



Awake

Chapter 9 *Transcript*

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Cast:

Hina: Rielle Braid
Janelle: Jae Jae Lopez
Robbie: Jesse Hodson
Rosa: Annemieke Wade
Travis: Alex O'Shea
Seb: Adam Ford

Special Thanks

Leena Soussi
Sharif E. and his daughter Aya

Note: Due to last-minute audio changes, transcript may not match final audio script exactly.



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[Scene fades into arguing in Janelle's room.]

JANELLE: What the hell are we supposed to do? She's our *captain*.

TRAVIS: [growls slightly] And we can't just jump her. The failsafe nodes will knock us out.

SEB: I know there are ways to override a captain's authority. I think you need unanimous agreement from the rest of the crew. I'm not sure where to look for the protocols, but I think it's easy enough to access if you're...

JANELLE: The tech. Robbie!

HINA: Uh-oh.

JANELLE: Persephone, send a private flag to--

HINA: Janelle, wait!

TRAVIS: What's the matter?

HINA: I...didn't have time to tell you guys before. But Robbie came to me before we found the video key, and he said...

HINA: He said he wanted out. He didn't want to do this to Rosa anymore.

SEB: (tired) Oh, God.

JANELLE: But he didn't know Rosa was lying to us!

TRAVIS: Yeah--if we give him *proof*, he'll change his mind, right?!

HINA: I don't know! He was really freaking out before.

SEB (in the background): *Let me think...Persephone, bring up emergency protocol folders.*

[tone]

SEB: *Now narrow them down to the folders that every crew member except captains can access.*

[error tone]

SEB: *Whoops. Uh...I guess captains have access, too. Bring up folders accessible by all six crew members.*

[tone]

SEB: Now narrow it to anything with "captain" in the subject. Separate searches for terms "override" and "power." And... (mumbling, sheepish) do a side search for term "mutiny."

[tone]

TRAVIS: What EXACTLY did he tell you?

HINA: He just...nngh...I don't...remember the exact words. But he's said from the beginning that Rosa isn't capable of hurting anyone.

JANELLE: Whether or not she killed Naveen, she knew what happened and she tried to cover it up! And she lied to Robbie to keep him from searching the logs from her time before us.

TRAVIS: He *can't* still defend her after that.

HINA: I know! I *agree* with you! But--

JANELLE: We have to find out where Jamilah's kid is! If she was willing to die on this ship to give up her pod--

TRAVIS: Maybe she couldn't go through with it, and killed Naveen at the last minute.

JANELLE: No! She *didn't* kill him!

TRAVIS: Then who did?! The rest of the crew to protect the kid?!

JANELLE: We have to get Rosa to tell us!

HINA: I know, but--

SEB: This is it! [tone] Guys, I found it! Persephone, send protocol for emergency suppression of captain's power on the front screen!

[tone]

JANELLE: Oh my God--we *can* do it! (reading) Emergency override code 79882! Captain's powers are stripped until conflict is resolved. Captain's powers are temporarily shifted to...

TRAVIS: The medic! Fuck yes.

SEB: Wait--look at this. [tone] This kind of override needs *everyone* to sign off on it. Five crew members out of six. [pause] We can't do it without Robbie.

HINA: Oh, God.

JANELLE: Hina...we have to do this. *You* have to do this. Get Robbie to--

HINA (stressed): Why do you all think I can get Robbie to do anything?! You keep sending me to him like I'm his...handler or something!

TRAVIS (almost scoffs): He'd *love* for you to handle him.

HINA: Travis, shut up!

SEB: Hina...you know Robbie has feelings for you, right?

HINA: Of course I know! I'm not stupid! And he...ugh! He begged me to protect him from *all of you*!

HINA (breaking down a little): Oh, God...I hate this shit. No matter what I do, I always end up hurting the people who love me. Why can't I just...!

[Hina breathes heavily, half-sobs.]

JANELLE: Hina...

HINA: I know! I'm still gonna do it! This is too important, and...you deserve to know the truth, Janelle. Your sister has a *kid* sleeping somewhere on this ship!

HINA: But...just... [sobs] Just give me a minute.

[Hina makes raspy attempts to swallow tears and calm down.]

[scene fades out]

[Scene opens in hallway. We hear a lot of footsteps and Seb's wheelchair makes an electronic whirring noise.]

[Everyone stops for a second.]

HINA: [take a breath] (quietly) Persephone. Send a private flag to Robbie from me. Tell him...there's something he needs to see in the kitchen. He can watch in secret--in fact, that's how I want him to do it. So he can...judge for himself.

PERSEPHONE: Would you like to review your message?

HINA: No. But tell me once he starts monitoring.

PERSEPHONE: Of course.

[Everyone waits in the hallway for a second.]

SEB: Ugh...I wish I wasn't in a *wheelchair* for this. You ready, Janelle?

JANELLE: Nngh... (weakly) No.

TRAVIS: Whatever the truth is, it's still better than a lie.

SEB: Is it...?

[long pause]

[tone]

PERSEPHONE: Monitoring in the kitchen initiated by ~Robbie.~

TRAVIS: Here we go.

[Everyone files into the kitchen.]

ROSA: Hm? Is something wrong? [pause] (surprised) Why are you all--

TRAVIS: We know the dead body is Naveen.

[long pause]

ROSA (shock): What...?

TRAVIS: He was in the background of one of Jamilah's videos--Persephone did a face match. And Jamilah left a video that you *didn't* know about! (voice rises, but not angry yet--just accusatory) You were *in* it, Rosa!

JANELLE (a little broken): You knew my sister before I woke up. Did you know she wanted to give up her pod for her child?!

[very long pause]

ROSA: ...I wouldn't let her go through with it.

JANELLE (gasping, weak): Rosa...!

TRAVIS: Son of a...!

HINA: Oh, God...

SEB: Persephone... Emergency override code 79882.

[weird danger tone]

PERSEPHONE: Please state reason for override.

SEB: Captain Rosa Medina was withholding evidence in a wrongful death case.

TRAVIS: And she's a suspect in a murder! We're considering her a threat to the crew's safety!

ROSA: It wasn't murder!

[weird tone]

PERSEPHONE: Code Green: Voice signatures required for override 799882.

SEB: Sebastian Atal, consent.

[tone]

TRAVIS: Travis Williams, consent!

[tone]

JANELLE (sounding hurt): Janelle Vetrov, consent!

[tone]

HINA (a little weak): Hina Hwan, consent.

[tone]

[pause]

HINA: Robbie...are you watching this?

PERSEPHONE: Five voice signatures required for override.

[pause]

ROSA (surprised): You patched Robbie in to... (suddenly loud) Robbie listen to me!

[pause]

ROSA: Can you hear me? It *wasn't* murder!

TRAVIS (now angry): Fuck her, Robbie--she's been lying to you since the beginning!

PERSEPHONE: Warning: Travis Williams. Your aggression levels are approaching maximum.

PERSEPHONE (overlapping with above): Five voice signatures required for override.

JANELLE (overlapping with above): Robbie, please! Agree to the override!

ROSA (overlapping with above): **NAVEEN'S DEATH WAS AN ACCIDENT!**

PERSEPHONE: Warning: Captain Rosa Medina. Your aggression levels are approaching maximum.

[Running footsteps suddenly fade in from the hallway. Robbie's panting fades in with them.]

HINA: Robbie?

ROSA: No...! (very loud) **ROBBIE, STAY BACK!**

PERSEPHONE: Warning: Captain Rosa Medina. Your aggression levels are approaching maximum.

[Robbie arrives, panting, sliding into the kitchen.]

ROBBIE (breathless, freaking out): Rosa! I didn't know they were gonna--

ROSA: They figured this out without you?

ROBBIE: They...I...! [breaks into sobs] I'm so sorry!

TRAVIS: Sign off on the override, Robbie.

ROBBIE (breaking down): Please...leave her alone...!

PERSEPHONE: Five voice signatures required for override.

ROSA: Rosa Medina, consent.

[tone]

[strange warning alarm]

PERSEPHONE: Emergency override 79882 confirmed. Captain's authority has been temporarily been shifted to Captain Janelle Vetrov. Please transport Rosa Medina to an appropriate location for failsafe shutdown in ten...

[Robbie sobs. Persephone's countdown overlaps in the background.]

PERSEPHONE: Nine...

JANELLE: Rosa...

PERSEPHONE: Eight...

ROSA: Don't cry, Robbie. This isn't your fault.

PERSEPHONE: Seven...six...

ROBBIE: His death...wasn't an accident.

ROSA (firm): Robbie, *listen to me*--

PERSEPHONE: Five...four...three...

ROBBIE: No! I...I love you, but you're wrong!

PERSEPHONE: Two...one...

ROSA: Robbie--

[creepy tone]

[Sound of Rosa crumpling to the floor.]

[warning tone]

PERSEPHONE: Attention Captain Janelle Vetrov. Please report to the kitchen for medical emergency. Rosa Medina was subdued with the failsafe shutdown.

SEB: Persephone knocked her out...

TRAVIS: Robbie. [pause] You *know* it wasn't an accident?

[Robbie sobbing/breathing heavily]

ROBBIE (broken): Please, just...

JANELLE: Why the hell did she sign off on herself?

HINA: Is there...something you're not telling us, Robbie?

[Robbie groans]

TRAVIS (suddenly very firm): **Robbie.**

[cane creaks as Travis moves]

ROBBIE: Stay away, please!

[creepy tone]

[Travis crashes to the floor. His cane clatters, and a dish breaks as he hits the table on his way down.]

SEB: Travis!

JANELLE: Travis!

ROBBIE: Huh?

[Sounds as Janelle runs to Travis, Seb's wheelchair squeaks over.]

HINA: What just...happened?

ROBBIE (scared): Persephone, did you knock him out?

JANELLE: Oh, God--he hit his head!

ROBBIE: Persephone, don't knock out anyone standing! You'll hurt--

[creepy tone]

[Seb's wheelchair creaks as he slumps over unconscious.]

JANELLE: Seb!

ROBBIE: Janelle, don't kneel on the floor!

HINA: Oh my God...

ROBBIE: Persephone, fall back on **standard protocol** of two or more aggression warnings before the failsafe! Don't bypass that! Technician confirmation 99101!

[error tone]

PERSEPHONE: This requires authorization from Captain Janelle Vetrov.

JANELLE: I...I authorize it! Stop using the failsafe!

[tone]

[long silence]

JANELLE (shaky): Why the hell did Persephone knock them out? They weren't *doing* anything!

ROBBIE: Ungh...! (freaking out again)

HINA: Robbie...Robbie! Talk to us, please!

ROBBIE: I didn't mean...

JANELLE: It's like...Persephone was protecting *you*!

ROBBIE: She...

ROBBIE: She's just following an algorithm. She's always just...doing what she thinks is best for...

ROBBIE (weak): For getting this ship and enough survivors to Tau Ceti Prime.

[long silence]

HINA: And you're... [pause] *You're* what's best for the ship.

HINA: You're better with the ship than anyone who's woken up in the last 600 years.

HINA: (suddenly firm, louder) Persephone, listen to me. Robbie *isn't* in danger!

[long silence]

HINA: What happened to Jamilah's baby, Robbie?

[Robbie makes panicked whine noise.]

HINA: Is the kid in Naveen's pod? Robbie, look at me. [pause] (gentler) Or is that pod still empty?

JANELLE (shock): Oh my God. Robbie, you woke up before Seb. Rosa was the only one to see you come out of thaw...!

HINA: And she's been lying to us.

[long pause]

HINA: I don't think you ever *had* to come out of a thaw.

[Robbie makes panicked noise.]

ROBBIE: R-Rosa was just...trying...to help me! But I...

ROBBIE (broken) I don't deserve her! She was willing to give up *everything* for me, and so were my parents , but I...

ROBBIE (broken): I ruined everything! I killed my own father!

[Robbie runs out of the room .]

HINA: Robbie!

JANELLE (overlapping with above): ROBBIE!

[Sound of CHOOM doors in the hallway, fading footsteps.]

[Shuffling and fabric and feet in the kitchen.]

JANELLE: Robbie, come back! Don't hide in the ship--

[alarm noise]

PERSEPHONE: Code Green. Code Green.

PERSEPHONE: Warning, Janelle Vetrov. Aggression levels blah blah

PERSEPHONE (overlapping with above): Warning, Hina Hwan. Aggression levels blah blah

HINA: Whoa, whoa! Janelle, don't run after him!

[The women stop moving.]

PERSEPHONE: Code Green. Code Green.

[long pause]

HINA: We won't chase him, Persephone.

PERSEPHONE: Code Green. Code Green.

[The alarm stops after a moment]

JANELLE : He...he said Naveen's death wasn't an accident.

[pause]

HINA: We have to ask Rosa.

JANELLE: Yeah...yeah. (takes a breath) At least she ducked for her shutdown, so she shouldn't be hurt. She'll...she'll wake up quick.

HINA: Should we take her to the med bay first?

JANELLE: Nngh...according to that protocol Seb brought up, she's supposed to go in the brig until we resolve the mutiny.

HINA: I didn't know we *had* a brig.

JANELLE: Well...

[scene fades out]

TRAVIS: Fucking Robbie!

[warning tone]

PERSEPHONE: Warning, Travis Williams. Aggression levels blah blah

JANELLE: Travis, shut up!

SEB: Are you *trying* to piss off Persephone?!

TRAVIS: I feel like someone took a hammer to my jaw. Nngh... Fuck, I have a headache.

JANELLE: Calm down and keep the ice on it. Spiking your blood pressure *isn't* going to help.

ROSA (through a door): This place is a mess.

SEB (sarcastic): Well, I'm sorry. I didn't think my movie room would ever have to be a *brig* again.

ROSA (through a door): When was the last time you cleaned in here?

SEB: Look, we're asking the questions!

JANELLE: [sighs angrily] Dammit, this is so pathetic. (louder) Rosa, I don't know if you were trying to convince Robbie or *us* that Naveen's death was an accident. If Robbie was the one who killed him...

[everyone gets quiet]

HINA: Was he telling the truth about that?

[long silence]

ROSA: Yes.

[pause]

ROSA: But it was just the result of a fight that escalated quickly. Persephone interfered, which is *really* what killed Naveen, and Robbie's just blaming himself for not stopping *her*.

[Rosa takes a deep breath.]

ROSA: Look, it...it was about ten years ago. Long after Jamilah was back in cryogenic sleep. And Naveen was... Oh, how can I even *start* explaining this all to you?

JANELLE: Start at the beginning, Rosa. When...when my sister got pregnant.

[pause]

ROSA: That part was before my time. When I was taken out of thaw, Robbie was already a little boy. Jamilah and Naveen had made plans with the existing crew--without a pod, Robbie would live his entire life on Persephone, and no one thought that was fair to him. Jamilah was willing to give Robbie her pod when her time was over, so he'd wake up on Tau Ceti Prime and...and *she* would die an old woman on the ship. (quieter) She wanted him to have a life outside of this horrible place.

SEB: We...saw some of that on the video. Jamilah was trying to explain some of that to Janelle, but...

TRAVIS: But *you* interefered, Rosa. We heard you.

ROSA: It wasn't just me! A lot of us didn't want her to go through with it. But after *years* of scouring through Persephone's protocols and trying to find ways to reinstate any powered-down pods, there was no way around it. Persephone wouldn't budge--one pod for each person. No exceptions--ever.

ROSA (sighs): When Jamilah's term was almost over, even Naveen had a change of heart. He'd signed on to *forty years* in this damn place. He started to see what none of us were willing to say--that he was clinging to a few decades of old age on Tau Ceti Prime at the cost of separating Robbie from his mother.

ROSA: Robbie and Jamilah were so close. Even as a little boy, he threw temper tantrums about her pod. He didn't want it. He didn't want a life on Tau Ceti Prime without her.

JANELLE (broken up): Oh, God...

ROSA: Jamilah wouldn't budge, so we had to...conspire behind her back. A few days before Robbie was supposed to take her pod, we had Persephone knock her out and we...put her back in her pod ourselves. (breaking up a little) She would never have gone willingly. And Naveen was there, closing her in when he knew it would cost him his life on Tau Ceti Prime, his chance of ever seeing his family and wife again...! But he still did it. We *all* did it, because we knew it was the right thing to do for Robbie. He was only ten years old, but he already knew how to ask Persephone to knock his mother out with the failsafe...!

TRAVIS: Robbie was only ten? So this wasn't when he...got in a fight with Naveen, like you said?

ROSA: Travis, I'm getting to that. You just...have to understand how difficult the situation was for everyone. And how... [takes a breath to compose herself]

ROSA: Robbie and Naveen already had a strained relationship before this. You know how delicate Robbie can be--he didn't get anything even *close* to a normal childhood. He was a handful when he was young, especially since the ship wasn't equipped to take care of children, and Naveen...couldn't handle him.

ROSA: I was *hoping* that Naveen's decision to save Jamilah was borne out of a new acceptance of Robbie, but...Naveen clearly made the decision out of duty, not love. Their relationship got worse once Jamilah was asleep. When Robbie was a teenager he got more angry and moody, and Naveen was too miserable to have any sympathy. They fought *constantly*, until...

ROSA [takes a breath]: I *saw* Naveen die.

TRAVIS: WHAT?!

JANELLE: You were there?!

ROSA: Through a monitor! He and Robbie were alone together, but I always got flags when Robbie was panicking...so I piped myself in. I tried to mediate whatever they were arguing about.

TRAVIS: What *were* they arguing about?

ROSA (frustrated): Nothing new! It always the same things--Naveen was blaming Robbie for something, and it turned into a complaint about their entire situation, and Jamilah would come up, and Robbie couldn't stand hearing Naveen say anything

negative about her...

ROSA: It just got *heated*. And Robbie...got a little physical. Just a shove, or a shake...

HINA: How can he get physical when... Wait.

SEB: If he was born on the ship...Robbie have the failsafe nodes in his head!

ROSA: But Robbie *isn't* a violent person! I know Robbie put his hands on Naveen first. Naveen defended himself, but he wasn't aggressive enough for Persephone to interfere at first, and Robbie started to panic, and by the time Persephone *did* do something...

ROSA: Naveen went unconscious when Robbie was struggling with him. Without any resistance, Robbie was harder on him than he meant to be, and Naveen fell into a doorway, and... [long pause] Persephone closed the door on his head.

HINA: What...?

ROSA: Persephone was trying to mediate, but she's programmed to use the failsafe nodes if there's any violence between crew members. This wasn't the first time that she didn't know to process some incident that involved Robbie. She learns, but she's still just an A.I.! Oh, It all happened so fast....it was an accident and Robbie couldn't have stopped her! He had no way of even *knowing* what she would do!

ROSA: Of *course* the entire crew investigated it the best that we could. But since I saw the whole thing, there weren't any secrets about Robbie's involvement. We handled it democratically. *No one* blamed him for what happened.

ROSA: No one but Robbie himself.

ROSA (pained): He was just a teenager arguing with his father. If they'd been on Earth, Naveen wouldn't have even been *hurt*, let alone *dead*.

[long silence]

SEB: So the crew helped with the cover-up.

ROSA: Yes.

TRAVIS (defensive): And what about Naveen's family on Tau Ceti Prime? You were just gonna--

ROSA: We *absolutely* had a detailed investigation laid out for them. Everyone on the crew signed it. And we had instructions for later crew members to put Naveen in the morgue proper, but...it couldn't happen until after the last one of us was back in cryogenic sleep. That was the only way to keep this mess from spreading any further. It was for the good of Robbie and this entire transport.

ROSA: (almost sarcastic) We were afraid any other crew members getting involved would make the situation worse.

[long silence]

TRAVIS (still firm, although slightly sheepish): You...have to show us that stuff, Rosa. What you were saving for future crew members. (a little louder) You've lied to us already so we're not gonna believe any of that without solid proof.

ROSA (quiet): I'll show you anything you want now. I have nothing left to hide.

TRAVIS: We can't let you out of the brig before that.

ROSA: I know. Give me a few minutes with Persephone and I'll unlock the files.

[a bunch of tones can be heard through the door as Rosa punches buttons]

TRAVIS: Son of a *bitch*.

JANELLE: This is insane. I can't even...I don't know how to process this.

SEB: How were they *sitting* on this for so long? I've known Robbie for eight years! I mean, they told me he'd only been awake for six months when I woke up, but that's obviously bullshit.

JANELLE: Robbie's *never* talked about his family. And Rosa kinda...told us there was a mess there and that we shouldn't probe it.

HINA: Oh, shit. I just remembered. Janelle, that time you tried to kiss him...

TRAVIS: You're his *aunt*.

JANELLE: Oh my God...

[Hina lets out a long sigh.]

HINA: What are we supposed to do now?

HINA: Persephone, where's Robbie?

[weird tone]

PERSEPHONE: Code green.

HINA: Not again! Persephone, what the hell is a Code Green and why do you keep calling it?

PERSEPHONE: Password required.

TRAVIS: Forget it, Hina. She's not gonna tell us.

SEB: It's probably some patch Robbie added. He's coded a lot of his own stuff over the years.

ROSA (through the door, quietly): Like the way she says his name.

JANELLE: Huh?

ROSA: You've heard how she processes his commands, right? She always says his name at the end...like she's *personalizing* it for him.

SEB: Oh, right. He said that was his first patch.

ROSA: It was. [sighs] (very quiet) He coded it when he was eight years old.

[pause]

JANELLE: If he's hiding in the bowels of the ship now, we'll never get him out of there. I mean...that kiss sent him in there for *three days*.

SEB: And this is about a million times worse.

TRAVIS: (hesitant) I don't think we need to be in a *rush* to drag him back out here.

HINA: Travis--

TRAVIS: No, I mean it. Pushing that guy is dangerous.

ROSA: You're *not* in danger, Travis.

TRAVIS: How the hell do you figure that?! You just said all these lies and cover-ups were to keep this clusterfuck from getting worse. And it *got* worse. This was your

nightmare scenario, wasn't it?

[long silence]

ROSA. ...Yes.

TRAVIS: Maybe *killing* Naveen was an accident, but Robbie still started that fight. Which means Robbie *can* get violent when he's freaking out.

SEB: Shit. You've got a point.

JANELLE: Travis...he's still our tech. And he's still my *nephew*. We need him, and...he has to come out. We *have* to deal with this.

TRAVIS: Janelle, this is *exactly what killed Naveen*.

TRAVIS: Robbie's a big fucking guy. There's no failsafe in his head for Persephone to stop him when he does. We are *sitting ducks* if he comes at us.

[pause]

TRAVIS: And if he tries anything...Persephone will take down *everyone else* instead.

End of Chapter 9.