

Welcome anyone! This is one of our unfinished episodes. The script is mostly unrevised, so any grammar check/sensitivity reading will have come after. You may see some highlighted parts, which are usually notes to check accuracy or pronunciation notes for our cast. Here, you get to see our writer's stream of thought, so please be kind and remember that what you see in the final product is never a first draft! With that, please enjoy!

EPISODE 11 - NARCISSUS

BEGINNING OF SEGMENT [1]

[OUTDOOR TALSORIA SOUNDS. FOOTSTEPS.]

KYREESE. I'm so excited.

STITCH. Quiet down, Kyreese.

DYNE. The back door is just over here.

AVI. Oh, yes!

KYREESE. Noooo.

AVI. Yes, yes, yes.

STITCH. *(over Avi)* It's just an access centre, Kyreese.

KYREESE. *(disgusted)* Yeah, with a ton of dead nanobugs around it.

STITCH. Are you sure no one's gonna be inside?

AVI. There are no guards outside, are there?

STITCH. Still, there could be a maintenance guy or something.

KYREESE. Hey, I handled the last guy. Wham bam!

DYNE. Nah. Years ago Arachne linked the whole network to their HQ, and they haven't touched these local centres since. They're basically relics.

STITCH. Then why are we here and not kicking butt at HQ?

MEMORIE. It's safer. As in, not suicidal.

DYNE. And these should still be linked up. Besides, we only need to hack the towers connected to Metres/Seconds.

STITCH. Wait a sec, we're aiming for the trains? But I use those!

KYREESE. Yeah, genius. We all do.

AVI. Which is why we're not taking them out completely. We're just making a statement, right? Showing them that we're still here.

MEMORIE. Exactly. We're just gonna shake M/S up a little with a small glitch in the system.

[BEEP. DOOR MECHANISM UNLOCKS.]

DYNE. Any more questions?

STITCH. Nope! Let's do this.

[DOOR SLIDES OPEN. THEY FILE INTO THE CONTROL CENTER.]

MEMORIE. Alright.

Avi, Kyreese, take these and get the control panels open. Dyne, show them which ones are connected to M/S and prepare the adapters. Stitch, you and I are going to boot up and connect the interceptors. This shouldn't take more than five minutes, tops. Let's get to work.

AVI. *(whispered)* Memorie's being all leaderly-like.

STITCH. It scares me.

KYREESE. Fae just have to be responsible because its a revolu-

MEMORIE. *(at the same time)* Kyreese-

DYNE. *(at the same time)* Hey!

AVI. *(at the same time)* Shh!

KYREESE. Sorry, sorry! A top secret completely unrelated side quest Memorie is doing for fun with friends!

[PAUSE.]

DYNE. Winking doesn't make it better.

MEMORIE. None of you *know* what this is about because I haven't *told* you what this is about, right?

[VARIOUS AFFIRMATIVES FROM THE GROUP.]

MEMORIE. Cool, then get running. I promised Soma I'd watch the BladeCrash 2 tournament final with him at seven tonight.

[VARIOUS LOCK-PICKING TYPE SOUNDS]

STITCH. Oooh, I'm streaming a reaction to that, you should watch.

MEMORIE. Soma's gonna want to watch the X8Friday stream, sorry bud.

KYREESE. Can I come over? My mom's gotten really into smart-perfumes and the whole house stinks.

STITCH. Imagine having a mom.

KYREESE. Yeah yeah, talk it up.

MEMORIE. You can all come over if you want, my parents won't be back till late.

[CONTINUED CLICKING/WORKING NOISES]

AVI. Wow, these control panels are NOT secure.

DYNE. I told you, they're ancient. What sort of port is that?

AVI. Uh... KC... 5? 6? I'm not sure, they're weird.

DYNE. KC? Probably 4B then. They didn't move to the 5 until 390.

MEMORIE. That's when I was born! *Ghosts*, this place is outdated.

[CLICKS AS DYNE PUTS IN THE ADAPTER]

DYNE. The adapters are in place on these two, Kyreese how are yours coming?

KYREESE. One's open, just give me another two seconds here...

[SOUND AS THE PANEL POPS OPEN]

KYREESE. Got it. Also, I found a pack of bit-bites on the floor, think they're still good?

STITCH. Only one way to find out.

MEMORIE. Mind poisoning yourself with ancient candy after we finish the mission?

AVI. I thought this was a side quest?

MEMORIE. Right. Yeah-

[THE LATCH ON THE DOOR CLICKS.]

DYNE. What was that?

[THE DOOR SLAMS OPEN. SEVERAL GUARDS ENTER THE ROOM.]

GUARD 1. Don't move!

MEMORIE. *Sparks-*

GUARD 1. Drop the device and step away slowly.

[PAUSE.]

MEMORIE. Stitch. Put it down.

STITCH. But-

MEMORIE. Do it.

STITCH. Gah.

[THE DEVICE IS SET ON THE FLOOR.]

GUARD 1. Hands where I can see them!

MEMORIE. (*Whispered:*) I thought you said no one would catch us?

DYNE. (*Whispered:*) I guess I was wrong.

GUARD 1. You're under arrest for trespassing on Arachne property. Don't try anything-

[FOOTSTEPS SUDDENLY APPROACH. THE GUARD SHOUTS AND THE LASER GUN DROPS AND FIRES. SOMEONE SHOUTS. THE GUARD GETS BEAT UP. THERE'S A LOT OF ROBOTIC ARM SOUNDS IN THE PUNCHES. THE GUARD FALLS.]

THESIA. Run.

DYNE. What the-?

MEMORIE. Let's go!

[RUNNING FOOTSTEPS. A LOUD BANG IN THE BACKGROUND. THE GUARDS ARE YELLING. A POWERED BLAST MAYBE, I LIKE LASER BEAM SOUNDS.]

MEMORIE. Who was that? Did anyone see?

STITCH. You'd never believe me.

MEMORIE. I might if you said it looked like the Prince.

AVI. Whoever they were, they had some serious biotech.

DYNE. They had more than market prosthetics, that's for sure.

KYREESE. I don't care, let's just get out of here.

END OF SEGMENT

BEGINNING OF SEGMENT [2]

[MILD TALKING, KIND OF ECHOEY BECAUSE IT'S AN ABANDONED BUILDING.]

MEMORIE. Hey, Nikki-

NIKKI. Memorie! We have good news about the communication towers-

MEMORIE. That's great, but I need to tell you- we were seen.

NIKKI. (*serious*) By who?

MEMORIE. Someone from Arachne Access.

NIKKI. What? Did they catch you?

MEMORIE. Sort of? But... someone gave us an out.

NIKKI. Who?

MEMORIE. I don't know... I mean, they had all this crazy biotech but-

[A SHORT ALARM NOISE.]

V. Someone's trying to get in.

RAM. Everyone's already here.

V. It's the fuzz, it has to be. How did they find us?

RAM. We might have a bug-

V. Everyone, get ready! We've got a breach!

[LASER PISTOLS CHARGE UP, GUNS COCK, ETC. THE DOOR SLIDES OPEN WITH A HISS, AND FOOTSTEPS ECHO IN THE ROOM. EVERYONE FALLS DEAD SILENT.]

THESIA. Well, this is a warm welcome.

NIKKI. You... how... you're supposed to be dead!

THESIA. *(soft chuckle)* It's nice to see you too, Nikki.

[PEOPLE START TO MUMBLE.]

MEMORIE. *(awestruck:)* Ghosts alive, it's the Prince...

NIKKI. How? How are you here?

THESIA. That's a long story, old friend, and not exactly a happy one. There'll be time for it later.

MEMORIE. It was you. At the Arachne facility. I thought you looked like... well, like you, like the Prince, but it seemed crazy to say it.

THESIA. The south-east Arachne Comm Towers contract with a different security corp, that's why you got jumped there. If

you're gonna keep doing that stuff, I should show you better research strats.

MEMORIE. I'd love that, sir.

THESIA. Call me Thesia. She/her.

MEMORIE. Memorie, fae/faer.

V. Prince, are you really back?

THESIA. In the flesh. Well, some flesh. Mostly not flesh, actually.

NIKKI. (*Cautious:*) Thesia, what do you know about the fallout?

THESIA. Everything.

NIKKI. I'm sorry.

THESIA. They told me they'd be fine if something happened to me. We made a promise.

NIKKI. It was the bionics.

THESIA. What was?

NIKKI. Her bionics were hacked, maybe they had been for a while. That's why they were ready for us. She blamed herself.

THESIA. Idiot. Leave it to Kass to get a bug over something like that.

MEMORIE. Kass? You mean... the Prophet?

THESIA. Yeah. I'm glad she hasn't been forgotten, at least.

MEMORIE. Well hey, if you're alive then maybe she is too! No one ever figured out where she went, maybe she's just been keeping the volume low.

NIKKI. That wasn't really their style, kid.

THESIA. *(with a clear change of tone. All business now.)* Look, there's no point talking about this. It happened, she's gone. As far as I'm concerned, it's revenge time.

V. Yes!

RAM. Hear hear!

THESIA. I'm dying to hear all about what you've all been doing while I've been gone, and to meet our new recruits. Let's get this meeting on air!

**[CHEERING AND PEOPLE SAYING "WELCOME BACK" AND SUCH.
GENERAL CROWD GURGLING AS EVERYONE PUTS DOWN THEIR GUNS AND
GETS BACK IN GEAR.]**

NIKKI. Welcome back, Thesia.

END OF SEGMENT