scene 4

Adrift

Another ten years, another 32 light years, another series of disappointing, uninhabitable worlds. There was some serious consideration over Icicle, but, in the end, many of the Earth species in the seed bank would not have been viable on that frigid world.

The Alien Sasha did not seem to pose a long-term threat, and, with practice, it was often difficult to remember one wasn't speaking to the original Sasha Mendel. Dr. Berg never seemed to forget, though - they moved to separate quarters, and kept separate lives following Sasha's return from the planet.

Santos and the Alien Sasha's continued improvements to *Alexandria's* sensors helped improve analysis to a few dozen planets in the time it used to take two. However, nearly all were prima facie uninhabitable. While logically helpful, this was ultimately disappointing.

Life aboard *Alexandria* was beginning to wear on the crew. There simply wasn't much new to do during the long voyage. *Alexandria* and the alien were spending quite a lot of time together in the VR. Could the two of them have formed a bond of some kind?

Santos Rojas fell ill a few days ago. Neither *Alexandria* nor Dr. Berg identified the source of Santos' illness. As Santos' symptoms accelerated, they grew weaker and weaker. It would not be long until Santos died.

TYPICAL MESSAGES FROM EARTH

TRANSMISSION REPEATED FREQUENTLY ON SEVERAL BANDS
To all on Planet Earth. I am the Prophet Nehemiah. The God has forgiven our sins and washed away our trespasses in the Deluge. The God has commanded that great Arks be built to gather people into our village, our own slice of Eden, here in Northern Idaho. Come one and come all and bring your children for I, the Prophet Nehemiah, will personally pray with them and determine if our new Savior walks among us. Come one, come all, for the God is with you!