you  
down.

DAGG

Silica, no! Not in the crystals!

(CONTINUED)

213 CONTINUED:

She blasts away.

214 INT. PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

One of the ships crashes into the crystals which explode with a tremendous fireball. A chain reaction of explosions starts throughout the pyramid. The walls begin to explode and collapse. The support beams start to crumble.

215 INT. MINEWORLD - CONTINUOUS

The scene begins to rumble. Rock begins to fall from above. The walls crack and crumble.

FIRST SLAVE

The Mineworld is collapsing.

Orin picks up the hilt, rushes across the crystal conveyor bridge with Aviana just before it collapses into the lava.

ORIN

Stand back!

Orin throws the hilt at the cave wall. There is a brilliant explosion.

216 EXT. PYRAMID - HANGAR DOORS - CONTINUOUS

Just as the Starchaser emerges the entire pyramid explodes with an inner rumble, collapsing in on itself.

217 INT. MINEWORLD - CONTINUOUS

The mine wall opens up like the Red Sea before Moses, revealing a passageway up. Orin puts Kallie on his shoulders.

ORIN

Follow me!

218 EXT. PYRAMID - SURROUNDING AREA - CONTINUOUS

The ground begins to rumble, then buckle as it breaks open and rolls over in a wave. A moment later the throngs of slaves, led by Orin, move out into the night, awestruck at their strange, new environment. The Starchaser flies past.

219 INT. STARCHASER - CONTINUOUS

Dagg and Silica look out the view window at Orin and his people below. Dagg jumps out of his seat.

DAGG  
(cheering)  
He did it! The water snake got 'em out.

SILICA/ARTHUR  
(cheering)

Dagg grabs Silica, who reacts with surprise. He kisses her on the lips but is met with an electrical arc that knocks him back on his ass.

220 EXT. PYRAMID - SURROUNDING AREA - CONTINUOUS

As expressions of wonder are heard from Orin's people, Kallie "looks" around.

KALLIE  
What does it look like, Orin? Tell me!

Orin kneels before Kallie, hugs his little brother. He looks at his empty hands, then places them on Kallie's staring eyes. Kallie blinks as if to focus. A smile and tears break onto his face.

KALLIE (CONT'D)  
I can see again! I can see! I can see!

The Starchaser lands nearby. The hatch opens and Dagg and Silica exit, greeting the freed slaves.

Aviana puts her arms around Orin and kisses him. Suddenly the starflies appear and circle them. Aviana backs away.

The starflies align in a row, floating about six feet off the ground. The translucent images of six men and women materialize from the glowing spots of energy. They are peaceful looking beings, regally robed. One of them is the old man who appeared over the hilt.

KHA-KHAN  
You have done admirably, young Orin. We welcome you as an honored member of the Kha-Khan. You are free to leave your human form and come with us.

(CONTINUED)

220 CONTINUED:

A shimmering aura forms around Orin's head. A moment later a glowing ball of energy, similar to the starflies, ascends, hovering over the others.

The slaves gasp. Aviana grabs Dagg, distraught.

The glowing ball of light descends back into Orin and disappears. Orin looks at Aviana, then to Dagg, then back at the Kha-Khan.

ORIN

Not yet! I'd like to stretch my legs  
for a few decades.

KHA-KHAN

The choice is yours.

The energy above Orin descends back into him.

The six transparent figures transform back into starflies and streak off toward a twinkling constellation -- a constellation in shape of a sword with no blade.

FADE OUT