

THE WAR BETWEEN THE LAND AND THE SEA

Episode Three

by
Pete McTighe

Pink Revisions

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8 OMITTED 8

8A EXT. NAVAL TRAINING CENTRE - DAY (DRONE SHOT) 8A

Skimming across shimmering OCEAN. Then tilting up to find:

A NAVAL TRAINING CENTRE on the UK coast, clustered stone outbuildings commandeered and augmented over the years.

CUT TO:

8B EXT. NAVAL TRAINING CENTRE - ENTRANCE - DAY 8B

UNIT VEHICLES pull up.

BARCLAY, GENERAL PIERCE, MIN, TED, RAVI and CAPTAIN MACKIE exit with backpacks or holdalls, take in their surroundings.

Big sign reads: HM NAVAL BASE BLACKPORT.

CUT TO:

8C

EXT. NAVAL TRAINING CENTRE - ENTRANCE - DAY

8C

BARCLAY, GENERAL PIERCE, MIN, TED, RAVI, CAPTAIN MACKIE all heading through the stone arch towards the building complex.

GENERAL PIERCE (V.O.)
There'll be thirty-six hours of
dive prep and training to prepare
us for the descent. Get us used to
the water, monitor our stamina,
heart rate and blood pressure.

In the background, UNIT SOLDIERS and NAVAL PERSONNEL transfer boxes from the vehicles (containing dive supplies; pressure suits, helmets, oxygen tanks).

CUT TO:

9

OMITTED

9

10

INT. NAVAL TRAINING CENTRE - GYM - DAY

10

BARCLAY sprinting back and forth, wearing a HEART RATE MONITOR, running a beep test. A female NURSE waits with stopwatch, watching his heart rate on a handheld SCREEN. Armed UNIT SOLDIER looking on.

(Deep background, RAVI, MIN and CAPTAIN MACKIE doing the same test with other NURSES).

GENERAL PIERCE (V.O.)
We have no idea what their
environment will be like...

CUT TO:

11

INT. NAVAL TRAINING CENTRE - POOL - DAY

11

BARCLAY underwater, in scuba gear. Sitting on the bottom of the pool, breathing like Darth Vader, monitored by another DIVER. Two words looming large above them, on the tiled wall.

'DEEP END'.

GENERAL PIERCE (V.O.)
...but the journey will be
challenging both mentally and
physically.

CUT TO:

12

INT. NAVAL TRAINING CENTRE - BRIEFING ROOM - DAY

12

GENERAL PIERCE stands in front of a huge TELEVISION SCREEN.

Sitting opposite - BARCLAY, CAPTAIN MACKIE, MIN and two other delegates; TED (established Sc 6, South African) and RAVI (30s, Indian diplomat) with briefing documents. UNIT SOLDIERS standing guard.

On screen, images of a squat SUBMERSIBLE sitting on the deck of a ship, forged from thick steel; cylindrical, six feet tall. Tough, crude, peppered with giant BOLTS. A RING OF LIGHTS around the upper perimeter. Big enough for eight.

GENERAL PIERCE
We'll be descending to the
rendezvous point in this
submersible. To a depth of eight
thousand metres - five miles down.

CUT TO:

13 INT. NAVAL TRAINING CENTRE - POOL - DAY 13

Close on BARCLAY, underwater. Calming himself behind the scuba mask. His breath rasping.

GENERAL PIERCE (V.O.)
Our journey will take two hours and
seventeen minutes.

CUT TO:

14 INT. NAVAL TRAINING CENTRE - BRIEFING ROOM - DAY 14

GENERAL PIERCE
On the dive will be the Ambassador,
myself, Captain Mackie for
communications, Ms Tso for science
and technology, and our two
diplomatic representatives. Mr
Singh...

RAVI
Ravi.

TED
And Ted, Ted Campbell. It's a
pleasure.

He gives them the thumbs up.

On a TELEVISION SCREEN: a wireframe VERTICAL SCHEMATIC of the descent, showing the position of the ship, submersible and ocean floor. Data scrolling; times, temperature, depth.

On other SCREENS: Images of Salt and Homo Aqua captured from the Empress Hall.

BARCLAY
Have we ever been this deep before?

MIN
Smaller missions of one or two
people. Nothing on this scale.

RAVI

And I bet they were trained
specialists, with years of experience.
We have *days* to prepare for this.

GENERAL PIERCE

Of course there's a risk. What
we're doing today is unprecedented.
But this is the toughest
submersible on the planet.

CUT TO:

15

INT. BARCLAY'S HOTEL ROOM - DAY (24 HOURS EARLIER)

15

Hand-held shots; fluid, urgent. BARCLAY filling a small
backpack with clothes. Stressed BARBARA standing over him.

BARBARA

Yeah but things go wrong all the time.
What happens if it springs a leak? That
kind of pressure, you'd be crushed to
death. Pulverised. In an instant.

BARCLAY

Keep your voice down!

Worried KIRBY in the other room, watching the NEWS (showing a
video schematic of the upcoming dive, with strapline on
screen: DIPLOMACY MISSION POSES "UNPRECEDENTED RISKS").

BARBARA

(quiet)

You do this, you might never come
back.

CUT TO:

16

INT. NAVAL TRAINING CENTRE - BRIEFING ROOM - DAY

16

Back to BARCLAY, and the briefing.

GENERAL PIERCE

Deep sea pressure is over a thousand
times greater than on land. But the
engineers will monitor the structural
integrity and if there's any issues,
bring us straight up.

RAVI

How much oxygen will we have?

BARCLAY

(from briefing documents)

Ninety-six hours in the sub,
another six in our pressure suits.

GENERAL PIERCE

Once we arrive at the descent point, Homo Aqua will transfer us to their environment.

RAVI

How?

MIN

That's unclear. But you've seen what they're capable of. Environmental control doesn't seem a big deal for them.

BARCLAY

What about the descent? Are they helping us out with that?

GENERAL PIERCE

For the descent, we're on our own.

Everyone uneasy about that. Then TED CAMPBELL pipes up.

TED

We're not alone. We're never alone.

BARCLAY

...Sorry?

TED

We're a *team*.

A beat of awkward silence.

BARCLAY

Okay.

CUT TO:

17

INT. BARCLAY'S HOTEL ROOM - DAY (24 HOURS EARLIER)

17

BARCLAY walks into the living area with his backpack, about to leave. KIRBY is still glued to the TV, showing footage of the plastic clean-up operation, stewing in anger and fear. BARBARA is there too.

BARCLAY

This is it, then. Do I get a hug before I go?

Kirby doesn't even look at him.

BARBARA

(re: the TV)

Might take weeks to clear the roads. The city's been shut down, no-one can go anywhere.

BARCLAY

Least you're safe back here.

KIRBY

We're at war!

BARCLAY

But I'm gonna sort it.

KIRBY

How?! How are you gonna sort anything? Have you seen what they're calling you on TikTok?

BARCLAY

No I don't wanna hear it.

KIRBY

(over)

You're "useless", or "a traitor". Bootlicker Barclay, the "bleeding heart puppet". Too white to negotiate, too thick to negotiate.

BARBARA

That's not fair.

KIRBY

Doesn't matter 'cause we're screwed either way! Either they kill us or we kill ourselves! Thanks to you, your generation. Your parents, their parents. I hate the lot of you!

Kirby storms off to the bedroom. Conversation over.

Aching silence, Barclay wounded.

BARBARA

They're worried sick about you.

Barbara is too.

BARCLAY

I know. I'm sorry. But I promise you. I'm gonna be fine.

But he's fighting tears now. Barbara goes to comfort him but he shrugs her off - if she touches him, the dam will break.

BARCLAY (CONT'D)

It's all good, it's okay. I can do this. God's sake, I nursed Mum through cancer - I can do bloody anything after that. Anything. And I have to be strong for everyone else, right? 'Cause they're all counting on me. Kate. Salt. Kirby. The whole world.

BARBARA

You don't have to be strong for me.

She goes to hug him.

He tries to fight her off.

But she won't allow it. She grabs him and she holds him and she hugs him.

And the dam breaks.

And they cling to each other, both crying.

BARCLAY

I'm so scared.

Then Kirby returns; guilty, overwhelmed, so upset.

And grabs onto their parents.

And they hold each other. And they cry.

CUT TO:

18 INT. TRAINING POOL - DAY

18

Back to BARCLAY sitting on the side of the pool, numb. GENERAL PIERCE now standing over him (though barely in shot; keep close on Barclay). UNIT SOLDIER deep background.

GENERAL PIERCE

Transfer by helicopter is at oh-six-hundred. Indemnity forms need signing, and legal have noted you haven't replied to their emails. You do need to make sure your Will is up to date...

Barclay's sick of this, everyone at him. It's overwhelming.

So he DROPS.

SLAMS into the water, sinks to the bottom in a flurry of bubbles, with no scuba gear.

And sits there, in the silence.

CUT TO:

19 OMITTED

19

20 OMITTED

20

20A OMITTED

20A

20B OMITTED(MOVED TO 33A)

20B

20C OMITTED(MOVED TO 23A)

20C

21 OMITTED 21

22 OMITTED 22

23 OMITTED 23

23A EXT. 10 DOWNING STREET (STOCK FOOTAGE) - DAY 23A

Pushing in on the familiar BLACK DOOR. The number 10.

24 INT. DOWNING STREET - CABINET MEETING ROOM - DAY 24

Around a long table; tired, grave faces, including Prime Minister HARRY SHAW, GENERAL GUNSBURG, SIR KEITH and GENERAL DUSSOLIER. Also present: Foreign Affairs Secretary and Deputy PM PRIYA LAKHANI (50s), with five more FACES on a ZOOM SCREEN at the end of the table.

PRIYA LAKHANI

Our economy's already tanking - if we start closing shipping lanes the effect will be catastrophic.

Door flies open; KATE strides in with harried PA BETH.

BETH

Sorry, sir. Kate Lethbridge-Stewart.

HARRY SHAW

Hello Kate.

KATE

It is a directive of the United Nations that UNIT have a voice in any emergency discussions.

HARRY SHAW

Sorry, we started a little early.

KATE

With respect. It's a phone call.

Kate sits, senses an atmosphere; Generals Dussolier and Gunsberg staring back at her.

PRIYA LAKHANI

Beth, this tea is awful, can you do something about it please?

BETH

We're out of bottled water...

PRIYA LAKHANI

Well sort it out!

Beth exits.

KATE

I'll catch up, please carry on.

GENERAL GUNSBURG

(to the Prime Minister)

The United States relies on maritime trade and we will defend ourselves - vigorously - against any disruption to our networks.

He slides a folder of paperwork.

GENERAL GUNSBURG (CONT'D)

Our military is arming itself with sonic weaponry.

The PM flicks through it.

GENERAL GUNSBURG (CONT'D)

Sound cannons are used for crowd or border control but the technology is being adapted for underwater use.

GENERAL DUSSOLIER

We've identified key shipping lanes we need to protect; the English channel, the Panama Canal, the Suez...

GENERAL GUNSBURG

Ultra-high frequency blasts could disable or confuse Homo Aqua, paving the way for traditional weapons if required.

KATE

Sorry, why are we discussing weapons? Our focus is on diplomacy.

SIR KEITH

We are at war. Look outside.

KATE

That was a warning. Arguably, that was deserved. And there is an armistice agreement in place to stop further violence.

GENERAL GUNSBURG

Someone's gotta be the first to break it. And before you throw the Geneva Convention at me, everything here falls within the regulations.

KATE

(to the Prime Minister)

Sir. We should focus on solutions. That's why six of our diplomats are risking their lives today.

GENERAL DUSSOLIER

They're *buying time*. That's all they're doing. It's song and dance, smoke and mirrors.

HARRY SHAW

The General's right. We make the decisions. In this room. The Western Front, the Falklands, Iraq. Wars are fought and won *at this table*.

Kate disturbed by the direction this meeting is headed.

HARRY SHAW (CONT'D)

They think they own the water, but while they were splish-splashing around 300 million years ago, we crawled out of that water. Then we conquered it.

On Kate: they're radicalising in front of her.

SIR KEITH

We built a civilisation that depends on the oceans to feed our crops and power our homes and keep us alive.

KATE

And keep you in business.

PRIYA LAKHANI

Sorry but I agree with Kate.

Silence from her colleagues.

PRIYA LAKHANI (CONT'D)

Their civilisation is so ancient, and so powerful... aren't they a gift? Couldn't they help solve... not just the climate crisis... but so much more? If we had them onside?

GENERAL GUNSBERG

We're never gonna get them onside. Read the room, Priya, they want us gone.

PRIYA LAKHANI

If they wanted us gone I think that would've happened.

SIR KEITH

But if *they* were gone, we'd have access to all their technology. Think of it. The treasure from the ocean floor.

KATE

This is a diplomatic crisis, not a pirate raid.

PRIYA LAKHANI

It's what the west does best. Colonise. And plunder.

GENERAL DUSSOLIER

Has everyone seen this?

Dussolier turns her laptop around. Onscreen: news footage of FELIX GLADSTOCK holding a press conference outside his house. A BANNER on the fence: WWW.THE SIXTY PERCENT.COM.

A strap onscreen: ANTI-H2O PARTY 'THE SIXTY PERCENT' FORMS.

FELIX GLADSTOCK (ONSCREEN)

...will not have our future dictated to us. You, me, every one of us, is sixty percent water. So that's the least we're owed. Sixty percent of all oceans. My party will fight for the rights of every human on the planet. And we won't stop until we get what we want.

KATE

The man's a clown.

PRIYA LAKHANI

Oh switch him off.

Dussolier mutes the sound, turns her laptop back around.

HARRY SHAW

If he's presenting a stronger message than us, we're going to have a problem.

SIR KEITH

He's not wrong. I'm sixty percent water...

GENERAL DUSSOLIER

We all are.

SIR KEITH

...don't tell me we don't own the water.

GENERAL GUNSBERG

If Homo Aqua want a war between the land and the sea, we'll take the sea.

KATE

This kind of rhetoric is irresponsible.

SIR KEITH

If you're trying to keep the peace,
you've already failed.

GENERAL DUSSOLIER

And if you're not onside, perhaps we
need to consider our options.
Diplomatic responsibilities could
easily be transferred.

KATE

What, to you??

SIR KEITH

A global emergency committee could
guide Homo Aqua through a peace
process that puts mankind first.
Not UNIT.

KATE

(to the PM)

Sorry, but what is Sir Keith doing in
an emergency meeting? He's not
Cabinet, or Agency. And his
companies, at this very moment, are
still pumping millions of litres of
sewage into our waterways.

GENERAL DUSSOLIER

These processes take time...

KATE

And don't get me started on General
Dussolier, who leaked confidential
information to the press!

SIR KEITH

I think you need to calm down,
love.

KATE

This is a national security matter.

HARRY SHAW

The fact is, we need industry and
our allies onside. We can't do this
alone.

GENERAL GUNSBERG

Don't become the enemy, Kate. That
would be a big mistake.

Kate takes in the cabal around the table. All those agendas.

SIR KEITH

Aren't we all on the same side?

But now Kate knows who her real enemies are.

CUT TO:

25

EXT. ATLANTIC OCEAN - DAY

25

A HELICOPTER, thundering over the ocean.

CUT TO:

26

INT. HELICOPTER - DAY

26

BARCLAY bravely sitting in the helicopter between MIN and CAPTAIN MACKIE, all wearing EARPIECES for comms. Sitting opposite: GENERAL PIERCE, TED and RAVI.

Barclay scans the faces of his crew members opposite. General Pierce's quiet composure. Ted proud, resolute, holding a small wooden crate, 12x12 inches. Ravi's obvious fear.

BARCLAY

Ravi, you okay?

RAVI

I've been a diplomat for three months. Just three months. I'm not cut out for this.

BARCLAY

Course you are. You're gonna be a hero. When you get back. You know that, right?

TED

This'll set us up for life. Speaking tours, book deals, the works.

RAVI

D'you think I'll get a girlfriend out of it?

BARCLAY

They'll be queuing up.

TED

All you gotta do is hang in there. You know, sometimes I can hear my life coach. "Hold the line, Ted". That's what he'd say, in moments like these. Moments of fear, or self-doubt. "Believe in yourself, trust in fate, and hold the line."

(beat)

He was struck by lightning, dead at fifty.

Min and Captain Mackie stifle laughs.

RAVI
...Seriously?

But Ted laughs, shakes his head. It's a gag.

And Ravi laughs along, more relaxed now. Barclay looks to Ted, gives him a grateful nod. Then sees the box between Ted's feet.

BARCLAY
What's in the box?

TED
Diplomatic gift, from all nations.

Ted lifts the lid off; inside, a beautifully carved GLOBE, a model of the Earth, horizontally divided into six segments.

CAPTAIN MACKIE
What are Homo Aqua supposed to do with a globe?

TED
They see the world from underneath, right? From the depths. But never like this.

He puts the lid back on.

MIN
And where they gonna put it, Ted?

TED
Who knows.
(wry)
Maybe they have, like, coral mantlepieces?

He chuckles to himself, gets a smile out of the others.

RAVI
Aren't you phased by any of this?

TED
We're gonna be fine.
(the globe)
Wood floats.

And they're smiling as they fly on --

CUT TO:

27

EXT. ATLANTIC OCEAN - DAY

27

SCIENCE RESEARCH SHIP RRS MARINER, carving through choppy waters. On the back deck of the vessel, the SUBMERSIBLE seen in Sc 12.

Just behind, two Royal Navy WARSHIPS, a military escort.

The HELICOPTER thundering in overhead, approaching the research ship and banking, ready to land --

CUT TO:

28 OMITTED 28

29 EXT. RRS MARINER - DECK - DAY 29

ROLLER DOOR scrolls up -- revealing BARCLAY, GENERAL PIERCE, CAPTAIN MACKIE, MIN, RAVI and TED. All wearing PRESSURE SUITS; UNIT tech, SCREEN built into the forearms showing vital stats; oxygen, pulse etc. Around the collarbone is a seal for a helmet (not in place yet).

And directly across from them, on the back deck: the SUBMERSIBLE, suspended four feet from a giant CRANE.

The ship's CREW form a GUARD OF HONOUR on either side, the delegates passing through. General Pierce in front, Ted at the back with his diplomatic box. Everyone daunted.

Pierce reaches the submersible. Pauses. Looks back; at the ship, at the sky, at his frightened comrades.

GENERAL PIERCE

In the words of a great man. "We could be heroes". Let's save the world.

He salutes to the ship's crew. The crew salute back.

Then he climbs into the side of the submersible through a small ACCESS HATCH. Disappears.

Barclay's next. He looks round to RAVI, who's wide-eyed, afraid. Offers a reassuring smile.

Then sets himself -- and climbs aboard.

CUT TO:

30 INT. RRS MARINER - CONTROL ROOM - DAY 30

INTERCUT WITH:

31 EXT. RRS MARINER - DECK - DAY 31

INTERCUT WITH:

32 INT. SUBMERSIBLE - DAY 32

SHIP CONTROL ROOM:

A windowless control room. CAPTAIN GAITZ (male, 40s) and COMMANDER HARPER (female, 30s) watch the deck via a bank of MONITORS, operating a panel of CONTROLS, flanked by UNIT SOLDIERS.

CAPTAIN GAITZ
Seal the hatch.

CUT TO DECK:

CREW slam the hatch, spin the wheel, then get to work with PNEUMATIC MACHINES; violently grinding the deadbolts shut.

CUT TO SUBMERSIBLE:

Inside the cramped interior, the DELEGATES sit on a padded circular bench, sick with dread.

The DEAFENING sound of the hatch being screwed shut, twenty-eight times over. Every bolt sealing their fate.

CUT TO DECK:

Fast cuts; BOLTS loudly screwed into place. CREW focussed, meticulous.

CUT TO SUBMERSIBLE:

Tense, scared delegates inside. The awful noise.

CUT TO SHIP CONTROL ROOM:

CAPTAIN GAITZ (CONT'D)
Launch Stage One.

CUT TO DECK:

A giant CRANE descends above the submersible. Its huge CLAW locks into position.

CUT TO SUBMERSIBLE:

Inside, the delegates feel the THUD of the crane attaching.

CUT TO SHIP CONTROL ROOM:

COMMANDER HARPER
Confirm lock.

CAPTAIN GAITZ
Okay let's pick it up.

They gently pull back on two JOYSTICKS --

CUT TO DECK:

And the crane LIFTS the submersible six feet higher. It dangles in mid-air, rocking slightly.

CUT TO SUBMERSIBLE:

BARCLAY's heart is pounding. Everyone tense, gripping their seats.

CUT TO SHIP CONTROL ROOM:

COMMANDER HARPER
Confirm vessel off deck.

CAPTAIN GAITZ
Let's move it out.

CUT TO SUBMERSIBLE:

CAPTAIN GAITZ (V.O.)
Taking you off the ship now. Good
luck everybody.

GENERAL PIERCE makes the sign of the cross. Catches Barclay
watching.

GENERAL PIERCE
It's been a while. But I used to go
to church every Sunday, when I was
a kid. I'm hoping He remembers me.

TED
Oh He will.

CUT TO DECK:

The WHINE of heavy machinery. The STRAIN of cables. The CRANE
slowly swings the SUBMERSIBLE out over the side of the ship.

CUT TO SUBMERSIBLE:

Everyone staring up at the low metal ceiling. Waiting.

CUT TO SHIP CONTROL ROOM:

CAPTAIN GAITZ
(into Comms)
Deck crew, how are those cables?

PETTY OFFICER (V.O.)
(over radio)
Everything okay sir, over.

CAPTAIN GAITZ
(to Commander Harper)
Gently. I want a smooth transition.

COMMANDER HARPER
Deployment is go.

They slowly move the joysticks forward to lower the sub.

CUT TO DECK:

Grinding GEARS -- taut CABLES -- the CRANE begins to lower
the SUBMERSIBLE into the water.

CUT TO SUBMERSIBLE:

Everyone inside, petrified. Even TED, for the first time. Gripping his seat.

BARCLAY
You okay Ted?

TED
(forced smile)
Yep. Terrific.

CUT TO DECK:

The submersible above CHOPPY WATER. Lower and lower --

CUT TO SHIP CONTROL ROOM:

CAPTAIN GAITZ
Correction by four degrees.

COMMANDER HARPER
Confirmed.

CAPTAIN GAITZ
Gently --

COMMANDER HARPER
Touchdown in 3 -- 2 -- 1 --

CUT TO DECK:

The submersible SLIDES into the ocean.

CUT TO SUBMERSIBLE:

Barclay exhales. Looks to the others. Everyone sweating, listening to the CREAKS and GROANS of the hull as their submersible begins to sink.

CAPTAIN GAITZ (V.O.)
Prepare for release.

GENERAL PIERCE
This is it.

CUT TO SHIP CONTROL ROOM:

CAPTAIN GAITZ
On my mark. Mark.

Gaitz and Harper stab the release buttons.

CUT TO DECK:

The crane's giant CLAW detaches -- the submersible DROPS, vanishes in a flurry of white water. Gone. Its thick UMBILICAL CORD the only link to the surface.

CUT TO SUBMERSIBLE:

GENERAL PIERCE
And we're off.

CUT TO:

33 EXT. UNDERWATER - DAY

33

The SUBMERSIBLE, plunging downwards --
Until it vanishes into darkness --

CUT TO:

33A INT. DOWNING STREET - CABINET MEETING ROOM - DAY

33A

The exhausted, beleaguered Prime Minister HARRY SHAW, standing at a curtained window, in the light. Deep background: the CABAL of conspirators - SIR KEITH, GENERAL DUSSOLIER, and GENERAL GUNSBURG. A private meeting.

A live NEWS REPORT plays on Dussolier's LAPTOP, a breathless REPORTER to camera:

REPORTER 3
All six delegates should now be descending to the ocean floor. Meanwhile, emergency crews continue to clear arterial roads through major cities, while the national curfew remains in place for at least twelve more hours...

HARRY SHAW
Can you turn that off please?

Dussolier shuts the laptop.

SIR KEITH
A few days ago, the situation was dire. We were staring down the barrel of unprecedented financial and energy crises. Now? It's catastrophic.

GENERAL GUNSBURG
We cannot surrender control of this planet. Look what they did to us in fifteen minutes. If they wanted to, they could wipe us out.

GENERAL DUSSOLIER
UNIT are looking after their own interests, it is our moral duty to stop Aquakind however we can.

SIR KEITH
Harry. I know you have a lot on your plate right now.

HARRY SHAW

Alison has tests today. I should be with her.

Sir Keith's hand on his shoulder.

SIR KEITH

I already know you value my opinion. And maybe my money.

A smile from the Prime Minister.

SIR KEITH (CONT'D)

And the Generals have decades of military strategy under their belts. Let us guide you, take the pressure off.

HARRY SHAW

When I became Prime Minister, I made a promise to my grandchildren. To leave this country better than I found it.

GENERAL GUNSBERG

If we don't win this war - and war is what it is - there will be no grandchildren.

On the Prime Minister, under pressure.

SIR KEITH

But we believe there's a way through this. A new strategem, just between us. We're calling it 'Severance'.

Hold on that word. It has weight.

CUT TO:

34

INT. CONTROL ROOM, IMPERIAL HOUSE - DAY

34

The Control Room is a mess. BLANKETS and CUSHIONS on the floor, dirty COFFEE MUGS, empty packets of BISCUITS and CRISPS. People have been living here, in lockdown.

Subdued KATE stands at the heart of it, alone, watching DESCENT DATA from the submersible on her TABLET.

CHRISTOFER enters with a MUG OF COFFEE.

CHRISTOFER

I found some instant coffee. And...

From behind his back, a packet of JAMMIE DODGERS.

KATE

I won't ask what you had to do for those.

CHRISTOFER

Yeah best not.

She takes the coffee. Their fingers brush. Standing close, smiling, eyes locked. A moment of comfort amid the madness.

CHRISTOFER (CONT'D)

(the descent)

They'll be okay. But you. Look exhausted.

KATE

I've had six hours sleep in three days. This morning I showered in a sink. Sent good people five miles under the ocean. Then I sat in a COBRA meeting with a room full of warmongers.

CHRISTOFER

You need a break.

KATE

They want to shut UNIT out. And if we lose control, who steps in? Who decides the future of the human race?

Hold on that for a beat, then:

SHIRLEY

Submersible's on target for the rendezvous.

In the main area, SHIRLEY, STEVE and TECHNICIANS watch DATA scrolling on SCREENS; the submersible's depth, position, oxygen levels etc.

Kate goes to join them, but wave of nausea hits. The room is spinning, her chest is tight. Christofer grabs hold of her.

CHRISTOFER

You okay?

KATE

Blood sugar.

CHRISTOFER

(the biscuits)

Eat something.

KATE

I'll be fine.

Kate takes a moment to pull herself together, to put the facade back in place. Then she crosses to the main area, with worried Christofer watching.

KATE (CONT'D)

Thank Captain Gaitz for a perfect deployment.

SHIRLEY

Will do. A hundred and thirty six minutes 'til touchdown.

A digital COUNTDOWN CLOCK is running on another screen.

KATE

This'll be the longest night of our lives.

CUT TO:

35

INT. SUBMERSIBLE - UNDERWATER

35

Everyone quiet, and tense. Sweating. Listening to the groans of the metal around them. The sense of increasing pressure on the hull. Every second plunging them deeper and deeper.

RAVI tries to steady his breathing, keep calm.

RAVI

How long's it been?

CAPTAIN MACKIE

Seven minutes.

TED staring up at the top porthole.

TED

It's gone dark already. No sunlight. Imagine living like this, all the time.

He laughs, nervous for the first time, trying to hide it.

TED (CONT'D)

Anyway. We're fine. Aren't we?
(to the group)
Can I get a "Yes Ted!"?

BARCLAY

Yes Ted.

He's the only one who answers. Followed by silence.

TED

I got some team-bonding word games if anyone's interested?

GENERAL PIERCE

No thank you.

A long beat of silence.

CAPTAIN MACKIE

(to Ravi)

How'd you end up here anyway?

RAVI

There was a diplomatic lottery, for the two last seats. India won. Or lost, depending how you see it. There's rumours flying round that the draw was rigged, that most people had their names removed 'cause they didn't want to go.

BARCLAY

I mean. One way to look at it. Is we're pioneers. Like those early astronauts. I mean where would we be if they hadn't taken that 'one giant leap'?

RAVI

No worse off. With less dead astronauts.

TED

Let's stay positive, my friend.

Then -- BANG! From the metal hull. Everyone startled.

TED (CONT'D)

The hell was that?

GENERAL PIERCE

It's adjusting to the pressure.

TED

Are you sure??

BARCLAY

Don't worry. Just breathe.

TED

I am breathing. I'm fine.

But his confidence is waning, now he's here. Trapped, and plunging deeper by the second.

CAPTAIN MACKIE

What d'you think we'll get for dinner tonight? Once we're back on the ship. You think they'll spoil us?

MIN

They bloody should.

BARCLAY

It'll be canteen sandwiches again.
Soggy sandwiches and milky tea.

CAPTAIN MACKIE

It's tough being a hero.

And they're smiling. Until Ted sees something glistening on the metal wall.

TED

Wait is that... is that water??

Close on the hull. Droplets of liquid running down the metal. Ted wipes his hand across it, horrified.

TED (CONT'D)

This is water! There is water in here! Radio the ship!

BARCLAY

Ted. Calm down. It's condensation.

TED

Are you sure?

BARCLAY

Yes. 'Cause I read page six of the safety briefing.

Ted sits back, closes his eyes, exhales.

TED

Sorry.

RAVI

I guess. If there was a breach, this thing would implode before we knew about it.

GENERAL PIERCE

Can everyone shut up now please?

Tense silence as the sub descends.

Everyone trapped in their own private hell.

CUT TO:

36

EXT. UNDERWATER - DAY

36

Pitch blackness. Then -- a FAINT LIGHT from the submersible. A strange UNEARTHLY GLOW, descending through the darkness.

SHAPES in the water around it -- three HOMO AQUA flitting past, following the submersible --

The darkness and the pressure and the terror.

CUT TO:

37

INT. SUBMERSIBLE - UNDERWATER

37

BARCLAY and the other DELEGATES. Their ashen, sweating faces. The CREAKING HULL, the sense of pressure all around them.

RAVI

What's gonna happen down there?

BARCLAY

Ravi. We've already said, we don't know.

RAVI

So what if this is a trick, and they want hostages?

GENERAL PIERCE

We didn't take hostages, why should they?

RAVI

'Cause that's what happens in war.

BARCLAY

I promise you. We're gonna sort this, okay? Dunno how, but we will. 'Cause my kid is not living through a war.

CAPTAIN MACKIE

I never had kids. But if I get out of this I'm calling my brother. We haven't spoken for twenty years.

BARCLAY

Good for you.

RAVI

First thing I'm doing is taking my family out for a meal. All nineteen of us.

CAPTAIN MACKIE

Nineteen?

RAVI

Yep. And I'm paying.

TED is gently rocking, agitated. Tugging at the collar of his pressure suit.

TED

It's so hot. This suit. How deep are we?

BARCLAY

Ted don't think about that.

TED

I watched this show, where they made a human out of pig parts. Bones and meat. And they put it in a diving suit and tested deep-sea pressure.

GENERAL PIERCE

Mr Campbell.

TED

And it just... turned to soup. In a split second, it was soup.

BARCLAY

Ted. No-one wants to hear this.

TED

I don't wanna be soup.

And he starts to cry.

BARCLAY

Ted. It's okay. You're okay.
Ted, look at me.

Ted eventually looks up.

BARCLAY (CONT'D)

Just breathe. Slow and steady. With me, yeah? 'Cause we're a team. Inhale, and exhale.

Ted nods. Tries to regulate his breath, breathing along with Barclay in rhythm.

TED

Thank you.

GENERAL PIERCE

Everyone alright?

Nods, and murmurs.

But they're not alright. They're petrified.

CUT TO:

38

INT. IMPERIAL HOUSE, CORRIDOR - DAY

38

KATE sits alone, with a mug of coffee and half-eaten packet of biscuits.

She notices her hand shaking. Watches it, detached, for a moment, then sets the mug down on her leg.

CHRISTOFER (O.S.)

It's fatigue.

CHRISTOFER approaching. He sits beside her, close.

CHRISTOFER (CONT'D)

You're running on empty. All this pressure is taking its toll and pretty soon you're gonna be no use to anyone.

KATE

I feel fine.

CHRISTOFER

After forty-eight hours without sleep, the brain and the body start to shut down. I've seen it happen, and I'm watching it happen to you.

Kate knows he's right, but she can't admit it.

CHRISTOFER (CONT'D)

If I reported you, you'd be escorted from the building.

KATE

Except you wouldn't do that.

CHRISTOFER

The delegates are miles beneath the surface, in radio silence, for hours. There's nothing else you can do right now. But soon as they're back, we need you on form. Rested, and ready, for whatever comes next.

He takes her hand, deadly serious.

CHRISTOFER (CONT'D)

You're amazing. But you're not invincible.

A UNIT SOLDIER passes. Kate tenses, pulls her hand away. They both watch the soldier go, then:

CHRISTOFER (CONT'D)

Either I take you home to rest, or I report you.

Hold on the look between them. Until --

KATE

My apartment is a fully equipped comms hub, I'll work from there.

She's up and off, so Christofer follows.

CUT TO:

39

INT. SUBMERSIBLE - UNDERWATER

39

Back to the DELEGATES. A quiet calm has descended. Until --
The submersible LURCHES.

RAVI

What's that, what's happened?

MIN

I think we've stopped.

BARCLAY

Are we on the sea bed?

GENERAL PIERCE checks data on a wall-mounted SCREEN.

GENERAL PIERCE

Negative.

(presses comms button)

This is SU-1 to surface.

Silence from the comms.

GENERAL PIERCE (CONT'D)

Surface, this is SU-1.

(silence)

Surface, do you copy? Hello, is anyone there?

TED

Oh my God.

BANG! The submersible LURCHES again. Everyone holds on.

BARCLAY

We're moving.

MIN joins General Pierce at the screen, checks the readings.

MIN

Only... we're moving *sideways*. At twelve knots. Eighteen knots...

CAPTAIN MACKIE

But that's not possible.

MIN

Thirty knots. Something's taken control...

CUT TO:

40

EXT. RRS MARINER - DECK - DAY

40

The huge CABLE WHEELS spinning at incredible speed.

CUT TO:

41 INT. RRS MARINER - CONTROL ROOM - DAY 41
CAPTAIN GAITZ and COMMANDER HARPER watching screens, worried.

COMMANDER HARPER
How are they moving so fast? Do we
stop them? Do we bring them up?
(beat)
Captain!

CUT TO:

42 INT. SUBMERSIBLE - UNDERWATER 42
Everyone on tenterhooks.

BARCLAY
You feel that? We're descending
again.

TED
Why have we lost radio contact?

GENERAL PIERCE
I don't know.

MIN
Oxygen's normal. The cables are
functioning we're just...

CAPTAIN MACKIE
We're on our own. Cut off.

The LIGHTS suddenly start flickering --

RAVI
What's happening?

The lights stabilise -- then --

The submersible LURCHES again. Then THUDS, like it's landed.

Everyone quiet, listening. To dead silence.

MIN
(checking readings)
We've stopped. And the pressure on
the hull...
(astonished)
Is twelve-hundred hPA.

BARCLAY
Is that good or bad?

MIN

That's like sea level. That's the pressure on land. Except. We're five miles down.

BARCLAY

So we're... inside something?

MIN

(fascinated)

I have no idea.

The lights FAIL. Info screens die. The sub is plunged into darkness.

MIN (CONT'D)

The whole system's gone down.

TED

Oh my God.

GENERAL PIERCE

Helmets on, everyone.

MIN

Backup should kick in any second.

All delegates remove HELMETS from under their seats and clip them over their heads. A little light on each suit goes GREEN. A readout on the forearm gives oxygen levels at 100%.

TED

It's a trap, they're gonna kill us.

GENERAL PIERCE

Christ's sake Ted, shut up.

A small EMERGENCY LIGHT illuminates above them.

TED

That's it?? *That's* the backup?

Captain Mackie turns on the TORCH from her utility belt. MIN does the same.

BANG BANG BANG on the hull. Everyone startled.

RAVI

It's them.

General Pierce moves to the hull. Pounds on it, in response. BANG BANG BANG.

A long beat of silence. Then -- the sound of GROANING, CREAKING METAL. The BOLTS on the hatch begin to spin at a furious rate, in unison.

GENERAL PIERCE

Brace positions.

Everyone takes hold of metal handles built into the hull, staring at the spinning bolts, uncertain what's next, whether the submersible is about to flood.

The bolts DROP away. The steel RELEASE WHEEL starts turning. Everyone watching, terrified. Until --

THUNK. The hatch UNLOCKS. Then OPENS. Flops down on its hinges, clunk!

And then nothing. No explosion of water, no change in pressure. Just silence, and darkness.

Barclay lets go of his support handles.

Moves closer to the gaping void.

Peers out, sees nothing but darkness.

The others start to let go, come over and join him. All peering into the void.

BARCLAY
Who's going first?

CUT TO:

43

INT. HOMO AQUA HABITAT - ARRIVAL CHAMBER - UNDERWATER

43

GENERAL PIERCE drops out of the submersible, lands awkwardly, five feet below.

BARCLAY follows, lands next to him, on all fours. The ground is strange, and uneven. Solid yet not. Undulating.

He lifts his hands -- glistening strings of SLIME and ALGAE connecting him to the surface. He flinches, rubs the slime on his pressure suit.

He tries straightening up -- it's like standing on a water bed, difficult to balance. General Pierce stands too. It takes them a few moments to find their footing.

The LIGHTS from the submersible highlight the glistening surface below them. Everything else falls into darkness.

They look up -- see the submersible is SUSPENDED from the ground by thick, giant fronds of KELP; a tangle of wet, dark, fleshy tendrils disappearing up into darkness.

CAPTAIN MACKIE (O.S.)
(inside the submersible)
Are you okay?

GENERAL PIERCE
Yes we're fine.

MIN (O.S.)
Is it a cave?

GENERAL PIERCE
Can't see much. Wait there.

The lights in their helmets are dazzling; they can't see more than a few metres ahead. General Pierce presses a control on his suit -- the lights switch off. Barclay does the same.

They wait a moment as their eyes adjust to the dark. As their surroundings begin to materialise --

BARCLAY
Bloody hell.

They're inside an enormous bioluminescent CAVERN. Not solid, but organic. No straight lines, no right-angles. Every surface is glistening and wet. The not-walls bulge and ripple, their unearthly green/yellow GLOW casting strange patterns across the environment.

BARCLAY (CONT'D)
It's alive.

The air is heavy, and damp. A permanent HAZE. The sound is strange; deadened, pulsing and ebbing with the membrane.

General Pierce checks the readings on his pressure suit.

GENERAL PIERCE
Temperature is twenty one degrees
celsius. Which is -- impossible.
(MORE)

GENERAL PIERCE (CONT'D)
 Atmosphere's breathable. Not just
 breathable, it's perfect.

Barclay still staring around in wonder.

BARCLAY
 This place is incredible.

CAPTAIN MACKIE (O.S.)
 What's happening?

GENERAL PIERCE
 (calls to the submersible)
 You can come out now. Be careful,
 there's a drop.

Barclay crosses to a not-wall, to the thick opaque MEMBRANE.
 Puts his hand on it. The membrane BULGES with the current
 behind it, pushes him back.

BARCLAY
 There's got to be... *billions* of
 tonnes of water behind this. One
 tear in the membrane and...

Instant death.

It's astonishing and impossible and terrifying.

When he turns back, he finds the DELEGATES helping each other
 out of the submersible. Goes to join them, walking carefully
 on the strange, slippery surface.

GENERAL PIERCE
 Watch your step, the ground's
 uneven. If this *is* the ground.

RAVI lowers TED's DIPLOMATIC BOX down to him.

GENERAL PIERCE (CONT'D)
 And turn your helmet lights off,
 you can see better.

Suddenly PURPLE LIGHT ripples through the space. Touching
 everything; the submersible, the people. Just for a second,
 then it's gone.

RAVI
 The hell was that?

MIN
 Decontamination?

GENERAL PIERCE
 Everyone okay?

Ted take a few tentative steps, carrying his box, staring
 around in fear and wonder.

TED

What is this place?

BARCLAY

It's like nothing in the world.

TED

It's like Hell.

SALT (O.S.)

Welcome.

The group whip round; SALT and three HOMO AQUA warriors are suddenly behind them, carrying STAFFS of CORAL and BONE.

Salt locks eyes with Barclay; focussed, intense. Her voice is deeper down here, a more male register. He smiles back at her, nervous.

BARCLAY

Where exactly are we?

SALT

Deeper than any human has ever been.
You can remove your apparatus, this
environment has been prepared for you.

Everyone hesitates, no-one wants to be first.

Salt crosses to Barclay; puts her hands on the glass of his life-support helmet.

SALT (CONT'D)

Will you trust me, Barclay?

He nods. Salt twists the helmet; a HISS as the seal is broken. She lifts it off; a strangely intimate act. And they're face to face. Close.

BARCLAY

Thank you.

He takes the helmet. Others start to follow his lead, and undo their helmets. A DROPLET OF WATER lands on Ravi's face; he flinches, looks up, panicked.

RAVI

The roof's leaking.

SALT

There is no roof.

Ravi looks horrified.

TED

...What??

SALT

But you are safe.

Ted is still wearing his helmet.

TED

Um. I'd prefer to keep this on.

SALT

As you wish.

With Salt in the lead, followed by Barclay and General Pierce, the delegates move through --

And into the unknown.

CUT TO:

44

INT. HOMO AQUA HABITAT - TRANSIT CHAMBER - UNDERWATER

44

The DELEGATES pass through a narrow chamber; the thick MEMBRANE not-walls closer now, the ocean outside SURGING and SWELLING.

GENERAL PIERCE

How is there light down here?

MIN

Many deep sea organisms are bioluminescent. There's bacteria, plankton, species of fish...

GENERAL PIERCE

So are we... *inside* an organism?

MIN

I have no idea.

BARCLAY

This place is impossible.

SALT

Your world of steel and glass and sunlight seems equally impossible to us.

BARCLAY

And is this where you live?

SALT

No. We are nomads. All of the oceans and waterways are our home.

They pass a thinner section of membrane. THOUSANDS of PISCIMORPHA GRANDIS peer in from outside at the humans, like a reverse aquarium. Not an inch between them, packed in, a WALL OF GIANT FISH - floating, staring, mouths gaping.

The closest delegates including TED recoil in fear.

SALT (CONT'D)

They are curious, that is all.

BARCLAY

Do you live together? All the different species?

SALT

There are the fish. There are the titans. The dolphins. And us.

BARCLAY

So there's a hierarchy, a class system.

SALT

There are degrees of intellect. Do not assume we think as one.

Salt leads the way, with Barclay. Then turn a not-corner, disappear out of sight of the others for a moment.

RAVI hesitates at the back of the group, a panic attack threatening. He turns, sees the HOMO AQUA looming behind him. His breath catches.

RAVI

Sorry. I just. This is a lot.

CAPTAIN MACKIE

Hold onto me.

CAPTAIN MACKIE offers her arm, gently guides him onwards.

GENERAL PIERCE

Keep moving.

But as General Pierce turns the not-corner --

There's no sign of Salt and Barclay.

GENERAL PIERCE (CONT'D)

Where'd they go?

CUT TO:

45

INT. HOMO AQUA HABITAT - ANTE-CHAMBER - UNDERWATER

45

BARCLAY realises he and SALT are alone, in a dark, wet, space. A faint green glow from the gelatinous surrounds.

BARCLAY

Wait, where are the others?

He looks round, confused. Backtracks a few steps. Finds a MEMBRANE blocking his path.

BARCLAY (CONT'D)

But. Have the walls moved?

Salt moves in closer. Quiet.

SALT

It's just you. And me.

A callback to their first meeting.

BARCLAY

For real this time.

SALT

"Hello."

BARCLAY

I feel like I know you. Or I'm
going to know you. Or I've known
you forever. Is that weird?

SALT

It is. But I understand.

She raises a hand to his cheek. Touches him, fascinated.

He's nervous, like a teenager.

SALT (CONT'D)

You're so warm.

She traces her fingers across his stubble, his thorax.

SALT (CONT'D)

And rough.

BARCLAY

For the laydeez.

SALT

I don't know what that means.

BARCLAY

Neither do I, I just say stuff.

(then:)

Can I. Touch you?

Salt nods. Barclay raises his hand, tentatively runs his
fingers across the scales on Salt's neck, curious.
Respectful.

SALT

What do you feel?

BARCLAY

Strength. And beauty.

SALT

Such a charmer.

BARCLAY

Honestly, I don't understand why
you chose me. For any of this.

SALT

The tides have drawn us together.
The undercurrents pulling us
closer. If you calm your mind
you'll feel their power.

They're close. Eyes locked, in fascination. And desire.

SALT (CONT'D)

But your thoughts are noisy.

BARCLAY

...Can you read them?

SALT

(no)

Human emotions are so loud we
cannot help but listen.

Salt's hand goes to his chest.

SALT (CONT'D)

Your heart is racing.

BARCLAY

I don't want to mess this up. Billions
of people are counting on us.

SALT

You have good intentions. This is
where true power lies. In the
hearts of your people.

BARCLAY

Easy for you to say. What are you,
a Queen? An Empress?

SALT

We have no leader. We are a shoal
of salmon fighting the current, the
song of the whales. And so much
more. I am simply an Ambassador,
like you.

(beat)

But we could make a difference, you
and I. End the conflict between our
species, before it's too late.

BARCLAY

...Yes.

Hold on the connection between them. Her hand on his chest.
Barclay drawing closer, drawn to her, the sexual tension
crackling. Until --

GENERAL PIERCE (O.S.)

Barclay?

Barclay turns -- finds GENERAL PIERCE and the DELEGATES emerging from darkness that wasn't there a few moments ago. HOMO AQUA behind them.

GENERAL PIERCE (CONT'D)
Thought we'd lost you. You alright?

BARCLAY
...Yeah.

Salt leads the way. A few more metres, and the chamber curves.

SALT
We are assembled. Do not be afraid.

Barclay looks to Salt. And finally understands:

BARCLAY
This is how it felt for you.
Meeting us.

Salt takes the curve, disappears out of sight.

Barclay looks to the others -- steels himself --

And follows --

CUT TO:

46 INT. HOMO AQUA HABITAT - DIPLOMATIC CHAMBER - UNDERWATER 46

Close on BARCLAY, emerging into a new space. Behind him; GENERAL PIERCE, MIN, RAVI, TED, CAPTAIN MACKIE, the HOMO AQUA guards. Ahead of him: SALT.

Barclay and his comrades are stunned by what they see (but we HOLD THE REVEAL).

BARCLAY
Oh. My. God.

Pull out to REVEAL:

A VAST, OPEN SPACE.

Towering vertical CORAL REEFS connect the not-floor and not-ceiling, emerging and disappearing into gelatinous, luminescent MEMBRANE. The space is ringed with dozens of LEVELS, pockets of swollen SPONGE creating not-balconies and not-platforms.

Strange shadows and patterns of light ebb and flow around the room. Every surface OOZES and SWELLS, as if the entire space is BREATHING. It's dangerous, tough, utterly alien.

HUNDREDS of HOMO AQUA are staring up at the humans, down at them, across at them, from dozens of angles. An entire army of WARRIORS, proud and mighty and terrifying.

SALT
Welcome. To our domain.

CUT TO:

47 INT. KATE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT 47

INTERCUT WITH:

48 INT. CONTROL ROOM, IMPERIAL HOUSE - NIGHT 48

KATE'S APARTMENT:

The River Thames flows. City lights twinkle on the water.

Reverse on: KATE, hunched over her laptop. Showered now, but still working. (Screen shows data from the submersible).

KATE
They're down there, on their own,
with no support.

CHRISTOFER nearby, preoccupied.

CHRISTOFER
Do you think, one day, we won't
need to keep us a secret anymore?

KATE
I don't know.

CHRISTOFER
I'm sick of hiding it. Pretending.
Worrying about being transferred to
God-knows-where.

KATE
Alaska.

A flicker of contempt from Christofer.

CHRISTOFER
You find it so easy.

KATE
The future of the human race pivots
on what happens tonight. We don't
matter. How can you be thinking
about us??

CHRISTOFER
I think about us all the time.

Kate still working at her laptop.

CHRISTOFER (CONT'D)
Can't you not be Commander In
Chief, just for a few hours?

KATE
I don't know how.

A beat on that, then -- Kate's phone starts RINGING.

CHRISTOFER
Leave it.

But Kate crosses to a table, picks it up.

KATE
(into phone)
Shirley, hi. Any news from the delegates?

CUT TO SHIRLEY:

SHIRLEY
No, all quiet. So I ran some intel, on the people in that COBRA meeting.

CUT TO KATE: Kate moves closer to the full-length windows.

KATE
Thanks.

SHIRLEY (V.O.)
And I think I found something. A repeated word in diplomatic communications.

Kate's too distracted to notice **THE DOT OF RED LIGHT** ON HER CHEST. From a LASER SIGHT. *

SHIRLEY (V.O.)
Does the word 'Severance' mean anything to you?

KATE
...No.

SHIRLEY (V.O.)
It's never appeared before, now it's been used fourteen times in the last two days. Coded messages going back and forth.

CHRISTOFER SEES **THE DOT OF RED LIGHT**. THE LASER REFRACTING THROUGH THE WINDOW. AND HIS FACE FALLS --

SHIRLEY (V.O.)
"Severance". "Severance". "Severance".

-- AND HE *HURLS HIMSELF* AT KATE! As the window **SHATTERS!**

They hit the carpet, showered with BROKEN GLASS.

Kate's phone goes flying.

She rolls over, stunned. Goes to get up.

And that's when she sees the BLOOD on her hands.

On her chest.

And she starts to shake.

SHIRLEY (V.O.)
(from Kate's phone)
Kate? Kate are you there?

CUT TO:

49 INT. HOMO AQUA HABITAT - DIPLOMATIC CHAMBER - UNDERWATER 49

Close on TED moving forward with his DIPLOMATIC GIFT. The carved wooden GLOBE. Fear in his eyes, but now also -- resolution.

BARCLAY and the other DELEGATES watching.

SALT reaching out for the globe, about to accept the gift.

Ted presses a HIDDEN SWITCH at the base of the globe. The inside of the globe LIGHTS UP, RED. And his eyes are WILD.

TED
Your war is lost.

Barclay's face falls. That's not a gift. It's a weapon.

CUT TO:

50 INT. KATE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT 50

KATE looks to CHRISTOFER. Lying face up. GASPING --

She crawls to him --

His chest is wet with BLOOD. Kate pulls up his t-shirt --

Finds a BULLET WOUND just below his heart --

He just stares at her. In shock, bleeding out --

The muscles in his neck straining, veins bulging --

Mouthing words he can't say --

Kate scrambles to the sofa, grabs her jacket, crawls back, presses it onto the wound. Begs him to be okay --

But the light in his eyes is going out --

Kate presses. And wails. And begs.

But Christofer Ibrahim dies anyway.

CUT TO:

51 INT. HOMO AQUA HABITAT - DIPLOMATIC CHAMBER - UNDERWATER 51

Everything's in SLOW MOTION:

The flashing GLOBE --

TED offering it to Salt, resigned to his fate.

SALT's dread as she realises what's happening --

CUT TO:

52 INT. KATE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT 52

KATE looks up from CHRISTOFER's body. Sees refracting RED LIGHT through the broken window.

A tiny RED DOT settles on her forehead.

CUT TO:

53 INT. HOMO AQUA HABITAT - DIPLOMATIC CHAMBER - UNDERWATER 53

Still in SLOW MOTION:

BARCLAY charges at TED -- SLAMS into him -- they go flying --

The GLOBE goes flying --

Off the elevated platform, into the air --

Thousands of HOMO AQUA looking up at the commotion --

The DELEGATES; shocked, confused --

GENERAL PIERCE, horrified, too late to act --

Barclay pinning Ted to the ground -- looks up --

At Salt, staring down at him --

And in that moment, they both understand --

This is the end.

As the globe

PULSES.

A sonic BOOM -- a halo of ENERGY rippling out across the chamber --

SHATTERING the outer not-walls --

Billions of tonnes of water and pressure SLAM into camera.

And everything goes black.

END OF EPISODE THREE