

Stargate Universe 3x02: What you believe in

by

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[PREVIOUSLY ON STARGATE UNIVERSE]

[From 2.19 'Blockade']

FX: DESTINY Fighting with the Drones

GREER

It's a blockade

[From 2.20 'Gauntlet']

RUSH

As far as we can tell they're waiting
at every gate between here and the edge
of the galaxy

FX: Drone ship in front of a star

ELI

One continuous FTL jump, out and around
the length of this galaxy, across the
gap to the next one and we reach the
first gate on the other side.

YOUNG

How long?

ELI

Three years

Show stasis pod

ELI

Once you're sealed inside the stasis
pod, your metabolism shuts down. You
just sleep through the whole thing.

Cut To:

ELI

We are one short. It just...died. I'll
do it. I'll stay out.

Cut To:

FX: Destiny making the jump to hyperspace.

INT - DESTINY - Tracking over the stasis pods to show the crew sleeping. Eli by himself on the observation deck.

Cut To:

[From 3x01: Journey's End]

JACK ONEILL

A lot has changed in the three years
you've been away from us.

FX: Showing destruction on Earth. NYC and DC in flames.

FX: Destiny dropping out of FTL, and approaching a planet

YOUNG

We're way off course

RUSH

It's perfect. Sounds artificial.

FX: The obelisk on the planet's surface

Cut To: Scene with Rush and Chloe opening the lock.

Cut To: Scene with Rush approaching the inside of the tower, and we see the nerve center with ELI inside.

Fade Out:

Fade In:

TEASER

Montage of images, starting with Destiny in orbit, looking at those working hard on the bridge, the folks below decks doing the ordinary work, food prep, cleaning.

A look at the blackboard corridor with Rush and Chloe's writing on it.

A look at the control interface room with Volker and Brody at work.

A look at the infirmary with Park's eyes being treated. It's a montage of life aboard the Destiny as we hear-

SCOTT (V.O)

There is a time for everything

A time to be born and a time to die

A time to plant and a time to uproot

A time to kill and a time to heal

The montage continues to the planet below. We see teams working on the new ships they've acquired from the blueberry aliens, and folks shuttling in and out of the tower. Finally we see Rush and Chloe working on the pod that contains Eli.

SCOTT (V.O CT'D)

He has made everything beautiful in its time..

We PULL IN to Eli's face as he's in some form of stasis in the module. His face looks peaceful, serene, happy.

SCOTT (V.O CT'D)

So I saw that there is nothing better for a man than to enjoy his work, because that is his lot.

For who can bring him to see what will happen after him?

As ELI's EYES SNAP OPEN! And we-

Fade Out:

ACT ONE:

FADE IN:

FX: DESTINY in orbit of the artificial world.

EXT - Planet - Day - A view of the Obelisk - Establishing Shot

INT - Obelisk

We PAN through the room at the base of the Obelisk. At its heart is the nexus inside of which sits Eli. Rush is fiddling with an interface panel at the rear, which he has successfully opened, but the circuitry of which he can't begin to understand. Chloe is reading the figures projected into the air near the device.

CHLOE

As far as I can tell it's a status up-date. The rotation of this planet is close to 25 earth-hours, and this-

She indicates a symbol that changes rapidly and regularly.

CHLOE (CT'D)

Is on a cycle to repeat exactly 100,000 times in one day. It's a little under 1 second.

Rush gives up what he's working on and comes over to take a look.

Abruptly the display changes. Some of the figures are turning red. There's a lot more activity than before.

RUSH

What did you do?

CHLOE

Nothing I-

She gets disturbed by the sound of a motor lifting the top off the pod, including a 'whoosh' of air as the pressure gets equalized. She looks around to see-

Eli. He's awake, and he's smiling.

ELI

Chloe. Doctor Rush. You made it.

Rush walks over to him and nonchalantly starts inspecting him, turning his head, peering into his eyes.

CHLOE
Doctor Rush!

RUSH
We can't be too careful. How do we know
it's really Eli?

ELI
Oh it's really me alright. As real as I
can be...

(a beat)

Under the circumstances

RUSH
How did you get here?

ELI
They took me here. They came to me in
my dreams.

(A beat)

It was beautiful

CHLOE
Who?

ELI
The Planet Builders. I started calling
them Eloi, you know after-

RUSH
Right. But why did they take you here?

ELI
Because they can? Because I was going
to die on Destiny? Because I don't

care. I just know they took me here and they looked after me.

CHLOE

How?

ELI

I saw the Universe. You don't know the scale. The majesty. The beauty.

(A beat)

The terror.

There are dark things out there. They wanted me to know.

(A beat)

We will meet some of them before this journey is done.

RUSH

We can't use the radio in here. Chloe, can you go outside and radio Colonel Young to let him know?

ELI

No. It's time to go back to Destiny. I want to see her again.

Eli nonchalantly walks out of the pod and heads towards the exit.

RUSH

You mean that's it? Just like that you leave.

ELI

Yep. Just like that we all leave.

RUSH

But what about the answers? What about what's going on?

ELI

And what makes you think we have a right to know? We survived the trip. All of us. Including me.

(A beat)

Isn't that enough?

Eli walks ahead, leaving through the vestibule. Chloe watches him oddly. He's still Eli, but he's a little different.

Cut To:

INT - DESTINY - LANDING AREA

The blueberry aliens had carved a section out of the hull, and built a makeshift hangar area where they could come and go. A force field prevents the air from escaping, but the shuttle-like ships they use can land and take off from here. Destiny has about 10 of them now.

One shuttle comes in to land. Colonel Young and Lieutenant Scott are waiting for it. Scott is bandaged up a little from his wounds in 3x01.

As it lands and the doorway opens, Eli steps out to a grinning Colonel Young.

YOUNG

Eli. It is so good to see you!

ELI

It's good to be back. I never thought I'd miss this bucket, but, there you go.

SCOTT

Leave it to you, with only 2 weeks' worth of power for a three year journey to find a way to survive-

ELI

Yeah, you'd never think I'd have guardian god-like aliens ready to jump in and save the day.

FLASHBACK - Eli's words trigger a memory in Scott. From the day they arrived on Destiny, and they went to the desert world to look for material for the oxygen filter. How the dust devil led Scott to find it, and the visions he'd seen. ('Air, Part 3')

Scott snaps out of it. From his POV he sees Eli watching him woolgathering. He smiles, as does Eli. The friendship is ready to resume.

INT - DESTINY - CORIDOOR

As Eli, Young and Scott walk along it.

YOUNG

And just like that they took you?

ELI

Yeah. It was about day 18, and despite rationing power, food and water, I was done.

(A beat)

I thought it was, you know...my time.

(A long beat as he pauses to collect himself)

I was working in the control interface room, trying to get better information on the stasis pods. Something, anything, that could help me fix one.

I guess I passed out.

(A beat)

I didn't wake up until a couple of hours ago, but I *thought* I had woken up beforehand. The aliens took me places, showed me things.

YOUNG

So they just took you, without asking? Against your will?

ELI

I had no will left. I was done.

(A beat)

I know what you're thinking. That they might be a threat. Well they're not. If they were, we wouldn't be around to have this conversation. We wouldn't be able to stop them from doing exactly what they want.

YOUNG

Do you know what they want?

ELI

I think it's very simple. They just want to get to know us.

They are interrupted by a radio ping.

BRODY (V.O.)

Brody to Colonel Young

YOUNG

Young here.

BRODY (V.O.)

Most of the power systems have - uh - rebooted. I think the stones are good to go.

YOUNG
Roger that. Young out.

He touches another button on his walkie talkie.

YOUNG (C'TD)
Young to Wray. The stones appear to be operational. Meet me in the stones room, stat.

He turns back to Eli. His business-like face goes away and is replaced with a fatherly one. He puts his arm on Eli's shoulder.

YOUNG
Whatever the reason. I'm thankful. It's good to see you again.

(A beat)

Thank you, Eli

He turns and heads in another direction, Scott following, after a brotherly nod towards Eli. PULL IN on Eli's face. He's happy to be alive, but there's a glint of worry in his eyes.

CUT TO:

INT - OBELISK

Down on the planet's surface, within the obelisk, teams are still working, trying to figure out what is happening. FX as we see the terminal Chloe had been working on. The countdown stops-

INT - DESTINY - STONES ROOM

Wray is waiting impatiently as Young and Scott enter.

YOUNG
Have you tried them yet?

WRAY
No. I was waiting for you. And, Colonel-

YOUNG

What is it?

WRAY

Chloe told me that she got them to work, back when we all woke up from stasis. She didn't like what she saw on Earth. She said they'd been attacked.

YOUNG

Then we'd better hurry

She nods and they take two stones. They touch them to the surface and we-

CUT TO:

INT - CONFERENCE ROOM - ABOARD 'GEORGE HAMMOND'

Wray and Young wake up in the bodies of an airman and an airwoman. JACK O'NEILL is waiting for them.

JACK

Which two is it this time?

YOUNG

I'm Colonel Young

WRAY

And I'm Camille Wray

Jack looks at them. To him it's an airman and an airwoman. Fortunately the genders didn't get mixed up.

JACK

Well good thing you didn't end up in her body and you didn't end up in his. The whole bathroom thing, you know.

He shrugs.

JACK (CT'D)

Well, Miss Wray. I'm afraid I'm going to have to put you under arrest.

(A beat)

Sorry about that.

She stands to protest, but Jack pulls a gun on her. He smiles and shrugs in his nonchalant Jack-way, and she sits.

Two marines come in, slap her in cuffs and haul her away.

Jack then calmly turns the gun and points it at Youngs head.

JACK

Now all I need to figure out is if you
are responsible for all this too?

PULL IN on Young's face as he looks concerned. Now what?

As we FADE OUT:

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ACT TWO

FADE IN:

We're still in the conference room aboard the 'George Hammond'. Jack is pointing his gun square at Young's head.

YOUNG

Sir. If you shoot you'll be killing the innocent body of the marine that I'm currently occupying.

JACK

He knows what he signed up for. He knows he may be called upon to make the ultimate sacrifice.

YOUNG

With all due respect, sir. This isn't the Jack O'Neill I know.

JACK

Desperate times.

He thinks about it a moment, and then lowers the gun.

YOUNG

Sir, I've been in stasis for three years. I don't know what's going on.

JACK

The Lucian alliance. That's what's going on.

YOUNG

We had heard that they were planning an attack on Earth-

JACK

The cloaked shuttle with the nuke was just the beginning. It was the ultimate diversion. While we were chasing our tails to defuse it they smuggled a

whole bunch of nukes to the planet and hid them here.

(A beat)

And while we were looking to the skies for more cloaked shuttles, they were moving on the ground into a position to kick us where it hurts.

YOUNG

What has this to do with me?

JACK

They're on your ship. You've brought one of them, Varro, into the fold. And Destiny seems to be their goal.

YOUNG

Destiny? Why?

JACK

They've had the bombs in place around Earth for three years. They wait until now, just before you come out of stasis to blow them up, taking out many major cities.

(A beat)

And it gets worse. If it could get worse than the death of millions.

He pauses and sits. Suddenly Jack looks old.

JACK

With the destruction of DC, the US government is on the verge of collapsing. Britain, Russia, France all the same. The world is plunging into chaos.

(A beat)

So our friends in the IOC are moving to take over.

How convenient.

YOUNG
You think they had help?

JACK
I know they had help. Your friend-

He gestures his head in the direction Wray had been taken

JACK
-was secretly reporting to a guy called Dale Strom every time she came back to visit. You heard of him?

YOUNG
IOC?

JACK
Yep. And guess who was first to move towards a 'One Earth Government'

He puts his fingers in the air to make a 'quote' sign

JACK
And then have that 'One Earth Government' join with the Lucian alliance to form a major human-centric power in the Galaxy.

YOUNG
But what's all this got to do with Destiny?

JACK
If I knew the answer to that question, I could win this war. They've been after Destiny since day 1.

YOUNG

It was them that attacked Icarus base.
It was them that figured out how to dial
Destiny and attack us.

JACK

But what's so important about that ancient
ship that they'd go to so much trouble?

YOUNG

Doctor Rush believes that Destiny's
mission is to investigate some messages
left over since the big bang in the
fabric of space itself.

JACK

But what message is worth this? Lottery
numbers?

He shrugs.

JACK

Anyway, I need more than just theories
if I'm going to stop Strom. We've gotten
chatter from some cells in what's
left of the DC area. We need to infiltrate
them, and use them to lead us to the
source. Cut the head off that beast,
and hopefully the rest will follow.

(A beat)

I'm not usually this poetic.

YOUNG

I have an idea, sir.

Jack raises an eyebrow as we

CUT TO:

FX: DESTINY in orbit around the artificial planet.

INT - DESTINY - BRIDGE

Rush is in the captain's chair. Scott is standing behind him and to his side. Brody and Volker at the workstations. A CHIME goes off at Brody's station.

BRODY

Detecting an increase in power at the surface.

RUSH

How much of an increase?

BRODY

Exponential. It's doubling every few seconds.

SCOTT

Do we have a visual?

VOLKER

Not yet. Our orbit will take us over the horizon so we can see it in just a couple of seconds. We'll have a clear view in a few minutes.

BRODY

I'm detecting seismic activity now.

SCOTT

Get our people out of there!

CUT TO:

INT - Obelisk

There's a humming coming from beneath the surface. The room is beginning to shake.

Doctor Morrison is here with a team of civilians and marines.

BRODY (V.O.)

Doctor Morrison, we're picking up-

MORRISON

I know. Everybody out. Go! Go! Go!

The shaking is getting worse now. Everybody drops what they'd been working on and runs for the exit of the obelisk. The Marines (of course) hold up the rear to make sure everyone is safe.

INT - Obelisk - Vestibule

As the party runs towards the vestibule. The shaking is bad now, and loose rocks are falling all around them.

EXT - Obelisk - Day

As the party runs out of the Obelisk. Once the last Marine is out, the doors slam shut, sealing them out.

The HUMMING is louder now, and distorted.

MORRISON

Look!

We follow his finger upwards towards the top of the obelisk. It's glowing BRIGHT WHITE, and with a boom a pillar of light shoots upwards towards space!

INT - DESTINY - BRIDGE

VOLKER

Power surge. Something's hitting us.

BRODY

It's coming from the planet below.

SCOTT
Evasive action!

VOLKER
Too Late!

CUT TO:

FX - DESTINY in orbit around the planet.

A THICK WHITE BEAM shoots up from the surface of the planet and hits Destiny square on. It looks like it should blow her to pieces, but...

Nothing happens, and as Destiny keeps moving, the beam is trailing her.

CUT TO:

INT - DESTINY - INFIRMARY

TJ is working on cataloging and inventorying her gear. Suddenly the place goes BRIGHT WHITE. After a moment, the glare leaves. She looks around, confused.

Something catches her eye. A heart-rate monitor, which lights up and glows. She walks over to it and picks it up. A big sticker with the words 'Broken, unrepairable' is on it.

TJ
Huh?

She turns it over in her hands. The battery compartment is open, and it isn't plugged in, yet, somehow, it's working.

She looks around the infirmary. Other pieces of equipment are suddenly working. From her expression, she's shocked and surprised. These were supposed to be dead.

CUT TO:

INT - DESTINY - ARMORY

Greer is here, cleaning his gun, and checking on ammo inventories. The same WHITE GLOW surrounds him for a moment. He lifts his gun to face the unseen threat, but it leaves.

GREER

What the-

We then hear a SOUND like heavy metal against metal, again and again. It's coming from behind a door behind Greer. He cocks his weapon and heads towards the source.

He opens the door and keeps walking towards the source of the sound. A little further down, and he sees a door with a handwritten sign 'Destiny Weaponry' in Eli's handwriting. He opens the door, and peers inside.

GREER

Well I'll be damned...

CUT TO:

INT - DESTINY - BRIDGE

As earlier, RUSH is in the chair, Scott is behind him, and Volker and Brody at the command consoles.

Colonel Young enters, in a hurry. He whispers something to Scott who leaves immediately.

Rush then relinquishes the Captain's chair to him.

YOUNG

Report.

BRODY

We're getting reports from all over the ship?

YOUNG

Damage?

BRODY

Quite the opposite. Energy reserves we didn't even know we had are being filled to capacity. Broken machines are being repaired and-

(A beat)

We have weapons. Lots of new weapons.

YOUNG

What?

VOLKER

Greer reported in, so we sent a Kino to check it out.

He calls the video up onto a screen. We see the same door that Greer had gone through in the previous scene.

VOLKER (V.O.)

These compartments have been empty since we got here. We had no idea what they were for, but now-

We see row after row of devices on the shelves. They're vaguely familiar.

YOUNG

Drones! Ancient Drones.

BRODY

They're a lot like the ones we used on Atlantis, but of course, an older design.

YOUNG

Where did they come from?

RUSH

We got hit by that beam from the planet and all these goodies suddenly appear. I don't want to sound ungrateful, but why?

YOUNG

And for what?

Fade Out:

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FADE IN:

ACT THREE:

FX: DESTINY -- As she orbits the planet

INT - DESTINY - VARRO'S QUARTERS

Varro is sitting on his bed, Young standing over him. Scott is standing by the door.

VARRO

You know I'll help however I can.

YOUNG

There's something I don't understand,
and it's been bugging me.

(A beat)

What do the Lucian Alliance want with
Earth?

VARRO

(Thoughtful)

For thousands of years humans around
the galaxy were enslaved by the
Go'auld. Once Earth got involved in the
fight against them, it took years, but
we became free.

(A beat)

Humanity became free.

He stands, and paces the room, looking for the next words.

VARRO

But what happened next? Earth and its
careless blundering around the Universe
woke up the Ori, and woke up the
Wraith. We've been fighting long and
bloody wars ever since.

He looks directly at Young. Anger in his eyes.

VARRO

But what adds insult to this injury, what makes it sickening, is that all that was done, in secret, from the people of Earth. There are billions who could have helped in the effort, but the select few in the military chose to keep the stars to themselves.

He sits again. Pauses.

VARRO

You started the wars, but we had to fight them. Our people died in the tens of thousands.

(A beat)

You want to know why the Lucian Alliance wanted to attack Earth? So that the people of Earth could be *free*.

YOUNG

Free? How? The freedom of death?

VARRO

(Angry)

We'd never attack a civilian population. Military targets only. The Tau'ri are as enslaved by you as we were by the Go'auld. If you are ignorant of the truth, you'll believe a lie.

(A beat)

We believed they were Gods.

(A beat)

The people of Earth believe they are alone in the Universe.

YOUNG

You'd only attack a military target?
Then why did they fly a cloaked shuttle
with a nuclear weapon on it to Home-
world Command?

(A beat)

In the middle of a heavily populated
city?

VARRO

You put a major military target in the
middle of a heavily populated city? Why
would you do that?

(A beat)

Besides, you might remember I helped
you disarm that. Doesn't that count for
something?

YOUNG

It does.

(A beat)

Why did you do it?

VARRO

Because that's not the Lucian Alliance
I know and love. That's not what I
joined up to fight for. That was the
act of-

(A beat)

A terrorist.

YOUNG

A terrorist?

VARRO

Yes. That act has no honor to it, and
there's no way we'd free the people of
Earth by nuking them.

You might not like us, Colonel, but we're not like that.

YOUNG

Can you be so sure?

Varro pauses. Looks at young for a moment, searching his eyes.

VARRO

Something has happened, hasn't it? Have you gotten in touch with Earth through the stones?

Look, Colonel, I've given you plenty of opportunity to trust me. Yes, I'm still the 'enemy' but, I won't stand for terrorism under our flag, and I'll do everything I can to stop it.

It's Young's turn to pause. He hesitates, and then turns towards Scott.

YOUNG

Well? Does he pass?

A beat and then we realize that it's not Scott -- it's General O'Neill in Scott's body.

SCOTT / JACK

(With typical Jack reluctance)

I suppose so.

CUT TO:

INT: DESTINY - CONTROL INTERFACE ROOM

Rush is working frantically at one of the consoles. Eli at another.

PULL IN to see the screen on Rush's console. We see imagery indicating that data banks are empty. Just show what looks like a standard hex-dump used for looking at computer memory. There are

lots and lots of zeros and as Rush is paging through them, every page looks like this.

RUSH
It's blank.

ELI
I know it's blank.

RUSH
Are you sure that's where you-

ELI
Quarantined them. Yes.

RUSH
But they're not there.

ELI
They're gone.

RUSH
Look, run the check again. Are you sure that's where they were?

ELI
I've gone through every system on the ship. All of our data is intact.

RUSH
Except-

ELI
Doctor Perry and Ginn. I know.

Rush slams his fist against his console and stands back.

Eli quietly contemplates him.

At that moment Chloe comes in, close to where Eli is standing. Sensing the tension she says nothing.

ELI

(Ct'd)

It's not a mistake. I don't think the Eloi make mistakes.

RUSH

Then why?

ELI

Look, this is just a theory but-

(A beat, while he collects his thoughts)

I think there's a precedent.

RUSH

A precedent? What for coming into our computer systems and taking the only bloody hope that these people had to live away from them? By formatting our hard drives as if they were just bad data.

ELI

TJ's baby.

RUSH

What?

ELI

TJ's baby wasn't stillborn. It didn't die. It just vanished.

RUSH

I fail to see the connection.

ELI

When she was unconscious, she saw that planet that Caine stayed on. The other one like this-

He gestures towards an unseen window.

ELI

(Ct'd)

Anyway, she saw that her baby was safe. They took the baby away so that it would not have to live here. Remember that TJ wanted to stay on the planet because she knew she couldn't raise a kid here. But her duty was to stay and serve, so she did. She was willing to sacrifice her time with her daughter to do what was right for her daughter.

RUSH

Come on, don't you think that's stretching it a bit? Caine and all his people died.

ELI

No, I don't.

CHLOE

And there's another precedent, isn't there, Eli?

He looks at her, but has no answer.

CHLOE

You.

(A beat)

We were one stasis pod short, and you took it. You were willing to sacrifice your life to save us all.

You knew there was no chance of fixing it in the time you had, didn't you?

Eli looks down, quiet, under her gaze.

ELI

(Hesitant)

I doubted it, but, it was the only way.

CHLOE

So they took you away. They saved you.

RUSH

And that's what you think happened to Amanda?

ELI

(with a little sarcasm)

And Ginn.

(A beat)

Yes, that's what I think happened to them. They wouldn't just empty those systems, and nothing else. It doesn't make sense.

RUSH

So where are they?

ELI

You're talking about people who can build planets and stars.

(A beat)

They're safe.

RUSH

I can't stand this bloody blind faith you've suddenly gotten in them. Maybe they think that uploading Amanda and Ginn into the computers was wrong, so they wiped them. They killed them. To put them out of their misery.

Rush storms out of the room.

ELI

(Shouting after Rush)

I don't know them, but I don't think they operate like that.

He stops, puts his head down and lets out a long breath. Chloe puts her arm on his shoulder.

CHLOE
Walk with me.

CUT TO:

FX - SPACE - - DESTINY ORBITING THE PLANET

CUT TO:

INT - DESTINY - CORRIDOR

Chloe and Eli walking together, quietly.

ELI
I was wondering when you'd come for me.

CHLOE
So it was you.

ELI
I'd have thought that the Kino would be a dead giveaway.

She laughs and puts her hand on his arm. He notices, but doesn't draw away. She lingers there for a moment and then takes it down.

ELI
(Ct'd)
So you saw Earth?

CHLOE

(Quietly)

Yes. But Wray didn't believe me, and I don't think Colonel Young wants the crew to know until they're ready.

ELI

Maybe not a bad idea.

CHLOE

So why me?

ELI

When I was out there, they came to me in my dreams. They spoke to me, they sang to me. They comforted me.

I knew when they were with me that somehow I would survive.

(He pauses)

And when they took me, and put me into stasis, they showed me Earth. I saw what happened.

He stops walking, and looks at her seriously.

ELI

I went to Seattle, where my Mom lives. And thankfully it hadn't been hit. She wasn't hurt. Neither was yours. She wasn't in DC when it was hit.

He stops again, he's searching for the right words.

ELI

But I think they wanted to see more. To learn more of us. So, I chose the best of us. You, Chloe.

(A beat)

To see what was happening. And to show them your compassion, your humanity.

CHLOE
You think that's something they value?

ELI
Yes, and they've proved it time and time again. But, even though they saved me because they liked what I did for the crew, I could sense something was wrong.

CHLOE
Wrong?

ELI
Yeah. It was like they were disappointed.

(A beat)
Oh my God. Of course.

CHLOE
What is it?

ELI
I've been so stupid! Come on, we've got to get to the bridge!

INT - DESTINY - BRIDGE

Young is in the command seat, Brody and Volker at the controls. They've been hard at work going through Destiny's systems. A CHIME beeps on Brody's console.

BRODY
We're picking up something.

VOLKER
Lots of somethings. Oh my-

Young stands and strides forward. Out through the view screen a ship drops out of FTL. And then another and another. Many more until we lose count of them..

EXT - DESTINY - SPACE

As she stands alone, facing dozens of alien ships, and more and more are dropping out of FTL...

FADE OUT:

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FADE IN:

ACT FOUR

DESTINY is standing in space, with THOUSANDS of ships facing her down. What is interesting is that they are all different. They vary in size and shape greatly.

SCOTT

Oh my god.

YOUNG

Where did they come from?

BRODY

They just appeared.

YOUNG

You mean they jumped in?

RUSH

What? All at the same time? All coordinated? Look at them. They're clearly all from different species.

YOUNG

But who?

CUT TO:

DESTINY hanging in space facing down the alien fleet. PULL IN onto the alien fleet and show their diversity. They only have one thing in common...they're all facing Destiny, and not each other.

As the camera dances around the fleet, focus on two ships in particular. One is about the size of Destiny, and similarly triangular, however, it is black and full of angles. Think of it as

a cross between a 'Star Destroyer' from Star Wars, and a Shadow Vessel from Babylon 5. It's big, it's black, and it's mean.

Also focus on another ship, which is its complete opposite. It is all curves and lights, ethereal and looking like it isn't quite fully in real space (which it isn't). Random lights appear from within it and orbit around it.

CUT TO:

INT - STONES ROOM

Varro arrives, accompanied by a Marine. He sits at the stones, and the Marine nods at him. He nods back, and touches a stone to the table.

CUT TO:

INT - BRIEFING ROOM - 'USS GEORGE HAMMOND'

Varro appears in the body of a Marine. Jack O'Neill and Cameron Mitchell are waiting for him. Jack looks reluctant, but Mitchell looks downright hostile.

MITCHELL

So, you're here. How are you going to help us?

VARRO

Have you ever heard of Lucian battle language?

Jack looks to Mitchell who returns his gaze. Jack raises an eyebrow. What's this guy talking about?

CUT TO:

INT - DESTINY - BRIDGE

Through the windows we see the alien fleet. There is motion between some of the ships - smaller craft like shuttles or fighters are moving between some, but carefully avoiding others.

BRODY

I'm picking up some signals from some of the ships.

(A beat)

Some of them are talking to others.

RUSH

I guess it makes sense. A gathering like this, they can't all be strangers.

He looks thoughtful for a moment, and then goes to a terminal, and huddles down over it, working hard at something.

YOUNG

Can you tell what they're saying?

BRODY

They don't speak English.

YOUNG

(Irritated)

I need some answers here people.

At that moment Eli enters, followed by Chloe.

CUT TO:

The alien fleet. The big black ship we saw earlier breaks formation and starts bearing down on Destiny.

CUT TO:

INT - DESTINY BRIDGE

BRODY

Uh-oh

YOUNG

What is it?

BRODY

One of the ships is breaking formation.
It's heading our way.

SCOTT

The big black one.

VOLKER

That thing looks like sin.

YOUNG

Shields?

SCOTT

Full strength sir.

(A beat)

Beyond full strength.

YOUNG

Weapons?

GREER

All fully charged and-

(A beat)

-and all the drones are online too.

Greer gives us a big crap-eating grin.

ELI

(with suspicion)

Enough to destroy the whole fleet.

GREER

Probably.

YOUNG

So you think your Eloi want to use us to destroy this fleet? Why?

GREER

We don't have time to talk about this. That ship, if it has a firing range, will be in it soon.

Rush has been hard at work over a terminal, and he's found something - he interrupts

RUSH

The Stargate.

YOUNG

What?

RUSH

We have enough power to dial the ninth chevron. We can dial home.

CUT TO:

Earth, as seen from Space.

ZOOM INTO Nevada desert.

CUT TO:

INT BRIEFING ROOM - AREA 51 - Day

Varro and Mitchell enter. We don't yet see who else is in the room.

MITCHELL

This is Varro. And he's going to help us find the Lucian cells.

Varro nods politely as the camera pans around to see who else is in the room: Several teams of the best of the best, including Teal'c, Samantha Carter, Vala, Rodney McKay, Ronon Dex, Sheppard and more.

They look at him with differing expressions. Vala smiles seductively. Carter and McKay look aloof. Ronon gives him an aggressive leer to which Sheppard reacts. Teal'c raises an eyebrow...

CUT TO:

FX - SPACE - DESTINY

As she faces the alien fleet. The big black ship is drawing closer.

INT - DESTINY - Bridge

YOUNG
Any sign of weapons?

BRODY
No.

(A beat)

We might not even know what it looks like if there were.

YOUNG
If we dial Earth, will we have enough energy for the shields?

BRODY
Don't know, but-

(A beat)

Probably not.

YOUNG

But Destiny can hold her off long enough for us to evacuate. Ok, that's it, everyone prepare to-

ELI
(Interrupting him)

Wait.

Young turns to Eli. He looks impatient and mad, but Eli has earned this, so he begrudges it to him.

ELI
(Ct'd)

Wait. Wait a second.

They all look to him, but he's silent.

YOUNG
Whatever you're going to say, make it fast.

ELI
We've forgotten something.

(A beat)

Terra Novus.

YOUNG
What?

ELI
It's been bothering me for a while. They are, whether we like it or not, our children.

YOUNG
They're in another galaxy.

ELI

And we have a Stargate that can dial
the ninth chevron.

YOUNG

(incredulous)

You want to go back?

ELI

No, no! Don't you see? We woke up the
Drones, and they followed us. They
blockaded every star.

(A beat)

And they attacked the colonies of the
Terra Novans. We saw it ourselves when
we did that last supply run.

(A beat)

The Terra Novans were being wiped out.
And it is our fault. The drones were
hunting us, but we ran away, but they
found the Terra Novans.

BRODY

Who for the last three years have been
fighting for their lives.

CHLOE

While we were sleeping.

GREER

And running.

YOUNG

My mission is to get you home. And there's nothing we can do about the Terra Novans now.

ELI

There is. Ancient drones can be programmed to seek out particular types of ship or device.

RUSH

And we have the power to dial every gate in that Galaxy.

ELI

We can program them to seek out the drone mother ships.

And give our children a chance at life.

(A beat)

Like TJ did.

Pull in on YOUNG and see the emotions crossing his face. He thinks the child was his, but somehow died. He doesn't understand.

RUSH

So you think this is a test from the Eloi?

ELI

Not so much a test as a situation where they can get to know us better.

CUT TO:

FX: DESTINY and the Black Ship are almost nose to nose now.

CUT TO:

INT - DESTINY - BRIDGE

GREER

I hate to break this up, but that ship is almost on top of us. If you're going to do anything, now's the time.

SCOTT

Sir, maybe Eli is right.

Park and TJ have entered, and are standing at the back of the bridge.

PARK

He is right. I don't want to go home if we have a chance to help them and keep it to ourselves.

TJ

And my daughter is out there, somewhere. Eli's right.

YOUNG

(a long beat while he contemplates)

Rush, I assume you've already programmed the drones to seek out the motherships.

RUSH

Aye. And loaded a gate dialing program.

YOUNG

No sign of aggression from that ship?

GREER

Other than staring down our nose? No, sir.

ELI

Colonel, you know it's the right thing to do.

YOUNG

Do it.

Focus on Rush as he activates the program.

CUT TO:

INT - DESTINY - GATEROOM

As the gate begins to dial. There's a whoosh, and some drones shoot through it. The gate shuts and dials gain. More drones are lining up, floating in the gateroom.

CUT TO:

EXT - SPACE - YELLOW SUN

As we see a Drone mothership hovering over a Terra Novan planet, shooting it up. A Stargate is in Orbit, and an ancient drone emerges from it to destroy the mothership.

CUT TO:

The ruined planet from 'Gauntlet'. The Stargate opens and ancient drones shoot out. They quickly fly to the upper atmosphere and destroy the drone motherships.

CUT TO:

EXT - PLANET SURFACE - DAY

Some HUMANS are running from a Drone attack. Some of them bear resemblance to our heroes (like the Novans we met in S2). Several Drone 'fighters' are strafing them, but they suddenly shut down and fall from the sky.

A HUMAN GIRL looks to the sky to see the remnant of an enormous explosion - the mothership being taken out.

GIRL

They were right. The scrolls were right. Destiny came back to save us!

CUT TO:

INT - DESTINY - GATEROOM

As the gate shuts down.

INT - DESTINY - BRIDGE

RUSH

That's it. They're all done. Every gate that had a drone mothership nearby has been dialed.

YOUNG

Did it work?

RUSH

There's no way to-

PARK

It worked.

She looks, almost, in Eli's direction, and smiles.

PARK

It worked. I can feel it.

A beat as we look around the bridge. Wordlessly, we can see on everybody's faces that they agree with her. It's a Galaxy away, but they know that their children have been freed.

RUSH

As you might have guessed, we used all the power reserves. There's not enough to dial Earth anymore.

BRODY

Something's happening.

ELI

They're leaving.

BRODY
Seems that way.

CUT TO:

EXT - DESTINY - SPACE

As the ships in the alien fleet turn, leave and jump to hyperspace, one by one. The white curvy ship that we saw earlier sidles up to the black one in front of Destiny. They turn and leave together. In moments, Destiny is alone.

GREER
Can someone tell me what that was all about?

VOLKER
I think we'll never know.

Pull in on Eli as he happily watches the empty sky in front of them.

CUT TO:

Musical Montage, in the style of previous SGU episodes. The song is "Somehow, I'll find my way home" by Jon and Vangelis.

INT - DESTINY - GATEROOM

Lyric:

"You asked me where to begin, am I so lost in my sin?"

The entire crew is assembled in the Gate room as Young is briefing them of what happened to Earth.

Lyric:

"You asked me where did I fall? I'll say I can't tell you when."

Close up on Rush and his reaction. He's already lost everything, and in Rush style he's stoic.

Lyric:

"But if my spirit is lost, how will I find what it near"

Close up on Scott. Emotions are rampant on his face, but he's keeping it straight. He's a soldier after all.

Lyric:

"Don't question I'm not alone, somehow I'll find my way home."

Close up on Chloe. She seems more alone than ever, despite the words we're hearing.

[Note, 2nd verse of song is trimmed for brevity]

Lyric:

"Your friend is close by your side, and speaks a far ancient tongue."

Close up on Eli standing near Chloe, watching her protectively, but also blinking back tears when thinking of the destruction on Earth.

Lyric:

"A seasons wish will come true"

Close up on Dr Park, leaning against Greer. She's weeping, and a tear is rolling down his eye as he puts his arm around her.

Lyric:

"All seasons begin with you."

Close up on TJ, sad, but hopeful again that she'll see her baby.

Lyric:

"One world we all come from, one world we melt into one"

As we PAN OVER showing the full cast, and the full spectrum of reactions.

Lyric:

"Just hold my hand and we're there. Somehow we're going somewhere. Somehow we're going somewhere."

As we see two hands touch. Varro and TJ. And then others follow suit, until all are holding hands, comforting each other in their grief.

As the song goes into INSTRUMENTAL we PULL OUT to show Destiny leaving orbit, and giving us a beautiful flyby before we PAN around behind her, showing the river of stars that is the new galaxy.

We follow her as the song goes to the final lyrics, fading out on

"Somehow I'll find my home..."

She jumps to FTL as we

FADE OUT.

EPILOG

FADE IN:

Eli is sitting, alone, in his quarters. He's reading something, but not really engaged. The door chimes. He stands to open it and CHLOE is there. She's holding some fruit.

CHLOE

Hi, Eli.

He's not sure what to make of it, but he steps back to let her in. She sets the fruit on his small table as he tried to tidy up his mess.

The door chimes again. This time it's Young, with what looks like a pot of coffee.

He's followed by Scott with a bar of chocolate. Greer and Varro enter with what looks like a cake. Park is two steps behind.

ELI

(to Greer)

You can bake?

Greer points to Varro.

GREER

He did it.

VARRO

But Sergeant Greer has a nice touch with icing.

Greer shrugs as they laugh.

Each member of the core team comes in carrying some kind of food. Brody enters last with some moonshine. They pour it into little cups and sit around.

Young raises a toast.

YOUNG

Eli, we never thanked you for what you did to save us all. To you, Eli.

RUSH

To the Mission.

CHLOE

To Destiny.

VARRO

To Earth.

TJ

To the Eloi.

They look the Eli for the last toast.

ELI

To the Universe.

They laugh and drink as we PULL OUT to show Destiny in FTL with a new galaxy and new adventures in front of her. And we-

FADE OUT: