

C.A.S.S.P.R.

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EXT. OUTSIDE ORBIT OF KEPLER 438B

Hovering lifeless is the long, slender ARCHIMEDES, a space ship with more curves than angles. A metal salamander. At the center is an enormous dome.

The enormous curve of Kepler 438b looms in the not-so-far distance. It could be Earth's pale, rocky twin.

It's unbelievably quiet.

INT. ARCHIMEDES MAIN DECK

Banks of sleek computers line the walls with slim chairs. At the center is a circular platform.

A huge curved window offers a stunning view of the massive red dwarf sun in the center of the solar system.

Everything is a wreck.

Several computer banks are shattered, chairs are overturned. Sparks fly from the ceiling intermittently.

INT. ARCHIMEDES CREW QUARTERS

Bunks line the walls with lockers. Stuff is everywhere, as if the room has gone through a hurricane. One lone reading light above an unmade bed illuminates the room.

INT. ARCHIMEDES KITCHEN

Circular with a large white table in the center and cupboards/fridges lining the edge-less wall.

Cupboard doors are hanging off their hinges, glass doors of the fridges are shattered. A bed of crumbled/smashed foodstuffs and liquids carpet the floor.

On the ground is AKASH, a slender Indian man, mid-40's. He's unconscious with a thick gash in his forehead.

His hand twitches. He groans.

Slowly, he lifts himself up. He presses a hand to his gash and looks around, utterly bewildered.

INT. ARCHIMEDES ENGINE ROOM

Suspended metal bridges wind between enormous clusters of machinery. An alarm is blaring.

WOOP! WOOP! WOOP! WARNING! WARNING!

Steam shoots from pipes like geysers. Something is very wrong.

MONICA, late 30's, muscular and imposing, picks herself up off one of the bridges. She groans. An enormous purple bruise is forming near her temple.

WOOP! WOOP! WOOP! WARNING! WARNING!

She looks around, completely confused. In front of her is a control panel with a flashing green button. She presses it. The geyser of steam stops, as does the alarm.

A screen on the panel has a bright yellow warning blinking on it: "engine stalled".

INT. ARCHIMEDES MAIN DECK

Akash stands at the helm, his fingers grazing over the shattered computer bank. The screen flashes "navigation system failure". He looks out onto the red star.

The door opens, and Monica stumbles inside.

They stare at each other for a moment.

He walks over to her, helping her to a chair.

MONICA
(through gritted teeth)
It's my ankle.

Akash inspects her right ankle. He takes off her boot and sock, turning her foot. She groans.

AKASH
Looks like a bad sprain.

MONICA
Are you a doctor?

AKASH
Biologist.

He points to the ID badge on his left sleeve. Monica looks at hers.

MONICA
I'm an engineer.

AKASH
You don't remember?

MONICA
I don't remember anything. You?

Akash shakes his head.

AKASH
Have you seen anyone else?

She shakes her head.

Beat.

AKASH (CONT'D)
I'm Akash.

MONICA
Monica.

She gestures to the helm of the main deck with her chin.

MONICA (CONT'D)
Everything ok?

AKASH
Navigation's down. I tried pressing
a few buttons but it seems I don't
know much about piloting a
spaceship.

Monica gets up and limps over to the window, staring out at
Kepler 438b.

MONICA
Are we here for that?

AKASH
We're just out of orbit. I'd say
so.

MONICA
It's just like Earth.

AKASH
Probably why we're here. Second
chances.