

Of That Colossal Wreck - Episode 4

written by

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1. INT. A CORRIDOR ON THE EDGE OF THE WHISTLER'S TERRITORY

The corridors here are close and broken, having long been picked apart by hunting whistlers. Levi picks his way through cables and bits of metal, while Mira, Riley and Zack conduct their own searches close by.

LEVI
(distant)
Anyone found anything?

ZACK
(distant)
Nothing yet.

RILEY
(distant)
She might be nowhere near here.

MIRA
(distant)
Maybe we should split up, cover more-

LUNA groans quietly from the floor some metres ahead of LEVI. She's slumped in pain and her leg is bleeding heavily.

LUNA
(close)
Mira?

MIRA
(calling)
Luna?
(calling back to the others)
I hear something!

She runs towards the sound of Luna's voice. RILEY, LEVI and ZACK follow.

LUNA
Mira? I'm here!

MIRA
Luna! Oh my god, you're alive.
(shouting)
I've found her! She's here!

MIRA crouches next to LUNA.

LUNA
Quiet! They might be close. I think I managed to burst a steam pipe or something. Scared them off, but I don't know-

MIRA

It's OK. It's alright. We'll get you
somewhere safe. You're gonna be OK.

ZACH reaches them and drops to check LUNA.

ZACK

Your leg - can I take a look?

LUNA

Sure. It was my own fault, I should have-

MIRA and RILEY catch up as ZACK examines the deep bite in LUNA's leg.
As they talk, ZACK takes off a layer of clothing and starts tearing it
into pieces. As they talk, he bandages LUNA's leg tightly.

RILEY

Luna! You're ok!

LUNA

We'll have to wait and see about that.

ZACK

I need some proper bandages - this should
stop the bleeding for now but it won't
last long.

MIRA

What happened?

LUNA

It bit me - one of those things - I was
running away but it got my leg. They were
on me, I couldn't- I managed to reach
this bar, swung it at them but went wide,
hit this pipe. There was a bunch of steam
and...

LEVI

It's alright, Luna. It's over now. That's
the metal bar you found?

LEVI picks up one end of a long metal bar LUNA is still holding in her
fists.

LUNA

Yep.

LEVI

You can put it down now.

LUNA

I don't want to.

LEVI

Let it go, Luna. You're safe. It's over.

LUNA drops the bar.

MIRA
We should get moving.

They get up and start shuffling out.

MIRA
(to LUNA)
I'm glad you're OK.

LUNA
Thanks. Me too.

2. INT. ENDLESS CORRIDORS IN THE OZYMANDIAS STATION.

LEVI and MIRA lead the group through empty corridors. LUNA is limping heavily at the back.

MIRA
Haven't seen any sign of those creatures
for a while.

LEVI
Warmer too. I think we might be out of
their territory.

MIRA
Then we need to think about finding more
food.

LEVI
I had an idea about that. Have you
noticed these terminals in the walls
around here? What if we could get one to
work? I bet between you, you and Riley
could fix one up with a bit of time. Then
we might be able to find a plan of the
station. Who knows how big this place is?
There could be loads more awakening
rooms.

MIRA
Levi, we're not going to find anyone
else. It's just us.

LEVI
I was just thinking about finding more
food.

Mira makes a small noise of disbelief.

MIRA
Either way, it's a good plan.

LEVI
(a bit surprised)
Thanks.
(calling)
How are you doing back there, Luna?

LUNA
(strained)
I'm alright.

MIRA
No you're not. Zack?

ZACK
Yeah, I'm here.

ZACK moves over to LUNA.

ZACK
Luna, can I take another look?

LUNA
Sure.

ZACK rolls LUNA's trousers up to her knee. It's not looking good.

LEVI
Riley, while we're stopped. Do you reckon
you could boot up one of these terminals?
If we can get one working, maybe we can
access station plans or something like
that. Some kind of useful information,
anyway.

RILEY
It's worth a go...as long as they're
still connected to the power, but I don't
see why they wouldn't be.
(Riley considers)
Yeah, I think I might manage it.

RILEY walks over to a wall and starts looking for buttons.

ZACK
How does this feel?

LUNA
Ah! Not good.

ZACK
Bad news, I'm afraid. It looks like it
might be infected.

MIRA
Already?

LEVI

Could those things have some kind of venom?.

ZACK

Hmm, I'm not sure. It doesn't look like a snake bite or anything like that.

MIRA

Well, whatever they are, they're not snakes.

ZACK

I guess not. Either way, I should be able to treat it but not without some sort of... clinic, or some equipment at least.

LUNA

Don't suppose anyone's seen a hospital round here...

RILEY

Actually, if you give me second...

There's the bleep of a computer activating.

RILEY

Ha! We might be able to find something.

LEVI

Good job.

ZACK

Is it working?

RILEY

Well, it's on. Don't get too excited yet - this might take a little while.

3. INT. A DISUSED MEDICAL BAY

The room is full of old equipment. There are some hospital style beds in the middle of the room with boxes piled deep against machines around the edges.

ZACK and MIRA lift LUNA on to a raised bed in the middle of the room. LUNA winces.

MIRA

Sorry! Did I hurt you?

LUNA

No, it's fine. It kind of hurts just to move or touch anything.

MIRA

That...doesn't sound fine.

ZACK

It's lucky this place was as close as it was. Now, let's give the wound a proper examination. There must be some scissors or a scalpel in here somewhere.

MIRA

Here.

ZACK

Thanks. OK, Luna, I'm going to have to remove the rest of this fabric around the wound, OK? It might... pull a bit so let me know if you need a break.

(aside)

Mira, do you think you could find some saline solution somewhere?

MIRA

On it.

MIRA starts moving around the room, looking at the various bits of equipment and supplies, while ZACK cuts into LUNA's trouser leg. LUNA gives a sharp cry.

MIRA

(disgusted)

Oh God.

LUNA

What? Is it bad? Let me look.

ZACK

It's...

LUNA

(weakly)

Ugh, never mind. I can smell it.

MIRA

I think I've found saline solution - is this the right stuff?

ZACK

That's it, thanks Mira. I'll need some fresh bandages and some cetrimide, too. I think there's a storeroom back there.

MIRA

Right.

MIRA exits the room.

LUNA
What's cetrimide for?

ZACK
It has two functions. One, it's quite an effective antiseptic. Two, it gives Mira a job to do.

Luna lets out a weak, affectionate chuckle.

ZACK
This isn't right. The infection's progressing a lot quicker than it should be.

Beat.

ZACK
Luna, I'm so sorry, but it's spreading really quickly and we can't risk-

LUNA
I need to lose it, don't I?

ZACK
(pause)
I'm really sorry.

LUNA
I understand.

ZACK
Ok, let's get you prepped, find something to numb your leg, with any luck there's a working surgical laser around here...

LUNA
Numb? I'm going to be awake?

ZACK
I'm sorry, but none of the others have medical experience. I can't both put you under and operate on you by myself... A local anaesthetic might be the best we can do, and that'll only go so far.

LUNA
...OK.

ZACK
Do you want me to get Mira back?

LUNA
Maybe... Yes please.

ZACK

Right, one second. Don't go anywhere, OK?

Another weak laugh from Luna.

LUNA

OK. But - Zack - don't take too long. I'd really rather get this over with.

4. INT. A 'COMMON ROOM'

This space is large enough to hold about 50 people and much homier than the rest of the station. there's a metal dining table with stools and benches next to a camping style kitchen unit, and some more comfortable furniture has been built from materials like wood and wicker.

LEVI and RILEY are searching the room, taking stock of the space and any supplies.

LEVI

This is amazing. Riley, check out the size of this pan! There's an actual *pan*!

RILEY

Yeah, that's... great.

LEVI

Maybe I'll try cooking up some of those food packs.

RILEY

Sounds delicious.

(beat)

This place is lived in. It's not like the rest of the station... It feels like it's been used by actual people. So where did they go?

LEVI stops rummaging. RILEY continues walking and heads down a corridor leading off from the main room.

LEVI

I mean, maybe those whistling things got them.

RILEY

I don't think so. We haven't heard them since we got here, there's none of that resin stuff, and it's much warmer than anywhere else we've been.

LEVI

Then perhaps they moved on. I mean, this place is nicer than anywhere else we've found but it's not exactly what I'd look for if I was trying to rebuild civilisation.

RILEY
(from the corridor)
Maybe...

LEVI returns to rifling through kitchenware while RILEY continues along the corridor to a huge warehouse farm.

RILEY
(calling from the farm)
Levi - come look at this!

LEVI gets up and jogs over to RILEY

LEVI
Wow. How many acres do you think this is?

RILEY
Er... Some? I don't really know acres.
Not a farmer.

He starts striding through what is essentially a shallow field. RILEY follows him.

RILEY
Hold on - where are you going?

LEVI
Just having a look around. Think about it - we've never seen plants before!

RILEY
I've seen plants. Well, I *remember* seeing plants.

LEVI
Right, but these eyes... These eyes are seeing them for the first time. Look, apples!

He runs up to a tree, plucks an apple and takes a bite.

LEVI
Not very ripe ones. But still!

RILEY plucks an apple and takes a bite.

RILEY
Bleh, I hate apples. I forgot. Or didn't know.
(they laugh)

Alright, this is pretty cool.

MIRA enters the farm at the corridor entrance and calls to RILEY and LEVI before walking to meet them.

MIRA
Hey! What's all this?

RILEY
Mira! Best I can figure, that hydroponics bay we saw on the map must have... spread somehow.

LEVI
How's Luna doing?

MIRA
Not good. Zack's had to amputate her leg.

RILEY
Shit.

MIRA
It was...difficult. He thinks he got all the venom or infection, whatever it was, though. She's taken something to help her sleep now. Zack's watching her.

LEVI
How's she handling it?

MIRA
OK, actually. I think she was just in enough pain she wanted it over with.

RILEY
So now what?

MIRA
We found a working fabricator in the medical bay - he thinks he'll be able to make her a prosthetic, but not till she's healed a bit. We'll have to stay put for a while

(she looks around)
You said this was from the hydroponics bay?

LEVI
Don't really know. Looks cultivated, though, like a real farm.

The three of them start walking, exploring the area.

RILEY

We think there might have been people living here at some point.

MIRA

The medical bay's been used, too. Some of the supplies have been depleted, and others seem to be homemade.

LEVI starts to wander off a little further from the others.

RILEY

Half the furniture here's repurposed, or built from other bits of the station. But people definitely lived here, at least long enough to clear out a massive room like this and grow some apples. Hopefully some other fruits as well.

MIRA

Well, it's a good find. Luna can rest and we can take plenty of supplies when we're ready to leave.

RILEY

Wait, where's Levi got to?
(calling)
Hey! You found something good?

RILEY and MIRA start to catch up to him. They pause, looking over a field of graves.

LEVI

I thought it was a flower garden or something.

RILEY

Who buried them?

MIRA

There must be...a hundred at least.

LEVI

It's incredible. People really were here. They had lives, a community - they built a graveyard.

MIRA

I don't think that's as positive as you make it out to be.

LEVI

Of course it's positive! Look, these ones here are much older than those ones. There must have been multiple generations. They would have had children, grandchildren even...

RILEY

Or some of them woke up later than others.

MIRA

Maybe they were different groups, like us.

LEVI

Who each found their way here, just like us?

They contemplate this for a moment.

RILEY

And we missed them.

5. INT. MEDICAL ROOM.

Luna is on the bed in the middle of the room, Zack is dozing in a chair to one side. She gives a cry of pain, waking him.

ZACK

Luna? Do you need another painkiller?

LUNA

Mhmmm.

ZACK

Right, give me a minute.

He fumbles with some medication and gives it to her.

ZACK

Here you go, this should kick in soon.

LUNA

Thank you. Sorry to wake you.

ZACK

(yawning)

Don't worry about that, it's what I'm here for. I'm just gonna check your leg again, OK?

LUNA

Yep.

ZACK unwraps the end of LUNA's bandages to check her leg.

LUNA

It really hurts, like, all the way down. Even though it's gone.

ZACK

That's very common, at least at first.
There are some therapies we can try once
you're a bit more recovered.

He rewraps the bandages on her leg. As they talk, LUNA's painkillers start to take effect and she gradually becomes a little less tense and a little more sleepy.

ZACK

It's looking good, for now. It's healing well, and I can't see any further signs of infection.

LUNA

Well, that's a relief.

ZACK

You should try to get some sleep, if you can.

LUNA

I will. Zack, thank you.

ZACK

You're welcome. I'm...I'm just sorry we couldn't save your leg.

LUNA

But you saved *me*. That's way more important.

ZACK

I know.

LUNA

Just be sure to make me a cool prosthesis, OK? I hate that grey goopy stuff that doctors use in their fabricators.

ZACK

I'm afraid I don't think I'll be able to change the colour of the goop.

LUNA

(sleepy)

I'm sure you'll think of something.

6. INT. THAT FEELS LIKE EXT. A HUGE WAREHOUSE FARM

Large fields of now overgrown crops. LUNA sits on the ground, tending plants while Riley, Zack, Levi and Mira work around her.

RILEY

Hey, Luna, what about this one here?

LUNA

Lentils. See these yellow pods at the bottom? If they rattle, they're ready.

RILEY rattles a lentil pod.

RILEY

And you just know this stuff about all these plants?

LUNA

Do you just know stuff about the terminals?

RILEY

I guess so. This seems way more complicated though.

LUNA

It's simple enough when you grasp the basics. Although I still haven't quite figured out their irrigation system. Somehow they managed to get the water recycling system in a stable cycle that keeps the roots fed.

MIRA yelps as she's scratched by some thorns.

MIRA

Ouch!

LUNA

Careful! It's pretty overgrown.

ZACK

How have the plants lasted so long with no one taking care of them?

LUNA

Same way they manage in the wild. See there - look closely. Can you see the beetle? And this leaf's been chewed, probably by a caterpillar.

RILEY

So the bugs managed to wake up on schedule but the humans didn't?

LUNA

Maybe. Given the shape of the rest of the station, I'd say it's just as likely no one ever thought of bringing pollinators and a few eggs just snuck in with the seeds.

LEVI

Well, lucky for us. Is this enough peas,
do you think?

LUNA

Plenty - we can always dry any extras.

LUNA tries to get up and stumbles.

LUNA

Ah, could someone hand me my cane?

ZACK hands her a cane and helps her to her feet. They all start walking
towards the common room area.

LUNA

Thanks. I keep forgetting.

ZACK

You'll get there.

MIRA

When we get back on the move, we should
double up watches. Make sure none of us
get surprised by those things again.

LEVI

We haven't decided we are going "back on
the move" yet-

LUNA

Hey, I, uh... I need to tell you all
something.

MIRA

We can't stay here forev-

LUNA

Listen! I should have said before, but...
I- I wasn't surprised by that... thing.
When it bit me. I went looking for them.

MIRA stops walking.

MIRA

Why the fuck would you do that?

LUNA

They're intelligent. I thought maybe I
could communicate with them. I know it
was stupid, but I-

MIRA

Damn right it was stupid. You wanted to
talk to the monsters trying to eat us?
What did you think, that you'd just have
a nice conversation if you said please?

LEVI

Mira, that's not fair.

MIRA

Do you know how lucky you are to still be alive? Do you know how lucky it is that any of us are still alive? We went looking for you, you could have led them right to us!

LEVI

Mira, that's enough!

RILEY

She's got a point...

LEVI

But we are all still alive. And there's no reason to make Luna feel worse than she obviously already does.

LUNA

It's OK, Levi, really.

LEVI

We've got to stick together. We can't afford to be at each others' throats.

ZACK

In Luna's defence, the creatures do demonstrate clear communication between themselves, so-

MIRA

Not now, Zack.

LEVI

Anyway, lesson learned.

LUNA

Yeah. Lesson learned.

7. INT. COMMON ROOM AREA.

LEVI and RILEY are sitting at the dining table when LUNA walks in.

LEVI

Hey! Look at you!

RILEY

How's it feel?

LUNA

Yeah, alright. Still a bit wobbly, and I hate the colour, but I'm getting used to it.

ZACK enters from the medical bay.

ZACK
It will take a bit of time but you're doing well so far. Don't forget to use that cane if you need it, either.

LUNA
Thanks, Zack.

ZACK
It's no problem. Just don't go trying to befriend any more terrifying monsters!

There's an awkward beat as the joke doesn't land.

ZACK
Sorry, that wasn't-

LUNA
No, it's ok.

RILEY
Anyway...Levi and I were just about to start making dinner - you up to helping?

LUNA
I think so. Did you manage to get up any more of those carrots?

RILEY and LEVI get up while LUNA walks across the room towards them and the makeshift kitchen. As they talk, they start gathering ingredients and equipment.

LEVI
A few - we found even more mushrooms, though. Thought we'd do a sort of veggie and bean stew.

LUNA
Sounds great.

ZACK
Where's Mira?

RILEY
Still poring over those plans.

RILEY hands a board, knife and mushrooms to LUNA.

RILEY
(aside)

Here, d'you mind chopping these?

LUNA takes her stuff over to the table, pulls out a stool, sits down heavily and starts chopping.

LEVI

She's really serious about finding the Bridge. Or, wherever the Commander should have been, anyway.

ZACK

Hasn't she already got the whole station memorised? It's not like the maps we found are particularly detailed.

LEVI

That's what I said to her, but-

MIRA enters.

MIRA

I assume you're talking about me.

ZACK

Uh, yeah, but not in a bad-

MIRA

Calm down, it's fine.

LUNA

Find anything new?

MIRA

No. Like you said, it's not a very detailed map.

ZACK

It pointed us here, at least.

MIRA

True enough. I just want to internalise it as much as possible. So we at least know which direction we're going we move on.

LEVI

If we mov-

MIRA

If we move on. Fine.

(beat)

I still don't see why we wouldn't.

LEVI

You really can't think of a reason to stay here? The fields of growing food? The medical equipment? The *beds*?

ZACK

You've got to admit, Mira, we could be doing a lot worse.

MIRA

Am I the only one who doesn't think that's enough?

RILEY

For what it's worth I agree with Mira. It's been... really good to stay put and know what I'm supposed to be doing every day, but I think we need to know what all our options are, and we're only gonna find out if we keep looking. I don't think this is the life I'd choose.

ZACK

Is it our choice, though? How many of our instincts are just implanted? Mira, would you want to find out what happened to the Commander so badly if someone else hadn't decided that it should be your...purpose, or "primary motivator", or whatever you'd call it?

MIRA

And your desire to stay here and play hospital is entirely natural, is that it?

LEVI

Look, we're not gonna solve the problem of free will, OK? Let's just accept that everyone wants what they want. Mira, I see your point about getting more information. But it's a big risk - we don't know what shape the rest of the station is in...there might be more of those creatures, or worse.

RILEY

Are we sure that we're safe here, though? They're are still out there, they could still find us.

LEVI

Luna? What do you think?

LUNA

I think...I think we should move on.

ZACK

Luna, think about it - we've got so much here. Your prosthesis will last for what, 5 years? If we leave, what are the chances we'll find somewhere we can replace it?

LUNA

Well, if I need a new leg, I can figure that out when the time comes. It's not enough to stay here waiting for... well, nothing.

LEVI

I'm not suggesting we just sit here and wait. I'm talking about building a community, like the others did. Growing things.

LUNA

I do want to grow something, Levi, it's just - everything here feels... temporary. This place was a home, once. But it's not ours. And I want to see what else is out there.

LEVI

OK. Three against two then. As soon as Luna's ready, we'll start heading for the Bridge.

8. INT. MORE CORRIDORS

These corridors are next to industrial machinery, and the thrumming tones of the station are a little bit louder. Mira and Riley are leading the way.

MIRA

We'll need to find somewhere defensible to rest soon.

RILEY

This corridor's had maintenance rooms every few minutes. A bit cramped, but only one door to watch.

MIRA

Could work. Next one we come across, we'll take a break.

LEVI

How many days did you say it would take to reach the commander's centre?

MIRA

At this pace? If I'm right about the scale of the map we found... Three, maybe four.

ZACK
How's the leg holding up, Luna?

LUNA
It's good. It doesn't feel exactly normal yet, but it's not painful. I'm fine.

They hear a soft scratching noise, as if claws are brushing against metal.

LUNA
I'd rather not have to run, though.

The group listen for the noise to return. It doesn't.

RILEY
Maybe it was just... you know... station noises.

ZACK
Station noises?

RILEY
Yeah, like... a pipe problem. Or something.

LEVI
Hey, maybe we can call a plumber.

The scratching noise repeats, closer this time.

LUNA
(shaken)
Something's coming.

RILEY
We should move.

They start to move quicker. LUNA tries to keep up but her footsteps become clumsy at the higher speed.

LUNA
Wait-

MIRA
Levi, help me with Luna.

The scratching gets louder as MIRA and LEVI each take one of LUNA's arms and help her stay balanced as they all forward.

LUNA

I'm alright, I think I've got-
A blast door slams shut close behind her.

LUNA
Ah! What the-

Another blast door slams shut ahead.

RILEY
Shit!

MIRA
(grunts)
It's shut tight.

LEVI
Ok, let's not panic.

RILEY
You sure about that?

ZACK
He's right. These doors look airtight,
remember. Keeping calm preserves oxygen.

RILEY
Oh, noted, thanks Zack, that's really
reassuring!

A quiet hissing sounds starts.

LUNA
It can't be airtight - do you hear that?

They listen.

LEVI
That's air. There must be a crack
somewhere - look around.

The group shuffle as they search for the source of the sound. MIRA
starts to cough.

MIRA
Think I've found something.

The rest of the group start to cough.

LUNA
(choking)
That's not air.

MIRA
(choking)
Gas!

ZACK
(choking)
It's chlorine! Don't breath!

There is the sound of frantic and confused activity, as Riley struggles with the door controls.

RILEY
Got it!

One of the doors opens with a slight sci-fi thwoosh and the air pressure equalises. They stagger out of the gas. Stood on the other side is ANYA, a grizzled woman of about 60. She's holding a weapon pointed towards the group, which is currently making a powering up sound.

RILEY
(breathing deeply)
Woah!

ANYA
Fuck me, you're people!

RILEY
Who the hell are you?

ANYA
I'm Anya. I live here. Who the hell are you?