

RED DWARF

by

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First Draft Shooting Script
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RED DWARF

TEASER

FADE IN:

OVER-DRAMATIC SYMPHONY MUSIC:

SUPERIMPOSE TITLE:

"RED DWARF...
THE STORY SO FAR..."

THE TITLES RECEDE INTO THE DISTANCE A LA
"STAR WARS," TELLING AN INSPIRED STORY OF
HEROIC ADVENTURE. UNFORTUNATELY, THE WORDS
RACE BY SO FAST WE CAN'T READ ANY OF IT. THE
CRAWL STOPS AT THE LAST FEW WORDS:

"WHICH NEVER REALLY HEALED PROPERLY.
...NOW, THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES..."

CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

#86446

2.
I/A
(Holly, Lister,
Munson)

ACT ONE - SCENE A

FADE IN:

INT. VIDEO SCREEN - DAY ONE

A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN MATERIALIZES ON THE SCREEN.
HER FACE FLOATS AGAINST A BLACK BACKGROUND.
SHE LOOKS AT US AND SMILES.

HOLLY

I'd like to welcome all our new
recruits aboard the Jupiter Mining
Corporation Ship Red Dwarf. My name
is Holly, I'm the ship's computer.
I'm a DataCorp model 'H' with an
operating I.Q. of 6,000...The same
I.Q. as 6,000 P.E. teachers.

INSERT - VARIOUS SHOTS OF THE SHIP

HOLLY (V.O.)

The Red Dwarf is a fusion-powered
Miner/Freighter with a crew of 5,000
and a cargo volume of forty-seven
cubic miles.

INSERT - THE COMMAND BRIDGE

PEOPLE IN MILITARY GARB PUSH BUTTONS AT
VARIOUS CONSOLES. ALSO PRESENT IS FIRST
OFFICER MUNSON, A PLEASANT-LOOKING FELLOW
WITH A GLOWING RED DOT ON HIS FOREHEAD.

HOLLY (V.O.)

This is First Officer Munson. For those who've never worked with an after-life hologram before, I'll explain. The real Munson stepped in front of a forklift last year.

MUNSON GRINS SHEEPISHLY, MAKES A "WHAT A DOPE!" GESTURE.

HOLLY (CONT'D)

This Munson is a computer simulation, activated so he could continue his duties even after death.

MUNSON

(IRONIC) And I suggest everyone else read the fine print of their contracts.

HOLLY

He's exactly the same as when he was alive, except since he's just a three-dimensional projection he can't touch anything.

FX: SOMEONE LOBS A PAPER AIRPLANE AT MUNSON. IT SAILS RIGHT THROUGH HIS HEAD. THE OTHER OFFICERS LAUGH.

MUNSON

Hey! That's not funny!

INSERT - SHOTS OF RESTAURANTS, A BOWLING ALLEY, A SHOPPING MALL, ENDING ON A SHOT OF A CORRIDOR WITH VENDING MACHINES.

HOLLY

You'll soon find that the Red Dwarf
has all the comforts of home. If you
need a quick snack, vending machines
are located near the ---

WE SEE DAVE LISTER WORKING ON ONE OF THE
MACHINES. HE'S A GOOD-NATURED SLOB OF
QUESTIONABLE HERITAGE. HE REMOVES A HOSE,
SUCKS A CLOG OUT OF IT, RECONNECTS IT.

HOLLY (CONT'D)

Oh. This is Dave Lister. It's
better for your career if you stay
away from him.

LISTER SPOTS THE CAMERA, LEAPS TO HIS FEET.

LISTER

Holly, you luscious piece of
machinery, you know you love me.

HOLLY

(REACTS) Cut it out, Dave.

LISTER

(SEXY) I can't take this teasing any
more. Kiss me.

LISTER ADVANCES TOWARD THE CAMERA WITH HIS
TONGUE HANGING OUT. BEFORE HE HAS A CHANCE TO
DO ANYTHING UNSPEAKABLE, HOLLY POPS BACK ON
THE MONITOR.

HOLLY

(FLUSTERED) This concludes the
orientation.

SHE BLACKS OUT THE SCREEN.

CUT TO:

#86446

5.
I/B

#86446

5.
I/B
(Lister, Kryten,
Rimmer, Holly
Kochanski)

ACT ONE - SCENE B

INT. CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS - DAY ONE

SMALL SCUTTER ROBOTS WHIZ AROUND, REPAIRING THINGS. KRYTEN, A DIGNIFIED, UNASSUMING BUTLER ANDROID, IS HELPING LISTER TIDY THE AREA WITH A VACUUM HOSE ATTACHED TO HIS MOUTH. AS LISTER STEPS AWAY FROM THE SCREEN, HOLLY POPS ON THE MONITOR.

HOLLY

(ANNOYED) You know, you might have some chance for advancement if you didn't insist on behaving like some pea-brained yahoo.

LISTER

(SHRUGS) I gotta be me.

HOLLY

Really...You're impossible.

HOLLY POPS OFF THE MONITOR.

LISTER

(SMILES) Score one for the working class, Kryten. (REALIZING) I should

(MORE)

LISTER (CONT'D)

have mooned her. God, why do I
always think up the sophisticated
stuff after it's too late.

ARNOLD RIMMER ENTERS. A VENEER OF STIFF MILITARY
CORRECTNESS BARELY CONCEALS HIS DESPERATELY NEUROTIC
PERSONALITY.

RIMMER

Well well well, Lister, goofing off
yet again, are we? (SEES KRYTEN)
And exploiting the Captain's personal
Butler Droid to boot. Marvelous.

RIMMER PULLS OUT A NOTEBOOK, JOTS DOWN A DEMERIT.

LISTER

Smeg off, Arnold. He's just keeping
me company. We're friends.

RIMMER

(GRABS KRYTEN'S HOSE) And I suppose
this is just something to enhance
that friendship?

KRYTEN TAKES THE HOSE OUT OF HIS MOUTH.

KRYTEN

Please, Mr. Rimmer. I've completed
all my regular duties. Captain Tau
said it was all right.

RIMMER

(DISAPPOINTED) Oh. Well, it's
beyond me why you'd waste your time
cleaning up after this loser.

KRYTEN

Cleaning is...what I do. It's my
raison d'etre. God help me, I love
the smell of ammonia in the morning.

RIMMER LOOKS AT KRYTEN FOR A BEAT. THEN HE DROPS HIS PEN.

RIMMER

Oops.

LISTER

(PAINED) Ah, geez....

RIMMER

Kryten, pick that up. Oh, also raise
your left leg and bark like an
Alsatian.

KRYTEN INSTANTLY PICKS UP THE PEN, RAISES HIS LEFT LEG AND
BARKS LIKE AN ALSATIAN. RIMMER LAUGHS.

LISTER

You're sick. (TO KRYTEN) Why do you
do that?

KRYTEN

I can't help it, I'm a robot. I'm
programmed for strict obedience to
all humans.

LISTER

Well, you gotta get past that. Think
for yourself. Have some dignity.
You don't want to end up like him, do
you?

RIMMER

If you're implying that I just leap to obey any command, no matter how unjustified or stupid... (REALIZING)
Yes, I do. So what? That's what makes me a good leader.

LISTER

Leader? There's five thousand people on this ship. You're in charge of me and the coffee filters.

RIMMER

Well, that's all going to change tomorrow, when I pass the engineering test.

LISTER

(SNORTS) Yeah.

RIMMER

(AFTER A BEAT) And what is that ape-like grunt supposed to signify?

LISTER

Come on, you've failed the same test eight years running.

RIMMER

(TIGHT) It's a well-known fact those tests are culturally biased.

LISTER

Yeah, and every time you sit in the testing room, you burst into tears and then faint. Except last year, when you burst into tears, said you were Mamie Eisenhower, then fainted.

KRYTEN LAUGHS. RIMMER LOOKS AT HIM SHARPLY. KRYTEN COUGHS, RESUMES VACUUMING. LISTER PUTS THE COVER BACK ON THE VENDING MACHINE.

RIMMER

Hold it. Did you ream out the feed nozzles?

LISTER

Yes.

RIMMER

Twice? Both directions?

LISTER

Yes! Rimmer, swilling out soup machines isn't nuclear physics. The only reason the scutters don't do it is they have a better union than us.

RIMMER

I'll have you know our job is vital! Suppose we were hit by an asteroid. The emergency welding crew rushes to seal off the ship. One of them stops to fortify himself with a quick cup

(MORE)

RIMMER (CONT'D)

of minestrone. But that minestrone never comes! Everyone on board is sucked into space because you couldn't be bothered fixing a nozzle clog.

LISTER

You're a nozzle clog.

RIMMER

That's it, you're on report.

(WRITES) Third Maintenance Technician Lister, D. Insulting a superior Maintenance Technician... with intent to kill.

RIMMER STRUTS OFF, VICTORIOUS.

LISTER

(DARKLY) Five minutes alone with that clown. He'd have to take Yoga lessons for a year to find that notebook.

KRYTEN SUDDENLY JOLTS UPRIGHT AND SHUDDERS BACK AND FORTH FOR A FEW SECONDS.

KRYTEN

Hmmm...Must've sucked up a penny. I'd better change my filter bag.

LISTER

Forget it, it's quitting time.

LISTER LIGHTS UP A CIGARETTE.

KRYTEN

Why do you insist on polluting your
lungs with those things?

LISTER

(SHRUGS) It makes me look
distinguished.

HE STARTS TO TURN THE CORNER AND SEES:

ANGLE - DOWN THE CORRIDOR

CHRISTINE KOCHANSKI, A PRETTY YOUNG TECHNICIAN WITH A
KIND FACE.

BACK ON LISTER

AS HE QUICKLY STUBS OUT THE CIGARETTE AND GARGLES SOME
CLEANING FLUID. THEN:

KOCHANSKI

Hi, Dave.

LISTER

(OBVIOUSLY SMITTEN) Hi, Christine.

KOCHANSKI

How're you doing with the smoking?

LISTER

Oh well, you know, not bad. I get
the occasional...pang. But I'm
sticking with it.

KOCHANSKI

(NOTES THE SMOKE) Well, keep trying.
You know it's really not healthy.

SHE GIVES HIM A SMILE AND HEADS OFF.

LISTER

(GRINS) She digs me.

KRYTEN

You can tell that, based on a thirty-second conversation about lung cancer?

LISTER

You didn't get the underlying message. See, men and women have a special language, full of little secret codes.

KRYTEN

You've been chasing her for a year. When do you start de-coding?

LISTER

(DEFENSIVE) I'm waiting for the right moment. It's all part of the plan.

KRYTEN

What plan?

LISTER TAKES A PHOTO OUT OF HIS JACKET.

LISTER

My plan. Me and Christine...Two kids...Living on this farm.

INSERT - CLOSEUP ON A PHOTO OF A NICE SMALL FARM.

LISTER (CONT'D)

I love this picture. It's like everything that's good and pure is in this photograph.

KRYTEN

Where'd you get it?

LISTER

I swiped it.

SFX: AN ALERT BUZZER

HOLLY (V.O.)

Message from the Captain.

ANGLE - VIDEO SCREEN

CAPTAIN TAU, A MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN WITH AN AIR OF ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY, SPEAKS FROM THE HELM.

CAPTAIN TAU

Hello. Holly says she's detected an unregistered life-form somewhere on the ship. We don't know what it is yet, so everyone be careful. That's all.

KRYTEN CLUCKS DISAPPROVINGLY.

KRYTEN

You'd think people would be more careful of the quarantine procedures.

LISTER

(REACTS) Why? Is it something important?

KRYTEN

I believe the penalty for violating quarantine is six months hard duty scraping out the sewage recycler.

LISTER

Uh, listen...Can you keep a secret?

LISTER GESTURES FOR KRYTEN TO FOLLOW AS HE GOES DOWN THE HALLWAY.

CUT TO:

ACT ONE - SCENE C

INT. SLEEPING QUARTERS - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT ONE

AS THEY ENTER. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF LISTER'S NEATLY-MADE BUNK, THE ROOM IS...WELL, DISGUSTING.

LISTER

(CALLS OUT) Lock. Double lock.

THE DOOR TO THE SLEEPING QUARTERS CLOSES AND LOCKS.

LISTER GOES TO HIS BUNK, OPENS A SMALL PANEL AND FLIPS A SWITCH.

FX: THE HOLOGRAM OF LISTER'S NEATLY-MADE BUNK TURNS INTO A PICTURE OF LISTER LYING IN BED STUDYING, THEN A PICTURE OF A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN LINGERIE, THEN A BEACH IN THE TROPICS. THEN IT SHIMMERS AND FADES, REVEALING HIS REAL BUNK, WHICH IS FULL OF TRASH.

LISTER

I shelled out two month's pay for this.

KRYTEN

To avoid making your bed?

(PLEASANTLY) Quite a testament to your business acumen, sir.

LISTER REACHES UNDER THE TRASH AND TAKES OUT A
CARDBOARD BOX. HE SETS IT ON THE FLOOR.

LISTER

(OPENS THE BOX) Frankenstein...

Frankie...

LISTER TAKES OUT A LARGE, MANGY-LOOKING CAT.

KRYTEN

(HORRIFIED) Goodness, that's a cat!

LISTER

Shh. I'm not supposed to have him.
I smuggled him aboard during shore
leave on Callistro.

KRYTEN

Sir, I appreciate you taking me into
your confidence, but...Whatever
possessed you to do such a stupid
thing?

LISTER

I had to. He's an orphan. Like me.
(OFF KRYTEN'S LOOK) Come on, could
you turn down a face like this?

ANGLE - THE CAT'S FACE

THE WORLD'S UGLIEST, MOST SCARRED-UP CAT. THE
FACE LOOKS LIKE A JIGSAW PUZZLE MADE OF HAIR.

KRYTEN

Be that as it may, sir, it's only a
matter of time until Holly narrows
down the cat's location. And the
situation is quickly going to get
worse.

LISTER

Why?

KRYTEN

Because Frankenstein is clearly
pregnant and ready to dump a load of
kittens at any moment!

LISTER REACTS. HE LOOKS AT THE CAT'S STOMACH.

LISTER

(SHEEPISH) I thought it was all the
beer I've been giving him.

DISSOLVE TO:

#86446

17.
I/D
(Holly, Rimmer,
Lister,
Captain Tau,
Kryten, Munson)

ACT ONE - SCENE D

INT. COMMAND BRIDGE - THE NEXT MORNING - DAY TWO

LISTER IS EMPTYING OUT TRASH CANS.

SFX: AN ALERT BUZZER

HOLLY

All entrants for the engineering exam
please go to the testing room now.

A GROUP OF TEN OR TWELVE TEST-TAKERS PASS THROUGH,
RIMMER BRINGING UP THE REAR. AS HE STRUTS PAST LISTER:

RIMMER

(PATS HIS FANNY) Start warming up
your lips, Bucko. You're going to be
kissing a lot of this from now on.

LISTER

Right. Give my regards to the lovely
Mr. Eisenhower.

RIMMER SAUNTERS OFF. LISTER SHAKES HIS HEAD AND SMILES.

CAPTAIN TAU

Lister!

LISTER LOOKS OVER AT CAPTAIN TAU. HER EXPRESSION IS GRIM.
LISTER REACTS, CROSSES TO HER. MUNSON IS WITH HER.

LISTER

Yes, Captain?

CAPTAIN TAU

Where's the cat?

LISTER

(REACTS) Cat? There's a cat
somewhere?

CAPTAIN TAU

Play the tape please, Holly.

LISTER

Tape?

CAPTAIN TAU

Security went over last night's
surveillance tapes of you in your
room. (BEAT) In the interest of
good taste, we'll skip the part
between one and two AM.

LISTER REACTS, TURNS TO THE VIDEO SCREEN.

ANGLE - VIDEO SCREEN

WE SEE LISTER LYING ON HIS BUNK IN THE DARK. AFTER A
MOMENT, HE GETS UP FROM HIS BUNK. HE OPENS THE DOOR AND
KRYTEN TIPTOES IN. LISTER HANDS KRYTEN THE CAT, THEY
WHISPER SOMETHING WE CAN'T HEAR, THEN KRYTEN EXITS WITH
THE CAT.

BACK TO SCENE

LISTER LOOKS NERVOUSLY AT THE CAPTAIN.

LISTER

That's pretty circumstantial, don't
you think?

CAPTAIN TAU

(SIGHS) Lister, a loose animal around this ship could do anything. It could get in the air vents. It could get into Holly. A nibble here, a nibble there, and all of a sudden we're flying into the sun.

LISTER

Okay, suppose I did have a cat. What would happen if I gave it to you?

CAPTAIN TAU

I'd send it down to the medical unit, and have it cut up to run tests on it.

LISTER

Well with all due respect, sir... what's in it for the cat?

JUST THEN, A TERRIFIED KRYTEN IS ESCORTED IN. HE AND LISTER LOOK AT EACH OTHER.

CAPTAIN TAU

You understand Kryten's programming. You know when I ask him he'll tell me. I'm giving you a chance.

A BEAT. LISTER SAYS NOTHING.

CAPTAIN TAU (CONT'D)

Have it your way. (TURNS TO KRYTEN)
Kryten...Where's the cat?

KRYTEN

(PAINED) Please, Captain. I...I --

CAPTAIN TAU

Kryten. It's an order. I want you
to tell me where the cat is.

PAUSE. KRYTEN LOOKS AT LISTER, THEN AT THE CAPTAIN. HE
DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING. HIS HEAD STARTS TWITCHING
STRANGELY.

CAPTAIN TAU

(REACTS) Service Droid, this is
Captain Louise Tau. This is a direct
order. Tell me where the cat is.

KRYTEN MAKES SOME STRANGE HUMMING SOUNDS, BUT STILL
DOESN'T ANSWER.

LISTER

Stop! He's hurting himself.

KRYTEN'S HEAD STARTS SHAKING VIOLENTLY. THE HUMMING
INCREASES. HIS EYES BUG OUT. LITTLE WISPS OF SMOKE RISE
FROM HIS SHOULDERS. CAPTAIN TAU GETS TO HER FEET.

CAPTAIN TAU

Emergency Override sequence Alpha-
four-Alpha-nine! Where is the damn
cat!

THE HUMMING BUILDS TO A CRESCENDO, THEN STOPS. KRYTEN
GIVES CAPTAIN TAU A CRAZED SMILE. THEN HE EXPLODES.

ANGLE - CAPTAIN'S DESK

AS KRYTEN'S EYEBALLS FLY OUT AND LAND IN HER COFFEE CUP.

BACK TO SCENE

MUNSON

(LOOKS AT THE CUP) I guess he wins a
goldfish. (THEN) Sorry.

CAPTAIN TAU

Get him repaired.

TECHNICIANS DRAG KRYTEN AWAY.

LISTER

Is he going to be okay?

CAPTAIN TAU

He's not the one you should be worried about. (STANDING OVER LISTER) If you don't turn over the cat, I'm going to put you in suspended animation for the rest of the trip. You'll forfeit all pay and receive a dishonorable discharge. You might also face criminal charges when we get back to Earth. The choice is yours.

DISSOLVE TO:

(Lister, Munson,
Rimmer,
Kochanski)

ACT ONE - SCENE E

INT. STASIS HALLWAY - A LITTLE WHILE LATER - DAY *two*

LISTER IS BEING ESCORTED DOWN THE HALL BY MUNSON. AT ONE END OF THE HALL IS A SMALL CHAMBER WITH A GLASS DOOR.

MUNSON

You sure you won't change your mind?

LISTER SHAKES HIS HEAD. THEY ARRIVE AT THE CHAMBER.
LISTER LOOKS IT OVER.

LISTER

Is this stasis thing going to hurt?

MUNSON

(REASSURING) It's just a kind of suspended animation. See, just like X-rays can't penetrate lead, time can't penetrate the neutral time rays of a stasis field. For you, time won't exist. To us, you exist, but as a non-event mass with a quantum probability of zero.

LISTER

So it will hurt.

TWO MEDICAL WORKERS APPEAR, PUSHING A STRETCHER WITH ARNOLD RIMMER ON IT.

LISTER

Rimmer, what happened?

RIMMER

(MOANS) I think I did really well
this time.

RIMMER LAPSES BACK INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS AS THE MEDICAL
CREW WHEEL HIM OFF.

LISTER

Let's get this over with.

KOCHANSKI HURRIES DOWN THE HALL TOWARD HIM.

LISTER

Chris....

KOCHANSKI

(AWKWARDLY) Listen...I heard what
you did. I probably would have done
the same thing in your shoes.

LISTER

Thanks.

KOCHANSKI

I just feel terrible about this.

LISTER

(SHRUGS) Hey, it's okay. There's
nothing out here for me anyway.

PAUSE. NEITHER OF THEM KNOWS WHAT TO SAY. FINALLY,
LISTER SCREWS UP HIS COURAGE TO TELL HER HOW HE FEELS.

LISTER

Christine....

KOCHANSKI

What?

LISTER LOOKS IN HER EYES AND INSTANTLY LOSES HIS RESOLVE.

LISTER

I'll see you when I get out.

LISTER STEPS INTO THE CHAMBER. THE DOOR AUTOMATICALLY SHUTS BEHIND HIM.

ANGLE - INSIDE THE CHAMBER

LISTER LOOKS OUT THROUGH THE GLASS AT KOCHANSKI, GIVES HER A LITTLE WAVE.

KOCHANSKI LOOKS IN AT HIM FOR A MOMENT, THEN MOUTHS WHAT LOOKS LIKE "I LOVE YOU." THEN SHE TURNS AND LEAVES.
LISTER REACTS, PUZZLED.

LISTER

I lick you? (THEN) I love you!

Holy smeg! Let me out of here! I'll

talk! I'll ---

JUST AS HE RAISES HIS FIST TO POUND ON THE GLASS, THE STASIS FIELD IS ACTIVATED AND LISTER FREEZES, LOOKING VERY MUCH LIKE THE STATUE OF LIBERTY.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

#86446

25.
II/H
(Lister, Holly)

ACT TWO - SCENE H

FADE IN:

INT. STASIS HALLWAY - LATER - DAY TWO

WE SEE LISTER THROUGH THE DOOR, FROZEN AS HE WAS BEFORE.
AFTER A MOMENT, HE UNFREEZES AND STARTS POUNDING ON THE
DOOR. THE DOOR OPENS AND HE RUNS OUT OF THE CHAMBER.

LISTER

(YELLING) Okay, I'll talk!

Christine! Chris -- ! (LOOKS

AROUND) Christine?..Munson?..Hello?

SILENCE. THE HALLWAY IS EMPTY.

ANGLE - VIDEO SCREEN

HOLLY APPEARS. SHE LOOKS A LITTLE STRANGE.

HOLLY

Hi, Dave. Go on up to the command
bridge.

LISTER, A LITTLE CONFUSED, GOES OFF DOWN THE HALLWAY.

CUT TO:

#86446

26.
II/J
(Lister, Holly)

ACT TWO - SCENE J

INT. VARIOUS HALLWAYS - CONTINUOUS - DAY TWO

AS LISTER MAKES HIS WAY TO THE COMMAND BRIDGE. HIS FOOTSTEPS ECHO EERILY IN THE EMPTY HALLWAYS. EVERYWHERE HE GOES, THERE ARE SMALL PILES OF WHITE POWDER ON THE FLOOR.

LISTER

Where is everyone, Holly?

HOLLY

(GENTLY) There was an accident,
Dave. A radiation leak. The entire
crew was subjected to a lethal dose
of Cadmium II.

LISTER

That's awful. Is everyone okay?

HOLLY

Everybody's dead, Dave. That's what
'lethal' means.

LISTER WANDERS, DAZED, INTO THE COMMAND BRIDGE.

CUT TO:

#86446

27.
II/K
(Lister, Holly,
Rimmer)

ACT TWO - SCENE K

INT. COMMAND BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS - DAY TWO

THERE ARE MORE LITTLE PILES OF WHITE POWDER ON THE CHAIRS AND FLOOR. LISTER DIPS A FINGER INTO ONE OF THE PILES.

LISTER

What are you talking about? (TASTING IT) And what's all this white stuff?

HOLLY

That particular pile is Catering Officer Murphy.

LISTER

(SPITS IT OUT) What! (THEN) Holly, how could this happen?

HOLLY

One of the shields in the engine room was defective. It broke apart ten minutes after you went into stasis.

LISTER

(REALIZING) ...Christine.

HE TAKES HIS FARM PHOTO OUT OF HIS JACKET, LOOKS AT IT.

LISTER (CONT'D)

(SOFTLY) This wasn't the plan.
The farm was the plan...And two
kids...And Christine Kochanski, in a
white dress, working the farm with
me. I planned it.

HE TOSSES THE PHOTO ONTO THE CONSOLE.

HOLLY

(GENTLY) I'm afraid she can't be
part of your plan anymore. I mean,
unless it freezes up and you need
something to grit the walkway.

LISTER

Holly!

HOLLY

(REALIZING) I'm sorry. That was
horrible, wasn't it? I've just been
on my own so long, I've lost all my
people skills.

LISTER

(REACTS) What do you mean? Holly,
how long was I in stasis?

HOLLY

Well, I couldn't let you out until
the radiation died down to a safe
level. (BEAT) Really, you're going
to laugh.

LISTER

How long!

HOLLY

Just under three million years.
We've been accelerating away from the
solar system all that time.

LISTER

Three million years! (REALIZING) My
baseball cards must be worth a
fortune.

HOLLY

Well, the bad news is that I'm now
2.9 million years over my rated
lifespan. My memory is shot, all my
circuits are breaking down....

FX: A CIRCUIT NEAR THE SCREEN SHORTS OUT WITH
A SPARK.

HOLLY

...Actually, that one felt kind of
good.

LISTER

(LOOKS AROUND) I'm all alone on this
giant ship. I'll go nuts here all by
myself.

HOLLY

Not necessarily. See that little
round thing on the console.

LISTER PICKS UP A SMALL ELECTRONIC GIZMO THE
SIZE OF A GOLF BALL.

LISTER

What, this?

LISTER HITS A SWITCH. THE DEVICE FLOATS UP AND HOVERS A FEW FEET OFF THE GROUND.

HOLLY

It's a psycho-holographic projection device. That's what made First Officer Munson possible. If you want company, just insert that personality chip into the data slot.

LISTER

(SHRUGS) I guess I liked Munson okay.

LISTER PICKS UP THE CHIP AND STUFFS IT INTO THE SLOT. A SWIRLING ELECTRONIC CLOUD APPEARS.

HOLLY

It's not Munson. His chip was contaminated. The scutters brought this one up from the medical unit.

SUDDENLY THE CLOUD COALESCES INTO...ARNOLD RIMMER! HE NOW HAS A GLOWING RED DOT ON HIS FOREHEAD. HE'S IN HIS UNDERWEAR.

RIMMER

(MOANS) Please, Mommy, I don't want to wear that lingerie.

LISTER

(TO HOLLY) You can't do this to me! I hate him.

HOLLY

All the other chips are contaminated. And as Jean-Paul Sarte said, 'Hell is spending eternity with your friends.'

LISTER

Yeah, because all his friends were French. (BEAT) At least put his clothes on.

INSTANTLY, RIMMER IS DRESSED IN HIS UNIFORM.

RIMMER

(REACTS) I remember...I was in the medical unit. There was a flash, and then...I died! My God, I'm dead!

RIMMER TAKES A FEW STEPS THEN REALIZES HE'S STANDING WAIST-DEEP INSIDE THE CONSOLE. HE SCREAMS.

LISTER

Everyone's dead. There was an accident. (BEAT) I'm the only one left alive on the whole ship.

RIMMER

(DRIPPING SARCASM) Oh gee, Davey, that must be really tough for you. Perhaps we could form a support group.

LISTER

Don't start with me, man. I'll unplug your electric butt.

HOLLY

I hate to break up this joyous reunion, but I just unsealed the cargo hold. There's some kind of large, non-human life form wandering around down there.

LISTER

(REACTS) What is it?

HOLLY

I don't know.

RIMMER

(PANICKED) Well, where'd it come
from? What's it doing?

HOLLY

I don't know, and I don't know.

RIMMER

Is there anything at all that you
do know?

HOLLY

Well...If it's anything like the
movie Alien, it'll all be over with
pretty quickly.

ON THEIR REACTIONS, WE....

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT TWO - SCENE L

INT. ANOTHER HALLWAY - A FEW MINUTES LATER - DAY TWO

MORE PILES OF POWDER ON THE FLOOR. LISTER ENTERS WITH A FORMIDABLE-LOOKING BLASTER. RIMMER FOLLOWS NERVOUSLY BEHIND.

LISTER

Why are you so nervous? Nothing can happen to you. You're already dead.

RIMMER

Oh, and it never occurred to you that I'm going to have to watch some ten-foot alien rip you open and eat your lungs? That'll scar me forever.

LISTER

(AFTER A BEAT) So what's it feel like, anyway?

RIMMER

Death? It's like being on a cruise ship filled with young Republicans.

LISTER

But you're not really dead. I mean
you're dead, but not dead-dead,
because you're here.

RIMMER

I'm not really here, Lister. I'm a
projection. (POINTS TO THE DUST)
That's me. I've become dandruff.

LISTER

(SPOTS SOMETHING) Hey, it's Kryten.

THEY HURRY OVER TO WHERE KRYTEN'S BODY STANDS SLUMPED
AGAINST THE WALL. HIS HEAD IS ON A SHELF ON THE OPPOSITE
WALL. LISTER PICKS UP KRYTEN'S HEAD, LOOKS AT IT.

LISTER

He doesn't look too bad....

LISTER FEELS AROUND INSIDE KRYTEN'S HEAD FOR THE "ON"
SWITCH. HE FINDS IT AND PUTS KRYTEN'S HEAD BACK ON THE
SHELF. AFTER A MOMENT, KRYTEN'S DISEMBODIED HEAD COMES
TO LIFE.

KRYTEN

Mr. David. Mr. Rimmer. Good to see
you both.

LISTER

Kryten, how are you feeling? You all
right?

KRYTEN

I think so. They were just finishing
my repair job when -- Ahh! Ahh!

LISTER

What's wrong?

KRYTEN

(OUTRAGED) Just look at all those
little piles of dust on the floor.
Damn the cleaning squad!

LISTER

Kryten, those piles are the bodies of
dead crewmen.

KRYTEN

That's no excuse for indifferent
housekeeping. Put my head back on so
I can start vacuuming!

LISTER GRABS KRYTEN'S HEAD AND REATTACHES IT TO HIS
BODY.

RIMMER

We've got more important things to
worry about. There's an alien
running around the cargo hold.

KRYTEN

(REACTS) That's where I hid the cat.

CUT TO:

#86446

36.
II/M
(Kryten, Holly,
Lister, Rimmer,
Cat)

ACT TWO - SCENE M

INT. CARGO HOLD - A FEW MINUTES LATER - DAY TWO

AS LISTER, RIMMER AND KRYTEN WALK DOWN A NARROW PATHWAY BETWEEN GIANT STORAGE CRATES. KRYTEN IS NOW ALSO CARRYING A BLASTER.

KRYTEN

I hate carrying this. Can't I wield a mop in a highly aggressive manner?

ANGLE - KRYTEN'S ABDOMEN

HOLLY APPEARS ON A SMALL BUILT-IN VIDEO SCREEN.

HOLLY

I finally reconnected with the cargo hold sensors. I've got three million years worth of information. (BEAT)
You want just the highlights?

LISTER

That's probably best.

HOLLY

Okay...Kryten hid your cat down here. And it seems that the cargo hold was shielded from most of the radiation.

LISTER

You mean Frankenstein lived through
the accident?

HOLLY

(NODS) She and her kittens...With no
controls on their breeding, each cat
produced an average litter of four
kittens, twice a year.

HOLLY SHOWS A COMPUTER GRAPHIC OF WILDLY MULTIPLYING
CATS.

HOLLY (CONT'D)

By the time Frankenstein died, there
were 198,732 cats, who continued to
breed, despite the odd radiation-
induced mutation here and there.

WE SEE A COMPUTER GRAPHIC OF LITTLE UPRIGHT CATS WALKING
AROUND CARRYING CLUBS.

HOLLY (CONT'D)

Eventually, after millions of years,
they developed a civilization around
the things they found in storage.

WE SEE A COMPUTER GRAPHIC OF CATS BOWING IN FRONT OF AN
ELECTRIC CAN OPENER.

HOLLY (CONT'D)

Anyway, just a few years ago, a
bloody civil war broke out.
Apparently, it was provoked by a
large tax hike on string and
squishy-balls.

WE SEE A COMPUTER GRAPHIC OF A CAT BLOWING UP SOME OTHER
CATS WITH DYNAMITE.

HOLLY (CONT'D)

The entire cat population was killed.

(BEAT) All except that one just
around the corner.

THEY REACT. KRYTEN TAKES A CAREFUL PEEK AROUND THE
CORNER.

RIMMER

(WHISPERS) Do you see him? What's
he doing?

KRYTEN

(DISTASTEFULLY) He appears to be...
bathing.

RIMMER

What are you waiting for? Vaporize
him!

LISTER

(LOOKS) I can't just shoot him while
he's...like that.

RIMMER

Why? If I could have gone like that,
I would have!

LISTER READIES HIS BLASTER AND LEADS THEM AROUND THE
CORNER.

ANGLE - AROUND THE CORNER

AS THEY COME INTO VIEW. WE BARELY SEE A BLURRED SHAPE
LEAP OFF THE FLOOR TO THE TOP OF A TEN-FOOT-HIGH CRATE.

LISTER

Hello...?

ANGLE - ATOP THE CRATE

AS THE CAT STARES DOWN AT THEM SILENTLY. EXCEPT FOR
SOME SLIGHTLY SHARPER-THAN-NORMAL TEETH, HE LOOKS
COMPLETELY HUMAN. AS A MATTER OF FACT, HE'S RATHER
HANDSOME.

LISTER

Aww. He's probably more scared of us
than we are of him.

RIMMER

I don't care. I want him off the
ship. It's your duty as a human
being to murder him.

LISTER TIPTOES SLOWLY CLOSER TO THE CAT. HE SPEAKS SOFTLY
AND MAKES LITTLE REASSURING KISSING NOISES AS HE SPEAKS.

LISTER

(SMILES) Nice kitty...We don't want
to hurt you... (KISS-KISS) You're a
pretty cat... (KISS-KISS) Come on.

PAUSE. THE CAT LOOKS AT LISTER. THEN:

CAT

I don't care how hard up you are, I
am not kissing you.

ON LISTER'S REACTION, WE....

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT TWO - SCENE 0

INT. COMMAND BRIDGE - A WHILE LATER - DAY TWO

AS THEY ENTER. THE CAT STOPS EVERY FEW FEET TO "CLAIM"
THINGS WITH A SMALL AND SEEMINGLY INEXHAUSTABLE SPRAY CAN.

CAT

(SPRAYS THE DOORWAY) This is mine...
And this is mine... (SEES A CHAIR)
Oh, look at this. (SPRAYS) This is
mine.

RIMMER

(FED UP) Stop it! You keep
repeating the same words over and
over! You're going to drive us all
nuts!

CAT

(AFTER A BEAT) I don't care.

LISTER

Leave him alone, he's not hurting
anything.

CAT

(QUICKLY) But if I wanted to I could. I could hurt everything.

KRYTEN

(KINDLY) I'm sure you could. You seem very ferocious to me.

CAT

(SMILES) You know, I like you.

HE GIVES KRYTEN A QUICK SPRAY IN THE FACE. LISTER LIGHTS UP A CIGARETTE.

RIMMER

Hold it. You don't think you're going to smoke that filthy thing here?

LISTER

(SHRUGS) It's funny, I quit for three million years, but now I'm back on them.

RIMMER

Well, as acting Captain of this ship, I forbid it.

LISTER

What? Who says you're the Captain?

RIMMER

Emergency regulation 479-slash-B. 'In the event of catastrophe, the highest ranking surviving crewman shall assume command.'

LISTER

But you didn't survive. You're a
hologram.

RIMMER

(SMUG) That is covered in emergency
regulation 479-slash-C. The rules
are crystal clear, Bucko. I'm in
charge.

A BEAT. THEY ALL LOOK AT HOLLY.

HOLLY

(RELUCTANTLY) Well, strictly
speaking, he's correct.

EVERYONE GROANS. RIMMER STRUTS OVER TO THE COMMAND
CONSOLE, STRIKES A DASHING POSE.

RIMMER

This is the moment I was born for.
Boldly seeking out new frontiers...
Alien worlds...Amazon space-women
with gigantic breasts. (CHECKS THE
CONSOLE) Holly, you've got us going
around in circles.

HOLLY

(ANNOYED) Look, I'm half-cracked. I
have my hands full just maintaining
life-support systems. Someone else
is going to have to pilot the ship.

RIMMER

But I can't touch anything!

PAUSE. RIMMER LOOKS OVER AT LISTER.

ANGLE - ON LISTER

LISTER IS CASUALLY POKING THINGS WITH HIS FINGER. HE GRINS AT RIMMER.

RIMMER

All right, fine. In that case, I'm promoting you to...Chauffeur.

LISTER CROSSES OVER TO THE CONSOLE.

LISTER

Thanks. But I'm not going to pilot a twenty-thousand ton space-freighter to go looking for chicks.

RIMMER

And where do you propose we go?

LISTER LOOKS AT THE CONSOLE, SEES THE PHOTO HE LEFT EARLIER. HE PICKS IT UP AND LOOKS AT IT FOR A BEAT. THEN:

LISTER

Here.

RIMMER

What, Earth?

CAT

Earth? I remember hearing Earth stories in Kitty school. (RECITES)
'For thou shalt find the promised land. A land of milk and bunnies.'

KRYTEN

I've never been to Earth.

(INTRIGUED) I hear it's just filthy.

RIMMER

Look, I'm in command, and I say we're not going to Earth.

LISTER

Yes, we are.

RIMMER

(SIGHS) Holly...Approximately how long would it take us to get back?

HOLLY (V.O.)

Well, we've been drifting away for three million years...At top speed we could cut the return trip down to say, half that.

RIMMER

See? By the time we got back, you'd be dead.

LISTER

(GRIM) I don't care. I want to go home.

RIMMER

But it's pointless!

LISTER

I'll tell you what's pointless! My whole life up to now. I enlisted so I wouldn't have to decide what to do with my life. I had a chance with Christine, but I didn't have the guts to say anything to her. Now she's

(MORE)

LISTER (CONT'D)

gone, and the only thing I have left to shoot for is to try and get us all home. It's stupid and hopeless, but I'm doing it anyway. And if you don't like it, that's just too damn bad.

RIMMER LOOKS AT HIM FOR A BEAT, SEETHING. THEN:

RIMMER

I order you to head for Earth.

HE SPINS ON HIS HEEL AND STRUTS OFF, APPARENTLY SATISFIED.

KRYTEN

It may not be totally hopeless, Mr. David. I mean, who knows? In an infinite cosmos, we might find Black holes, or space warps, or any number of science-fictiony things to help us along.

CAT

(BORED) How about food? Could we find food?

LISTER SITS AT THE HELM, PROPS HIS PHOTO UP IN FRONT OF HIM.

LISTER

Holly, how do I set a course for Earth?

HOLLY

You see the course we're heading?

LISTER

Yeah.

HOLLY

Go the other way.

LISTER

(LOOKS AT THE CONTROLS) This doesn't
look that hard... (CONCENTRATES)
Okay...Thrust sequence initiated...
Main engines clear...Drive power
engaged...and go!

LISTER HITS A BUTTON. THE ROOM LIGHTS CLICK OFF.

LISTER

...And go!

HE HITS ANOTHER BUTTON, WE HEAR MUZAC START TO PLAY.

LISTER

...And go!

HE HITS ANOTHER BUTTON. HIS CHAIR DROPS TO THE FLOOR.

RIMMER

Don't worry, I'm sure Captain Kirk
started out as a total moron too.

LISTER

(GETS UP) What the hell's wrong with
this thing?

HE LEANS AGAINST THE CONSOLE, ACCIDENTALLY BRUSHING
AGAINST A SWITCH.

SMASH CUT TO:

#86446

47.
II/P

ACT TWO - SCENE P

EXT. RED DWARF - CONTINUOUS - DAY TWO

AS THE SHIP BLASTS OFF AT INCREDIBLE SPEED. EVERYONE
SCREAMS IN TERROR AS THE SHIP VANISHES INTO THE DISTANCE.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO