

EP. 1 - Screenplay Edge of Time

Professor stands on a stage giving his historical speech

PROFESSOR

Ten thousand cosmic years ago, our predecessors gathered in this asteroid field, from different worlds. They established a common ground of the ultimate power, knowledge. Pursuing this power to benefit all kinds, this Institute was funded by our great Nation. For generations, we have charted the stars, studied the atoms, just in here, this asteroid field.

Some of us may have traveled light years away, orbiting stars or surveying planets. With small transport vessels and limited equipment, they worked hard, yet gained little. Today, that is about to change, thanks to our proud scientists and engineers.

Now I present you our leading Science Vessel, the first one of her class, Institute Construction Contract 4101, Equestria Science Vessel *Geodesic*. Its name, taken from a concept in relativity, symbolizes our objectivity and rationality that once saved the Nation from chaos.

Professor rises his head

PROFESSOR

Mainframe, transfer command of the *Geodesic* to Captain Professor Alastair. The Ship is yours.

CUT TO: BRIDGE

Professor Alastair stands up from the seat

PROF. ALASTAIR

Engineering, report status.

CUT TO: ENGINEERING DECK, WARP CORE CONTROL ROOM

(CONTINUED)

CHIEF ENGINEER  
Engineering to Bridge, the  
antimatter reactor is stable,  
impulse engines and warp drives are  
ready, field generators and shields  
are online. We have a green across  
the board, all systems go. The ship  
is prepared, sir.

SMASH CUT: BACK TO BRIDGE

ALASTAIR  
Helms?

NAVIGATOR  
Course laid in, sir.

ALASTAIR  
Engage.

PROFESSOR  
(Voice only, through the  
*Geodesic's* communications)  
Professor Alastair, Godspeed.

FADE TO: THE OUTSIDE

Ship moves clear the dock and jumps to warp  
(5 mins)

2 SCENE 2 DISCOVERY

2

(5 years later, in the  
astrometric lab aboard the  
*Geodetic*)

Sivath holds a tricorder, scanning a piece of device laid on  
an anti-gravity cart. He pulses a second and pushes a button  
on another console.

SIVATH FLARE  
Sivath to Thunder, I need you in  
the lab at once.

Thunder Flare is taking a break in the mess hall, joking  
with his colleagues. Hearing Sivath's call, he puts down his  
coffee cup.

THUNDER FLARE  
Coming, my love.

(CONTINUED)

SIVATH FLARE  
\*Sigh\* I told you to call me my  
name or "professor" at work.

THUNDER FLARE  
(sarcastic)  
Yes, Sir!

Thunder Flare walks through the door, smiles at Sivath, the Borg. Sivath nods to him, letting him in the lab. Other scientists are busy on their own research on different consoles.

SIVATH FLARE  
Thunder, what do you know about our  
history?

THUNDER FLARE  
Well, as much as you know. We met  
in the archaeology site on  
Twilight-4, where you accidentally  
fell into a...  
(Interrupted)

SIVATH FLARE  
Oh, no...no, no. I meant the  
history of our United Nation,  
Equestria.

THUNDER FLARE  
(Sarcastic)  
Oh dear, That's on history 101. Why  
would our omniscient professor ask  
that?

Sivath sighs, pointing his hoof on the screen.

SIVATH FLARE  
Because if I am not mistaken,  
everything we know is about to  
change.

FADE OUT

3

SCENE 3 HISTORICAL RECORD

3

Princess Twilight Sparkle sits in front of the camera. The background is the Element of Harmony banner.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
This is Princess Twilight Sparkle  
of the Republic of Equestria.

(CONTINUED)

Twilight pauses a bit, looks away from the camera, nods to someone, then turns back to the recorder.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Roughly a millennium ago, we started to explore the true nature of our power, what we used to refer as Magic.

DISSOLVE TO SOME CLIPS FROM MLP

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Magic gives unicorns abilities of telekinetic, shielding, teleportation and other capabilities... Princess Celestia and Luna, the two most powerful alicorns in Equestria, were the ruler of our nation at that time. I studied magic from Princess Celestia, and discovered a new type of magic, the Magic of Friendship.

DISSOLVE BACK TO TWILIGHT

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Sounds superstitious right?  
(chuckles)  
Yeah...

At the same time, some ponies started another approach of understanding of our world, science. Lead by an earth pony called the doctor, ponies started to learn the world beyond magic.

Why would an object unaffected by Magic fall down to the ground, why would boats float on the water even without the help of magic, why a metal pillar without magic reinforcement will buckle under certain load...

TWILIGHT TAKES A SIP OF WATER FROM A CUP

FADE TO A SERIES OF SHORT RECORDS

A Saucer-shaped Coanda effect aircraft takes off; ponies defeat Tirek with cannons and missiles; a pegasus with a wonder bolt power armor takes off with help of a jet pack.

(CONTINUED)

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Well, through the study of science and technology, we build machines allowing earth ponies and unicorns to fly, helping pegasi and unicorns defending themselves, and giving them super-strength...

CUT TO: TWILIGHT

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

However, with all those fancy inventions, the power harnessed from science is still no match for magic. two hundred years ago, with the development of quantum mechanics and nanotechnology, we Discovered that the magic is actually na...

(Interrupted by statics)

The message is disrupted by interference.

(The screen is filled with statics, then transforms into a console display in the lab )

4 SCENE 4 LOCK DOWN

4

(The record is still playing on the console, but the data is damaged, only statics and a few words)

Some other scientists start gathering around the console and the data storage device.

FELLOW A

Isn't that the artifact we intercepted yesterday?

FELLOW B

Yeah, I heard that little thing flew at high sublight speed and our pilot almost crashed our ship on it.

FELLOW A

What a catch... And what took Inspections so long to get it here?

FELLOW B

Not a clue. Our safety officer locked that thing up in a tank wrapped with three layers of

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

FELLOW B (cont'd)  
tri-titanium and thought it was an  
alien virus or something...  
(interrupted by louder noises)

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR A  
Hey, you deciphered that thing,  
congrats!  
(He takes a look at the  
console display, it is still  
playing the message)

TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
(On the display, the image  
comes back for a moment, but  
still disrupted)  
We are finding a way to evacuate  
our planets. Our best scientists  
and engineers are building a  
generation ship, but we are running  
out of time. We have only 2 years  
left until the planets become  
uninhabitable.  
(Statics)  
We launched this probe wishing  
someone may receive this message.  
It is not only a distress call but  
a preservation of our civilization.  
We estimated that by the time  
anyone can find it, we would all be  
extinct for centuries.  
(Statics...)

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR A  
A fifty-million-year-old distress  
beacon? that's...  
(Interrupted)

SIVATH FLARE  
Fascinating. Indeed... But if that  
is real...

INSPECTOR A  
(Walks into the room with  
Inspector B)  
It is fake.

Inspector B follows Inspector A into the room.

INSPECTOR B  
Obviously, someone stole the  
original artifact for some purpose  
and replaced it with a fake  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

INSPECTOR B (cont'd)  
replica. The ship is now taken over  
by the United Nation and you will  
stop what you are doing  
immediately. Each one of you will  
be interrogated until we are clear  
the case. From now on, no one is  
allowed to get on or off the ship.  
Is that clear?

(Ponies discussing in the  
background)

INSPECTOR A  
The Captain just authorized a  
command transfer to us. The  
situation is now under control.  
Please stay calm until we catch the  
thief.

SIVATH FLARE  
But this is impossible. I cannot  
detect any variance in the  
artifact's micro-structure. This is  
exactly the same one in appearance  
as the one retrieved yesterday.  
Also, there is no indication  
that...

(Interrupted)

INSPECTOR A  
That is why you are our major  
suspect.  
(Shout to security)  
Security, escort Mr. Sivath to his  
quarter.

Thunder Flare steps forward, trying to protect Sivath.

THUNDER FLARE  
That is nonsense, there is no way  
Sivath would do that...

INSPECTOR B  
(Waves their hooves to the  
security)  
Him as well.

THUNDER FLARE  
(Anxious)  
Hold! You... you don't have a  
warrant!

(CONTINUED)



INSPECTOR A  
(Takes out a tablet with a  
National Emblem on it.)  
In fact, I do. Issued ten  
minutes ago.  
(Steps back)  
Don't even think about trying  
anything, traitors... For the rest  
of you, return to your own  
quarters, or if you need someone to  
escort you like those two...

The security ponies push Sivath and Thunder out of the Lab,  
followed by other scientists, then the inspectors. The  
lights shut down and the door closes behind them.

5 SCENE 5 CONFINING

5

On the way back to their quarters.

THETA  
(Whisper)  
Sorry, sir... We don't believe that  
you are guilty but we have our  
orders...

SIVATH FLARE  
(Sighs)  
I know, you have your orders...

SECURITY A  
Sorry, but don't worry, everything  
will be alright.

Arriving at their quarter, the two security pony steps  
aside, letting Sivath and Thunder in. One of the guards  
closes and locks the door.

In their quarter, Thunder sits on his bed, while Sivath is  
trying to start his computer.

COMPUTER  
Access denied.

SIVATH FLARE  
Authorization code *Sivath Flare*  
*79-Alpha-1-omega-lambda*.

COMPUTER  
This authorization code is no  
longer effective.

(CONTINUED)

THUNDER FLARE

(Stands up, walking around  
anxiously)

How? I can't believe it... They  
can't just remove your access code.  
Who gave them the authority to do  
that? And the captain... he just  
lets them... This is nonsense...

Sivath remains silent. He lays on the bed and closes his  
eye.

CUT TO: THE COURT

6

SCENE 6 INTERROGATION

6

In a bright room, with a table in the middle and dark white  
walls glowing, sits Sivath and the Interrogator A.

SIVATH FLARE

I told you I am Sivath Flare,  
Institute designation [NUMBER  
REQUIRED]. Chair of the Department  
of Psychohistory. I have committed  
no crime and it is illegal to  
imprison me for over 24 hours  
without any solid evidence. I  
demand that you release me  
immediately.

INTERROGATOR A

Mr. Flare, please calm down. We  
just need you to corporate.

SIVATH FLARE

Corporate for... what?

I ...

(Interrupted)

INTERROGATOR A

You are the Professor of  
Psychohistory and you should know  
that better than any others.

With our population size and  
technology, no... for the lack of a  
better word, *harmony*, would have  
been possible without your  
department. We are both trying to  
prevent chaos from happening.

(CONTINUED)

SIVATH FLARE

I understand that. But there has been no signs of imminent chaotic factors in any calculation...

INTERROGATOR A

That hard drive one of your ships recovered from deep space *is* our imminent factor. The information will throw the public's mind off... Our ties to the old Republic must not be revealed.

SIVATH FLARE

I am aware of the potential impact on our society. However, revealing it to the public will actually result in a better outcome.

Masking the truth cannot keep the people in peace. By my calculation, there is only 2.2836 percent possibility that telling our people the fact that the dominant 3 species are outsiders will cause regional disruptive events. The possibility of civil war is less than 0.02 parts per million.

However, if someone discovered that the government covers it, there will be 20 percent possibility that the government will be overthrown and this United Nation will be no more.

INTERROGATOR A

(Remain silent for a few seconds, thinking)

We considered. That is if, and only if, your calculations are never revealed to anyone.

SIVATH FLARE

They aren't. Our Nation has kept that...

(Interrupted)

INTERROGATOR A

Until now.

Look, Borg. We have lived peaceful lives for centuries. We don't want

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

INTERROGATOR A (cont'd)  
anything to happen to this union.  
But things are changing now... No  
one ever admits the tiny variances  
in our historical data that fuel  
your calculations... But no, *chaos*  
cannot happen, not in our  
generation. As long as we are still  
here, we do not wish to risk  
anything. Your 2 percent chance is  
simply not low enough.

(Stands up and clops on the  
table, getting emotional)

SIVATH FLARE  
Sir, I work for the United Nation  
of Equestria, not anyone's own  
interest. So should you.

It is my duty to study the past and  
predict the future and act  
correspondently, and it is your  
duty, the government's duty to do  
your best, dealing with any  
outcome.

INTERROGATOR A  
Borg. I'm not here for your  
lecture. Sadly someone always has  
to sacrifice for history... So here  
is the deal. We will renounce your  
degree of psychohistory and you  
shall never talk about your fancy  
discovery again. In return, we  
shall provide you a job at the  
government's logistic department  
and offer you 10,000 National  
Antimatter Credits per month.

SIVATH FLARE  
That is a quite generous offer...

INTERROGATOR A  
So you accept?

SIVATH FLARE  
No. It is still unacceptable. You  
cannot just...  
(Interrupted)

(CONTINUED)

INTERROGATOR A

Then there is no deal.

INTERROGATOR A tabs a button on the table. A door opens on the wall, walking in two ponies. One carries a tool box [U+FF08]Agent A[U+FF09], and another holds a pistol (Agent B). Agent A shoots Sivath. Sivath is not killed but disabled. He struggles but can't really move his body. Agent B places the box on the table and opens it. He pulls out a file and places it in front of Sivath. Agent A holds Sivath's hoof and presses a hoofprint on the file.

FADE OUT

7

SCENE 7 ACCIDENT

7

In the prison, Thunder Flare wakes up at night. He noticed a light on Sivath's implant is blinking abnormally. Arcs jump between the implants and the room are filled with static noises.

THUNDER FLARE

(Clopping on the fence)

Sivath, Sivath...

Sivath lies on the ground, he can barely stay conscious. His visual implant is heavily damaged.

THUNDER FLARE

(Cries out)

Sivath, wake up!

Thunder tries to reach Sivath through the fence.

SIVATH FLARE

(moans)

No... Thunder... no... go away...  
do not ... come close to me...

THUNDER FLARE

(Knocks the fence, and shouts)

Guards! Guards! Medical Emergency!

Other prisoners are woken up. They notice the damaged Sivath and most of them are scared. Some get excited and some remains emotionless.

SIVATH FLARE

Oh, my... They....  
(Cough)

(CONTINUED)

THUNDER FLARE  
(Cries)  
Sivath!

Sivath Flare loses consciousness.

Sivath's implants explode when a group of patrol walks in. The green flash blinds everypony. After the explosion, the room collapses.

8

SCENE 8 HIDDEN AGENDA

8

TV REPORTER  
Yesterday, an explosion is detected in the Facility 4020. The casualty report is still coming in. Authorities explain that the explosion is caused by a Borg prisoner. The investigation shows a high level of plasma signature. We are told that the explosion is caused by an overload in Sivath Flare, the Borg prisoner's neural implant. Sivath is killed instantly during the explosion, and only cell traces are found fused into the building. Sivath Flare's husband, Thunder Flare, also the prisoner in the facility is wounded during the explosion and still in deep coma. The explosion also caused a breach on the facility, however, all prisoners are contained...

Thunder Flare opens his eyes. The news is still playing in the background. He is lying on a bio-bed in a hospital. He's sight is focused on the TV, then he noticed a nurse is looking at him.

THUNDER FLARE  
(Mourns, and struggles, trying to get up)  
Uh... Sivath... no...

SHUCKLE  
(Smiles kindly)  
It's okay. You are safe now. You are in the Institute Central Hospital. Please, don't move, your wound has not fully healed.

(CONTINUED)

THUNDER FLARE  
(Cries, sniffing)  
Sivath...

Thunder grabs Shuckle's hoof.

THUNDER FLARE  
Help... They killed him, and they  
want me dead... We can't let  
them... they framed us... help...

SHUCKLE  
(a little bit shocked)  
What...

Thunder Flare falls into a coma. Shuckle scans him with instruments and stabilizes him.

Shuckle walks to her station, sitting at the console. She types on the panel, searching information about Thunder Flare and Sivath Flare. A list of web pages appears on the console, she starts browsing.

SHUCKLE  
(Talking to herself)  
Arrested for stealing national  
properties and attempts to  
overthrow the government, Hm...

Her hoof moves on the screen browsing.

The door opens, and the noise startled her. She shakes a bit, tapping out the page. Looks up at the door, she noticed a furry fox (Agent C) walks in company with a pony in black (Agent D).

SHUCKLE  
Hi...

AGENT C  
Hi, we are investigating the  
explosion in facility 4020 last  
night. We need to ask the prisoner  
a few questions.

SHUCKLE  
Sir, I am afraid he is in no  
condition for interrogation. He is  
still in coma.

AGENT C  
Then wake him up.

(CONTINUED)

SHUCKLE

Sorry, but I can't, not if we  
damage his central ner...

AGENT D

Just do it.

SHUCKLE

Sorry... According to my protocols,  
I cannot allow risking my patient's  
life.

AGENT C

Your patient is a criminal and a  
national security risk. His husband  
just launched a terrorist attack in  
Facility 4020. Are you trying to  
protect an insurgent?

SHUCKLE

No, but I have my duty here.

AGENT D

(Pushes Shuckle into her  
office)

Step Aside!

Agent D grabs Sivath's hoof while Agent C injects him with  
some sort of drug.

Thunder Flare wakes up in pain, moaning.

AGENT C

Thunder Flare. we need to ask you a  
few questions about what happened  
yesterday.

THUNDER FLARE

(Moans, sad)

Sivath...

AGENT C

Sorry, your Sivath is dead. Right  
after he confessed everything.

THUNDER FLARE

Confess? What...

AGENT D

How curious... You were right next  
to him in the explosion, while you  
are still here safe and sound.

(CONTINUED)



THUNDER FLARE

Are... Are you accusing... me?

AGENT C

Oh no... we are merely showing the facts. We are now asking you a couple of questions.

THUNDER FLARE

Fine...

AGENT D

What were you doing right before the explosion?

THUNDER FLARE

Sleeping...

AGENT D

Sleeping, in the jail, right?

THUNDER FLARE

Where else do you think?!

AGENT D

How did you get in there? Why did they put you in prison?

THUNDER FLARE

For stealing some freaking artif...act...

(Realize something, then stop)

AGENT D

(interrupts Thunder)

So you admit that you tried to steal it.

THUNDER FLARE

(angry)

That's a lie!

You... you tricked me... I didn't do that.

AGENT C

Don't worry, we already recorded that. Thank you for your corporation.

The Agents put their stuff in the case and walks out the room.

FADE OUT