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THE LAST STARFIGHTER

An Original Screenplay

by

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4/8/83

Final Revised Draft

- NOTICE -

THE LAST STARFIGHTER

COME IN ON:

1 INDIGO OCEANS OF OUTER SPACE

As we are TRUCKING BACK THROUGH the Milky Way at Mach Five, SHOOTING ACROSS the rainbow-tinted rings of Saturn, OVER the moon as we descend through the atmosphere, parting clouds as we BOOM DOWN FAST:

2 ANGLE ON WEATHERBEATEN SIGN

which reads:

STARLIGHT STARBRIGHT . . .

And as the neon letters SPUTTER and POP, setting the texture and tone, we perceive:

3 ANGLE ON STARLIGHT STARBRIGHT TRAILER PARK

In the midst of low scrub hills. Consisting of perhaps a dozen vintage trailers, mobile homes centered around a sparse yet neat court. The gate is flanked by a manager's trailer with two signs on it: "MRS. JANE ROGAN - MANAGER" and another, "SPACES AVAILABLE." As we --

CUT TO:

4 ANGLE ON CAT

Sleeping on rusty mailboxes outside the trailer park general store where an old MUTT is asleep, SNORING LOUDLY, all four feet in the air, hears an ALARM RING inside the trailer, takes its food dish in its mouth, to the trailer door, waits.

5 STARLIGHT STARBRIGHT - INTRODUCTORY CUTS AND ANGLES

As the residents of the trailer park stir, begin their days, making us aware of this via:

MORNING NOISES, such as toasters, percolators, juicers, tea kettles, electric razors, gargling, exercise counting, opera singing in the showers, hair dryers, radios blaring country music and pork belly prices, TV commercials, fertilizer ads.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

"Good Morning America" on TV's, electric toothbrushes, bacon and eggs cooking on stoves, rotating daisies, wind chimes, hamster on a wheel, and somewhere within this cacophony which is a stark contrast to the crickets and desert birds which were the first audio texture of dawn, there's a tinny transistor tuned to a call-in radio show which lets us hear a caller telling the DJ that she saw "Strange Lights" and "UFO's in the sky last night" -- piquing our interest and setting a pregnant tone as:

6 ANGLE ON OLD BLACK MAN

Wearing VFW cap, faded coveralls, T-shirt coming out with the dog's food dish, patting the dog, looking at the thermometer which is already edging up past ninety. Meet OTIS.

OTIS
'Mornin', Mr. President. Gonna be
a sparklin' day, sparklin'.

*

ELVIRA (O.S.)
Clara!

*

*

Otis looks down to trailer park.

*

7 ANGLE ON ELVIRA

Sticking her be-curlered head from her trailer window, looking across to the next trailer, where her neighbor, CLARA, is lighting a corn cob pipe, enjoying her first smoke.

ELVIRA
My 'lectric's out again! Clara!
I'm gonna miss my soaps!

8 OMITTED

*

8A ANGLE ON TRAILER PARK

*

As an old lady, named CLARA is calling out an alarm.

*

CLARA
Oh, Bill, Bill! Elvira's been
blacked out again! Pass the word!

*

*

*

MR. POTTER turns to the trailer adjacent to his where MRS. BOONE is wearing a Walkman.

*

*

(CONTINUED)

8A CONTINUED:

MR. POTTER

Uh, oh, Elvira's got no juice, and
if she can't see her soaps, she'll
hyperventilate.

And we pick up MAGGIE stepping from the Boone trailer,
carrying a small ice chest.

MAGGIE

Thanks, Mrs. Boone. Have a nice
day.

MRS. BOONE

You too, honey.

Maggie heads toward the Rogan trailer, passes Mrs. Boone
who is carrying a fishing rod.

MR. BOONE

Got yourself a great day for a
picnic, Maggie.

MAGGIE

I can't wait. Catch a big one,
Mr. Boone!

MR. BOONE

I'm gonna try.

9 OMITTED

10 ANGLE ON YOUNG GIRL

Very pretty, about eighteen, with a dusting of freckles,
sweatshirt over her bikini top, towel around her neck,
coming out of her trailer kissing her grandmother. GRANNY
GORDON is her name -- Granny wears a Walkman -- and the
granddaughter is Maggie Gordon.

GRANNY

You have fun, child!

MAGGIE

Thanks, Granny, are you sure
you'll be okay?

GRANNY

I'll be fine, dear. You just run
along.

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

MAGGIE

'Bye, Granny. I fixed your lunch
and put it in the fridge.

Granny nods, bops to the MUSIC.

Maggie leaves, crosses the courtyard, enters the manager's
trailer with the sign "MRS. JANE ROGAN - MANAGER" on it.

CUT TO:

11 EXT. ROGAN TRAILER - OUTSIDE

As MRS. JANE ROGAN, in her forties, strong and fresh
looking, is hanging laundry before she leaves for work.

Maggie appears at the gate, looks about.

MAGGIE

Morning, Mrs. Rogan.

MRS. ROGAN

Morning, Maggie.

MAGGIE

Did you find the picnic ~~baske~~ basket?

MRS. ROGAN

Uh hum. Here it is.

Mrs. Rogan hands the basket to Maggie.

MAGGIE

Thanks, Mrs. Rogan. Where's Alex?

MRS. ROGAN

Where else?

MAGGIE

Right. Hi, Louis.

Maggie leaves as:

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

TWANG!

A rubber dart has been fired and sticks onto the trailer door a beat after Maggie shuts it, and is retrieved by:

*

12 ANGLE ON LOUIS ROGAN - WALKING OUT

*

A ten-year-old boy buckling a space-gun onto his belt, wearing a space helmet.

*

*

MRS. ROGAN

'Morning, Spaceson Louis.

*

Mrs. Rogan lifts the visor of Louis's helmet, kisses him as Louis is carrying a small TV to his T-pee, playing out cord.

*

*

*

GRANNY

Yoo-hoo, Jane?

Granny is leaving on the Rogan fence and Mrs. Rogan comes over to talk to her, as:

*

*

12A GRANNY'S POV

GRANNY

'Morning, Jane, Elvira's electric is out again and she's gonna get hyper if she can't see her soaps.

12B ANGLE ON MRS. ROGAN

Mrs. Rogan smiles, knows from the past.

MRS. ROGAN

Granny, tell Elvira that Alex'll be over to patch her electric in time for her soaps.

*

GRANNY

-- I'll tell her, Jane --

And turns around to Louis who is beading his gun on a sleeping cat.

*

*

MRS. ROGAN

Louis, go tell Alex I need to see him.

*

13 ANGLE ON LOUIS

walking outside the Otis trailer, firing rubber darts at chickens.

CUT TO:

14 EXT. STARLIGHT STARBRIGHT TRAILER PARK

as we ANGLE on Louis, as Mr. President sees and hides from him.

GAME VOICE (CENTAURI'S VOICE)

Greetings, Starfighter, you have
been recruited by the Star League
to defend the frontier against Xur
and the Ko-Dan armada!

*

KID'S VOICE

I know, I know. Bring on the target
lights.

*

*

Louis steps onto the porch as we meet:

15 ANGLE ON ALEX ROGAN

An eighteen-year-old kid who's playing a video game called
"Starfighter!" totally engrossed, hardly paying any atten-
tion to his little brother, as he cracks his knuckles,
obviously a pro at video warfare.

*

*

LOUIS

Mom's lookin' for you, Alex.

15A ANGLE ON TARGET LIGHTS

15A *

appearing.

*

15B ANGLE ON ALEX

15B *

shooting target lights.

*

16 ANGLE ON LOUIS

dragging over a chair, standing on it. Louis peers
into the screen as we see:

*

LOUIS

Look out! Get 'em, Alex, get 'em!

*

*

17 POV - TARGET LIGHTS

*

getting blasted away.

*

18 ANGLE ON LOUIS

Crowding in to see the action.

BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!

*

ALEX

Louis, move your head, will you?

19 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

*

approaching the asteroid.

*

20 POV - ANGLE FROM GUNSTAR

*

flying towards the asteroid as Ko-dan snips intercept
and fight.

*

*

GAME VOICE

Enemy squadrons in sectors three,
six; seven closing fast.

*

*

ALEX

Evade!

21 ANOTHER ANGLE

Otis saunters over and watches over their shoulders.

OTIS

Heard you almost hit eight
hundred thousand, Alex.

ALEX

Yeah, but Louis knocked my hand.

LOUIS

Did not! Wow!

22 ANGLE ON MAGGIE

Appearing at the gate, carrying the picnic basket, towels,
etc, spotting Alex at the game, and beyond, a pickup truck
pulls up to the trailer park.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

MAGGIE

Come on, Alex, they're here!

Maggie passes him, starts toward pickup.

23 ANGLE ON ALEX

Half turns, remembers, reacts.

ALEX

Silver Lake!

(to game)

Starfighter Alex Rogan, request
permission to turn over the gunstar
controls to my little brother
Louis, sir?!

*
*

LOUIS

Oh, boy!

24 ANGLE ON ALEX

Leaves the game and Louis panics, delighted at this
opportunity.

LOUIS

Okay, alien dorks, you're dead,
'cause it's me, Louis Ryan flyin'
the gunstar now! Oh crapola!

*
*
*

25 STARFIGHTER POV

As alien warships destroy the Gunstar, and FLASH! FLASH!
instruments flash red, die...

26 OMITTED

thru
29

30 EXT. GENERAL STORE

As Alex comes toward pickup filled with kids who have
pulled up in the pickup, all wearing their bathing
trunks.

Alex pauses a beat to look inside the batter of rusted-
out trailer park mailboxes, finds nothing.

31 ANGLE ON JACK BLAKE

A redneck type, sitting in a brand-new red pickup giving Maggie the once-over as she climbs in, despite the fact that a cheerleader type is sitting beside him, as: *

In the b.g., Otis is sweeping a carpet in front of his trailer, taking the scene in.

GIRL, GARY, BLAKE
C'mon, Alex! Let's go! Pile
in! Jump in, Maggie!

Maggie moves over for Alex to climb aboard.

32 ANGLE ON ALEX

Coming from mailboxes.

MAGGIE
Did it come?

ALEX
Not yet...

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED:

GARY & ANDY

(kids in the truck bed)

What is it this time, Rogan; join
the Foreign Legion or signing up
for Space Shuttle school?

33 ANGLE ON OTHER KIDS

Chiming in, familiar with Alex's pattern.

BLAKE

Yessir, folks, step right up and
meet boy adventurer, Alex Rogan on
the last leg of his world-wide
tour to nowhere.

34 ANGLE ON ALEX

Walking over to Blake and the others.

ALEX

Very funny, Blake. If you guys
think I'm gonna stick around here,
watch you shine your pickup, get
drunk and vomit every Saturday
night, and wind up at City College
like everybody else, well, forget
it! I'm gonna do something with
my life!

*

MRS. ROGAN (O.S.)

Alex?

35 ANGLE ON MRS. ROGAN

Appearing at the window of their trailer, below.

MRS. ROGAN

Elvira's electric is out.

36 ANGLE ON FRIENDS

Barely able to contain themselves, stifling their laughter.

ALEX

Aw, Mom. That'll take all day. I
was going to Silver Lake.

37 ANGLE ON MRS. ROGAN

Nodding sympathetically, understanding.

MRS. ROGAN
I'm working lunch and dinner, I'll
be in town all day.

38 ANGLE ON ALEX

Sighing, shaking his head.

ALEX
Okay, Mom. I'll do it.

39 ANGLE

Alex turns back to his friends who are still enjoying his
circumstances as Maggie senses his embarrassment at his
situation.

ALEX
You better go ahead.

MAGGIE
No, I'll wait for you.

ALEX
No, this could take a while. I'll
catch up with you later.

Maggie looks into his eyes, understands, as:

Pickup truck pulls out.

40 ANGLE ON ALEX

Alex is left in the dust to hear the LAUGHTER of his
friends, and:

41 OMITTED
thru
43

*

*

44 EXT. TRAILER PARK - SUNSET

As the horizon is azure and beautiful. Weathervane.

*

CUT INTO:

45 ALEX'S ROOM

And we're TIGHT on the starfield of a poster of faraway places, on a door which is covered with posters as the door opens inwards and:

*
*

46 ANGLE ON ALEX

Entering, exhausted, grimy, falling into a swivel chair at his desk, removes his grimy boots, sagging back, looking up at a mobile, turning in tandem, a reflective beat.

*
*
*
*

(CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED:

FIRST VOICE

Pleasant today, eh? *

SECOND VOICE

Yep, gon' be a pleasant day
tomorrow, too. *

FIRST VOICE

Gon' be a pleasant summer,
'cordin' to the Farmer's
Almanac... *

Alex has mouthed this exchange word for word, suddenly sits bolt upright, scared when he realizes that this is a symptom of his being trapped in the trailer park, and that he must escape at all costs. Alex leaps up, rushes out.

CUT TO:

47 EXT. GENERAL STORE - NIGHT

And we're TIGHT on outer space, until across the universe, the following message is spelled and spoken.

GAME VOICE (CENTAURI)

"You have been recruited by the
Star League to defend the frontier
against Xur and the Ko-Dan
armada!"

48 POV - STARFIGHTERS

Launching, during the initial phases of the game.

49 ANGLE ON ALEX

Playing the game.

50 ANOTHER ANGLE

ALEX

Yeah, yeah.

GAME VOICE

Prepare for target light practice,
Starfighter... *

ALEX

Ready.

51 POV - STARFIGHTERS

As target lights come flashing past the bow.

52 ANGLE ON OTIS AND ALEX - (NIGHT SKY WITH STARFIELD)

As Otis lights up his final pipe for the night, aware of Alex and his frustration, comes over, as Alex plays the game.

OTIS
Where's your Maggie?

ALEX
Good question. Out having a good time, I guess.

Otis smiles at this, lights his pipe for a beat.

OTIS
Oh, and you never have a "Good Time," that it?

Alex continues to play the game, half turns to Otis.

ALEX
Sure, I love fixing electric, checking plumbing, plunging toilets. Gosh, Otis, I don't even get a chance for a good time around here.

Otis understands what Alex is saying.

OTIS
Things change; always do... You'll get your chance; important thing is -- when it comes, you gotta grab it with both hands and hold on tight.

*

53 ANOTHER ANGLE

Alex and Otis see:

54 ANGLE ON JACK BLAKE

Pulling up in his red pickup, and Maggie climbing out, gathers her picnic basket, towel, as:

55 ANGLE ON ALEX

Being missed by it, continuing to play the game, as Otis moves to the rocking chair at the far end of the porch as:

55A MOTHER SHIP

with deck fighters being launched.

56 ANGLE ON BLAKE

Enjoying Alex's discomfiture, and for his benefit saying:

BLAKE

'Night, Maggs.

57 ANGLE ON MAGGIE

Coming up to Alex as Blake pulls out, kissing him on the cheek, watches the game a beat -- INTERCUT as needed.

GAME VOICE (CENTAURI)

Ammo packs low... life support
functioning... photon bolts low...

MAGGIE

I thought you were going to meet
me at the lake. What happened?

Maggie watches Alex demolish more attacking warships.

ALEX

The same thing that always
happens; I couldn't get away.
Where's everyone else?

MAGGIE

They went to a movie.

ALEX

And Jack Blake just happened to be
going your way.

Maggie detects the jealousy in Alex's manner, but refrains from answering a beat as an alien warship fires a salvo of missiles at the Gunstar as:

58 STARFIGHTERS' POV

Dodging the hostile shots.

59 ANGLE ON MAGGIE AND ALEX

Moving closer, gradually drifting from an argument, concentrating on the video warfare.

GAME VOICE

Ammo on reserve... life support on emergency... photon bolts at peak.

MAGGIE

Look out on the right! He said it was on his way home.

ALEX

Blake happens to live on the other side of town.

MAGGIE

Alex, I wanted to get back to you, okay? Hey, you're going great!

ALEX

Gee, nine hundred thousand...

BLEEP! BLIP! BUZZ! Video explosions.

Otis shambles over, looks into the screen, nods.

OTIS

Nine hundred thousand. You're gonna bust the record!

Otis takes a crooner's horn from a nearby nail, steps to the edge of the porch, aims it at the trailer park below.

OTIS

(continuing)

Listen up, everybody! Alex is goin' for the record!

60 ANGLE ON SEVERAL RESIDENTS

Hearing this, walking up the stairs to have a look, and Louis and his friends are among them.

61 ANGLE ON MR. BOONE

Playing cards with others, drinking beers, hearing this.

62 ANGLE ON GATHERING

As Louis pushes his way to the forefront of the assemblage to proudly watch his older brother, as on the screen a huge ship appears (the Hub Carrier). Firing guns (phase four of the game).

(CONTINUED)

62 CONTINUED:

LOUIS

Wow! You never got this far,
Alex! The Command Ship! Beat the
green shit outta it, Alex!

63 ANGLE ON ALEX

Continuing to play the Starfighter game that is growing
more and more intense, with NOISE, lights, as:

63A ANGLE ON RESIDENTS

Reacting to the increased pitch of battle. INTERCUT as
needed, people playing cards, dog, and Louis' feet,
CLOSEUP of Louis, CLOSEUP of Maggie, CLOSEUP of
fingers, buttons, joystick.

64 ANGLE ON GAME SCREEN

As Command Ship explodes and over the screen there appears
"RECORD BREAKER! RECORD BREAKER!"

65 ANGLE ON ALEX

Being congratulated by Elvira, Clara, Mr. and Mrs. Boone,
and others, etc.

66 ANGLE ON TRAILER PARK - LONG SHOT - NIGHT

With the FAINT VOICES of the residents congratulating
Alex, as:

TIME CUT TO:

66A EXT. TRAILER PARK COURT - NIGHT

As the cat and dog are sleeping, and CRICKETS are
CHIRPING in the night.

66B ANGLE ON OTIS' TRAILER

As MUSIC drifts out.

*

*

67 ANGLE ON ALEX AND MAGGIE - NIGHT

In Rogan front yard, sitting on a worn porch swing as
park goes to sleep for the night. Alex is moving.
Maggie is beside him, preoccupied.

(CONTINUED)

67 CONTINUED:

Trailer park NOISES are audible: TV's with the evening news, radios, Otis playing 1940's music on an old record player, as:

GRANNY, ELVIRA, MR. BOONE
Yep, that Alex is gonna go
places... Sure is... I'll say.

GRANNY
Night, kids...

Alex puts his arms around Maggie, starts drawing her to him rather amorously until:

Maggie sighs, pecks him on the cheek, rises, heads for her trailer, leaving him in the lurch.

MAGGIE
Night, Alex.

Alex is surprised at this abrupt departure, follows towards her trailer.

ALEX
Night Alex? Maggie, wait!

Alex follows her, puzzled, having passed a window a beat after Maggie, where we HOLD for:

68 INT. ALEX'S BEDROOM - ANGLE ON LOUIS

sitting in his window, up beyond his bedtime, until he sees Alex and Maggie crossing to her trailer, and pause on her steps, watches them intently, eavesdropping, as:

69 ANGLE ON MAGGIE AND ALEX

As she reaches her door and turns to him.

MAGGIE
I guess it finally hit me. You're
really going away, aren't you.

ALEX
Of course I'm going away, we're
both going away.

MAGGIE
Both of us?

*

(CONTINUED)

69 CONTINUED:

ALEX

Yeah, both of us. We went all
through this; remember? I go to
college, find a place and come
back for you.

*
*
*
*

MAGGIE

How about Granny?

*
*

ALEX

Granny? Granny can take care of
herself. The truth is; you're
scared of leaving the trailer park...

*
*
*
*

Maggie over-reacts.

MAGGIE

I am not scared!

*

ALEX

Hey, whatever happens, it's you
and me forever, right?

Maggie embraces him tightly.

MAGGIE

Oh, I love you so so much, Alex...

ALEX

And I'll always love you, Maggs...

Alex and Maggie kiss ardently, as:

70 ANGLE ON LOUIS

Looking on, grossed-out beyond words, popping up the visor
of his space helmet, studying this adult display of affec-
tion, grimaces.

LOUIS

Di-a-ree-ah...

71 ANGLE ON MRS. ROGAN

Driving into the trailer park in the battered truck,
climbing out, entering the trailer, carrying groceries,
mail, etc., wearing her waitress uniform.

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THE LAST STARFIGHTER - Rev. 5/9/83

18A.

72 ANGLE ON ALEX

Crossing the trailer park, entering the Rogan trailer, as
we --

CUT TO:

73 INT. ROGAN TRAILER

As Alex enters, trumpeting the "Rocky" victory theme
through his lips, as:

(CONTINUED)

73 CONTINUED:

ALEX

Yes, and someday they shall say
"This is where it all began."
Greetings, humble Mom. I finally
broke the Starfighter record.

74 ANGLE ON MRS. ROGAN AND ALEX

As Mrs. Rogan sighs, hands him an envelope which has already been opened.

MRS. ROGAN

That's nice, dear.

ALEX

Nice? It's stupendous!

MRS. ROGAN

I picked up everyone's mail
because Mr. Potter's truck broke
down. This came for you and I was
so excited, I opened it.

ALEX

That's okay, Mom, what is it?

Mother is suddenly subdued.

MRS. ROGAN

It's about your loan... You can
still go to City College with your
friends, Alex.

Alex reads the letter for a beat, closes his eyes for a moment of intense pain, as Louis peers from his room.

LOUIS

"And I'll always love you,
Maggie..." Kissy, kissy, kissy.

MRS. ROGAN

Louis!

Alex, mortified at this prospect, doesn't respond and rushes from the trailer as his mother calls after him.

CUT TO:

75 ANGLE ON ALEX

Rushing from his trailer, up driveway to the highway,
in the wash of the sputtering Starlight Starbright sign,
re-reading the rejection letter, finally letting it slip
through his fingers and be carried away by the lonely
breeze.

*

(CONTINUED)

75 CONTINUED:

BLEEP! POP! BUZZ! BLIP! -- digital computer-type NOISES become audible in the night, as:

Alex turns, sees the "Starfighters" video game beside the general store lighting up, pulsing colors, casting an eerie glow against the porch roof, pulsing faster and faster.

76 ANGLE ON ALEX

Approaching the video game, puzzled at this strange display, as behind him, we see:

77 ANGLE ON DARK SEDAN

Coming to a silent halt at the store, and with a FAINT MECHANICAL WHIRRING, gullwing door opens, and:

MAN'S VOICE

Hello? Excuse me, son?

78 ANGLE ON ALEX

Turning to see the car in the silvery moonlight, advances towards it.

ALEX

Store is closed, Mister.

79 ANGLE ON A MATCH

Being struck, and in the sputtering flame, a face is revealed to be that of:

A dapper old man lighting his cigarette in a golden holder; meet CENTAURI, a lovable scalawag.

CENTAURI

I'm not here for cigarettes or bubblegum, my boy. Can you tell me the name of the person who broke the record on that game over there and where I might find 'em?...

*

ALEX

Alex Rogan, and you're looking at him. Who're you?

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED:

Centaury smiles widely.

CENTAURI
Centaury's the name. I invented
"Starfighters," which is why I'm
here.

ALEX
It is?

CENTAURI
It is. We must talk, on a matter
of the utmost importance. Step into
my office.

*
*

Alex hesitates at the car door, and Centaury sees this.

CENTAURI
Do you think I am some threadbare
charlatan?! I am Centaury, and
you may -- you must -- trust me
implicitly!

80 ANGLE ON CENTAURI AND ALEX

As Centaury gestures, meaning for Alex to climb into the
back of the car, and:

81 ANGLE ON ALEX

Climbing into the cabin, reacting with surprise when he
sees:

82 ALEX'S POV - YOUTH

Whose face we cannot discern in the dark, whose presence
keens our interest.

83 ANGLE ON CENTAURI

Seeing this hesitation and surprise from Alex.

CENTAURI
Oh yes, say hello to my assistant,
Beta.

*

84 ANGLE - ALEX - BETA

Shaking hands.

(CONTINUED)

84 CONTINUED:

ALEX

Hello.

84A As they shake -- ZAP! A small spark passes between their hands, makes Alex recoil, look at his hand.

ALEX

(continuing)

Ow!

84B Alex is curious, tries again to see Beta's face, but Beta hastily disembarks. And Centauri deftly runs interference again.

CENTAURI

I must congratulate you on your virtuoso performance, my boy. Centauri's impressed, I seen 'em come 'n go, but you're the best, m'boy, dazzling, light years ahead of the competition. Which is why Centauri's here, he's got a little proposition for you; interested?

ALEX

I guess.

Alex shrugs, sits back -- WHOOSH! -- doors slam.

ZOOM!

85 ANGLE ON CAR

Peeling out as if the starting flag at Indy just went down, accelerating down the curving mountain road.

86 ANGLE ON ALEX

Being thrown backwards in the passenger cabin, startled by the explosive acceleration of the car, as WIND ROAR starts to build.

ALEX

Hey!

87 ANGLE ON YOUTH

Standing in the road, just outside the trailer park, watching the car's receding taillights.

CUT TO:

88 OMITTED
thru
90A

90B ANGLE ON ALEX

Frozen with fear.

ALEX
What are you doing?

CENTAURI
Listen, Centauri wants to keep it
a surprise. Trust me. You're
gonna love it! Love it! And who
wouldn't?! It's the greatest
honor mankind ever got and it's
yours!

91 OMITTED
thru
97

98 ANGLE ON CENTAURI'S CAR

Gathering speed.

*

99 OMITTED
thru
102

103 ANGLE ON ALEX AND CENTAURI

Is now terror-stricken.

CENTAURI
The amusing part of this is that
it's all a mistake! 'Cause that
particular Starfighter game was
supposed to be delivered to Vegas,
not a flea-speck trailer park in
the middle of tumbleweeds 'n'
tarantulas. So... must be fate,
destiny, blind chance, luck even,
that brought us together, and as
the poets say: "The rest is
history!" Seat belt on?

*

104 ANGLE ON CENTAURI'S CAR

Whipping past a sign which shudders in the wind blast.

105 ANGLE ON ALEX

Scared out of his wits.

105A ANGLE ON POLICE CAR

As Centauri's car THUNDERS past, rocked by the wind as:

Cop looks into his radar gun, sees a readout of 300 MPH!
-- reacts.

105B ANGLE ON CENTAURI'S CAR

ROARING into a tunnel.

106 ANGLE ON CENTAURI AND ALEX

In the tunnel, looking back towards Alex a beat, stubbing out his cigarette.

ALEX

Where are we going? Where are you taking me?!

Centauri is still not looking at the road ahead.

CENTAURI

I told you I want to keep it a surprise!

Alex's eyes widen as he sees:

106A POV - BARRIER

Looming up at the end of the tunnel.

106B ANGLE ON ALEX AND CENTAURI

As Alex cries the warning:

(CONTINUED)

*

106B CONTINUED:

But Centauri keeps yakking.

CENTAURI

Calm down, are you the kinda kid
who reads the last page of a
mystery first? Or pesters the
magician to tell ya his tricks.
Or sneaks downstairs to peek at
his Christmas presents? Of course
not! Which is why I am not going
to tell you. Besides, I love
surprises, don't you?

ALEX

Look out.

*
*

Centauri sees the barrier.

CENTAURI

(continuing)

Oh, dear...

Centauri hits two buttons and --

ZIP! -- a glass partition comes between Alex and
Centauri and --

WHIRR -- rear flaps shoot from the rear of the car.

107 OMITTED

108 ANGLE ON CENTAURI'S CAR

Taking off from the tunnel mouth vaulting over the
barrier, at the last moment ROCKETS BLAST ON.

109 ANGLE ON CENTAURI'S CAR

As its ROCKETS SPUTTER and as the car suddenly starts
to fall.

110 OMITTED

&

111

112 ANGLE ON ALEX AND CENTAURI

As Centauri pounds the dashboard in frustration to make
the starcar function as Alex is terrified behind him.

ALEX

Heyyy!

112A ANGLE ON STARCAR

Suddenly shooting skywards.

113 ANGLE ON CENTAURI

Gasping with relief at their close call. Working many controls, as:

*

113A AS STEEL SHELLS

*

Snap down over the wheels.

*

114 ANGLE ON ALEX

Knocks once, pushed back into his seat by the G-force and he looks out the window and sees:

*

*

114A POV - CITY LIGHTS

Far below.

114B ANGLE - STARCAR - FRONT OF STARCAR

*

Climbing OUT OF FRAME.

114C CLOSEUP - ALEX

As he sees, reacts to:

114D POV - EARTH

Diminishing in rearview mirror.

114E ANGLE - ALEX

Reacting to this, trying to get close to the glass partition, knocks once, stops when he sees:

*

*

115 POV - CENTAURI

Wipes away his human disguise with a monogrammed handkerchief which lifts his human image from his face like the Shroud of Turin, leaving his true alien face with what could be described as human eyeball spectacles resting on his alien face, as Centauri turns, smiles, enjoying Alex's reaction as he cleans his eyeballs.

116 ANGLE ON ALEX

Staring at the creature for a few beats, knocks on window, sinking back into his seat, deciding that things have gotten pretty weird as the moon whips past his window.

117 ANGLE ON CENTAURI

Cleaning his eyeballs.

117A ANGLE ON CENTAURI

Putting his human mask back on.

118 ANGLE ON STARCAR

Burning past Saturn CUT TO: car going through the rings.

119 ANGLES ON ALEX

thru

119B Looking wide-eyed out the window as Saturn, passes.

120 ANGLE ON CENTAURI

Shifting into stardrive.

CENTAURI

Shifting into stardrive at
kulumba zeta!

*

*

*

*

*

121 ANGLE ON ALEX

Hurled back into the cabin by the explosive acceleration.

122 ANGLE ON STARCAR

ROARING into an explosive speed which will rapidly build toward light speed.

123 ANGLE ON CENTAURI

Sitting back, closing his eyes for a snooze. As:

Starfield begins to change colors and configurations as the car heads for light speed.

pk

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28.

124 ANGLE ON STARCAR

thru

124D Streaking through the universe into a black hole, heading
for parts unknown.

CUT TO:

125 EXT. SPACE - ANGLE ON STARCAR

Slowing down, coming out of Stardrive and the black hole,
shooting past a green moon, heading towards a planet in a
fast dive, through clouds.

CUT TO:

126 ANGLE ON ALEX

Looking at the planet.

127 PLANET SURFACE

*

Over an ocean towards alien city lights, an indication of a great inter-galactic civilization.

128 INT. STARCAR - ANGLE ON ALEX'S FACE

Pressed to the glass as Centauri talks to a landing control monitor in a foreign tongue, works controls as Alex taps the glass between them, but Centauri cannot hear through the glass and their descent continues, and Alex sees:

129 ANGLE ON STAR CAR

*

flying through the Rylan atmosphere thin out, then vanish altogether, indicating that they are heading for the less-populated regions of the planet, as a beat later:

*

130 ANGLE ON STARCAR

Flying along the cliff-face installation, giving us a sense of immensity, and entering a tunnel.

131 ANGLE OF TUNNEL

As Starcar enters, lands, taxis past lights.

131A ANGLE ON STARCAR

*

Taxiing past lights.

*

132 INT. CAR - ANGLE ON ALEX

*

Knocking on the glass partition, as tunnel lights shoot past, indicating that the Starcar is coming to a halt as Alex looks about, sees:

133 POV - TUNNEL

Shadowy, long, very Hi-Tech.

134 ANGLE ON ALEX

Looking about, leans forward when he sees shadowy figure.

ALEX

Centauri?...

Centauri doesn't respond, climbs from the Starcar, deserting him.

ALEX

(continuing)

Lemme outta here! Hey!

ZIP!

Cabin door starts to rise slowly, bit by bit, revealing:

135 ANGLE ON SPACE BOOTS

Two humanoid legs, and a human waist, a humanesque torso, shoulders and garbed in Rylan clothes.

*
*

136 ANGLE ON ALEX

Relieved to see a familiar shape as the door continues to rise up, and he sees:

137 POV - TOTALLY ALIEN FACE

His first Rylan, to be exact, humanoid in shape, having features which are similar, with subtle differences -- either way, there's no mistaking it.

FEMALE RYLAN SERGEANT

Ghghgg ehehehti, tlke4skdd?

Lkelolpop, gh, yie? Ba-goo? Ko?

Or words to that effect.

Rylan gestures to emphasize what she wants Alex to do, which is to disembark and follow her, as:

137A ALEX

&

137B reacts and looks towards Centauri, sees an empty seat.

138 ANGLE ON ALEX

Climbing from the Starcar, muttering to himself as Rylans come to the Starcar, tending it.

ALEX

There's a perfectly logical explanation for this... I hope.

Entering a doorway.

CUT TO:

139 INT. INDUCTION CORRIDOR

As Alex walks along and a FEMALE RYLAN SERGEANT goes with him.

ALEX

What'll I do? Talk to them!
Right... communicate...

140 ANGLE ON ALEX

Gesturing to this Female Rylan Sergeant, who ushers him onto a people-mover, a moving sidewalk, conveyor belt, which carries him past the Quartermaster, who hands Alex a uniform, boots, helmet, etc., then continues eating a space-lizard on a hot dog roll.

ALEX

Pardon me, but does anyone around here speak Earth?

Alex turns, when he hears gibberish-speaking Rylan VOICES raised in a heated argument.

141 POV - CENTAURI AND RYLAN BURSAR

Who is pointing quizzically at Alex for the benefit of Quartermaster who shrugs "I dont know." And Bursar motions Centauri over, nods towards Alex.

BURSAR

(Rylese subtitle)

Explain this, you chiseler.

Centauri is aghast at this accusation.

CENTAURI

Chiseler?! My expenses were high this trip. And I'll have you know you're looking at A-number-one merchandise here. Centauri guarantees it.

(CONTINUED)

141 CONTINUED:

ALEX
Hey! Centauri!

BURSAR
(Rylese subtitles)
Says you. I think it is the
ugliest, dumbest, smelliest,
silliest, loudest --

Continues film subtitles with disparaging adjectives.

142 ANGLE ON ALEX

As Alex is now between them.

ALEX
Centauri, what's going on here?

Centauri smiles, glosses over the Rylan's tirade.

CENTAURI
He's saying how delighted he is
that you're here and if there's
anything he can do to make your
stay more enjoyable, just give him
a ring.

ALEX
-- but where are we?!

Centauri beams at Alex.

CENTAURI
Oh you should see your face! You
love it, don't you?! I knew you
would! Welcome to Rylos, my boy!

At the word "Rylos" Alex reacts, has a sense of
recognition.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEX
Rylos... Hey, wait! Rylos from
the game?!

CENTAURI
He's quick, very quick.

*

143 ANGLE ON CENTAURI

Grabbing the Bursar, forcing him to look at Alex.

CENTAURI
See! He's speechless!
(to Alex)
Good luck, my boy, may the luck of
the seven pillars of Gulu be with
you at all times.
(to Bursar)
Someday you cheapskates will thank
Centauri! Trust me!

144 ANGLE ON ALEX AND FEMALE RYLAN SERGEANT

thru

144C Entering an elevator that descends for a beat, then moves horizontally, jolting Alex about, and after a beat, doors open to reveal:

145 ANGLE ON RYLAN HANGAR

A secret installation, seemingly within the cliff-face, filled with more military types, moving about quickly, urgently, as trailers of Photon Bolts are pulled past and Alex stares in wonder, at:

146 ANGLE ON GREAT WARBOARD

Which actually shows the planet Rylos and many blinking lights, the frontier ships, and disturbance of some kind, which attention is directed to, as:

BLEEP! BLEEP!

147 ANGLE ON ALEX

Moving as huge ship is trucked past him in this hangar, and he sees the logo which he recognizes from the game back home, Starfighter.

148 POV - LOOKS UP

A huge Gunstar being trucked past, being prepared for action.

ALEX
Gunstars... I gotta be dreaming...

*

148A POV - GUNSTARS

Lined up in the hangar, ready for war, green moon in background.

149 ANGLE ON FEMALE RYLAN SERGEANT

A MALE SERGEANT gesturing for Alex to come to a desk and Alex obeys, where he pins a small Starfighter Translator button to his shirt. GIBBERISH CROWD NOISE.

ALEX
Listen, this has been a mistake!
VOICES gradually become intelligible.

MALE SERGEANT
Welcome to Starfighter Command.
Alex is taken aback at this, has trouble carrying his equipment.

*

ALEX
You speak English?

FEMALE SERGEANT
No, you hear English, thanks to the translator button.

149A ANGLE ON MALE SERGEANT - ALEX

thru

150 as Alex stands transfixed by Gunstars, Rylan Sergeant ushers him along.

MALE SERGEANT
Hurry, we don't have much time.
The briefing begins immediately.
Join the other recruits!

Male Sergeant starts around the corner in the opposite direction from where she indicated Alex should proceed. Alex is puzzled.

ALEX
Recruits?

Alex turns during this outburst, to see:

151 ANGLE ON BRIEFING AREA

Where 12 Aliens, six wearing Starfighter uniforms and six wearing navigators' uniforms, have turned to look at him. Here and there we see an incredible alien creature, generally humanoid, as:

*
*

ALEX
... I don't believe this...

152 ANGLE ON MALE SERGEANT

Beginning the briefing.

LOUDSPEAKER
Attention! Attention! Ambassador
Enduran is here... Ambassador
Enduran of the Star League is here!

*

A wave of speculation is audible, followed by a hushed silence, as:

153 ANGLE ON SEVERAL RYLANS

Entering, wearing more elaborate garb than the others, and at the center of them is:

154 ANGLE ON ENDURAN

An interstellar counterpart of Kurt Waldheim, since he rules the Star League, an outer space U.N. He is an aged and wise-looking diplomat. Complete and hushed silence fills the hangar as he slowly approaches the Warboard, to address the Rylans.

155 ANGLE ON ALEX

Inching his way to an empty seat, trying to be quiet and polite but causing a stir, as:

ALEX
Er, 'scuse me, sorry, pardon...
((AD LIB))

Alex steps on a tentacle which is on the floor.

156 ANGLE ON TENTACLE ALIEN

Howling -- pulling his tentacle from under Alex's foot, sending him crashing into the lap of another Alien, who catches Alex in his webbed hands, as:

(CONTINUED)

156 CONTINUED:

TENTACLE ALIEN rises, blazing mad, eager for a fist fight.

TENTACLE ALIEN
I should grind you to gorun dust!

Alex gulps, scared of this fearsome-looking creature.

ALEX
I'm real sorry, er, sir. It was
an accident. I didn't mean it.

Tentacle Alien grunts, sits down, as:

157 ANGLE ON ALEX

Taking his seat beside the FRIENDLY ALIEN, who looks at Alex and whispers:

FRIENDLY ALIEN
You don't trifle with a Bodati.
They just love to fight. That's
why they're perfect for this war.

158 ANGLE ON ALEX

Reacting to this information.

ALEX
Did you say "War"?

FRIENDLY ALIEN
But of course. Why else do you
think you're here? You've been
recruited by the Star League to --

Suddenly remembering this line from the Starfighter's
game back home:

ALEX
(picking it up)
-- to defend the Frontier against
Xur and the Ko-Dan Armada!?

159 OMITTED

160 ANGLE ON ENDURAN

Advancing, to address the crowd.

*

(CONTINUED)

160 CONTINUED:

ENDURAN

Eons ago, our ancestors created
our great frontier...

Enduran turns and gestures towards the frontier warboard.

ENDURAN

(continuing)

A barrier of energy encircling the
peaceful galaxies of the universe
and forever shutting out the
scourge that lurks beyond.

Enduran turns back to the assemblage.

ENDURAN

(continuing)

Thus, safe from the chaos and
ravages of war, we Rylans reached
the very pinnacle of evolution...

Enduran sighs, heart heavy.

ENDURAN

(continuing)

... Fellow Rylans, the time for
noble words is past... and you
must all know the grim truth --
Because of a dark betrayal, our
frontier will soon collapse.

Fearful speculation, shaking of heads, disbelief.

ENDURAN

(continuing)

And so we have no choice but to
dust off these ancient relics...

Enduran gestures outwards with a sweep of his hand.

161 POV - GUNSTARS

Lined up, ready for battle, gleaming, futuristic-
looking to our sub-primitive eyes.

162 ANGLE ON ENDURAN

Continuing his address.

(CONTINUED)

yl

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37A. *

162 CONTINUED:

ENDURAN

These antiquated war machines from
our primitive past.

163 ANGLE ON ASSEMBLAGE

Watching this great interstellar diplomat.

164 ANGLE ON ENDURAN

Continuing:

ENDURAN

And yet, the tragic irony is that
we have evolved so far, we are
unable to use them. And so we
turn to you... Starfighters and
your navigators.

*
*

Enduran looks down on the Starfighters, with green moon
and Gunstars in b.g.

ENDURAN

(continuing)

For of the billions of creatures
in the Star League, only you few
were found to possess the... er...
gift.

165 ANGLE ON STARFIGHTERS

Revelling in this moment of distinction, all save Alex,
are actually eager for the upcoming fight.

166 ANGLE ON ENDURAN

Looking into the eyes of the Gunstar Fighters.

ENDURAN

And you alone stand between us and
the black terror of the Ko-Dan...

Silence for a hushed beat, fear in the air.

167 ANGLE ON RYLAN FEMALE SERGEANT

Stepping forward, raising the cheer.

FEMALE SERGEANT

Victory or death! Victory or
death!

168 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR FIGHTERS AND RYLANS

Taking up the battle chant.

169 ANGLE ON ALEX

Chagrined, seeing:

170 POV - CENTAURI

Shambling through the crowd, still examining his space
gears with a jeweler's piece, jabbering at Rylan Bursar.

171 ANGLE ON ALEX

Starting after him, pushing through the cheering
Rylans.

ALEX
Centauri! Centauri! WAIT!

Alex reaches a corner area of the hangar, a repair
bay/machine shop area where taxtured creatures are
working on equipment, and bumps smack into:

172 ANGLE ON ANOTHER ALIEN

Who was carrying an armload of tools and is quite
startled, as:

173 ANGLE ON ALEX AND ALIEN

ALIEN
This is a restricted area, off
limits to --

As Alex helps this Alien pick up his tools as he
glances around for signs of the elusive Centauri. Meet
GRIG, an interstellar career officer type who's a
stickler for detail, protocol, and keeping a stiff
upper lip with an almost British aura about him.

GRIG
Oh, pardon me, Starfighter. Star-
navigator first-class, Grig at
your service, Sir.

Grig salutes rather officiously as Alex takes his hand
and shakes it, a custom that Grig finds quite novel.

ALEX
Hi, I'm Alex Rogan. I was playing
this game back home and this guy
comes over -- only he's no guy.
He's an alien, I got into his car,
only it's no car, it's a
spaceship, and there's been a big
mistake.

Grig looks at Alex in alien disbelief.

(CONTINUED)

173 CONTINUED:

GRIG

Am I to understand that you are actually declining the honor of becoming a Starfighter?

ALEX

You got it.

Grig is shaking his head, having heard it all now.

GRIG

Extraordinary. For eons all creatures have dreamed of becoming Starfighters... Tell me; where are you from?

ALEX

Earth, and we're not at war with anyone except each other...

Grig again reacts to this information.

GRIG

Earth? How curious. Earth isn't a formal member of the Star League and isn't due to be approached until it matures... This is all highly irregular. Who was it that recruited you?

ALEX

Centauri. There he goes!
Centauri!

Grig reacts once again, evidently knowing this scalawag from the past.

GRIG

Ah, Centauri. I might have guessed.

*

174 ANGLE ON CENTAURI

Carrying his handful of space gems, still haggling with the Rylan Bursar, hearing his name called, seeing both Alex and Grig waving him over. Centauri comes over, on his guard instantly, tousles Alex's hair fondly and Alex pushes his hand away. Rylan Bursar stands nearby.

INTERCUT as needed:

BURSAR

Take off that ridiculous disguise!

*
*

CENTAURI

Ridiculous disguise?! I rather liked it.

*
*
*

GRIG

Ah, up to your old excalibur tricks again, eh, Centauri?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

174 CONTINUED:

GRIG (CONT'D)

Did it ever occur to you that it's
against the law to recruit from
worlds outside the Star League?

CENTAURI

Earth's in danger too, isn't it?
And no, I didn't use the excalibur
test, it was called a video game.
Why all the bru-ha-ha? He does
have the gift.

Centauri puts his arm around Alex.

GRIG

Now this may come as a shock to
you, but he doesn't choose to be a
Starfighter...

Centauri pulls his arm off Alex' shoulder, horrified.

CENTAURI

Doesn't "choose" to be a...

(to Alex)

Are you a coward?! Are you
crazy?!

ALEX

You didn't tell me about any of
this!

GRIG

And you didn't even tell him...
Irregular, highly irregular.

CENTAURI

I was late! There wasn't time!
Besides, I thought he'd love it!
I thought he was normal.

175 ANGLE ON RYLAN BURSAR

Advancing, hands out.

RYLAN BURSAR

Return the money, Centauri.

176 ANGLE ON CENTAURI, ALEX, GRIG

Centauri nearly has an alien stroke at the mention of
returning the money.

(CONTINUED)

176 CONTINUED:

CENTAURI

Return the money? You must be delirious! You know how long it took to invent the games, merchandise them, put 'em in the stores by Christmas?!

GRIG

It must be terribly embarrassing for you, and I do sympathize, however...

CENTAURI

-- I saw him fight! He can be the greatest Starfighter ever!

ALEX

-- But that was a game, Centauri.

CENTAURI

A game?! Maybe you thought it was a game, but it was also a test. A test sent out across the universe to find those with the gift to be Starfighters... And here you are, my boy, here you are.

ALEX

Right, here I am; about to get killed!

Rylan Bursar snaps his fingers, waiting for Centauri to return the money.

CENTAURI

Killed? Why you don't seriously think it's dangerous? Feh! Don't be silly, trust me.

177 ANGLE ON GUST OF WIND

Suddenly seeming to invade the hangar, a stirring of small objects in the hangar, as:

*
*

178 ANGLE ON GRIG

Looking towards the disturbance sadly.

GRIG

An image beam this strong means the frontier is weakening... Xur.

179 OMITTED

180 ANGLE ON STARFIGHTERS - ENDURAN

Speculating about this sudden occurrence, wondering, reacting.

181 ANGLE ON CENTAURI

Chagrined, dismayed, frightened.

CENTAURI

Xur...

182 ANGLE ON PILLAR OF ENERGY

thru

182B Assumes the shape of an evil being's face, with demonic eyes, shimmering in the center of the hangar, level with Enduran. This is XUR.

183 ANGLE ON ALEX, GRIG AND CENTAURI

As Alex sees the evil being.

ALEX

Xur...

Alex's expression says, "Who else?"

184 ANGLE ON ENDURAN

Recognizing his malevolent son, waves his aides aside, steps forward boldly to face Xur, as:

185 ANGLE ON XUR'S FACE

Fixing his dark gaze on his father for a beat.

XUR

Yes, Father, your mighty frontier grows weaker by the moment.

ENDURAN

Do not call me Father. You are no longer my son. You are an outcast! Why have you returned?

Xur is amused at his father's anger.

(CONTINUED)

185 CONTINUED:

KUR

I've returned for the good of all Rylans.

ENDURAN

With an armada of Ko-Dan warships behind you! Leave us in peace; return to exile.

186 ANGLE ON ALEX - GRIG

Whispering.

ALEX

Exile? Hey, Grig, what'd he do?

GRIG

He tried to seize control of the Star League and be dictator. He's a scoundrel.

187 ANGLE ON KUR AND ENDURAN

Facing one another, eye to eye.

KUR

The Ko-Dan wish to be our friends.

ENDURAN

The Ko-Dan are the reason our ancestors built the frontier! And you wish to be a petty tyrant on your mother planet!

KUR

Some Rylans would welcome me, Father.

ENDURAN

Star League justice put down your Kurian cult. Your followers are few and scattered.

Kur finally loses his temper and the true side of his nature is revealed.

KUR

Star League! A refuge for weak worlds not worthy to be equals!

(CONTINUED)

187 CONTINUED:

ENDURAN

That is for the Rylans to decide
and not for a dangerous and evil
child as yourself!

KUR

And yet it is this "child" that
caught your master spy.

Kur grows angry at being called the very things which
he truly is, as:

188 ANGLE ON KUR

Smiling darkly, as:

189 ANGLE ON WAR BOARD

As the frontier image is jammed and we, and the Rylans,
are suddenly looking at:

A Rylan captive who looks haggard, scared, with a
brain-crusher on his head.

190 ANGLE ON ENDURAN

Gasping when he sees this Rylan.

191 ANGLE ON KUR

Enjoying this moment immensely.

Kur nods.

192 ANGLE ON RYLAN SPY

Screaming, as brain-crusher closes on his head and a
horrible CRACKING SOUND is followed by a rush of Rylan
blood from the device.

193 ANGLE ON ENDURAN

Standing unflinchingly as the onlookers gasp at the
sight of such tremendous brutality.

194 ANGLE ON ALEX

Wide-eyed at this brutality, it's the real clincher as far as he's concerned, as:

195 ANGLE ON CENTAURI AND GRIG

Standing transfixed by this grim spectacle. Rylan Bursar seems to be enjoying this spectacle.

196 ANGLE OUT HANGAR DOOR

As a crisp image of the green moon (which Alex passed when he arrived), it is partially eclipsed. *

197 ANGLE OF XUR

Turning to address the assemblage.

XUR

Hear me, Rylans! When the green moon of Galan is eclipsed, the Ko-Dan armada will invade and not even your mighty Starfighters will be able to save you.

197A POV - GREEN MOON OF GALAN

197B ANGLE ON ENDURAN

Standing firm.

ENDURAN

We shall see, Xur, we shall see.

198 ANGLE ON XUR'S IMAGE

Fading, and his dark laughter fills the hangar.

199 ANGLE ON RYLANS

Sighing a collective gasp of relief which is quickly replaced by fear and foreboding as Enduran stands firm.

200 ANGLE ON ENDURAN

Exiting with his aides, as loudspeaker begins blaring out orders at an even higher pitch than before, clearly these are battle preparations.

201 ANGLE ON CENTAURI, ALEX, GRIG, RYLAN BURSAR

Standing for a beat as the lights grow even more dim, ominously so, as:

Centauri turns with the widest, most insincere smile in the universe, facing Alex.

CENTAURI

You still wanna go, and miss all
the excitement?

Alex looks back with eyes filled with more determination than ever, saying in an instant through his expression, "Get me outta here!" as he drops his uniform.

TIME CUT TO:

202 EXT. SPACE

As the Starcar leaves Rylos, shoots past the green moon of Galan.

CUT TO:

203 INT. STARCAR

As Alex sits quietly while Centauri drives, muttering to himself, miffed, human disguise back on. He is upset. *

CENTAURI

The little brat!... Invent the game... find the kid... drag him up here. But he doesn't want to be a Starfighter... Take me home! Okay! Home to mommy! I give up!

CUT TO:

204 EXT. SPACE

As the Starcar continues on and we TILT UP to see a faint zone of lights, the frontier... As we continue a beat, TRACKING through the frontier to the evil side where we pick up and...

205 ANGLE ON THREE DECK FIGHTERS

Seen through the frontier, faintly at first as we move through the frontier to follow these deck fighters as they land on what appears to be a landing deck -- that is, until we ROLL BACK to reveal:

(CONTINUED)

205 CONTINUED:

The Ko-Dan Command Ship, an immense and evil ship on whose deck the tiny (in scale) fighters are standing as the great evil craft burns into the dark and reflective frontier with torch beams.

205A INT. KO-DAN COMMAND SHIP

As a trembling UNDERLING, Xur's personal servant, is walking along a corridor, carrying a black scepter as the corpse of the Rylan spy is dragged inside a translucent body bag from a great door which the Underling enters with much trepidation, as we --

*

CUT TO:

206 INT. CONTROL CENTER

As Underling is brusquely stopped by two Ko-Dan drones.

UNDERLING

Emperor Xur ordered me to bring
his scepter.

207 ANGLE ON KRIL, XUR

KRIL, the Ko-Dan commander whose insect-like uniform has etching of rank on it, turns to this doorway, when he hears these words from the Underling, as:

Xur sees his Underling.

XUR

Let him enter.

Guards do not respond to Xur's command, look to their Ko-Dan master, Kril, for the order. Kril nods. They unlock their weapons, admit the quaking Underling, as:

Xur advances, eyes fixed on the scepter, hefts it, pleased, turns to Kril.

XUR

(continuing)

Just like your Ko-Dan Emperor,
isn't it, Commander?

208 ANGLE ON KRIL

Looking up from his duties, flanked by his officer, who is clearly contemptuous of Xur.

(CONTINUED)

208 CONTINUED:

KRIL

It takes more than a scepter to
rule, Xur, even on Rylos...

Xur smiles.

XUR

Ah, yes, you're right, Kril, it
does take more than a scepter.

209 ANGLE ON XUR

Pressing a switch, and a deadly blade shoots from the
scepter's tip like a switchblade, glistens, and Kril
does not flinch.

210 ANGLE ON KRIL AND KO-DAN OFFICER

Observing Xur's megalomania, out of Xur's earshot. *

KO-DAN OFFICER

How long must we endure this
fool?...

Kril whirls on his subordinate, furious at the
question, face dark.

Ko-Dan Officer humbly bows, taking the admonishment.

KO-DAN PRIVATE

We have a break in the frontier.

Kril seems pleased, nods, and there is an undercurrent
of excitement in the command room.

KRIL

Fire the meteor gun...

211 ANGLE ON XUR

Hearing this, slamming the nearest console with his
fist, enraged, as hostile Ko-Dan eyes regard him,
thirsting to kill him.

XUR

My Ko-Dan friends -- lest you forget
it was your own emperor who granted
me command of this armada, for only
I hold the secret to the frontier,
and only I know the location of the
Starfighter base and therefore only
I will give the order to fire!

(CONTINUED)

211 CONTINUED:

Lord Kril is angry but forces himself to bow.

KRIL
Forgive me, Xur.

Xur enjoys humiliating Kril in front of his men.

XUR
You are forgiven, Commander Kril.
Meteor gunners, fire.

Ko-Dan officers look at Kril, who gives his assent, and this angers Xur.

XUR
FIRE!

CUT TO:

212 EXT. SPACE

As a hatch door opens on the Command Ship, just above the take-off hangar, and we see:

A meteor, which ROARS through space, towards the hole in the frontier, as we --

CUT TO:

213 EXT. MOTHER SHIP

As meteor comes through a newly opened hatch, roars through space, heading from the hole in the frontier, as gun continues to FIRE more and more meteors until it appears to be a meteor shower and we THUNDER through the breach, heading, as we:

213A METEORS

Flash by.

Meteor attacks -- INTERCUTS.

214 ANGLE ON RYLAN TECHNICIAN

Sitting at the console, as suddenly a SLIP appears on his screen, which we know to be the meteors.

(CONTINUED)

214 CONTINUED:

RYLAN TECHNICIAN
I show unidentified incoming
objects in sector three one, sir.

215 ANGLE ON RYLAN SERGEANT

coming over, standing by the Technician.

RYLAN SERGEANT
Track them.

216 OMITTED

216A METEORS

shooting towards Rylos.

217 ANGLE ON RYLAN TECHNICIAN

spotting the sudden alternation in the meteor course.

RYLAN TECHNICIAN
I show trajectory change!

Sergeant comes back, stands over the Technician, as
CONSOLE STARTS TO BUZZ.

218 ANGLE ON RYLAN TECHNICIAN, SERGEANT

spotting the blips which are looming larger and larger as
instruments go critical.

RYLAN TECHNICIAN
Velocity increasing. They're
heading for the base!

Sergeant grabs a mike, hits an alert button.

RYLAN SERGEANT
Alert! We are under attack! I
repeat! WE ARE UNDER ATTACK!

ALARM blares the scramble alert.

219 ANGLE ON HANGER

Scrambling, Rylands rush to their battle stations,
Starfighters run for their helmets, start climbing into
their Gunstars.

219A ANGLE ON RYLAN SERGEANT

giving an order to a technician.

SERGEANT
Activate repulser guns!

219B ANGLE ON RYLAN TECHNICIAN'S HANDS

switching on the repulser guns.

220 ANGLE ON REPULSER GUNS

in the cliff face, suddenly beginning to rotate towards the incoming meteors, and FIRING.

221 ANGLE ON RYLAN BURSAR

climbing a ladder in the confusion, directly behind, placing a small pulsating device, an explosive charge on the console retreating quickly.

221A ANGLE ON GUNSTARS

taxiing towards take-off.

221B ANGLE ON RYLAN SERGEANT

turning to a technician, giving an order.

RYLAN SERGEANT
Give me visual!

222 ANGLE ON WARBOARD

which shows as the meteors are coming closer, being SHOT at by the REPULSER GUNS.

223 ANGLE - EXPLOSION

destroying the warboard, killing the Rylan Technician who operates it, and thereby knocking out the Rylan defenses, as:

223A ANGLE ON REPULSER GUNS

losing their power.

223B ANGLE ON RYLAN SERGEANT

looking on helplessly at the destruction of the console.

224 ANGLE ON BASE

being obliterated in a SERIES of deadly EXPLOSIONS.

CUT TO:

225 INT. COMMAND SHIP

where there is a feeling of elation at the victory, and Xur struts about as if he did it all, as they see Rylos on their screens for the first time.

(CONTINUED)

225 CONTINUED:

 KO-DAN OFFICER
Direct hit, Commander.

 XUR
At last it is done. Soon the
frontier will be down. They will
bow to their new emperor or I will
darken the skies with their ashes.

226 ANGLE ON KO-DAN PRIVATE

Receiving a series of audible BLEEPS on his console,
turns to Officer, who moves to Kril.

 OFFICER
Commander, the Xurian spy reports
that one Starfighter has escaped.

227 ANGLE ON XUR

Shocked.

 XUR
Escaped?!

Xur is enraged as he snaps the scepter and the bloody
blade flashes into view again and you can bet he's
going to see to this last detail.

TIME CUT TO:

228 ANGLE ON "RYLOS" LICENSE PLATE

As Alex stands beside the starcar which is stopped at a
country crossroads. Centauri is under the hood, fixing
his starcar, and his spindly legs and gartered socks
jut from the vehicle.

 ALEX
Sure I can't give you a hand?

 CENTAURI
You've done quite enough already,
thank you. And even Einstein
couldn't fix this but for me; eeh
-- AHH!

Sparks and BUZZING NOISE is heard.

(CONTINUED)

228 CONTINUED:

ALEX

Well, okay then. It's only a couple of miles from here. I'll walk it. So long er bye, Centauri.

229 ANGLE ON CENTAURI

Centauri giving Alex what appears to be a digital watch and Alex studies it.

CENTAURI

Oh, Alex, here!

ALEX

Gee, I can't take a present from you.

CENTAURI

Heh! He reduces me to poverty again and thinks I'm giving him a present. What a world this is.

ALEX

What is it, then?

CENTAURI

A second chance, my boy. If you change your mind, just tap the communo-crystals.

ALEX

Keep it.

CENTAURI

You're walking away from history. HISTORY! Did Chris Columbus say he wanted to stay home? No! And what if the Wright Brothers thought only birds could fly? And did Geloca say the Yulus were too ugly to save?!

ALEX

Who's Geloca?

CENTAURI

Never mind.

ALEX

Listen, Centauri, I'm not any of those guys. I'm a kid from a trailer park, and --

(CONTINUED)

229 CONTINUED:

CENTAURI
--And if that's what you think,
then THAT'S ALL YOU'LL EVER BE!

230 ANGLE ON CENTAURI

Taking off, driving away, beyond the point of talking,
CAR SPUTTERS, Centauri mutters at the car. *

231 ANGLE ON ALEX

Watching him depart, thinking about what Centauri has
just said, and at last reflecting over whether he has
done the right thing, straps the command-crystals to
his wrist, starts back towards the trailer park. *

TIME CUT TO:

232 EXT. TRAILER PARK - NIGHT

As Alex is walking and hears all the monotony he left;
TOILETS FLUSHING, TV's BLARING. He then looks again at
the device Centauri gave him, as:

OTIS (O.S.)
Hey, Alex, I thought you were
gonna help me with this antenna!

233 ANGLE ON ALEX

Walking down the driveway, turns to see Otis pointing
up to his still-broken TV antenna.

ALEX
Er, fine, Otis... sorry.

Alex charges into the trailer park, sees:

234 POV - ROGAN FRONT YARD - MAGGIE

Rushing to her trailer, upset at something, as Mr.
President stands in the front yard.

235 ANGLE ON ALEX

Intercepting her, delighted to see her.

ALEX

Hey, Maggie!

Alex is about to tell her everything, when:

236 ANGLE ON MAGGIE

Belting him across the cheek, furious.

MAGGIE

I told you; me and my, how did you
put it? "Strange Sexual Urges"
aren't talking to you anymore!

Alex is wide-eyed as BANG! -- Maggie slams the door in
his face, leaving him stunned, puzzled as he enters the
family trailer, and we --

CUT INTO:

237 OMITTED

*

238 INT. ALEX'S ROOM

As Alex stands in the darkness, looks about, shocked
and bewildered, seeing:

239 POV - A DIRTY ROOM

So messy, in fact, it looks like there was recently a
police search of the premises; everything is in dis-
array, as:

240 ANGLE ON ALEX

Stepping through the debris, seeing Louis asleep amidst 20 Playboy magazines. Alex shrugs, deciding Louis must be responsible, and --

Alex yawns, sits on the edge of the lower bunk, starts to untie his Nikes, as we suddenly see:

241 ANGLE ON SOMETHING UNDER THE COVERS

-- a shape, and it's moving, stirring, reacting to Alex's sudden presence, as:

242 ANGLE ON ALEX

Reacting, whirling around, startled at finding someone or something in his bunk.

ALEX

Who's there?!

VOICE

(under covers)

Hey, keep it down! You're gonna wake Louis!

As Alex comes eye-to-eye with:

243 "ALEX"!

or, in other words, himself, mirror image of Alex Rogan, who sits bolt upright, gapes at Alex and their exchange takes place in frantic whispers punctuated with broad gestures. Meet BETA, Centauri's stand-in for Alex.

INTERCUT as needed.

ALEX

Hey, you look like me!

BETA

Shush, I'm the Beta Unit.

ALEX

What the hell's a Beta Unit?

BETA

A simuloïd, an exact duplicate of you, only not as loud.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

243 CONTINUED:

BETA (CONT'D)

I was in the Starcar, remember?
We shook hands, and I became you
-- unfortunately.

ALEX IS STUNNED.

ALEX

Lemme get this straight -- you're
a -- robot?!

BETA

I beg your pardon! I'm a state-
of-the-art, top-of-the-line Beta
Unit designed for work on backward
planets, which means to you morons
I'm a robot.

ALEX

So you're the one who promised to
fix Otis' antenna.

BETA

Yeah, but I was busy patching
electric, plunging toilets. No
wonder you wanna get outta here!
Humph and I thought this was gonna
be a cushy assignment. Hey; what
are you doing back?!

ALEX

Are you kidding?! It's war up
there, and if you're on the wrong
side, they stick your head in an
alien veg-o-matic!

BETA

Hold it! -- You mean after all
this moaning and groaning about
making something of yourself,
getting out of this trailer park,
you get your big chance and you
punk out? Tsk, tsk, tsk.

ALEX

It's not my fight!

BETA

Oh, Save the Whales, not the
Universe, is that it?

(CONTINUED)

243 CONTINUED: (2)

ALEX

Now, why don't you go up there and fight?!

BETA

Simuloids can't fight. We're not allowed.

ALEX

Tell them you're me. Pretend!

LOUIS

(dozing)

Alex, be quiet, will ya?

ALEX & BETA

(together)

Sorry, Louis...

Sorry, Louis...

Alex and Beta stare at one another to be quiet, then:

CUT TO:

244 EXT. STORE PARKING AREA

Hitchhiker-type jumps down, nods a thank you to a truck driver. He's scruffy-looking, enters the trailer park as the truck pulls out. *

245 ANGLE ON STARFIGHTER VIDEO GAME

Reacting to his presence with a series of flashing lights, BLEEPs and BLIPs, as:

246 ANGLE ON HITCHHIKER-TYPE

Continuing through the shadows, passing Otis' trailer, listening, cautious, as:

OLD MOVIE VOICE

Drop it or you're dead!

CLICK! Hitchhiker hears this and thinks it's a real person, freezes a beat, scared, looks about cautiously, as: CLICK! Hitchhiker peers into Otis' window, sees:

VOICE

Hhhhheerrreees Johnnnny!

247 POV - OTIS

Through the window, sitting in front of his deluxe TV console in his trailer -- CLICK! -- switching station to station with his remote control, as -- CLICK! --

248 ANGLE ON HITCHHIKER

Watching, as:

CLICK!

Otis' remote control device sounds again and at this close range the Hitchhiker's image is jammed and interfered with, revealing him to be an:

ALIEN!

249 INT. ALEX'S ROOM

Where Alex and Beta are still going at it on the bottom bunk, furious at themselves.

ALEX

And, hey, what'd you do to Maggie?

BETA

Do to her?! Listen, we're sitting outside, looking up at the stars and she stuck her tongue in my ear! I screamed -- I'll apologize to her tomorrow.

*

250 ANGLE ON LOUIS

Sitting up now, rubbing his eyes, since it basically sounds like his older brother is carrying on a conversation with himself.

ALEX (O.S.)

You won't be here! You're going back with Centauri right now!

251 ANGLE ON ALEX

Rising, rushing towards the door, tapping the communcrystals Centauri gave him, as:

252 ANGLE ON LOUIS

Unsure of what's going on, or who his brother is talking to.

LOUIS
What's up, Alex?

253 ANGLE ON ALEX

Whirling on his younger brother, mad as hell.

ALEX
Back to sleep, Louis, or I tell
Mom about your Playboys!

Alex exits.

254 ANGLE ON LOUIS

Falling flat, blackmailed into total submission.

BETA (O.S.)
You're blowing it, Alex.

Louis swings his head down over the edge of the bunk, completely confused now, and even more so when he sees:

Beta, or his older brother, still there.

BETA
(continuing)
I said -- back to sleep, Louis, or
I tell Mom about your Playboys!

Louis withdraws, back up to his bunk, confused, stack and stashes his Playboy collection in the trailer wall, directly behind a "Star Wars" poster, snores loudly for his brother's benefit.

CUT TO:

254A OMITTED

*

255 EXT. OTIS' TRAILER

As Alex is moving under the awning, tapping the communo-crystals given him by Centauri, passing:

Starfighter video game, which is pulsing with light since there's an alien in the vicinity, but Alex is unaware.

(CONTINUED)

255 CONTINUED:

ALEX
Centauri! Come in, Centauri! Get
back here and take your Tonka toy
with you!

Alex nears the awning's edge and -- WHISH! -- a
HITBEAST seizes him from above and behind -- making
audience scream and Alex struggles, turns to find him-
self face-to-face with gruesome Hitbeast, about to kill
him, as:

256 ANGLE ON ALEX

Twisting free, diving for cover in front of stone as
SHOTS land perilously close.

*

257 ANGLE ON HITBEAST

FIRING on Alex, running along the roof, towards ice
house.

258 ANGLE ON ALEX

Scrambling around the ice house, frantically tapping
his communo-crystals.

ALEX
Please, Centauri, come in!
Centauri, help!

Communo-crystal breaks into pieces when Alex stumbles,
falls. Dust falls on him and Alex looks up to see:

259 POV - HITBEAST

Standing on the ice house, beading his interstellar pistol
on Alex -- for the kill, until --

A WHISTLE is heard.

Hitbeast pauses, half turns to see:

260 ANGLE ON BETA

Standing nearby, thumbing his nose at the alien, confusing
Hitbeast for a beat, as Hitbeast FIRES Beta, and:

261 ANGLE ON HITBEAST

As a BUZZ-BLAST nearly hits him from the side and Hitbeast whirls, FIRES as headlights sweep across him and:

BUZZ-BLAST! BUZZ-BLAST! BUZZ-BLAST! A fuselade zeros in on Hitbeast, cutting off his arm as: *

262 ANGLE ON STARCAR

Fishtailing into the area, through the Hitbeast GUNFIRE, in front of the store, with Centauri SHOOTING a deadly salvo up at the Hitbeast.

263 ANGLE ON HITBEAST

Being hit, THUMP -- arm -- falling to the ground, THUMP! -- body falls -- with his firing arm blasted off, quite dead. *

264 OMITTED
thru
267

268 ANGLE ON CENTAURI

Putting his far-out looking space gun into an outlandish shoulder holster, having just totalled the alien killer, whose body now steams.

269 ANGLE ON ALEX AND BETA

Looking down at the body as Centauri climbs out of his Starcar, takes a monogrammed handkerchief out, and holds it to his nose, shaking his head at the stench, which makes Alex's eyes water like an onion would and he winces.

CENTAURI

Whew, foul stench. Dirty creatures. Get a good look, Alex, you can bet your asteroids you'll be seeing more of them.

ALEX

Huh? What are you talking about?

Alex is chagrined at this news, and Centauri nods.

CENTAURI

This is a Zando-Zan, an interstellar hitbeast, compliments of Xur.

ALEX

XUR?! Why is he after me?!

270 ANGLE ON ALIEN'S TORSO

Trembling, gradually stirring and the eyes are fluttering open, gazing at a hand, willing the hand to move and, after a beat, the alien fingers move, lifting the creature's blaster, and inching it into firing position, as:

271 ANGLE ON CENTAURI AND ALEX

Trying to convince Alex that he has no choice but to become a Starfighter, unaware of the danger.

CENTAURI

Because you're a threat to him.

Alex is finally listening to reason.

(CONTINUED)

271 CONTINUED:

BETA

You see, you gotta go back, Alex.
At least you have a fighting
chance up there. I'll cover for
you here.

Centaury nods in agreement.

CENTAURI

That's it. It's your choice,
Alex. Either fight, or get used
to this smell...

271A ANGLE ON HITBEAST

*

Eyes open, commanding its hand to move.

*

272 ANGLE ON ALIEN KILLER'S HAND

Holding the blaster, taking aim at Alex.
BUZZ-BLAST!

273 ANGLE ON CENTAURI

Crying the warning, leaping into the path of the incoming
round, shielding Alex, getting shot himself, and FIRING
back instantly, DOUBLE ZAP! -- zapping the alien killer
with his own hidden weapon, and CONTINUING TO FIRE zaps
into the creature, until creature's body bursts into sput-
tering, low flames and disintegrates.

Centaury staggers a beat and falls, Alex and Beta jump to
his side to help him.

ALEX

Centaury! Beta, get a doctor!

Centaury is holding his side as alien blood seeps through his
fingers. Alex and Beta help him to his feet and Centaury
gasps and must lean on the Starcar, breathing heavily.

CENTAURI

No! No native cures or witch
doctors!

(coughs)

I'm fine... It's just a scratch...

Centaury is gasping as he walks around to the driver's
side of the Starcar, watching Alex closely.

CENTAURI

(continuing)

Face it, Alex. You're a born
Starfighter.

274 ANGLE ON ALEX

Looking up at the stars, wondering what lies in store for him, then looks back at the trailer park, knowing it's only a matter of time before another killer is sent to get him.

ALEX
Let's go, Centauri.

Beta extends a hand.

BETA
Good luck, Alex.

Alex shakes, smiles.

ALEX
You too... Alex.

CUT TO:

275 EXT. SPACE

As Starcar breaks towards Rylos and Gunstar Command.

CUT TO:

276 INT. STARCAR

Where Centauri is at the controls, coughing, a drop of blood appears at his lips.

Alex is concerned, leans forward.

ALEX
Are you sure you're all right?

CENTAURI
I'm fine, just fine, my boy...

TIME CUT TO:

277 EXT. SPACE

As Starcar slides past the remains of the base, enters the scorched tunnel mouth.

CUT TO:

277A ANGLE ON ALEX AND CENTAURI

As Alex reacts when he sees the remains of the devastated base.

ALEX
Centauri; the base...

CUT TO:

278 INT. DAMAGED LANDING TUNNEL - DOCKING BAY

As Starcar comes careening in -- bump -- bumping -- along, making a rough landing. *

278A ANGLES ON RYLAN REACTIONS

Waving for the Starcar to stop, alarmed at its sudden and erratic presence.

279 ANGLE ON ALEX

Leaning forward to assist Centauri, who is having a difficult time of it. Entering a docking area, pulling back on the steering wheel, inches from a cracked wall.

ALEX
Centauri!

Alex reaches for the alien and his hands come away covered with blood.

280 ANGLE ON STARCAR

Coming to a halt in a damaged docking bay, in the midst of wounded Rylans, being tended by medics, etc.

281 ANGLE ON RYLANS

Reacting to the Starcar, hearing Alex call Centauri's name and among them is Grig, who rises, starts towards the Starcar.

282 ANGLE ON ALEX

Jumping from the back of the Starcar, opening Centauri's door, seeing Grig.

ALEX
Grig!

(CONTINUED)

282 CONTINUED:

GRIG
Alex?

ALEX
Centauri's hurt!

Grig gestures and medics rush to help him tend Centauri.

283 OMITTED

284 ANGLE ON CENTAURI, ALEX, GRIG

As Centauri is dying and Grig and the medics work to save him.

CENTAURI
You see? You see? Centauri
brought him back...

GRIG
Yes, I see. Don't talk.

Centauri smiles, victoriously.

CENTAURI
Alex, does he have my money? Does
he?

GRIG
I've a fortune for you, Centauri.
Now, please be still.

CENTAURI
He's not fibbing, is he, Alex?
I've known him a while, and...

ALEX
No. It's here. Piles and piles
of it. All for you.

CENTAURI
Ahhh... at last, Alex, I want you
to know that it was for the
greatest good I brought you back
... 'course, it --
(coughs)
-- never hurts to be richhh...

Centauri expires, surrounded by medics. Grig stops,
closes Centauri's eyes.

(CONTINUED)

284 CONTINUED:

GRIG
'Til the next dimension, old
friend.

*

ALEX
Centauri?

GRIG
I'm sorry, Alex.

285 ANGLE ON ALEX

Looking back towards Centauri, as Grig ushers him away.

ALEX
He saved my life...

GRIG
We've no time for mourning, Alex.
The frontier could collapse at any
moment. Come along, come along.

286 ANGLE ON ALEX

As he is quickly led through the wreckage by Grig, sees
the great destruction.

ALEX
What happened here, Grig?

GRIG
The Ko-Dan attacked. Our defenses
were sabotaged by an Xurian agent.
We were helpless. You've come
back none too soon.

286A ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Entering the damaged induction corridor.

ALEX
Yeah, well, I didn't have much
choice. Xur tried to have me
killed, and if it wasn't for
Centauri and the Beta Unit, I
wouldn't be here to talk about it.

GRIG
You are willing to give it a go?

ALEX
Huh?

287 ANGLE ON GRIG

Plunking a uniform into Alex's arms and explaining simultaneously as they approach an open elevator whose doors open.

GRIG

-- Fight.

ALEX

Well, yeah, okay, sure.

GRIG

Interstellar, my boy, interstellar!

Alex and Grig enter the elevator as we REVERSE on them, and --

CUT TO:

288 INT. ELEVATOR

As Grig is thinking, turns to Alex.

GRIG

Am I to understand there is a Beta Unit taking your place back home?

Elevator doors close, as we:

289 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

As Alex quickly climbs into the flight suit.

ALEX

He's trying.

GRIG

So, we may safely assume that Kur thinks you're still on Earth.

ALEX

Yeah.

GRIG

That could work to our advantage ... theoretically.

Doors open -- light invades.

290 INT. DESIGN SILO ANTEROOM

As Alex and Grig look out.

(CONTINUED)

290 CONTINUED:

ALEX
Where are we, Grig?

GRIG
In the design silo, in the far
side of the mountain.

Alex and Grig react to what they see and exit.

CUT TO:

291 INT. DESIGN SILO

As Alex and Grig cross a gangplank which is cockpit level
with a gleaming Gunstar whose cockpit is open, waiting.

ALEX
Is this my Gunstar?

GRIG
Yes. She's a proto-type,
different from the other ships.

Alex pauses, looks down.

292 DOWN ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

Resting in its design silo, with Alex and Grig looking
down.

ALEX (O.S.)
Different?

GRIG (O.S.)
She has a greater range, more
power, and a slight weapons
modification.

293 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

At the hatch door, where Alex is already mesmerized by the
craft, as Grig climbs into his navigator's chair.

GRIG
And here's where I'll navigate,
monitor life support and
propulsion systems from.

ALEX
And where do I sit?

(CONTINUED)

293 CONTINUED:

GRIG
In the gunnery chair, way up
there.

294 ANGLE ON ALEX

Looking up, wondering how he will get up to the gunnery
chair, about to ask, as:

BRRRRR — Grig switches a small lift which elevates Alex
to the gunnery chair, and Alex crawls in the hatchway, and
we —

CUT TO:

295 INT. GUNSTAR

As Alex enters the cockpit gunnery area, as Grig readies
himself in his navigator chair below.

INTERCUT AS NEEDED:

GRIG
Now, first climb into your gunnery
chair. And watch your head --

BUMP -- Alex hits his head on the Heads Up display as
chair suddenly swivels.

ALEX
Ouch! Whoa!

GRIG
-- Now. You're now in launch
position. There in front of you
is your heads up display.

Alex sits in the gunnery chair which makes a MECHANICAL
HUMMING as Alex is connected into the Gunstar's systems,
and as he reacts, the Heads Up screen seems to vanish for
a beat.

ALEX
Hey, it's gone?

GRIG
Oh it's still there, suspended in
a xenon mist, but you must look
dead ahead to see it. While you
engage the enemy it will reflect
all battle instruments towards
you.

(CONTINUED)

295 CONTINUED:

Alex looks straight ahead, sees Heads Up display again.

ALEX

Gotcha.

GRIG

Put your left arm into the left
arm lock and grasp the flight
controller.

*

Alex follows Grig's guidance and several systems light up,
responding to his touch.

ALEX

Okay.

GRIG

And now; slip your right hand into
the arm lock.

Again more systems respond to his touch.

ALEX

Got it.

GRIG

At your fingers are the fan lasers.

Alex is looking at the controls, recognizes them.

ALEX

Photon bolts, particle beams.
Hey, just like back home, except
for this...

Alex reaches for a large red button as Grig gets scared.

GRIG

Careful! Careful! That's death
blossom. A weapon of last resort.
Luckily I was in here working on
it when the hangar went up.

296 ANGLE ON GRIG

Switching on many launch systems and the ENGINE WILL WHINE
LOUDER AND LOUDER FROM HERE ON, as:

297 ANGLE ON ALEX

Pausing, mouths the words, "When the hangar went up?", turns to Grig, curious, as they slowly begin their ascent.

ALEX

Huh? When did the hangar go up?

ENGINE WHINE IS VERY LOUD NOW.

GRIG

I told you; when Xur attacked.

ALEX

And where were the Starfighters?

LOUDER ENGINES, begin to rise.

GRIG

... In the hangar.

ALEX

You mean they're dead?

LOUDER ENGINES.

GRIG

Death is a primitive concept. I rather like to think of them battling evil in another dimension.

LOUDER ENGINES.

ALEX

"In another dimension?" How many are left?!

ENGINES ARE THUNDERING now, Gunstar is trembling.

GRIG

Counting yourself?

ALEX

Yeah!

GRIG

One.

298 ANGLE ON GRIG

Hitting the "launch" button, and the Gunstar rushes upwards faster and faster.

299 ANGLE ON ALEX

As his mouth drops open, upon discovering he is the last Starfighter left alive, starting to protest to Grig, but his voice is lost in the DEAFENING ENGINE ROAR, as we --

CUT TO:

300 EXT. SILO - ANGLE DOWN ON GUNSTAR

As its ENGINES EXPLODE, and vapors fill the silo, as the ship comes up TOWARDS US.

301 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

EXPLODING from the silo, haloed in its engines, giving us our first glimpse of the craft in flight, as Rylos recedes into space, as we --

CUT TO:

302 INT. GUNSTAR

As Alex continues to protest as the gimbal-mounted seats click into battle ready positions. Grig turns, as radio voice fills the cabin:

INTERCUTS AS NEEDED.

RADIO

Who is this?! Who is taking up the last Gunstar?! Identify yourself.

GRIG

This is Starnavigator Grig.

RADIO

You're taking the last Gunstar up without -- ! --

GRIG

Thanks ever so much...

SNIP! Grig has turned off the radio, but Alex has heard this exchange.

ALEX

Hold it! There's no fleet! No Starfighters! No plan! One ship! You -- me... and -- that's it???

(CONTINUED)

302 CONTINUED:

GRIG

Precisely. Kur thinks you're still on Earth! Classic military strategy: a surprise attack.

Alex is wild-eyed.

ALEX

It'll be a slaughter!

GRIG

There's the spirit!

ALEX

No. My slaughter! One ship against the whole armada!

Grig is delighted, rubs his alien hands with enthusiasm.

GRIG

Ah, yes. Just think of it; one Gunstar against the armada. I've always wanted to fight a desperate battle at incredible odds! Target lights, Alex.

ALEX

Target lights?

GRIG

Yes, you might want to squeeze off a few rounds while you have the chance, work the bugs out of the system. After all, it is her maiden voyage.

Grig works some controls -- and another MECHANICAL WHIR-RING SOUND is heard, as we --

CUT TO:

303 EXT. GUNSTAR

As THUM! -- THUM! -- THUM! -- triangular target lights shoot from the ship's aft sections, bank and streak across the Gunstar's bow.

CUT BACK TO:

304 INT. GUNSTAR

thru
304K

As Alex swivels back around, desperate to practice while he can, FIRES, misses several of the targets, nicks one, blinks in fear.

GRIG

Steady. Take your time, lead your targets. Relax.

ALEX

(muttering)

Terrific. I'm about to get killed a million miles from home, with a gung-ho iguana who tells me to relax.

*
*

Alex SPRAYS the target lights WITH FIRE, gets a few more, and FIRES AGAIN, this time scoring many hits.

TIME CUT BACK TO:

305 EXT. TRAILER PARK STORE

AS SEEN THROUGH BINOCULARS FROM AFAR, binoculars SCAN AND PAN across the store, and FOCUS ON:

*

Beta, helping Otis, who stands on the roof, repairing his broken TV antenna. Otis directs Beta, who is on the ground holding the antenna, looking up at Otis, as:

306 ANGLE ON MAGGIE AND BETA

As Maggie taps Beta on the shoulder, scaring him, making him jump and drop the antenna, and this startles her.

BETA

Ahhh! Oh, Maggie... whew!

MAGGIE

Alex, are you all right?

Alex dusts himself off, picks up the antenna, nods as a breeze blows.

BETA

Sure. I'm fine... Hey, did you hear something?

Maggie listens to the breeze a beat, curious.

MAGGIE

Like what?

(CONTINUED)

306 CONTINUED:

BETA

Like a Zando-Zan, er, nothing.

MAGGIE

Alex, I just wanted to say that I'm
sorry I slapped you last night.

BETA

Hey, forget it, Maggs. I deserved
it. I'm sorry.

Maggie smiles, nods, crinkles her eyebrows knowingly.

MAGGIE

Well, we can make it up to each
other tonight at Silver Lake.

Beta returns this Earth gesture, not knowing what it means
and Maggie kisses him, leaves, as:

Beta senses something again, moves towards Otis' trailer,
tense, as:

307 OMITTED

*

&

308

*

309 POV - BINOCULARS

As someone is again watching Beta and Otis, we PULL BACK
to reveal:

(CONTINUED)

309 CONTINUED:

Alien hands on the binoculars, which are being held by another Zando-Zan, an alien HITBEAST in the brush who hears a noise, ducks into the brush, and sees:

310 POV - POLICE CAR

Coming down the road towards where Hitbeast is hiding, as we —

CUT BACK TO:

311 OMITTED
thru
316

317 EXT. SPACE

As the Gunstar THUNDERS past.

CUT TO:

318 INT. GUNSTAR

As Grig is projecting a vector image of the Ko-Dan Armada breaking through the frontier of the Heads Up display in front of Alex, who looks on skeptically.

INTERCUTS AS NEEDED.

GRIG

The armada will break through the frontier here, and reach Rylos in twenty clicks. Squadrons of deck fighters will proceed the Mother Ship.

Grig switches the image to the Mother Ship.

ALEX

Squadrons? How many squadrons?

GRIG

Oh, it's not the number of squadrons which concerns me...

Grig magnifies the Command Ship image to aft section, focusing on the communications turret, H.U.D.

(CONTINUED)

318 CONTINUED:

GRIG

(continuing)

... but this control turret that sends out the commands to the deck fighters enabling them to act as one during a fight.

ALEX

Then we gotta destroy the control turret --

GRIG

-- and attack the fighters while there's confusion in the ranks, before they rush Rylos. That's an excellent plan!

Alex pauses a beat, figuring, confused.

ALEX

Wait a second; we knock out the control turret to get the fighters, but to get the turret we gotta get through the fighters. We're dead!

GRIG

I'll have it all figured out when we reach the frontier.

BUZZING NOISE is audible in the cabin.

ALEX

What's that?

GRIG

The frontier...

And Grig, needless to say, still has no plan as they look up at:

319 POV - THE FRONTIER

As it is finally glimpsed, as it looms closer and closer, an infinite barrier.

320 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

As a BLEEPING NOISE is audible, and Grig turns to his screen monitors and sees two ships.

(CONTINUED)

320 CONTINUED:

GRIG

Highly irregular, to see cargo
ships this far out of the shipping
lanes.

Grig is puzzled, radios, as Alex watches the two ships in
the distance.

GRIG

(continuing)

Hail... This is Gunstar One...

Identify yourself, please --

(white noise)

Identify. Come in...

WHOOSH -- FLASH!

321 ANGLE ON TWO LIGHTNING-LIKE BOLTS OF ENERGY

FIRING past at subliminally fast speeds.

322 ANGLE ON ALEX

Being startled, beginning to turn to Grig, who whirls the
ship, hits the engines to pursue, as:

323 ANGLE ON SHIP

Pulling steep banking moves, racing toward the frontier.

324 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

As Alex is rather scared at how fast things are going now.

GRIG

A Xurian ship! I've jammed its
beamer frequencies so it can't
report back to the armada.
Congratulations, Alex, your very
first live target!

ALEX

Live?

325 ANGLE ON XURIAN SHIP

Skimming along the frontier.

326 ANGLE

Grig is steering and Alex is angry, close, weaving in and out of them. *

ALEX
Gee, Grig, I, er.

GRIG
-- Within range in five clicks.
Get ready.

327 OMITTED

328 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

Which suddenly veers away from the frontier, entering:

329 ANGLE ON ASTEROID

Pocked with craters and caves, and:

330 ANGLE ON XURIAN FIGHTER AND GUNSTAR *

Entering cave. *

331 ANGLE ON GRIG

Navigating as Alex is wide-eyed at the thunderous velocity (in cave). *

GRIG
Three clicks to kill zone!
Weapons armed.

ALEX
Grig, wait --

GRIG
Fire when ready!

Alex tries to turn and speak to Grig but the turns and dips of the ship make this impossible.

GRIG
(continuing)
Fire, Alex!

ALEX
Turn back, Grig! Turn back!

332 ANGLE ON KURIAN SHIP

ROARING along, winding around sharp turns, managing to keep ahead of the Gunstar.

333 ANGLE ON GRIG AND ALEX

As Grig is holding fast. Alex is dismayed and scared.

GRIG
Steady... steady...

334 ANGLE ON KURIAN SHIP

Reaching dead-end tunnel, tries to escape, as Gunstar comes towards it.

335 ANGLE - CLOSEUP ON ALEX

Refusing to fire.

GRIG
Shoot, Alex!

ALEX
Grig! No! I can't!

336 ANGLE ON KURIAN SHIP

Half-turns, FIRES at Gunstar.

337 ANGLE ON ALEX

Lunging to the gunnery controls and -- BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!

338 ANGLE ON KURIAN SHIP

EXPLODING, and the Gunstar is shaken by the nearness of the destruction, trembles violently.

339 ANGLE ON ALEX

As he whistles on Grig, angry.

GRIG
You did it!

(CONTINUED)

339 CONTINUED:

ALEX

I did it!? You did it! You almost got me killed! If you want to fight your desperate battle at impossible odds -- fine! -- only count me out and take me home!

Grig bows his head quietly, nods.

GRIG

My humblest apologies, Alex. I hoped that by putting you in the thick of battle, a great Starfighter would emerge, alas, perhaps there was never one within you to begin with. I shall take you back. You still may be able to live a long and fruitful life there before the Ko-Dan reach Earth, then again...

Grig begins steering them out.

340 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

Moving through the tunnel, through the wreckage of the Kurian ship.

341 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

As Alex ponders Grig's guileful words and Grig continues to move them along.

GRIG

Cheerful place; rather reminds me of my home...

Alex looks at the dismal space-tunnel.

ALEX

This reminds you of home?

GRIG

Oh, yes, my wyfeoid and I live below ground with our sixty-thousand little Griglings.

Grig proudly pulls out a wallet-sized strip of nylon, which flashes the faces of his sixty-thousand offspring in a series of pulsing lights, shows it to Alex.

(CONTINUED)

341 CONTINUED:

GRIG

(continuing)

That is until Xur makes them
slaves. And tell me; where do
your kind live?

ALEX

Houses mostly; er, caves above
ground.

Alex now takes out his wallet, shows Grig a picture of his
family and Maggie in front of their trailer, having a
barbecue.

ALEX

(continuing)

See, here's where I live, and
that's my family. Mom and Dad
before he died. Louis and Maggie.
My family lives above ground in a
mobile home cave that goes places
... only we never went anyplace.

*

Grig finds this rather strange, but nods politely.

GRIG

A mobile cave that never went
anywhere... fascinating.

Alex looks at Maggie for a beat, then sticks her picture
on the console like fighter pilots do.

ALEX

Yeah, but we have below ground
caves near the trailer parks. Me
and Louis used to play hide and
seek in them.

Alex suddenly realizes that "Hide and Seek" is the key.

ALEX

(continuing; almost
to himself)

... Hide and seek...

GRIG

Alex, what is it?

ALEX

Oh, it's nothing, Grig, nothing.

GRIG

Tell me.

(CONTINUED)

341 CONTINUED: (2)

Alex reflects a beat.

ALEX

I was thinking, we could hide here, let the armada pass by and hit them from behind...

Grig is impressed with this plan, nods thoughtfully.

GRIG

Hmm, we'd have the element of surprise. It might actually have worked. What a pity there're no Starfighters left to carry it out.

342 ANGLE ON ALERT SYSTEMS

As all instrumentation has begun to blink and flash the alarm, meaning an enemy close, as:

343 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

Moving from a tunnel-mouth into a large crater, coming out in the midst of:

KURIAN SHIPS! five of them, hiding on the floor of the crater, waiting in ambush as their battle lights suddenly switch on, find the Gunstar instantly, as:

344 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Squinting in the sudden light, diving for their instruments after an instant of recognition.

GRIG

A Kurian base!

345 ANGLE ON KURIAN SHIPS

BLAM! BLAM! BLAM! FIRING A FUSILLADE of deadly Kurian fire, bracketing the Gunstar from all sides.

346 OMITTED

347 ANGLE ON ALEX

Hitting the fanner guns, unleashing a BURST OF 360 DEGREE FIRE.

348 ANGLE ON XURIAN SHIPS

Being pulverized instantly, others EXPLODE, getting destroyed.

349 ANGLE ON ALEX

Wide-eyed for a beat, astonished at what he was just able to do, turns back to Grig, who is busy plotting a course for Earth.

GRIG
Earth course is logged into
navigational beams and --

ALEX
Er, Grig?

GRIG
What is it, Alex?

Alex turns to Grig, having decided now to stay, to fight.

ALEX
... Maybe there is a Starfighter
left...

Grig smiles widely at this.

CUT TO:

350 OMITTED
thru
354

355 EXT. SILVER LAKE - NIGHT (EARTH)

Where we perceive cars parked with nobody in them, and a sign which says, "SILVER LAKE," and Jack Blake's spiffy pickup, as:

*
*

A police car pulls into the parking lot, its headlights are quickly doused, a door opens and out steps:

A TROOPER, and he is moving along the parked cars.

*

356 ANGLE ON COUPLES

On the beach, paired off in sleeping bags, Jack Blake and his Cheerleader, and others.

*
*

357 ANGLE ON BETA AND MAGGIE

Off by themselves, away from most of the others. Maggie is on top of Beta, sticking her tongue in his ear. Beta is looking up at the stars, grimacing at this, yet not letting her know that he finds this rather strange since she is evidently enjoying this. Maggie rolls off him, straightening her clothes, miffed.

BETA

What's wrong? Should I put my tongue in your ear?

MAGGIE

Don't bother! It's like you're a million miles away, Alex.

BETA

It's just that I'm kinda new at these gland games.

MAGGIE

What? Hey, Earth to Alex! You're not even paying attention to me.

Beta has been watching, glancing over a slight rise nearby, watching another couple, Jack Blake and Cheerleader-type, who are going at it in their sleeping bag. Beta and audience cannot hear what Blake and Cheerleader are saying, as:

358 BETA'S EAR

Making a SOUND which indicates he is eavesdropping on other couples.

359 ANGLE ON BETA

Cocking his super-ear towards Blake and Cheerleader to pick up pointers, and suddenly Beta and audience will hear Blake and Cheerleader MOANING, GROANING, GRUNTING, MUCH SOUND EFFECTS SEX.

BLAKE

Darling, forgive me...

Beta takes Maggie in his arms, climbs into their sleeping bag, kisses her gently on the lips.

BETA

"Darling, forgive me."

Maggie smiles.

360 ANGLE ON BETA

Peeking up at Blake and Cheerleader, copying Blake clumsily move for move, line for line. Blake is rolling around in the sand, so Beta rolls in the sleeping bag with Maggie.

BLAKE

You're my Juliet, my Venus...

BETA

"You're-my-Juliet-my-Venus."

361 ANGLE ON BLAKE

Biting Cheerleader's ear. Beta sees this, sighs, but resigns himself... when in Rome... Beta bites Maggie's ear and she giggles.

MAGGIE

Oh, Alex.

362 ANGLE ON MAGGIE

Maggie kisses him tenderly, zips up the sleeping bag. Beta needs to keep an eye on Blake, takes another peek, as:

363 ANGLE ON BLAKE

On top of Cheerleader now, sleeping bag up to their necks.

BLAKE

The other girls..... meant
nothing to me... It was you --
you -- you!

Blake kisses Cheerleader.

CHEERLEADER

Oh, Jack, talk dirty to me!

364 OMITTED

*

365 ANGLE ON BETA

Suddenly pulled further into the sleeping bag by Maggie who is tickling and kissing him inside the throbbing, rolling sleeping bag.

(CONTINUED)

365 CONTINUED:

BETA

(in bag)

"The-other-girls -- meant --
nothing-to-me -- It-was-you
-- you -- YOU!

Beta kisses Maggie, who is reacting to the mention of
"other girls."

A beat.

Sleeping bag has stopped moving, as:

BETA

(continuing)

Should I talk dirty to you now?

Maggie's head appears, and she's furious, fighting her way
out of the sleeping bag, buttoning her clothes, pissed,
stands, starts away, as:

Beta jumps to his feet, exasperated, beaten.

BETA

(continuing)

That's it. I give up! I'm not
Alex Rogan!

365A ANGLE ON TROOPER

The Hitbeast sees Beta's sleeping bag. *

366 ANGLE ON BETA

Half turning, squinting, seeing the Trooper raise his
interstellar pistol -- to kill Beta, letting us know that
this is a Hitbeast in a trooper's uniform -- and face.

MAGGIE

Alex, I thought we agreed; no
drugs?

BETA

Maggie, get down!

367 ANGLE ON BETA

Lunging towards Maggie, who's in grave danger, as --
WHOOSH! -- Beta is struck by the silent alien SHOT as he
tackles Maggie to the ground, sheltering her with his
body, as:

(CONTINUED)

367 CONTINUED:

Maggie doesn't know what just happened, is miffed that "Alex" won't let her up, is trying to hold her down.

MAGGIE

Let me up!

BETA

Don't move! They're shooting at us!

MAGGIE

What are you talking about, Alex?

Maggie is struggling to get up. Beta is trying to see into the darkness, gives up practically wrestling with Maggie at this point.

BETA

(hot)

I told you, I'm not Alex, I'm a Beta Unit! I'm an exact duplicate of Alex! I'm covering for him while he saves the Star League from the Ko-Dan.

*

MAGGIE

What?

*

*

368 ANGLE ON BETA

Flashing open his shirt to reveal:

A GAPING HOLE

Clean through him, showing his innards, glowing circuitry, etc., dripping luminescence.

BETA

(huge)

Look. I'm a robot! Get it?!

*

Maggie's eyes widen, she gasps, recoils in fear, as:

CLICK!

369 ANGLE ON TROOPER

Having heard this, reacts, runs for his car, realizing that he's been shooting at a Beta Unit, as Beta sees him.

(CONTINUED)

369 CONTINUED:

BETA

There it goes!

Beta is off and running, leaving a trail of glowing circuits in the sand.

MAGGIE

Alex?! — or whatever you are,
wait for me.

370 ANGLE ON TROOPER

Jumping into the police car, pulling away at high speed, as:

371 ANGLE ON BETA

Jumping into Blake's pickup, starting out, burning rubber as he backs up, prepares to shift into forward, as:

Maggie comes running from the beach, opening the passenger door, wanting to come along.

MAGGIE

Wait!

BETA

Let me go! If that Zando-Zan reports back and tells Kur and the Ko-Dan that I'm not Alex, then Alex is in big trouble! Stay here!

MAGGIE

I'm not staying anywhere until I find out what's going on!

Maggie jumps in and Beta PEELS OUT, as:

372 ANGLE ON JACK BLAKE

Seeing his pride and joy toy being stolen from under his nose, trying to climb from the sleeping bag, but the Cheerleader won't let him go.

BLAKE

Hey? Hey! Come back! Scratch that paint and you're dead. KOGAN!

But Beta and Maggie and his pickup are gone in a flash!

CUT TO:

373 EXT. SPACE

Where the Ko-Dan Command Ship is burning through the frontier darkness.

CUT TO:

374 OMITTED

375 INT. KO-DAN COMMAND ROOM - ANGLE ON KO-DAN PRIVATE

PRIVATE

We are ready to break through,
Commander.

Xur enters, smiles.

XUR

Invade.

*

Ko-Dan Officer turns to Kril.

OFFICER

Commander, the Xurian ships have
not answered our invasion code.

XUR

The frontier is down, the moon
is eclipsed and the starfighters
are dead. Invade!

Kril considers this, concerned.

KRIL

All squadrons ahead half speed
with energy probes on!

376 ANGLE ON KO-DAN ARMADA

Moving ahead at the same instant, breaking through the frontier along a wide front, emitting strobe-like pulses of white light, attempting to sense out any hostile craft which might have accounted for the missing Xurian ships.

377 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

Waiting at the mouth of the tunnel in the dead planet, as the armada batters through.

378 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Busy checking their weapons, preparing.

RED LIGHT fills the cabin, and:

379 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Looking up as the frontier collapses, drifts away in pieces in the impact area, as:

380 ANGLE ON WARSHIPS

Punching through the frontier nearby, with harsh probe lights, scanning, searching for signs of opposition, as:

381 ANGLE ON GRIG

Frantically, switching off instruments.

GRIG
Energy probes! Shut down, Alex!
Shut down!

ALEX
 Power off!

As:

382 ANGLE ON MORE WARSHIPS

Coming through, scanning, ready for a fight, a vast number, twenty to thirty of them, with hints of many more in the distance, as:

383 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Hardly breathing, watching waves of warships move past, unaware that a deadly Gunstar is near them as their hot scanner lights flash in all directions, as:

384 ANGLE ON CONSOLE

Flashing -- having been left on inadvertently.

385 ANGLE ON GRIG

Lunging for it, switching it off, sweating, looking at Alex in horror, as:

A deckfighter stops, very close, and during a tense few beats, plays a harsh probe light across the cave mouth, probing much the way in which a battleship senses out a sub, searching for the unseen sources of the energy burst, but finally moves on, as:

386 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Gasping, looking at one another.

387 OMITTED

&
 388

389 HITBEAST LANDING ZONE - ANGLE ON TROOPER *

Driving into brush, stopping in a clearing, jumping from patrol car.

390 HITBEAST LANDING ZONE - ANGLE ON TROOPER *

Who is now in the form of a Hitbeast, running towards craft, jumping in.

391 ANGLE ON HITBEAST

Tapping out an interstellar version of Morse code, S-O-S, BLEEPING away, as:

392 OMITTED

393 ANGLE ON BETA

Driving the pickup furiously along the rough trail, into the desert.

394 ANGLE ON MAGGIE

Holding the dashboard, very scared, looking up at the pulse of light, turning to Beta, thinking about what Beta has just related to her.

MAGGIE
Alex... in space? Is this for
real?

BETA
Yes! I've been trying to tell
you, it's all for real!

MAGGIE
Then don't talk, drive!

395 OMITTED *

396 ANGLE ON COMMAND SHIP

Where Xur is watching the invasion, as Kril stands nearby with his Officer, as:

397 ANGLE ON KO-DAN PRIVATE

Receiving and translating the message from Earth, turns to Kril.

OFFICER

Commander Kril, we're getting a Zando-zan signal on the alert frequency.

Kril and Xur watch, curious.

KRIL

Acknowledge.

Private transmits a code.

398 ANGLE ON BETA AND MAGGIE

Crashing through brush, reaching the edge of the small clearing, seeing the spacecraft's conning tower hatch and the aerial. Beta starts the wrecked pickup towards the craft and the unsuspecting alien Hitbeast inside it.

BETA

When I give the word, we jump,
okay?

Maggie nods, frightened, yet determined to help Alex any way she can.

399 ANGLE ON KRIL

Watching the transmission come through, as Xur stands beside him. As the message is spelled out, Lord Kril reads it aloud.

OFFICER

Extermination Emissary Zeta-Six-One...
Message: The ... LAST...
STARFIGHTER...

*

400 ANGLE ON BETA AND MAGGIE

As they are rolling towards the space ship.

BETA

Jump!

(CONTINUED)

400 CONTINUED:

Maggie jumps clear, lands on the ground, and she looks up to see:

401 ANGLE ON BETA

Remaining at the wheel as the pickup CRASHES into the spacecraft, stopping the message.

BETA

You owe me one, Alex...

BOOM!

402 ANGLE ON PICKUP AND SPACESHIP EXPLODING

Being obliterated, and:

Maggie is thrown off her feet by the blast.

MAGGIE

Alex?

403 ANGLE ON KRIL AND XUR

Hunched over the Private who was translating the message which has suddenly ceased, and there is maddening silence, as:

OFFICER

The transmission pulsars have stopped, Commander.

Kril is reflecting, reading the part of the message that did get through.

KRIL

The last Starfighter...

XUR

-- is dead! The last Starfighter is dead! Nothing can stop us now. AHEAD FULL! TO RYLOS!

Kril nods to the navigator, giving his consent.

404 ANGLE ON ALEX

Climbing back into the gunnery chair, and Grig is watching as another wave of fighters glides past, moving into a large battle formation, as:

(CONTINUED)

404 CONTINUED:

Suddenly, darkness descends, as:

405 ANGLE ON KO-DAN COMMAND SHIP

A rather large ship moves past them, and above them, bristling with weaponry.

ALEX
The Command Ship...

406 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Switching on the ENGINES now, preparing to attack, and the INSTRUMENTATION NOISES BUILD, as:

407 ANGLE ON COMMAND SHIP

Continuing to pass above them and suddenly the turret becomes visible.

GRIG
There; at the far end.

ALEX
I see it.

408 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Working controls now, quickly, preparing, concentrating on the coming fight. Alex seems nervous. Grig notices this.

GRIG
Good luck, Starfighter.

ALEX
Thanks, Grig, for everything...

Grig bows his head humbly.

GRIG
Ten --

Alex looks at Maggie's picture, looks down into space for a very private beat, sensing her subliminal presence at that moment.

CUT TO:

409 ANGLE ON MAGGIE

Standing at the explosion site where the alien, his ship, and Beta were blown to pieces. Maggie is looking up into the heavens, toward the stars, is also experiencing a private moment of communication, feeling Alex about her, reaching up to him with her sixth sense.

MAGGIE
I love you, Alex Rogan.

CUT BACK TO:

409A ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Making last minute checks on equipment.

GRIG
-- nine life support, check --

ALEX
-- guidance, check --

GRIG
-- five, emergency systems, check --

ALEX
-- weapons, check --

GRIG
-- two -- one propulsion, check!

ALEX
GO!

410 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

EXPLODING from the cave mouth, flying faster than we've ever seen it before, burning up towards the exposed underbelly of the Command Ship.

411 OMITTED

412 ANGLE ON KRIL AND KUR

Turning to the war consoles that have suddenly BLARED A WARNING, registering a hostile ship.

OFFICER
Unidentified craft.

(CONTINUED)

412 CONTINUED:

 KRILL
 What is it?

413 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Flying fast, upwards at the Command Ship, which is huge,
points:

 ALEX
 The Turret!

 GRIG
 Six clicks to strike zone and
 closing.

414 ANGLE ON TURRET

Looming larger by the second.

415 ANGLE ON KRIL AND XUR AND KO-DAN OFFICERS

Watching the blip on the screens.

 KRILL
 Tracking?!

Private shakes his alien head.

 OFFICER
 It's moving too fast to identify.
 Wait!

Xur looks for a beat, recognizes it. Kril hears this, is
furious.

 XUR
 A Gunstar...

 KRILL
 (to Xur)
 So; the last Starfighter is dead...
 This has gone far enough. SEIZE HIM!

Ko-Dan officer advances as Xur whirls, snaps the blade
from his scepter, holds off the officer with it, backs
towards the door.

 XUR
 How dare you?! I'm the Emperor
 of Rylos, and I command you to --

(CONTINUED)

415 CONTINUED:

As Orongs at door turn, come in behind and grab Xur,
pull the scepter from his hands.

*
*

XUR
(continuing)
-- You'll pay for this with your
lives!

*
*
*
*

KRIL
Away with the "Emperor." All
guns FIRE!

*
*
*

Kril returns to commanding his armada.

416 ANGLE ON KO-DAN GUNS

On the Command Ship, as they switch on the battle lights, OPEN FIRE, flashing, EXPLOSIONS, etc.

417 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Flying towards the communications turret, in a HAIL OF FIRE and harsh lights.

GRIG

Three clicks to kill zone, Alex.

ALEX

Ready.

GRIG

Two clicks.

418 ANGLE ON ALEX

&

418A Sweating at the trigger as the Gunstar streaks along below the Mother Ship, missiles and GUNFIRE is heavier now. Grig is nervous.

GRIG

Wait 'til you're sure. One click, NOW!

419 ANGLE ON TURRET

Looks larger now, as:

420 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

FIRING, shearing off the turret! -- pouring MORE FIRE into the blinded Command Ship, as EXPLOSIONS shake the ship.

ALEX

Got it!

GRIG

Hurry, Alex, the armada's almost to Rylos!

Alex FIRES four more photon bolts into the Command Ship.

421 ANGLE ON XUR AND TWO KO-DAN PRIVATES

Walking along a corridor, passing a doorway, as suddenly, IMPACTS shake the ship, knock them off balance and Xur lunges, pulls his scepter from a drone whom he then kills whose helmet he rips off, giving us our first glimpse of a Ko-Dan's head as it squeals and shields its eyes and Xur escapes through an air-well door -- to the pods. As last drone sounds the ALARM at a small built-in wall communicator:

PRIVATE

Xur has taken a pod! Alert! Xur
has escaped!

422 ANGLE ON KRIL, OFFICER

Steadying themselves as impact shakes the ship and much instrumentation goes critical.

KRIL

Tell the extermination emissaries
to seek and destroy Xur.

PRIVATE

The Gunstar is gone from our
sensors.

KRIL

Alert wing commanders!

PRIVATE

Communication Turret is out,
Commander.

423 ANGLE ON ARMADA

Moving toward Rylos.

423A ANGLE ON KO-DAN PILOTS (DRONES)

&

423B Fighting, flying, talking --

423C ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

Creeping, creeps over Armada.

424 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Flying towards the armada which is rapidly approaching Rylos. As Alex is psyching himself up.

(CONTINUED)

424 CONTINUED:

ALEX

I've been recruited by the Star
League to --

GRIG

Life support good, ammo packs at
peak... propulsion at eighty...

ALEX

-- to defend the frontier... and
this is it... here we go.

425 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

Diving upon four squadrons of Ko-Dan fighters which are
advancing on two levels, vastly outnumbering the
Gunstar, yet having the element of surprise, FIRING on
them, knocking many out with photon bolts, homing
missiles.

426 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

ROARING through the squadrons, pouring murderous fire
into the ranks above and below it, vaporizing many of
the craft in this initial onslaught.

427 ANGLE ON ENEMY COMMANDER

Looking up and down and seeing this comet-flash of
death coming for them, screaming orders, as:

428 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

Doubling back, wiping out three deck fighters.

428A ANGLE ON KO-DAN PILOT

As he realizes he's hit as a beat later, his ship
blows up.

*

428B ANGLE ON GUNSTAR AND FIGHTERS

As two sets of three fighters each converge on the
Gunstar from opposing broadsides, FIRING all they've
got.

428C ANGLE ON ALEX, GRIG

Seeing the danger, hitting the controls.

GRIG

We're hit! Watch the hull temp,
Alex!

ALEX

EVADE!

428D ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

Going into a steep vertical climb, a second before
destruction, as:

Fighters collide, vaporize, are hit and destroyed by
each other's weapons.

428E ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Grig sees three fighters breaking away from the armada,
heading for the planet.

GRIG

Look! Sector six! Three fighters
on bombing run!

Alex FIRES on them, and:

429 ANGLE ON DECK FIGHTERS

Getting destroyed as they are about to hit Rylos.

430 ANGLE ON GRIG AND ALEX

Working hard.

GRIG

Hull temp critical! The power
packs are low! We need time to
recharge!

ALEX

Take us around Rylos!

Gunstar spins, dives.

431 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

Racing around Rylos.

432 ANGLE ON KRIL

Watching the Gunstar via his instruments

PRIVATE

Emergency communications out,
Commander.

Private hands Kril a mika.

KRIL

Wing commanders acknowledge!

433 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Coming back around Rylos.

GRIG

Hull temp down... life support
good... weapons charged.

Alex looks out his display, doesn't see any enemy
ships.

ALEX

Hey, where's the armada? They
must have run for it!

Grig seems puzzled, turns to his screen, gasps.

GRIG

Uh-oh, they've regrouped outside
our kill zone. They've re-
established contact...

434 OMITTED

&

435

436 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

Which seems indeed to be alone for a beat until we PULL
BACK to reveal:

Ko-Dan fighters have wholly encircled the Gunstar and
the green moon, having been commanded by Kril to assume
this formation.

437 ANGLE ON KRIL

As a smile frames his lips as he realizes his plans
worked flawlessly.

(CONTINUED)

437 CONTINUED:

KRIL
I have you now.
(into mike)
Circle Of Doom.

438 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Rotating the ship continuously now, trying to monitor
and defend all 360 degrees.

GRIG
The Circle Of Doom, oh no.

ALEX
What's that?

GRIG
A three hundred and sixty degree
attack.

ALEX
Hey; this wasn't in the game,
Grig!

438A ANGLE ON KRIL

Who is watching, confident.

KRIL
All fighters move into kill zone.

438B ANGLE ON DECK FIGHTERS

Closing in slowly at first on the Gunstar, converging
from all sides.

439 OMITTED
thru
445E

446 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Calm, ready as outside the Gunstar the ranks are
closing in.

GRIG
I'll keep the moon behind us to
protect our stern, Alex.

(CONTINUED)

446 CONTINUED:

ALEX

Right, I think we gotta use Death Blossom!

*

Grig stops what he is doing, suddenly concerned.

GRIG

Remember, Alex, you have sixty seconds of full fire at close range... theoretically.

ALEX

Whaddaya mean; theoretically?

GRIG

Naturally, Death Blossom has never been battle tested. It could overload the systems, blow the ship -- and --

ALEX

-- What are you worrying about, Grig? Theoretically we should already be dead!

Alex hits a lever, as:

Grig nods, keeping a stiff upper lip, a tad concerned here, swallows hard, looks at the fighters.

447 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR'S HULL

unfurling into the deadly Death Blossom mode, spreading lethal tendrils in all directions.

448 OMITTED

&

449

450 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Watching Fighters advance. Alex wipes his palms, concentrating, ready.

451 ANGLE ON ARMADA

Advancing on the Gunstar from all compass points.

451A ANGLE ON DECK FIGHTERS

Holding formation, waiting for the order.

451B ANGLE ON KRIL

Seeing the formation close in, gives the command.

*

KRIL

All attack!

452 ANGLE ON ALEX

Seeing the advancing Fighters.

ALEX

Here they come.

Starting to FIRE selectively.

453 ANGLE ON KO-DAN FIGHTERS

Coming closer.

454 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Waiting, watching, FIRING, taking hits.

GRIG

Hold them off...

ALEX

How much longer?!

GRIG

Wait 'til they're in the Death Blossom kill zone.

455 ANGLE ON KO-DAN FIGHTERS

Very close.

456 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Waiting tensely.

ALEX

But, Grig!

(CONTINUED)

456 CONTINUED:

Easy, easy. GRIG

Now?! ALEX

Steady... GRIG

Now, Grig, now?! ALEX

Fire! GRIG

Alex hits all triggers, all weapons, in a flash of movement.

457 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

Becoming a whirling dervish of firepower and destruction and the battle zone resembles a swirling vortex of laser lights, death and debris.

458 OMITTED

*

459 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

Suddenly folds and fades, battle lights dim, winds down in the center of clouds of debris.

460 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Waiting for more Fighters to sweep in and destroy them at this dangerously vulnerable moment.

Grig is looking at rows of system lights on the consoles, all of which are shutting down as power is ebbing away.

461 ANGLE ON DEATH BLOSSOM

Continuing to fold back into the Gunstar like a spider drawing its legs in, as systems continue to shut down.

462 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Starting to blink and look about the cabin as the lights are dimming, flickering, as WHIRRING SOUNDS wind down. Grig taps inert power gauges; there is no doubt.

ALEX

We did it. It's over, Grig! We did it.

GRIG

Yes, we actually did, didn't we?!

Alex is turning to Grig, starting to climb out of his chair, as:

BAM! BAM! BAM!

463 ANGLE ON HOSTILE FIRE

Streaming past the Gunstar.

464 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Suddenly looking above them to see:

ALEX

The Command Ship!

465 POV - THE COMMAND SHIP

Diving on them. FIRING all its guns, leaking vapors, damaged but not dead by any means as it charges toward the Gunstar which is close to green moon of Galan.

466 ANGLE ON KRIL

At his command post, as smoke is filling the cabin, watching the Gunstar looming larger and larger, turns to a Private.

KRIL

Why have you stopped firing?

OFFICER

Commander, our guns are out. Damage control is repairing them.

KRIL

Forget the guns! Ramming ahead!

467 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

As Alex tries to steer away, but there is no power left. Grig is hammering at the controls, as they:

ALEX

Grig, we need power!

GRIG

Death Blossom draining all power,
but I'm trying to ram boost,
trying!

But Grig has little success as Alex looks up at:

468 POV - COMMAND SHIP

Coming fast, deadly looking.

469 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG

Working fast, but there is just not enough power,
ENGINES STUTTER AND DIE. Alex hits a button, gauges
light up.

GRIG

All we have left is life support
power!

ALEX

Switch it to the engines and hold
your breath!

Alex and Grig take deep breaths as they transfer life
support power to the engines as all instrument lights
die except for the engine gauges which, as Grig
watches, the gauges rising.

ALEX

(continuing; gasps)
Hurry! Hurry!

470 ANGLE ON COMMAND SHIP BOW

Looking huge, looming larger and larger, coming fast,
certain death.

471 ANGLE ON GRIG

Grig gets power! ENGINES ROAR TO LIFE, as:

(CONTINUED)

471 CONTINUED:

GRIG
(gasps)
Power on!

472 ANGLE ON ALEX

Hitting the steering, as we scream from the inevitability of the crash, as:

473 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

Pivoting, just in time, SCRAPING along the vast hull, FIRING its last missiles point blank into the Command Ship, getting buffeted and bounced, as:

474 ANGLE ON COMMAND SHIP

RUMBLING past, a delicate radar tower-like spire is shot away by Alex's FINAL ROUNDS, and suddenly the Command Ship seems to shudder, turn, alter course, shaking.

475 ANGLE ON LORD KRIL

As the Ko-Dan ship trembles violently, throwing crewmen about, as Lord Kril remains at his post with some difficulty.

KRIL
What was that? Damage report!

Officers look about, scared now, Kril turns to a Private manning a console.

OFFICER
Our guidance system is out!
Auxilliary steering is gone!

476 ANGLE ON COMMAND SHIP

Veering toward the green moon, as the Gunstar has deftly escaped destruction.

477 ANGLE ON LORD KRIL

Seeing the green moon looming up in his screens.

(CONTINUED)

477 CONTINUED:

KRIL
Divert! DIVERT!

OFFICER
She won't answer the helm! We're
locked in!

478 ANGLE ON COMMAND SHIP

Hitting the green moon, EXPLODING like a supernova!

479 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR

Being bounced about by the concussion, gas debris are
FIRED out in all directions.

480 ANGLE ON ALEX

Looking at Grig, saying with his expression: "We did
it, we actually did it!"

GRIG
Interstellar, Starfighter, INTER-
STELLAR!

TIME CUT TO:

481 INT. STAR LEAGUE ANTEROOM

ESTABLISH banners, aliens, six-eyed alien on the stage
as Alex stands near a great door, with Grig beside him,
like a proud parent, looking on: *

482 POV - ALIEN AMBASSADORS

Having come from all across the universe to honor Alex,
waiting expectantly, a great alien buzz of speculation
and tension.

483 ANGLE ON ALEX AND GRIG (IN WINGS) *

Having a case of stage fright.

ALEX
Gee, I took a public speaking
course in high school, Grig, and I
got a "D."

(CONTINUED)

483 CONTINUED:

GRIG

Have no fear, Alex, your deeds
have spoken for you.

Tension and BUZZING rising outside.

ENDURAN

Starfighter?

ALEX

Yes, sir, Sir?

484 ANGLE ON ENDURAN

Appearing with his aides, who arrange his uniform,
attend him, and are waved away by him as he speaks with
Alex.

ENDURAN

Before we go out there and I make
you Starfighter Commander, I have
one further official request.
Would you object if I called you
Alex?

Alex shakes his head, anticipatory hum builds louder
and louder.

ALEX

Oh, no, Ambassador Enduran.

ENDURAN

Ah, well, then -- "Alex," we
realize that you've done more than
anyone could ask, and that you
probably want to go home, but I
must tell you that with the
frontier broken we are still in
grave danger. And our spies tell
us that Xur escaped the Command
Ship moments before it was
destroyed. I was wondering, ex,
hoping that perhaps you might
consider staying on with us, to
rebuild our Starfighter Legion
while there's time...

Expectant buzz is tumultuous now.

Alex reflects a beat, as:

Two RYLANDS rush in:

(CONTINUED)

484 CONTINUED:

FANFARE STARTS UP.

*
*

ENDURAN

Well, Alex, you mustn't keep them
waiting... You will stay, won't you?

*

485 ANGLE ON ALEX

Who is unsure a beat, looks at Grig who nods, meaning
"go on," and Grig wipes proud alien tears from his
eyes, as:

Alex starts out, returns, hugs Grig, exits, as:

486 ANGLE ON ALEX

Walking out into the fanfare, alien applause, as all
Star League ambassadors cheer, rise to their feet as --

Alex is overwhelmed, reacts when he sees:

*
*
*
*

486A POV - CENTAURI

Sitting in an alien wheelchair, gesturing proudly to
everyone about "That's my boy" says his expression as
his two Rylan nurses stand behind him.

*
*
*
*

TIME CUT TO:

487 OMITTED
thru
489

490 EXT. TRAILER PARK - EARTH - NIGHT

Maggie is sitting on the side of the trailer store,
exhausted, numb, having just wished for Alex to come
home, sees what appears to be a shooting star, as:

MRS. ROGAN (O.S.)

Alex?

Desert BREEZES whisper, heightening her feelings of
loneliness.

Maggie decides it's time to reveal the truth to Mrs.
Rogan, pats the dog, rises, starts into the trailer
park, as we HOLD ON:

491 ANGLE ON GUNSTAR VIDEO GAME

On the porch, as it suddenly begins to flash light, faintly at first, then stronger and stronger, as:

*

Maggie does not see this, continues into the trailer park as light shoots from the game, and:

492 ANGLE ON WEATHERVANE

Atop the trailer, suddenly begins to SQUEAK, CREAK, rotate in place slowly, beginning to build up speed due to the electromagnetic interference of something approaching.

493 ANGLE ON MAGGIE

Stopping when she is in the courtyard area of the trailer, as:

494 ANGLE ON MRS. ROGAN

Asking Granny, who's leaning out her window smoking a cigar:

MRS. ROGAN

Granny, have you seen Alex?

GRANNY

Can't say I have...

*

Blake is standing beside Mrs. Rogan, having evidently come to retrieve his pickup truck which Beta and Maggie stole. Blake sees Maggie.

BLAKE

Ask Maggie. She knows where he is! She was with him!

495 ANGLE ON MAGGIE

Rather taken aback by this onslaught as Mrs. Rogan, Blake and other kids come toward her.

MRS. ROGAN

Maggie, where's Alex?

BLAKE

Where's my truck?! Where's your boyfriend?!

(CONTINUED)

495 CONTINUED:

Maggie half ignores Blake's tirade, looks towards Mrs. Rogan, about to tell all she knows.

MAGGIE

Mrs. Rogan, it's about Alex, you
see --

DOGS begin to HOWL, a great hue and cry goes up suddenly, scaring the hell out of everyone as their pets have detected something approaching that is other-worldly, and it's faster and faster, as suddenly:

496 OMITTED
thru
499

*

*

500 ANGLE ON OTIS' DOG

HOWLING like a wolf as his metal food dish rises into the air, scratching on Otis' door, and:

501 ANGLE ON OTIS

Coming out in his union suit, seeing the flashing video game, steps back to get a look at:

502 POV - WEATHERVANE

Suddenly stopping and bending with all four sides pointing upwards.

503 ANGLE ON OTIS' EYES

As he sees something above, descending, spilling light onto his ebony face, blowing off his sleeping cap, forcing him to step back, as:

*

504 ANGLE ON LIGHTS

Descending. Reverse thrusters of a spacecraft, growing larger and larger.

505 ANGLE ON MRS. ROGAN, MAGGIE, BLAKE

As Maggie walks away from others.

*

506 ANGLE ON STARLIGHT STARBRIGHT SIGN

Dimming, flickering.

507 ANGLE ON TRAILER PARK RESIDENTS

Looking up in the wash of light, staring in fascination up at:

508 OMITTED

509 POV - SPACESHIP

Coming down outside the park.

510 ANGLE ON LOUIS AND FRIEND

Camped out in a T-pee which is shaking, as they peek out and see:

FRIEND
Far out! We been invaded.

LOUIS
Klingons!

Louis and friend dive from the T-pee to see more for themselves.

511 ANGLE ON MAGGIE

Walking upstairs, towards the Gunstar, looking up.

512 POV - GUNSTAR

Is landing, and there is a beat as we see the Star Fighters Logo on one of the lower struts in the haze of lights and dust from the landing, as:

*

513 ANGLE ON OTIS

Standing by his trailer.

OTIS
Maggie?

514 EXT.STORE

Maggie walks INTO SHOT, looks up, sees Gunstar, looks to lift step.

515 HER POV - LIFT

Descending from the underbelly of the wonderful craft.

516 OMITTED

&

517

518 ANGLE ON MAGGIE

Continuing forward, to:

518A ANGLE ON RESIDENTS

*

On steps looking up at:

*

518B POV - GUNSTAR LIFT

*

Descending.

*

519 ANGLE ON A BEING

Wearing the Starfighter uniform, helmet, holding to the lift as it descends, regarding the residents for several beats, stepping off the lift which ascends back into the ship, as:

520 OMITTED

521 ANGLE ON BEING

Removing its helmet as it stands before Maggie, revealing itself to be:

Alex!

Maggie's face lights up.

MAGGIE

Alex!

pk

THE LAST STARFIGHTER - Rev. 5/2/83

122A.

522 ANGLE ON RESIDENTS

On the stairs, reacting to the sight of the kid who
fixes their toilets coming down in a spaceship.

523 ANGLE ON ALEX AND MAGGIE

Face-to-face, a beat.

(CONTINUED)

523 CONTINUED:

MAGGIE
Alex? Is it you? Is it really
you?

Alex kisses her and they embrace.

MAGGIE
(continuing)
It is you. Alex, Alex, Alex...

ALEX
Maggie.

524 ANGLE ON EVERYONE

Mrs. Rogan, Otis, Granny, Elvira, Clara, crowding
around Alex, barraging him with questions, especially
the kids.

RESIDENTS
(at once)
Alex, is that a real spaceship?...
Did'ja meet aliens?!... Where'd
you get it, Alex? Now what's
goin' on 'round here?! What's all
this?

MRS. ROGAN
Where have you been, Alex?

(CONTINUED)

524 CONTINUED:

Alex is besieged by questions, stands with his arm around Maggie.

ALEX

(to all)

Hold it, everybody.

(to mother)

I've been on another planet,
Mom... helping the Rylans... the
good aliens... protect the
universe from bad aliens... and
that's my Gunstar...

LOUIS

Like from the Starfighter game?

ALEX

That's right, aliens put the game
on Earth and other worlds to find
Starfighters. So practice up,
Louis.

LOUIS

Wow!

Otis shambles up, as does Blaka.

OTIS

Well, then, who was it broke my
antenna, and --

OTHERS

-- and ruined my stove? Wrecked
my plumbing? Cut my electric?
And stole my truck?

ALEX

Oh, that was a Beta Unit, a robot.

LOUIS

Aw, I knew it all along!

525 ANGLE ON LIFT

Descending with Grig, as:

Everyone gasps as they see Grig; panic. All adults
race away, but again it's the kids who love it and must
be dragged to safety.

RESIDENTS

A monster!

(CONTINUED)

525 CONTINUED:

GRIG
Monster? Indeed...

526 ANGLE ON GRANNY

Advancing with her shotgun, ready for the showdown as
Grig stands beside Alex.

ALEX
Wait! Put down the shotgun,
Granny! Come back, everybody! I
want you all to meet my friend,
Grig!

527 ANGLE ON MRS. ROGAN, OTIS, MAGGIE, ELVIRA, RESIDENTS

Timidly creeping back, but the kids love it, as:

ALEX
Grig, I'd like you to meet Mr. and
Mrs. Boone, Elvira, Otis --

528 ANGLE ON ALEX

Leading Grig along a reception line of the trailer park
Residents.

ALEX
... And this is Granny, and
Maggie.

Grig nods, shakes hands with them, stops, smiles at
Maggie.

MAGGIE
Er, hi...

GRIG
Charmed.

529 ANGLE ON LOUIS

Pushing his way over, through the other kids, using the
hand gesture from "Close Encounters," which Grig finds
puzzling.

GRIG
And you must be Louis... I've
heard good things about you.

(CONTINUED)

529 CONTINUED:

Louis looks at his hand after Grig has let go, stunned, turns to his pals.

LOUIS

Hear that, you slimes?! I'm famous!

Mrs. Rogan is next.

ALEX

And this is my Mom.

Mrs. Rogan is beyond words, as Grig bows, kisses her hand.

GRIG

You should be proud of Alex, Mrs. Rogan.

(to others)

You should all be proud of him. He saved the Star League and hundreds of worlds, including Earth. He is the greatest Starfighter ever. Time to leave, Alex.

Residents "ooh" and "aah" at this.

MAGGIE

Leave?

Maggie is stunned.

MRS. ROGAN

Alex.

Alex kisses his mother, nods. *

ALEX

I have to, Mom, I promised. *

Mrs. Rogan sighs at this. *

MRS. ROGAN

I always knew you'd leave here, Alex. *
I guess I never expected this. *

Mother nods him goodbye. *

LOUIS

Gee, can I come too, Alex, can I?

Alex shakes hands with Louis, kneels down for a beat. *

ALEX

Sorry, squirt, there's only room for me, Grig, and Maggie...

(CONTINUED)

529 CONTINUED: (2)

MAGGIE

Me?

Alex prepares to leave as Maggie looks at the Gunstar with trepidation.

ALEX

Of course, why else do you think I came back? I told you we'd always be together.

MAGGIE

Yeah, together here or in the city, not in the stars, Alex.

*

Maggie is doubtful.

ALEX

You gotta come with me, Maggie. I don't know when I'll be back, don't you see? This is our big chance and it's like Otis said; when it comes, you gotta grab it with both hands and hold tight.

MAGGIE

But what about Granny?

Alex looks at her like "Not that old excuse again" and here's their moment of truth.

MAGGIE

(continuing)

You're right, Alex. I'm scared of leaving this trailer park. Why can't you stay?

ALEX

Don't you see? I'm not just a kid from a trailer park up there, I'm a Starfighter and my friends are counting on me.

GRIG

(bullhorn)

Al-lex!

ENGINES are louder now and Alex sighs with resignation, there is no time for debate.

ALEX

Well, I gotta go.

Alex hugs Maggie and goes to his mother, Louis and says goodbye to everyone.

530 OMITTED
&
531

532 ANGLE ON ALEX

Returning to the lift, where Alex looks at Maggie,
starts the lift upward, as:

533 ANGLE ON GRANNY

Coming over to Maggie, comforting her, smooths her
hair.

534 ANGLE ON ALEX

Who is closer to the hatch now, ENGINES are ROARING,
haze fills the air, colored launch lights are flashing
as:

535 ANGLE ON GRANNY AND MAGGIE

As Granny holds Maggie tightly, knowing her heart is
breaking, until Maggie turns to her.

MAGGIE

Granny?...

Granny smiles knowingly.

GRANNY

Be sure to write... or whatever
they do up there.

Maggie embraces Granny and rushes towards Alex.

MAGGIE

Alex, wait, Alex!

536 ANGLE ON ALEX AND MAGGIE

As he helps her onto the lift and, smiling, they
embrace and kiss as the lift rises and the ENGINES
SCREAM.

536A ANGLE ON LOUIS

as he overhears one of the residents say how romantic it
all is, and reacts, grossed out at his brother kissing
Maggie, "Yuch," says his expression.

(CONTINUED)

536A CONTINUED:

LOUIS
Gimme a barf bag...

536B ANGLE ON OTIS

herding the residents back, away from the WHINING ENGINES.

OTIS
Everybody back! Keep your
distance. These babies really
pack a punch!

Residents are still gazing up at the Gunstar as Otis
guides them back, stands between them and the craft.

RESIDENTS
(AD LIBS)
Must be a optical illustration!
Nope... It's one a them UFU's... I
saw on of them back in '58... Ha,
you been seein' 'em all you'
life... Lord, I swear never to
touch another drop again... Was
that thing an illegal alien, or
what? I figure we're a cinch fer
the Carson show... I can see the
headlines, "Martians land at
trailer park!"... We're famous
now! Eh, Otis?

OTIS
... Yessir, the whole world, the
whole universe's gonna know about
it; "Starlight, Starbright" the
place where Alex and Maggie left
for the stars!

Residents wave up to Maggie and Alex.

536C ANGLE ON MAGGIE AND ALEX

waving down from the Gunstar.

537 OMITTED

538 ANGLE ON OTIS, MRS. ROGAN, GRANNY

waving as Otis comes over to Mrs. Rogan and Granny who are
looking on with concern.

(CONTINUED)