

# OBLIVITY

A scripted comedy series for radio

Words by Rob Stringer | Sounds by Joe Carr

## SEASON 2, EPISODE 3: GHOST WRITER

When the crew wake up on Persephone unsure of who they are, they must piece together the previous day using a newly-built memory projector.

**COMMANDER FALCONER** (CATE NUNN)

Battle-hardened and bewildered.

**FIRST OFFICER CHRISTY** (HANNAH WILMSHURST)

A peppy thrill-seeker and over-achiever.

**OFFICER BURNEY** (MAX WINDICH)

Prodigious and introverted.

**OFFICER LOWELL** (ASH HUNT)

An impulsive wrecking-ball.

**ORPHEUS:** (GUY GRIMSLEY)

A bug-riddled computer.

**WALTER NICHOLLS:** (GUY GRIMSLEY)

A swaggering, arrogant war correspondent

ALSO

**MRS: NICHOLLS:** (JOSIE JAFFREY) Walter's mother

**THE PROFOCTOR:** (JAMES SILK) Antagonist

**SILAS FALCONER:** (MATT BLURTON): Mildred's dad

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1 **COLD OPEN:           SCENE ONE. SIMULATION ROOM**  
2  
3 **MUSIC:                   A WOMAN (MRS NICHOLLS) HUMS A SIMPLE, SWEET MELODY.**  
4 **IT'S FAINT, AND FUZZY, AND ON A LOOP OF ABOUT 20-30**  
5 **SECONDS.**  
6 FALCONER:           [GROGGY] Wh... Could you turn down the... Agh my head.  
7                       What am I - why am I...  
8                       [CALLING OUT] Is anyone-? I- fell asleep. On the-  
9 *floor...* Hello..?  
10                      What's... this?  
11 **FX:                       DOORS SWISH OPEN**  
12 CHRISTY:            Oh flip oh flip oh flip..  
13                      **BEAT**  
14                      Oh FLIP!  
15 FALCONER:           It's not how it looks.  
16 CHRISTY:            [SCARED] How *does* it look?  
17 FALCONER:           I suppose... Like I'm standing with this laser blaster  
18                      having just shot the man lying on the floor over  
19 *there.*  
20 CHRISTY:            Yep, that's how I thought it looked too. OK bye!  
21 FALCONER:           Wait! I only just woke up, dressed in some kind of  
22                      gym clothing, and I found this on the floor, and I  
23                      think he's just unconscious. Yes! Look! It's not a  
24                      Blaster - it's set to stun! I only stunned him!  
25 CHRISTY:            Oh. Phew.  
26                      **BEAT**  
27                      OK bye!  
28 FALCONE:            Please stay! I promise I'm not hostile. Least I  
29                      don't think I am. All I can be certain about is that  
30                      I have *really* good glutes.  
31                      Look, this is out of charge anyway. I'm putting it  
32                      down, OK?  
33 **FX:                       PUTS STUNNER BACK ON FLOOR**  
34 CHRISTY:            OK..  
35 **FX:                       DOOR SWISHES CLOSED**  
36 CHRSTY:             But don't try anything funny. I'm a master at bok  
37                      choy!

1 FALCONER: I'm fairly sure that's a cabbage.

2 CHRISTY: Shut up! I know! Sorry! Shut up! Sorry!

3 FALCONER: So... Who might you be?

4 CHRISTY: [SCOFFING] I might ask *you* the same question.

5 FALCONER: You don't know, do you.

6 CHRISTY: Nope.

7 FALCONER: Me neither. I just woke up - in these - *gym* clothes  
8 - near this person, in a room full of - projectors?

9 **FX:** **DOOR SWISHES OPEN**

10 BURNEY: Ah.

11 FALCONER: Hello...?

12 **FX:** **DOOR SWISHES CLOSED**

13 BURNEY: I am tracing the source of the sonic broadcast. It's  
14 audible throughout this research base.

15 FALCONER: Research base?

16 BURNEY: I have ascertained a few facts.

17 FALCONER: More than us, apparently. Do you know who you are?

18 BURNEY: Negative.

19 FALCONER: Join the club.

20 CHRISTY: Is this a club? Am I in the club?

21 FALCONER: Yes, you're in the club.

22 CHRISTY: Yesss!

23 What's the club?

24 BURNEY: What the spandex-clad female means, is that we are  
25 equally unwitting re: our predicament.

26 FALCONER: It's like the four of us are in some sort of... *trap*.  
27 I don't like it at all.

28 [LOWERING VOICE] We should keep our guards up. If  
29 there's anyone else on this research base, we can't  
30 even begin to guess at their inten-

31 **FX:** **DOOR SWISHES OPEN**

32 BUR/FAL/CHR: [GASP]

33 LOWELL: Alright losers! Anyone seen the remote?

34 **FX:** **DOOR SWISHES CLOSED**

35 **PAUSE**

1   LOWELL:           Hellooo? *The Remote. For The TV.*

2   FALCONER:         You... know us?

3   LOWELL:           What? You lot?

4   FALCONER:         Yes.

5   LOWELL:           [ALMOST LAUGHING INCREDULOUSLY] You're askin' if I  
6                     know you?

7   ALL:              Yes!

8                     **PAUSE**

9   FALCONERL:       Well?

10  LOWELL:           Well what?

11  FALCONER:         Do you?

12  LOWELL:           Do I what?

13  FALCONER:         Know us!

14  LOWELL:           Whoa, *deja vous!* Nope, no idea.

15  FAL/CHR/BUR:     [COMMUNAL GROAN/SIGH]

16  CHRISTY:          You called us losers, as if you knew us.

17  LOWELL:           Just guessin'.

18  CHRISTY:          Are you in *the club?*

19  LWEOLL:           Yeah probably. What's the club?

20  BURNEY:           You are presumably also uncertain about your  
21                     identity.

22  LOWELL:           [MOCKING VOICE] 'Doo Dah Dedudedly Daldo Dundertain-  
23                     ` Haha! Listen to this weirdo!

24                     But yeah I am.

25  FALCONER:         So. Five of us; one out cold; in a research base;  
26                     surrounded by projectors; with a used Stunner and  
27                     creepy singing.

28                     I'd say I've never been in a more unusual situation,  
29                     but...

30  CHRISTY:          I hate this. How do I cancel my club membership?

31  BURNEY:           [WRV] You would begin by giving your name.

32  CHRISTY:          Worst club ever!

33  **MUSIC:            OPENING THEME**

34  **SCENE TWO:        INT. SIMULATION ROOM**

35  **MUSIC:            THE BROADCAST SINGING CONTINUES ON REPEAT**

1 F/C/B/L: [GENERAL COMMOTION] Let's have some order around  
2 here!/I'm just saying I need to know where to write  
3 to in order to cancel my club membership/For the  
4 last time I was not being serious about the club  
5 membership /I just wanna watch wrestling, is that so  
6 hard?

7 FALCONER: Some order, please!

8 **PAUSE**

9 Now. We need clues. Check your pockets. I'll check  
10 number five.

11 **FX: A LITTLE RUMMAGING**

12 CHRISTY: Nothing on me.

13 BURNEY: Nor me.

14 **FX: CRISP PACKET RUSTLE**

15 LOWELL: A bag of crispy onion rings! Jackpot!

16 FALCONER: Surely we are saved.

17 Aha! A wallet! 'Walter Nicholls'. Ringing bells for  
18 anyone?

19 CHRISTY: Nope.

20 FALCONER: Interplanetary Federation of Journalism press card,  
21 Journalist Union card, Journalist's visa... I think we  
22 can conclude one thing about Walter Nicholls...

23 LOWELL: He likes Lebanese food.

24 FALCONER: No.

25 LOWELL: He collects golf balls.

26 FALCONER: No...

27 LOWELL: He's never grouted a bathtub.

28 BURNEY: Aha! My name is *Burney*.

29 CHRISTY: ID card?

30 BURNEY: No. Emblazoned upon the waistband of my  
31 undergarments.

32 FALCONER: Now we're getting somewhere. Keep searching.

33 CHRISTY: For what?

34 FALCONER: For... like how you're a Commander.

35 CHRISTY: What?

36 FALCONER: Your jacket. My eyesight's clearing. See the  
37 stripes?

1 CHRISTY: Oh yeah! Commander Falconer! Ace!

2 BURNEY: Ah - now that is only *conjecture*.

3 FALCONER: It's as likely as you being 'Burney'.

4 BURNEY: It may not be her jacket.

5 LOWELL: Might not be your underwear.

6 BURNEY: Given the intimate nature of underwear - its  
7 proximity to my groin - the evidence it provides is  
8 more persuasive than the potentially circumstantial  
9 adorning of outerwear.

10 CHRISTY: What kind of Commander do you think I am? I think  
11 I'm a dashing and courageous Commander. A kind  
12 Commander. A Commander who has time for everyone!

13 FALCONER: I'm sure you are. Now, can anyone/ find-

14 CHRISTY: /Quiet, subordinate! I'll be asking the questions  
15 round here.

16 FALCONER: Of... course... Commander. Please proceed.

17 CHRISTY: I WILL proceed.. Now. As I was saying... Can anyone...

18 **BEAT**

19 FALCONER: ...find anything else...

20 CHRISTY: ...find anything else...

21 **BEAT**

22 FALCONER: ... that might help us...

23 CHRISTY: .. that might help us...

24 **BEAT**

25 FALCONER: ...to better understand our situation.

26 CHRISTY: ...to better understand our situation.

27 LOWELL: I'm wearin' a sweet dressing gown. An' a t-shirt  
28 that says 'Sputs...and...the...Nik'

29 BURNEY: Or if you're *not* reading upside down, 'Nik and the  
30 Sputs'.

31 LOWELL: I'm startin' to member somethin' about you. It's on  
32 the tip of my tongue. Bu... Bu...

33 BURNEY: Burney.

34 LOWELL: No, it's more like - BunCase... BuffMace?

35 FALCONER: Where did you wake up?

36 LOWELL: Me? Sofa.

1 FALCONER: It must've been morning when all this happened.  
2 LOWELL: Why?  
3 FALCONER: Why else would you dress like that?  
4 LOWELL: Fair point. Unless...  
5 CHRISTY: Unless what?  
6 LOWELL: I'm a spy.  
7 CHRISTY: You don't exactly *look* like a sp - Ohhhhh, good  
8 point. Are you?  
9 LOWELL: Am I what?  
10 CHRISTY: A spy!  
11 LOWELL: I dunno.  
12 CHRISTY: [IMPRESSED] Oh you're good.  
13 BURNEY: I hate to interrupt this compelling line of enquiry,  
14 but perhaps we should focus on more *incontrovertible*  
15 evidence.  
16 FALCONER: [NAUSEOUS AT THE REALISATION] Like how we're  
17 married.  
18 BURNEY: What?  
19 FALCONER: My watch. It's one of those fitness trackers, and  
20 it's engraved.  
21 *'Burney. Time is relative and moves slowly in your*  
22 *absence. Best regards, Burney.'*  
23 **BEAT**  
24 BURNEY: Hmm. I proclaim your conclusion a false positive.  
25 FALCONER: Perhaps, but it does say - hang on, why?  
26 BURNEY: You are not my type.  
27 FALCONER: I might be your type. How would you even know what  
28 your type is?  
29 BURNEY@: Because I am not experiencing a modicum of allure on  
30 either an intellectual or physical level.  
31 FALCONER: Well, OK but...  
32 BURNEY: And if you will excuse the simple but effective  
33 Modus Tollens logical proposition: if you were my  
34 type, I would find you attractive. I do *not* find you  
35 attractive, ergo you are not my type.  
36 FALCONER: Yes, I see - I'm just saying-

1 BURNEY: I can expound further: while I may not even *have* a  
2 type, given your inherently disagreeable appearance,  
3 I can confidently conclude that if I *do* have a type,  
4 then *you* are not *it*.

5 FALCONER: I *get* it. *Thank* you.

6 BURNEY: You're welcome.

7 **BEAT**

8 I hope you are not too disheartened.

9 FALCONER: Oh for Heaven's sake you obnoxious little git/ -  
10 you're hardly driving me wild-

11 BURNEY: /I am simply saying I hope I have not disappointed  
12 you-

13 CHRISTY: Shush! Whether you like it or not, it's obvious from  
14 the evidence that you're lovers.

15 FAL/BUR: But -

16 CHRISTY: Who's Commander?

17 FAL/BUR: You are.

18 CHRISTY: Now say sorry and make up.

19 FAL/BUR: I'm sorry/I apologise.

20 CHRISTY: And now call each other by adorable pet names.

21 FAL/BUR: What?/Now I-

22 CHRISTY: Are you questioning my authority?

23 FALCONER: I'm sorry... *Darling*.

24 BURNEY: I apologise... *Cutey-pie*.

25 CHRISTY: Better!

26 Now. What about this room?

27 BURNEY: A standard issue simulation room. Modified.

28 CHRISTY: How do you know?

29 BURNEY: I just know. While we have no episodic memory, we  
30 have retained semantic and procedural memory.

31 LOWELL: What's that mean?

32 BURNEY: While we may not remember tying our shoelaces this  
33 morning, we would all know *how* to tie them.

34 CHRISTY: What 'modifications'?

35 LOWELL: What 'shoelaces'?



1 BURNEY: The modifications employ electroencephalography. You  
2 see the brain patterns on the screen?

3 CHRISTY: It's lighting up in time to the music!

4 BURNEY: Intriguingly the pattern is not only in the  
5 hippocampus and frontal lobe, but also the neocortex  
6 and thalamus. This brain is not simply listening to  
7 the music, it is *creating* it.

8 FALCONER: Who's doing that?

9 CHRISTY: *Ahem.*

10 FALCONER: *...Cupcake.*

11 BURNEY: Somebody who is not conscious... *Snugglekings.*

12 LOWELL: The golf ball collector!

13 BURNEY: Think of it as '*hold* music'. Like a phone call. He's  
14 projecting it.

15 FALCONER: But why? And more importantly, how do we stop it?

16 BURNEY: I can't break the neural link, but I can reduce the  
17 amplification.

18 **MUSIC: LOWERS IN VOLUME TO SILENCE**

19 FALCONER: Ahhhh. Better. So what is this thing, *Sugarpie*?

20 BURNEY: Well, *Snooky-poo*, it is a memory projector.  
21 It draws out latent memories from the mind, and  
22 projects them into the area over there.

23 FALCONER: So if we can connect to this-

24 CHRISTY: We can find out who we are!

25 LOWELL: If you find out who I am, I'll have to kill you.

26 FALCONER: Would you though?

27 LOWELL: No.

28 BURNEY: I shall create neural links for each of us.  
29 Who will be first?

30 CHRISTY: As your Commander, *I* will go first.

31 BURNEY: Incidentally, this could wipe your mind entirely.

32 CHRISTY: Sorry, what I meant, was I'll go first at *nominating*  
33 someone. I nominate her.

34 FALCONER: Sure. Why not.

35 BURNEY: When the link is established, we'll view a hologram  
36 of your recent memories.

1 **FX:** **THERE IS A FUZZY NOISE AND A VOOP AS A HOLOGRAM**  
2 **APPEARS IN FRONT OF THEM.**

3 **FROM THIS POINT ON, HOLOGRAM ACTION COULD BE**  
4 **INDICATED BY IT BEING SLIGHTLY FUZZY OR TINNY? TO**  
5 **DISTINGUISH FROM THE TEAM PHYSICALLY OBSERVING.**

6 **HOLOGRAM CHARACTERS IN SCRIPT ARE DENOTED AS 'HOLO-**  
7 **NAME'. STANDARD NAMES REPRESENT INTERJECTIONS BY**  
8 **THOSE VIEWING THE HOLOGRAM.**

9 CHRISTY: Something's forming. It's you!

10 FALCONER: Is that what I look like?  
11 God I have good glutes.

12 LOWELL: And there's the Commando!

13 CHRSITY: Then pay attention, because you're about to watch  
14 masterclass in leadership.

15 HOLO-CHRISTY: (D) Walter Nicholls? *The* Walter Nicholls? Walter  
16 Nicholls also known as 'White Knuckles' Walter  
17 Nicholls! War correspondent! Presenter of extreme,  
18 gritty reportage series "*Living in the Line of Fire*  
19 *with My Balls on the Line at the Frontline!*  
20 Why's he coming here?!

21 HOLO-FALCONER: (D) Not sure - wasn't really listening. I remember  
22 he said the words 'extreme' and 'gritty' a lot.  
23 Anyway, I must have agreed to something because he  
24 said he'd drop by today. Maybe an article about  
25 military research bases? I mean, you can't get much  
26 more extreme or gritty than Pluto.  
27 Reminds me. I must grout that bathtub.

28 CHRISTY: Why is 'memory me' allowing 'memory you' to talk to  
29 'memory me' so informally? And why isn't 'memory  
30 you' calling 'memory me' 'Commander'?

31 LOWELL: Maybe it's not written on your undies?

32 BURNEY: The docking bay door is opening.

33 **FX: IN-HOLOGRAM (D) DOCKING BAY DOOR OPENS**

34 HOLO-FALCONER: Welcome, Mr Nicho-

35 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Jeez it's good to stretch my legs. Haven't been this  
36 relieved to stand up straight since after I was held  
37 hostage for three days in the Coprates Chasmata.

38 HOLO-CHRISTY: I love your work Mr Nicholls. I'd really like to  
39 shake you by the -

40 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Great, my bags are back there ta.

1 HOLO-CHRISTY: Oh. I-

2 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Good girl; off you pop.

3 HOLO-FALCONER: You came in a taxi-pod?

4 HOLO-NICHOLLS: My editor insisted. Bit posh for my taste.

5 So this your pad? Jeez, I've survived enemy captors  
6 who were more welcoming. Like this one time when-

7 HOLO-FALCONER: Difficult journey was it?

8 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Difficult? Reminds me of the time I was held in a  
9 munitions casing in the back of a truck while  
10 crossing a minefield and -

11 HOLO-FALCONER: So 'yes' then.

12 HOLO-CHRISTY: [STRUGGLING WITH BAGS] Got them!

13 HOLO-NICHOLLS: What's with the lycra?

14 HOLO-FALCONER: I'm heading to our treadmill. Which is in the  
15 Infirmary, which is, incidentally, where you'll be  
16 sleeping later. I'll be out of there in one hour.

17 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Sounds great. I can sleep anywhere, me. Could sleep  
18 through hydrogen tank cannon fire. Have done, too,  
19 when I was-

20 HOLO-FALCONER: Well luckily for us, our Infirmary is rarely  
21 frequented by heavily armoured combat vehicles.  
22 Though if you're looking for a thrill, you could  
23 always lick the defibrillator.

24 HOLO-CHRISTY: It's nice in the Infirmary - it doesn't have safety  
25 lights like the quarters, so it's the only place  
26 that gets properly dark.

27 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Actually, thinking about it, I'd rather have the  
28 *authentic* base experience. How about you sleep in  
29 the infirmary, and I'll take your quarters.

30 HOLO-CHRISTY: I'm not sure I-

31 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Good girl; nice one.

32 CHRISTY: I can't believe I'm allowing myself to be spoken to  
33 like that!

34 HOLO-FALCONER: If we're finished here, I'll leave you to your work,  
35 Mr. Nicholls.

36 HOLO-NICHOLLS: But that'd miss the point of my visit now, wouldn't  
37 it Mils. Mind if I call you Mils?

38 HOLO-FALCONER: Emphatically

1 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Ha! Great stuff! That's the kind of whiplash sense  
2 of humour I want to capture in this feature, Mils.

3 HOLO-FALCONER: Feature?

4 HOLO-NICHOLLS: The feature!

5 HOLO-FALCONER: About the base?

6 HOLO-NICHOLLS: About *you*.

7 CHRISTY: About you?

8 HOLO-FALCONER: About me? Why would you write about me?

9 CHRISTY: Why would he write about you?

10 FALCONER: I don't know...

11 HOLO-NICHOLLS: For the celebrations! On Mars! I told you - I'm  
12 interviewing notable military personalities.

13 CHRISTY: *You're* not notable!

14 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Everyone wants to read about you.

15 CHRISTY: [SCOFFING] I can't see *me* wanting to read a feature  
16 about you.

17 HOLO-CHRISTY: Oh brilliant! I'd love to read a feature about you!

18 CHRISTY: What?

19 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Everyone's heard of 'Falconer the Fearless', but  
20 what's it actually *being* her.

21 HOLO-FALCONER: It's like being someone who doesn't want a feature  
22 written about her.

23 CHRISTY: This is insubordination! It's completely  
24 disrespectful!

25 Why would a war correspondent want to interview some  
26 flaky, lightweight, ditzzy, highly-strung, low-  
27 ranking buffoon like *you*?!

28 HOLO-CHRISTY: Yeppo, I definitely think there's a market for a  
29 feature about you, *Commander Falconer*!

30 **PAUSE**

31 FALCONER: Ah.

32 CHRISTY: Oh...

33 FALCONER: [GENEROUSLY, BUT SCEPTICALLY] Perhaps we're *both*  
34 Commanders.

35 HOLO-CHRISTY: Just to reiterate: someone like *me* - 'me' being  
36 First Officer Christy - would love to read about *you*  
37 - 'you' being Commander Falconer.

1 CHRISTY: Oh...

2 FALCONER: Ah.

3 **PAUSE**

4 CHRISTY: Are you going to court martial me?

5 FALCONER: I'll settle for getting my jacket back.

6 **FX: CHRISTY RETURNS JACKET**

7 CHRISTY: Why was I wearing it?

8 FALCONER: Perhaps we'll find out...

9 HOLO-NICHOLLS: All you need to do is share some memories, and I'll  
10 make your life seem... *significant*.

11 HOLO-FALCONER: Aren't there other heroes around? Commander Mink?

12 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Gerts? I actually asked her first, except-

13 HOLO-FALCONER: Don't tell me - she's written her *own* feature.

14 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Autobiography, actually.

15 HOLO-CHRISTY: Yeppo! 'Commander Gertrude Mink At Your Service';  
16 subtitle: 'My life as Commander Gertrude Mink'; 'by  
17 Commander Gertrude Mink'.

18 I've pre-ordered the deluxe version. It comes with  
19 an audiobook narrated by the author; a bonus  
20 author's commentary on the audiobook; and a bonus  
21 author's commentary on the *commentary* of the  
22 audiobook!

23 FALCONER: Whoever this 'Commander Mink' is, that sounds  
24 horrendous.

25 BURNEY: Erratic chronology, meta-constructs and persistent  
26 interjections? It does not appeal to me.

27 CHRISTY: Yeah it could get confusing. Though I suppose  
28 alternatively you could just trust the writer was a  
29 safe pair of hands and say-

30 LOWELL: Shut up everyone! I'm trying to watch!

31 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Which is why it's the right time for a feature on  
32 *you*.

33 HOLO-FALCONER: Right time?

34 HOLO-NICHOLLS: You can put straight what she says about you...

35 HOLO-FALCONER: What's she said?

36 HOLO-NICHOLLS: *You tell me*...

37 HOLO-FALCONER: Ah. Nice try.

1 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Come on Mils, this is a chance to tell *your* story -  
2 your rise and fall!

3 HOLO-FALCONER: Fall?

4 HOLO-NICHOLLS: The breakdown! The hero disgraced!

5 HOLO-FALCONER: I beg your pardon-

6 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Success stories are ten-a-penny. What people relish  
7 are the *washouts*.

8 HOLO-FALCONER: I think you should leave.

9 HOLO-NICHOLLS: No can do. Health regulations state I should stay  
10 here at least one night.

11 HOLO-FALCONER: There's your extreme and gritty article: 'How I  
12 nearly got a bit woozy on a return spaceflight.'

13 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Come on Mils... No guts, no glory!

14 HOLO-FALCONER: *No dice*. Christy - take our guest's bags to my  
15 quarters.

16 Ugh, don't look so hopeful Mr Nicholls. I'd rather  
17 hump a hippo with halitosis.

18 HOLO-NICHOLLS: That's ambiguous. Who's got the halitosis? The hippo  
19 or you?

20 HOLO-FALCONER: I will take the infirmary, and you will be gone  
21 first thing. Understand? And if you come within an  
22 inch of me or my crew, the only guts round here will  
23 be the ones your editor wipes off the polished  
24 walnut wood veneer of your Taxi-pod.

25 **FX: HOLOGRAM: DOORS SWISH OPEN**

26 HOLO-NICHOLLS: We'll write that story Mils!  
27 One way or another...

28 **FX: HOLOGRAM: DOORS SWISH CLOSED.**

29 **MUSIC: AMBIENCE**

30

31 **SCENE THREE: INT. SIMULATION ROOM**

32 FALCONER: Ugh, what a creep. I'm starting to wonder if I set  
33 that laser blaster to stun by accident.

34 CHRISTY: I still don't get why we were all sleeping.

35 LOWELL: When do we get to see me doin' spy stuff?

36 BURNEY: We have at least established that this base is our  
37 workplace, and that Nicholls was an intruder.

1                   Let us progress to the next moment of significance.

2   **FX:**               **FAST FORWARDING**

3   CHRISTY:           You go into the Infirmary, and use the treadmill.

4   FALCONER:          Then after a bit I go to... a laboratory?

5   **FX:**               **HOLOGRAM: DOORS SWISH OPEN AND CLOSED WE ARE IN THE**  
6                       **LABORATORY (MAY BE WORTH HAVING IN-HOLOGRAM LAB**  
7                       **AMBIENCE FOR THIS ONE)**

8   CHRISTY:           There's your lover!

9   LOWELL:            Is this going to get *dirty*?

10   FALCONER:          We determined Christy wasn't a Commander. There's a  
11                       very good chance Burney and I may not actually be...  
12                       *partners.*

13   **FX:**               **HOLOGRAM: A SOUND OF ENGRAVING CONTINUES THROUGH**  
14                       **MOST OF THIS SCENE**

15   HOLO-FALCONER:    *Psst*, are we alone?

16   FALCONER:          Oh hell...

17   LOWELL:            Nakedtime!

18   HOLO-BURNEY:      We are entirely alone, yes.

19   FALCONER:          Perhaps we *shouldn't* watch, just in case it does get  
20                       a bit, um...

21   HOLO-BURNEY:      *Every* individual is alone within their own  
22                       consciousness right through until their lonely  
23                       demise.

24   FALCONER:          Actually, strike that, I think we're safe.

25   HOLO-FALCONER:    I mean has *he* been here: the journalist.

26   HOLO-BURNEY:      I encountered him in the Simulation Room. I am using  
27                       it as a base for a ground-breaking machine which, as  
28                       I mentioned to Christy, is an advancement of-

29   HOLO-FALCONER:    Good. I'm trying to stay out his way. I figured if  
30                       he'd met you, the last place he'd want to be was,  
31                       y'know, around you.

32                       What you doing?

33   HOLO-BURNEY:      Engraving a radiocarpal chronometer.

34                       **PAUSE**

35                       A wristwatch.

36   HOLO-FALCONER:    I thought you kept track of time by continuously  
37                       observing your bowel movements.

1 HOLO-BURNEY: I am indeed regular. However this device is not for  
2 me. Nor is it solely for time-keeping. It monitors  
3 blood pressure, and levels of perspiration.

4 I intend to present it to Burney, my associate and  
5 more recently, spouse. I am being subjected to  
6 unusual biological sensations, and wish to learn if  
7 the same is occurring with her.

8 FALCONER: We're not lovers! Thank god!

9 BURNEY: I never deemed it likely. Because as I mentioned,  
10 you are exceedingly undesirable.

11 HOLO-FALCONER: I could do with one of those.

12 HOLO-BURNEY: Your exercise regime has intensified of late.

13 HOLO-FALCONER: Helps me sleep. ...Because if you *don't* sleep, funny  
14 things can happen can't they...

15 HOLO-BURNEY: Funny things?

16 HOLO-FALCONER: Like. I don't know. You could start *seeing* things..  
17 Couldn't you?

18 HOLO-BURNEY: Correct. When you are not asleep, you see *many*  
19 things.

20 HOLO-FALCONER: No, I mean-

21 This'll sound strange, but... I keep thinking I see..  
22 somebody in a spacesuit. Just sometimes, when it's  
23 dark. And I wondered..

24 You know the other day, when my mother was here? And  
25 you nearly lost us both in a paradoxical quantum  
26 tear in the space-time continuum?

27 HOLO-BURNEY: Must you keep reminding me of my first and only  
28 mistake?

29 HOLO-FALCONER: There's no chance that... And don't laugh... But there's  
30 no chance that something... slipped through?

31 HOLO-BURNEY: Slipped through?

32 HOLO-FLACONER: From another dimension.

33 **PAUSE**

34 HOLO-FALCONER: You're laughing on the inside aren't you.

35 HOLO-BURNEY: Rolling in the aisles.

36 **FX: HOLOGRAM: ENGRAVING NOISE ENDS**

37 HOLO-BURNEY: *There.* [BLOWS]

38 HOLO-FALCONER: Let me see?



1 HOLO-BURNEY: What are- That is not for you to wear!

2 HOLO-FALCONER: You want to know if it works don't you?

3 HOLO-BURNMEY: [KNOWS HE WILL LOSE THE BATTLE] Just try not to  
4 perspire onto it.

5 HOLO-FALCONER: Don't worry - I can't. I overdosed on adrenaline  
6 once in battle, and now I'm physically incapable of  
7 sweating.

8 HOLO-BURNEY: That does not *sound* credible...

9 HOLO-FALCONER: [BREEZILY] It really doesn't, does it.

10 [CALLING BACK] If you see Wally Numbskull, tell him  
11 I'm busy.

12 HOLO-BURNEY: [SARCASTIC] And what shall I tell the inter-  
13 dimensional interlopers?!

14 **FX: HOLOGRAM: DOOR SWISHES OPEN AND CLOSED**

15 BURNEY: You return to the infirmary and the treadmill, and -

16 **FX: STATIC-Y NOISE**

17 BURNEY: - hmmm.

18 CHRISTY: What happened there?

19 FALCONER: The file faded out.

20 **FX: STATIC-Y NOISE**

21 LOWELL: Nah it's fadin' up again, look.

22 FALCONER: That's me waking up on the floor here - just a few  
23 moments ago...

24 **MUSIC: AMBIENCE**

25

26 **SCENE FOUR: INT. SIMULATION ROOM**

27 FALCONER: Why would a chunk of memory be missing?

28 BURNEY: A corrupted file?

29 LOWELL: Seems the only thing we can be sure of is that I'm  
30 an interplanetary man of mystery.

31 CHRISTY: I'm just not sure a real spy would say that kind of  
32 thing.

33 LOWELL: Maybe. But would a fake spy know how to do *this*?

34 **PAUSE**

35 **FX: SCRATCH SCRITCH**

1 FALCONER: Do what?

2 CHRISTY: All you did was scratch your belly.

3 LOWELL: Or *did* I?

4 BURNEY: Yes.

5 LOWELL: *Exactly.*

6 FALCONER: Let's fill in the gaps. Burney, you're up.

7 LOWELL: You do that. I'm gonna practice my spy fighting  
8 moves over here.

9 BURNEY: Establishing neural link...

10 LOWELL: [SLIGHTLY AWAY FROM MIC] P-cha, surprise attack! P-  
11 cha surprise headlock! P-cha, surprise tummy  
12 scratch!

13 **FX: HOLOGRAM FIZZLES INTO CLARITY**

14 CHRISTY: There's you!

15 BURNEY: Building the memory projector, which accounts for my  
16 knowledge of its workings.

17 **FX: HOLOGRAM DOOR SWISHES OPEN**

18 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Oh. Err... What's up, pal?

19 HOLO-BURNEY: 'Up' is relative.

20 HOLO-NICHOLLS: You're err.. probably wondering what old 'White  
21 Knuckles' is doing walkin' around the base.

22 HOLO-BURNEY: I imagine you're snooping for information about  
23 Falconer so that you can hack out five thousand  
24 words of sensationalist drivel.

25 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Everyone's gotta eat, pal. What's all this?

26 HOLO-BURNEY: An advancement of a neurovision device I created  
27 some time ago.

28 HOLO-NICHOLLS: You some kind of scientist?

29 HOLO-BURNEY: *Some kind of scientist?*

30 I am an excavator of truths. A discoverer of worlds.  
31 Beside me, the average polymath is nought but an  
32 amoeba gazing upon a symphony of evolutionary  
33 possibility.

34 I am unique. I am extraordinary. I... am *Burney.*

35 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Yeah alright' didn't ask for your life story.

36 HOLO-BURNEY: And yet ironically, that's exactly what this machine  
37 can obtain.

1 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Eh?

2 HOLO-BURNEY: It projects memories as holograms.

3 HOLO-NICHOLLS: [SUDDENLY VERY INTERESTED] Is that right? And what  
4 if I wanted to see someone else's memories?  
5 Hypothetically.

6 HOLO-BURNEY: You would simply invite them to sit in front of this  
7 sensor.

8 HOLO-NICHOLLS: That so...? Huh.

9 You remind me of someone. Have we met?

10 HOLO-BURNEY: Yes.

11 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Knew it! When?

12 HOLO-BURNEY: Judging by the status of my intestinal processes...  
13 about 10.58am today.

14 HOLO-NICHOLLS: No, I mean before just now.

15 HOLO-BURNEY: We could use the machine to find out?

16 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Nah, you're alright. I'd better head off. And if  
17 anyone asks, this conversation never happened.

18 HOLO-BURNEY: An interesting proposition, however I would counter  
19 your statement with near total certainty that it in  
20 actual fact *did*.

21 HOLO-NICHOLLS: I mean *pretend* it didn't happen.

22 HOLO-BURNEY: You wish me to *fabricate* a memory?

23 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Yeah - that.

24 HOLO-BURNEY: The mutability of subjective recollection.  
25 Interesting...

26 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Little journo tip for you - don't use big words when  
27 small ones will do. No-one likes a smart-arse.

28 HOLO-BURNEY: When confabulating with vulgarian troglodytes, I  
29 will unquestionably rebuff your counsel.

30 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Yeah... Later's Barney...

31 **FX: HOLOGRAM DOOR SWISHES CLOSED**

32 FALCONER: And if we fast forward?

33 **FX: FAST FORWARD**

34 BURNEY: I go to my lab; you interrupt me; you leave; and  
35 soon after, the projection fizzles out... and there I  
36 am waking up in the lab.

1 CHRISTY: More missing bits! And at about the same time as the  
2 Commander's!

3 FALCONER: The plot thickens...

4 Also - 'a symphony of evolutionary possibility?'

5 BURNEY: We all have our talents.

6 **MUSIC: AMBIENTAL**

7

8 **SCENE FIVE: INT. SIMULATION ROOM**

9 FALCONER: OK, who's next?

10 LOWELL: What do you reckon my codename is? I think it's  
11 somethin' awesome like 'Blue Orangutan'. Or 'Purple  
12 Orangutan'. Or 'Orange...'

13 **BEAT**

14 Just 'Orange'.

15 **BEAT**

16 FALCONER: OK who's next?

17 CHRISTY: Let's do me!

18 BURNEY: Establishing link...

19 **FX: HOLOGRAM FUZZES IN**

20 BURNEY: You're putting Nicholls' bags in what must be  
21 Falconer's quarters.

22 FALCONER: Now we've established I'm a Commander, you *could*  
23 refer to me as 'Commander'.

24 BURNEY: Indeed I could.

25 HOLO-CHRISTY: [PISSED OFF] Do this, Christy. Do that, Christy...

26 FALCONER: You're opening the wardrobe. My jacket...

27 LOWELL: She's putting it on!

28 FALCONER: It makes sense now! The jacket was to help you  
29 visualise your aspirations. I can hardly blame you  
30 for *that*.

31 HOLO-CHRISTY: Oh *look!* It's *me!* Commander *Falconer!* Aren't I just  
32 *amazing.*

33 FALCONER: Oh.

34 HOLO-CHRISTY: What, me? Oh yes I saved *lots* of people in the  
35 Phobian wars. Oh yes I'm a *real hero.*

36 CHRISTY: Ummm...

1 HOLO-CHRISTY: And everywhere I go, people want to write about me  
2 because I'm soooo special.

3 CHRISTY: Hahaha... Goes on a bit doesn't it..

4 HOLO-CHRISTY: And I had a *breakdown*, which nobody is allowed to  
5 talk about even though I always mention it, because  
6 it makes me so *complex* and *interesting*.

7 LOWELL: Haha! That sounds *exactly* like her!

8 CHRISTY: Perhaps we can fast forward this?

9 BURNEY: We cannot. This may be important.

10 HOLO-CHRISTY: Yes I really WAS a top student at the academy. It's  
11 helpful when your dad was a really senior  
12 interrogator which for some reason I'm really  
13 uncomfortable about even though he opened all these  
14 doors for me..

15 CHRISTY: [MORTIFIED] Ohflipohflipohflipohflip-

16 FALCONER: You can skip this now, Burney.

17 BURNEY: But-

18 FALCONER: *Skip. It.*

19 **FX: FAST FORWARD**

20 CHRISTY: Sorry Commander. Again.

21 FALCONER: We'll talk later.

22 BURNEY: OK. After strutting for approximately... 37 minutes...  
23 you leave the room.

24 LOWELL: She's gone into the rememberery room!

25 HOLO-CHRISTY: Right. What did Burney say? Neural link, and..

26 **FX: A SECONDARY HOLOGRAM FUZZES IN**

27 FALCONER: So the hologram Christy is now watching a hologram  
28 Christy?

29 CHRISTY: There's... a house.

30 And that must be me, but much younger. I'm outside a  
31 tall house on a terraced street.

32 FALCONER: Someone lifts a bag onto a bus, and the adults with  
33 you - in big woolly coats...

34 CHRISTY: One pulls my hat down, so it's on properly. He holds  
35 my face and smiles. They both smile. But they're  
36 pretending. You can tell. They hug me, then...

1 I get on the bus and run to the back, and I wave  
2 through the window. And they keep waving as we get  
3 further away, until...

4 **PAUSE**

5 BURNEY: [FLATLY] Until you cannot see them anymore and they  
6 are completely gone. Then you switch the second  
7 memory off, and curiously you remain sedentary for a  
8 while doing nothing of interest whatsoever-

9 FALCONER: [YOU'RE BEING INSENSITIVE] Burney..

10 **FX: FAST FORWARD**

11 BURNEY: You return to your quarters, and shed tears for an  
12 extended period of time, before there is another  
13 holographic lacuna.

14 FALCONER *Honestly* Burney!

15 BURNEY: Apologies. That was remiss of me.

16 CHRISTY: That's OK.

17 BURNEY: Because I overlooked your collective illiteracy. A  
18 lacuna is a 'gap'.

19 FALCONER: Are you OK, Christy?

20 CHRISTY: I guess that memory must *mean* something to me. Just  
21 wish I knew what.

22 **MUSIC: AMBIENTAL**

23

24 **SCENE SIX: INT. SIMULATION ROOM**

25 LOWELL: I should warn you that what you're about to see will  
26 be really shocking. A world of shadows and deception  
27 that *you never knew existed*. Here we go!

28 **FX: HOLOGRAM FUZZES IN**

29 **PAUSE**

30 BURNEY: This must be the notorious part of espionage that  
31 involves sitting on the sofa eating crispy onion  
32 rings.

33 LOWELL: I must be undercover. Go forward a bit.

34 **FX: FAST FORWARD**

35 LOWELL: Ah - now I go to the remembery room!

36 I'm probably about to watch some amazin' mission  
37 what I've done.

38 **FX: SECOND HOLOGRAM FUZZES IN**

1 BURNEY: The second holographic version of you is... sitting on  
2 the sofa eating crispy onion rings.

3 And now the first hologram of you - the one  
4 observing the second hologram - has taken out a bag  
5 of crispy onion rings, and is proceeding to consume  
6 them, while watching the second hologram eat crispy  
7 onion rings.

8 LOWELL: This is makin' me hungry.

9 **FX: CRINKLY NOISE**

10 **LOWELL STARTS CRUNCHING ONION RINGS**

11 BURNEY: Well, as exhilarating as this demonstration of  
12 fractal recursion is, let's just..

13 **FX: FAST FORWARDS**

14 FALCONER: Stop! He's turning the machine off and pulling out a  
15 notebook, and... *colouring pencils?*

16 LOWELL: Ah - THIS is where I draw secret maps and things.  
17 You just watch.

18 **FX: HOLO-SCRIBBLING**

19 HOLO-LOWELL: The Bionic Belch is in trouble! He's hangin' over a  
20 vat of minty mouthwash that will stop his belches  
21 from working! And who's that? A baddy in a mask,  
22 laughing at him.

23 But don't worry, because here's Bumface Boy -  
24 walkin' through the door, here to save him!

25 Help me Bumface Boy!

26 [BURNEY VOICE] Hmm, actually I won't help because..

27 [LOWELL VOICE] And the baddy takes off the mask, and  
28 it's *another* Bumface - except it's a Bumface *Girl*.

29 And Bumface Boy says "I'm just too *busy*."

30 And then both the Bumfaces are laughing and laughing  
31 as The Bionic Belch lowers down into minty doom!

32 And just as he's about to go in, Bumface Boy  
33 shouts-

34 **FX: HOLOGRAM DOOR SWISHES OPEN**

35 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Oh. Didn't realise anyone was...  
36 You're probably wondering what I'm doing..

37 HOLO-LOWELL: No.

38 **PAUSE**

1 HOLO-NICHOLLS: I won't insult you by pretending you don't know who  
2 I am.

3 HOLO-LOWELL: Ok.

4 **PAUSE**

5 HOLO-NICHOLLS: You - *know* who I am, don't you?

6 HOLO-LOWELL: You're asking if I know who *you* are?

7 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Um... I think so, yes.

8 **PAUSE**

9 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Do you?

10 HOLO-LOWELL: Do I what.

11 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Know who I am.

12 HOLO-LOWELL: Nope.

13 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Mils said she needed one of those Laser Stunner  
14 things... For a... thing... And I was just wondering-

15 HOLO-LOWELL: Basement storage.

16 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Oh! Great!

17 And if anyone asks, this conversation didn't happen,  
18 alright?

19 HOLO-LOWELL: What conversation?

20 HOLO-NICHOLLS: The one we just had.

21 HOLO-LOWELL: Did we?

22 **BEAT**

23 HOLO-NICHOLLS: I'm just going to go.

24 **FX: HOLO DOOR SWISHES CLOSED. SCRIBBLING RECOMMENCES**

25 HOLO-LOWELL: Bumface Boy shouts - 'Now the whole world will know  
26 your secret -'

27 **BEAT**

28 'Your secret-' -

29 [THOUGHTFULLY] Secret identity...

30 Remembery thingy: show me when I first woke up as a  
31 cyborg - after the accident.

32 **FX: HOLOGRAM FUZZES IN**

33 HOLO-PROFOCTOR: Good morning, subject. You've slept a very long  
34 time. I'm the Profoctor, and I just saved your life.



1                   You were in a blast. In a mortar factory. *Those*  
2                   *curséd Defectors!*

3                   Fortunately there was enough of you to salvage, and  
4                   so here you are now, augmented to perfection.

5 HOLO-LOWELL:     Who am I?

6 HOLO-PROFOCTOR: Oh I'm afraid there were too many people in the  
7                   debris to know who was who.

8                   On the bright side, I now have a lot of spare parts!

9                   As for you, a new life is yours. Just pick a name  
10                  from this list of missing persons.

11 HOLO-LOWELL:    I like... *that* one.

12 HOLO-PROFOCTOR: Very well. [WITH POMP] You shall be known as...  
13                   Lillian Snyder.

14 HOLO-LOWELL:    Actually no, *that* one.

15 HOLO-PROFOCTOR: Crystal Castaneda?

16 HOLO-LOWELL:    Nah. That?

17 HOLO-PROFOCTOR: Cyril Wong.

18 HOLO-LOWELL:    Nah.

19 HOLO-PROFOCTOR: Geoffrey Grant-Buchanan. Ayotunde Okiro. Thaddeus  
20                   Van Der Kamp. Zachariah O'Brien - Look just *choose*  
21                   one!

22 HOLO-LOWELL:    That one.

23 HOLO-PROFOCTOR: Oh.

24                   *Really?*

25 HOLO-LOWELL:    Howell Lowell. Yeah I like that.

26 HOLO- PROFOCTOR: *Marvellous!*

27                   **PAUSE**

28                   Now go away.

29 **FX:**           **HOLOGRAM FUZZES OUT**

30 CHRISTY:         You're a cyborg!

31 LOWELL:          Or as I call me: a *spyborg*.

32 FALCONER:        You're trying another memory.

33 HOLO-LOWELL:    Remembery thingy: Get my rememberies from before  
34                   that. A remembery what I *can't* member.

35 FALCONER:        Something's forming..

1   **FX:**                   **HOLOGRAM FUZZES IN AND OUT**

2                           Oh. It's gone.

3   BURNEY:                It appears the projector was unable to access  
4                           memories from before your augmentation.

5   CHRISTY:               Holo-you looks a bit sad.

6   FALCONER:              Aaaand now he's watching himself eat crispy onion  
7                           rings again.

8   **FX:**                   **FAST FORWARD**

9   BURNEY:                He returns to a Recreation Room... sits on the sofa,  
10                          and... there's the lacuna.

11                          'Gap'.

12   CHRISTY:               [SYMPATHETICALLY] I don't think you're a spy,  
13                          Lowell.

14   LOWELL:                No more secret tummy scratches. Just normal tummy  
15                          scratches from now on.

16   FALCOENR:             It *still* doesn't complete the jigsaw.

17   BURNEY:                There is *one* more person we could try...

18   **MUSIC:**              **AMBIENCE**

19

20

21

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34   **SCENE SEVEN:        INT. SIMULATION ROOM**

1 FALCONER: OK Walter Nicholls, let's see what your slumbering  
2 mind reveals.

3 **FX: HOLOGRAM FUZZES IN**

4 BURNEY: I'll skip what we already know...

5 **FX: FAST FORWARDS THEN STOPS**

6 CHRISTY: There! He leaves Lowell...

7 **FX: SPURTS OF FAST FORWARDING THROUGHOUT NEXT BIT**

8 FALCONER: Finds a Stunner... Goes into the infirmary, and - it's  
9 me.

10 BURNEY: He aims the Stunner at you - and-

11 **FX: BUZZ! SLUMP.FAST FORWARD A BIT**

12 CHRISTY: Drags you to the memory room.

13 HOLO-NICHOLLS: I told you I'd get this feature done, Mils, with or  
14 without your help. Now, I think you can hear me in  
15 there, so how about showing me something juicy...

16 **FX: SECOND HOLOGRAM FUZZES IN**

17 FALCONER: A child. Must be me. I'm in some sort of study... I  
18 look on the shelves, and pick something up.

19 BURNEY: Sea coral. An extinct marine invertebrate from the  
20 decommissioned Earth.

21 FALCONER: I'm playing with it. I drop it. And it breaks.

22 **FX: HOLOGRAM DOOR CREAKS OPEN**

23 HOLO-SILAS: Scout? Is that you? What are you doing in here? No.  
24 NO! You are NOT to touch my things.

25 *It's broken!*

26 Don't be stupid, of course it can't be fixed! It  
27 will *never* be fixed! Get out. *Get out!*

28 HOLO-NICHOLLS: [RELISHING DISCOVERY] Daddy issues, eh? Cha-ching!

29 **FX: A SLIGHT GLITCH IN THE HOLOGRAPHIC NOISE - WILL BE**  
30 **EXPLAINED LATER**

31 No point in hiding - sooner or later I'll find you!

32 OK computer: Show me all the most *traumatic* moments  
33 from Mils' life!

34 **FX: SOME KIND OF NOISE THAT REPRESENTS FILES UPLOADING...**  
35 **GETTING FASTER AND FASTER. WE HEAR A MONTAGE OF WAR**  
36 **ZONES, SCREAMING, HER FATHER SAYING 'SCOUT',**

37 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Wait...! I didn't mean - Stop! Stop!

1 FALCONER: [GROWING SENSE OF HORROR] What's happening? Is that  
2 my- Is that all from me? It's all so...

3 BURNEY: There is too much data. He's trying to stop the  
4 transfer, and:

5 **FX: A 'SONIC BOOM' FOLLOWED BY A BRIEF SILENCE**

6 CHRISTY: What was that? He just fell unconscious onto the  
7 floor - like something *hit* him.

8 **FX: A HOLOGRAM VOOPS IN**

9 LOWELL: Another hologram!

10 FALCONER: A boy. In pyjamas. He walks into a bedroom.

11 HOLO-MRS NICH: Walter? Is that you?  
12 Oh darling, it's just the night. It's really nothing  
13 to be scared of...  
14 Darling, shh, OK. It's OK. Come here. Come here.  
15 It's alright.

16 **MUSIC: MRS. NICHOLLS HUMS THE SONG THAT HAS BEEN PLAYING  
17 EARLIER. IT ONCE AGAIN ECHOES AROUND THE ROOM.**

18 CHRISTY: He's scared of the dark. He's been projecting the  
19 music to comfort himself.

20 BURNEY: The overloading machine must have caused a psychic  
21 wave, of sorts. It impacted everyone in the base  
22 with whom it had shared a neural link, thus sending  
23 the rest of us unconscious and affecting our  
24 memories.

25 FALCONER: Can you fix it?

26 BURNEY: A simple reverse procedure. Although it will mean  
27 returning *all* our memories. Including the unpleasant  
28 ones.

29 FALCONER: I see.  
30 Well, I'm not thrilled to have what looked like a  
31 lifetime of trauma returned to me. However I'm sure  
32 there are healthier ways of dealing with it, than  
33 pretending it isn't there.

34 LOWELL: Looks like I ain't got many rememberies anyhow, so  
35 may as well get some back.

36 FALCONER: Christy? Yours didn't look cheerful exactly.

37 CHRISTY: It's OK Commander. I think - I think sad memories  
38 can sometimes be OK. I think they can help us to  
39 know what it is we want for our future.

40 FALCONER: Then we're agreed. Let's go be ourselves again.

1   **MUSIC:**                   **AMBIENTAL**  
2  
3   **SCENE EIGHT:**       **INT. SIMULATION ROOM**  
4   NICHOLLS:               Where am I?  
5   FALCONER:               Morning, Witless Nimrod. Don't tell me. Headache?  
6                            Blurred vision? Disorientation?  
7   NICHOLLS:               It was so *dark...* for so *long...*  
8   FALCONER:               Huh. Reminds me of the time I let an idiot come to  
9                            my base to knock my team unconscious and steal my  
10                            memories.  
11  NICHOLLS:               I can explain-  
12  FALCONER:               No thank you. Oh! Funny thing though! Getting my  
13                            memories back made a few other old memories  
14                            resurface. I recalled a comrade once telling me  
15                            about this one correspondent. Awful man by all  
16                            accounts. We did a little digging just now, and -  
17                            what was it?  
18  LOWELL:                 Turns out he'd come and hassle their troops all day.  
19  BURNEY:                 And then at night he would return to civilian  
20                            quarters-  
21  CHRISTY:                And sleep in luxury hotels.  
22  FALCONER:               Gritty and extreme, no?  
23  NICHOLLS:               Please - you can't-  
24  FALCONER:               I won't tell a soul. Just as long as you do a little  
25                            favour for us, before you go  
26  NICHOLLS:               What?  
27  FALCONER:               Bathtub needs grouting. And when you're done, you  
28                            can sleep in there too.  
29  NICHLLS:                But I've never grouted a-  
30  CHRISTY:                Well go on! Good boy! *Off you pop!*  
31  **FX:**                   **DOOR SWISHES OPEN AND CLOSED**  
32  CHRISTY:                Commander, about the jacket ...  
33  FALCONER:               It doesn't matter.  
34  CHRISTY:                I wasn't very *nice*, was I.  
35  FALCONER:               You weren't ready.  
36                            But then I'm not sure anyone ever really is.

1   LOWELL:           I'm gonna watch the wrestlin'. Anyone seen the  
2                     remote?

3   FALCONER:         Where was it last?

4   LOWELL:           Next to the TV.

5   FALCONER:         Is it not there?

6   LOWELL:           Dunno. Haven't looked yet.

7   CHRISTY:          Come on; I'll help with the search.

8   FALCONER:         You coming, Burney?

9   BURNEY:           I will stay to dismantle this. Regrettably, another  
10                    failed experiment.

11   LOWELL:           [LEAVING] There's just one thing I still don't get.  
12                    Who was the spy?

13   CHRISTY:          [LEAVING] Nobody's a spy, Lowell...

14   **FX:                DOOR SWISHES CLOSED**

15   BURNEY:           Orpheus: Retrieve encrypted file 473.

16   **FX:                HOLOGRAM LOADS UP**

17   HOLO-NICHOLLS:   [REPEAT FROM EARLIER] Daddy issues, eh? Cha-ching!

18   **FX:                HOLOGRAM DOOR SWISHES OPEN**

19   HOLO-NICHOLLS:   Oh. It's you.

20   HOLO-BURNEY:     Indeed.

21   HOLO-NICHOLLS:   Caught red-handed aren't I. I'd make excuses, except  
22                    you wouldn't dare stop me.

23                     Cos I remembered where I know you from. Didn't even  
24                    need your machine.

25                     See, there was this one time I was captured. By  
26                    Defectors. I was blindfolded so I couldn't identify  
27                    them - they made sure of that.

28                     After a couple of days I was told they'd made a  
29                    deal. They brought me back out into the cold light  
30                    of day, in the Coprates Chasm. I was pushed forward  
31                    towards the troop who'd secured my return. As  
32                    ordered, I walked ahead without once looking back.

33                     And that's when I discovered what the terms of  
34                    negotiation had been. That's when I saw the face of  
35                    their own hostage being sent back the other way.

36   HOLO-BURNEY:     I wondered if you would make the connection.

37   HOLO-NOCHOLLS:   Seeing as I'm the one with the Stunner, you're going  
38                    give me exactly as I ask.

1 HOLO-BURNEY: Which is?

2 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Her memories. All of them.

3 HOLO-BURNEY: It would not be easy...

4 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Find a way. And do it fast.

5 HOLO-BURNEY: As you wish. Orpheus. Enable protocol 437.

6 HOLO-NICHOLLS: What's that?

7 HOLO-BURNEY: It's a contingency output maximisation programme  
8 with redaction and encryption functionality to  
9 facilitate this anticipated scenario.

10 HOLO-NICHOLLS: How many times! Short words!

11 HOLO-BURNEY: It will upload Falconer's memories directly to your  
12 mind. Be careful however - they will not be  
13 pleasant.

14 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Exactly what I wanted to hear. Knew you'd see the  
15 light.

16 HOLO-BURNEY: Mmm-hmm.

17 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Now what you doing?

18 HOLO-BURNEY: Observing my internal bowel movements.

19 HOLO-NICHOLLS: Why?

20 HOLO-BURNEY: The last eighty seconds should be enough. [BRISKLY  
21 WALKING AWAY] Goodbye Nicholls!

22 HOLO-NICHOLLS: [REVERTING BACK TO PREVIOUSLY PLAYED MEMORY] No  
23 point in hiding - sooner or later I'll find you!

24 OK computer: Show me all the most *traumatic* moments  
25 from-

26 BURNEY: Orpheus: Delete this file.

27 **FX: A NOISE TO DENOTE DELETION. HOLOGRAM OFF.**

28 **FX: CLICK OF DICATION DEVICE**

29 BURNEY: Burney's log:

30 It was of course Nicholls' anticipated arrival that  
31 was the catalyst for the machine's creation. He was  
32 the perfect foil, enabling an opportunity to see  
33 something of my colleagues' histories without  
34 raising suspicion.

35 Nicholls' own recollection was always a risk - but I  
36 have now expunged that particular detail from his  
37 memory.

1 This was not a project without challenges. Foremost:  
2 designing a psychic wave to affect all those with  
3 neural links to the machine, after which I could add  
4 my own selected memories into the mix.

5 I doubt the team will realise. Even if they note  
6 inconsistencies, their memories will fade and alter  
7 over time, as memories do, mutating to serve the  
8 internal narratives that we each create for  
9 ourselves. I would hope - as compensation - they may  
10 have attained some psychological closure.

11 As for my studies, it was modestly illuminating.  
12 Although for the brief light it cast on Falconer's  
13 psyche, it revealed a legion of shadows.

14 End log

15 **FX: DICTATION DEVICE OFF**

16 **MUSIC: END THEME**

17 **NICHOLLS TO READ END CREDS**

18

19 **SCENE NINE (POST-CREDITS): INT. SIMULATION ROOM**

20 **FX: DOOR SWISHES OPEN**

21 BURNEY: Lowell? Forget something?

22 LOWELL: Uh, hey. No - sort of opposite of that actually.  
23 Wanted to ask you.

24 Something's appeared in my head. A bit like a  
25 remembery, but one I've never membered before.

26 BURNEY: Go on...

27 LOWELL: There's a room. A big room. And on the wall are  
28 these words, like written big, in silver. They say:

29 BURNEY: The Syndicated Intelligence Network for  
30 Interplanetary Science Technology and Exploratory  
31 Research.

32 LOWELL: How'd you know?

33 BURNEY: What else would it say? The same emblem is writ  
34 across many a wall. Your memories are simply  
35 reordering themselves. That is all.

36 LOWELL: I guess. But it's the other bit I don't get.

37 BURNEY: What bit?

38 LOWELL: There's this table in the room. And all round it are  
39 these people in suits, all lookin' at me. And  
40 there's a name thingy on the table in front of me. I



1                   can't see the *name* itself, but I can see the other  
2                   thing it says.

3                   'Director'.

4                   **PAUSE**

5                   Probably means nothing right?

6    BURNEY:        Almost certainly.

7                   Although... do feel free to inform me if you have more  
8                   of these false memories. They may be tangentially  
9                   interesting for my studies.

10   LOWELL:        Yeah 'K.

11                   Sure you don't wanna come watch the wrestling?  
12                   They're doing it in a *crater*, and then there's a  
13                   half time bit with Nik and the Sputz streaming live  
14                   from a service satellite-

15   BURNEY:        Positive.

16   LOWELL:        Right.

17                   'Colleagues'.

18   **FX:**           **DOOR SWISHES CLOSED**

19   BURNEY:        *Interesting.*

20                   **END**