

Station to Station Episode 9, “EXIT OPPORTUNITIES”

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1. MIRANDA AND REVA

(IMMEDIATELY AFTER EPISODE 8. OVERLAPPING VOICES, EVERYTHING HAPPENS SO MUCH.)

SOUND: MIRANDA’S RECORDER TURNS ON

REVA

Doc, you okay?

MIRANDA

Get the door!

NELLY

(IN REVA'S EAR)

Santiago? What's going on over there?

REVA

Dammit, we need a light.

NELLY

Hello? *Hello?*

MIRANDA

He's getting away.

REVA

He's gonna get further if we can't see him. Use the light on your phone.

MIRANDA

Right — right—

SOUND: A DOOR BANGS OPEN. A FLURRY OF NOISE AND PANIC

NELLY

(Now attempting to shout down the hallway)

COULD SOMEONE ANSWER ME PLEASE?!

REVA

COCHRANE, WHAT’S YOUR SITREP?

MIRANDA

DID YOU SEE FREDRICKSEN?

SCIENTIST 1

(Overlapping, in the background)

Hey, where're the lights? I was in the middle of an experiment!

NELLY

WHO?

REVA

WE'RE COMING TO YOU

SOUND: TWO SETS OF FOOTSTEPS, SPEEDWALKING.

NELLY

(To someone on her end)

Oh no, you're not going anywhere.

SCIENTIST 2

(Overlapping, in the background)

Did we hit something?

SCIENTIST 3

(Overlapping, in the background)

Can we get a light over here?

NELLY

Seriously, what's happening? Why are the lights out?

SCIENTIST 4

(Overlapping, in the background)

I can't see you, the lights are off!

REVA

Everyone inside.

SCIENTIST 4

(Overlapping, in the background)

Can you see, I can't see, where are you?

SCIENTIST 5

(Overlapping, in the background)

Where's the captain?

MIRANDA

We could still catch him. He can't get far—

REVA
Inside!

SIMMONS
What's going on now?

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS. DOOR SHUTS. FINALLY SOME SILENCE.

REVA
Sit down and shut up.
(To Nelly)
You see anything before the lights went out?

NELLY
I was in here. Where's Fredricksen?

MIRANDA
He got away when the power cut. We need to go after him.

REVA
After what you did in there, I'm not sure you should be going after anyone.

SIMMONS
Hi there, excuse me? I don't know if you've all noticed, but something's wrong.

NELLY
You think, Sherlock?

SIMMONS
Listen. No engine. No emergency generators. No alarm systems. The whole boat is dead in the water.

SOUND: MUFFLED FOOTSTEPS. VOICES FROM BEHIND THE DOOR, OFF IN THE DISTANCE

SCIENTIST 6
What happened to the lights?

SCIENTIST 5
Has anybody checked the samples?

SCIENTIST 7
What's going on out there?

SCIENTIST 2
Hey, can somebody get the auxiliary lights on?

SCIENTIST 1

We're not moving - we're not moving are we?!

SOUND: THE VOICES FADE. THE SILENCE HANGS FOR A WHILE

MIRANDA

She's right — the fuses blew in the mess hall on my first cruise and we had backup power in a minute. A full shutdown shouldn't happen.

SIMMONS

Thank you!

MIRANDA

What if it's Mallux... what if they knew we were questioning their people?

REVA

Don't get ahead of yourself. I'm gonna go down to engineering, see what the situation is. The rest of you stay here.

NELLY

(Overlapping with Miranda)

Yeah right.

MIRANDA

I'm not staying here.

REVA

ROV mechanic, remember? It's not gonna look suspicious if I show up, but the rest of you? If the earpiece stays in range, I'll walk you through anything I find. And then... I guess we'll see.

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS CROSSING THE ROOM. DOOR OPENS/SHUTS. THE SILENCE HANGS A MOMENT.

SIMMONS

Soooo.... Can I leave now?

MIRANDA

Why would we would let you do that?

SIMMONS

Because, as I just finished explaining to *her* at length, *I don't know what's going on*. And if we're stranded I want to start looting the cafeteria before everyone else gets the same idea.

NELLY

You're a real class act, aren't you.

(Beat)

...Simmons, you wouldn't know what happened to all the chocolate bars in my lab storage, would you?

SIMMONS

I thought they were communal.

NELLY

They were in the back of a drawer with my name on it.

SIMMONS

(The verbal equivalent of a shrug)

MIRANDA

(Impatient)

I'm going to take a look around.

NELLY

We should go with you.

MIRANDA

No. You and Simmons should stay here and finish your interview.

NELLY

Oh, come on, that's no fun. She knows even less about McKinnley than you and Santiago. She's basically useless.

SIMMONS

(Offended)

Hey!

MIRANDA

(Brittle)

I guess we can't all have memories like yours.

NELLY

Hey, no, that was — I was obviously joking.

MIRANDA

Fine.

NELLY

Miranda...

MIRANDA

I said fine.

NELLY

We're on a boat. He's not going to get that far. And you still haven't told me what's going on. Did he know anything?

MIRANDA

He did. So I guess he's not useless either.

NELLY

Hey, come on. We're going to fix this, you don't need to start freaking out.

MIRANDA

Right, because you're the only one who gets to do that.

NELLY

What?

MIRANDA

I've been losing my memories for weeks, and I kept it together. I pushed it down as hard as I could. But the second you think you might be forgetting someone you barely knew it's this— this crisis—

NELLY

I was worried about losing the best lead we had — do you remember that?

MIRANDA

You didn't even think I'd care, did you? You come back from McKinley's like nothing was wrong in the world because you get to remember everything and — and it never even crossed your mind that I might feel anything. Because as long as you get what you want, what else could be wrong?

NELLY

No... come on... that's not fair...

MIRANDA

I'm going to find Fredricksen. Come if you want, or don't. Because this time I *don't* care.

SOUND: DOOR OPENS/SLAMS

SIMMONS

(Half heard through the door)

Now can I go?

2. ENGINE ROOM

SOUND: REVA'S RECORDER CLICKS ON

REVA

...Jesus.Cochrane? Can you hear me?

NELLY

(Through the earpiece)

Barely.

REVA

Better than nothing. Where did you and the doc say that creepy hallway of yours started?

NELLY

There's a doorway off the engine room. It all goes grey and weird after that.

REVA

Yeah. That's what I thought.

NELLY

Santiago, tell me you didn't go through-

REVA

No. Didn't have to. The whole back wall of the engine room's the same colour.

NELLY

Oh God. ...it's spreading.

REVA

Yeah. I think so. You can see why the power's out. The rest of the walls are still pretty normal, but there's a lot of melted wires that used to connect to the backup generators. Must have been a hell of a power surge down here. The whole place smells like burned rubber.

NELLY

Santiago, stay away from the back wall.

REVA

I know. I haven't seen anyone else around, though. Whoever was down here when lights went out... looks like they didn't follow that advice.

NELLY

On a scale of, like, one to *Titanic*, how screwed are we?

REVA

I'm trying to figure that out... lessee... surge must have tripped the — yeah. Yeah, okay. That's good. It set off the engine kill switch.

NELLY

What's that mean?

REVA

If we can get the power on we should be able to make it back to port, but it's gonna take some time. The fuses alone could be hours to replace.

NELLY

Do you know what you're doing down there? I thought the tech thing was just a cover.

REVA

Engineering degree from George Washington. The FBI doesn't send just anyone to fake their way through scientific research.

NELLY

Good to know.

REVA

I'm gonna find the rest of the ROV team and see what's left of engineering to scrape together. You and Quan okay to hold the fort for a few hours?

NELLY

Me and... Yeah. We're fine.

REVA

(Not buying it)

...Cochrane?

NELLY

Don't worry. Just be careful down there, okay?

REVA

Over and out.

NELLY

Over and out.

3. MIRANDA IN THE DARK

SOUND: MIRANDA'S RECORDER CLICK. DOOR OPENS.

FREDRICKSEN

(Smugly amused)

What took you so long, Miranda?

MIRANDA

Shut up. The power's out with no backup.

FREDRICKSEN

And you thought now would be a good time to finish our conversation?

MIRANDA

I'm here to do you a favour, Eugene.

FREDRICKSEN

That's good. That's a joke, right?

MIRANDA

I'm deactivating the experiment. You're going to help me.

FREDRICKSEN

I should knock you out and throw you overboard. Get rid of the problem once and for all. You think anyone would notice right now?

MIRANDA

Maybe not. But what do you do after that? Keep letting people wander around below decks, hoping someone deactivates this for you? We're not even halfway through the cruise. What happens when it starts taking people you can't replace? You're not going to be able to get the ship home by yourself.

FREDRICKSEN

I know how to turn it off.

MIRANDA

No. You don't. You said you were working on Project Red string, but you weren't, were you? I saw your personnel file when I was investigating McKinnley. You're Eugene Loshank, head of "risk management."

(She scoffs)

You were spying on them, watching them like lab rats in a maze to see how they'd behave, just like you've been doing here.

Maybe you thought you knew all of it, or you could bluff your way to an answer, but I've got the pieces you don't. All I need from you is how to get in.

FREDRICKSEN

(So obviously manipulative)

Costello was right. You are smarter than him.

MIRANDA

(Steady)

I'm here to make a deal. Give me everything you have on how Lazarus works. I shut it down, and we don't speak to each other again. I don't know you, you don't know me. Eugene Loshank was never on board.

FREDRICKSEN

So, what - I'm supposed to take you at your word? How do I know you're not going to start using the tech yourself?

MIRANDA

You don't. But I am going to shut it down. Give me your floorplans for the lower deck.

FREDRICKSEN

(Reluctant, resentful)

They're not written down. You can turn everything off in the control room - we call it the ground zero. Plywood walls, a one-way mirror, Not big. Find that, and you're good to go.

MIRANDA

How do I get back out?

FREDRICKSEN

We found a way to temporarily break the influence of the field. All you need is some kind of communicative link-

MIRANDA

Like a two-way radio?

FREDRICKSEN

Something like that. Find a way to tether yourself with the upper decks. And don't trust your eyes and ears when you get down there. Go with your instinct.

MIRANDA

Thank you.

FREDRICKSEN

Keep your eyes on the prize, Quan. You wanna do my job for me, make sure you do it well.

SOUND: THE DOOR OPENING.

FREDRICKSEN, CONT.

It won't bring him back, you know.

SOUND: THE DOOR SLAMMING. AGAIN.

4. MIRANDA'S LAB

SOUND: NELLY'S RECORDER TURNING ON. FOOTSTEPS

NELLY

Hey. Thought I might find you in here. Doing another experiment?

MIRANDA

Oh. Hi.

NELLY

...did you have any luck finding Fredricksen?

MIRANDA

No. Nothing. He's gone to ground.

Where's Simmons?

NELLY

Raiding the cafeteria. I told her I'd tell everyone she was a PanOpt spy if she stepped out of line, and after that I didn't really know what to do with her.

MIRANDA

Simmons is what?

NELLY

...we aren't doing a good job of talking to each other these last couple days, are we. She's a spy. Just, not the kind we were looking for. I, ah, thought you should know what Santiago told me. The experiment zone's expanding and it's knocked out the backup generators and did... something... to the engine. She thinks they'll get the ship running again, but-

MIRANDA

We're running out of time.

NELLY

Yeah.

(Pause)

Miranda, I'm so sorry if-

MIRANDA

When you were inside the experiment field, how were you recording your notes?

NELLY

I, uh - I was streaming to my laptop. I wanted a record in case something went, you know...

MIRANDA

(Cutting her off)

So that's why it let you go. How soon is the power going to be up?

NELLY

She didn't know for sure. So the experiment doesn't like to kill people in the middle of data uploads?

MIRANDA

It's temporal anomalies and machinery, it doesn't *like* or dislike anything. But the broadcasting interferes with it somehow. Once I can set up a link, I'm going below decks to shut it down.

NELLY

Do you know how?

MIRANDA

I think so. I've been reading Jon's notes again and I... guess I'm going to find out.

NELLY

We're going to find out.

MIRANDA

What?

NELLY

Miranda, you're not - listen, I am *so sorry* -

MIRANDA

(Weary)

Don't-

NELLY

I wasn't thinking about your feelings, alright? Didn't even register - but you're right. It's not fair. It's total crap that I get to remember and you don't. And I should have thought about how that would make you feel, or come up with a better way to tell you or - God, you know what? You forgiving me isn't even the point. Don't, if you don't want to. But if you think I'm going to send you back into that *thing* alone, you're insane. I mean, Christ, Santiago would kill us both if you even tried it.

MIRANDA

(A very, **very** tentative olive branch)

...she would, wouldn't she?

NELLY

And she'd lecture us first.

(Beat)

Is there anything I can do while we wait? I could help you go over Costello's notes. Second pair of eyes can't hurt, right? Or we could look for Fredricksen together-

MIRANDA

(Sharper than she means to)

No. I just, I need some time alone.

NELLY

Oh. Right. Yeah - yeah, that's fine.

MIRANDA

I'm not-

(Too many feelings, not enough words)

Can you bring Reva here once the power's working? Simmons too. I think we're going to need her.

NELLY

Yeah. Sure.

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS CROSS THE ROOM

NELLY

I'll, ah, see you later.

MIRANDA

Yeah.

5. ENGINE ROOM II

SOUND: A HEAVY SWITCH IS THROWN, THEN A GRINDING OF GEARS AND A SLOW WHIR OF THE ENGINE RETURNING TO WORK. CHEERS AND CLAPS

REVA

Good work everyone. Kascha, go tell the captain we've got her moving. Someone should talk to Fiona and Hector in the kitchens, too, see if we can't stop the scientists from going on a looting spree.

NELLY

(Through the earpiece)

Santiago, was that what I think it was?

REVA

Engine's up and running.

NELLY

Oh, thank God. I don't think threats of blackmail were gonna keep Simmons from getting 'we're all gonna die' drunk much longer. ...or me, if we're being honest.

REVA

Save me your shots, then. I'm still seeing wires every time I close my eyes.

NELLY

Yeah, no promises. Besides, Miranda wants to see us in the lab once you're through.

REVA

Could take us a couple hours to finish up down here. Tell her to get some sleep.

NELLY

I... don't think that's happening.

FINE

Who are you talking to, Santiago?

NELLY

Damn, sorry! Over and out.

REVA

Just thinking out loud. How're you doing?

FINE

Better now we're not dead in the water. I'm telling Nial after this he really does owe us a raise.

REVA

You're telling me. Where's Howard? I thought the two of you were working together.

FINE

He's over by the... huh. He was working on what's left of the generators a second ago. Guess he went to get...something

SOUND: RUNNING FOOTSTEPS

FINE,CONT.

(DISTANT, FADING)

Yeah, nice talking to you too, Santiago.

REVA

Howard? *Howard?*

HOWARD
(Faint, strange)
Santiago?

REVA
Damn. Howard, don't move.

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS, SLOW AND CAUTIOUS

HOWARD
(Dazed, almost trance-like.)
What is this place?

REVA
Nothing that's going to help us get the power up. Get back from there.

HOWARD
We need to check it out.

REVA
Step back.

HOWARD
I'll be real quick...

REVA
Don't.

SOUND: SCUFFLING, SHUFFLING, STRUGGLING

HOWARD
Let me go.

REVA
Like hell.

HOWARD
I need to see.

REVA
Trust me, you don't.

HOWARD
I'm going in there.

REVA

Oh Christ. Sorry, but this is for your own good.

SOUND: A NASTY IMPACT

HOWARD

(Pained grunt, a lot of air going out of lungs)

REVA

Easy now. Lean on me. We're going back this way, okay?

SOUND: TWO SETS OF FOOTSTEPS, LIMPING BACK

HOWARD

(Slowly coming back)

Oh man... Santiago?

REVA

Are you okay?

HOWARD

Think so... my stomach hurts.

REVA

Yeah. Sorry about that.

HOWARD

What happened? What are we doing all the way back here?

REVA

Let's get you some ice, okay? I'll take you to the med room.

6. MIRANDA'S LAB II

SOUND: MIRANDA'S RECORDER CLICKS ON

SIMMONS

I just want to make it clear that I'm only doing this because dying is slightly worse than working with all of you.

NELLY

Did we have to bring her?

REVA

If it gets this thing shut down ASAP, I don't care what she does. What's the plan, doc?

MIRANDA

Tomorrow morning, Nelly's going to set our mobile phones to broadcast to a laptop computer we'll be leaving with Simmons. It should disrupt the mechanism of erasure long enough for us find the experiment's control room. In some cases the effects of what's down there seem to warp subjects' conception of time and space. I need you and Nelly to help to - to make sure I'm seeing things clearly. If we can get to the centre of it all, I can do the rest.

SIMMONS

But what if you can't?

NELLY

(Sharply)

Simmons!

SIMMONS

Oh come on, I'm not the only person thinking it! If you guys get killed or whatever, what are the rest of us supposed to do? We're not even going to remember you!

MIRANDA

Costello's tapes and notebooks stayed when everything else about him faded. So did David Won's coat. I think things that have been given away dodge the effects of the experiment, at least for a while. Which is why you should take this.

SOUND: PAPER SLIDING ACROSS TABLE

SIMMONS

What am I supposed to do with a paper boat?

MIRANDA

It's a summary of Project Red String - the work you'll need if... It should give you a start on shutting down the experiment. I'm going to give you the other notes too, I just thought this would stand out more than a pile of papers.

(TO NELLY AND REVA)

The two of you should leave something too.

NELLY

Yeah, I think I've got an idea.

(A beat)

MIRANDA

You don't have to come. I need to fix Costello's mistakes, but you don't owe him anything-

REVA

Doc, we're not going for *him*.

MIRANDA

Right. Um, we'll - we can meet here in the morning to prepare. I- think I'm going to get some sleep.

7. NELLY'S CABIN

SOUND: NELLY'S RECORDER CLICKS ON

NELLY

Hey, sis. It's— it's me...

8. REVA'S CABIN

SOUND: REVA'S RECORDER CLICKS ON. A KNOCK.

NELLY

Santiago, are you in there?

SOUND: A LOCK TURNS, DOOR OPENS

REVA

You know Quan's not expecting us for hours, right?

NELLY

Yeah, I know. I, um, I'm not having a great time with the whole waiting thing, it turns out. Are you busy?

REVA

Come in.

NELLY

You sure? I don't want to — if you've got some fortress of solitude thing going on, I don't want to—

REVA

Cochrane, come in and sit down.

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS

NELLY

So... how's things?

SOUND: DOOR CLOSES

REVA

Better than with you. You wanna skip the small talk and tell me what's going on?

NELLY

(Heavy sigh)

I made a recording for my sister for this whole evil science experiment gift exchange thing, and... I don't know. It feels like a bad idea.

REVA

(Surprised)

You're having second thoughts? You know we can't leave whatever's down there to keep chewing people up—

NELLY

No! Oh God, no no. Not that part. I meant... it's selfish, isn't it? Wanting to leave something behind.

REVA

Selfish how?

NELLY

Oh, you're good at this, aren't you? Nice active listening. You'd make a good reporter.

REVA

Cochrane.

NELLY

Look at Miranda. Look at how *hard* this is for her. And at least Costello's got the excuse of needing someone to stop a massive conspiracy. What's my excuse? What right do I have to put any of this on another person just because it makes me feel better to say goodbye?

REVA

You could give Simmons something else.

NELLY

I really don't think I could.

(Pause)

I don't want to talk about me. Let's talk about you — what're you leaving behind?

REVA

...a photo of my ex.

NELLY

Oh. Okay wow, that's, um — was it a recent breakup?

REVA

We split when I was going through the academy to become an agent. Must be about seven years ago now.

NELLY

And you still just... carry it round...

REVA

(Soft laugh)

I'm not pining. I think of it like... a reminder of where I've come from.

NELLY

(Doesn't get it, but trying for supportive)

Can I see it?

REVA

Not like you wouldn't tomorrow.

SOUND: A SLIGHT RUSTLE OF STIFF PAPER.

REVA

Julio Marcelina. We'd been married about a year when that was taken.

(There is a pause)

NELLY

(So many words so fast)

Julio. Right. Right right right. Your ex **husband**, right. He looks nice — um, actually *very nice*, so well done you — or I guess, not, if you're not married any more. Sorry about that. Don't know why I brought that up—

REVA

(So fucking amused)

Are you having a stroke right now?

NELLY

No. Good. All good. I, uh — how long were you two married?

REVA

Five years, if you don't count the time it took to file the paperwork.

NELLY

Wow.

REVA

Yeah.

(Beat)

You're really not gonna let yourself ask, huh? I'm gay, Cochrane. Relax.

NELLY

Oh thank God, I thought this creepy ship broke my gaydar.

REVA

(Laughing)

NELLY

Sorry, it's been a really weird couple of days. I think I forgot — I mean, *I'm bi*, I know it's a thing.

REVA

No, I'm not — I'm just gay. Took me a little longer to figure that out than a lot of people is all.

NELLY

So, the whole lesbian thing and the divorce thing... related, I'm guessing? Sorry, no, don't answer that.

REVA

Not as much as you're thinking.

NELLY

Can I ask... you don't have to tell me if you don't want to, but—

REVA

Why'd I marry him?

NELLY

For starters.

REVA

(Very stiff at first)

I... had a couple bad years after high school. Personal stuff. And sometimes when everything's bad, a person who can take your mind off things, even for a few minutes, starts to look pretty good. So, that was Julio. He was easy to talk to and he was a good person. Solid. Real reliable. Looking back, I can see there were things missing. But... I guess I thought after everything that had been going on with me that what I felt with him was as much as I could feel about anyone. For a few years, it seemed like it might work.

NELLY

What changed?

REVA

Like I said, I got into the academy. We'd never had one of those marriages where we needed to do everything together, but I think that's when we noticed we weren't making any time for each other and it didn't matter much to either of us. Same story as a lot of people.

NELLY

Do you miss him?

REVA

I don't want it back, but I don't feel like I have to forget it happened. Does that make sense?

NELLY

Hey, this is probably a bad time but... do you want to get a drink when we get back to shore? If we don't die, I think I'm really going to want a drink.

REVA

If we don't die, I think I'd like that.

9. MIRANDA'S CABIN

MIRANDA

(Eerily calm)

This is the final audio log of Dr. Miranda Quan, scientist from the Institute of Advanced Biochemical Research Development. And if you're listening to this, I'm probably dead, or worse...