

Brian Tochi

SPACE ACADEMY

"THE ROCKS OF JANUS"

SA - #85001

JULY 12, 1977

FILMATION  **N**
STUDIOS

SPACE ACADEMY

"THE ROCKS OF JANUS"

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BY

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Rev. July 12, 1977

JULY 6, 1977

SPACE ACADEMY

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CAST

COMMANDER ISAAC GAMPU

CADET LT. CHRIS GENTRY

CADET LT. LAURA GENTRY

CADET LT. PAUL JEROME

CADET LT. TEE GAR SOOM

CADET LT. ADRIAN PRYCE-JONES

SPECIAL CADET LOKI

PEEPO

COM-VOICE

JANUS ONE (Irgo) -- VOICE

JANUS TWO (Targ) -- VOICE

SPACE ACADEMY

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SETS

EXTERIORS:

DEEP SPACE

ACADEMY

PLANET SIRA *

SEEKER

JANUS ONE

JANUS TWO

INTERIORS:

ACADEMY

Observation Dome

Control Room (Command
Center)

Control Corridor

Pneumatic Shaft (Optional)

SEEKER

SPACE ACADEMY

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TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. SPACE - THE PLANET PLUTO - THE ACADEMY 1

The Academy is orbiting the farthest-flung planet of our solar system -- Pluto, which looms, wreathed in ice-gray-white atmosphere, through which one jagged mountain range thrusts up peaks. We APPROACH CLOSER, and the Academy passes BENEATH US, giving us a moment in which to SEE the size and complexity of it, then, SLOWLY we BEGIN TO ORBIT VERTICALLY AROUND IT, SLOWING STILL MORE as we GET CLOSER. The towers and domes of the Academy PASS BENEATH US, SEEMING TO REVOLVE as we ORBIT the planetoid on which it is constructed. Directly ahead looms up the central auxiliary control tower diametrically opposed to the major structure on the upper crust of the tiny world. It is topped by an enormous bubble of clear glass-like material (or a faintly glowing force-field that is dome-shaped.)

2 INT. OBSERVATION DOME - HIGH ANGLE 2

A magnifying visi-screen sits atop a single large console desk in the center of the floor. There are a number of chairs that can revolve, and twist forward and back at almost any angle, to provide those using them the proper view through the transparent dome. The huge, glowing, misty ball that is Sira, swims high overhead, filling a quarter of the visible area of space. Around it are the myriad of stars. A small group of cadets are in the viewing chairs, and GAMPU is at the console.

GAMPU

We are now orbiting the planet Sira -- beyond the Sagittarius constellation and this is our newest visitor -- the comet Janus...

At his touch of the console-control, the bright point of the comet leaps closer -- dividing into two tiny glowing balls of light, each with its own tail of glowing dust streaking out behind it, separated by some considerable distance.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

GAMPU

(continuing)

It is, as you see, a double-nucleied comet-system, and it is named for the Roman god, Janus -- who had two faces and taught mankind many things, according to legend, including the science of mathematics, and even agriculture... It is interesting --

*

But that's as far as he gets. An electronic nerve-jarring ALARM BEGINS TO SOUND. A METALLIC-TINGED VOICE ECHOES OVER the Academy com-system.

COM-VOICE

Stand by, stand by! Yellow-line.
First stage alert. All personnel
return to stations. Commander
Gampu, report to Control.

3 ANOTHER ANGLE

3

Gampu turns from the console. Suddenly the ALARM breaks into a series of high-pitched staccato WAILS and a red light begins flashing.

COM-VOICE

COLLISION COURSE! COLLISION COURSE!

As Gampu reacts we...

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

3A EXT. SPACE ACADEMY 3A

4 OBSERVATION DOME 4

The ALARM is still RINGING. The electronic WARNING BLARES out raucously!

COM-VOICE

(strident)

Emergency stations! This is a first stage emergency! Commander Gampu report to Control Center with Blue Team -- report to Control Center...

5 OMITTED 5
& 6 6

7 ANOTHER ANGLE 7

Gampu raises his Collinear.

GAMPU

Oraco! We're on our way! ETA 30 seconds!

8 GROUP SHOT - FAVORING CHRIS GENTRY 8

PAUL, LAURA, ADRIAN and LOKI stand beside him. Chris nods to Gampu, then looks around.

CHRIS

Where's Peepo?

LOKI

(shrugging)

Don't ask me, Chris. I can't keep track of it.

ADRIAN

It?

*

LOKI

To me, a robot is an it!

*

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

LAURA

(shaking her head
a bit exasperated
with Loki)

Peepo didn't come up with us,
Chris --- he said something about
reading some of the computer
banks...

LOKI

(making a face)

Boy, Peepo really has it made, --
no lessons, no school, -- just
plugs into a computer -- and wow,
instant education!

Laura frowns at him, but Loki just grins.

GAMPU

Blue team accounted for?

CHRIS

All but TeeGar -- the good doctor
is locked up in his lab -- He'll
never hear the com-alert.

GAMPU

Go get him, Loki -- and Peepo, too! *

LOKI

(protesting)

Why me? Why do I always get sent off to--

PAUL

(firmly)

Loki, -- move it!

Loki gives Paul a look, then grins, and takes off at
a light-footed run. Chris looks after him, and shakes
his head.

GAMPU

(impatiently)

The rest of you -- move it, too!

And Gampu strides off, steps through the door opening
to the pneumatic-shaft, and is gone. Chris leaps
through the door, into the pneumatic shaft. Adrian,
Laura and Paul hop through after him.

9 INT. PNEUMATIC SHAFT (OPTIONAL)

9

Chris, Laura, Paul and Adrian are standing upright,
but moving along a dark corridor.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: 9

Rings of light indicating other rooms, and floor levels flash past, slowly at first, then faster and faster, with a slightly AUDIBLE WHISH-WHISH-WHISH, timed to the speed of the ring of lights.

10 INT. COMMAND CORRIDOR 10

Chris steps from the iris-opening, onto the landing followed by the others. They hurry down the corridor.

The overhead lights are flashing red, and the electronic warning SIGNAL CONTINUES to BLARE jarringly. They enter the busy Command Center.

11 INT. COMMAND CENTER 11

At a monitor, on which is displayed a highly enlarged image of the comet, Janus, clearly showing both nuclei, stands Gampu and Peepo. studying the image of the comet. Just beneath it, on the visi-screen, is an electronically created diagram, showing Sira, the Academy in orbit around it -- and a red line, pulsing rapidly and running from the Academy to the double comet. Chris, Laura, Adrian and Paul step through the iris-door, which starts to close behind them -- then halts, reverses, opening again, as Loki and TeeGar run in the room.

12 ANOTHER ANGLE 12

TeeGar is just pulling off a lab smock, which is badly stained with chemicals, and is puffing a bit. He hurries with the others, lining up in front of Gampu who gives them a look, then turns back to the computer-display.

GAMPU

The comet Janus is on a collision course with the Academy -- impact in --

(glances at display)

-- a little less than ten hours... That gives you time to reach it, land -- and have about two hours to evaluate.

ADRIAN

On Janus? But a comet's just a ball of space-dust...

(CONTINUED)

PAUL

Not always. The nuclei of comets varies, and includes solid mass as well as inertial energy...

LAURA

You've been doing your homework, Paul *
Very good! *

Paul snaps his fingers.

PAUL

Elementary. *

LOKI

What you're saying is it's a hunk of rock!

GAMPU

(smiles)

What Paul is saying is that we have a double-nucleied comet-system.

LOKI

Aha -- Then it's two hunks of rock... *

GAMPU

Close enough. You will take samples -- run carbon tests, if possible -- Those functions are yours, Adrian -- and yours, Paul. TeeGar will stay here in control with me. So will Loki. *

(pause)

I've ordered technite charges placed aboard the Seeker, Chris. You and Laura place them to act as deflection-blasts, then get off -- in a hurry! Understood?

Loki can barely keep himself from exploding. *

CHRIS

Yes, sir.

GAMPU

Any questions?

LOKI

(hurt)

They can't go on this mission without me. I am indispensable -- indispensable! *
*
*

12 (CONTINUED)

12

GAMPU

(smiles)

I'm sure it will be very difficult,
Loki, but they will do their best
to get along without you.

*
*
*

LOKI

But they need me!

GAMPU

I need you, Loki.

Loki takes his defeat with a pout as Gampu turns to Chris.

GAMPU

Remember, Chris, if those comets
aren't deflected, and they should
hit us, the Academy could be severely
damaged -- even destroyed! Now --
on your way and good luck!

*
*

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (3)

12

CHRIS/LAURA

(unison)

Yes, sir!

Their faces reflect their excitement. They turn and start for the door at a run. Adrian stands there, staring up at the computer display. Laura turns back, grabs her, tugs her away. Gampu watches them leave, half-smiling.

12A EXT. SEEKER - LAUNCH PAD

12A

as the cadets enter.

13 INT. THE SEEKER

13

Chris stands by the entry door, ready to secure it, as the other cadets file aboard. The interior lights of the small spaceship glint off the golden Nova on Chris' tunic. Paul moves to a seat -- then smiles shyly at Adrian, and digs out an ugly chunk of rock from one pocket.

PAUL

Forgot -- brought you this. Been tested for organic residue.

ADRIAN

(grabbing it)

From Sira? How long have you had it?

She hurries toward a desk affixed to one wall, with retort, burner, and a wide array of chemicals and glassware, and starts to work, carefully breaking off a piece of the plain gray-colored rock. Chris presses the door-button, waits as it slides the heavy outer door closed, and a tiny green light goes on above it, then strides toward the left hand pilot-in-command chair.

CHRIS

(bending over control console)

Here we go!

14 EXT. SPACE - THE ACADEMY - THE SEEKER

14

as one of the entry ports irises open, and the sleek shape of the Seeker drops down, in free-fall, a slight misting on its upperthruster-vents.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

Once free of the Academy, the little spaceship veers sharply away, main thrusters now glowing, powerfully. Slowly, at first, then faster and faster, the smaller vessel moves out into the deeps of space, the Academy and the huge silvery-misted orb of Sira receding behind it. (SPECIAL AND OPTICAL EFFECTS) *

15 INT. SEEKER

15

Adrian is intent upon her Siranian rock. Peepo touches a series of computer buttons with his mandibles. *

CHRIS

Course set, Peepo?

PEEPO

Affirmative -- set and locked.

LAURA

(to Chris)

Which comet of the two did you pick? *

CHRIS

Nearest one. We'll make it in thirty minutes at cruise speed -- and if the two planetoids maintain their positions.

LAURA

(puzzled)

Why wouldn't they?

PEEPO

The instruments indicate the farthest planetoid is accelerating.

LAURA

That's strange.

PAUL

You chase me for a while -- then I chase you.

LAURA

(smiling)

Nothing like the proper scientific terminology...

PEEPO

My memory banks say if the planetoids possess constant mass, that isn't possible.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED:

15

CHRIS
(frowning)
Are you sure, Peepo?

PEEPO
Affirmative. The farthest
planetoid is gaining momentum --
it will intercept with other
one, three hours, eleven minutes.

CHRIS
That's an hour after we get
there... Okay, Peepo, let me
know if anything changes.

PEEPO
Order received and carried out.

*

16 EXT. SEEKER

16

as it speeds on its journey.

17 INT. SEEKER - ANOTHER ANGLE

17

Adrian holds up her Sirianian rock.

*

ADRIAN
Igneous -- like every other
planetary sample. Probably
indicates a common origin of
the solar system.

Chris pauses to look at her. He smiles.

CHRIS
Next free period, I'd like to
learn more about it, Adrian...

PAUL
I didn't know you were interested
in geology, Chris.

LAURA
(smiling)
Maybe because he has such an
interesting teacher.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

17

PEEPO

All people are interesting...
Laura is very interesting. I
love you Laura.

CHRIS

(amused)

Right here in front of everybody...

LAURA

Pay them no mind, Peepo. I love
you, too.

*

*

*

*

A COM-BEEPER SOUNDS, and Chris hurries to the pilot's
command console, touches a sensor-plate. The monitor
lights up, images Gampu.

GAMPU

We've registered acceleration of
the second planetoid, Chris.
Apparently the result of an unknown
gravitational pull.

(frowns)

Or something else. Whatever the
reason, you won't have much time
on Janus One.

CHRIS

Right, Commander. Peepo computes
we'll have an hour.

GAMPU

Be careful, Chris.

His image fades out.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED: (2)

17

LAURA

Either Gampu isn't sure we can carry out this mission on our own, or --

CHRIS

Or he's got a hunch we're likely to run up against something dangerous...

PAUL

Either way, we'll soon find out. Touchdown in forty-one seconds.

18 EXT. SPACE - COMET JANUS ONE - THE SEEKER

18

The small, dark ball of the comet's nucleus arcs closer, followed by the glowing dust-particles of its ever-expanding tail, that veils even the brightest of stars. The Seeker approaches the tiny world from an oblique angle, retarders glaring, pulsing in bursts, slowing it abruptly. (SPECIAL AND OPTICAL EFFECTS)

19 OMITTED

19

20 EXT. PLANETOID JANUS ONE

20

The Seeker drops low over the harsh, rocky terrain, retarders burning, hovers, then gently settles to the surface.

21 INT. THE SEEKER

21

Chris cuts the powerful thruster engines, silence closing in. For an instant they stare out at the strange mottled rocks of the planetoid.

*

ADRIAN

Look at those rock strata -- have you ever seen anything like them in your life? And the colorations...

CHRIS

Testing atmosphere!

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

21

He hits a touchplate -- there is a sudden, SHARP HISSING as the atmosphere of the little ship disappears into the vacuum. A green light glows.

CHRIS

(continuing)

Life support test... Peepo?

PEEPO

Affirmative and positive; all readouts normal. No life support necessary.

PAUL

That's a break.

ADRIAN

(already carrying her rock-sample bag and hammer-pick)

Let's go!

They start for the hatchway stairs, Chris in the lead. Adrian is carrying her kit. *

22 EXT. PLANETOID JANUS ONE

22

as the cadets emerge from the little spaceship. Adrian looks about.

ADRIAN

This rock formation -- it runs everywhere, and these -- they are like a network of veins, branching from an artery... They cover everything...

23 ANOTHER ANGLE

23

The "veins" are plainly visible above the rocky, barren surface, angling, twisting in every direction.

LAURA

Over here -- look!

She has moved a bit apart from the others, and is pointing to a flat, bulging area in the rock.

CHRIS

What is it?

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

23

LAURA

It -- it moved! I saw it! There!

CHRIS

Some sort of volcanic or seismic activity...

ADRIAN

(excited)

I've got to have a sample to take back!

She kneels, uses her pick-hammer, strikes hard -- breaking off a small chunk of the rock.

PEEPO

What was that?

CHRIS

(looking sharply)

What did you see, Peepo?

PEEPO

I didn't see, I heard something.
A cry -- a sound of pain...

They all look about.

TEE GAR

We didn't hear anything! *

PEEPO

Nevertheless, I did!

Adrian suddenly stiffens, looks at the spot where she has broken off a chunk of rock. Oddly-colored ichor is oozing from where she broke off the sample, a purplish, turgid color.

ADRIAN

(frightened)

Chris! Look! The rock -- it's -- it's almost like it's bleeding!

PAUL

You're right!

The slow, faint bulging has quickened, and the surface of the rock is moving, in and out -- and through the ground is carried a deep, resonant THROBBING -- like the beating of a gigantic heart!

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED: (2)

23

LAURA

The rock -- this whole planetoid
-- Chris -- it's alive!

They stare at each other, then look around, stunned.
The deep, slow HEART-BEATS CONTINUE.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

24 EXT. SPACE - JANUS ONE AND TWO (MINIATURE) 24

Janus One, an irregular, scarred orb, is in foreground, beyond it is the awesome sight of Janus Two, its tail streaming out behind it.

25 EXT. JANUS ONE 25

Adrian and Paul are tending the wounded rock. Peepo looks on. Cris crosses to them. Paul looks up.

PAUL

We'd better call Gampu, our mission was to change the course of the planetoid.

CHRIS

Not yet, I want to be sure of what we've found here.

ADRIAN

We are sure, - this planetoid is an alien life form, alive but sick, perhaps dying.

CHRIS

We've got to help it survive.

PAUL

Sure, but how do you treat a sick planet? I mean it isn't you everyday, run of the mill, cold in the heads.

LAURA

We'd better call in. You know Chris, you wait much longer and you'll have to choose between saving a planetoid - or the Academy!

CHRIS

We're not calling in Laura, we're here to work things out on our own responsibility, Peepo, how long do we have?

PEEPO

84 minutes to impact with the Academy,
-- 58 before rendezvous with Janus Two.

26 OMITTED

26

27 ANGLE

27

CHRIS

Peepo -- you said rendezvous...?

PEEPO

Janus Two has slowed its approach.

CHRIS

That means it's alive, too!

LAURA

The way it accelerated -- it must be in better shape than Janus One... Hey, do you suppose it was trying to cut us off -- keep us from landing here?

PEEPO

Probability .999 positive.

PAUL

We know this planetoid is alive -- now, if we only knew what was wrong with it...

PEEPO

Why don't you ask it?

CHRIS

Peepo -- is this planetoid intelligent? *

PEEPO

Of course -- otherwise how could I communicate with it?

CHRIS

(surprised)

You were talking to it?

PEEPO

Affirmative. It's name is Irgo and it uses magnetic pulsing for communicating. Much more efficient than vocal sounds.

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED:

27

LAURA

Peepo -- can you help us
communicate with Irgo?

PEEPO

Anything for you, Laura. I will
convert the frequency so that
you can hear Irgo speak.

28 OMITTED

28

29 REVERSE ANGLE

29

There are a series of distorted ELECTRONIC SOUNDS,
SQUAWKS, PEEPS -- then an oddly accented VOICE, deep,
sonorous:

IRGO

I am Irgo. I forgive you.

CHRIS

(puzzled)

You forgive us -- for what?

IRGO

For chopping off pieces of me...

ADRIAN

Irgo, I am so sorry. We didn't
know you were alive. *

IRGO

That's why I forgive you, Adrian.

ADRIAN

You know my name?

IRGO

Peepo told me. He also told me why
you are here -- you are going to
blow me into pieces.

CHRIS

That isn't true. We were going to
use small charges to change your
course so that you do not hit our Space Academy. *

IRGO

But I am weak, you will still
hurt me. *

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED:

29

CHRIS
 We do not want to do that, you can help
 us by changing your present course. There
 isn't much time.

*
*
*

IRGO
 My sensors told me there were
 intelligent life forms in this
 galaxy -- and I used the last
 of my free energy to come here.

CHRIS
 You mean you can't change your
 course?

IRGO
 No, I can't, I am sorry. But it
 is too late. I am very sick.
 Very sick. If I could be
 energized...

CHRIS
 We'll help you, if we can. Our
 ship is very powerful.

IRGO
 My sensors detected radiant energy
 sources -- but this would only
 destroy me... My life energy is a
 form of magnetic flux... I cannot
 convert any other form of power.
 (a deep sigh)
 I can flee no more. It is done.
 Targ will triumph, at last...
 I am getting weak, but I must
 warn you about Targ.

The deep, sonorous VOICE suddenly BREAKS DOWN into
 strange, garbled NOISES, then reverts to ELECTRONIC
 NOISES.

30 ANOTHER ANGLE

30

Janus Two is very close, now, a dark, metallic, glowing
 ball, pitted and misshapen -- somehow repellent, a
 little frightening. Faint, pulsing electrical dis-
 charges seem to flicker above its surface.

LAURA
 Who is Targ?

PEEPO
 The other planetoid, Janus Two,
 is Targ.

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED:

30

CHRIS

What happened to Irgo?

PEEPO

I am losing contact. It's getting weaker...

CHRIS

We must help Irgo, Peepo -- can you run an electro-analysis of Irgo?

PEEPO

Affirmative.

The little robot settles down on the barren rock, and a glowing probe-beam arcs down. Static-dischargers flash and sparkle.

PEEPO

(continuing)

There is an alternating flux-pattern, cycling at 27,500.

PAUL

(excited)

If we could match that frequency we could feed Irgo all the energy he needs!

ADRIAN

An electronic transfusion! Let's go! *

Chris doesn't wait, but turns and runs for the little spaceship. Laura and Adrian follow.

31 INT. THE SEEKER - CHRIS, LAURA AND ADRIAN

31

as they enter. Chris promptly begins to set up the transmitter -- hands the receiver to Adrian.

CHRIS

You'll have to find a vital spot in Irgo for the receiver if it's going to work.

ADRIAN

Yes -- I know.

CHRIS

All right -- get going.

She exits -- as Laura helps Chris set up the transmitter.

32 EXT. JANUS ONE - THE PULSING ROCK 32

as Adrian joins Paul -- sets down the receiver.

ADRIAN

We have to find Irgo's heart rock.

(indicates veins)

These veins might lead to it.

INSERT - HEART ROCK

The veins and/or arteries converge in undulant lines toward a focal point somewhat like the arms of an octopus.

33 CLOSE - ADRIAN AND PAUL 33

ADRIAN

(indicating)

Just about here. Go ahead and implant it, Paul. *

Paul starts to rake up some of the top surface of the rock.

33A INT. THE SEEKER - CHRIS AND LAURA 33A

Chris is tuning the transmitter...

CHRIS

There it is. Frequency 27,500.

Laura touches Chris' arm -- points off through viewport.

LAURA

Chris, look.

33B EXT. JANUS TWO - POV SHOT 33B

Looming monstrously large, Janus Two swims in space, dark, shadowed, ugly, pitted, electrical discharges eerily writhing over its surface.

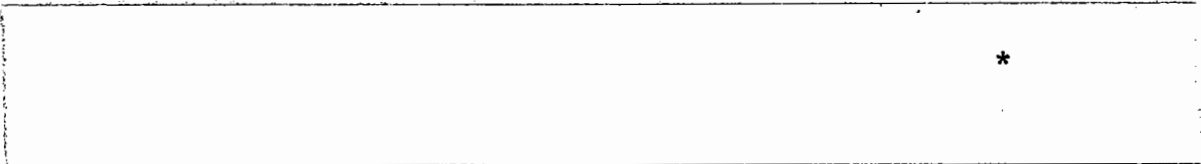
LAURA'S VOICE

It's Targ. It's so frightening!

33C OMIT OMIT 33C

34D INT. SEEKER - CHRIS AND LAURA

34D



CHRIS

As soon as Paul's ready, put the transmitter on full power. Stand by, Laura.

*

She nods as Chris exits.

34 EXT. JANUS ONE - ADRIAN, PAUL, PEEPO

34

*

at the heart rock as Chris joins them.

PAUL

(to Chris)

I'll have the receiver implanted in a minute.

PEEPO

Irgo's life force is cycling at 23,000 -- and slowing.

ADRIAN

Hurry, Paul.

PAUL

I'm doing my best.

PEEPO

Cycle slowing -- Irgo is dying!

PAUL

We're ready now!

CHRIS

(into collinear)

Laura -- hit it -- full power!

35 OMITTED

35

36 INT. THE SEEKER

36

as Laura puts the transmitter on full power.

LAURA

It's on -- and peaking!

37 EXT. JANUS ONE - CHRIS AND PEEPO

37

Chris, Peepo, Adrian, Paul cluster near the receiver. Suddenly it begins to pulse with blue light -- pure, magnetic energy! *

PEEPO

Cycle is gaining -- 18 -- 20 -- 23 thousand...

Beyond them the big, flat rock that had heart-pulsed, now begins its slow, rhythmic beating, powerful, strong.

PAUL

The beat is growing stronger.

Suddenly a different VOICE, deep like Irgo's -- but with none of the resonant friendliness, cold, sardonic, commanding. It is the VOICE of TARG:

TARG

Stop. This is Targ speaking, stop,-- *
Do not energize Irgo. I warn you.

A red beam arcs down to the receiver, then pulls back up, carrying the receiver with it. It stops, then drops the receiver to the ground, demolishing it.

TARG

(continuing;
harsh warning)

This is Targ. -- Do not interfere!

37A THEIR POV - TARG

37A

as it hovers above them.

38 OMITTED

38

39 ANOTHER ANGLE

39

Chris and the others examine the demolished receiver and the heart-rock.

IRGO

Thank you for trying, my friends --
What I wanted to warn you about is Targ. *
He is a criminal -- he is out to destroy *
anyone, anything --including your Space *
Academy. *

40 EXT. JANUS ONE - THE SEEKER 40

The fiery red beam shoots down from above and withdraws carrying The Seeker with it.

40A GROUP SHOT 40A

Chris and the others hurry into the clearing between the rocks, where it had landed. They hold there, helpless, looking up, as the fiery red tentacle of power jerks The Seeker off the planetoid -- into the void of space.

CHRIS

Targ -- he's taking the ship --
and Laura's aboard!

*
*

41 INT. THE SEEKER - LAURA 41

As the little spacecraft is jerked aloft, violently, Laura is hurled away from the control console, and across the cabin -- the CRASH, hard, against a bulkhead. Her head hits the wall -- and she slumps, half-conscious.

42 EXT. SPACE - THE TWIN COMETS - THE SEEKER 42

as the burning red line of the energy beam stretches between the two planetoids, swiftly carrying The Seeker across to Targ!

43 CLOSE SHOT - CHRIS 43

touching his collinear.

CHRIS

(worried)

Laura! Are you all right? Answer
me, Laura, please!

The others move closer to him, looking up toward the other planetoid (O.S.)

44 EXT. TARG 44

as the red beam drags The Seeker down to the pitted, scarred, dark-shadowed surface.

- 45 INT. THE SEEKER - LAURA 45
 She comes to her senses, tries to grab hold of a seat -- anything -- but can't -- raise herself. She seems to be held in place.
- 46 OMITTED 46
- 47 EXT. JANUS ONE - CHRIS 47
 He frowns staring up at Targ (O.S.)
 CHRIS
 We've got to get Laura.
 He kneels down, concentrating, hard. The others stand, silent, watching.
- 48 VERY CLOSE ON CHRIS 48
 His eyes begin to glow, softly, as his ESPer talents begin to function. His MIND-VOICE COMES OVER, a soft, sibilant WHISPER, but his lips do not move:
 CHRIS
 (mind voice)
 Laura -- link with me, Laura!
- 49 OMITTED 49
- 49A INT. THE SEEKER - CLOSE - LAURA 49A
 CHRIS' MIND-VOICE COMES OVER. Laura is still lying on the tilted floor. Her eyes begin to glow too. Her MIND-VOICE COMES OVER, her lips not moving:
 LAURA
 (mind voice)
 Chris -- I'm all right... but I can't get back to the controls... There's some sort of energy-screen stopping me.
- 50 OMITTED 50
- 51 EXT. JANUS ONE - CHRIS AND GROUP 51
 He frowns, staring up. The glow of his eyes fades.

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED:

51

CHRIS

(normal voice)

There's an energy field force holding Laura back. We've got to do something!

PAUL

What? We can't reach The Seeker.-.

PEEPO

We are approaching the Academy. We must change course. Irgo help us!

*
*
*

IRGO

I -- cannot -- help you....I am not energized enough to fight Targ -- He has the energy from your ship ... I must escape him -- now -- find a new energy source...somewhere...

PAUL

Please, Irgo. Use your energy against Targ. Help us free Laura.

*
*

IRGO

(almost pleading)

You don't understand. I have very little energy left. If I use it against Targ, it could mean my life.

CHRIS

If you don't, it'll mean Laura's...!

*

A pause, then...

IRGO

You are right, I will try.

*

The great heart-rock beyond them suddenly begins to pulse, throbbing powerfully -- and a fiery yellow ray blasts out from a crevice -- straight upward!

52 EXT. SPACE - THE TWIN COMETS 52

The Seeker is still locked in the grip of the great, angry-red beam, power surging brightly through it, the protective force-field glowing, sparking, in a titanic battle of energy. Then the thin, knife-like yellow beam lances out -- straight for Janus Two's dark, mottled bulk! It strikes, viciously -- cutting into the surface of the tiny world explosively!

53 INT. THE SEEKER 53

As Laura struggles to her feet, jabs at the controls of the tilted spaceship.

54 EXT. SPACE - THE SEEKER 54

The spaceship's thrusters now blaze at full-power -- and it arcs away from Janus Two. The mottled surface of Targ brightens angrily with fierce electrical patterns writhing all over it -- then the deadly red beam, darker, brighter than ever, lances straight toward Irgo!

55 EXT. JANUS ONE - THE CADETS 55

Chris looks up.

CHRIS
(shouting)
Hit the dirt!

And they all go sprawling -- as the ugly red beam sweeps about the area.

56 EXT. SPACE - THE SEEKER 56

as it orbits Targ.

57 INT. THE SEEKER - LAURA 57

Laura bends forward, her beautiful face set in angry lines.

LAURA

All right, Targ -- I think our spin laser can frighten you away.

And she punches a touch-plate, firmly.

57A EXT. SEEKER - SPIN LASER 3/4 BACK (STOCK) 57A
as it sends its silver streak toward O.S. Targ.

58 EXT. SPACE - TARG 58

The spin lasers explode in front of Targ. Targ veers away and heads back into deep space. The Seeker turns back toward Irigo.

59 EXT. JANUS ONE - THE CADETS 59

Chris, looking up, grins.

CHRIS

Targ's had enough. He's running for it... Irigo -- did you see that?

PEEPO

Irigo is hurt -- badly...I'm afraid it's all over.

*
*

CHRIS

(determinedly)

No way! We owe Irigo too much, Adrian?

*

ADRIAN

(touching heart-rock)

Irigo's in shock -- needs energy to live... If we can get Irigo back to the Academy, we can treat it... But I don't think there's time.

Chris looks off, he smiles.

CHRIS

Hold on, Irigo, help's on the way.

59A EXT. IRGO (MINIATURE) 59A

as the Seeker lands.

60 EXT. THE SEEKER - LAURA

60

as she comes out through the opening hatch. Chris runs to meet her. Paul follows.

CHRIS

(urgently)

Thank heavens you're safe, Laura.
Is the transmitter still locked
on?

LAURA

Yes.

PAUL

It's no use, Chris. The receiver's
had it.

A beat, then:

60A PEEPO

60A

turning to them.

PEEPO

I will be your receiver.

60B EXT. IRGO - THE GROUP

60B

Smiling happily toward Peepo.

CHRIS

Great, Peepo!
(turns to Laura)
Full power, Laura.

LAURA

Right away!

She re-enters The Seeker.

60C FAVORING PEEPO

60C

as he closes in on the heart-rock. A beat -- then the transmission beam streaks toward Peepo. The cadets group together, waiting, holding their breath.

IRGO

(slowly)

Thank you -- I will -- be...
all right, now...

(CONTINUED)

60C CONTINUED:

60C

The cadets give a YELL IN UNISON of sheer jubilation.

CHRIS

All right, Irgo, prepare for
takeoff!

DISSOLVE TO:

61 OMITTED

61

62 EXT. JANUS ONE - THE SEEKER

62

as it lifts off and heads toward the Academy.

63 INT. THE SEEKER

63

ON Chris and Paul at the controls.

CHRIS

I guess I'd better report in to
the Academy.

PAUL

(grins)

This I want to hear.

CHRIS

Seeker to Academy Control. Come in.

Teegar appears on the screen.

TEEGAR

Hi, Chris. Long time no hear or
see. How did it go?

CHRIS

Everything went according to plan,
Teegar. Just one thing. We're
bringing home a patient for you.

TEEGAR

Who's hurt?

CHRIS

Janus!

Teegar reacts.

64 INT. ACADEMY CONTROL - CLOSE - TEEGAR

64

as Gampu pushes him aside and takes his place.

GAMPU

(ominously)

Will you please repeat that
statement, Captain Gentry?

65 INT. SEEKER - CHRIS

65

FAVORING Chris as he eyes Gampu on the screen a little
uneasily.

CHRIS

(a gulp)

Well, Commander, I think I'd
rather let you see it for yourself.
Take a look outside!

66 INT. ACADEMY CONTROL ROOM - GAMPU AND TEEGAR

66

As Gampu presses a button and then he and Teegar react
to what they see on the screen.

67 THEIR POV - THE SCREEN

67

The comet nucleus, tail streaming behind it, masking
the stars with radiant dust, follows behind The Seeker
moving steadily toward the Academy. CAMERA MOVES IN
ON THE SCREEN as we FAVOR the comet following grace-
fully behind the Seeker, toward the Academy.

FADE OUT.

THE END