

Solidarity Forever

written by

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Breathing Space, Fading Frontier
Season 2

Breathing Space, Fading
Frontier includes mature
content such as adult
language, sexual situations,
violence, and substance use.

This episode contains bomb
threats, terrorism, implied
abuse by law enforcement.

Additional sensory contact
warnings can be found in the
show notes.

Intro plays

I ain't got no home to go to
I ain't got nothing to sell
But my stars will never leave
me
Even when I'm sold to hell
I was born under a blue sky
And I'll die out in the black
When I'm gone don't no one
mourn me
'cause my debts will drag me
back

Intro fades out

THE MALL, WAITING ROOM, 554, DAYLIGHT CYCLE. QUIET WAITING ROOM AMBIENCE,
VERY LITTLE CONVERSATION BUT SOME ECHOING FOOTSTEPS, SOUND OF LUGGAGE ETC.
OCCASIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS OVER THE PA, SOME AUDIBLE, SOME NOT.

THE VOICE OF YUKON
Attention, Associates! Please
remember that punctuality is
productivity! It is important that
you report to all shift and ship
changes in a timely manner. After
all, delays are disappointment!
Don't be the reason a customer is
dissatisfied! You will always be
given a suitable period to

transfer between stations and routes! Be respectful of your coworkers' time! Performance strikes will be added to your file for delivery delays, based on the number of packages that arrive late, and customer satisfaction ratings. And remember! You put the Yu in YuKon!

NINE HAIDEE
(under her breath)
Filty vatnichka.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
What was that?

NINE HAIDEE
What?

ANGUS SPARACELLO
I said, what was that?

Weren't you talking to me?

NINE HAIDEE
No.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Oh. But what did you say?

NINE HAIDEE
I said it's disgusting.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Oh. What is?

NINE HAIDEE
That *neftyanye*.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
What--?

NINE HAIDEE
The bullshit on the comm.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Oh, the-- the YuKon announcement.

NINE HAIDEE

This is a public station. Their
announcement doesn't belong here.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Why?

Pause, half-heard boarding announcements in background

NINE HAIDEE

Do you need something?

ANGUS SPARACELLO

No, no. Just..

This is my first trip like this?
Across the System? And who knows
when I'll get to do it again? So I
want to make the most of it.

This is the biggest station I've
ever seen.

NINE HAIDEE

(dimissive)

It's one of the bigger exchanges.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Oh. Uh. Sorry to have bothered
you. You just--

Are you from Terminal Station?!

NINE HAIDEE

I'm sorry. What?

ANGUS SPARACELLO

The thing you said!

(awkwardly repeating and
badly mispronouncing)

Filty vatnichka. That's
Terminal-ese, right?

NINE HAIDEE

(takes a deep,
long-suffering breath)
Terminal-ese is not a language.
English is still the primary
language there.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Oh.

But everyone says you can tell
when someone's from out there
because they talk weird.

NINE HAIDEE

There is an accent, yes. More
distinct than yours, but no more
different than that.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

My accent? I just talk normal.

Pause

NINE HAIDEE

Where are you from, originally?

ANGUS SPARACELLO

(a little embarrassed)

Mars.

Coletown.

NINE HAIDEE

That is in the "Rust Belt" area of
the planet, correct?

ANGUS SPARACELLO

How'd you know?

NINE HAIDEE

A wild guess.

Announcement breaks in

VOICE OF YUKON

Attention, Associates! Our YuKon
family is important, and you are

an important member! We encourage our family to meet in groups of three or less while in YuKon facilities and while representing YuKon. We are pleased to be able to offer after-hours entertainment programs and Refresh and Relax breaks. We ask that employees refrain from self-directed gatherings during working hours. Participation in non-sponsored events, or in recreation while one is clocked in, may result in marks against one's file, a voiding of employee benefits, or a disciplinary change in employment status or role. Remember, You put the Yu in YuKon!

Pause, then ANGUS picks back up curiously.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
...so what were you talking? I mean, if you want to tell me.

NINE HAIDEE
Makhnovchik.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
What's that? Where do they speak it? Are you from Terra?

Hey! You wanna get lunch with me? I'll pay! I've got a cred card with plenty--

Clicking sound of cards

ANGUS SPARACELLO
There's gotta be someplace to eat, right? Have you had Ganny food? I just tried it on the ship! It's spicy, but really good! I could--

NINE HAIDEE

You should be more careful who you
speak to, and how.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

What?

NINE HAIDEE

This is not a small settlement on
Mars. You cannot trust people's
good natures to protect you,
flashing cards like that. You
should--

Cut off by announcement

VOICE OF YUKON

Attention, Associates! Please be
aware that Ring 3 Concourse A
through C have been closed due to
excessive pedestrian traffic. All
ship and shift changes have been
redirected. Please check your
YuKon Exclusive Employee Terminal
for your updated schedule. Please
be aware YuKon security has been
deployed for your safety to reduce
congestion.

NINE HAIDEE

(under her breath)

More owner bullshit. "Security
deployed for your safety."
Deployed to break heads.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

What's wrong with YuKon? They're
great! You can get anything in a
Lunar day!

Well. We used to be. Before the
storm. Takes way longer now.

NINE HAIDEE

They are disgusting. *Wagetiffs*.
(mocking repeat)

"Get anything in a Lunar day!"

Ask what cost to the worker, that
anything. Ask who is stepped on.
Ask what they are doing *now* in
Concourse A through C.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Oohhh.

Are you one of those...Those labor
people? Um. The illegal ones? The
uh...Something...workers...
movement. Or something.

I heard about them on the redline!
How people were making trouble for
YuKon. And how they're on their
habs. And setting things on fire.
Stealing stuff. They said on the
news that's why YuKon hasn't
gotten back to normal yet, even
though the storm was *months* ago.
People keep sabotaging stuff. It
was on the redline, they were the
ones who blew up all those people
on those shuttles! They said--

NINE HAIDEE

They are liars! *Wagetiffs*, all of
them.

(louder, as if giving a
speech)

The Intrastellar Workers Movement
does not *blow people up*. We
protect and fight for them! *I*
fight for them!

ANGUS SPARACELLO

(drops accent, calm and
confident and serious)

You should be more careful who you
talk to. This ain't a small
orbital in the belt. You can't

trust people's good natures to
protect you.

I'm Angus. Manda sent me to get
you.

Scene Break

THE MALL, CREW QUARTERS, COMPARTMENT 2-D-34. DAYLIGHT CYCLE. ATMO BACKGROUND,
OTHERWISE QUIET.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Delivery! One anarchist,
union-sympathizing ordnance
handling expert direct from
Makhnovshchina, thanks to the
YuKon 24-hours anywhere in the
system guarantee!

NINE HAIDEE
(scoffs)
I can assure you, *they* had nothing
at all to do with my timely
arrival. I am here entirely due to
the cooperative effort of my *semya*
and siblings.

Nine Haidee.

MANDA ACTERBURG
Manda Acterburg.

NINE HAIDEE
I have heard a great deal about
you.

MANDA ACTERBURG
(annoyed)
Ugh. Yeah. People like to talk.

NINE HAIDEE
I would have thought a leader and
symbol such as yourself should
want to be so visible.

MANDA ACTERBURG
Look, I didn't ask to be one.

NINE HAIDEE
A symbol? Or a leader.

MANDA ACTERBURG
Either! All I wanted was to get
back to work.

NINE HAIDEE
But the Independent Dion! The
Storm-Born Revolution!

MANDA ACTERBURG
The "Storm-Born Revolution" is a
name you gave after the fact, to
people taking responsibility for
fixing their own damn world.

NINE HAIDEE
What?

MANDA ACTERBURG
Look - let's get this straight
before we get to know each other
any better. I didn't want to do
any of this. But it had to be
done, and I was around.

People were hurt after the storm.
Comms were down. We'd already had
a lot of structural damage from
the riots. And nothing came in
from YuKon. The drones that got
knocked out didn't come back
online. There weren't any
announcements. No one showed up
from Company Headquarters. No one
from YuKon management came to Dion
at all. Someone had to take the
lead or it would have gotten a
whole lot worse for us. So I did.

And when comms come back up,
everyone is on the redlines
talking about how I'd "stood up
and declared our freedom from
capitalist tyranny." I just had a
kid I wanted to have a roof over
her head.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Suure. But how come you didn't
just stop there? Why're you out
there by Venus recruiting for the
Cause? Dion got put back together
months ago. YuKon hasn't touched
the place since. Miriam and her
moms are doing great. Face it,
Manda-- you're as committed to the
IWM as I am.

MANDA ACTERBURG

Look, I just don't want some
idealistic, idiotic kids to get
themselves in trouble.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Right.

Pause

NINE HAIDEE

What is it, exactly, that you want
blown up?

Scene Break

THE MALL, CREW QUARTERS, COMPARTMENT 2-D-34. DAYLIGHT CYCLE. ATMO BACKGROUND,
OTHERWISE QUIET.

Comm rings in the background. Inaudible dialogue on other
side of the call

MANDA ACTERBURG

(into comm)

What?

Inaudible response

MANDA ACTERBURG

Oh yeah, got here safe and sound.
Was it your idea of a joke sending
it via Courier?

Everything go ok?

Inaudible response

MANDA ACTERBURG

"Getting caught on purpose" is not
a plan. It's what you call a plan
when the actual plan goes
sideways.

Inaudible response

MANDA ACTERBURG

It'll do. He's just excited to
play spy. He's just a stupid kid
who's going to get himself killed.
Which is why I'm still here.
Speaking of here, you coming back
any time in the near future?

Inaudible response

MANDA ACTERBURG

Just remember that people who play
with fire get marks against their
file for creating an unsafe
working environment.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

(in the foreground,
speaking over all of
Nine's attempts to speak)
What's Makhnovshchina like? That's
how you say it, right? Do you
really not have any government at
all? And no businesses? Did Dr.
Gold really live there? Do you
know him? Did you *meet* him?--

MANDA ACTERBURG

(cutting him off)
Angus!

ANGUS SPARACELLO
What?

MANDA ACTERBURG
Shut up!

Inaudible response on comm

MANDA ACTERBURG
(back into comm)
Will do. Stay safe, Bridger.

Manda disconnects comm in background

MANDA ACTERBURG
(to Nine)
Sorry. Just when I start to think
he's taking all this seriously, I
take my eyes off him for a minute,
and he's back to being...that.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
(whining)
I was just asking questions!

MANDA ACTERBURG
She's not here to answer your
questions--

NINE HAIDEE
Please. Explain to me what we are
doing here. Vissent told me you
have planned an act that will
strike deep into the heart of the
owners and the systems of
subjugation they employ. This is a
public transit station.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Well, YuKon runs the entire third
ring!

NINE HAIDEE

Yes. However, the third ring is connected to two other rings, one of which is a SPACE stop, the other of which houses staff. As I told you before, I do not blow people up.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Oh! No! Of course not! I was in *character* when I said that. The IWM would *never* hurt people!

MANDA ACTERBURG

(snort of derision)

ANGUS SPARACELLO

(to Manda)

What? We *wouldn't*!

MANDA ACTERBURG

You're going to tell me you've never taken down a MOUNTIE? What are *they* then? Aliens?

ANGUS SPARACELLO

No, well, that's...different!
They're...corporate!

MANDA ACTERBURG

Mmhm. Oh, sure. But maybe think a little before you go talking about how the *good* and *heroic* IWM doesn't hurt people.

NINE HAIDEE

Yes. Alright. But that also does not answer the question. What is planned for demolition on a piece of public infrastructure that will harm YuKon without the population that surrounds it?

MANDA ACTERBURG

Right. Yeah. Let me show you.

Scene Break

THE MALL, MAINTENANCE ACCESS TUNNEL 2-3 C78. ATMO BACKGROUND LOUDER THAN BEFORE, ELECTRIC SOUNDS, SOME MACHINE NOISE.

NINE HAIDEE

What is it we are looking at? All
I am seeing is another door.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

(clears throat)

That "just a door" leads to one of
the most important locations in
the System.

NINE HAIDEE

Yes. But what is it?

ANGUS SPARACELLO

The kind of power most people
can't even imagine, one of
YuKon's--

MANDA ACTERBURG

(cuts him off)

It's a YuKon production and
distribution routing hub.

NINE HAIDEE

What is that?

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Only the *brain* of the whole--

MANDA ACTERBURG

(cutting him off)

It's one of the sites where YuKon
orders are processed and sent to
production sites, and then
allocated to couriers.

NINE HAIDEE

I-I don't follow.

MANDA ACTERBURG

Okay. So, when you place an order with YuKon or a YuKon affiliate, it doesn't just get sent straight to the fabber in some production facility on an asteroid somewhere. It gets sent to a routing hub. The hub figures out what should get made where, and sends your order to the right asteroid, and then the right Production and Fulfillment Associate. Then when they pack up your whatever, the hub decides which courier gets it, what route they follow, and in which order they do the deliveries.

The terminals inside that room manage the entire YuKon ordering logistics web for almost a *third* of the system. And YuKon handles upward of 100 million orders a day.

NINE HAIDEE

Ah, which means that if we demolish it--

ANGUS SPARACELLO

We plunge *everything* into absolute chaos!

MANDA ACTERBURG

Not everything. But a hell of a lot.

NINE HAIDEE

Well. That sounds as though it is a very worthwhile goal. How do we go about getting access?

Scene Break

THE MALL, THE FOOD COURT, BEYOND THE EGGROLL. SPACE STATION ATMOSPHERE, PLUS FOOD COURT/EATING SOUNDS.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

This thing hurts. Maybe my ear is too small.

MANDA ACTERBURG

(over comm)

Hey, don't move your mouth so much when you talk. People are gonna notice that.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

How am I supposed to talk to you if I can't move my mouth?

NINE HAIDEE

(over comm)

As I already said, the transmitter is calibrated to pick up sub-vocalizations as well as vibrations in the jaw and cheek bone.

MANDA ACTERBURG

So keep your mouth closed!

Pause

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Do you two really need to talk to me? I can handle this. I've done this kind of thing before. Can I just talk to them on my own?

MANDA ACTERBURG

No!

NINE HAIDEE

No!

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Fine.

But *don't* tell me what to say unless I actually need help! I

can't focus if too many people are talking to me.

MANDA ACTERBURG

Angus?

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Yeah?

MANDA ACTERBURG

Shut up.

And don't do anything stupid like get yourself arrested.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

(Amused and affectionate)

Yes, ma'am.

(more businesslike)

Ok. They've sat down over there.

I'm going to move a little closer.

Find a good time to introduce myself...

Walking, dialog here getting louder as he gets closer.

GABIJA CASTOR

So I go "If you like *that* you should see what *I've* got in my quarters." and she goes "Yeah? What?" And I go "Just a complete set of originals." And she goes "wow." And I go "Maybe if you comm me sometime, I'll show you." And she goes "Maybe I will. What's your name?" And I go "Everyone calls me Ice Hammer." And she goes--

PAYSELEY COGG

Who the hell calls you "Ice Hammer?"

MANDA ACTERBURG

(over comm)

These are the so-called elite
YuKon MOUNTIE Security Force?

GABIJA CASTOR
Lots of people call me Ice Hammer!

PAYSELEY COGG
I've never heard it.

GABIJA CASTOR
Lots of people do!

PAYSELEY COGG
Who?

GABIJA CASTOR
Just people, ok!

Isn't what I was talking about
anyway! Dude. Why do you gotta
always be such a killjoy.

PAYSELEY COGG
Whatever, *Ice Hammer*.

GABIJA CASTOR
Fuck you, dude.

PAYSELEY COGG
(amused)
No, fuck you.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
(to comm)
Ok. I'm going to go for it. Wish
me luck!

MANDA ACTERBURG
(over comm, sputtering)
LUCK?!

Sound of a chair sliding over.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Excuse me, friends, I believe you
are fellow associates of The Org.

GABIJA CASTOR
..the fuck is The Org?

MANDA ACTERBURG
(over comm)
Shit.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
The...uh...I thought...
(back in character)
You know. *The Org*. Which offers
its *Associates* such amazing
opportunities.

MANDA ACTERBURG
(over comm)
Ohh, nice save.

GABIJA CASTOR
I don't know what the hell you're
talking about and don't want any
of your opportunities--

MANDA ACTERBURG
(over comm)
We would have picked the only two
MOUNTIES on the station who are
completely oblivious.

NINE HAIDEE
(over comm)
You picked them *because* they
possess that trait.

PAYSELEY COGG
Shut up for a second, Castor, why
don't you? Don't you ever listen
to anyone besides the roidheads at
HighG? *The Org. Associates.*
Opportunities. You gotta pay
better attention, man. Listen and
learn.
(to Angus)
Yeah. Yeah. I *totally* am part of
The Org. I'm a Gold Persistent

Sugar Maple. An associate with
very *high* level of clearance. As
is my--uh--Associate.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Then you are exactly the
individuals I have been looking
for.

PAYSELEY COGG
Is that so. Who are you and how do
you know about *The Org*?

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Given your high clearance level,
I'm sure you know about the
mounting IWM threat.

MANDA ACTERBURG
(over comm)
Don't lay it on too thick.

GABIJA CASTOR
You don't have to spell it for us.
We understand the words just fine.

MANDA ACTERBURG
(over comm)
For the love of--

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Uh. The Intrastellar Workers
Movement.

Pause, no answer.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
The union people?

GABIJA CASTOR
Shit, don't say that kind of
thing, dude! Do you want to get us
all fired?

ANGUS SPARACELLO
No, no. I was just--
(clears throat)

To continue. I know you are aware of how dangerous the I-- the agitators can be. We have, in fact, heard that they are planning a coordinated attack on the transit hub located on this station.

PAYSELEY COGG

No shit?

MANDA ACTERBURG

(over comm, mocking)

No shit.

GABIJA CASTOR

How are they--

PAYSELEY COGG

Wait a minute, Castor.

(to Angus)

Who exactly are you and how are you related to *The Org*?

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Very good question. Exactly the sort of security-conscious scrutiny we expect from MOUNTIES. I am Marius Taymore, Efficient Red Rocky Mountain Maple officer from the Compliance and Conformity department.

GABIJA CASTOR

C&C huh? What do they got to do with IW-whatever?

ANGUS SPARACELLO

IWM. And everything, friends.

NINE HAIDEE

(through Manda's comm)

Why is he saying he is a tree? I had understood he was to be identifying himself as an advanced agent of the company.

MANDA ACTERBURG

What? Oh. Rocky Mountain Maple.
It's his rank. His, his LEAF?

NINE HAIDEE

You are somehow not helping me to
understand.

MANDA ACTERBURG

Your LEAF is your position in the
company. Leadership trait, color,
maple tree. He's saying he's
important.

NINE HAIDEE

(does not get it, and
does not want to get it)
I see.

GABIJA CASTOR

Yeah? You gonna tell us, or--

PAYSELEY COGG

Fucking shit, Castor, shut up and
let him talk!

MANDA ACTERBURG

(over comm)
Seriously.

GABIJA CASTOR

Fuck you, Cogg.

PAYSELEY COGG

Shut up!
(pause, then to Angus)
You were going to say something
before my--Associate-- mouthed
off. Ignore him. He's an idiot.
So...uh...please go on?

ANGUS SPARACELLO

As I was saying, we in Compliance
and Conformity have received word
that the society-undermining
socialists calling themselves a

"labor rights movement" are planning some destructive, anti-social, and anti-capitalist strike on the hub, right here on System Exchange Station 115. We have received reliable intelligence that the people who plan to perpetrate this act are already on the station, and are, in fact, actually on company payroll!

PAYSELEY COGG

Mmhm. Ok. That sounds serious. Like a serious possible threat to security and company essential functions.

MANDA ACTERBURG

(over comm, slightly relieved)

Ok. They're catching on. This might actually work.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Exactly. A very serious possible threat. Which, I assure you, management is taking seriously. But while we know they are here, we don't know who they are. Which brings me to the reason I approached you both.

We want you to help us locate the radicals.

GABIJA CASTOR

...you what?

PAYSELEY COGG

...you what?

MANDA ACTERBURG

(over comm)

They are not catching on.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
We want you to become fully
deputized undercover agents of the
C&C.

(pause for dramatic
effect)

MANDA ACTERBURG
Don't say it. Whatever you're
going to say, don't say it.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
The Org needs you, Associates.
Will you answer its call?

MANDA ACTERBURG
(over comm)
Angus. *Shut up.*

Scene Break

THE MALL, CREW QUARTERS, COMPARTMENT 2-D-34. NIGHT CYCLE. ATMO BACKGROUND,
OTHERWISE QUIET.

NINE HAIDEE
We will need to make sure the room
is empty of people.

MANDA ACTERBURG
I thought you could precision
target your charges. Just take out
the command terminals.

NINE HAIDEE
I can. However, even precisely
targeted explosions still create
an amount of flying shrapnel, and
possibly corrosive gasses. While
it isn't certain that there would
be injuries, it's a likely
possibility, and a risk I would
prefer not to take.

I had thought that was the reason
for the guards-- to gain access to

the room when it is usually locked and quiet. During the night cycle, presumably, when work is suspended, and workers in their quarters?

ANGUS SPARACELLO
(genuinely confused)
Work suspended?

NINE HAIDEE
Yes. The rest periods? Which clock does this station maintain?

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Lunar Standard. 2200 to 0700 is the light downshift. But I don't get what you mean, about work being suspended.

MANDA ACTERBURG
(to Nine)
Routing hubs are 24/7 operations. Even non YuKon ones. Think of them like emergency services for capitalism.

NINE HAIDEE
Neftyanye.

MANDA ACTERBURG
Sure.

For the record, don't plan on being able to use that kind of thing to get into any company facility.

NINE HAIDEE
I'm sorry?

MANDA ACTERBURG
The "under cover of night when the shop is deserted" thing. YuKon doesn't have that.

NINE HAIDEE
They don't have *night*?

MANDA ACTERBURG
Deserted shops. Empty buildings.
No.

NINE HAIDEE
I-- I don't understand.

MANDA ACTERBURG
YuKon doesn't run on Lunar time,
or Terran time, or Gannymedeian
time. It runs on all of them. At
once.

NINE HAIDEE
I'm sorry?!

MANDA ACTERBURG
Nothing closes. Ever. Unless it's
so damaged it can't stay open.

NINE HAIDEE
Ah.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Why would...why would something
close if it wasn't damaged?

MANDA ACTERBURG
(to Nine)
He'd never been off a YuKon
property til after the storm.

NINE HAIDEE
I see.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
But why would it close? Manda! Why
would something be closed? That
wouldn't be *productive*.

MANDA ACTERBURG
Anyway. Sounds like we're going to
need a different plan.

NINE HAIDEE
I believe I have an idea that is
likely to work.

Scene Break

THE MALL, MAINTENANCE ACCESS TUNNEL 2-3 C78. ATMO BACKGROUND LOUDER THAN
BEFORE, ELECTRIC SOUNDS, SOME MACHINE NOISE.

NINE HAIDEE
(through a voice changer)
--we have planted an incendiary
device in the facility. It will
detonate at 0325, unless the
attached statement is broadcast in
full. You will not be contacted
again.

Comm disconnecting beep

ANGUS SPARACELLO
It feels kind of backward, calling
in a bomb threat so we can plant a
bomb.

NINE HAIDEE
I was told once that it is often
best to hide the truth inside a
lie that is, itself, nearly true.

Also, if they choose to broadcast
the statement instead, I would
still call this work a success.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Well, what's it say?

NINE HAIDEE
Ask your associate. She wrote it.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
You wrote it? Is it a *manifesto*?

MANDA ACTERBURG
Shut up, Angus.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
But Manda.....

MANDA ACTERBURG
They're not going to broadcast it.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
But they miiiight!

MANDA ACTERBURG
They wooon't.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
But theeey--

NINE HAIDEE
(cutting him off)
There.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Uh, what's he...

NINE HAIDEE
That's one of the MOUNTIES you
"recruited," correct?

ANGUS SPARACELLO
But where's everyone else? Why's
he--

Cut off by terminal ringing.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Shit.

NINE HAIDEE
Is he comm-ing?

MANDA ACTERBURG
Shut up, both of you. Nine, stay
there. Keep an eye on everything.
Angus, back up the access tunnel.
Talk to him. *Stay in character.*

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Uh, yeah -- uh, shit. Ok.

Feet on metal, scrambling. Comm call connects

GABIJA CASTOR

(over comm)

MOUNTIE on C&C Special Assignment
Castor reporting in!

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Uh, yeah.

GABIJA CASTOR

Yeah, uh, so, someone commed us,
like five minutes ago and said
they're going to blow us up?

They said that they've got a bomb
or something somewhere in the
routing room and it's going to
blow up if we don't play some
bullshit statement or something?
So I, I figured--Cogg and I
figure--that we could let 'em blow
it up. Whoever makes it out is the
spy, right?

We're not gonna give in to
blackmail or whatever, right? So
like, we just make sure we get
out, and we can be right there to
take down--uh, take into
custody--the survivors. Because if
they don't get killed or whatever,
then they've got to be disloyal.
Because they knew what was going
on and had a way out.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

I...how many employees do you
have?

GABIJA CASTOR

Like 30. But this'll weed 'em out
really fast, you know?

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Won't...uh...I mean, the Company
wouldn't want to lose good
associates.

GABIJA CASTOR

Associates?

(pause, laugh)

You can call a YoCol whatever you
want. They're still replaceable.
Wherever one batch came from,
there's always more. Just go to
one of the YoTowns and fill up a
ship.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Won't their families have
questions?

GABIJA CASTOR

We can just tell 'em they went
outside the regulations and
guidelines. Getting killed is on
the list of possible outcomes in
the employee handbook. Plus,
violating protocol's grounds for
immediate revocation of any earned
death benefits. Hang that over the
family's heads, and no one'll say
anything. It worked after that
dust up on Lavigne.

Or, hell, if that doesn't work, we
can just blame it on the bombers.
Terrorism is basically an act of
god or whatever.

They're just YoCols, why do you
care, anyway? I heard C&C grinds
through like hundreds a day.
Wouldn't expect one of you to be
so...touchy-feely.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

(trying to put on a
brutal, harsh front)
Oh. Yeah. We do. It's not the
YoCols I'm worried about. Letting
the bomb go off will simply
destroy a lot of expensive
equipment.

GABIJA CASTOR
Oh, oh yeah. Don't worry! We got
everything running under Protocol
67A Blue.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
I see.

GABIJA CASTOR
Yeah, nothin' can *touch* those
machines. If the YoCols were smart
they'd just get under 'em. Might
make it through. But that'd be
against protocol, and they're all
such orbiters, they'd *never* break
that. So they're just sitting
there typing away. Almost feel
sorry for 'em. Shoulda worked
harder. Gotten promoted. Almost
all of them are still at Green
LEAFs, and most of them haven't
even gotten to Big Tooth-Maple
yet.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Protocol 67A Blue.

GABIJA CASTOR
Yeah, like I said.
(pause, then worried he's
messed up, covering his
butt)
I said maybe we should do 67A
Delta, but Cogg *insisted* on Blue.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
(quickly, covering *his*
butt)

No. Blue is fine.

GABIJA CASTOR

Why are you...

(pause, then continues on
knowingly)

You're being real calm about this.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

I'm not! This is just a dangerous
situation!

GABIJA CASTOR

Riiiiight. Right.

This is a test, isn't it.

You're testing us. You wanted to
see what Cogg and I would do. If
we were actually good enough to be
C&C Agents.

I knew it from the beginning. I
could see *right through* it. I
could, but Cogg couldn't. I'm
perceptive like that. They're just
not.

Still. Real good test. I almost
fell for it. Real smart.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Yes. Of course. It's clever of you
to have figured out what I was
doing. It reflects very well on
your cognitive and observational
skills.

I knew we selected the correct
people for the job. But, since you
realized that this was not, in
fact, an actual bomb threat, there
isn't any reason to keep the
exercise going.

(pretending to be talking
to someone off comm)

Shut down Scenario Kappa.

Yes, completely. The agents
identified it as an exercise.

Yes, that quickly.

You're right. They are showing
incredible potential.

GABIJA CASTOR

I was the one who figured it out,
not Cogg.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

(to Castor)

Noted.

Well. Uh. Well done. I'm sure
you'll uncover the saboteur very
soon.

GABIJA CASTOR

Yeah. We will.

Comm disconnect

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Mandaaaaaaa.

Footsteps up corridor

MANDA ACTERBURG

So, did you screw up? Are there
MOUNTIES about to break down the
access hatch?

ANGUS SPARACELLO

No! Nothing like that! It's fine!
It's just...just...

MANDA ACTERBURG

Spit it out.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

We're going to have to figure out
another plan. To get into the hub.

NINE HAIDEE

(sigh)

Did something go wrong?

ANGUS SPARACELLO

No. I mean, yes. I mean. Sort of?

MANDA ACTERBURG

What *happened*, Angus?

ANGUS SPARACELLO

They weren't going to evacuate.

NINE HAIDEE

So they did not believe the threat was real?

ANGUS SPARACELLO

No. I mean. Yes?

MANDA ACTERBURG

Angus.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

I can't tell you if you keep *interrupting* me!

Silence for a bit

ANGUS SPARACELLO

They believed it. I think. I mean, at first. Before I started asking questions--

MANDA ACTERBURG

So you *did* screw up.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

I didn't! I just couldn't believe--

NINE HAIDEE

Please tell us how the conversation went, so we may decide what needs to be done.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
(taking a deep breath)
They believed it. There was a real
bomb threat. But they weren't
going to evacuate.

They said...they said they'd just
let the bomb go off, and whoever
survived had to be the "spy."

So I told him it was a test.

NINE HAIDEE
What?

ANGUS SPARACELLO
I had to! He was perfectly alright
letting everyone get killed! They
even have a protocol for it! For
bomb threats! For letting
employees die! It's...awful.

MANDA ACTERBURG
After everything we've seen, this
surprises you?

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Yeah! Sure, I mean, YuKon sucks
and everything, but this
is...wouldn't it be *murder* or
something?

MANDA ACTERBURG
(black humor)
No. Just another workplace
accident. They'd probably say it
was caused by employee negligence.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
That's *terrible*!

MANDA ACTERBURG
YuKon is terrible.

NINE HAIDEE

Capitalism is terrible.

Pause

ANGUS SPARACELLO
What do we do now?

NINE HAIDEE
I am afraid I have no other
suggestions.

Pause

MANDA ACTERBURG
I...may have an idea. But it's
terrible.

NINE HAIDEE
If you think it will not work--

MANDA ACTERBURG
Not that kind of terrible.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
If it's got any chance at all,
we've got to try it! For the
mission! For the movement!

MANDA ACTERBURG
Alright. But just remember, I told
you. It's...going to be terrible.

I need to go make a call.

Scene Break

THE MALL, RING 3, YUKON ROUTING HUM, DAYLIGHT CYCLE. ATMO BACKGROUND, COMPUTER
BEEPS, NO TALKING BUT BEEPING MACHINERY

CARMINE REY
(through a speaker)
Attention, associates!! Hello!
Hello everyone! Hello Associates,
members of the YuKon *family*! Hello
and good day to all of you! May I

have your attention over here,
please? Over here! Yes, yes, even
you over there. Eyes up here,
please!

Wonderful. Good afternoon,
everyone, and welcome to the first
day of the rest of your career!

Associates, what you are about to
take part in has been provided for
you *exclusively* by the Labor and
Lifestyle Overlap for YuKon
Associates Leaders Program, You
have all been selected to be part
of a truly special and unique
experience provided by LLOYAL. One
that is guaranteed to improve your
mood, your work performance, and
your life.

I am Carmine Rey and thiiiis is
HOOPLA!!!!

Audible groans

CARMINE REY

Now! The very first thing we need
to do is loosen all of you up. So
everyone. Staaand up! Yes,
everyone! Go on! Just, just stand
up right where you are!

Associates grumble, sound of chairs moving

CARMINE REY

Get up out of those chairs! Up!
Up! Up! Yes, I see you, everybody
up! There you go! Standing up now,
and. Nowwwwww. Let's shake it out!
Come on, shake!

Music comes up in the background, tinny like it's in a
hand-held speaker

CARMINE REY

Just like that! Let the music get
into you! Let's shake, shake,
shake away all those bad vibes --
all that stationary, sedentary
energy! Shake yourself up and
awake! Let's get that bloooooo
pumping!

Music and sound of movement continues in background

PAYSELEY COGG

Who the hell are YOU and what are
you doing here?

CARMINE REY

What are you doing here is the
question. Why, you're just
standing? We're supposed to be
shaking!

PAYSELEY COGG

I...what? ...no...You...who? What
the, wha..

Who the hell are you and what are
you doing here? Who sent you? This
is a restricted, high security
area!

CARMINE REY

Exactly! The higher the security
clearance, the higher the stress,
the higher tension, oh! The higher
the need to *release* it! And *that*
is what I am here for! Relaxation
AND re-education!

(pause for the joke to
not land, then a hearty
fake laugh)

Ooh, but not like *that* of course!
Just good old career development!
Now! Are you ready to get to work?

PAYSELEY COGG

No! What...who, but...

GABIJA CASTOR

You can't just walk in here. Let me see your badge. Your ID! Your clearance!

CARMINE REY

Of course! I wouldn't dream of just waltzing into your place of work without the proper documentation! I assure you my permissions are all in order. How else could I have walked straight through that locked door? I will be sure to tell Motivation Team that my ID was *thoroughly* checked, despite already having passed rigorous background checks and evaluations to be employed by LLOYAL.

Here! It's my ID! Go ahead and scan it! I'm sure the Committee won't mind if the start of our program is *delayed a few minutes* in the name of proper security! I won't even be offended that you doubted me and the LLOYALty Committee.

GABIJA CASTOR

Oh. Um. I--I know the Committee does good checks. And I guess you did get through the security check at the door.

PAYSELEY COGG

Don't be a dumbass, *Ice Hammer*. She came in, so she's been cleared. She's *obviously* part of the LLOYAL.

CARMINE REY

Well I can tell you are an Associate with a keen and firm

sense of loyalty! I can see why,
mmm,

(stage whisper)

Certain well-known Gold LEAFs

(normal voice again)

wanted me to work with this team,
if you are representative of the
kind of talent we have here.

(on speaker to the group)

Keep on shaking! The song isn't
over yet! Just really let your
limbs relax! Kick those feet! Give
me a shimmy or two! You're not
statues!

(back to Cogg)

You may, in fact, be the very
individual I need! How would you
like to be a team leader for
today's exercises? I can tell you
have the makings of a real mover
and shaker!

PAYSELEY COGG

Yeah. You got that right. I got my
eye on the prize.

CARMINE REY

Very good indeed! Then we have our
Red Team Leader! I can only hope
one as capable as you steps
forward to lead the Blue Team.

(back on speaker, to the
group)

Annnnnnd....stop!

Music is turned off

How's everyone doing? Feeling nice
and loose? Got that energy running
all through you? We're just about
ready to divide up into--

GABIJA CASTOR

(interrupting)

I want the Blue Team!

CARMINE REY

I'm sorry?

GABIJA CASTOR

I want the Blue Team. I wanna run the Blue Team! I'm as good as Cogg there. Better! You can't give them a team and not me! Not unless you want everyone to *suck*.

CARMINE REY

(mock surprise and impressed)

Oh. I...see. Well. Then. I believe we've found our second team leader. And with that, we can get this program underway!

(back on speaker to group)

Alright, Associates! First things first! See these HOOPs? As you go by, each of you take one. When you get to the conference room, give them a shake! Shaking the HOOPs will reveal a color. This color is your team, for the rest of the program. They're going to be your family within a family!

Pause, shuffling sounds as associates moving around

Now, everyone, we're headed up the ring to conference room 3A-B33. So head right out of here, to the right. I'll be right along to open the room up and get us all going!

PAYSELEY COGG

Wait. Leave...the hub?

CARMINE REY

(laughing)

Why yes! You couldn't have thought we'd have a deep and meaningful

bonding and training experience in
this tiny space, could you?

PAYSELEY COGG
But...it's a secure area?

GABIJA CASTOR
(scoffs)
Don't be a dumbass, Cogg. She's
going to lock it down. I can't
believe you don't know that the
Motivation Team have their own
overrides that let them lock and
unlock ANY YuKon facility.

PAYSELEY COGG
I knew that!

GABIJA CASTOR
Then why are you asking? Don't you
trust Motivation?

PAYSELEY COGG
Of - of course I do! I was
just...testing...you.

GABIJA CASTOR
Suuuuuuure.

CARMINE REY
Again, this demonstration of
company loyalty and inner
knowledge? Oh, it is truly
impressive. I admire the
responsibility and ownership with
which you treat your workplace! I
will, of course, treat it as well
as you do! I will be locking the
doors behind us, so we may go on
our team building journey
together.

GABIJA CASTOR
See?

PAYSELEY COGG

Fuck you, Castor.

Sounds of more gathering stuff together.

CARMINE REY

Now then. If my two team leaders
are ready, let us proceed to the
conference room.

Door closes, lock beeps

A silent pause

Lock beeps again, door opens, footsteps

MANDA ACTERBURG

I want to say I don't believe that
worked. But *of course* it worked.

NINE HAIDEE

Who was that person? Are they, in
fact, who they said they were?

MANDA ACTERBURG

Oh, if you mean are they a
(voice trying to mimic
Carmine)
*An enthusiastic supporter of
better mental health through
physical well-being?* Then yeah.
They are. If you mean do they work
for YuKon, then no. They very much
do not. Anymore.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

They were *amazing*.

MANDA ACTERBURG

You *would* think so.

Pause while everyone adjusts

MANDA ACTERBURG

Well. We're in. What do we do now?

NINE HAIDEE

You stand there, out of the way.
This is where my work begins.

Footsteps away, NINE goes to work on setting
up explosives in the background

ANGUS SPARACELLO
So, uh, how do you know them?

MANDA ACTERBURG
Oh, Carmine?

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Yeah. They...um...don't seem like
the kind of person you'd...uh... I
mean, they...

MANDA ACTERBURG
Yeah. They.

I met them when we were both still
working for the company. Got them
out of some trouble. They used to
be a Monty.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
He is not like any MOUNTIE I've
seen before...

MANDA ACTERBURG
Not MOUNTIE. Monty. As in Monty
the Moose? YuKon's family-friendly
brand ambassador mascot? They'd
get all dressed up in this
ridiculous cartoon moose suit, and
go around to different YoTowns
MCing for Associate events. You
know, fairs, graduations, Shipping
Goal Achievement parties, stuff
like that. They were, if you can
believe it, the most-asked-for
Monty in the System.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Ohhhh. I forgot about that! Monty
the Mountie Moose! I haven't seen

him since I was a kid! He used to be *everywhere*. I can't believe I didn't remember! Whatever *happened* to them, anyway?

MANDA ACTERBURG

Uh, Carmine happened.

Let's just say that YuKon doesn't like it when *anyone* goes off brand, much less their most well known character. And they *really* don't like it when said character starts sounding a little *red*.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

What does that mean?

MANDA ACTERBURG

Hey, Nine, did you ever meet Xash? Xash Boyle?

NINE HAIDEE

Yes. She was a kind, genuine person. And such a beautiful voice.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

Who?

MANDA ACTERBURG

Opera singer, and people who know about that kind of thing said she was a good one. But what's important to the matter at hand is that she was born on Makhnovshchina.

ANGUS SPARACELLO

I'm not really following this story...

MANDA ACTERBURG

To sum up-- Carmine, YuKon's favorite Monty Moose fell for Xash, an anarchist and true

believer. So they had to go. Even if they *hadn't* converted to her way of thinking, being married to an anti-capitalist is a pretty big deal to the biggest commercial enterprise in the system. So they were found in breach of contract, and out they went.

NINE HAIDEE
(under her breath)
Neftyanye.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Of course. Anyone who challenges the Almighty Acquisition of Income must be punished.

So you saved them?

MANDA ACTERBURG
I just helped a person out of a bad spot. I didn't know it was *political*.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Suuure. I knew it, Manda. You've been a supporter of The Cause all along. You're a Unioneer with the heart of a hero!

MANDA ACTERBURG
No. I don't.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Do.

MANDA ACTERBURG
Don't.

ANGUS SPARACELLO
Do.

Chime as the bombs activate

NINE HAIDEE

(cutting them off)
I am finished. We should get out
of here. Quickly, please.

MANDA ACTERBURG
Right. Yeah. Just a second.
There's something I need to do.

NINE HAIDEE
Alright. But hurry. The timers on
these devices have already been
set.

MANDA ACTERBURG
I got it. I'm right behind you.

Footsteps.

MANDA ACTERBURG
(to herself)
Ok. Comm terminal...comm
terminal... are - are these *all*
comm terminals? Ok. Those are
company...how about... Ok.
Blueline. That works.
Aaand...Redline. Perfect. This'll
do.

Pause, beeping, clicking, computer stuff

MANDA ACTERBURG
'The heart of a hero'? No, Angus.
I'm not a hero. I don't want to
be. But *someone* has to do
something. *Someone* has to help
make things better. And until
someone better, someone who really
does have the heart of a hero
comes along, you're stuck with me.

Final beep of recording being uploaded

Scene Break

YORK VENTURA
Order system shutdowns? Production
halts? Delivery delays? What's

wrong at YuKon? Company President Preston Jorgensen declines to comment. This is York Venture, for Redline U838, the Voice of the System.

The past 24 hours have seen a truly unbelievable development in intra-stellar commerce-- YuKon, known throughout the System for its "anywhere in 24" guarantee, repeatedly failing to deliver. We have received reports from locations ranging as widely as Terminal Station and Golden City, Mercury, indicating that expected orders, some already far outside 24 hour guarantee, have still not arrived, and there has as yet been no communication from the company as to when they can be expected. Though officially denied by company representatives, reliable sources say that pro-Union activists representing the Intrastellar Workers' Movement have caused this service disruption by--

THE VOICE OF YUKON

(cutting in)

Attention, Associates! Remember! Information literacy is vital! We want to equip our YuKon family with the tools you need to be discerning consumers and contributors! Please take note of not only *what* is reported, but *who* has provided the information in that report! After all, even "unbiased news" can include the prejudices designed to sway the listener. Demand transparency! Accept no information without a clearly identified source!

YuKon is pleased to offer the most comprehensive employment security package in the System, and we have no intention of reducing the benefits we offer to our associates. You are our greatest resource, and we are your biggest fans! But please, we can only support you as far as you will let us! The circulation of gossip and unsubstantiated rumors undermines our efforts to raise up each and every Associate into the very best version of themselves. Refuse to allow it! Stop the lies in their tracks! Report any misinformation to your Associate Liaison! Have questions? Ask us directly! Company representatives stand by on Company Whiteline 44395 to clear up any--

Broadcast crackling and breaking up. Yukon announcement jingle

MANDA ACTERBURG

(recording, breaking into
comm broadcast)

Attention, Associates! Everything that you just heard is *bullshit*. We know that. *Everyone* knows that. But no one ever says it out loud. So I think it's time someone did.

Yeah, it was the IWM. We destroyed the SE115 YuKon Routing Hub. No one was hurt, and if they tell you someone was, that is *also* bullshit.

We did it. But we didn't want to. None of us want to be doing this.

Some of us pretend they do. Some of the young might even *think* they do. But if you gave any of our so-called revolutionaries the chance to be at home, with families and loved ones, secure, and protected, and *unconscious*, they'd be lying if they said they wouldn't take it. But we can't. Because we know what's happening. Because we've seen the pain, and the fear, and the death that they cause. And we've seen it be called "progress."

How many of you really know what it's like to work for YuKon? How many of you are going to just shrug and say well, that's just how things work. You take a job knowing what you're going to have to do. And if you don't like it, find something better. And when there isn't something there, when you're on Dion, or Lavigne, or Carrey, where all there is is Company towns and Company jobs, how many of you are going to say we should just leave? The System's big. Go somewhere else. Do something else. You'll say it, because that's what everyone says.

But here's what I want to know.

Why?

Why are we the ones who should change? Why should we have to leave everything we know, risk everything we are, to find a job that doesn't break our legs, or ruin our backs, or kill us? Why should we, these tiny,

insignificant things, be the ones expected to do better?

Why us? Why not them?

YuKon could pay us what we're worth, you know? They can afford it. They could slow down work, reduce the quotas. It would cost them almost nothing. Pennies. They could change the lives of every one of the associates in their production and fulfillment centers, and not even feel it. But it would maybe knock a zero off the big number that is Preston Jorgensen's bank account. He'd have a little bit less imaginary money that he won't even be alive long enough to spend.

Most of you will think we're wrong to do this. Say we're breaking the law. Call us criminals. But I want you to think about who you are, at the end of the day. Are you one of them? Wondering which of their StarYachts to take to which of their luxury orbitals? Or are you like us-- doing what it takes to get from one day to the next? Most of you are no different than we are, whether you admit it or not.

So what I want you to think about, while you wait for your fabbed plastic treasure, is that if it happens to us, it can happen to you. Tell yourself you're different all you like. We all know, deep down, that it's true.

So we're going to keep fighting out here. Even though we don't want to. Even though we'd rather be doing anything else. And when you're ready to fight, too, we'll be waiting for you to join us.

Thank you for your time and attention. And remember, you put the U in Union.

Ending chime. Broadcast static.

Scene fades out.

Thank you for joining us for this episode of Breathing Space, Fading Frontier.

This episode, Solidarity Forever, was written and directed by Lee Seguinte and edited by Eric Seguinte.

The Voice of Yukon was voiced by Jeremiah.

Nine Haidee was voiced by James Big.

Angus Sparacello was played by Alberto J Garcia.

Manda Acterburg was voiced by Olivia Cottle.

Gabija Castor was voiced by Patrick Mendleson.

Payseley Cogg was voiced by Bunny.

Carmine Rey was voiced by Paige Koch.

Our theme, Blues for the
Black, was composed by
Michael Freitag with vocals
by Jeremiah and lyrics by
Scott Paladin.

You can find links to learn
more about our cast and crew
in the show notes and more
information about our show at
our website,
breathingspace.lawofnames.com
.

Breathing Space, Fading
Frontier is a Law of Names
Production.

Red Planet Rubies Soil-Grown Vegetable Substitutes (After Solidarity Forever)

Water running from a faucet

HOUSEWIFE

There's no one in the galaxy more
important to me than my family.
And no time more important than
family dinner. So when I cook, I
always use Red Planet Rubies
Soil-Grown Vegetable Substitutes.

Chopping vegetables

That's because Red Planet Rubies
Soil-Grown Vegetable Substitutes
combine the great
grown-in-the-dirt taste with none
of the grown-in-the-dirt price.

They use chemically-treated
Martian soils and lovingly
engineered semi-organic substances
to create that *perfect* vegetable
flavor.

From crisp segments of iceberg
lettuce to juicy cherry tomatoes,
Red Planet Rubies are the perfect
compliment to any meal.

Oven being opened, tray slides in, door closed. Food
heating up

My kids love the fun shapes and
colors, and I love the price and
how easy they are to cook.

Humming, like a microwave. Ticking of a timer

Red Planet Rubies Soil-Grown
Vegetable Substitutes—The Bounty
of the Earth. The Treasure of
Mars. Look for them in the
cryo-freeze aisle.

Timer dings!