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"THE EXODUS - PART TWO"

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SLIDERS

“The Exodus - Part Two”

CAST

QUINN MALLORY
WADE WELLES
MAXIMILLIAN ARTURO
REMBRANDT BROWN

CAPT. MAGGIE BECKETT
DR. STEVEN JENSEN
COL. ANGUS RICKMAN
MALCOLM
MRS. MALLORY
DR. BAKER
HAM OPERATOR
SERGEANT
NURSE
WOMAN
MINISTER
AIDE

SLIDERS

“The Exodus - Part Two”

SETS

INTERIORS:

HOSPITAL ER (SAN FRANCISCO)
BLAKE AIR FORCE BASE
TRACKING STATION/LABORATORY
MILITARY MEDICAL WARD
NURSES STATION
HALLWAY
CHAPEL
RICKMAN'S OFFICE
LIVING QUARTERS
HALLWAY OUTSIDE RICKMAN'S OFFICE
CONTROL BOOTH
WAREHOUSE
CATACOMBS
SECTOR ONE
SECTOR TWO

EXTERIORS:

SAN FRANCISCO (STOCK)
HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ENTRANCE
BLAKE AIR FORCE BASE:
QU. AD
INFIRMARY BUILDING
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
GROUNDS
WAREHOUSE
ARCHWAY LEADING TO WAREHOUSE
FENCE
PERIMETER
NEW WORLD
RIDGE
FIELD
FOREST
CLIFF
CAMPSITE

CHRONOLOGY PAGE

SCENES	32 - 44	DAY #4
SCENE	45	NIGHT #4
SCENES	46 - 53	DAY #5
SCENES	54 - 66	NIGHT #5
SCENES	67 - 71	DAY #6
SCENE	72	NIGHT #6
SCENE	73	DAY #7

SLIDERS

"The Exodus - Part Two"

TEASER

Recap of part one.

ACT ONE

FADE IN

32 EXT. SAN FRANCISCO - DAY - ESTABLISHING (STOCK) 32

We HEAR a SIREN wailing in the distance.

33 EXT. HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ENTRANCE - DAY 33

An AMBULANCE screeches to a stop. The back doors bang open and two PARAMEDICS drag a stretcher out with an unconscious MAGGIE on it.

A late model sedan, driven by QUINN with a very upset MRS. MALLORY in the front seat, pulls up behind the ambulance, slams on the brakes. Quinn jumps out, starts to follow the paramedics. Mrs. Mallory calls to him.

MRS. MALLORY

Quinn?

QUINN

I'm sorry, Mom.

MRS. MALLORY

But you said you were going to explain!

He's gone.

34 INT. HOSPITAL ER - DAY - SECONDS LATER 34

Quinn strides alongside the gurney, his eyes on Maggie. DR. BAKER (30, Noah Wiley) rushes up. (The following happens on the move.)

DR. BAKER

What can you tell me. She take anything? She on medication?

QUINN

I don't know. She just started coughing and collapsed.

CONTINUED

DR. BAKER
(checking her)
She's cyanotic, BP way up.
(to paramedics)
Put her in two.
(loudly)
Help here!

The paramedics push the gurney into an EXAM CUBICLE.
Quinn's right with them.

INSIDE CUBICLE

Dr. Baker pushes past Quinn to get to the exam table.

DR. BAKER
Can you step outside please?

Quinn just ignores him, watches with concern as other
medical personnel stream in, very fast, very professional.
Dr. Baker looks into Maggie's throat.

DR. BAKER
Gonzo allergy time. Gotta intubate
her. She's closing up. One
hundred cc's adrenalin.

As a nurse moves towards Maggie with a needle, Mrs. Mallory
appears at the mouth of the cubicle next to Quinn.

MRS. MALLORY
Quinn? For God's sake, talk to me,
tell me what's going on! Where
have you been?

DR. BAKER
(working on Maggie)
Dammit, I can't get it in. Get me
a trach set. Gotta cut, gotta get
an airway going.

Quinn pulls out his timer. Ninety seconds and counting.

MRS. MALLORY
What is that?

No time to explain. He embraces his mom.

Dr. Baker brushes past them as he moves to the other side of
Maggie.

CONTINUED

DR. BAKER

(re: Quinn, Mom)

Can someone get these people out of here?

(then, eyeing Maggie)

Where's the trach? We're losing her!

QUINN

I'm sorry, Mom. But she's going to die if I don't get her out of here.

(indicates timer)

This is how I got here, and this is how I'll come back to you. I promise.

MRS. MALLORY

. Don't go. Please. I beg you...

Quinn kisses her. She's starting to cry.

DR. BAKER

Where's the damn trach?!

QUINN

I swear I'll be back.

MRS. MALLORY

Quinn...

An orderly slips past them with a trach set, hands it to Baker.

DR. BAKER

About freakin' time.

Quinn forces himself to leave her, steps to the examining table.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Baker has the scalpel in his hands, about to make the trach incision, when Quinn grabs his hand, pulls him back.

DR. BAKER

What the hell do you think you're doing?

QUINN

Sliding.

Quinn pulls the IV lines off of Maggie. The doctor places a hand on Quinn's shoulder.

CONTINUED

DR. BAKER

Hey.

Quinn spins around and slugs Baker, knocking him backwards into the orderly. The nurses scream for help as they rush out. Quinn hits the timer. The vortex opens up (CGI), astounding his mother. A security guard enters the cubicle as Quinn cradles his hands under Maggie. The guard's frozen by the sight of the vortex.

Quinn lifts Maggie, takes one last look at his mother.

QUINN

I love you.

Quinn dives into the vortex. We HOLD on Mrs. Mallory and the others, trying to understand.

CUT TO

35 INT. BLAKE AIR FORCE BASE - TRACKING STATION/LABORATORY - DAY 35

Arturo looks at a computer monitor as Dr. Jensen listens to a short wave operator describing the devastation in his east coast location. On the COMPUTER SCREEN, a MAP of the U.S. with the devastated areas highlighted in colors.

HAM OPERATOR (V.O.)

(filtered)

...and the last time I went up to look, there were bodies everywhere.

(static)

I don't know if anyone's out there to hear this... but my name is

(static)

and I live in Delaware...

The signal breaks up. Jensen adjusts the dials, but that's not it.

ARTURO

(somber)

I'm not sure there's much more to hear anyway.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The vortex opens (O.S.), Quinn slides out with Maggie in his arms. She's unconscious.

DR. JENSEN

Maggie!

CONTINUED

Quinn lays her down, quickly places his lips on hers, blows a couple of breaths. Maggie chokes, starts breathing again.

DR. JENSEN

Get her to the infirmary. Hurry!

Arturo helps Quinn lift her body.

ARTURO

What happened?

QUINN

I found Earth Prime. But something in the air caused this reaction.

ARTURO

(stunned)

My God. You got home.

Cradling Maggie in his arms, Quinn indicates Jensen's timer in his pocket.

QUINN

And the way back is inside the memory.

DR. JENSEN

Come on!

Arturo snatches the timer from Quinn's pocket and stares at it in awe as Quinn follows Jensen out. CAMERA moves to the computer screen. More sections of the U.S. have been highlighted.

CUT TO

36 INT. NURSES STATION - DAY
(FORMERLY SCENE #X-100 - ALREADY SHOT)

36

Jensen and Quinn wait outside the Medical Ward for word on Maggie.

QUINN

Something in the atmosphere, some chemical, I don't know what, but she started choking and couldn't breathe.

Jensen stares at Quinn, regarding him as much a rival as the man who almost got his wife killed.

CONTINUED

36 CONTINUED

36

DR. JENSEN

You didn't tell me she could die.
I never would have let her go.

Quinn doesn't like Jensen's inferring it was Quinn's fault.

QUINN

It's never happened to any of us
before.

DR. JENSEN

Your lungs must be different than
ours.

(still resentful)

I suppose I should thank you.

QUINN

(annoyed)

Don't get all weepy about it.

Quinn moves toward the door.

DR. JENSEN

Mallory.

Quinn stops.

DR. JENSEN

I've seen how you two look at each
other. I don't like it.

QUINN

You got any problems, talk to her.
As far as I'm concerned, your wife
is just someone I've got to put up
with.

DR. JENSEN

I don't believe that. And I don't
think you believe it.

A NURSE enters.

NURSE

Doctor Jensen. Your wife wants to
see you.

Quinn and Jensen exchange a look.

DR. JENSEN

She all right?

CONTINUED

NURSE

The flight surgeon says she'll be fully recovered in a few hours. He also said if Mr. Mallory had been any longer getting her back, she'd be dead.

The Nurse glances at Quinn, smiles, then goes back into the ward. Jensen starts to follow, turns back to Quinn. A last look between them. Too many thoughts to sort out. He exits.

CUT TO

37 INT. MEDICAL WARD HALLWAY - DAY - SECONDS LATER
(FORMERLY SCENE #X-101 - ALREADY SHOT)

37

A conflicted Quinn steps out of the ward, starts down the hall when he's intercepted by the other Sliders.

WADE

Tell me it's true.

Quinn smiles, indicates Jensen's timer.

QUINN

Earth Prime. The coordinates are right in here.

Jubilation.

REMBRANDT

I can't believe we're finally going home.

WADE

The Professor said you saw your mother. Is she going to call my folks?

REMBRANDT

And Artie. She's gotta tell Artie. If he can't get me bookings after this, I'm getting a new agent!

QUINN

I didn't have time to ask her to make calls. Maggie got sick right away.

Arturo sees their disappointment.

CONTINUED

37 CONTINUED

37

ARTURO

No long faces now. We'll be able to talk to our loved ones ourselves in just a few days.

(smiles)

And what a homecoming it will be.

REMBRANDT

Why wait? Let's get out of here now.

QUINN

What about the lives we promised to save?

REMBRANDT

We've already done more than anyone else would. The Professor gave them the new chip they need to slide, let them find their own world..

ARTURO

Even if we could transfer our home coordinates to our timer, which we can't yet... our timer won't hit zero until after the pulsars have hit. We need to slide with them to survive.

REMBRANDT

(getting frustrated)

But not if we use their timer and leave now!

(and then)

Look, there are catacombs under this base. A lot of them could survive down there and use our timer to slide out when it hits zero.

QUINN

That wasn't the deal I made with them.

REMBRANDT

So it's all about them. What about us?

QUINN

Remmy, we'll make the transfer and slide home as soon as we finish helping them. Okay?

CONTINUED

REMBRANDT

No. It's not okay.

WADE

Quinn, the pulsars will be here in less than eight hours. The longer we're here, the more chance something will go wrong.

QUINN

I can't turn my back on these people.

REMBRANDT

So stay if you're so damn hot to help. Wade and I will go home now.

ARTURO

What about your young friend, Malcolm?

REMBRANDT

He'll go with us.

QUINN

Remmy, he'll die on our world!

WADE

He's got a lot better chance in one of our hospitals than he does here. Maybe they can put him in one of those bubbles or something.

QUINN

We're not leaving.

REMBRANDT

Who the hell put you in charge?

ARTURO

Mr. Brown...

He steps closer to Quinn, his eyes flaring.

REMBRANDT

You're the reason we're even in this whole mess. It's because of you we were taken away from everything we knew, everyone we loved. Or did you forget that?

QUINN

You never let me.

CONTINUED

REMBRANDT

Well it seems to have slipped your mind now! When it comes right down to it, we mean less to you than a bunch of strangers.

QUINN

That's not true.

Remmy's had enough, reaches for the timer.

REMBRANDT

Just give me the damn timer.

QUINN

(pulls away)
No.

Frustration boils over and Remmy swings, catching him solidly on the jaw. Quinn's he snaps back.

WADE

Remmy, no!

Remmy's second swing is blocked by Quinn. He shoves Remmy away, Arturo steps in between them. Holds them apart.

ARTURO

Enough of this!

REMBRANDT

(to Quinn)
I'm sick of you acting like God. You're just a guy who screwed up and then stuck us with the bill.

(then)
Aw, the hell with you.

He storms off.

WADE

Remmy, wait. Please.

But he doesn't. She turns to Quinn.

WADE

God, sometimes you can be such a bastard.

She goes after Remmy.

ARTURO

Everything will be all right once we're back home.

CONTINUED

37 CONTINUED 4

37

QUINN
That assumes I care.

Off. Arturo's look --

CUT TO

38 INT. BASE CHAPEL - DAY

38

People making their peace before the end are scattered through the rows of chairs. A MINISTER stands at the altar.

MINISTER
Lord, in your wisdom, you have decreed the destruction of the earth that you created. It has been a long time coming, and you have given us ample warning...

RICKMAN'S POV - HAND HELD

He enters the chapel, sees a MAN praying alone in the back row, his head bowed. As he approaches...

MINISTER (O.S.)
The day of rapture is upon us. Please welcome us into your holy house...

The SYRINGE is raised.

MINISTER (O.S.)
We shall soon stand naked before you and ask forgiveness. For we have sinned against you and our fellow man.

The needle plunges into the unsuspecting man's neck. He stiffens as the fluid fills the needle, then the steel point's withdrawn and his head hangs. As if in prayer. We follow the needle to Rickman's neck thru...

MINISTER (O.S.)
Take mercy upon us, Lord, as we can not defend our sins.

He shoves it into his own neck, MORPHS into the man (CGI).

MINISTER (O.S.)
We beseech you to hear our prayers.

He MORPHS back (CGI) and joins the others in an...

CONTINUED

38 CONTINUED

38

RICKMAN

Amen.

CUT TO

39 EXT. BASE QUAD - DAY

39

Eerily calm and empty. A still hot Remmy fumes under a tree, trying to collect his thoughts. Then...

MALCOLM (O.S.)

(strained)
Rembrandt?

Shaken from his fog, Remmy turns to see Malcolm standing nearby. The attitude has left forever. He's a scared boy who's all alone.

MALCOLM

Is it true? We're all gonna die?

A beat, then Remmy opens his arms. The boy rushes to him, buries his face in his chest, the tears flowing.

MALCOLM

It's not fair... I didn't do anything wrong...

REMBRANDT

No one did.

Malcolm raises his eyes to Remmy's.

MALCOLM

I know I'm not supposed to be scared. My dad would want me to be a man.'

(a sob)

But I don't want to die...

Rembrandt holds him tight a beat, makes a decision. He lifts Malcolm's chin.

REMBRANDT

You're not going to die.

MALCOLM

But the TV said...

CONTINUED

39 CONTINUED

39

REMBRANDT

There's a way to get to another world. A place where you'll be safe. But it's a secret. You have to promise to trust me... and not tell anyone.

MALCOLM

I promise.
(then)
Can my parents go with me?

REMBRANDT

I don't know, Malcolm. But I'll try.

CUT TO

40 EXT. INFIRMARY BUILDING - DAY

40

Quinn's striding past the infirmary when he sees Maggie step out into the light. Unsteady, she leans against the building for support. Quinn rushes to help her.

QUINN

Whoa. Hold on there.

He steadies her, she angrily pulls away.

MAGGIE

I don't need any help.

QUINN

Whatever you say.
(then)
Does your husband know you're out walking around?

MAGGIE

(buzz off)
Too much is going on for me to just lie in a bed. But thanks for your concern.

QUINN

(annoyed)
Hey, what did I do to you? Besides save your life.

MAGGIE

You expect me to say thanks? You jeopardized the mission, Mallory.
(MORE)

CONTINUED

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

You could have been arrested, the timer confiscated. You should have just left me there.

QUINN

I'll remember that next time.

MAGGIE

Good. Because I assure you, if the situation's ever reversed, I'll do the same.

She exits, leaving Quinn to stare after her.

CUT TO

41 INT. RICKMAN'S OFFICE - DAY

41

Rickman uses a pair of tongs to lower a slim glass tube into a liquid nitrogen flask. He screws the top on the flask, sets it in a foam cutout in a metal Haliburton-style briefcase, along with twenty other such flasks.

There's a buzz on the intercom, Rickman closes the case, presses another button and an AIDE enters.

RICKMAN

What is it.

AIDE

There's a crowd gathering at the south gate.

Rickman flips on a TV monitor. A mob of people at the fence.

AIDE

They think we have a fall out shelter on the base. Like they have in Washington for the VIP's.

RICKMAN

I wish it was true.

People are starting to pull on the fence. Guards with weapons FIRE warning bursts into the air. People pull back for a moment. A phone on Rickman's desk rings. He picks it up.

CONTINUED

41 CONTINUED

41

RICKMAN

Rickman.

(then)

Yes Sergeant, I'm watching it.
That mob will not get onto this
base. Shoot to kill.

42 EXT. BLAKE AIR FORCE BASE FENCE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

42

A horrified SERGEANT cradles his radio, hangs up, looks out at the growing crowd. They are starting to climb the fence now. His men look at him for an order.

SERGEANT

(to himself)

God forgive me.

(shouts)

Fire at will!

The soldiers hesitate.

SERGEANT

You have your orders!

The young men lock and load, swing their weapons towards the crowd. The world's gone mad.

43 INT. RICKMAN'S OFFICE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

43

We HOLD on RICKMAN, watching the monitors. The SOUND of automatic weapons' fire fills the room as we...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN

44. EXT. ADMINISTRATION BUILDING - DAY

44

Wade exits, engrossed in a file folder. Remmy strides up.

WADE
Where did you go? I've been
worried about you.

REMBRANDT
I had to walk off some anger.

WADE
Remmy, I've been thinking about
what was said between all of us...

REMBRANDT
Forget it. It's over.

Wade knows it's far from over. But she won't press.

REMBRANDT
Where are you with getting Malcolm
on the list to slide?

WADE
I don't know if I can do it.

REMBRANDT
Wade. I've promised the kid he's
going.

WADE
I can't believe you did that. You
have no right to lay that off on
me!

REMBRANDT
It's just one more name.

WADE
It's more than that! If he goes
on, someone else comes off! You
can't imagine what it's like,
knowing each name you erase from
the screen means that person dies!

She's right. He didn't realize.

CONTINUED

44 CONTINUED

44

WADE

You know, all you think about is saving one person. But all I think about are all the people I'm not.

REMBRANDT

I don't know all those people. But I know this boy.

WADE

(deep breath)

Remy, Rickman's made it a lot harder to get on the list. It's not just blood type anymore. He's got me screening people for certain DNA profiles, specific brain chemistry.

REMBRANDT

What's he looking for?

WADE

The best odds he can get for survival, I guess.

REMBRANDT

Wade I don't care what you've got to do. I want Malcolm on that list.

Wade meets his eyes. Beat, then...

WADE

No promises. But I'll try.

CUT TO:

45 INT. TRACKING STATION/LABORATORY - NIGHT

45

Arturo helps Maggie and Quinn prepare to slide again as they're strapping on backpacks.

DR. JENSEN

There's no reason for you to go, Maggie. Mallory can handle this on his own.

MAGGIE

With two of us, the odds are better at least one will make it back.

CONTINUED

45 CONTINUED

45

DR. JENSEN

Damn it, Maggie! You need more time to recuperate!

Rickman enters, overhearing.

RICKMAN

We're out of time. Less than six hours before we have to be on a new world.

DR. JENSEN

Please, Maggie... stay with me.

She leans in close so the others won't hear.

MAGGIE

I'll make it back, Steve. I'll be with you at the end of this world or the beginning of a new one.

RICKMAN

The clock is running, people.

Quinn aims Jensen's timer. The VORTEX OPENS O.S.

ARTURO

Good hunting.

Quinn gives Arturo a look, then slides with Maggie. Vortex closes and dies O.S. A beat, then...

RICKMAN

Doctor Jensen, you have a final number for the slide?

DR. JENSEN

Yes. But it's lower than I thought. I can only guarantee safe passage for one hundred and forty people.

ARTURO

Are you certain?

DR. JENSEN

Maybe ten more, but the strain on the vortex is dangerous enough. Especially when I factor in supplies.

ARTURO

That doesn't seem right. Maybe we should run the numbers again.

CONTINUED

RICKMAN

No. We stick with a hundred and forty and plan around it.

Arturo would argue but Rickman cuts him off by snatching up a phone, punching in some numbers.

RICKMAN

(into phone)

This is Colonel Rickman. Get a closed circuit going in ten minutes. Feed it to the entire base.

DR. JENSEN

What are you going to say?

RICKMAN

(hanging up)

That we have a way off. And that everyone's going.

ARTURO

So you're going to lie to them right up to the very end.

RICKMAN

You want to tell them they're all going to die?

(then)

This is not going to turn into the last days of Saigon. We have to maintain order until the slide's complete.

He starts to leave, stops.

RICKMAN

By the way, Professor. If you're so gung-ho to save more people, be assured no one will stop you from giving up your seat in the life boat.

Rickman exits. Off Arturo's conflicted look

CUT TO:

46 EXT. BASE PERIMETER - DAY

46

A no man's land of bloated bodies. It's blistering HOT, the weather having gone crazy from the pulsar's effect on the sun.

CONTINUED

46 CONTINUED

46

The sky's filled with weird electrical discharges, bizarre lightening splitting the blue. (CGI) Over this unsettling sight...

RICKMAN (V.O.)

By now you all know about the pulsars. And that more are coming.

47 INT. CONTROL BOOTH - DAY

47

Rickman sits at a small table, facing a Video Camera.

RICKMAN

Until a few moments ago, I, like all of you, assumed this was the end. That we'd all die here. But now we've found a way for all of us to escape.

INTERCUT - RICKMAN ON TV SCREENS

being watched by MILITARY AND CIVILIAN WORKERS on the base.

RICKMAN

It's an experimental form of inter-dimensional travel called Sliding. It will allow us to go to a new world.

INTERCUT Arturo and Jensen watching a monitor in the tracking station.

RICKMAN

We have one chance to make this work, so you must follow my orders without question. Anyone who disobeys threatens all of us, and they will be executed immediately.

INTERCUT - Armed soldiers at the front line of defense, listening on LOUDSPEAKERS.

RICKMAN (O.S.)

We've compiled a list of all base personnel. Computers will randomly divide us into two groups.

48 INT. TRACKING STATION/LABORATORY -DAY - CONTINUOUS

48

Arturo and Jensen watching Rickman on the TV screen.

CONTINUED

48 CONTINUED

48

RICKMAN

When it comes time to leave our Earth, we will slide in two separate groups.

(checks his watch)

At twenty-one hundred, everyone will start moving to the command buildings at the center of the base. And if you want to pray, now's the time. God help us all.

The screen goes black. Arturo moves to a computer.

ARTURO

I know what Rickman said. But I'm going to run these projections again.

DR. JENSEN

You're wasting your time.

ARTURO

(tapping keys)

I don't think so. Not if I can save even one single life.

CUT TO

49 EXT. NEW WORLD - DAY - ESTABLISHING

49

A blue sky filled with clouds. A verdant landscape.

50 EXT. NEW WORLD FOREST - DAY

50

Quinn and Maggie wend their way through the lush foliage. Maggie stops, takes a deep breath. She's still weak.

QUINN

Want to take a break?

MAGGIE

No. I'm fine.

She forces herself to move. She passes Quinn, who doesn't.

QUINN

There's no review board on this planet, Captain.

Maggie stops, faces him.

CONTINUED

50 CONTINUED

50

MAGGIE

Meaning what?

QUINN

Meaning you always act like you're being graded. If you're not the perfect soldier here, no one's going to be disappointed.

MAGGIE

(heated)

I'm a General's daughter, Mallory. Yeah, his name opened doors, but it also came with a price. I've always had to prove myself.

QUINN

What do you know? There's a person inside that uniform.

Maggie realizes she's said too much.

MAGGIE

I don't have time for this.

She quickly turns, starts back through the foliage.

MAGGIE

This is the last world we have time to scout. We better make sure it's the right one.

Then she stops, LISTENS. DRUMS POUND in the distance.

MAGGIE

Hear that?

QUINN

Sounds like we have upstairs neighbors.

CUT TO

51 EXT. NEW WORLD RIDGE - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

51

Quinn and Maggie stand on the ridge, looking through BINOCs at something below.

POV - THROUGH BINOCs

PRIMITIVE MEN and WOMEN in a field. Some drum on logs, others decorate a hole with flowers. A body waits to be buried.

CONTINUED

51 CONTINUED

51

BACK TO SCENE

MAGGIE
Have we gone back in time?

QUINN
No, we don't time travel. It's just some worlds develop faster or slower than others. This one seems to be about two hundred thousand years behind us.

MAGGIE
I don't know. It looks like it has everything we need. But early man?
(lowers her binocs)
How much time before the pulsars it?

QUINN
(checks his watch)
Three hours.

MAGGIE
Than we have no choice. This is our new home.

CUT TO:

52 INT. TRACKING STATION/LABORATORY - DAY

52

Arturo works at the computer, running figures, trying to increase the number that can slide. Jensen works on Quinn's timer.

ARTURO
How's it going?

DR. JENSEN
Slower than I thought. But I'll get it done.

They react as the VORTEX OPENS O.S. and Maggie and Quinn slide in. Rickman enters the station as Arturo helps Maggie and Quinn to their feet.

ARTURO
Well?

QUINN
We found it.

CONTINUED

52 CONTINUED

52

RICKMAN
You're certain?

MAGGIE
It's not perfect, but it's going to
have to do.

A CLAXON sounds. Rickman flips on a security monitor.

QUINN
What's going on?

MAGGIE
The alarm means there's been a
security breach at the outer gates.

On the security monitors, the gates are broken open and
people stream into the base, GUNS FIRING. A few soldiers
fire back, are shot dead.

RICKMAN
Let's get a perimeter set up around
the quad. We've got to hold them
off until we can leave.

Rickman strides for the door, Maggie following.

MAGGIE
(to Jensen)
I'll see you at the slide.

DR. JENSEN
Count on it.

Rickman and Maggie exit. Beat, then Jensen forces himself
to return to business. He indicates Quinn's timer.

DR. JENSEN
As promised, I've been able to
modify your timer so you can track
wormholes.

QUINN
What about our home coordinates?

DR. JENSEN
It's taking longer than I expected
to download them.

Suddenly the LIGHTS BLINK, power dies.

DR. JENSEN
The mob... they've reached the
power substation...

CONTINUED

52 CONTINUED 2

52

On. Off. Blackness. Then... BLUE SECURITY LIGHTS kick in, giving the room an eerie glow.

ARTURO

The back-up generators. How long can they operate?

DR. JENSEN

Depends. On need and security.

(starts to wheel out)

They might need help re-routing the power flow. I'll be back as soon as I can.

QUINN

But our coordinates...

But Jensen's gone. Quinn and Arturo react.

ARTURO

Better round up the troops. We should all be together just in case.

QUINN

You coming?

Arturo sits down at the computer.

ARTURO

In a minute.

Quinn exits as Arturo sits, types in some numbers.

CUT TO

53 INT. RICKMAN'S OFFICE - LATE DAY

53

The blue lights are on. Remmy huddles over Wade, who eyes a dead computer, her fingers poised to type. Half of an unfinished printout protrudes from the dead printer nearby.

REMBRANDT

(to computer)

Come on, baby...

The blue lights fade and the computer flickers to life as the power surges on.

REMBRANDT

Now!

CONTINUED

53 CONTINUED

53

Wade quickly taps keys. The computer starts to re-boot, the printer HUMS to life.

WADE

If we can just keep power long enough to finish printing the list...

REMBRANDT

(re: computer)
Did you get Malcolm's name on the list before it blanked?

WADE

I'm not sure. Check it as it comes off.

Remy moves to the printer as it starts to print again.

WADE

The screen's dead. Surge must have fried it. I can give commands but I can't read anything.

REMBRANDT

I don't see his name yet.

WADE

There can't be much more. If he's not on there, I don't think I can get back in.

The power dims, the computer flickers, then it's back on.

REMBRANDT

(eyeing printout)
Come on... come on...
(then)
Yes! Malcolm Eastman! All right.

Wade breathes a sigh of relief. The power dies and the blue lights blink back on. Remy rips the list off the printer.

REMBRANDT

Close. He was last on the list. Number one fifty.

WADE

One fifty? That can't be right.
(eyes printout)
Rickman left an E-Mail that said he had programmed the computer to cut off names at a hundred and forty.

CONTINUED

53 CONTINUED 2

53

REMBRANDT

He must have decided there was room
for ten more.

WADE

(spots something on list)
Wait a minute. These last few
names, the ones before Malcolm's.
(realizes)

They're coma patients. Why would
he take comas patients and leave
healthy people behind?

REMBRANDT

I don't know, let's ask him. Maybe
we can still get Malcolm's folks on
the list.

As they start out...

CUT TO

54 INT. BASE WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

54

The room's illuminated with the blue lights. Rickman marks
off a checklist as a couple of SOLDIERS carry in boxes of
supplies, stack them.

RICKMAN

You'll find more cases of batteries
waiting in Store 2. Bring them
here.

The soldiers exit, passing Arturo.

ARTURO

Colonel. As I suspected, Doctor
Jensen's knowledge of the physics
of sliding is still elemental. I
did some recalculations, and I'm
absolutely sure we can sustain a
vortex of such size and dimension
sufficient to get at least another
hundred people through to the new
world.

Rickman studies his clipboard, unmoved by Arturo's news.

RICKMAN

We go with what we have. No more.

ARTURO

That's tantamount to murder.

CONTINUED

54 CONTINUED

54

RICKMAN

If you're wrong, and Jensen's right about the strain being too much for the vortex, we could all die.

ARTURO

But I'm not wrong.

RICKMAN

(exploding)

Look, I told you, I have enough!

ARTURO

(beat)

What do you mean... you have enough?

RICKMAN

(recovering)

It means, better a few make it than none at all. We stick with the plan we have.

ARTURO

Of course you will. Because you're a coward. You'll live, that's all that matters. Or is it you realize the people you take will do whatever you ask in exchange for the gift of their lives?

In this case, Rickman's silence really does speak volumes.

ARTURO

Either way, you're not qualified to be in command. And I don't think you will be after people learn the truth.

He exits. Rickman drops his clipboard, reaches into his pocket. Pulls out a NEEDLE.

55 EXT. BASE GROUNDS - NIGHT - SECONDS LATER

55

CLOSE ON ARTURO as he strides towards the Quad. From out of the darkness, a needle plunges into his neck. He GASPS, stiffens, falls to the ground. Rickman hunches over him.

RICKMAN

Didn't you ever learn? No one likes a snitch.

ANOTHER ANGLE

CONTINUED

55 CONTINUED

55

Wade and Remy head for the warehouse, spot the two shadowy figures ahead in the dark.

REMBRANDT

Hey!

Interrupted, Rickman withdraws the needle. It's only half full. He flees into the blackness as Wade and Remy run up.

WADE

(recognizing him)

Professor!

They kneel, turn him over. Arturo's eyes are unfocused, his speech thick and slurred.

REMBRANDT

Max... can you hear us?

ARTURO

Hel... help... mah... me.

Off Wade and Remy's anguish, we...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN

56 INT. MEDICAL WARD - NIGHT
(FORMERLY SCENE #X-102)

56

CLOSE - TELEVISION.

A television broadcast on the Government Emergency channel. STOCK SHOTS of people going somberly into churches, standing in the streets with candles, singing hymns.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

These are probably the last pictures we will be able to send you. The next wave of pulsars... due to strike the earth in three hours, will destroy our remaining DBS system.

We PAN from the TV screen to REVEAL the MEDICAL WARD. Everything's bathed in the EERIE GLOW of the blue emergency lights. Quinn and Rembrandt, sweating from the heat, stand over Arturo who lies on a gurney, conscious but his body twitching.

REMBRANDT

Max, I saw someone running away.
Did you see who it was?

Arturo struggles to speak... HIS SPEECH STILL SLURRED.

ARTURO

I... can't...

Wade rushes up with a glass of water and a vial of pills.

WADE

Professor, take this.

QUINN

What are you giving him?

WADE

It's a muscle relaxant. Don't worry, I used to be a Candy Striper. They always gave it to trauma victims.

She helps Arturo take the pill.

CONTINUED

56 CONTINUED

56

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Many people are gathering in churches, in parks, looking for whatever there is that can bring them comfort in this darkest hour of human history.

QUINN

Turn that damn thing off.

Rembrandt turns off the television.

QUINN

Professor, who did this to you?

ARTURO

(slurred)
I can't... remember.

The Sliders exchange a look.

WADE

It's all right, don't try to...

ARTURO

Not all right! Can't think. My ma... mind... not working right.

REMBRANDT

Professor. Where's the timer?

Arturo strains to remember. Then he pats his pants pocket. Quinn reaches in and takes out the timer.

REMBRANDT

Did Jensen transfer our home coordinates? Can we go home when this hits zero?

ARTURO

(shakes his head)
No... time.

Remmy glares at Quinn. Exactly what he was afraid of.

WADE

That means the only way we get home now is if Rickman let's us use his timer after we slide to the new world.

Arturo feels the back of his skull. It hurts. He sits up. Starts to get off the gurney.

CONTINUED

56 CONTINUED 2

56

ARTURO

(slurred)
Ha.. help me...

Quinn helps Arturo as he crosses to a coma patient's bed.

ARTURO

Turn him.

Remmy does. Arturo points to the base of the skull on the patient and himself.

QUINN

What are you trying to say?

Wade looks at the skull of the patient, then at Arturo's skull.

WADE

They've got the same puncture wound.

ARTURO

(taps the back of his skull)
Needle.

WADE

(realization)
Quinn, these coma patients are all victims of an assault. Probably the only reason the Professor's not in a coma is because we interrupted the attacker.

REMBRANDT

I'm going to find Rickman. Whoever's doing this has to have medical knowledge. So there's a damn good chance they're on the list to go to the next world.

He heads out.

QUINN

Wade. Go with him. Make sure he doesn't do anything stupid.

57 EXT. BASE WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

57

We HEAR GUNFIRE in the distance. The sky is crazy with pulsar-affected weather. There's a battle going on at the edge of the base. The only light is from SPOTLIGHTS.

CONTINUED

There's a line of the last DOZEN PEOPLE, with suitcases and their belongings, snaking up to the entrance.

ARMED SOLDIERS keep it moving. At the head of the line, Rickman and Maggie are consulting the list, either sending people into the warehouse or to a holding area across the quad. An anxious WOMAN and her ten year old son step up. She hands Rickman her papers.

WOMAN

Haley Yaniger and my son, Guy.

Rickman consults the list.

RICKMAN

You go with the second group, your son goes with the first.

WOMAN

Please, can't I stay with my son?

Rickman looks to a soldier. He takes the son. The woman tearfully kisses her son goodbye. One of the soldiers grabs her, pulls her back, sends her to the other group.

RICKMAN

How many is that?

Maggie's preoccupied. She can't help but be affected by watching the mother and son being separated.

RICKMAN

Captain. You've got to focus. How many is that?

MAGGIE

One hundred and fifteen.

RICKMAN

Next.

A couple hand him papers, he checks them against the list.

RICKMAN

Group two. You'll go later.

They step away. Malcolm's next.

MALCOLM

Malcolm Eastman.

RICKMAN

You're in the first group.

CONTINUED

57 CONTINUED 2

57

MALCOLM

You're not taking my parents, are you?

A look between Maggie and Rickman.

MAGGIE

(gently)
They're going in the second group.

MALCOLM

Then why aren't they here now?

RICKMAN

They will be. We have people bringing them over from the infirmary.

MALCOLM

(suspicious)
I'm not leaving them.

Rickman gestures to a soldier. The man puts a hand on Malocolm. He twists away from the soldier and takes off running. Maggie starts after him...

RICKMAN

Let him go.

Rickman looks at the line, only a few left.

RICKMAN

Next.

A couple steps up, Rickman looks at their papers, points to the first group.

MAGGIE

Colonel, I'm worried about my husband. He should be here by now. I'd like permission to go look for him.

Rickman motions for the last person in line to step up. He reads their papers, waves them into the second group.

RICKMAN

Permission denied. I have to get my things anyway, I'll look for him. Stay and secure this area.

MAGGIE

Yes, sir.

CONTINUED

57 CONTINUED 3 . 57
Rickman exits.

CUT TO

58 INT. RICKMAN'S OFFICE - NIGHT 58

Almost everything's been packed. Boxes, some full, some still open, are scattered about the office. Remy and Wade enter.

REMBRANDT

Colonel Rickman!

They move in and look around. Wade opens an inner door, sticks her head in.

WADE

He's not here.

As she crosses to Remy, something in an open packing box catches her attention. She pulls out a scrapbook of news clippings. On the cover is a PHOTO OF RICKMAN under the Stars and Stripes Banner with the headline: "Officer sole survivor of platoon plagued by mysterious disease."

WADE

Remy. Listen to this.

(then)

Rickman's entire platoon from the Gulf War died from something they contracted in the desert.

As she scans the article, Remy looks into a packing box. Searches through the contents.

WADE

(reading)

"Doctors identified the problem as a fungus that attacks the brain stem, destroying brain tissue."

Remy pulls out a small 5 X 7 black plastic case, opens it.

REMBRANDT

(shows it to Wade)

Hey, what do these look like to you?

She looks at the box of small vials.

CONTINUED

58 CONTINUED

58

WADE
(it all comes clear)
Syringe vials.
(looks at Remmy)
He's surviving by stealing brain
tissue.

CUT TO

59 INT. RICKMAN'S LIVING QUARTERS - NIGHT

59

The auxiliary lights flicker, change to an PALE YELLOW. Last stages. Rickman packs up the last of his brain stem fluid in the metal case. His hand begins to shake. He fills one of the syringes from a vial marked "Eastman" and injects himself at the base of his skull.

As the brain cells merge with his own, or a brief moment, he takes on the facial characteristics of the tissue donor, and in this case, MORPHS into EASTMAN. (Malcolm's father.) (CGI)

In this nirvana-like state, he doesn't hear the door open and Jensen enter.

ANGLE - JENSEN

as he wheels himself into the room.

DR. JENSEN
Colonel, the Professor might be
right after all.

Rickman becomes aware of the voice and turns to face Jensen in time for Jensen to see Eastman's face dissolve as he MORPHS back into Rickman. (CGI)

DR. JENSEN
My God, what is this...

And then he sees the vials on the bed, the long needle in Rickman's hands.

RICKMAN
I'm sorry you won't be going with
us to the new world, Doctor.

Dr. Jensen backs up in his wheelchair, starts for the door. Rickman closes his case, draws his revolver and walks slowly to the door, almost casually.

60 INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE RICKMAN'S QUARTERS- NIGHT - CONTINUOUS 60

Dr. Jensen wheels furiously, trying to escape. He's nearly to the end of the hallway when Rickman steps from his quarters, levels the gun and fires three times, striking Jensen. He slumps in the chair. The chair continues until it runs into the wall.

Rickman walks towards the wheelchair. When he gets to the intersection of the hallway, he looks to his left.

RICKMAN'S POV - MALCOLM

standing, frozen with shock, looking at the body in the wheelchair and Rickman holding the gun.

BACK TO SCENE

Rickman raises his gun to fire at Malcolm, but Malcolm's too quick. Ducks out of sight. Rickman races after him, but when he turns the corner again, the boy has vanished. Rickman holsters his gun. No time to chase him.

CUT TO

61 INT. MEDICAL WARD - NIGHT 61
(FORMERLY SCENE #X-103)

Quinn sits next to Arturo who's sitting at the edge of a bed, his twitching returning. His speech still slurred.

ARTURO

Quinn. You... and Rembrandt.
Don't...

He can't finish his thought. Just shakes his head.

ARTURO

He's... a good man.

QUINN

(nods)
Yeah. You know a day never goes by that I don't carry the weight of having dragged him into all this.

Remmy and Wade rush in.

REMBRANDT

Q-Ball... it was Rickman. He attacked the Professor. We found these in his office.

He holds up the box of vials.

CONTINUED

61 CONTINUED

61

WADE

He got some kind of disease in the Gulf War. The only way he can survive is by injecting himself with the brain fluid of certain donors.

We hear a SIREN, then flashing lights and the metal FIRE DOOR slams shut. Quinn and Remmy race to it. It's locked. They bang on it. Useless.

REMBRANDT

We're trapped!

Quinn looks around, desperate. Spots a large oxygen tank.

QUINN

Wade, grab that gurney, push it over here by the tank.

WADE

What for?

QUINN

Just do it. Remmy, give me hand.

Quinn and Remmy struggle to lift the tank onto the gurney. Arturo claps his hands. He knows what Quinn is doing even if he can't express it.

ARTURO

(slurred)
Newton.

QUINN

Just like they taught us, Professor. For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction.
(to Remmy)
Strap it on tight.

While Remmy uses the patient straps to secure the oxygen tank to the gurney, Quinn starts to loosen the whole valve stem on top.

WADE

A jet propelled battering ram.
Quinn, you're brilliant.

QUINN

I'd hold the compliments until we see if it works.

(MORE)

CONTINUED

61 CONTINUED 2

61

QUINN (CONT'D)

(to Remmy)

Move it back there and line it up
with the door.

As Remmy and Wade move the gurney, Quinn finds a smaller
tank, hefts it.

QUINN

Lock the wheels straight.

He starts to climb on the gurney.

QUINN

You two are gonna push me as fast
as you can for the door, then bail
out. And get down. This tank
might explode.

Quinn straddles the oxygen tank. Arturo moves out of the
way.

QUINN

Gentlemen, start your engines.

Wade and Remmy start pushing the gurney towards the door.
Halfway there they bail out and duck behind some beds.
Quinn raises the small tank over his head, slams it down on
the big tank, knocking off the valve, turning the tank into
a rocket. The gurney blasts forward. Quinn leaps off and
rolls to safety.

ANGLE - THE DOOR

as the gurney and oxygen tank slam into it. The EXPLOSION
rips it open.

ANGLE - THE SLIDERS

getting up from the floor, shaken but happy as hell it
worked. We HEAR a final CRASH and escape of gas as the
cylinder and gurney come to rest down the hall. Arturo
claps his hands, overcome with emotion. Remmy turns to
Quinn. His anger gone.

REMBRANDT

Nice work, Q-ball.

QUINN

Thanks, man.

REMBRANDT

Listen. About before...

CONTINUED

61 CONTINUED 3

61

QUINN

Forget it.

Wade's helping Arturo toward the door.

WADE

Quinn, we've got to move. Rickman may start sliding at any minute.

Quinn moves to Arturo. Gives him a hand.

QUINN

Come on, Professor.

Quinn and Wade help Arturo to his feet, move to the door. Remy's already through. As he reaches back to lead Arturo through...

CUT TO

62 INT. BASE WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

62

A hundred and forty people, "Group One," are ready to slide. Maggie checks on some last minute details, looks up anxiously as Rickman enters the room, very agitated.

MAGGIE

Colonel, did you find my husband?

RICKMAN

I have bad news, Captain. Some of the civilians made it into the lab. They must have thought Steve knew where the shelters were.

MAGGIE

(realizing)
No...

RICKMAN

I got there too late. I'm sorry.

Maggie feels faint. Rickman puts a hand on her.

RICKMAN

I know this is difficult, but you need to be strong now. We have a mission to complete.

Maggie struggles to pull herself together.

CONTINUED

62 CONTINUED

62

MAGGIE

What about Mallory... and the others?

RICKMAN

We can't wait. We have to go now, before the mob reaches us. I'm going to open the vortex.

CUT TO

63 EXT. ARCHWAY LEADING TO WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

63

The sky is crazy with the electrical storms, discharges of building pulsar waves. (CGI) CAMERA DISCOVERS the Sliders as they make their way to the main building. There is GUNFIRE nearby, EXPLOSIONS.

ANOTHER ANGLE

as they move up behind a building, Quinn looks to see if the coast is clear to continue.

MALCOLM

Rembrandt!

A frightened Malcolm comes running up to them, grabs Remy and hugs him.

REMBRANDT

What are you doing out here? Why aren't you inside?

MALCOLM

(rapid fire)

I went to see Colonel Rickman, to beg him to let my folks come with us... and I saw him shoot Doctor Jensen.

QUINN

Hey, slow down.

MALCOLM

And he was gonna shoot me.

There's a LOW HUM that rises in volume. Through the windows in the base warehouse, Wade and Arturo spot the LIGHT FROM THE VORTEX.

ARTURO

(slurred)
Hurry.

CONTINUED

63 CONTINUED

63

WADE
Rickman's opened the vortex.
They're going without us!

QUINN
Let's go!

Remy picks up Malcolm, Quinn breaks out first, followed by Arturo, helped by Wade.

CUT TO

64 INT. BASE WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

64

The VORTEX IS OPEN. People and material are moving through. Rickman checks his watch. Maggie works on one side of the vortex, shoving people ahead.

RICKMAN
Hurry up, keep moving!

MAGGIE
Go, go, move it!

Maggie waves at a group of SOLDIERS, guarding the doors.

MAGGIE
(checks her watch)
C'mon! We're almost out of time!

The last of the soldiers make the leap. The vortex suddenly SHIFTS AND SHRINKS, then bounces back to a SMALLER OPENING. (CGI)

MAGGIE
What's happening?

RICKMAN
We're losing power! Go!

Maggie makes the leap. Only Rickman is left. He moves to a table to grab his metal briefcase when Quinn bursts through the door. Rickman darts for the vortex. Quinn rushes him.

QUINN
Rickman!

Rickman tries to get his gun out but Quinn brings him down with a flying tackle. They fight for a moment.

CONTINUED

64 CONTINUED

64

Arturo enters with Wade just as Rickman catches Quinn with a hard right and sends him spinning around, flying back. Arturo catches Quinn in his arms.

Remmy enters carrying Malcolm as Rickman draws his gun, aims it at Quinn's back.

WADE

Quinn!

Arturo can see this over Quinn's shoulder and spins around, putting his body in the way, as Rickman racks off two shots that slam into Arturo's back.

Rickman scrambles and leaps into the vortex. Quinn holds on to the collapsing Arturo.

QUINN

Professor.

The VORTEX CLOSES. Remmy moves to help Quinn and Wade lower Arturo's mortally wounded body to the floor.

WADE

Oh, my God.

Quinn holds Arturo. Wade and Remmy each take a hand in a final moment.

REMBRANDT

Hang on, man.

QUINN

Why did you do that?

Arturo just looks at him with deep affection.

WADE

You've got to stay with us,
Professor... stay with us...

Arturo shakes his head. Manages to make eye contact with each of them one last time.

ARTURO

(whispered)
Get...underground. Fa.. follow
him. Only chance for home.

WADE

You're coming with us.

Arturo manages a subtle shake of his head. He knows this is the end of the slide.

CONTINUED

64 CONTINUED 2

64

ARTURO
I love you all.
(a whisper)
Sliders.

And he dies. WE HOLD on them as we...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN

65 INT. BASE WAREHOUSE - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

65

Quinn and Wade kneel beside Arturo. Quinn can't take his eyes off the body. Still shaken by the death. We HEAR the GUNFIRE closer now. VOICES on the wind, screams and madness in the streets.

WADE

Quinn. We can't stay here.

QUINN

He deliberately took those bullets.
He saved my life.

WADE

(gently)
I know... but so he didn't die in vain, we have to try to stay alive.

REMBRANDT

That pulsar is gonna hit in one hour.

QUINN

(eyes still on Arturo)
The Professor was right. We have to get underground. If we can get deep enough, the radiation might not reach us before we slide.

WADE

(to Malcolm)
There any tunnels on this base?

MALCOLM

The catacombs.

REMBRANDT

Malcolm, grab some flashlights.

QUINN

And a radiation badge.

Wade brings an army blanket to Quinn, who tenderly covers Arturo with it.

WADE

Good-bye, Professor.

CONTINUED

65 CONTINUED

65

REMBRANDT

You were like a brother to me, Max.
I'm going to miss you.

Quinn picks up Arturo's hand, holds it. A beat, then...

QUINN

I will never forget you.

Quinn kisses the hand, sets it down. He turns to look at the others.

QUINN

Let's go.

DISSOLVE TO

66 INT. BASE CATACOMBS - SECTOR ONE

66

Flashlight beams held by Quinn and the others lead them through the catacombs. They come to a fork in the road.

QUINN

Which way will take us deeper,
Malcolm?

Malcolm looks, then points.

MALCOLM

That way.

Quinn starts in that direction when we hear a MEOW. Malcolm shines his light on a large TAWNY CAT.

MALCOLM

Hey, look. Here, kitty. All
alone? Come on. Why don't you
come with us?

QUINN

Malcolm, I don't think we need a
cat with us.

MALCOLM

Why not? Don't they have rats on
the world we're going to?

WADE

At least one we know of.

REMBRANDT

I think we got room for one mouser.

CONTINUED

There's a look. Quinn nods. Malcolm picks up the cat. They start walking. We HEAR a BEEP.

REMBRANDT

What's that?

Quinn shines his flashlight on the radiation badge he's carrying. The indicator BEEPS, shows a rising readout.

QUINN

The pulsars just hit California.

They all react. The pitch on the beeper gets higher. It will continue to increase, matching exposure.

CUT TO

The colony has begun to set up temporary quarters. There are tents going up. Rickman's headquarters tent is up, with a table in front, a few camp chairs. Maggie listens as Rickman addresses some of the soldiers.

RICKMAN

We'll send out our first raiding parties in the morning. I want a barbed wire holding pen constructed over there. I want the rest of your initial reports ready in three hours. That's all. Dismissed.

The soldiers leave.

MAGGIE

Colonel, why do we need holding pens?

RICKMAN

For the work force. The native population will be used to build our colony.

MAGGIE

(displeased)
You're talking about slavery?

RICKMAN

Look at the people we brought with us. Scientists, doctors and engineers.

(MORE)

CONTINUED

RICKMAN (CONT'D)
They're not accustomed to hard
labor. Once we've built our city,
I'll give the workers their
freedom.

Maggie's still not happy. Rickman's watch alarm BEEPS. He
checks his watch.

RICKMAN
(strangely calm)
Our world just ended.

CUT TO

Flashlights rake the cave walls. Quinn leads Wade, Remmy
and Malcolm, carrying the cat, deeper into the catacombs.
Quinn's badge continues to BEEP. He checks the timer.

REMBRANDT
(re: timer)
How's that thing supposed to track
Rickman?

QUINN
It's got a micro-photon receiver
that picks up any photon waves
vibrating at...

WADE
Quinn, we're not the Professor.
You gotta explain it in layman's
terms.

REMBRANDT
Yeah. If anything happens to you
now, we better know everything
there is to know about that thing.

QUINN
Okay.
(eyes timer)
When this red light goes steady, it
means it's locked onto a photon
trail. Right now it's showing a
readout of the wormhole that just
took Rickman out.

Quinn's badge BEEPS LOUDER, interrupting...

CONTINUED

WADE
 (eyes Quinn's badge)
 That thing gets much higher, we're
 all gonna glow in the dark.

QUINN
 (re: timer)
 Fifteen seconds.

Some stones in the cave begin to glow from the radiation.
 It's surreal.

QUINN
 Wade goes first with Malcolm...

MALCOLM
 (holding cat)
 And my cat.

QUINN
 And your cat. Then Remmy, then me.

Quinn's radiation badge approaches the red line. The pitch
 on the BEEP goes up. The sound is painful. Quinn grabs the
 pin, throws it across the cave.

QUINN
 Okay. Here we go.

Quinn hits the timer. The VORTEX OPENS OFFSCREEN. Wade,
 Malcolm and the cat dive into the vortex, then Remmy and
 finally Quinn.

CAMERA moves to Quinn's badge. The needle pegs, the beeper
 screams. Final note to this world.

69 EXT. NEW WORLD - DAY

69

Maggie is seated at her desk in front of the tent when she
 looks up, surprised to see Quinn, Remmy, Wade and Malcolm
 (holding the cat) moving through the crowd towards her.

MAGGIE
 I don't believe this. You made it.

QUINN
 Yeah. Thanks for waiting.

MAGGIE
 It wasn't my choice, Mallory.
 Colonel Rickman ordered the slide
 early.

CONTINUED

QUINN

Where is he?

She turns and looks across the way. Quinn follows her gaze.

QUINN'S POV - RICKMAN

talking with some soldiers. A Jeep with a driver is next to them.

BACK TO SCENE

MAGGIE

Where's your Professor?

QUINN

Rickman killed him. Give me your gun.

She hesitates.

QUINN

He also killed your husband.

MALCOLM

I saw it. He shot him.

QUINN

Rickman's responsible for all the coma patients. He's been taking their brain tissue to survive.

WADE

You'll be interested to know you all qualify as donors.

Maggie looks off at Rickman. Her expression turns murderous. She pulls her automatic, chambers a round. Starts walking toward Rickman, Quinn goes with her.

ANGLE - RICKMAN

Looks up to see Maggie approaching, gun drawn, Quinn beside her.

MAGGIE

Colonel Rickman, you're under arrest!

Rickman grabs the driver in the Jeep and pulls him out, jumps in and takes off before anyone can stop him.

Maggie FIRES TWO ROUNDS. Misses. Quinn spots a motorcycle, jumps on, takes off after Rickman.

Quinn catches up to Rickman's Jeep, makes a transfer from the bike to the running board. Rickman has no weapon. Just the metal briefcase with his brain fluids. He picks it up from the seat and swings it hard at Quinn. Quinn grabs the case, and falls off the car, rolling to a stop.

Rickman hits the brakes. The Jeep stops fifty yards from Quinn. Rickman jumps out of the car to retrieve the briefcase. Quinn staggers to his feet, holds up the briefcase, opens it.

QUINN

Is this what you need!? This what it's all about?! All the killing?!

Quinn dumps the vials on the ground. Steps on them.

QUINN

Come and get it.

Rickman realizes there's only one way out. He takes out his timer. Hits the button. The vortex opens.

Quinn runs toward Rickman, but he slides before Quinn can reach him. The vortex closes.

Maggie, Remmy and Wade drive up in a Jeep. Quinn pulls out his timer.

QUINN

It's tracking him.

WADE

But we've got four more hours on this world.

QUINN

It'll hold the path of his wormhole until I clear it.

MAGGIE

When you go after him, I'm going with you.

QUINN

I thought you had a mission.

MAGGIE

I got a new one.

QUINN

It's all right with me, but I don't have the only vote here.

CONTINUED

Quinn looks at Wade and Remmy.

MAGGIE

It's just until we find him. Once we get his timer, you can drop me off on your way home.

WADE

Okay with me.

REMBRANDT

Me, too.

QUINN

Welcome aboard, Captain Beckett.

MAGGIE

It's just Beckett. I'm resigning my commission.

DISSOLVE TO

71 EXT. NEW WORLD - CLIFF - DAY - LATER

71

A beautiful vista, a remarkable sunset. Remmy's lyrical voice rising above it all as he finishes singing AMAZING GRACE. Wade, Quinn and Remmy stand at the edge of a cliff, heads bowed. Wade holds a bouquet of wild flowers she's gathered in her hands. After Remmy finishes, there's a silent moment, then...

QUINN

Anybody want to say something?

REMBRANDT

I do. I was glad to know you, Professor. You were truly unique. You could be cantankerous at times, but I know it was because you cared about us. And when we get home, I'm gonna write a song for you. Something classy. Something righteous. So people will never forget you.

WADE

I don't believe in good-byes, not really. I can't believe that everything we are, everything we've done, just disappears. I think our spirit... is like a river. It has to go somewhere. I know in my heart, I'll see you again.

CONTINUED

Wade casts her flowers to the wind. They watch them float for a moment and drop from sight. Then...

QUINN

I never would have been the student
I was without your guidance... and
your love. You taught me there
were no limits to the imagination.
You were a true adventurer. And
now you're on the greatest
adventure of them all.

A sudden GUST OF WIND blows them back a step.

QUINN

(smiles)

I think that's his way of telling
us he's heard enough.

Remmy and Wade smile.

QUINN

(a moment, then)

Good-bye, Professor. We'll miss
the hell out of you.

Quinn joins arms with Wade and Remmy. They turn and walk away as we...

CUT TO

Maggie is saying a final good-bye to her men. Malcolm holds the cat as he says his good-byes to the Sliders.

MALCOLM

You guys ever coming back?

REMBRANDT

We have your coordinates. We could
always come back to visit some day.
But right now, we have to find
Rickman. He's got to pay for what
he did. And he's got the timer
that can get me back home.

Malcolm nods his head. He understands. But he's not happy about it. He sticks out his hand. Remmy takes it, then hugs him.

CONTINUED

REMBRANDT

Don't worry. You have a lot of good people here who will look after you.

WADE

Hey, Malcolm. Did you name your cat?

MALCOLM

I thought I'd call him Max. What do you think?

The Sliders exchange a look.

QUINN

I think it's great.

Maggie crosses to them. Quinn eyes the timer.

QUINN

It's time.

The Sliders step off to the side as the crowd makes room for them. Quinn opens the VORTEX (CGI). Wade dives in. Maggie turns to her people, waves good-bye, dives in. Quinn goes next. Then Remmy gives Malcolm one last hug and dives into the vortex.

CUT TO

The vortex opens off screen. Maggie, Quinn, Remmy and Wade slide into a park. They get to their feet. Quinn checks the timer.

QUINN

He's not here. And I'm picking up a new wormhole.

REMBRANDT

That means he just slid. You think he knew we were coming?

QUINN

(to Maggie)
He had to input a return duration on that timer for it to activate when everybody slid. Do you know how long he set it for?

CONTINUED

MAGGIE

I think it was twenty-four hours.

QUINN

Then he corrupted it when he activated it early to get away from me.

WADE

Which means he can't set how long he stays on any world. So he has to slide when the timer runs out, just like us.

MAGGIE

How long before we can follow?

QUINN

(eyes timer)
A day and a half.

WADE

Quinn. Look.

They spot a man lying face up on the grass. His eyes open, staring into space. They approach. Maggie turns the man over. Looks at the base of his skull.

MAGGIE

A puncture wound.

The Sliders react.

QUINN

We'll find him. No matter how long it takes. We'll find him.

We HOLD on the Sliders' exchanging a look as we...

FADE OUT

THE END