

"BLACK STAR CHRONICLES: *THE CULLING* SCRIPT 3 WELL MEDICATED"

By

Randy Greer & Josh Monroe

Modesto, CA 95350

TheBlackStarTeam@gmail.com

Characters in this Script: DINA, Harker, Wilks, Raife, Zenneth, Rambhatla, Chuma, Kuma Ha.

Warning:

This production contains tense depictions of violence, as well as sudden action. If you are sensitive or uncertain of your tolerance, please stop to review the linked manuscript before listening. Headphones are recommended for the most immersive experience. Welcome to Ice Station: Seeder.

FADE IN: MEDICAL OFFICE AMBIANCE, SOME WIND OUTSIDE. LIGHT MACHINERY AND VENTS RUNNING IN THE ROOM

HARKER ENTERS DR. RAMBHATLA'S OFFICE FOR A CHECKUP ON HER BLOODY NOSE.

HARKER ^{1-A}: NERVOUS

"I'm not really sure what happened, actually. My nose just started bleeding after this thing in the lab and Zenneth said I needed to get cleared."

DR. RAMBHATLA ²: WITH CARE

"Was there trauma or did it just start bleeding?"

HARKER ^{3-A}: STILL A LITTLE WORKED UP

"I can't really remember, it got pretty crazy. Genso pointed her gun at me when I didn't have my tag and it just took off from there."

DR. RAMBHATLA ^{4-A}: DEFENDING HARKER

"But I gave you a tag."

HARKER ^{5-A}: STILL A LITTLE WORKED UP

"I know. I had it, I just forgot what pocket it was in. It's honestly

my fault for not having it out already."

DR. RAMBHATLA ⁶: MAD AT GENSO

"Don't! Both of those troglodytes have scanners. They knew you had it before they even asked you to show it."

HARKER ^{7-A}: DIFFUSING

"It's fine. I just wanna get cleared so I can get back to the lab."

DR. RAMBHATLA ⁸: SUBDUING ANGER

"*sniffle* This is the kind of shit that loses funding... Let me take a look. *Calm, examining* I don't see any bruising. Have you had any headaches, nausea, blurred vision, sleepiness or memory loss?"

HARKER ⁹: CALMING

"No, I mean I had a headache but I think it was from that helmet. It fits too tight."

DR. RAMBHATLA ¹⁰: FOCUSED ON THE EXAMINATION

"Okay. Let me check your ears too. Anything weird going on there? Tinnitus or ringing, maybe a little throbbing? *sneeze*"

HARKER ^{11-B}: HIDING SOME TRUTH

"*plosive exhale from side of mouth* Yeah. *difficulty admitting* I've been hearing things."

DR. RAMBHATLA ^{12-B}: PAYING ATTENTION

"You've heard some ringing? *sniffle* *coughing*"

HARKER 13-B : NERVOUS

"It kinda sounds like... I dunno, voices?
I'm sorry, I know that sounds
weird."

DR. RAMBHATLA 14-B : UNDERSTANDING

"Inner dialogue happens to perfectly
healthy people Harker. *sniffle* It
doesn't mean anything's wrong with you."

HARKER 15-B : NERVOUS

"Do you have anything for it?"

DR. RAMBHATLA 16-B : CASUAL

"Yeah, of course. It happens more often
than you'd think. The stress of being in
an exotic, new world alone causes all
sorts of sensory hallucinations. *cough*
Try some of these?"

HARKER 17-B : SOUNDING OUT

"Zy-to-phan-yl"

DR. RAMBHATLA 18-B : EXPLAINING

"When the mind is overstimulated after a
period of under-stimulation, good rest
helps a lot. Just take one before bed. If
you take it any other time, you'll be
pretty useless. *sniffle*"

HARKER 19-B : HEARTFELT

"Seriously, thank you, Kidari. Are you
feeling okay?"

DR. RAMBHATLA 20-B :

"Of course. I'm probably allergic to Pip
here. But you should still leave him here
when you're in the lab. *jokingly*
Doctor's orders."

HARKER ²¹: HOPEFUL

"I will. So am I clear to go back?"

DR. RAMBHATLA ²²: CLOSING

"You're clear."

FADE IN: RAIFE'S OFFICE IN THE LAB. MOSTLY SILENT, MOVING AIR, OCCASIONAL PASSING FOOTSTEPS.

RAIFE, UPSET OVER THE ORDEAL WARNS LYUBIMOV AND GENSO THAT THEIR ACTIONS HAVE CONSEQUENCES.

RAIFE ²³: DISCIPLINARY

"I don't care if it took her ten minutes to get her tag out. If you two continue to escalate situations like these, I'm going to deescalate your contracts and your reputations."

CHUMA ²⁴: SMUG

"If you start doing that, you're gonna get what you pay for, Raife."

RAIFE ²⁵:

"We should already be getting what we paid for, Lyubimov."

KUMA HA ²⁶: CALM

"Don't ruin this for us both, Chuma."

CHUMA ²⁷: ACCUSATION

"Aren't you the one who drew first?"

KUMA HA ²⁸: CALM

"That's well within our protocol. Weirdly enough, beating company property is not."

RAIFE ²⁹: IMPATIENT

"Exactly. You two are back on post. Don't
cause me any more problems.
calling out the door Ash."

ZENNETH ENTERS THE ROOM

RAIFE ³⁰: TRYING TO KEEP IT BRIEF

"I talked to security about the
misconduct. Don't let your
intern keep her tag concealed.
We clear?"

PREGNANT PAUSE

ZENNETH ³¹: OBSTINATE

"No."

RAIFE ³²: DISINTERESTED

"What have I not made clear?"

ZENNETH ³³: PREPARED

"For starters, why the hell I was beaten
over the back, and secondly, why those two
chose not to scan for tags."

RAIFE ³⁴: A MATTER OF FACT

"They can prevent you from interference.
starts coughing"

ZENNETH ³⁵: WITH SARCASM

"Oh, can they? The way Lyubimov did I
suppose? How about the scan? This should
be good, go ahead."

RAIFE ³⁶: IMPLYING

"Maybe you want to rethink your approach,
Ash."

ZENNETH ³⁷: PREPARED

"You're right, I do. I should be voicing this above you. Given your record, I'm not sure why Tetra Corp. ever appointed you as a foreman. You've gotten people killed before and you'll do it again."

RAIFE ³⁸: DISMISSIVE SASS

"That's fine."

ZENNETH ³⁹: HEATED

"Good."

RAIFE ⁴⁰: A MATTER OF FACT

"But transmission data is scrambled until the transmitter stops running. It stays on until Tetra Corp. says so. *sniffle* *coughing*"

ZENNETH ⁴¹: FRUSTRATED, DISGUSTED

"*on the way out* Don't get me sick, Raife."

ZENNETH LEAVES THE ROOM

FADE IN: HARKER'S ROOM. THE WIND OUTSIDE, OCCASIONAL SNOW STALK. PASSING BANTER OUTSIDE.

HARKER ⁴²: END OF THE DAY TIRED.

"Day two, and my first day of work here on Artus Boreal. *Stressed* Where do I start?"

WHISPERS ⁴³: EERIE

indistinct dialogue

STOPS RECORDING

HARKER 44: END OF THE DAY TIRED.

"Sleeping has been a challenge. I showed up two hours early to the lab, I think I almost got myself shot, I'm hearing things..."

STOPS RECORDING, HARKER COMPOSES HERSELF

HARKER 45: STRESSED.

"I may have experienced traumatic stress that's triggered... auditory hallucinations.*hard exhale* I just hope it doesn't get me kicked from my internship, especially since things are already interesting.*lightening up* After I was cleared, Zenneth told me more about the transmitter. She says it's a very long-range and a very high-speed device. If what we're doing is sustainable, this prototype could leap humanity decades into the future of technology."

HARKER 46: END OF THE DAY TIRED.

"*yawn* I think there's more to it than that. We're stationed just outside of patrolled space, and I've never seen a human design anything like this transmitter. I would ask Pip what he thinks, but he appears to be occupied winning Kidari's affection... and making puddles. He stirred all last night looking out the window. That was probably my chance to avoid a restless night... and his cleanups."

STOPS RECORDING

HARKER 47: END OF THE DAY TIRED.

"That's right, I'm talking about you.
settles into bed Goodnight,
Pip."

FADE OUT:

FADE IN: HARKER'S ROOM, ONLY THE WIND OUTSIDE.

PIP STIRS AND WHIMPERS.

HARKER 48: HALF-ASLEEP

"Hm? *mumbles* Need to go potty? Come on
let's get you out. *groggy* Next
time you're going out before
bedtime. Out we go."

*DOOR OPENS, PIP ROLLS IN THE SNOW OUTSIDE,
BARKING.*

WHISPERS 49: EERIE

indistinct dialogue

HARKER 50: WHISPERED

"Pip!... Stop it! Go. Pee! It's too damn
cold to play games."

PIP GOES PEE, SNOW STALK CLICKING NEARBY

HARKER 51: WHISPERED, HAPPY

"Good boy. Come on let's go back to bed.
Pip! Kidari doesn't want to play
with you, get over here!"

PIP RUNS CORNERS TO EXPLORE

HARKER 52: WHISPERED, AGONIZED

"*Sigh* Shit. Thanks, Mom... Pip, it is too
late for this. Where are you?"

*PIP WHIMPERS SUDDENLY, SNOW STALK GRABS PIP AND
STARTS TO EAT HIM*

HARKER 53: BLOODY MURDER

"Pip!"

*THE REST OF THE COMPOUND COMES TO LIFE, LIGHTS
ON, PEOPLE LOOKING.*

HARKER 54: WRECKED

"NO! *ugly sobbing*"

Wilks 55: DEMANDING

"Where is it? *coughing* Where's the snow
stalk?"

SNOW STALK RUNS OFF

HARKER 56: WRECKED

"*ugly sobbing*"

Wilks 57: ORDERING OTHERS

"Get inside or get a prod, your choice.
This way! *coughing*"

FADE OUT:

VOICES IN THE SNOW.

END

NARRATION 58: INTENSE

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you're enjoying The Culling, you
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Black Star Universe, such as
Black Star Chronicles, available
on every podcast platform, or
our full length production Black
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