

SPACE: 1999

DRAGON'S DOMAIN



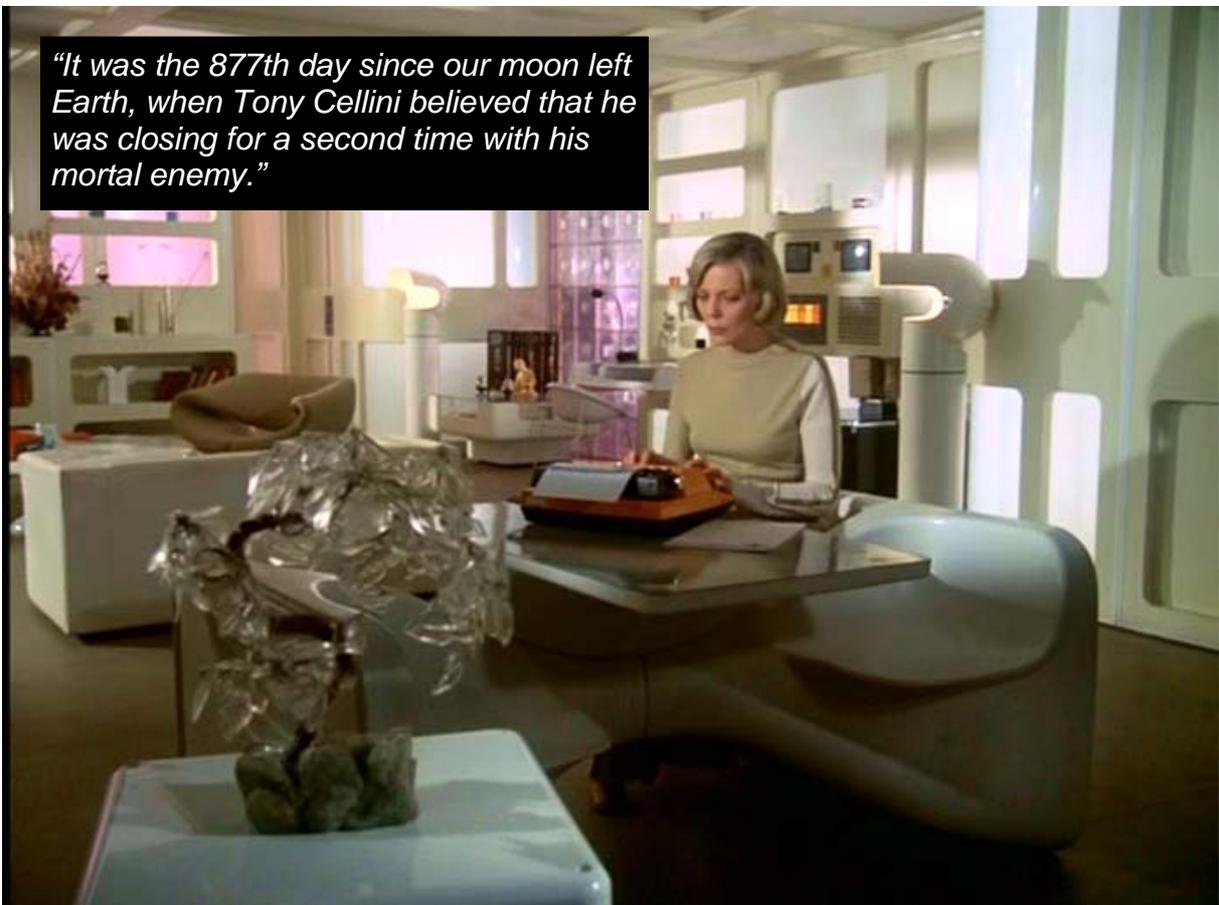
With

Martin Landau.....Cmdr. Koenig
Barbara Bain.....Dr. Russell
Barry Morse.....Prof. Bergman
Nick Tate.....Alan Carter
Prentis Hancock.....Paul Morrow
Zienia Merton.....Sandra Benes
Clifton Jones.....David Kano
Anton Phillips.....Dr. Mathias
Gianni Garko.....Tony Cellini
Michael Sheard.....Darwin King
Susan Jameson.....Juliet Mackie
Barbara Kellerman.....Monique Bouchere
Douglas Wilmer.....Comm. Dixon

*A QUIET DAY AT MOONBASE ALPHA.
DR. RUSSELL IS WRITING ON THE DOCTOR'S LOG...*



"It was the 877th day since our moon left Earth, when Tony Cellini believed that he was closing for a second time with his mortal enemy."





IT SEEMED THAT A SORT OF SPOOKY ENTITY HAD COME IN HIS QUARTER...



HE HAD SUDDENLY WOKEN UP.

WHOEVER OR WHATEVER IT WAS, IT WAS THERE.

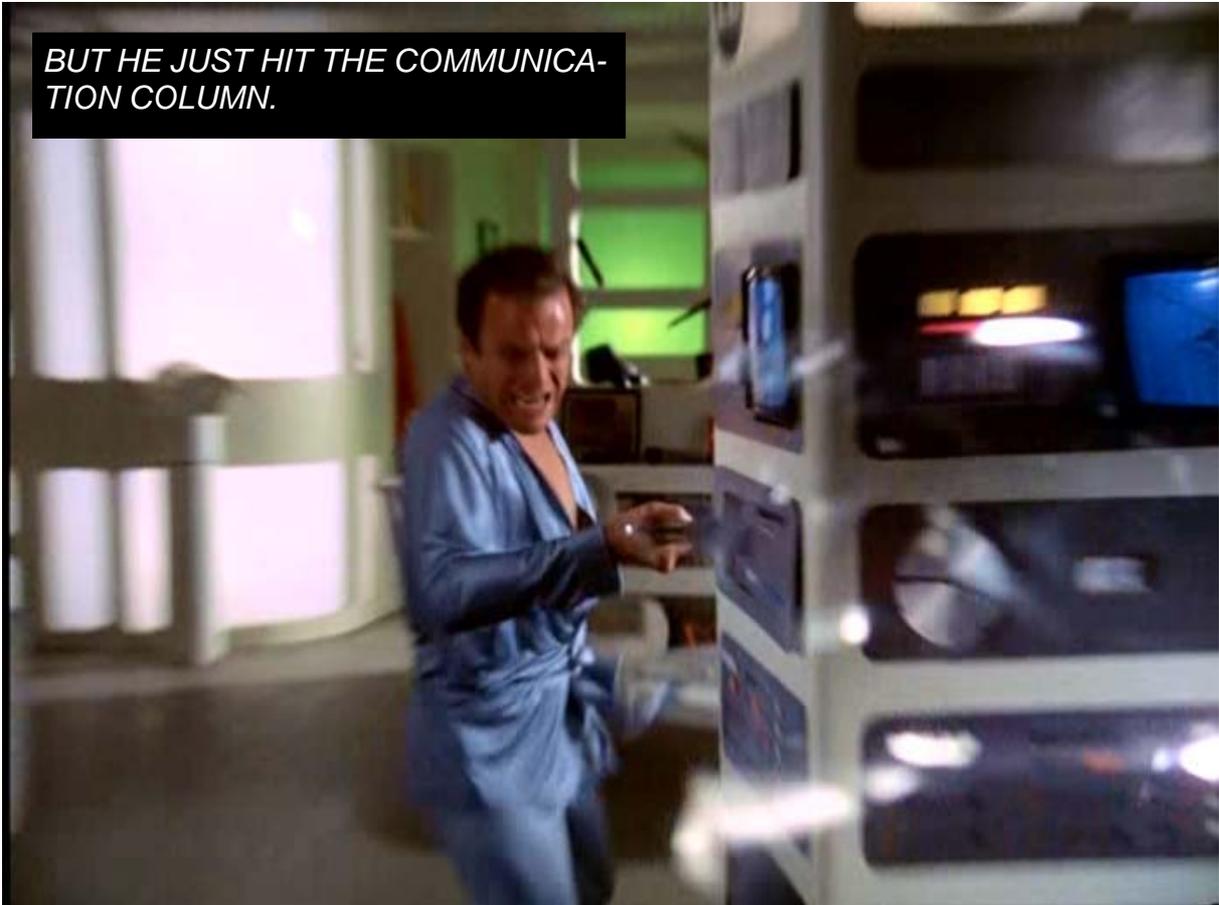


CELLINI PICKED UP A TOMA-HAWK WITHOUT HESITATING...





...AND ATTACKED THAT VANISHING APPARITION.



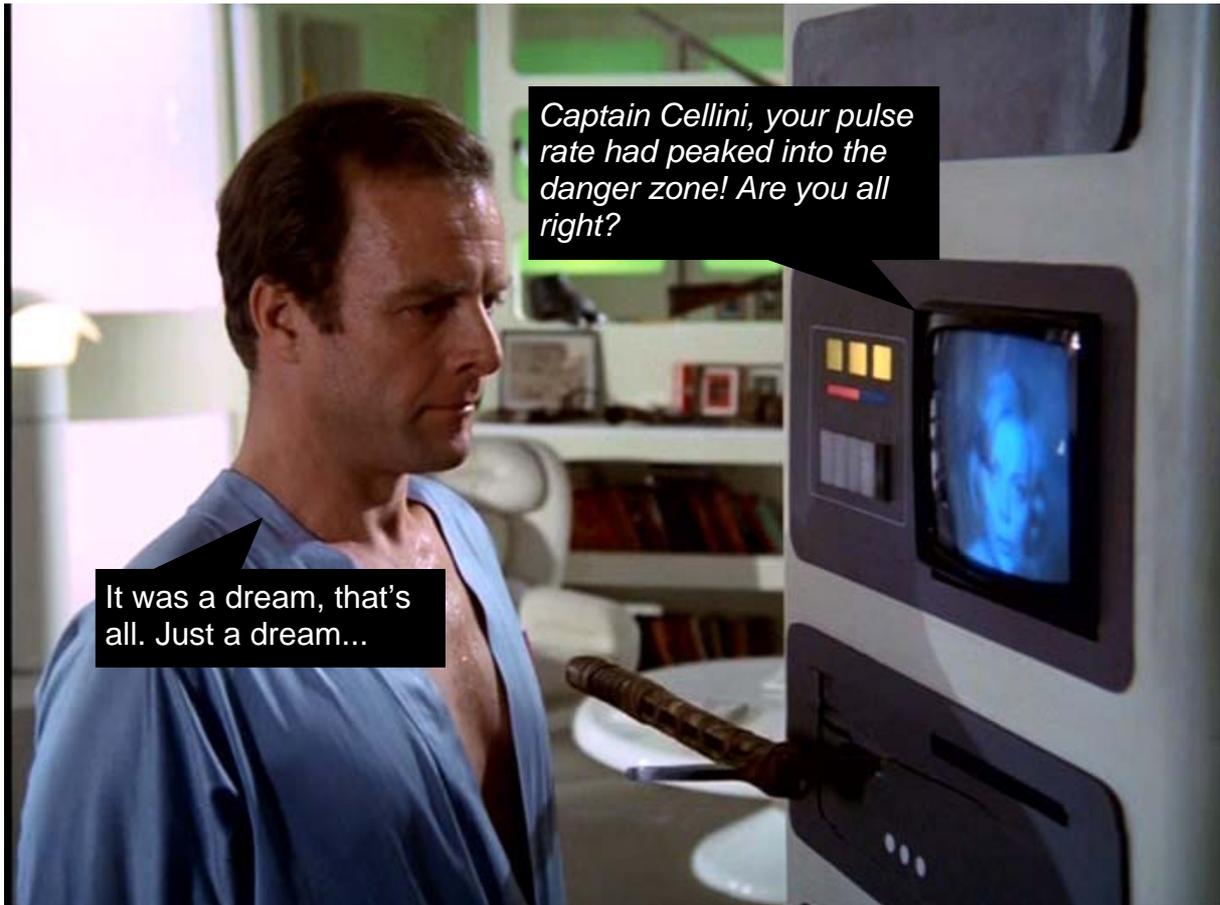
BUT HE JUST HIT THE COMMUNICATION COLUMN.

AT THE MEDICAL CENTRE UNUSUAL READINGS HAD ARRIVED FROM HIS BIO-TESTER...



CELLINI WAS STILL CONFUSED NEAR THE COLUMN WHEN DR. RUSSELL CALLED IN.





Captain Cellini, your pulse rate had peaked into the danger zone! Are you all right?

It was a dream, that's all. Just a dream...



All right. If you need any help, I'm on duty tonight.

FOR A WHILE CELLINI STANDED WATCHING THE VOID OF SPACE...



...THEN PICKED UP HIS COMLOCK AND, WITHOUT EVEN GETTING DRESSED, GOT OUT OF HIS QUARTER.



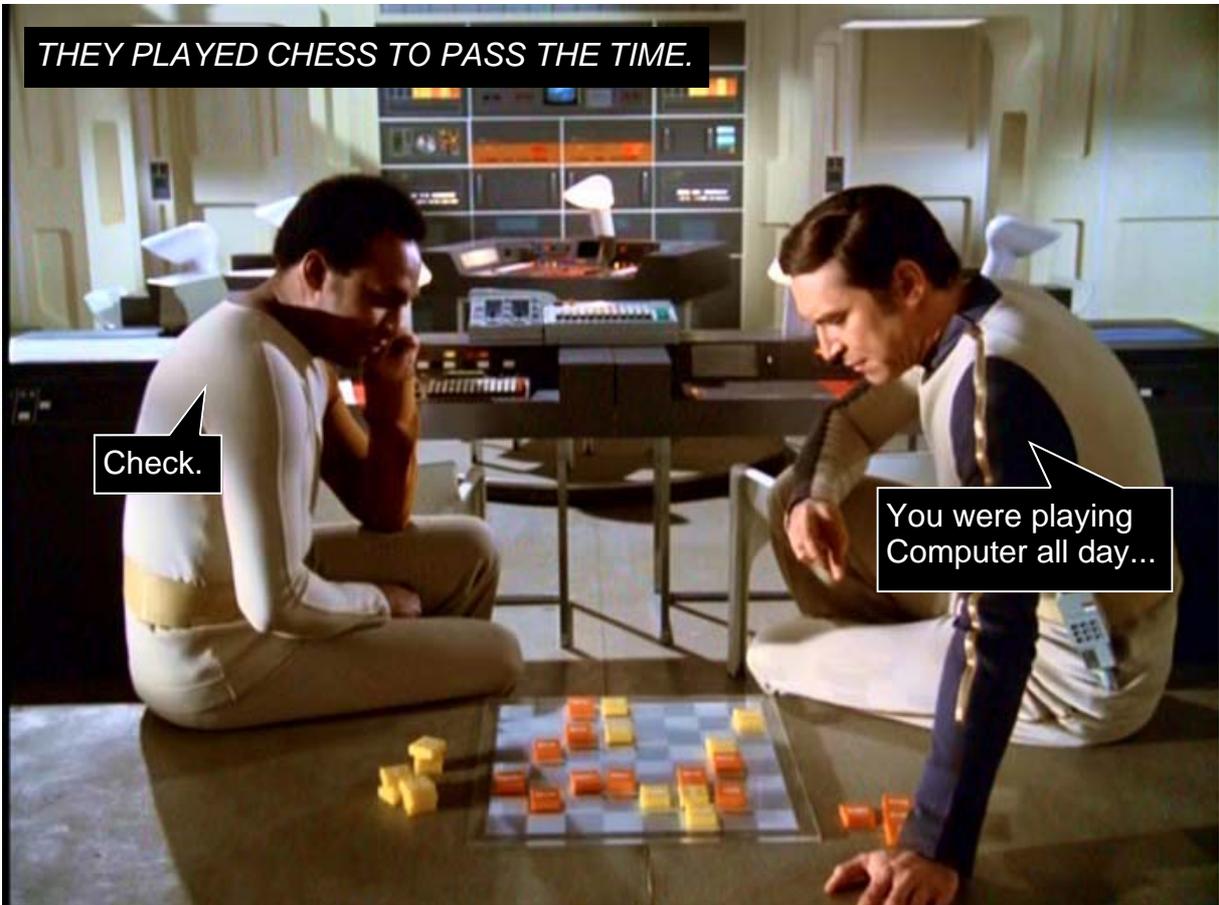
DURING THAT NIGHT, CMDR. KOENIG AND KANO WERE ON DUTY TOO...

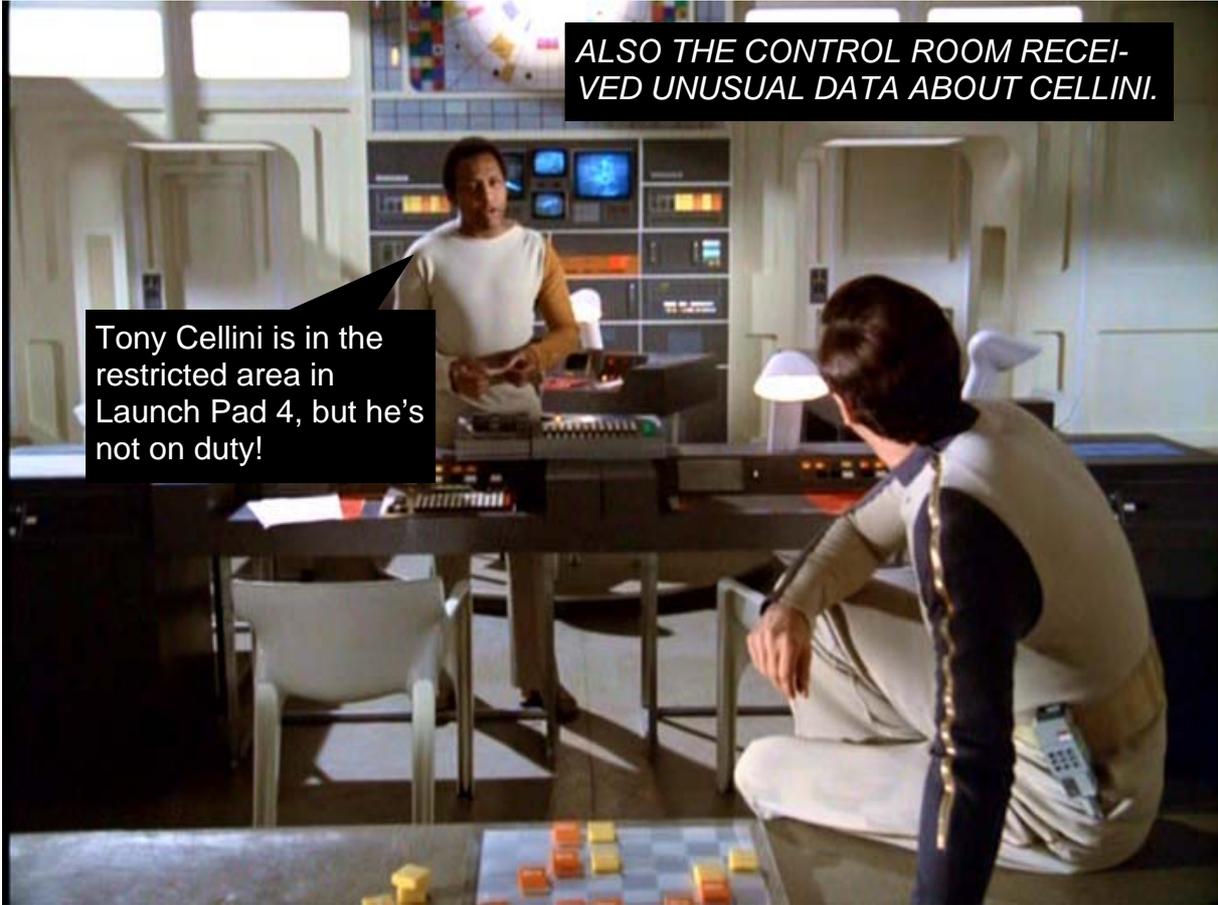


THEY PLAYED CHESS TO PASS THE TIME.

Check.

You were playing Computer all day...





ALSO THE CONTROL ROOM RECEIVED UNUSUAL DATA ABOUT CELLINI.

Tony Cellini is in the restricted area in Launch Pad 4, but he's not on duty!



KOENIG KNEW CELLINI VERY WELL AND GOT ALARMED.

Tony? Tony, what's up?



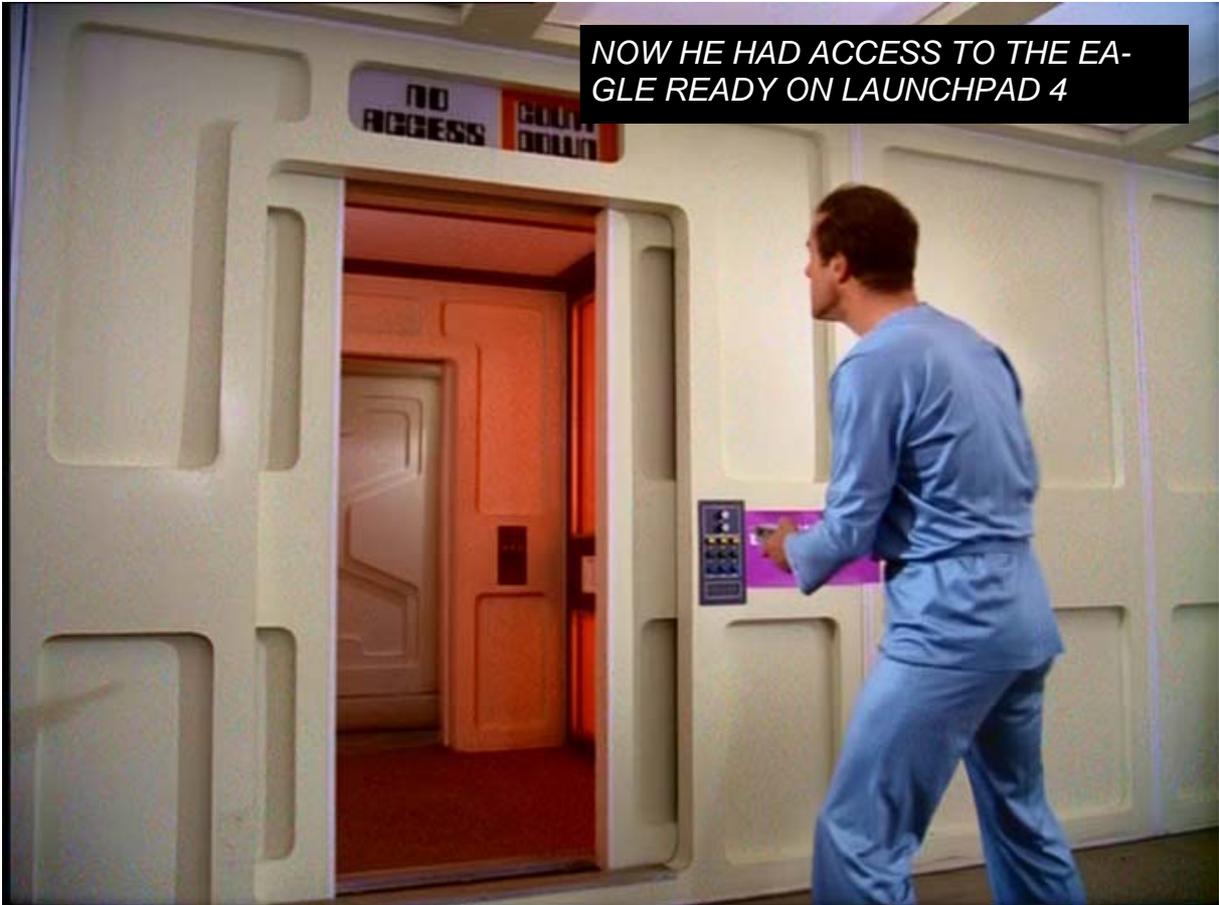


ALAN CARTER APPEARED BEHIND HIM.

Tony? What you doing, sleepwalking?



CELLINI KNOCKED HIM DOWN WITH KARATE HITS...



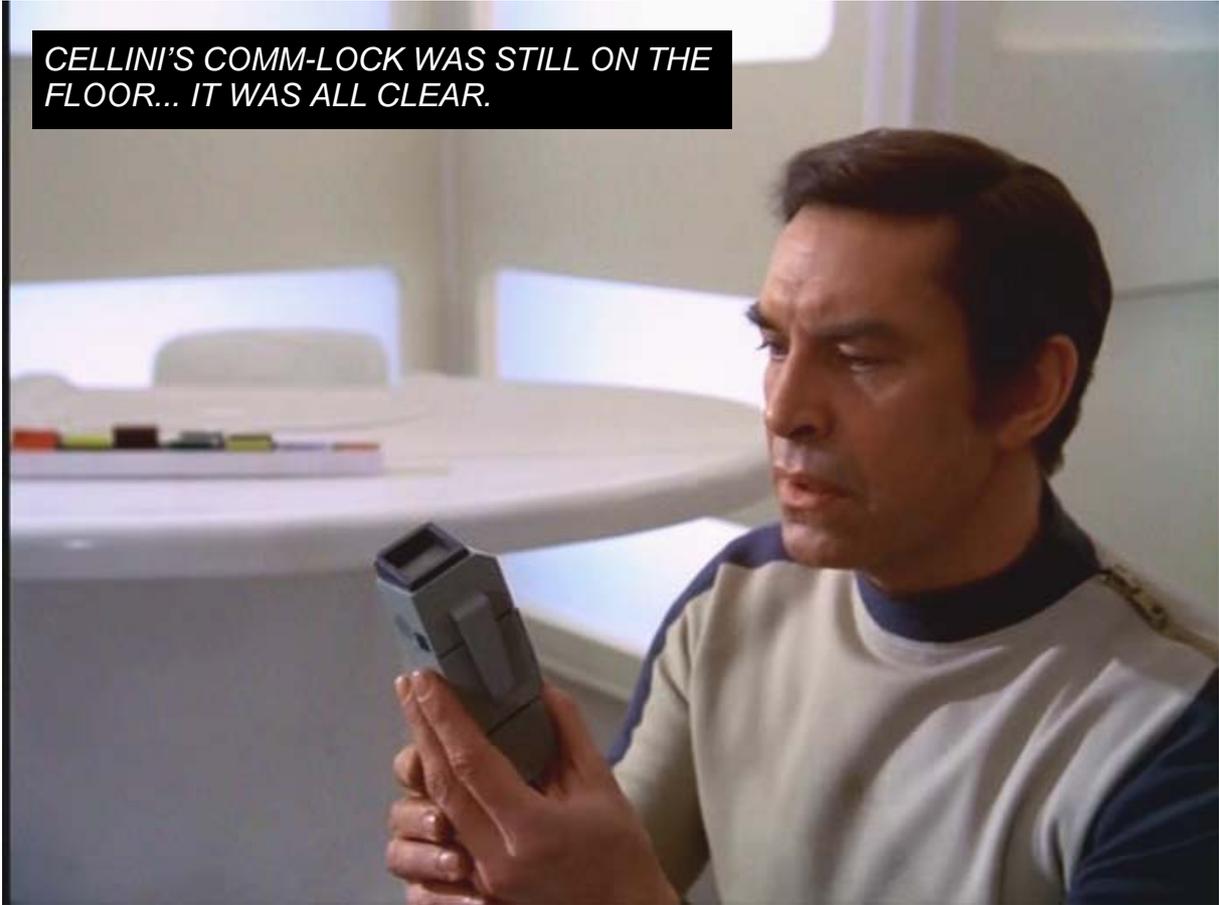
HE PERFECTLY KNEW WHERE HE WANTED TO GO.



KOENIG HAD FOUND CARTER...



CELLINI'S COMM-LOCK WAS STILL ON THE FLOOR... IT WAS ALL CLEAR.

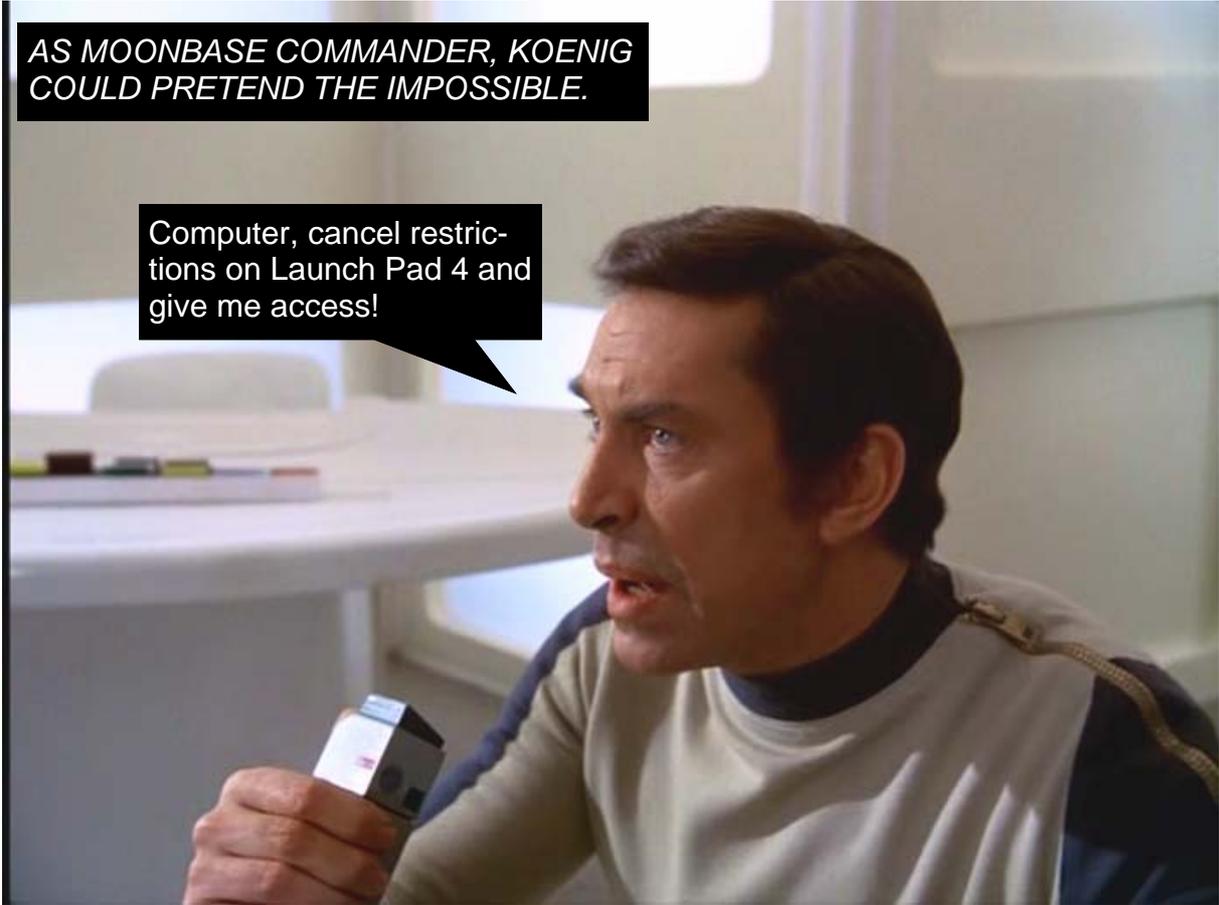


COUNTDOWN HAD STARTED... THE EAGLE WAS READY FOR LAUNCH.



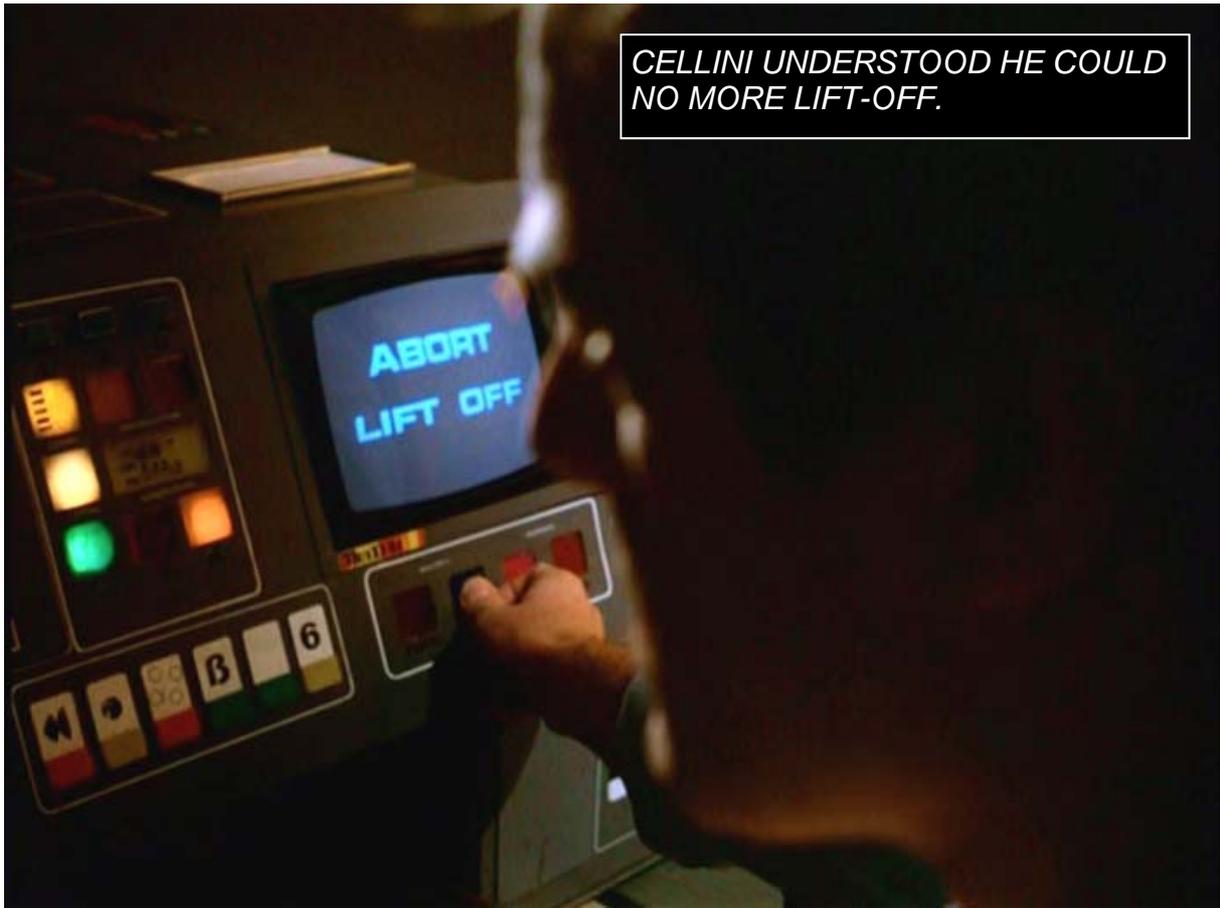
*AS MOONBASE COMMANDER, KOENIG
COULD PRETEND THE IMPOSSIBLE.*

Computer, cancel restrictions on Launch Pad 4 and give me access!

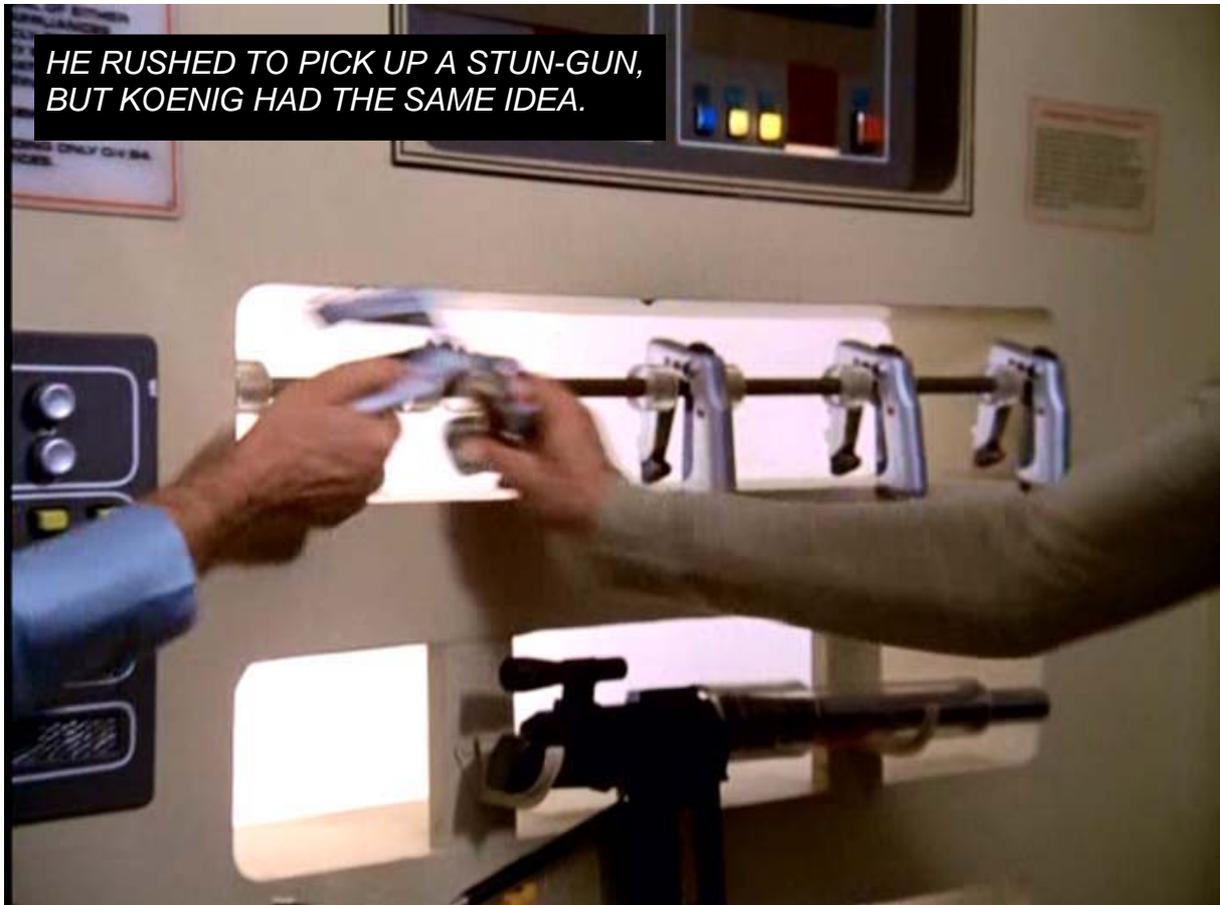


*THE EAGLE MADE ONLY SOME VAPOR
BLOWS, BUT DIDN'T MOVE.*





CELLINI UNDERSTOOD HE COULD NO MORE LIFT-OFF.



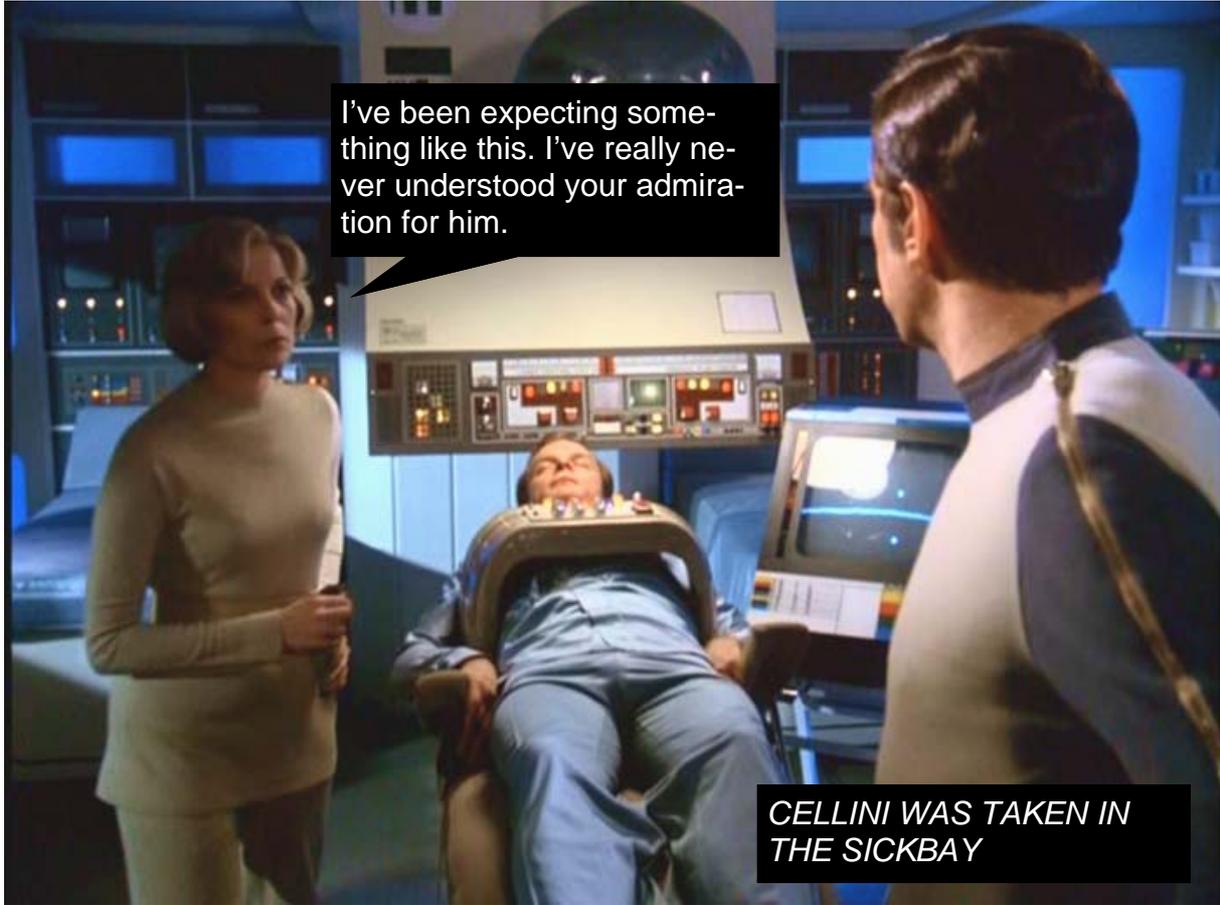
HE RUSHED TO PICK UP A STUN-GUN, BUT KOENIG HAD THE SAME IDEA.

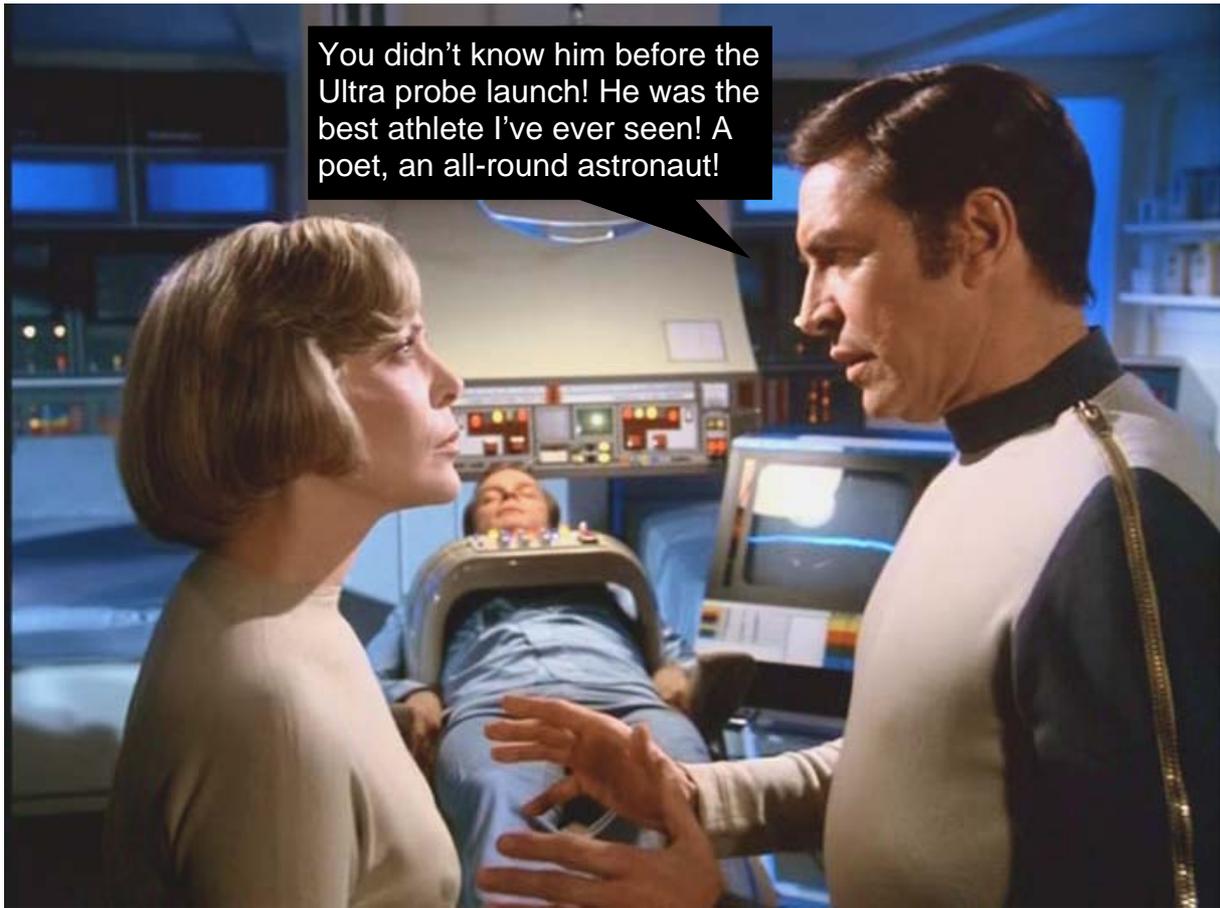


Let me go,
John...



CELLINI TRIED TO GET COVER, SO
KOENIG HAD TO STUN HIM.







He made a disastrous mistake on that probe ship, and can't admit it. For this reason you'd been the better commander .



I was on the medical team that examined Cellini. My report reinforced the case against him. I just presented the facts as I saw them.

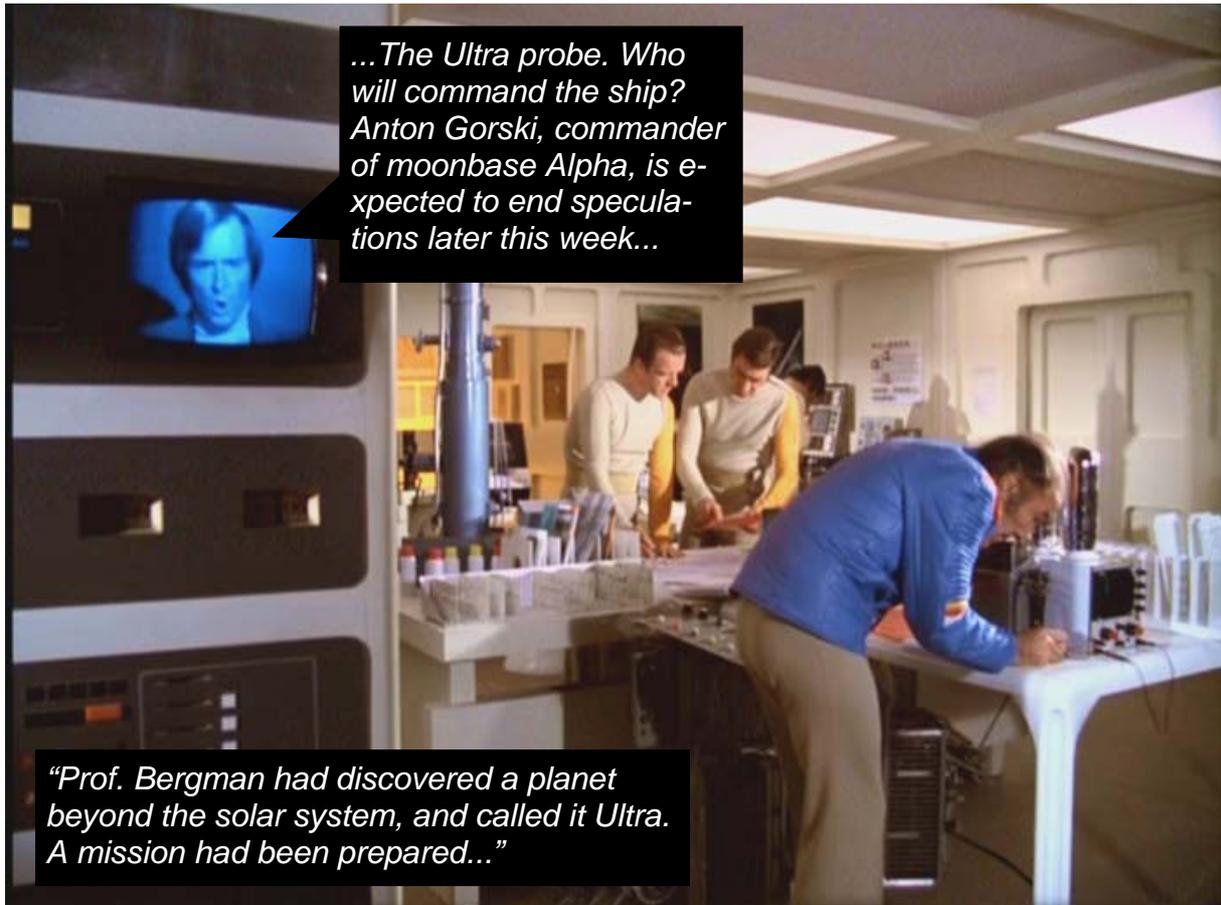


There were no facts!!!
Only prejudice!!! No
proofs, of any kind!!!

KOENIG REACTED VERY
BADLY.



*"John got very angry. In 1996, he and
Cellini were the forces behind Ultra..."*







*"The launch date was June 6, 1996.
Commander, captain Tony Cellini..."*



"...astrophysicist, Dr. Darwin King..."

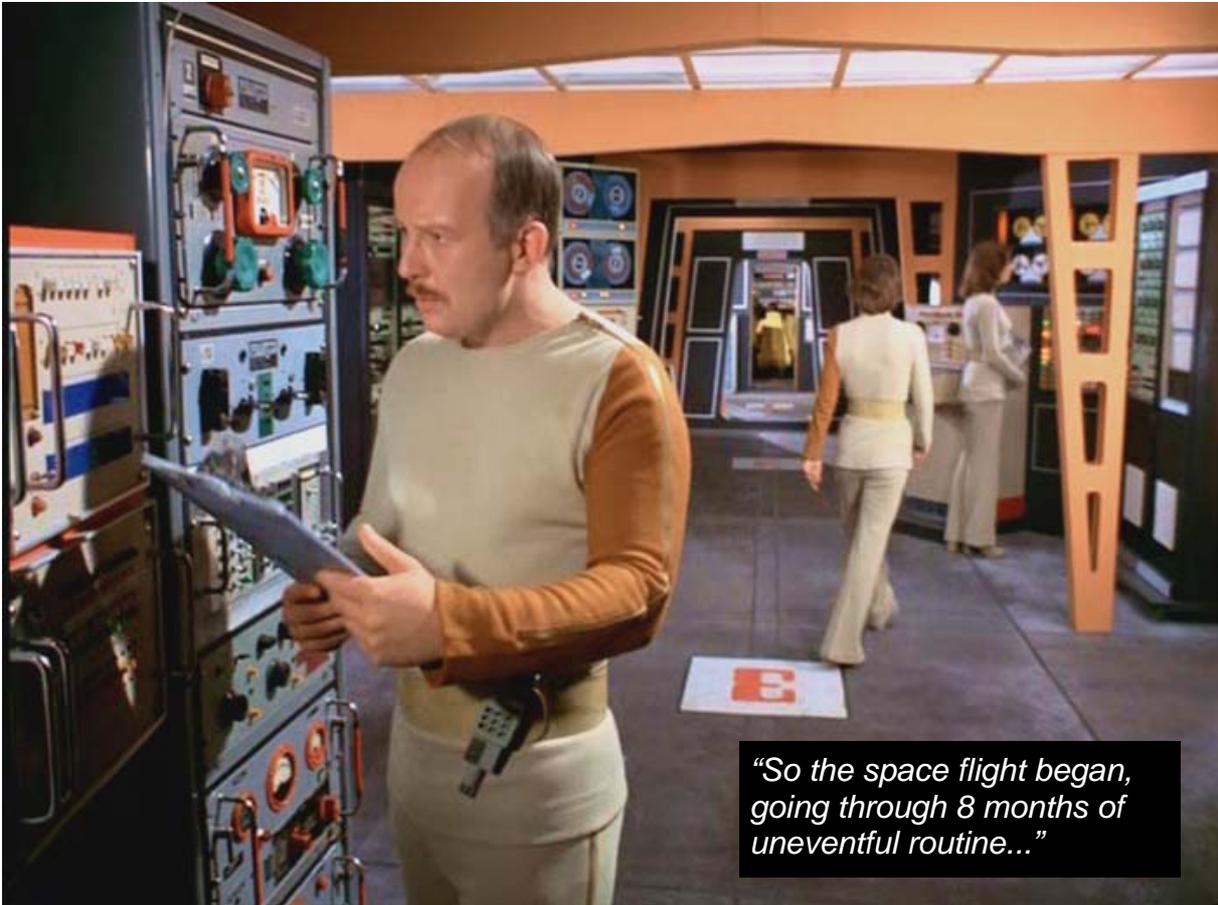
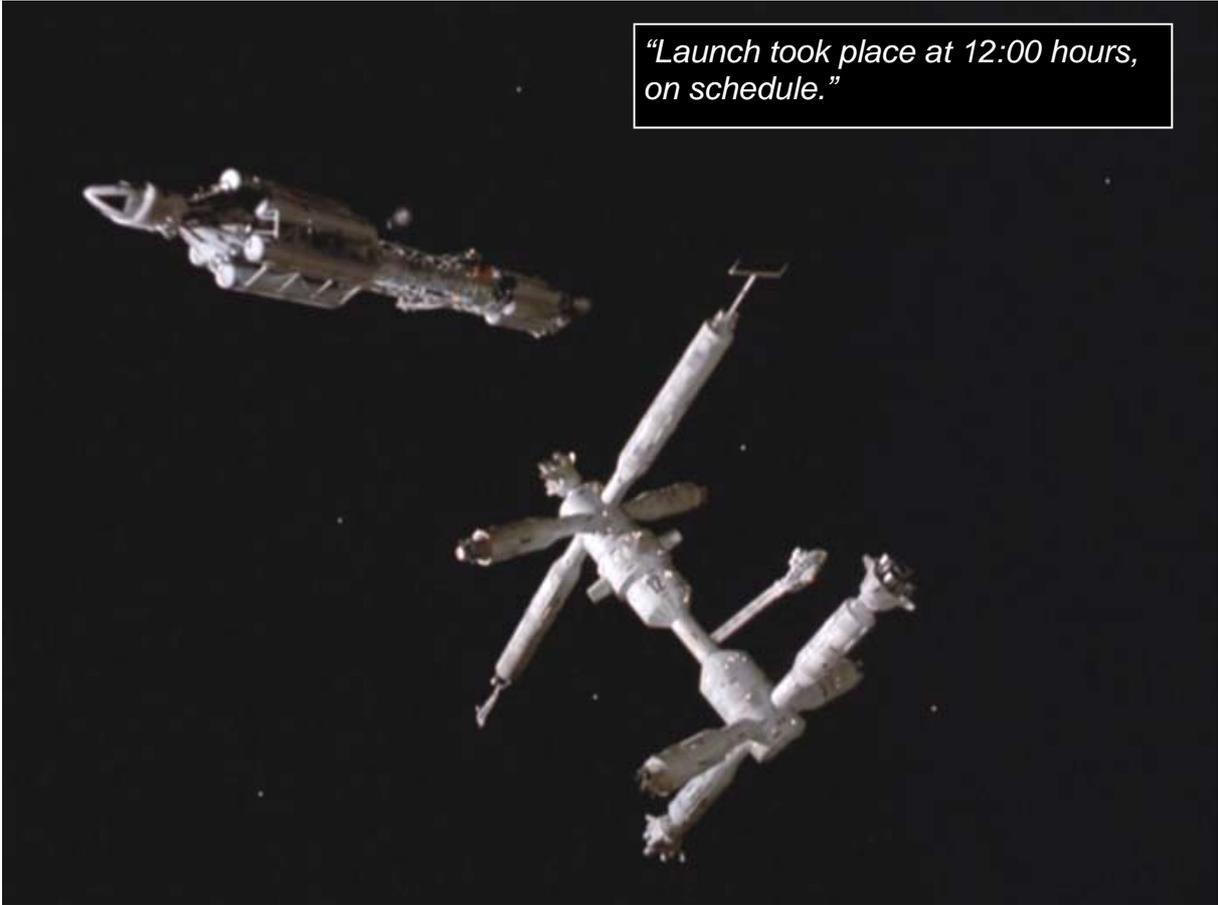


“...radiation expert, Prof. Juliet Mackie...”



“...and Dr. Monique Bouchere was responsible for medical well-being of the team...”

“Launch took place at 12:00 hours, on schedule.”



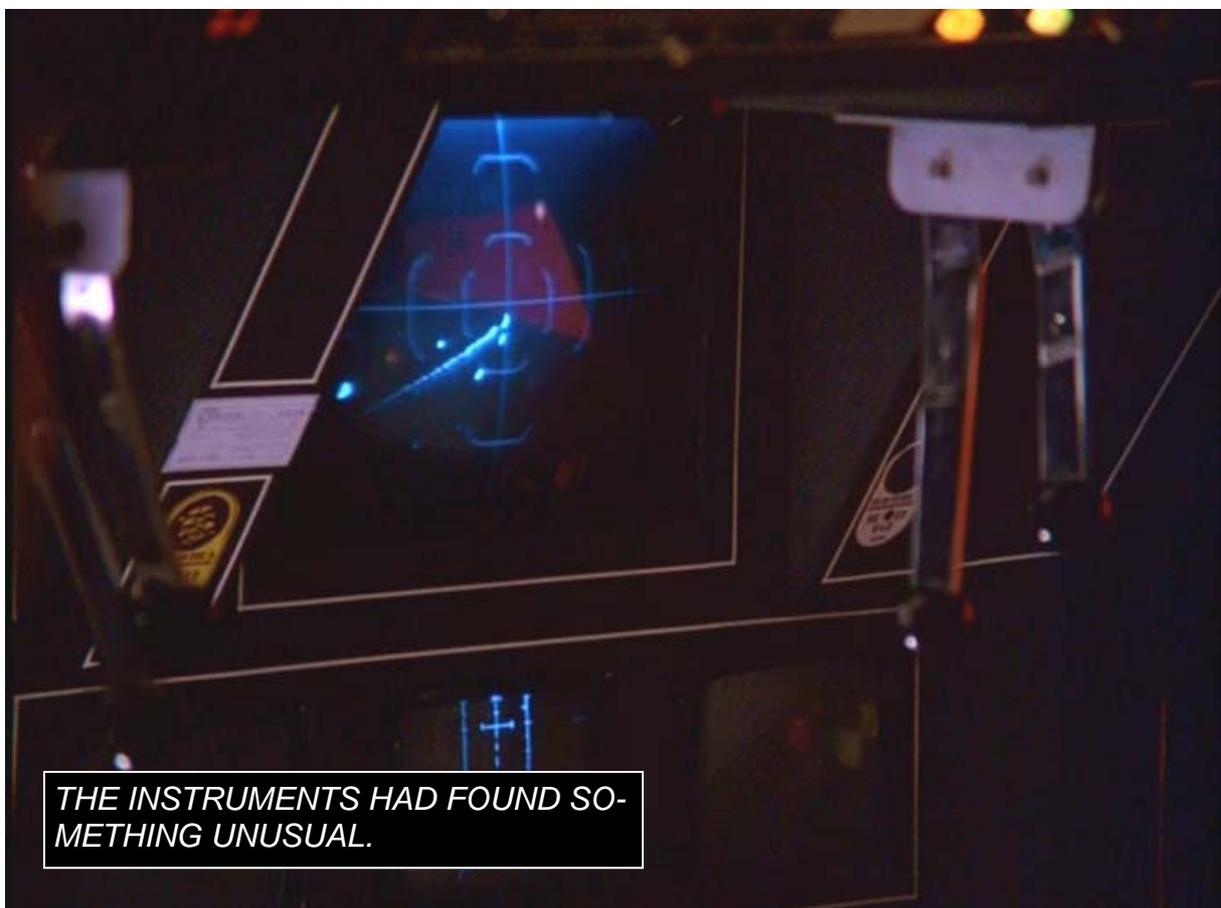
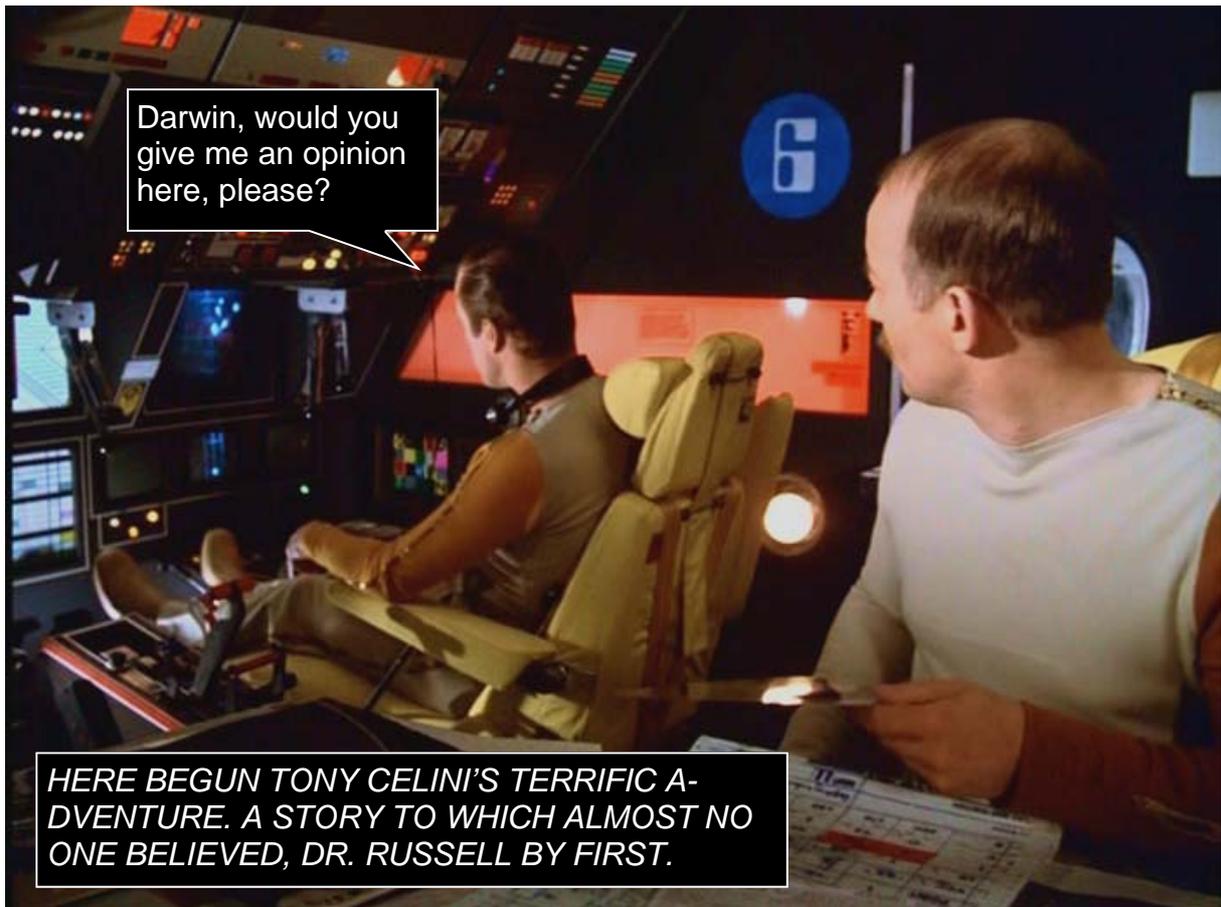
“So the space flight began, going through 8 months of uneventful routine...”

"Progressive readings confirmed the planet's conditions were similar to Earth's..."



"As the probe ship moved behind Ultra, all contact was momentarily lost with Earth. The landing was never made."







Metallic...?

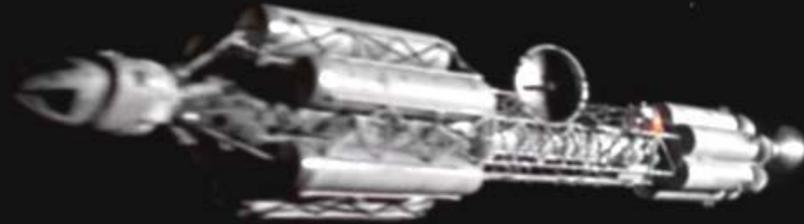
Small and stationary.



Better to take a look...

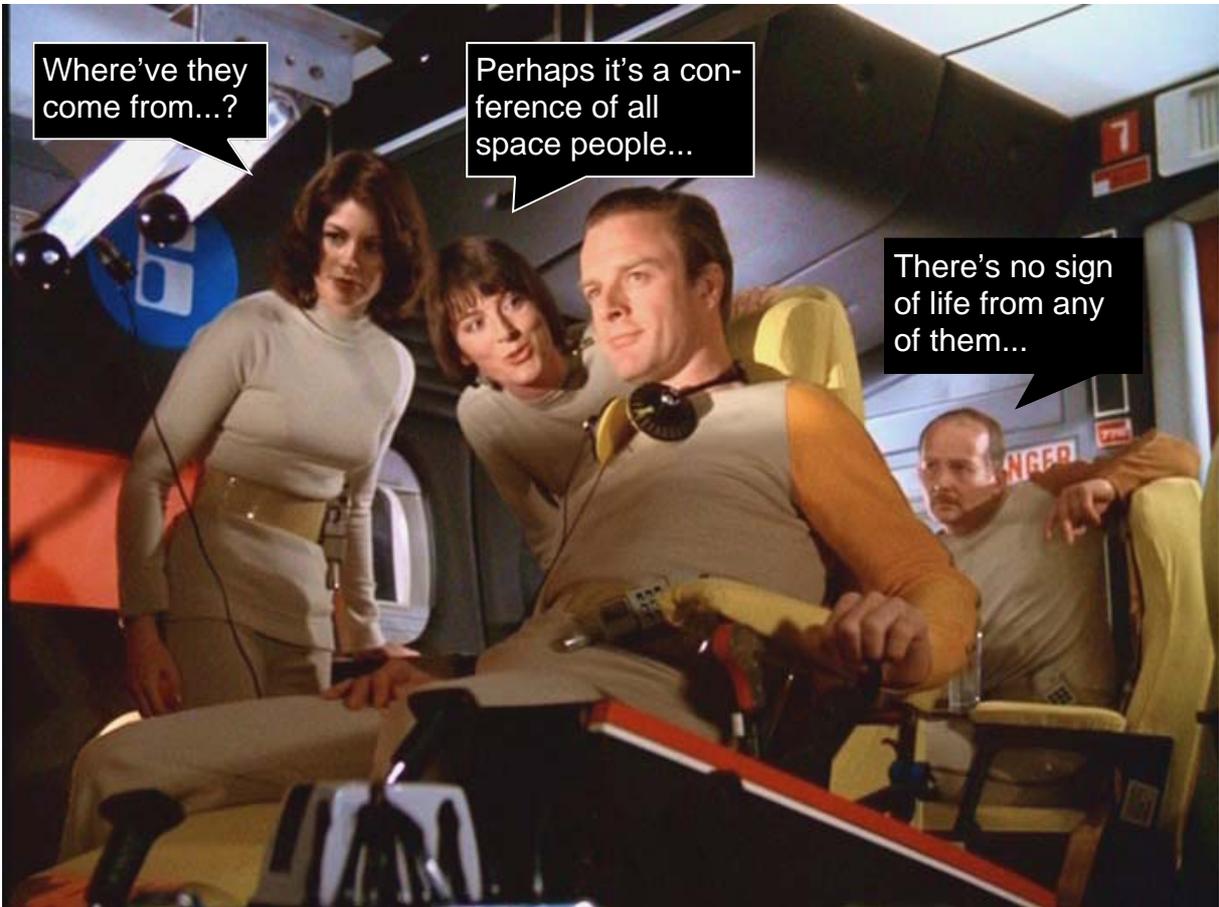
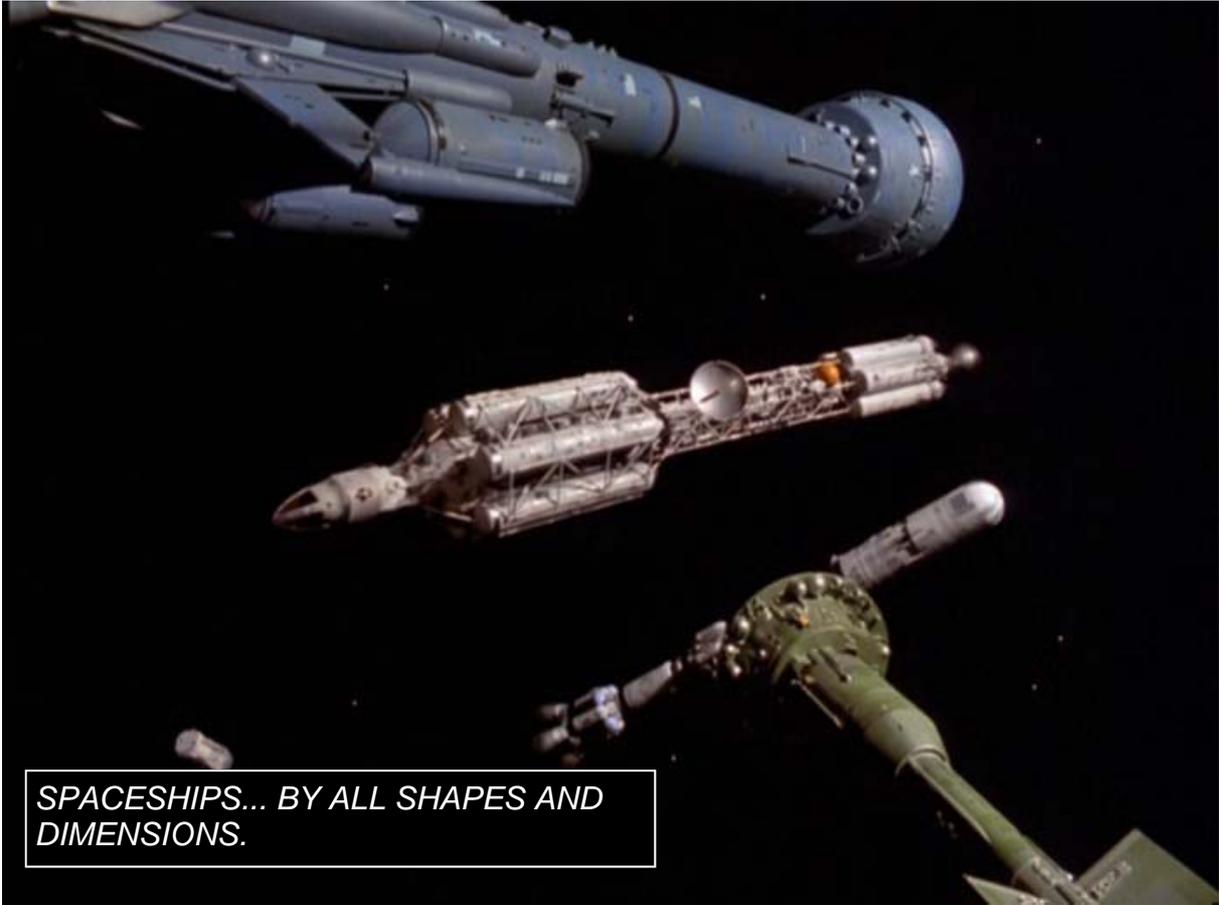
Orbital reference 109...

THE ULTRA PROBE MADE A FATAL STEERING.



A LITTLE LATER THEY FOUND THE MYSTERIOUS OBJECTS... AN INCREDIBLE SEEING.







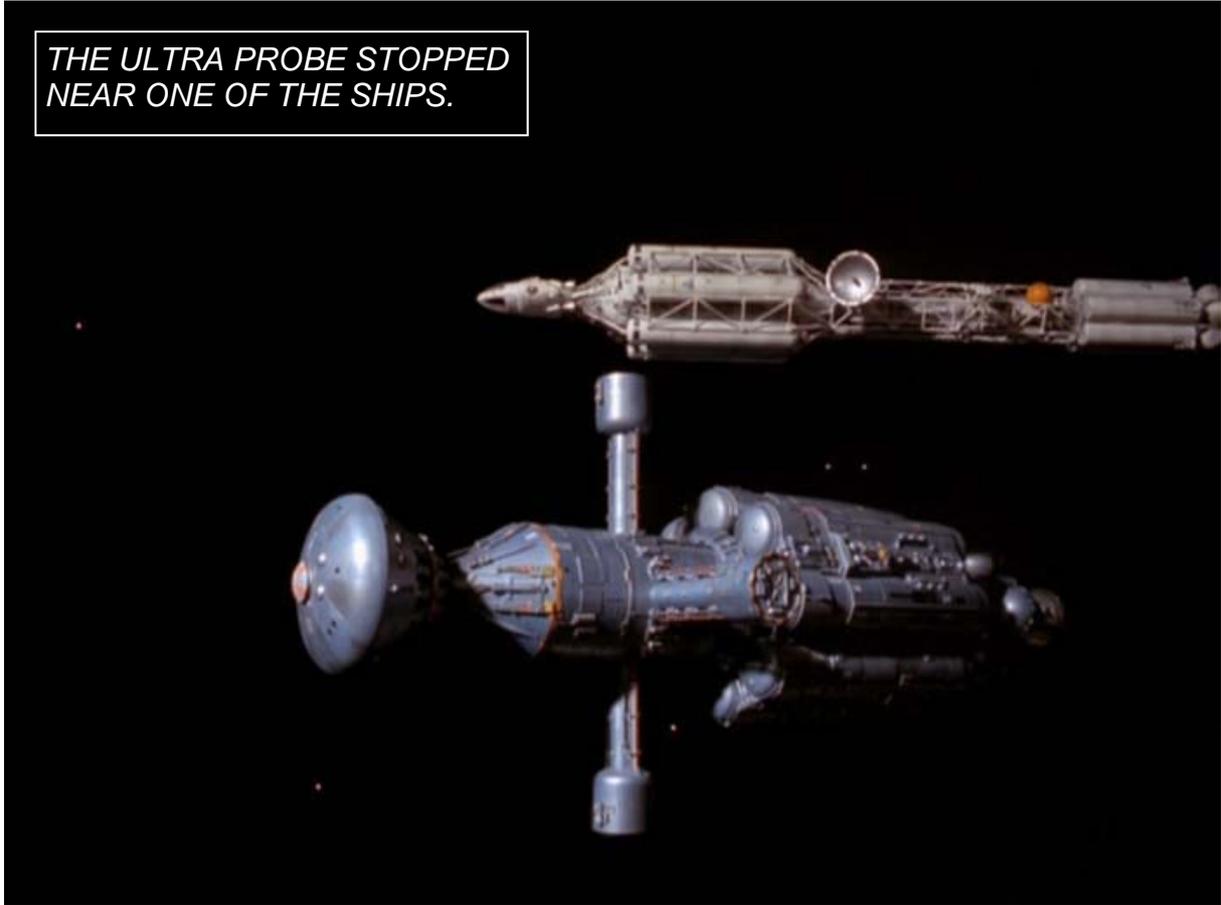
These are ships that could make interstellar travel a reality...



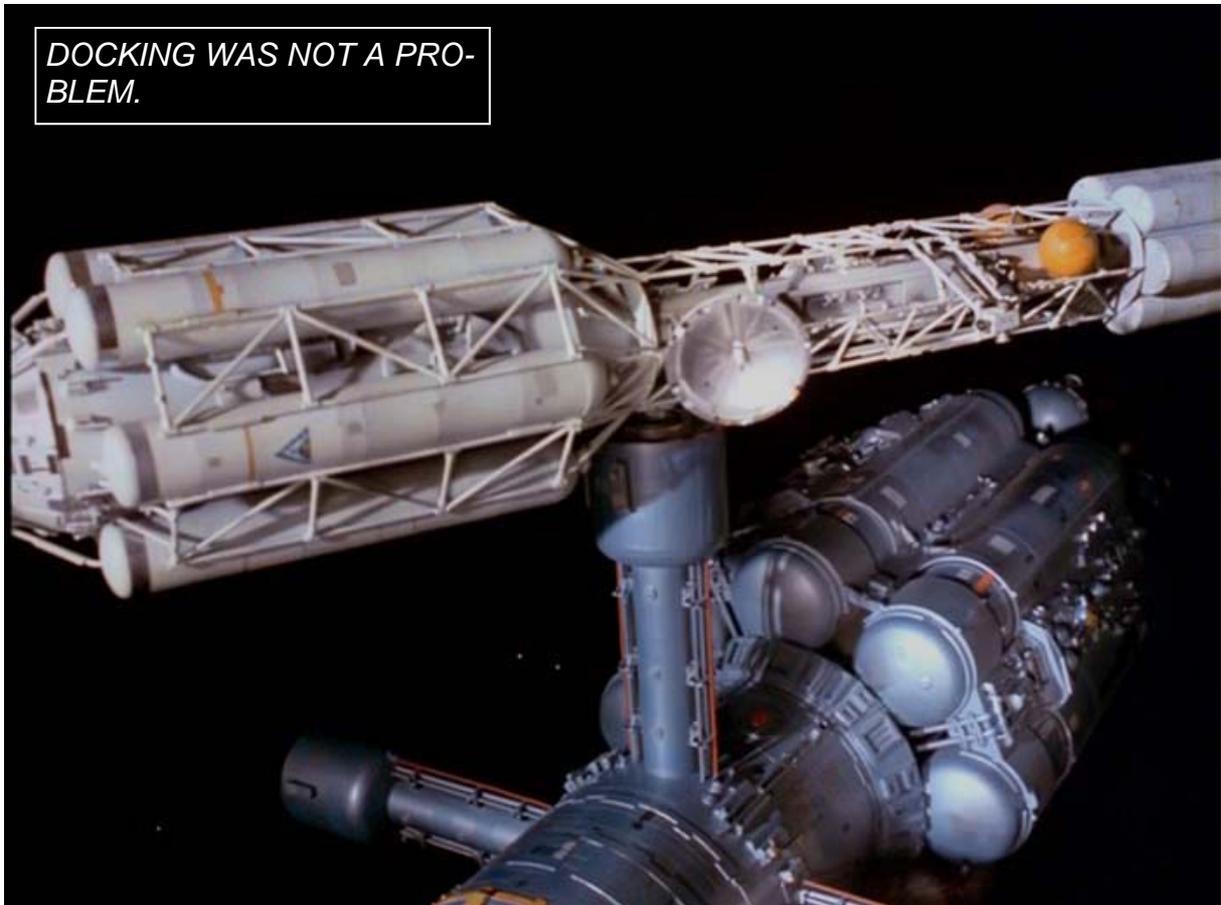
Absolutely no signs of life.....

We'll dock. If computer gives us the all-clear, we'll go aboard.

*THE ULTRA PROBE STOPPED
NEAR ONE OF THE SHIPS.*



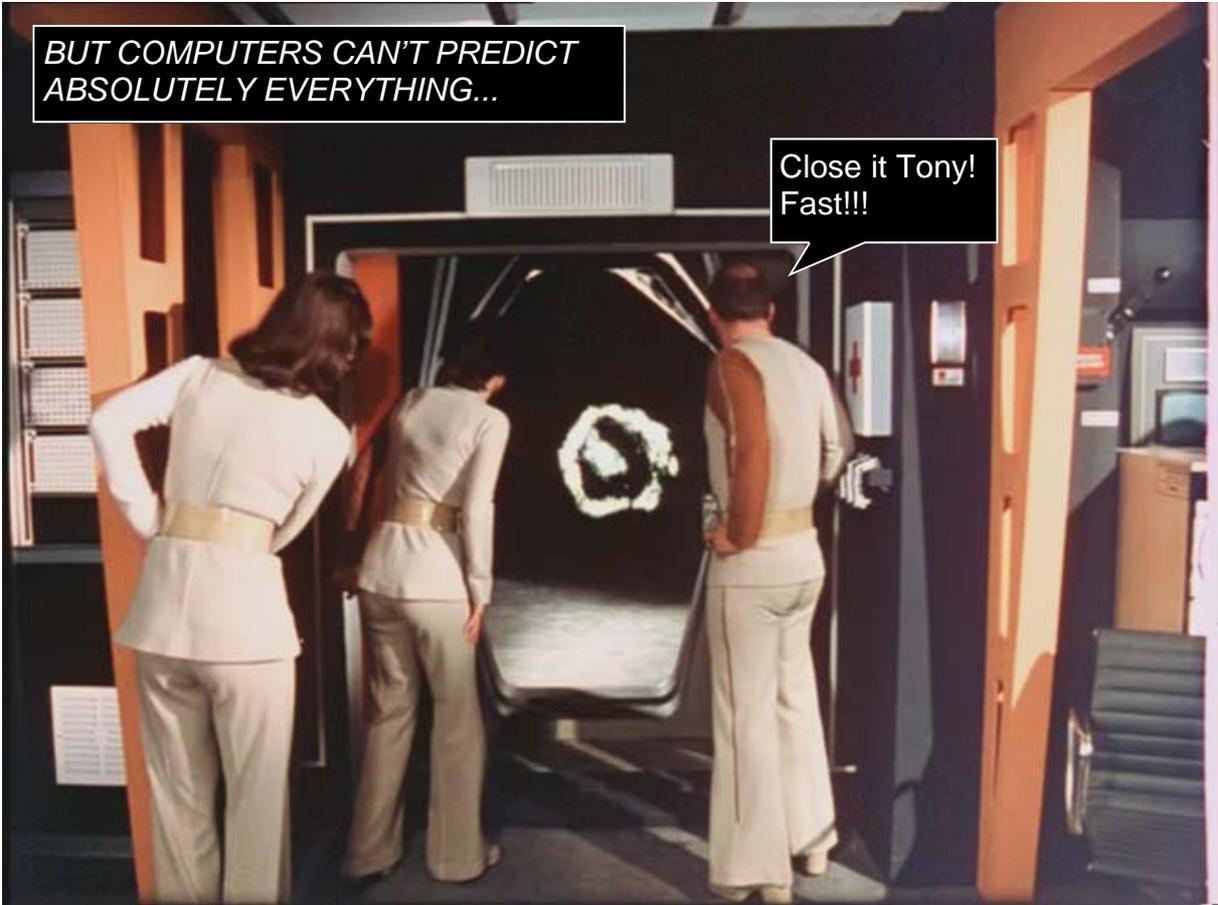
*DOCKING WAS NOT A PRO-
BLEM.*





IT ALL SEEMED ALLRIGHT.

Atmosphere is safe. Radiation zero. Temperature 28°. We can open!

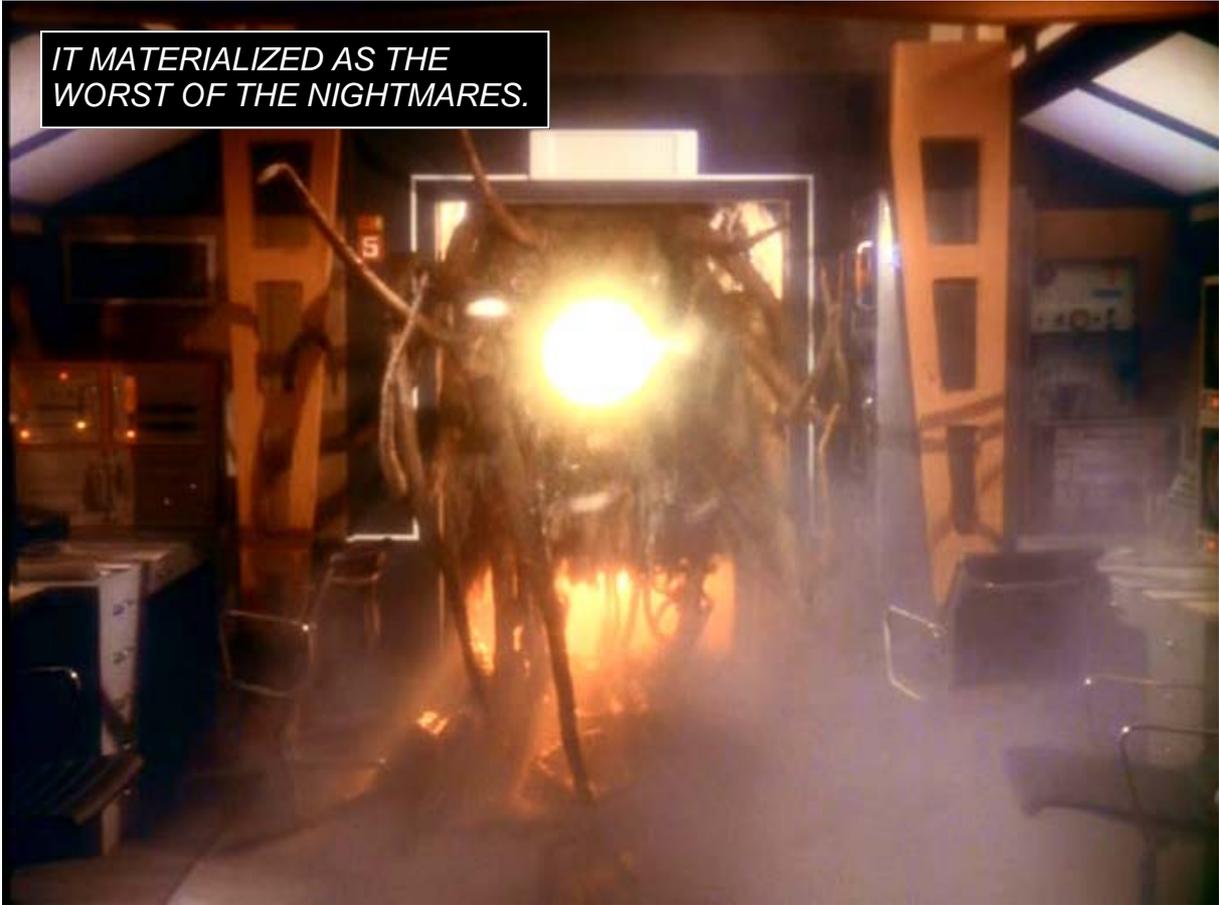


BUT COMPUTERS CAN'T PREDICT ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING...

Close it Tony! Fast!!!



*IT MATERIALIZED AS THE
WORST OF THE NIGHTMARES.*



Close the rear doors!! Close them!!!

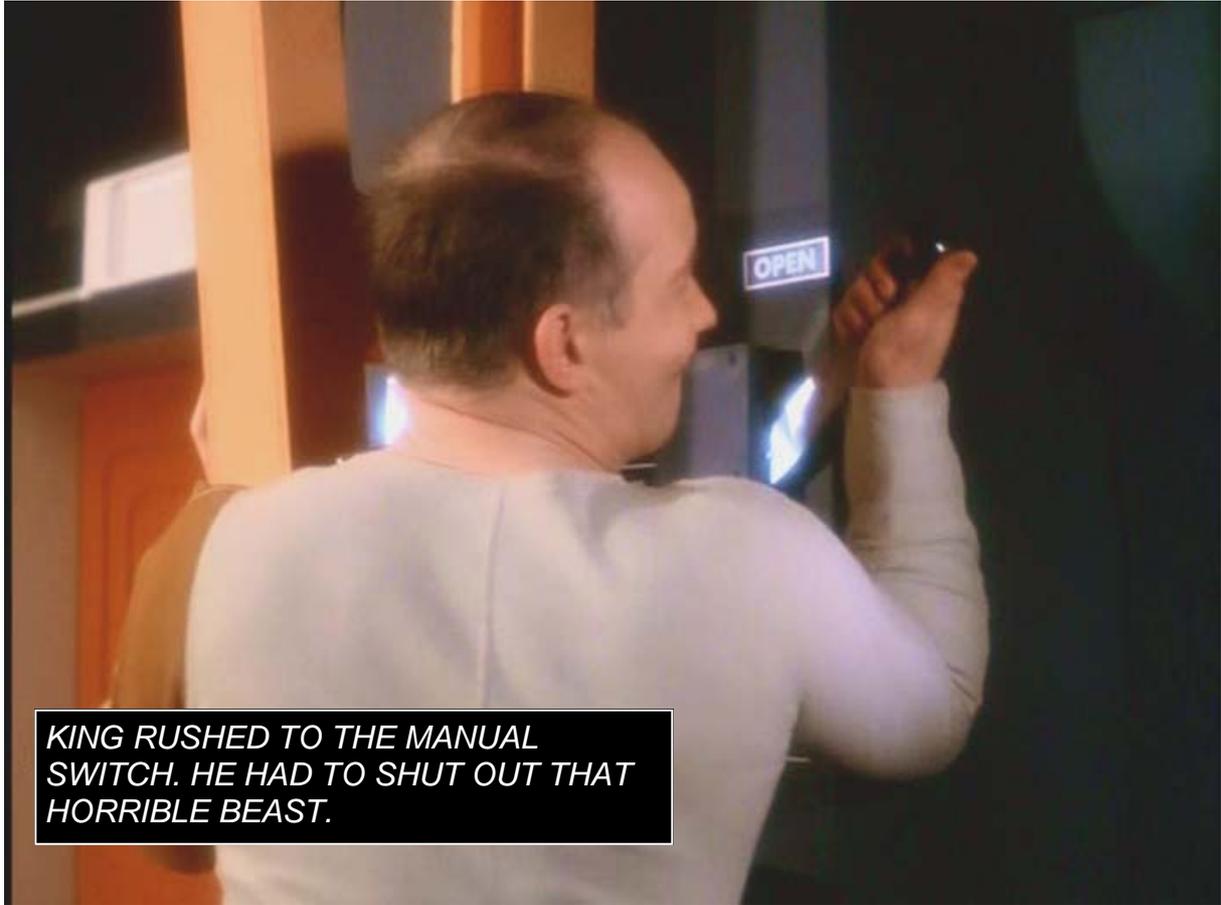


*CELLINI REACTED IMMEDIATELY,
BUT CIRCUITS EXPLODED WITH
SPARKS.*



Darwin, main circuits
have blown! Try manual!





KING RUSHED TO THE MANUAL SWITCH. HE HAD TO SHUT OUT THAT HORRIBLE BEAST.



BUT, UNEXPLICABLY, THE LIGHT FROM THE CREATURE ATTRACTED HIM.



KING WAS GRABBED BY THE MONSTER!



THE GIRLS SCREAMED, FRIGHTENED.



CELLINI COULD HEAR EVERYTHING... HE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT WAS GOING ON, BUT WANTED TO RESCUE HIS MATES. BUT THE DOOR WAS STUCK, AND HE COULDN'T OPEN IT RAPIDLY.



KING WAS STRUGGLING AGAINST THE MONSTER, BUT LOSE HIS STRENGTHS.

No... nooooooo!!!!!!



AAAAARGHHH!!!!

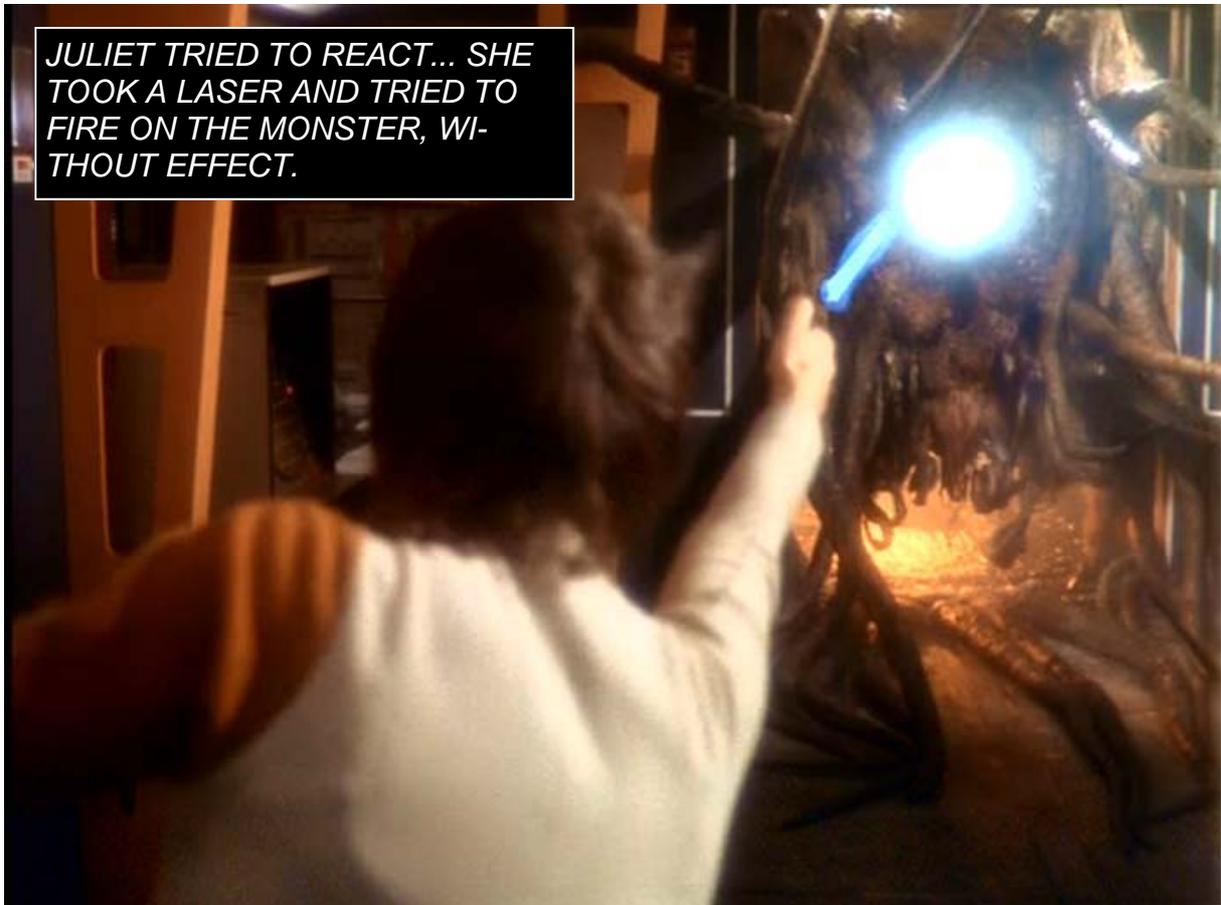
THE MONSTER SWALLOWED HIM!!!!



THE THE CREATURE SPAT OUT THE SKELETON, FRIGHTENING EVEN MORE THE TWO WOMEN.



MONIQUE HAD LOST HER MIND FOR THE TERROR.



JULIET TRIED TO REACT... SHE TOOK A LASER AND TRIED TO FIRE ON THE MONSTER, WITHOUT EFFECT.



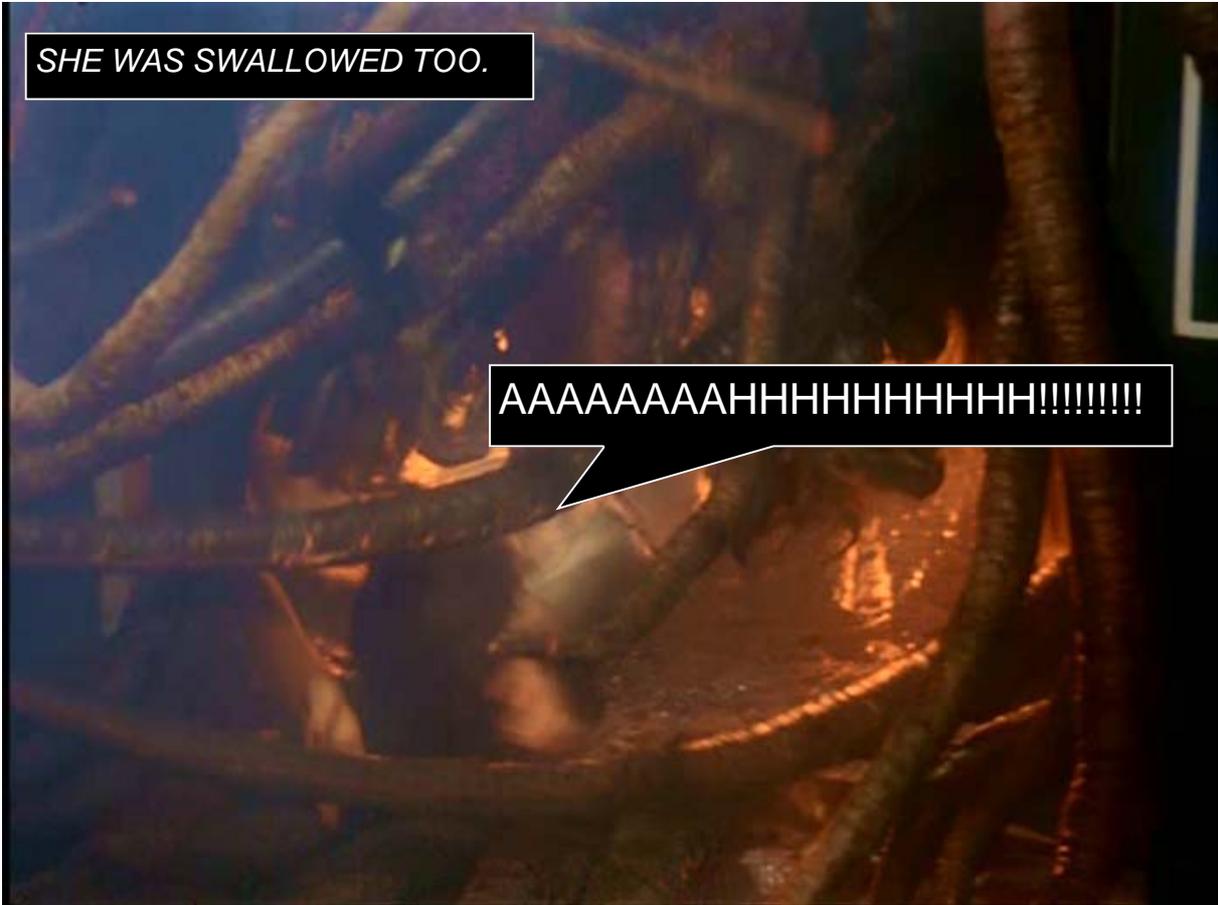
BUT SHE WAS ATTRACTED TOO BY THE LIGHT.



SHE WAS TOO GRABBED BY THE TENTACLES.

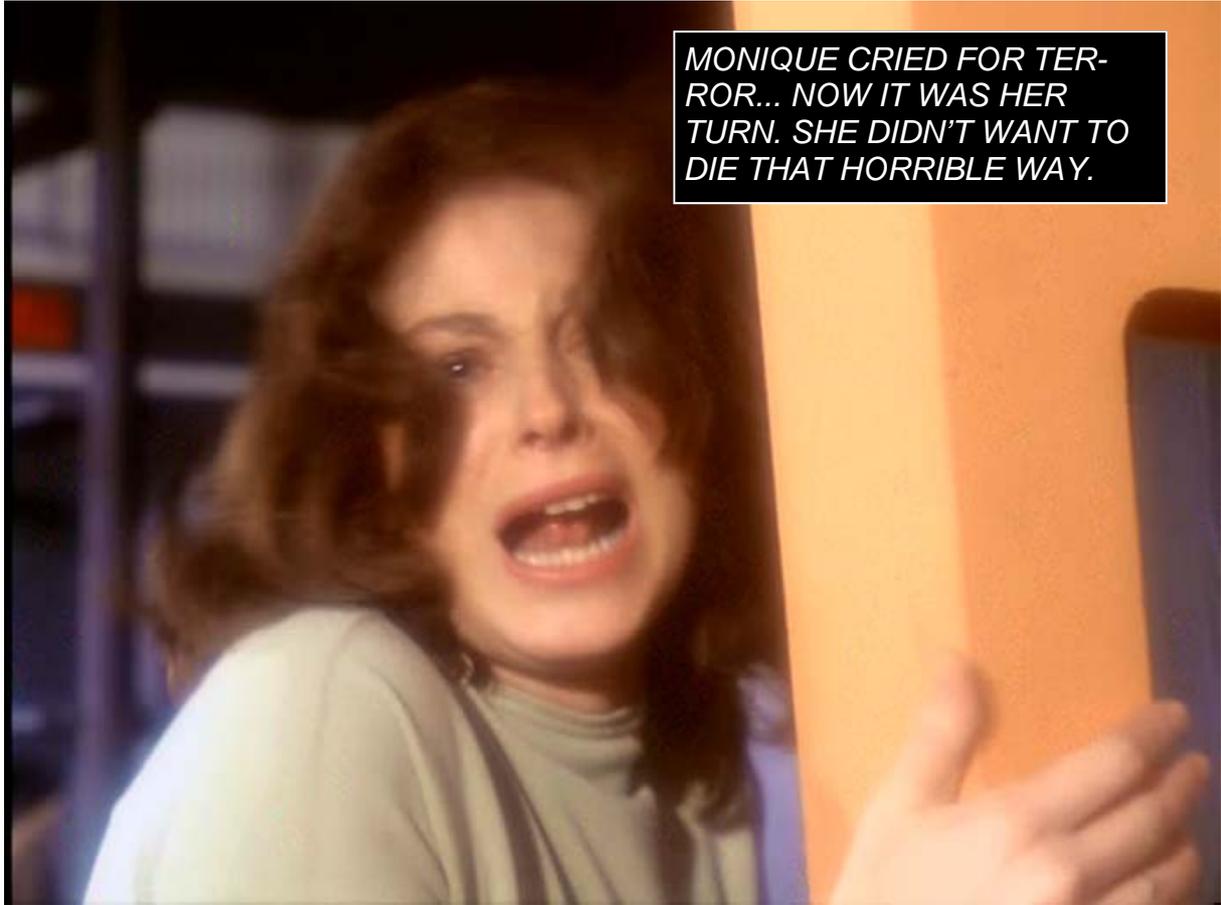


IMPOSSIBLE TO RESIST TO THE MONSTER'S STRENGHT.



SHE WAS SWALLOWED TOO.

AAAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHH!!!!!!!



MONIQUE CRIED FOR TERROR... NOW IT WAS HER TURN. SHE DIDN'T WANT TO DIE THAT HORRIBLE WAY.



BUT THE MONSTER'S LIGHT WAS STRONGER THAN ANYTHING!

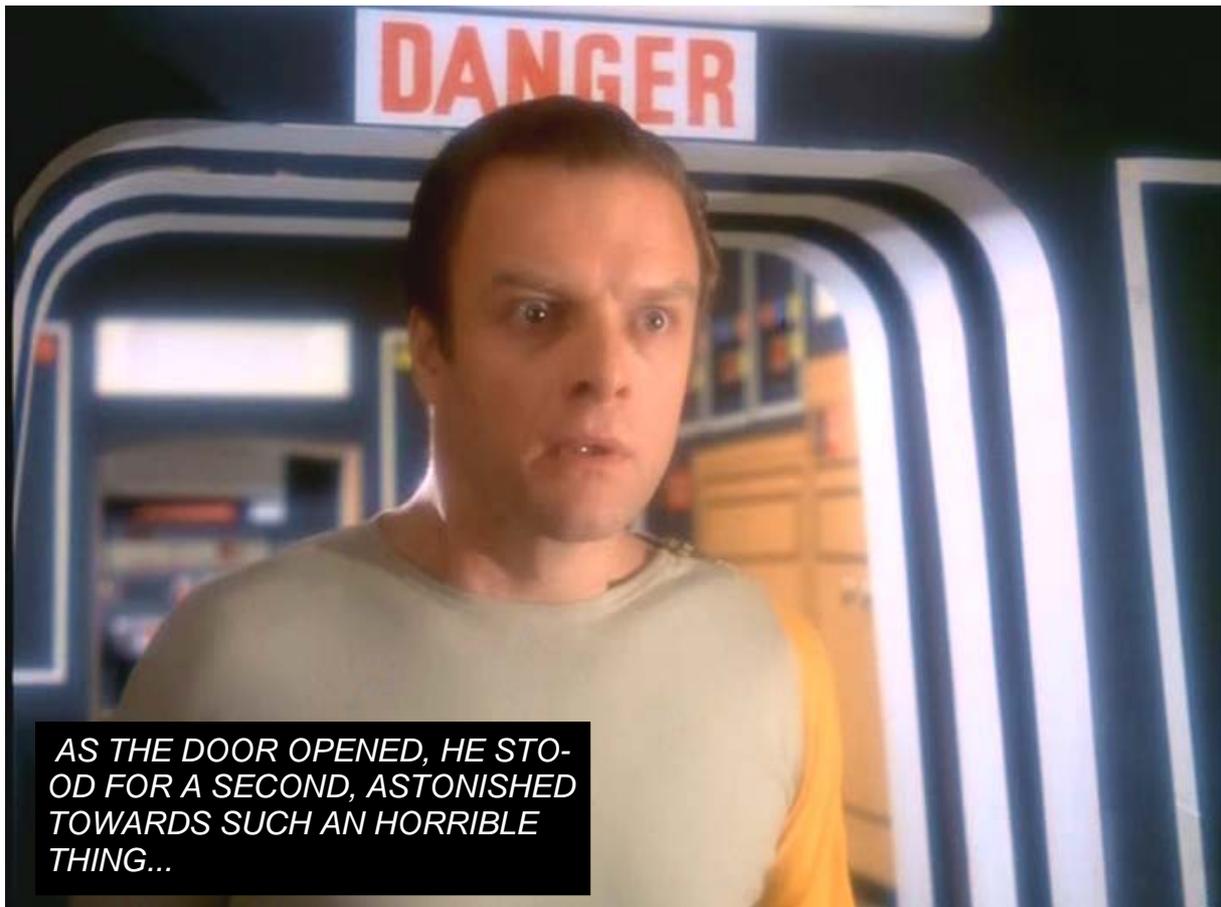


A TENTACLE GRABBED HER WHILE SHE CRIED DESPERATELY.



CELLINI COULD HEAR HIS FRIENDS' SCREAMS, BUT HAD KEPT HIS COLD BLOOD AND SUCCEEDED IN REPAIRING THE DOOR'S CIRCUITS AS FAST AS HE COULD.

I'm finished!!! Coming!!!



FOR A WHILE MONIQUE HOPED TO BE SAFE. BUT THEN THE MONSTER PULLED SO STRONGLY THAT CELLINI LOSE HIS HELD...



NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

MONIQUE WAS SWALLOWED LIKE THE OTHERS.

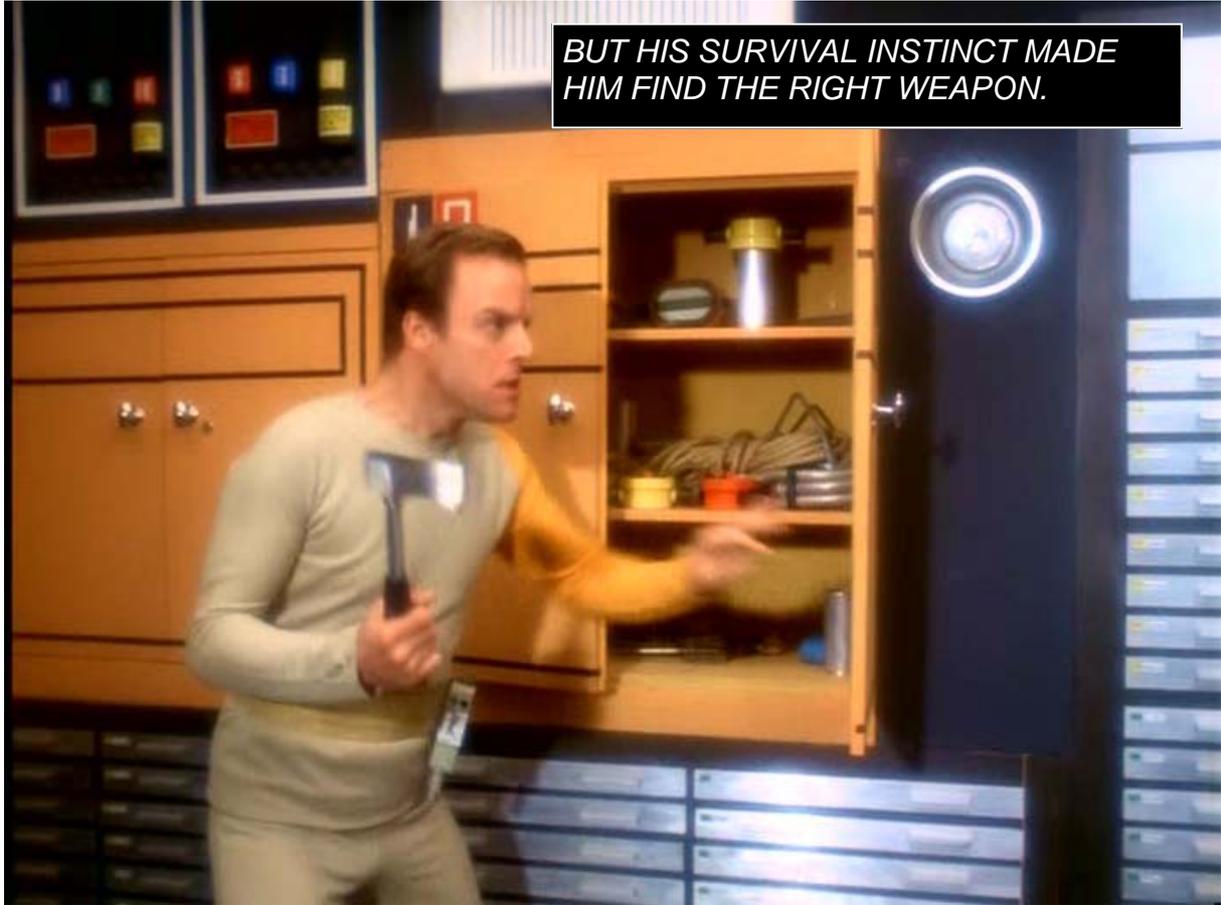


CELLINI COULDN'T DO NOTHING MORE. HE COULD ONLY RUN WHILE THE LIGHT TRIED TO CATCH HIM TOO.



THE MONSTER MATERIALIZED NEAR THE DOOR WHILE HE TRIED TO SHUT IT...





BUT HIS SURVIVAL INSTINCT MADE HIM FIND THE RIGHT WEAPON.



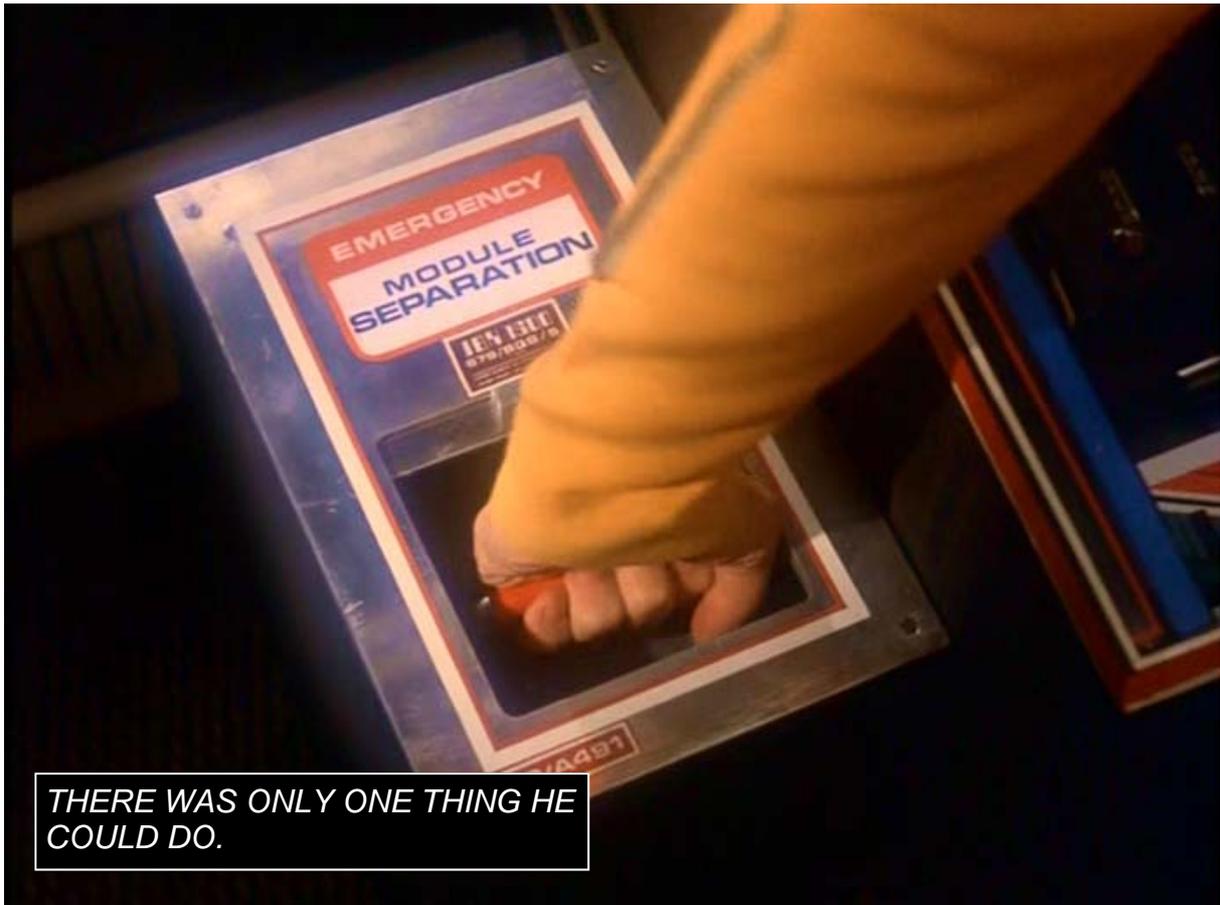
SOME AXE HITS PERSUADED THE MONSTER TO RETREAT.



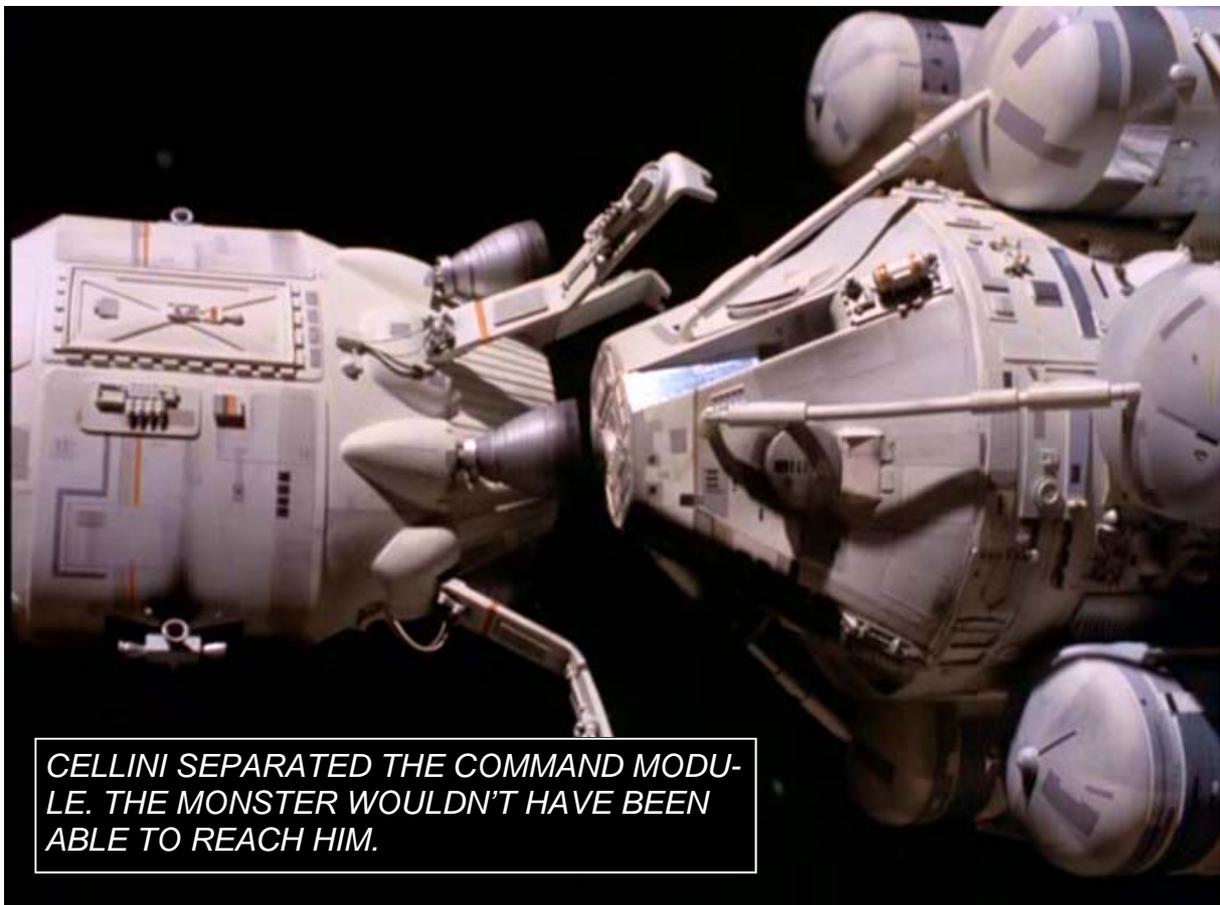
CELLINI WAS IN STATE OF SHOCK, BUT ALIVE.



IT WAS THE END FOR ULTRA MISSION. AND THE PROBE WAS NO MORE SAFE WITH THAT BEAST ONBOARD.

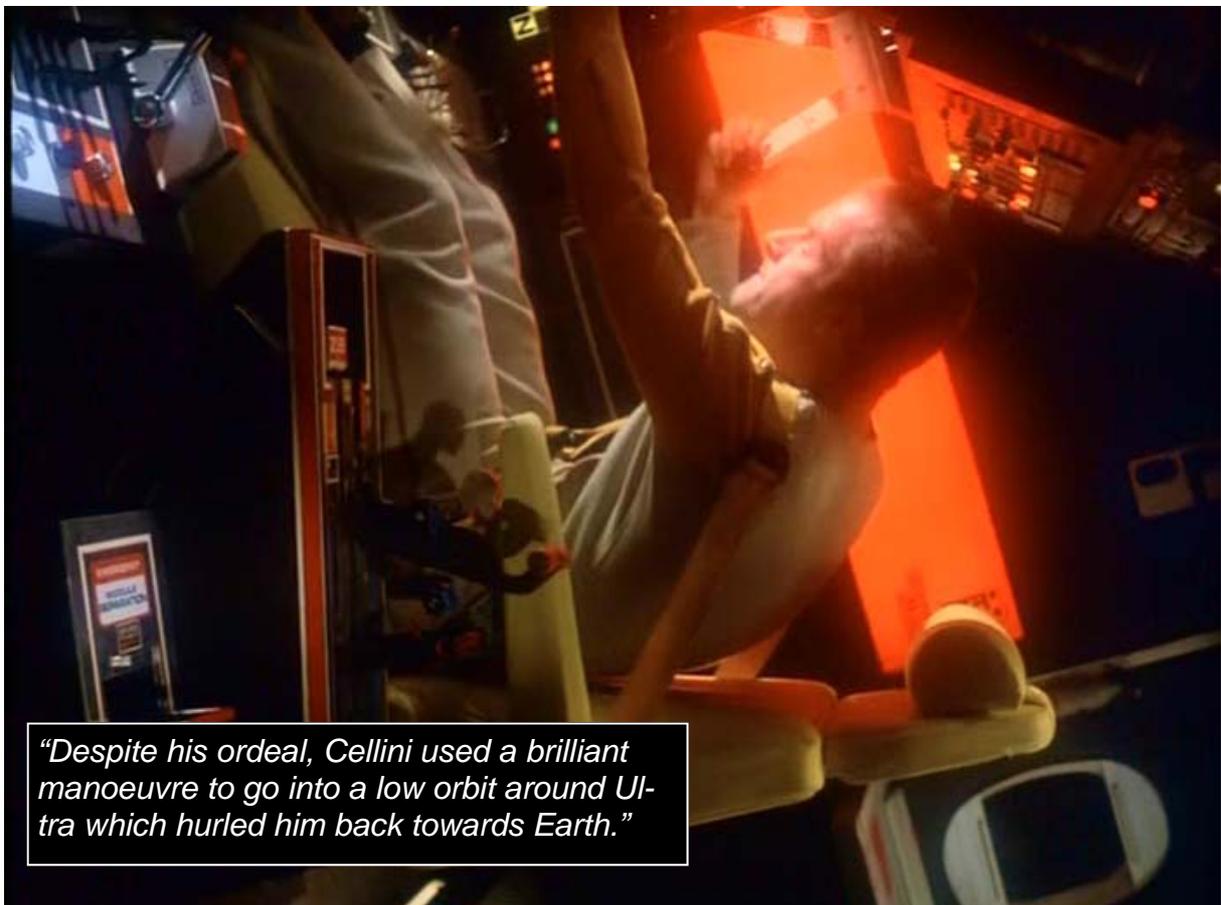
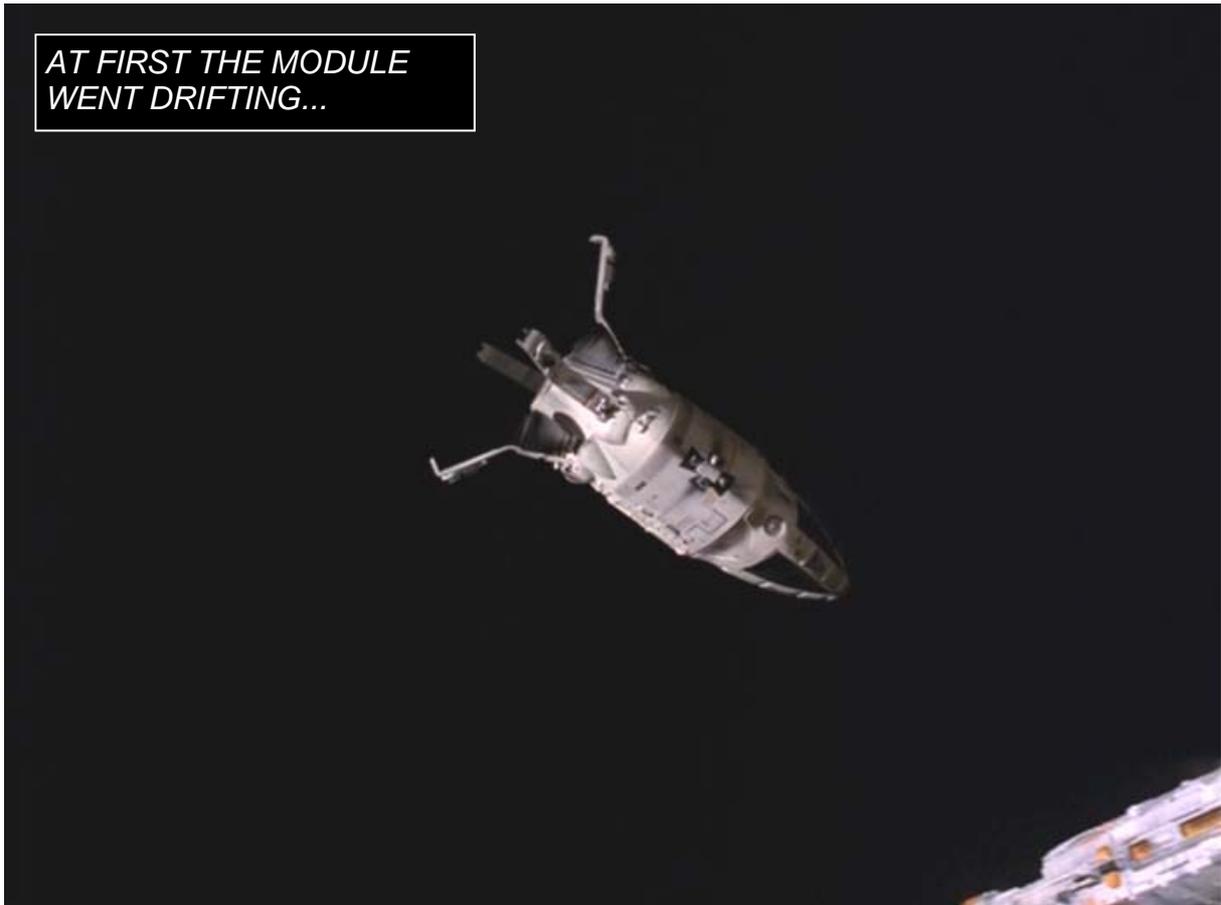


THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING HE COULD DO.



CELLINI SEPARATED THE COMMAND MODULE. THE MONSTER WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO REACH HIM.

*AT FIRST THE MODULE
WENT DRIFTING...*

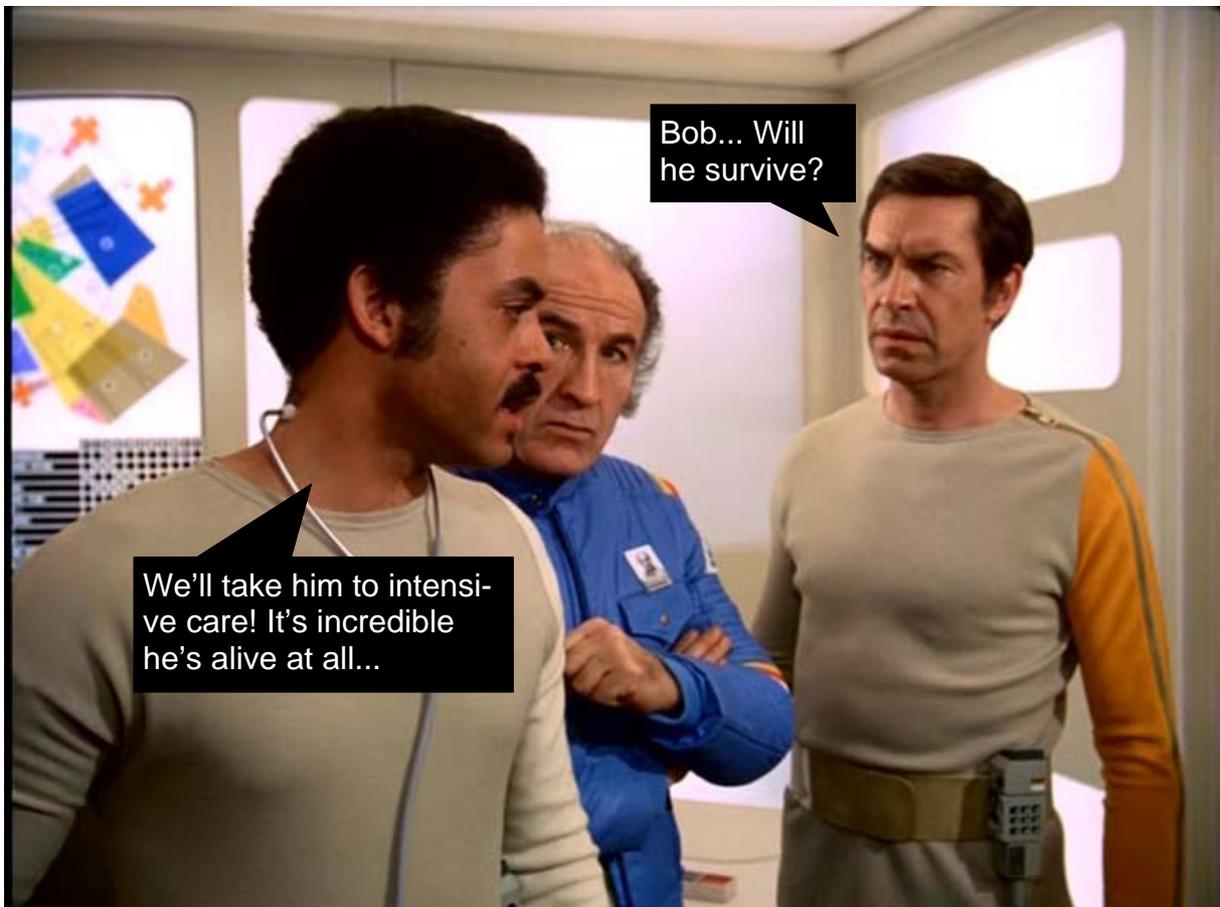


"Despite his ordeal, Cellini used a brilliant manoeuvre to go into a low orbit around Ultra which hurled him back towards Earth."





"He was on the point of death."

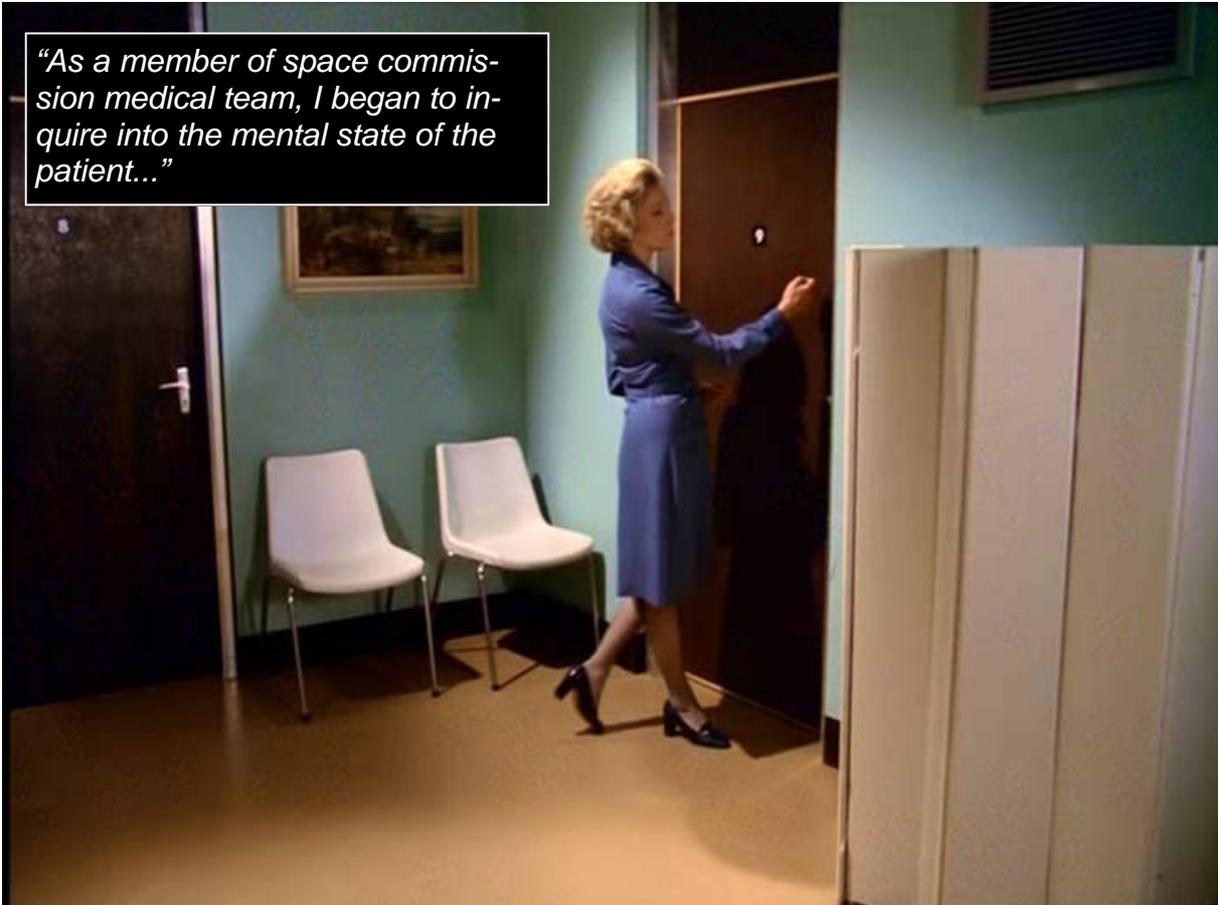


Bob... Will he survive?

We'll take him to intensive care! It's incredible he's alive at all...



“But the official attitude changed from congratulation to doubt. The story he told was hard to believe. And the black box data cast further doubts.”

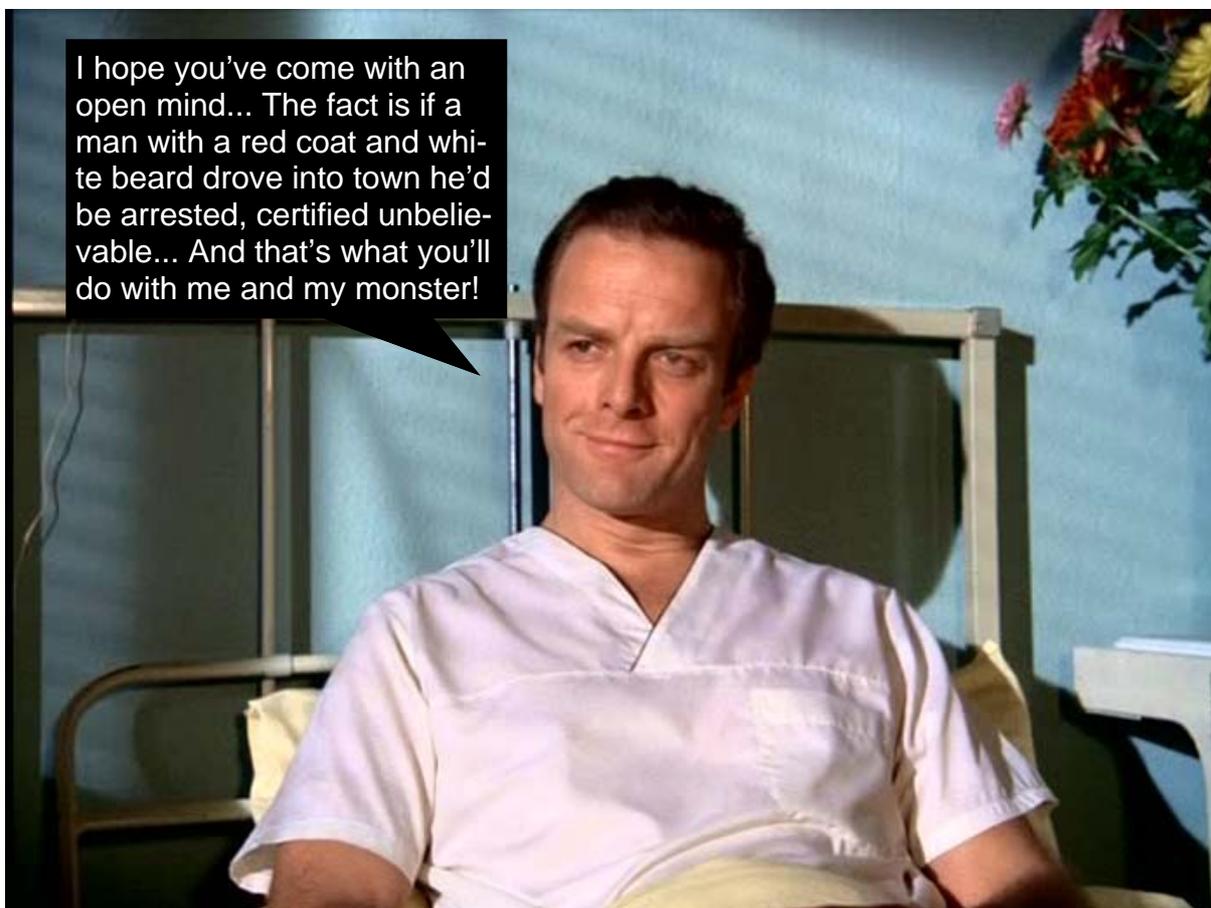


“As a member of space commission medical team, I began to inquire into the mental state of the patient..”



Captain Cellini, I'm Dr. Russell...

Sit down, Dr. Russell. If you've come to hear the story, you'd better be comfortable...



I hope you've come with an open mind... The fact is if a man with a red coat and white beard drove into town he'd be arrested, certified unbelievable... And that's what you'll do with me and my monster!



I didn't even mention the monster. I'm open to anything. Father Christmas, if you like.

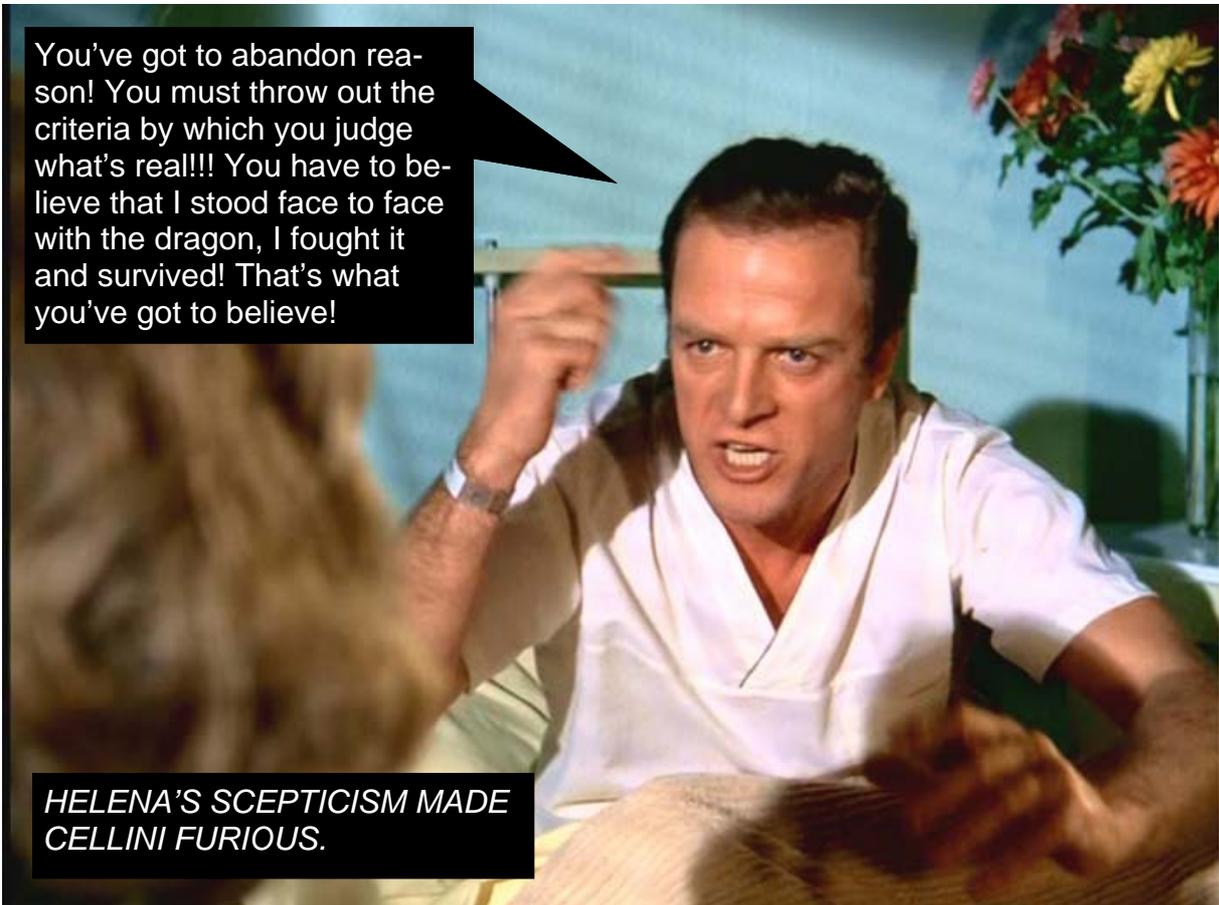


Maybe in a while we'll get around my sex life? Everything I put down in my report is true! And if the black box data conflicts with my story, then the black box is wrong!

That is a surprising statement for a rational man...



You've got to abandon reason! You must throw out the criteria by which you judge what's real!!! You have to believe that I stood face to face with the dragon, I fought it and survived! That's what you've got to believe!



HELENA'S SCEPTICISM MADE CELLINI FURIOUS.



Now take it easy,
captain!

*HELENA GAVE HIM A SEDATIVE,
AS SHE USUALLY DID WITH LU-
NATICS.*



Please, believe me...

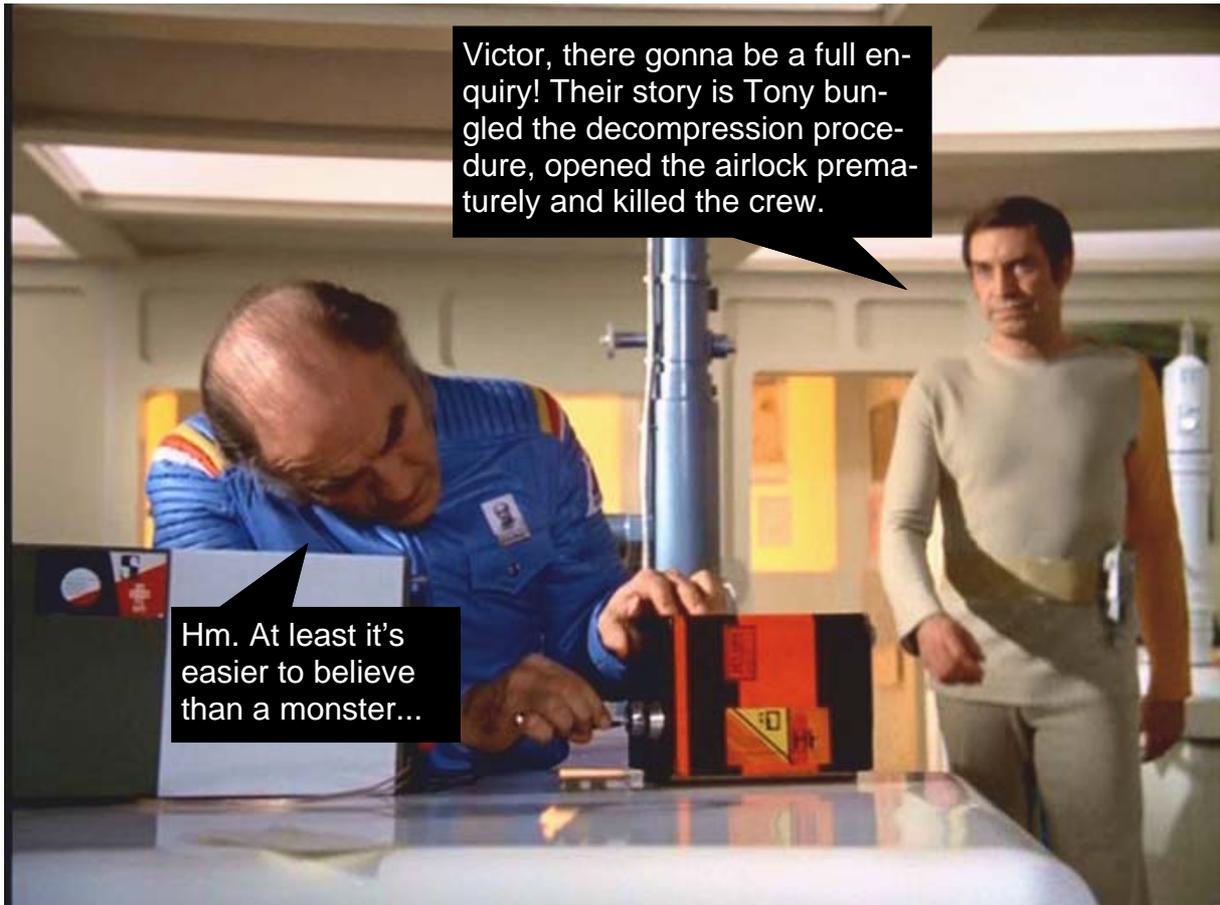
*AFTER THAT, CELLINI BECA-
ME IMPLORING.*



HELENA HAD ALREADY MADE HER VERDICT... NOT A GOOD ONE.



ON ALPHA, KOENIG AND BERGMAN WENT ON WORKING ON THE BLACK BOX...

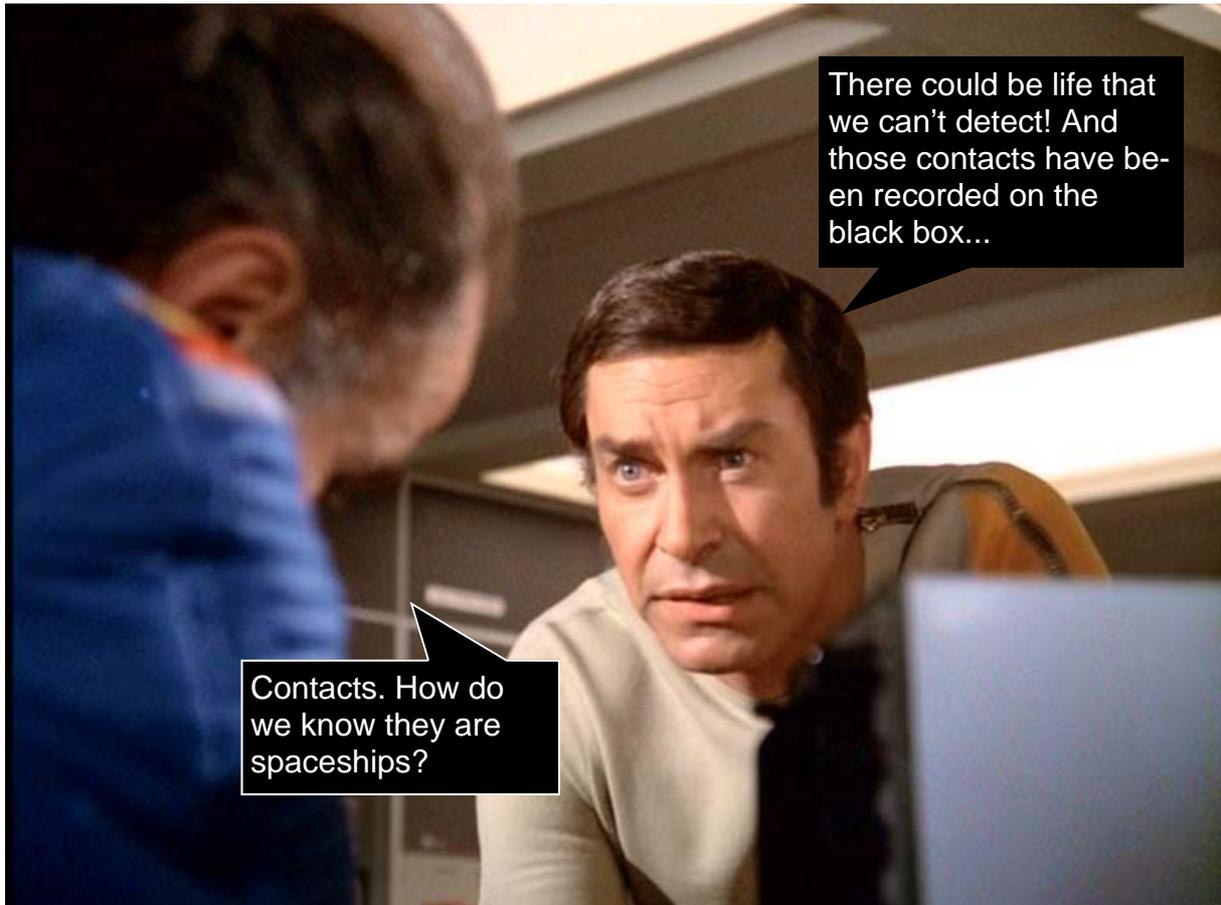


Victor, there gonna be a full enquiry! Their story is Tony bungled the decompression procedure, opened the airlock prematurely and killed the crew.

Hm. At least it's easier to believe than a monster...

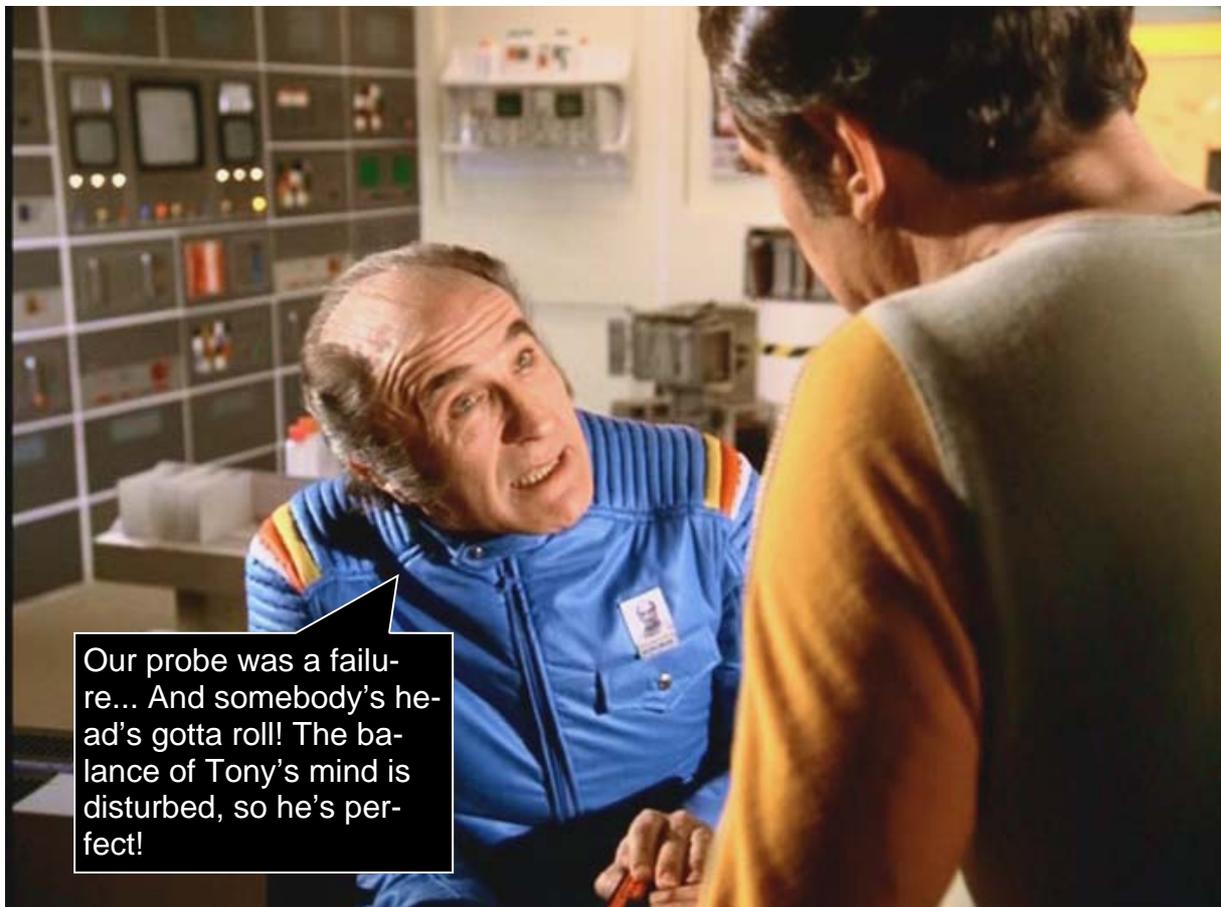


The black box did not record it..



There could be life that we can't detect! And those contacts have been recorded on the black box...

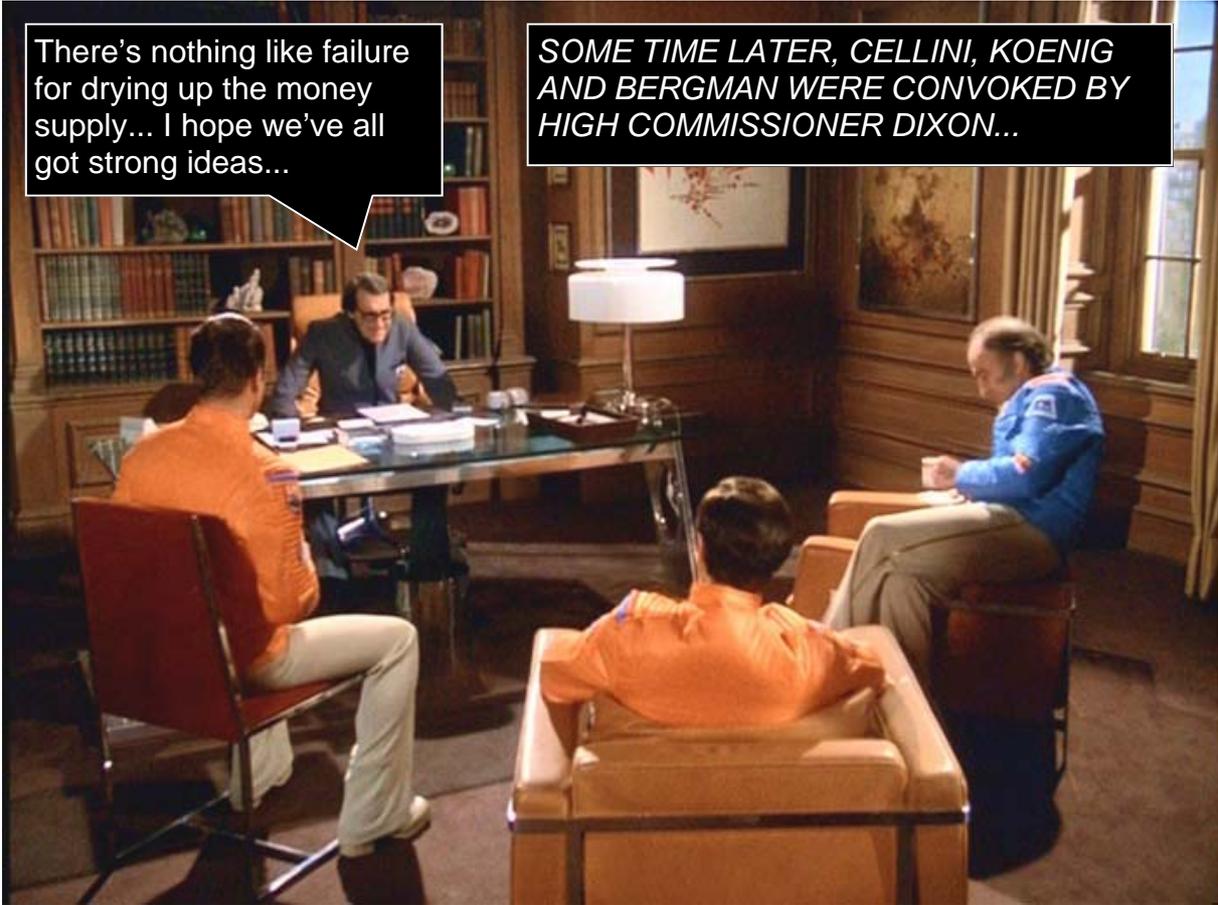
Contacts. How do we know they are spaceships?



Our probe was a failure... And somebody's head's gotta roll! The balance of Tony's mind is disturbed, so he's perfect!

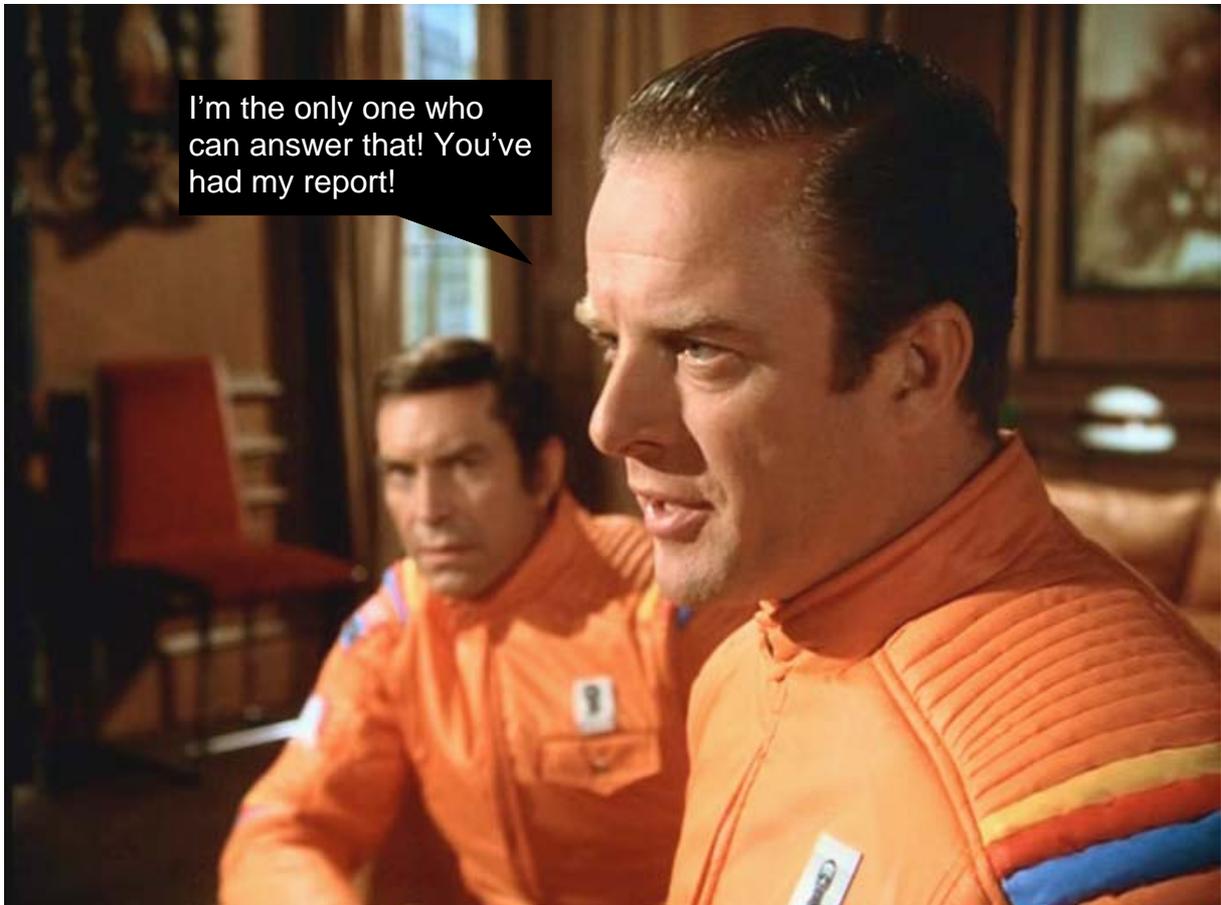
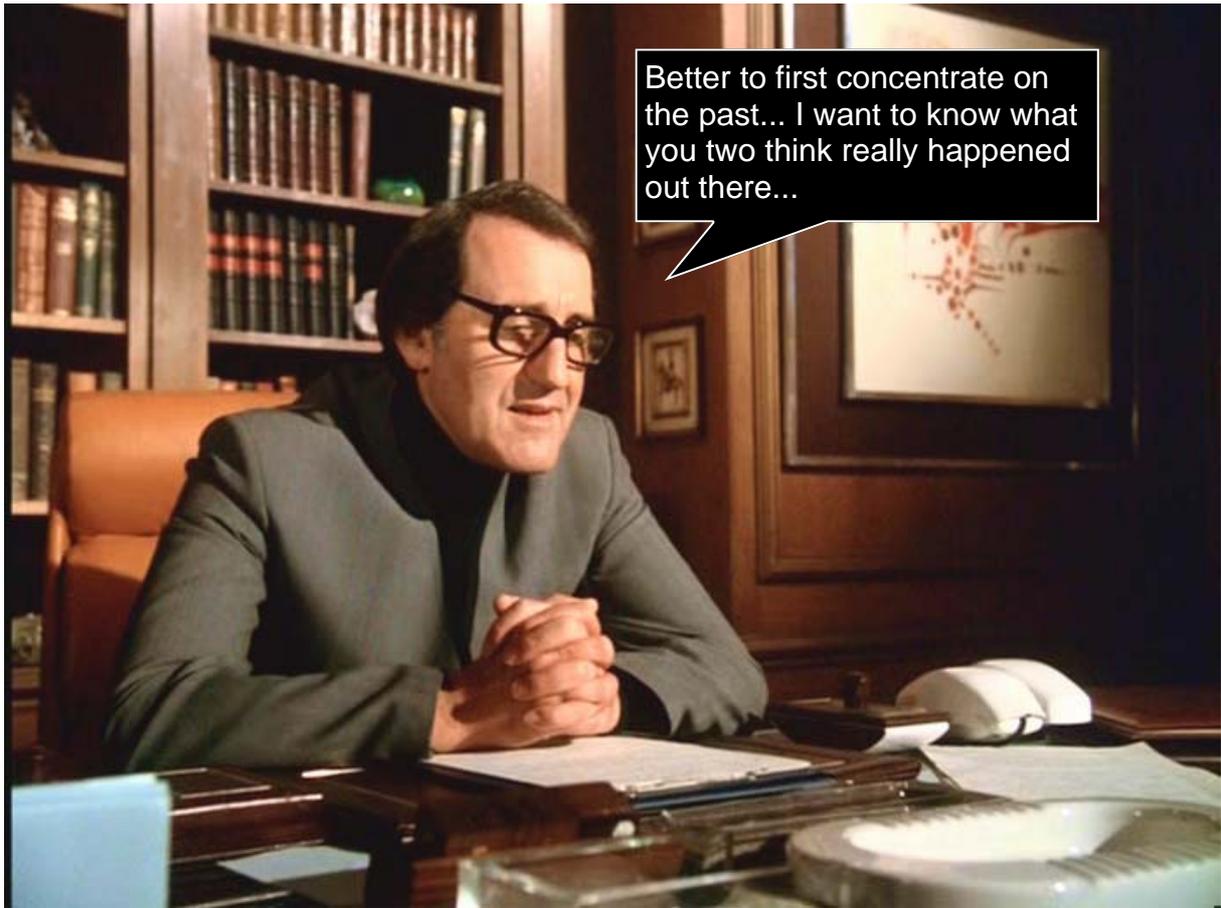
There's nothing like failure for drying up the money supply... I hope we've all got strong ideas...

SOME TIME LATER, CELLINI, KOENIG AND BERGMAN WERE CONVOKED BY HIGH COMMISSIONER DIXON...



There are positive aspects... We discovered the Earth-like qualities of Ultra! Let's launch a second probe, and put our experience to good use!







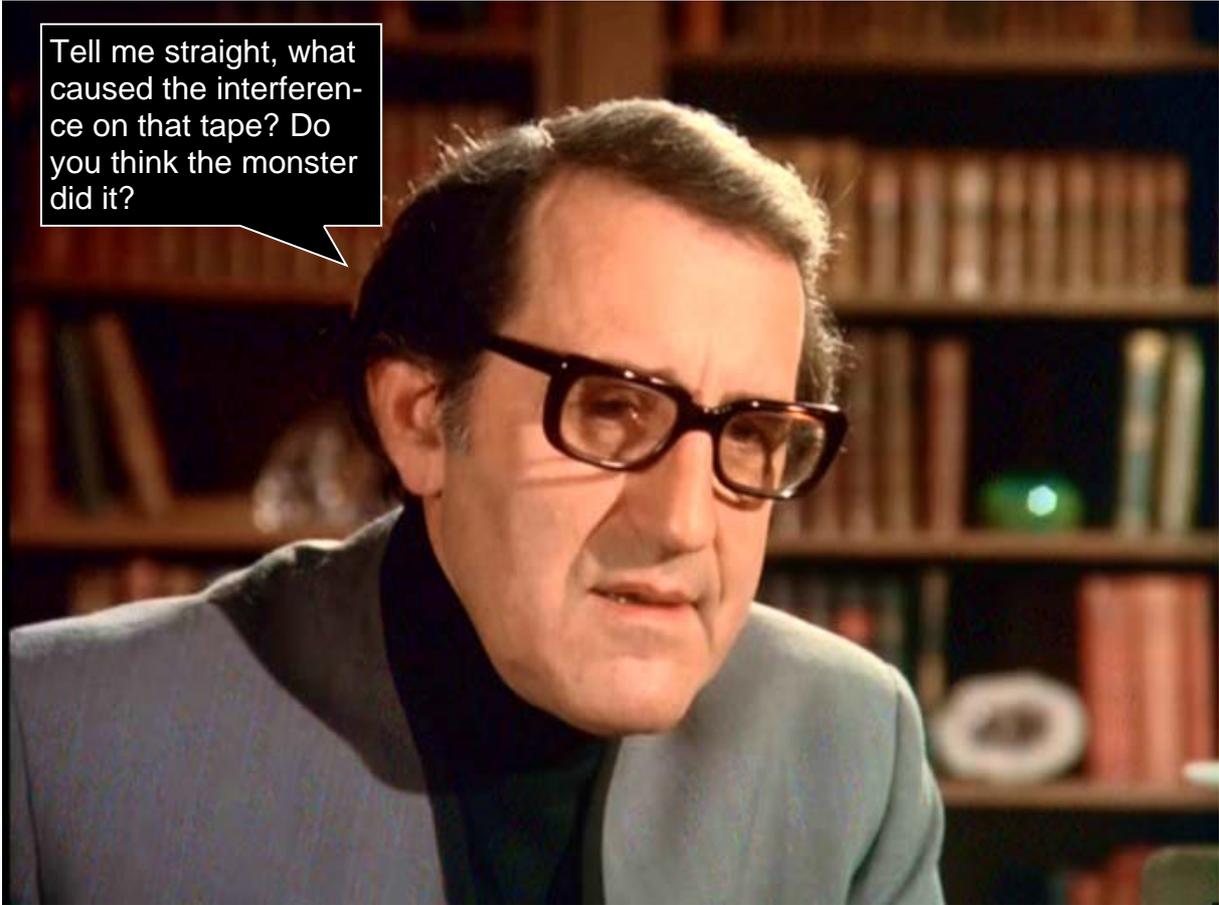
The whole world's had your report, that's my problem!



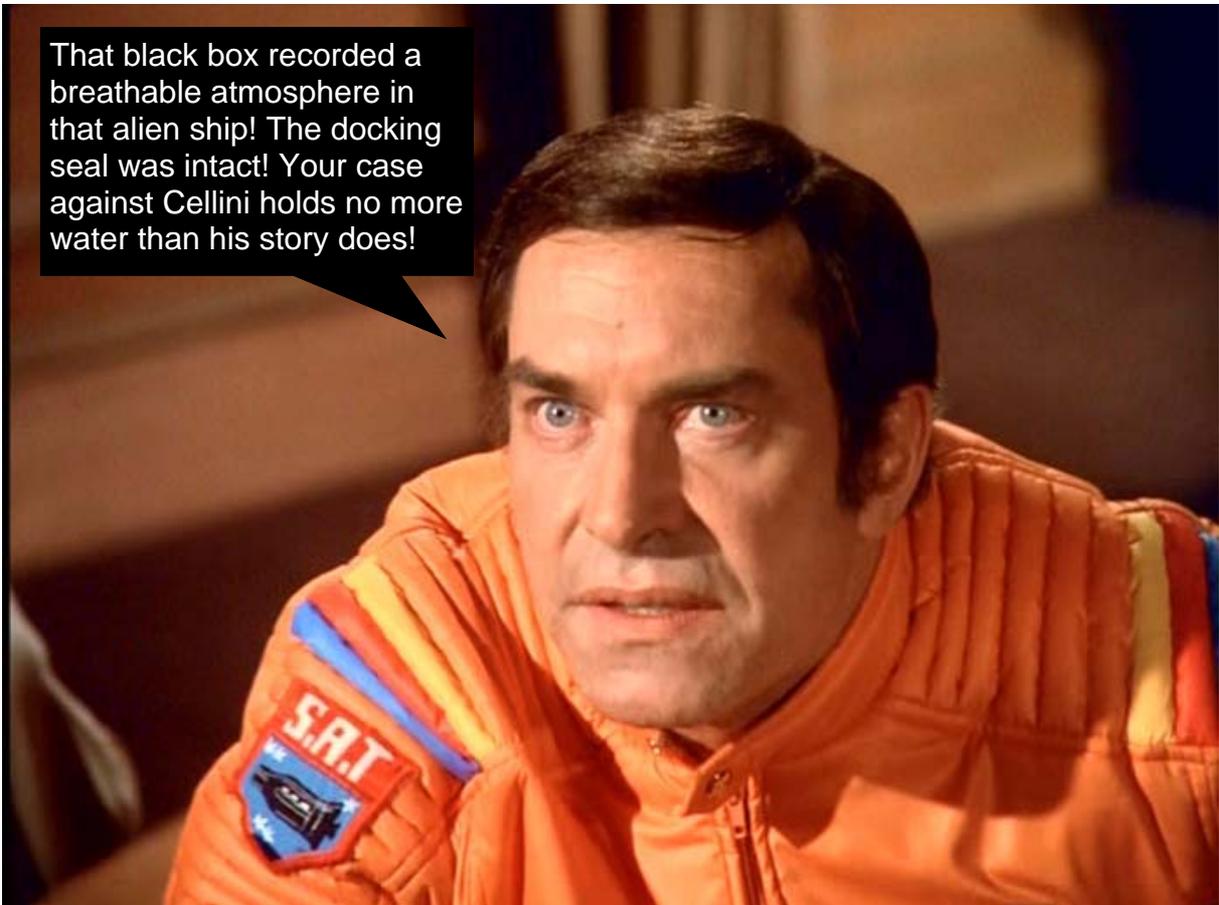
Now I need to know what you two have to say...

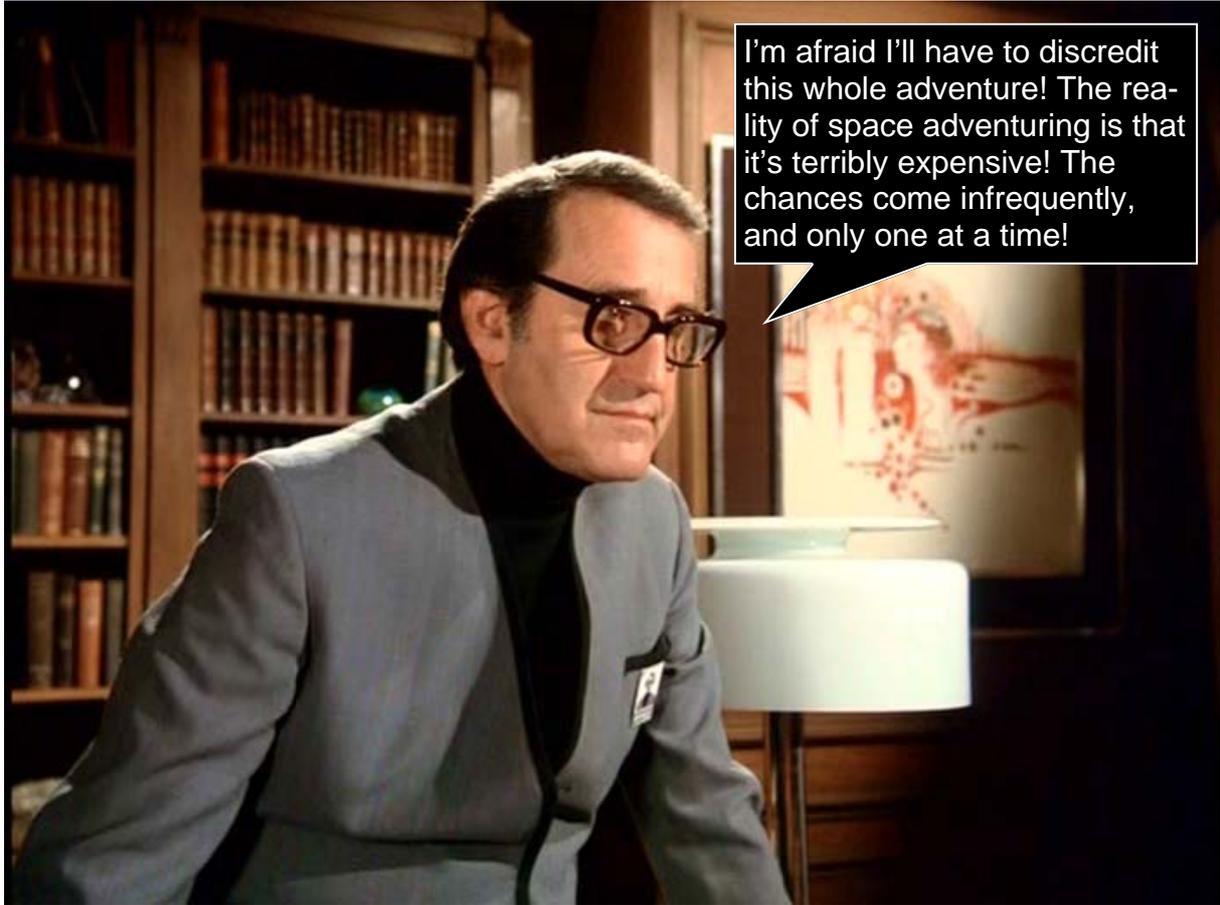
The disaster affected Tony's mind in a way he can't recognize and we can't even guess!

Tell me straight, what caused the interference on that tape? Do you think the monster did it?

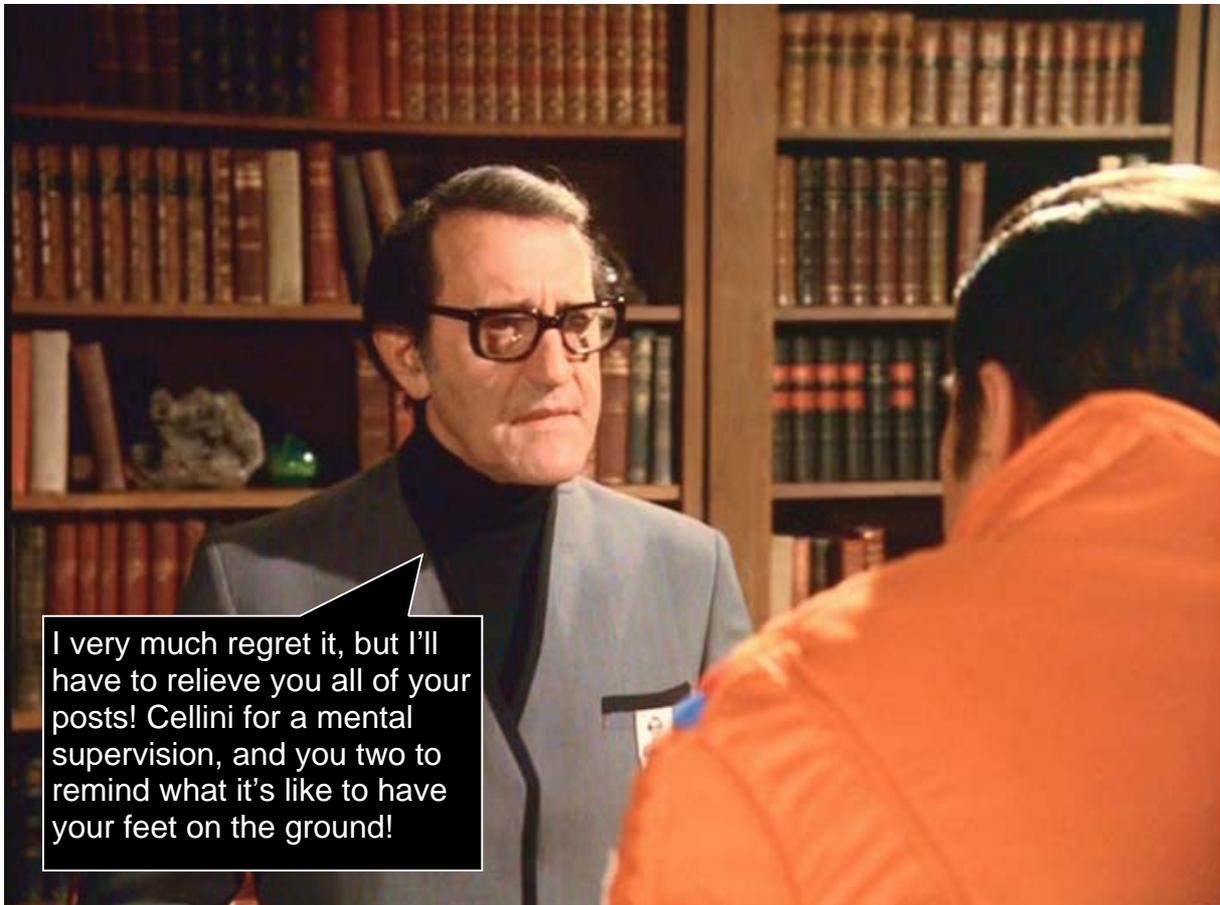


That black box recorded a breathable atmosphere in that alien ship! The docking seal was intact! Your case against Cellini holds no more water than his story does!



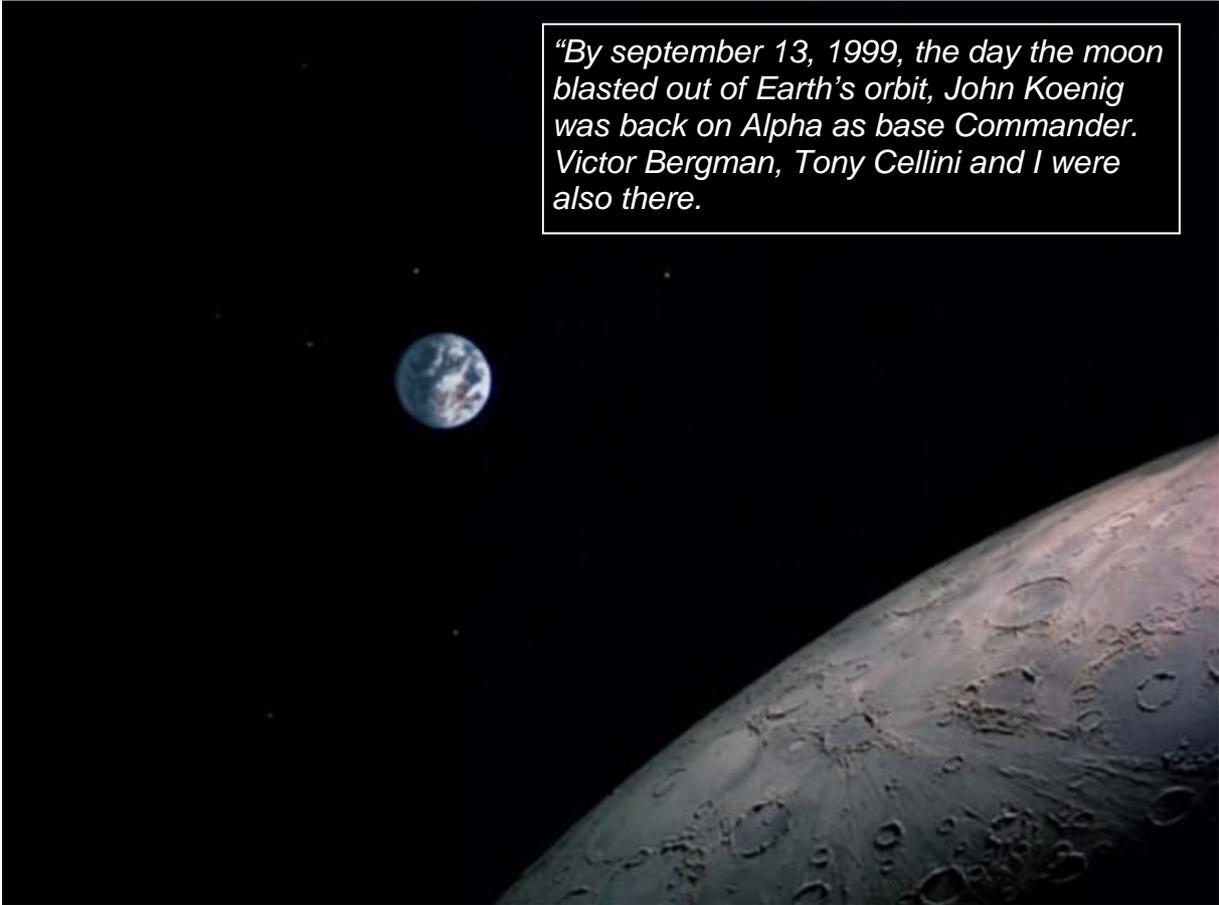


I'm afraid I'll have to discredit this whole adventure! The reality of space adventuring is that it's terribly expensive! The chances come infrequently, and only one at a time!



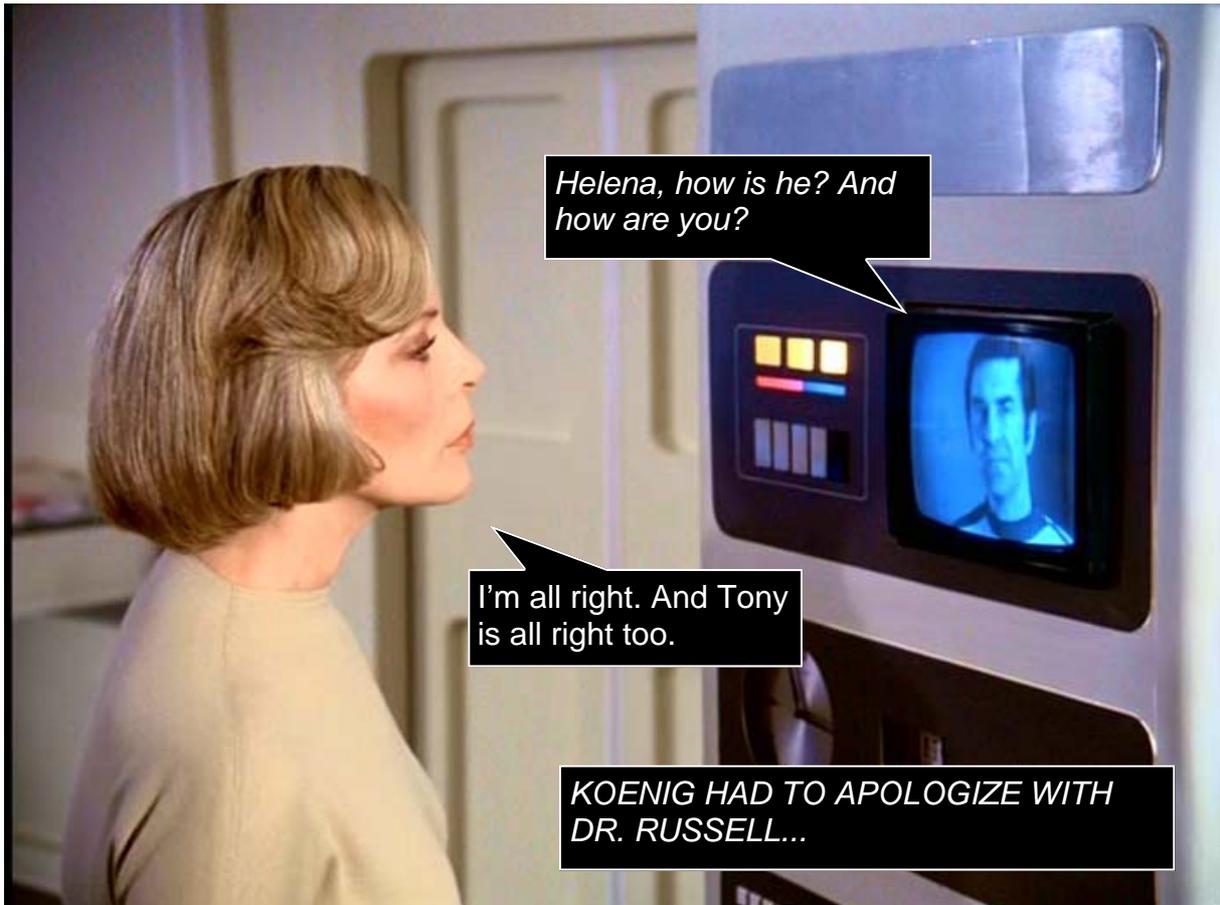
I very much regret it, but I'll have to relieve you all of your posts! Cellini for a mental supervision, and you two to remind what it's like to have your feet on the ground!

"By september 13, 1999, the day the moon blasted out of Earth's orbit, John Koenig was back on Alpha as base Commander. Victor Bergman, Tony Cellini and I were also there."



"Memories of Ultra probe were obliterated in our fight for survival. Until the night when Tony's nightmare revived the old conflicts."







Oh, thank you John!

I got a little help from the guys in hydroponics... But I deserve some credit.



It's five years since the Ultra probe, why break now?

This is why I recommended he never return to Alpha...!





Tony... were you trying to run away from the monster?

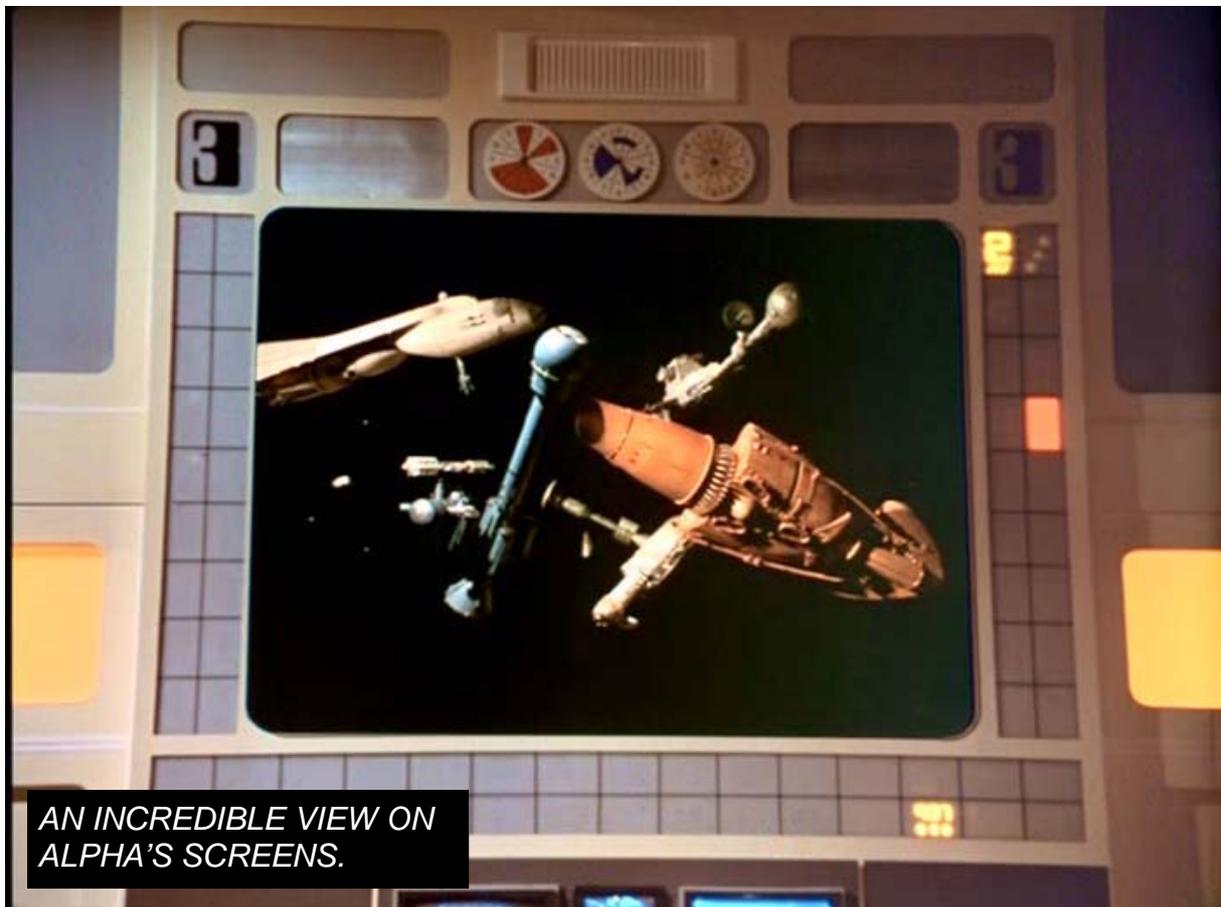


No... I was going to face him!



Commander, we have a contact. Could you come to Main Mission?

BUT A CALL FOR KOENIG HAD COME.



AN INCREDIBLE VIEW ON ALPHA'S SCREENS.



It's the same sort of thing Cellini described...

Well, Victor?



Last night Cellini had a violent nightmare, fighting his monster. Then he tried to steal an Eagle. I had to stun him. He said he was going out to face it!



THERE COULD NOT BE ANY MORE DOUBTS.



Alan, I want an Eagle on pad 1 for immediate lift off. And three ships as escort!



THE DECISION WAS SOON MADE.





ON THE FIRST EAGLE KOENIG, BERGMAN, DR. RUSSELL, CELLINI, CARTER AND TWO GUARDS...



DR. RUSSELL HAD A BAD FEELING.

John, he's too calm...

He's got a chance to clear himself...





Excuse me. I have to apologise to Alan...



Alan, sorry about last night...

No problem, Tony...



BUT IT HAPPENED AGAIN...



Tony!!!!

CELLINI FAST PUT DOWN CARTER IN THE PASSENGER MODULE...

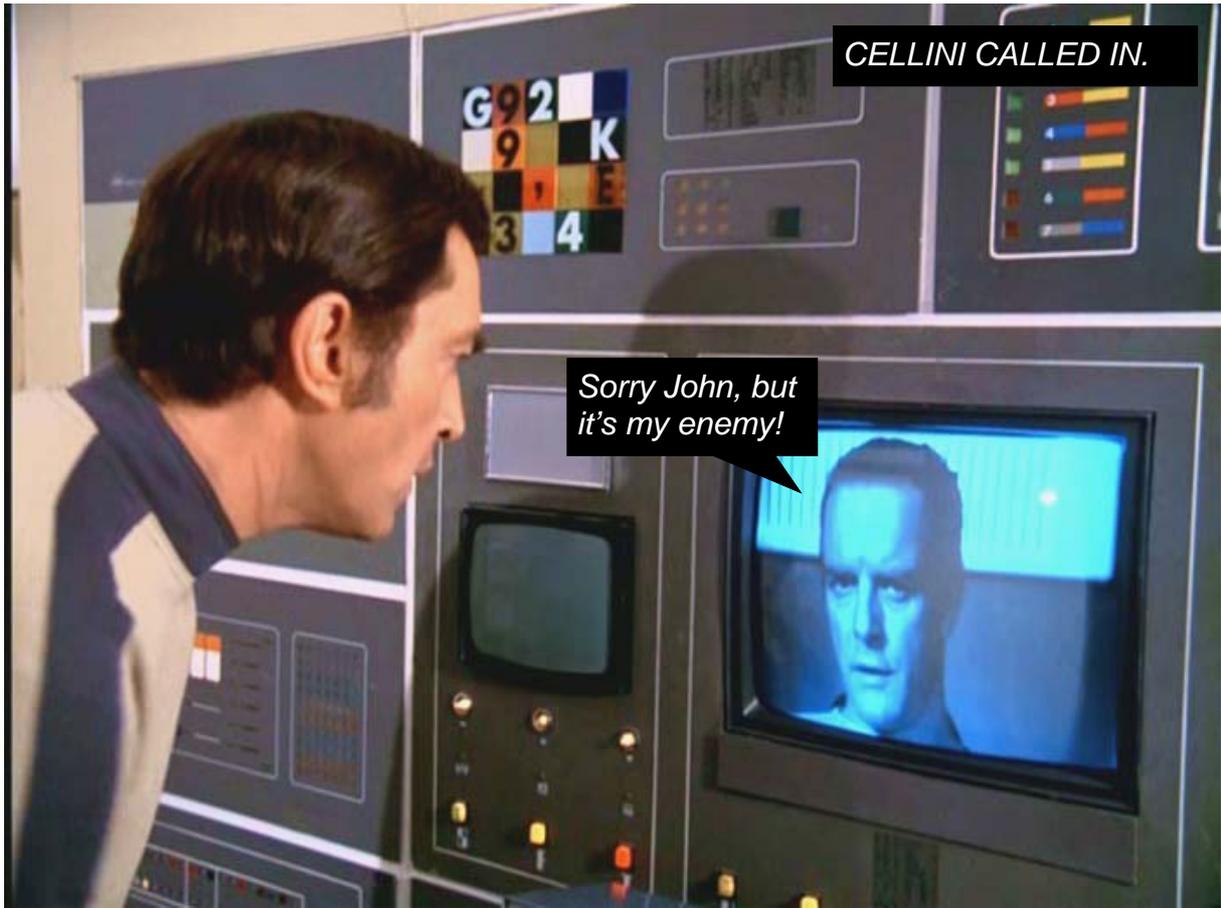


DRIVING THE EAGLE, CELLINI SEPARATED THE PASSENGER MODULE, LEAVING BEHIND KOENIG AND THE OTHERS...



KOENIG HAD TO MAKE THE NECESSARY DECISIONS.

Eagles 3 and 4, follow Cellini! Eagle 2, jettison your passenger module and pick us up!



CELLINI CALLED IN.

Sorry John, but
it's my enemy!



TWO EAGLES RAN AFTER
HIM...

*...WHILE THE THIRD DOCKED WITH
THE PASSENGER MODULE LEFT.*

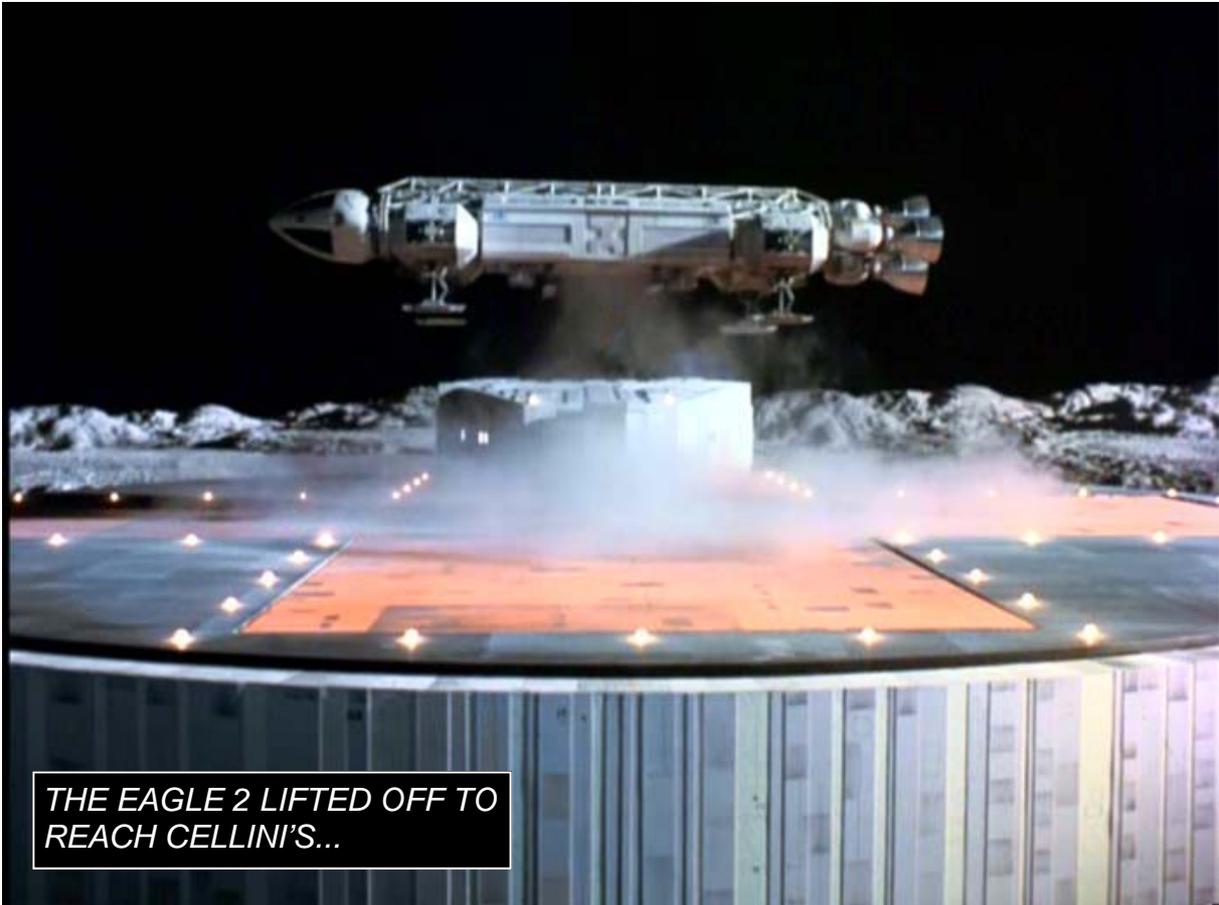


Eagle 2 docked on
Eagle 1, Commander!



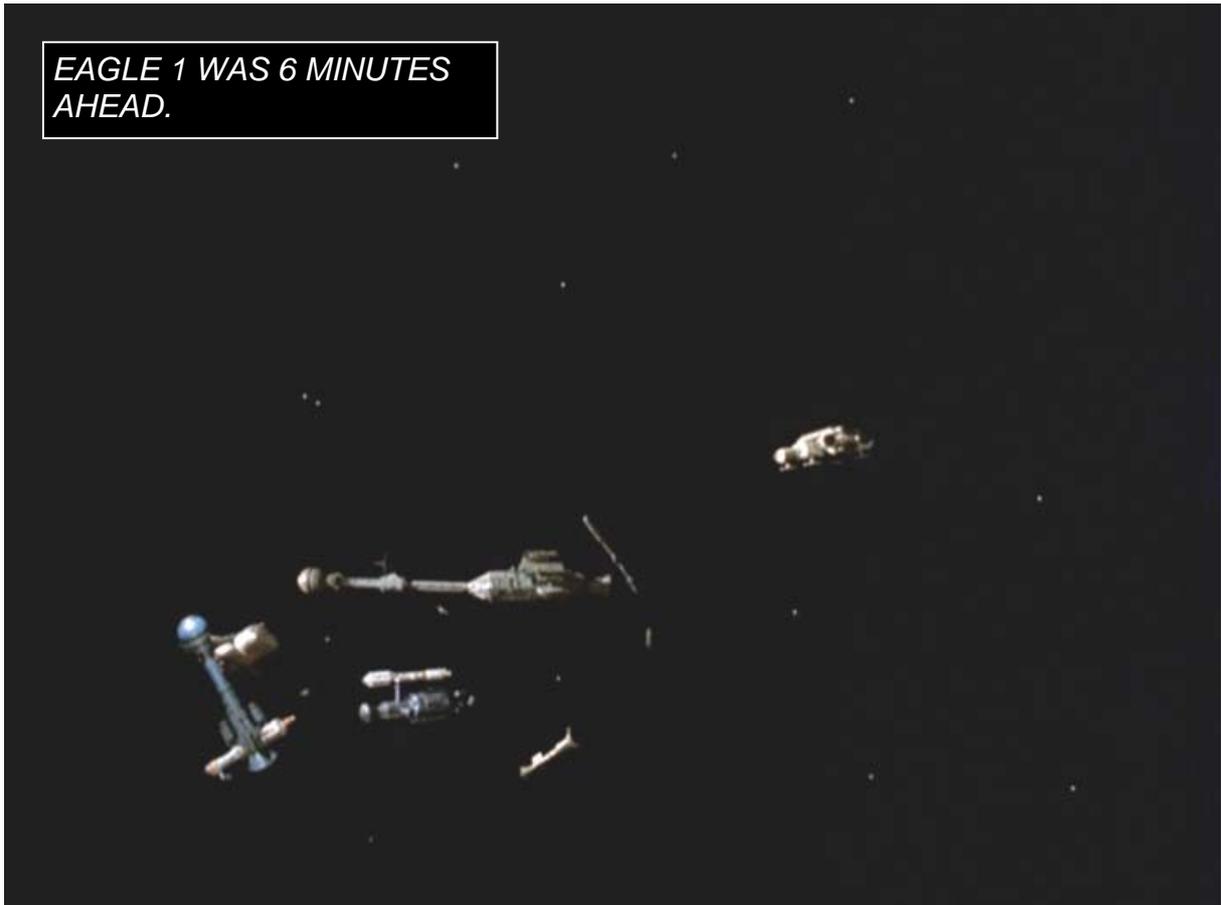


OK! Give it everything we've got!



THE EAGLE 2 LIFTED OFF TO REACH CELLINI'S...

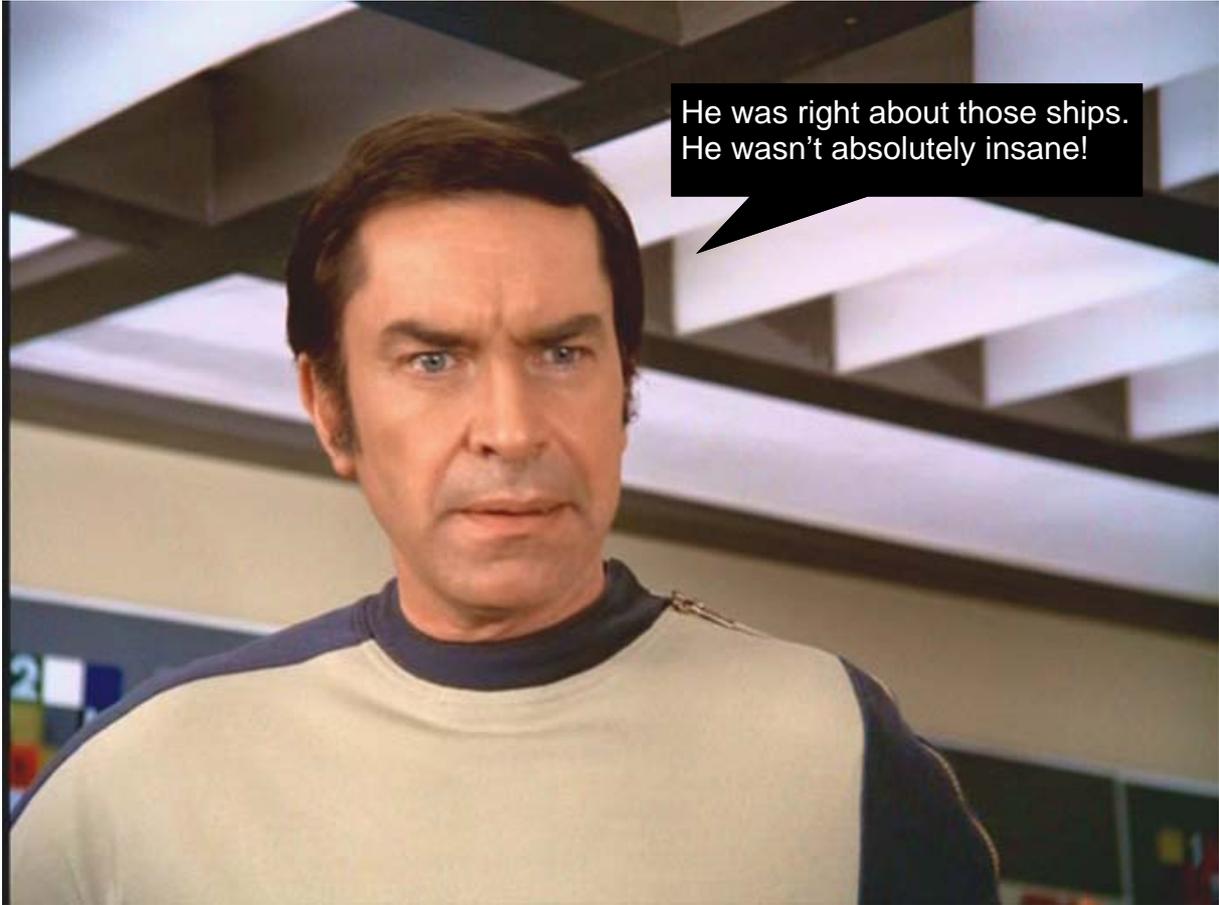
*EAGLE 1 WAS 6 MINUTES
AHEAD.*



*So far, no life
indications,
Commander!*



*KOENIG WAS VERY
WORRIED.*



He was right about those ships.
He wasn't absolutely insane!



That doesn't mean
he was right about
the monster...

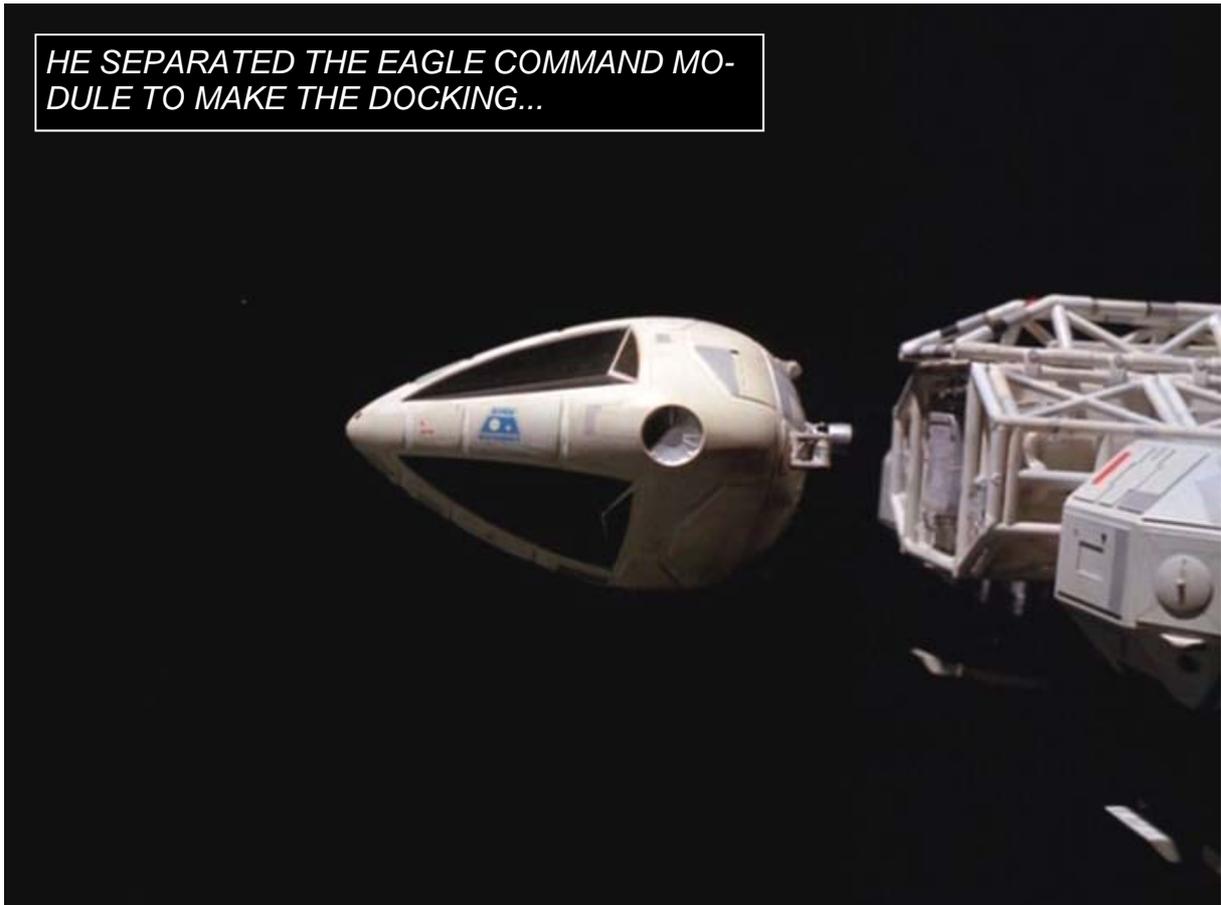
You think he's gone ahead to destroy the evidence...



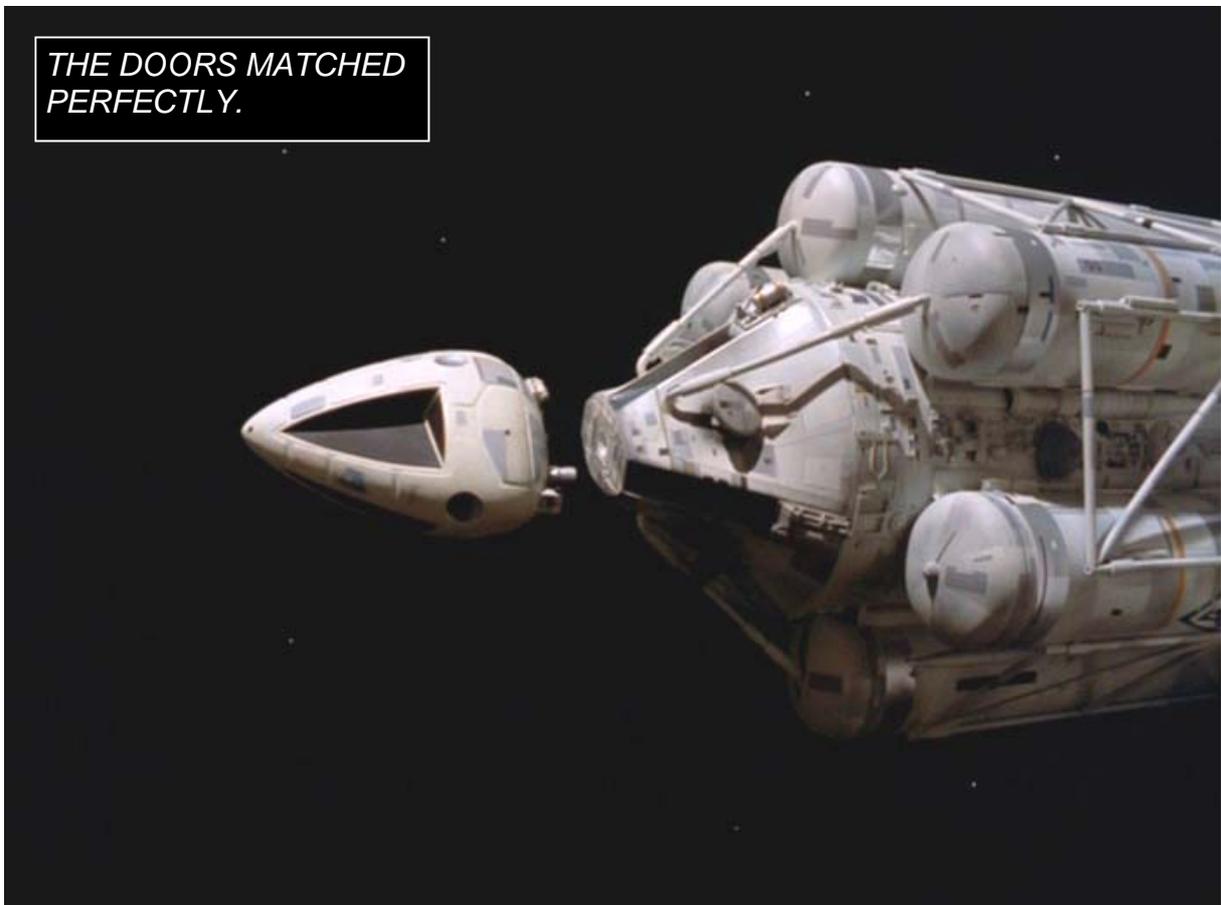
CELLINI HAD ARRIVED...



HE SEPARATED THE EAGLE COMMAND MODULE TO MAKE THE DOCKING...



THE DOORS MATCHED PERFECTLY.





HE HAD BEEN WAITING THIS MOMENT FOR AGES.

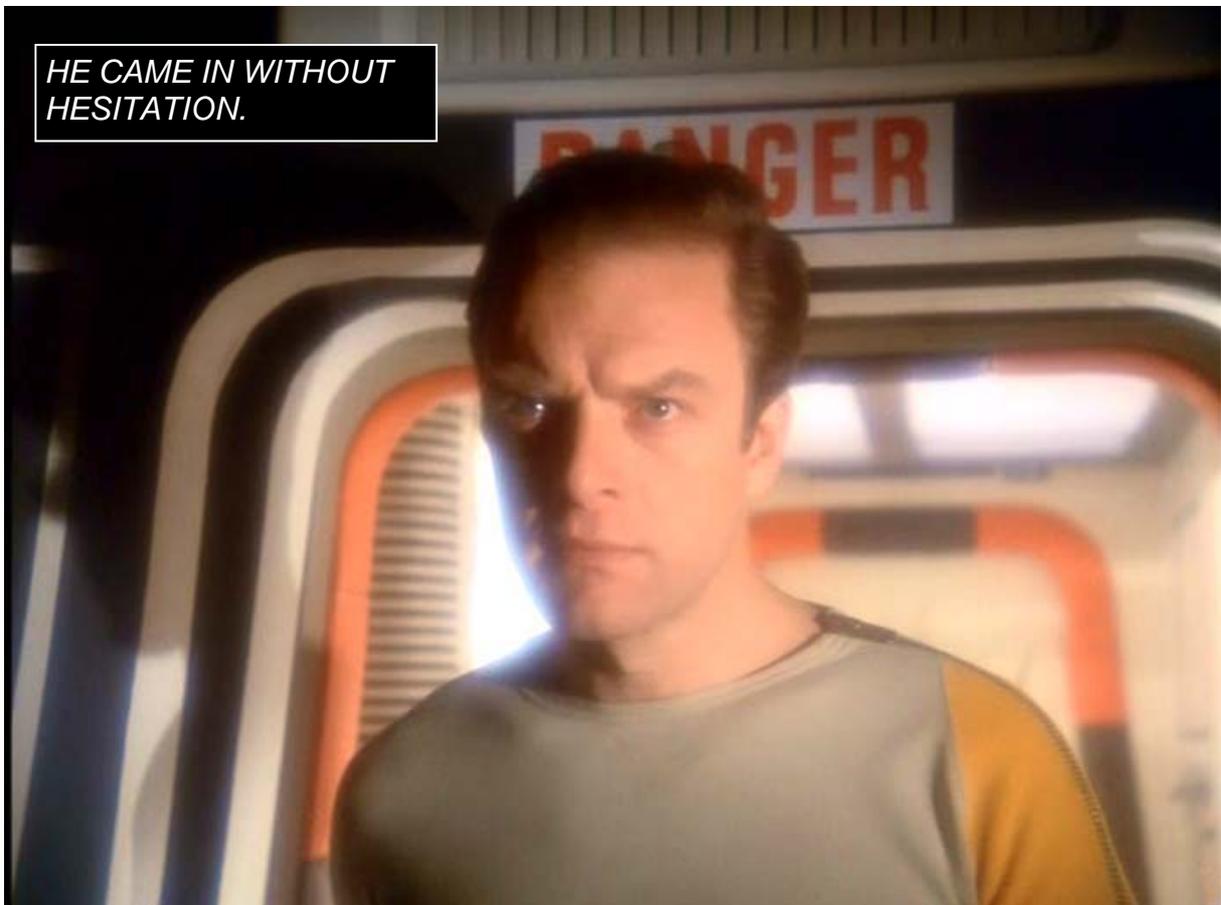


HE TOOK SOME HARDWARE TO FACE THE BEAST.

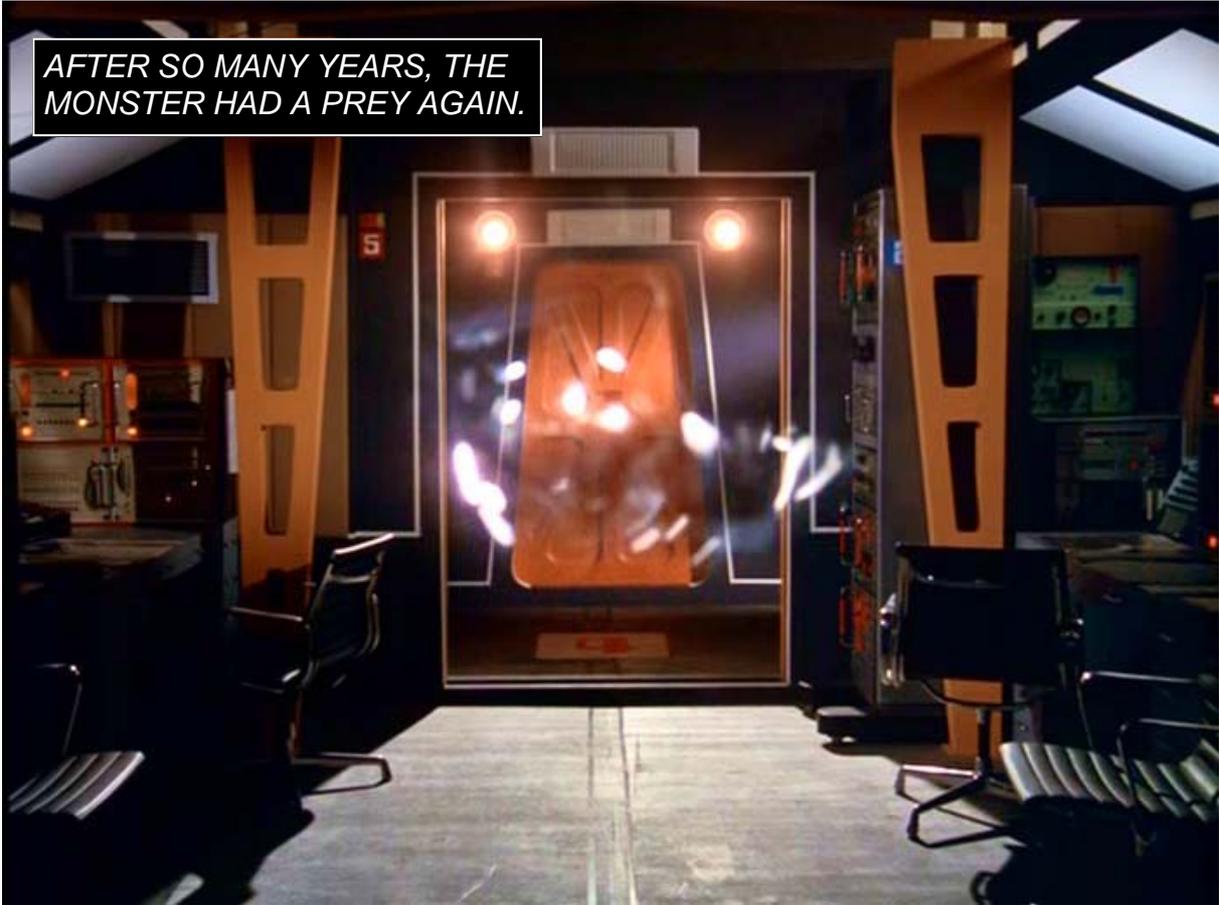
ON THE FLOOR THERE WERE STILL
HIS COMPANIONS' SKELETONS.



HE CAME IN WITHOUT
HESITATION.



AFTER SO MANY YEARS, THE
MONSTER HAD A PREY AGAIN.



IT WAS ALWAYS A
TERRIFIC THING.



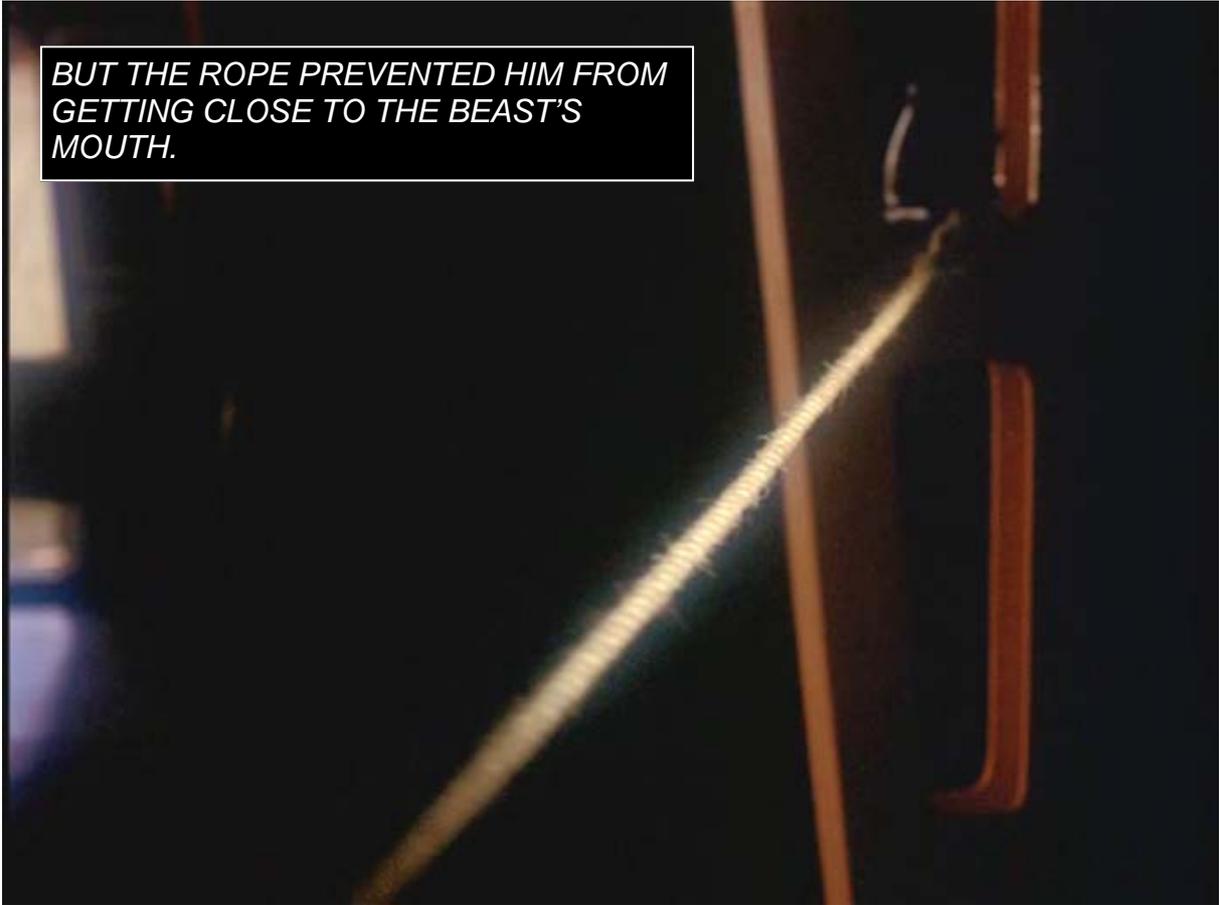
BUT CELLINI WAS READY. HE TIED HIMSELF TO A COLUMN WITH A STRONG ROPE...



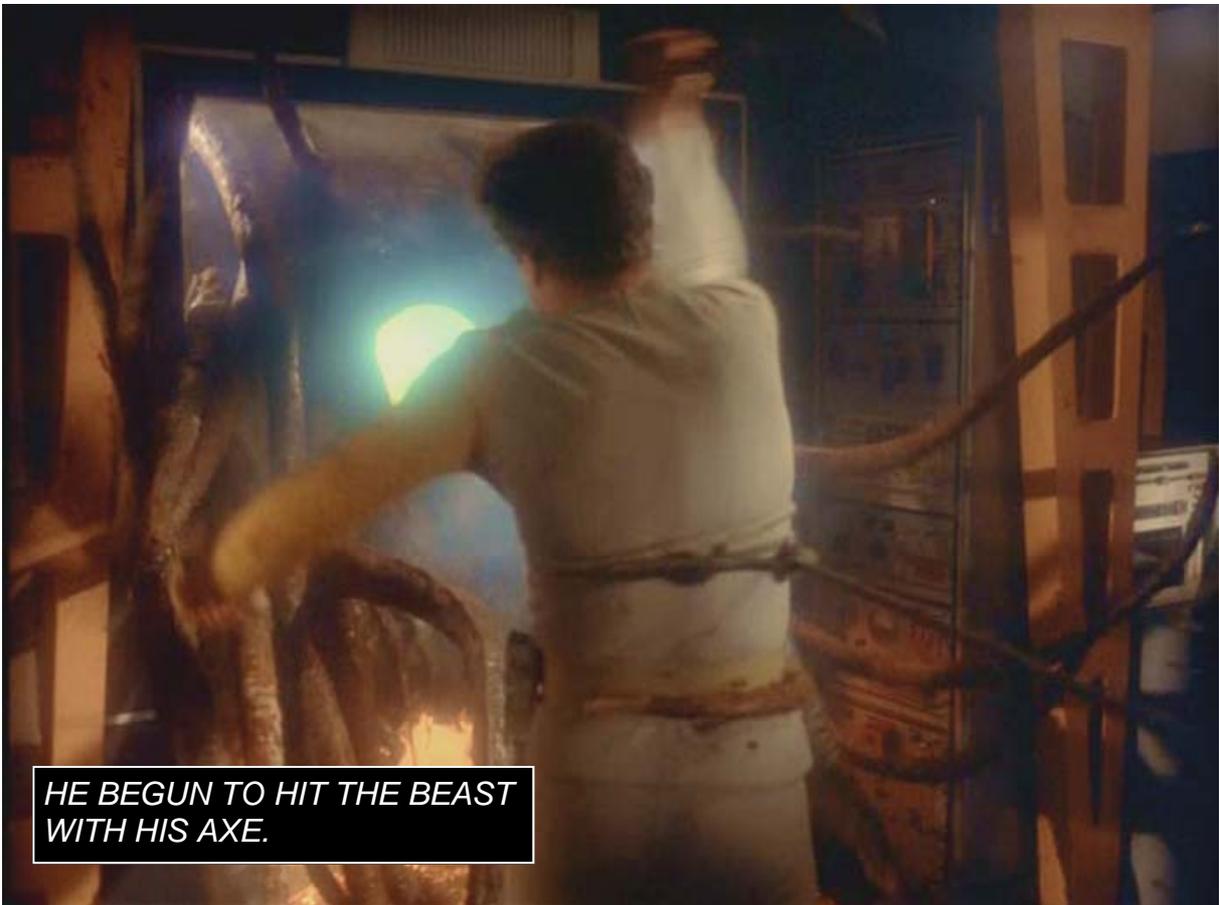
THE MONSTER'S LIGHT HYPNOTIZED HIM...



BUT THE ROPE PREVENTED HIM FROM GETTING CLOSE TO THE BEAST'S MOUTH.

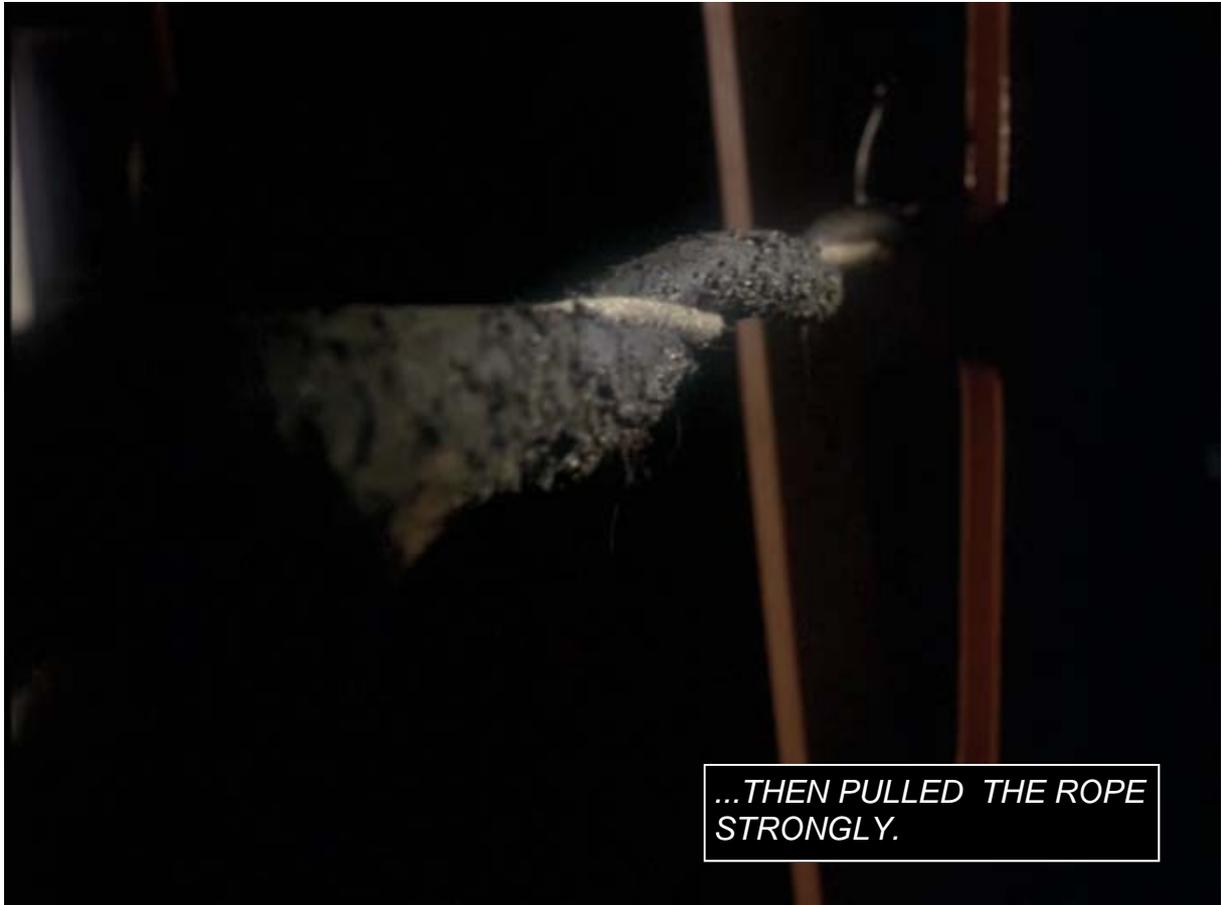


HE BEGUN TO HIT THE BEAST WITH HIS AXE.



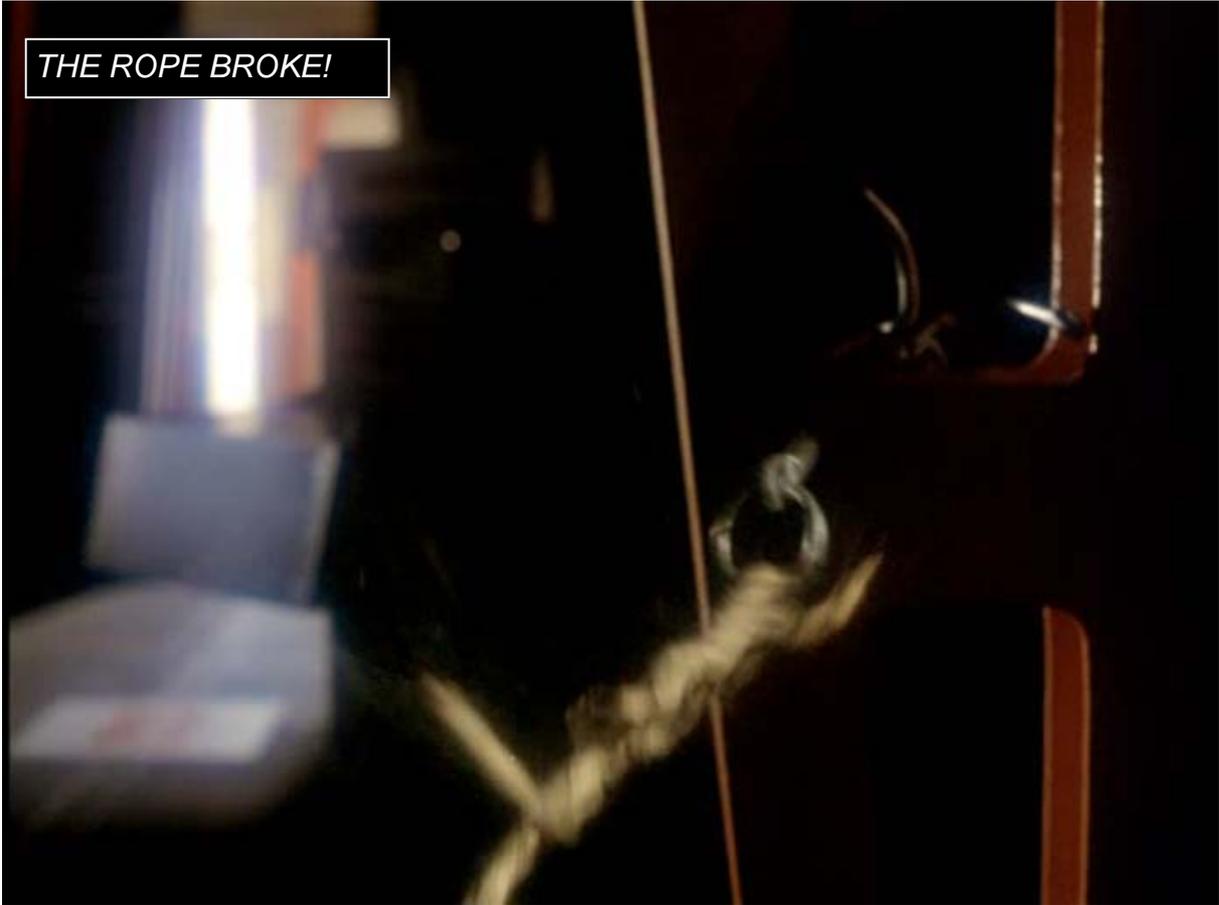


*BUT THE MONSTER GOT HOLD
OF HIM...*



*...THEN PULLED THE ROPE
STRONGLY.*

THE ROPE BROKE!



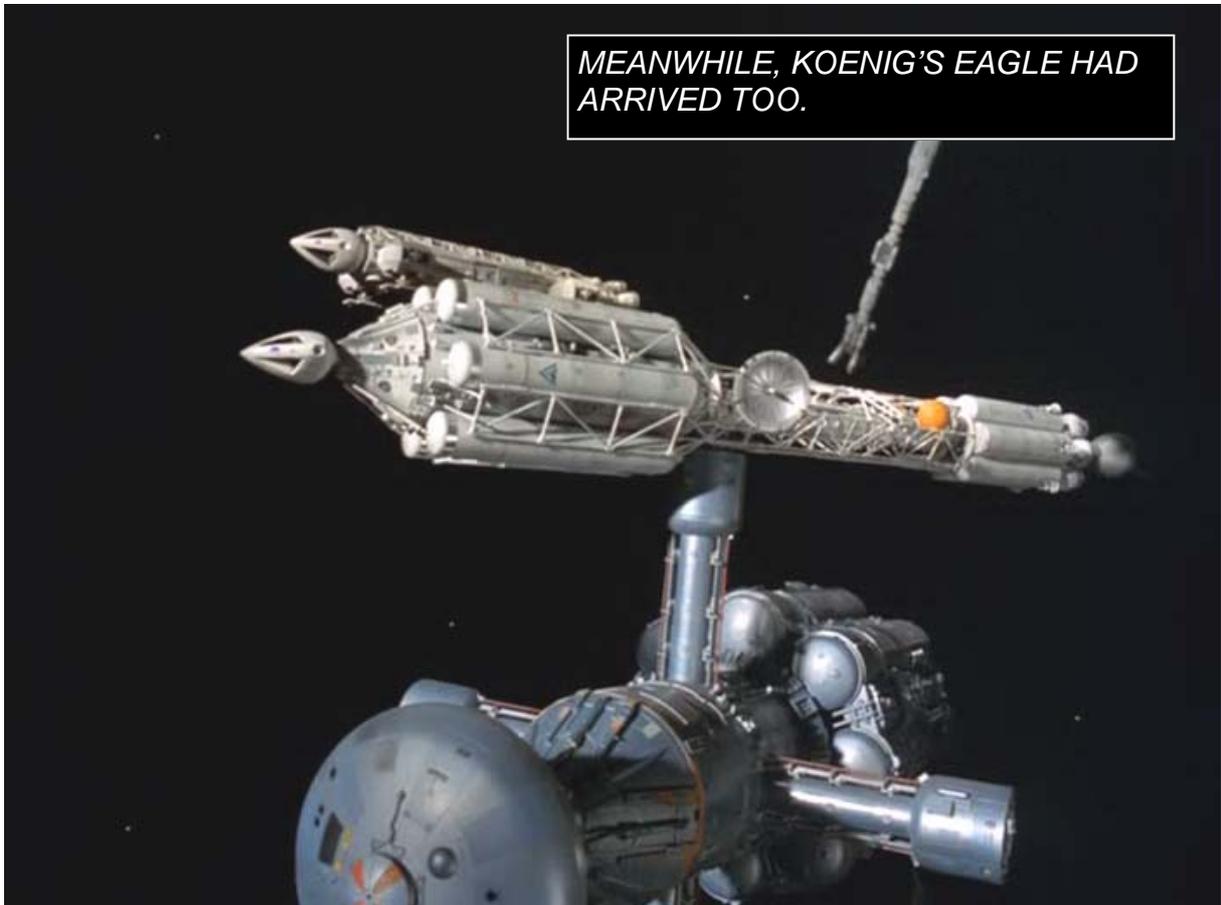
*NOW THE CREATURE
COULD SWALLOW HIM.*



TAKEN BY SURPRISE, HE HAD LOST HIS AXE. HE HAD ONLY A KNIFE LEFT TO DEFEND HIMSELF.



MEANWHILE, KOENIG'S EAGLE HAD ARRIVED TOO.



CARTER WAS FLYING IT.

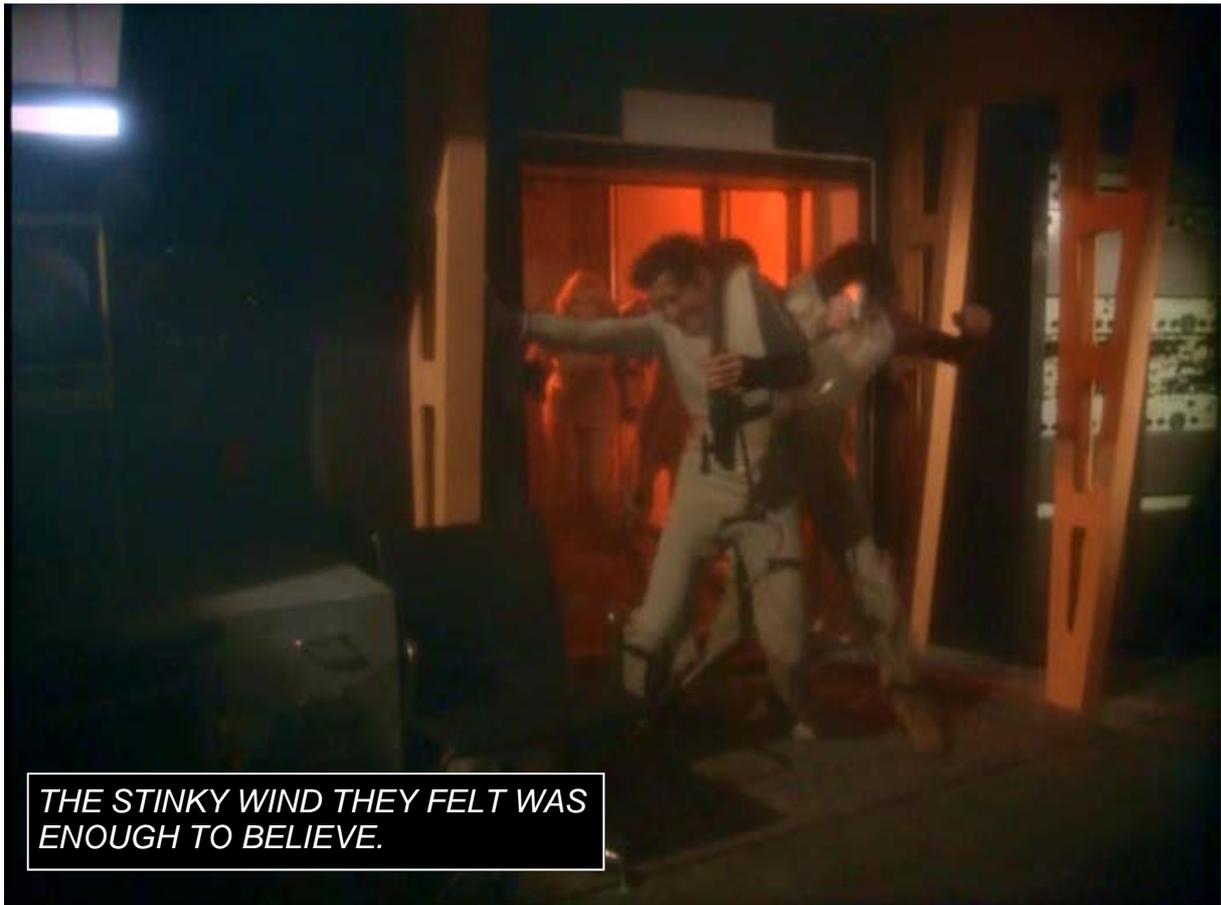
Docking complete,
Commander!



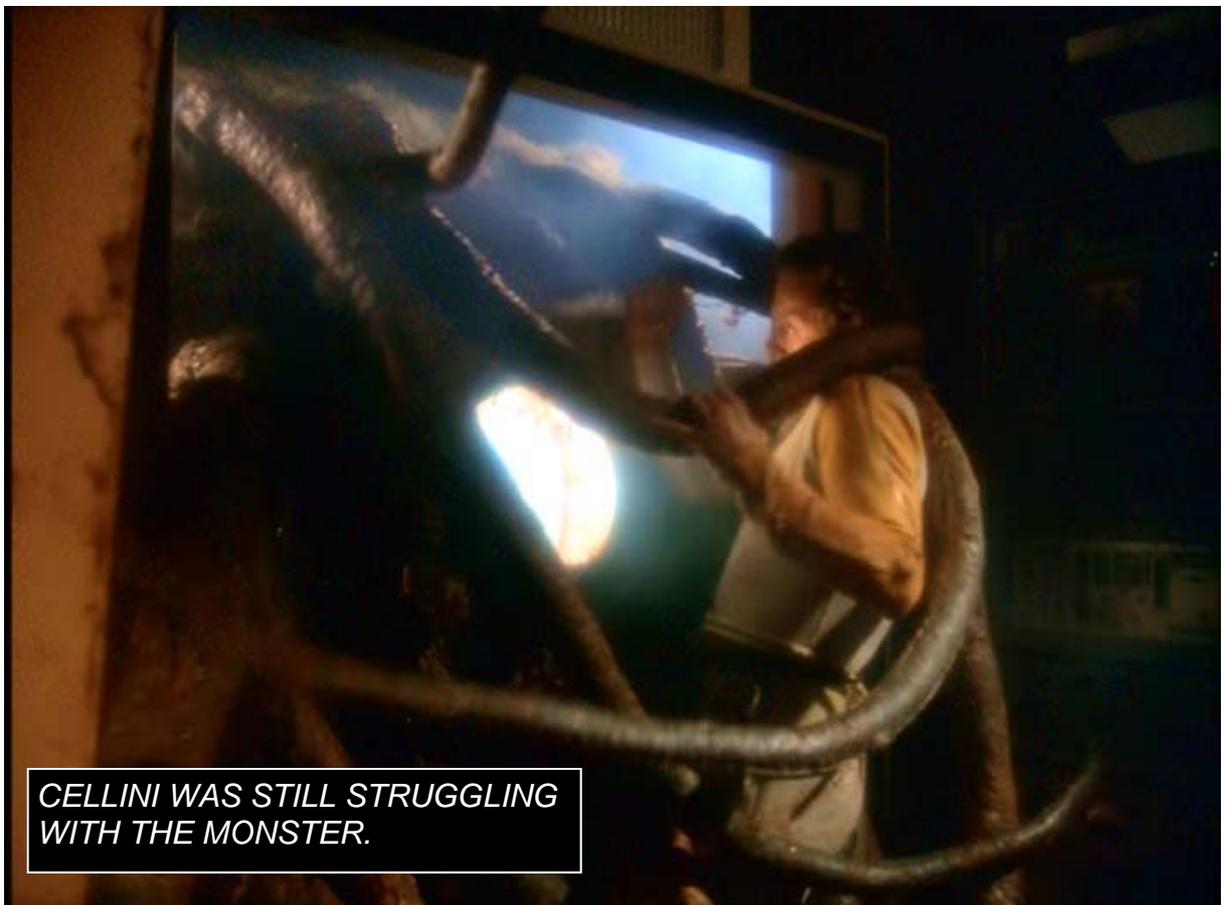
Helena, maybe you'd
better stay here...

*KOENIG AND THE OTHERS
WERE READY TO GET IN.*





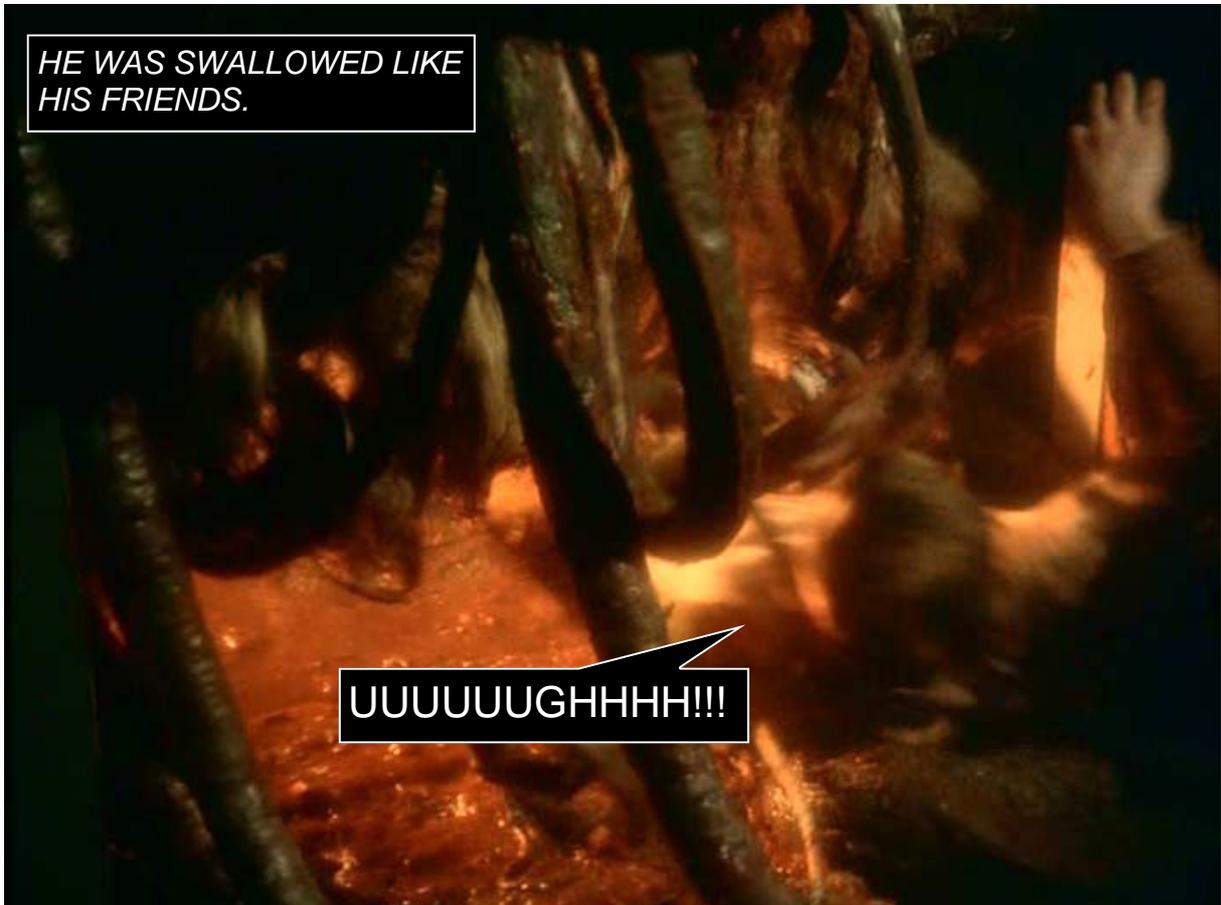
THE STINKY WIND THEY FELT WAS ENOUGH TO BELIEVE.



CELLINI WAS STILL STRUGGLING WITH THE MONSTER.



BUT HE WAS EXHAUSTED.

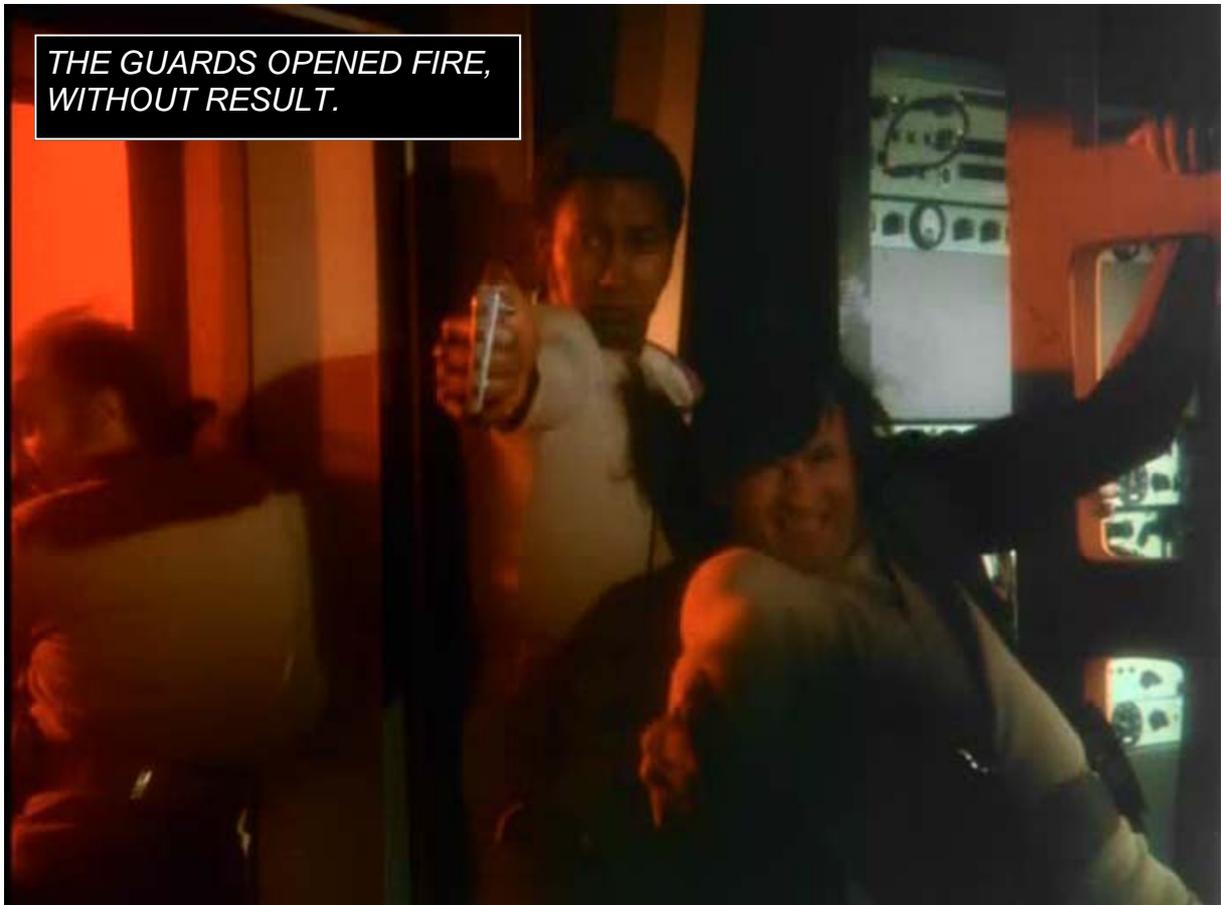


HE WAS SWALLOWED LIKE HIS FRIENDS.

UUUUUUGHHH!!!



KOENIG WATCHED HIS FRIEND'S DEATH, HORRIFIED.



THE GUARDS OPENED FIRE, WITHOUT RESULT.

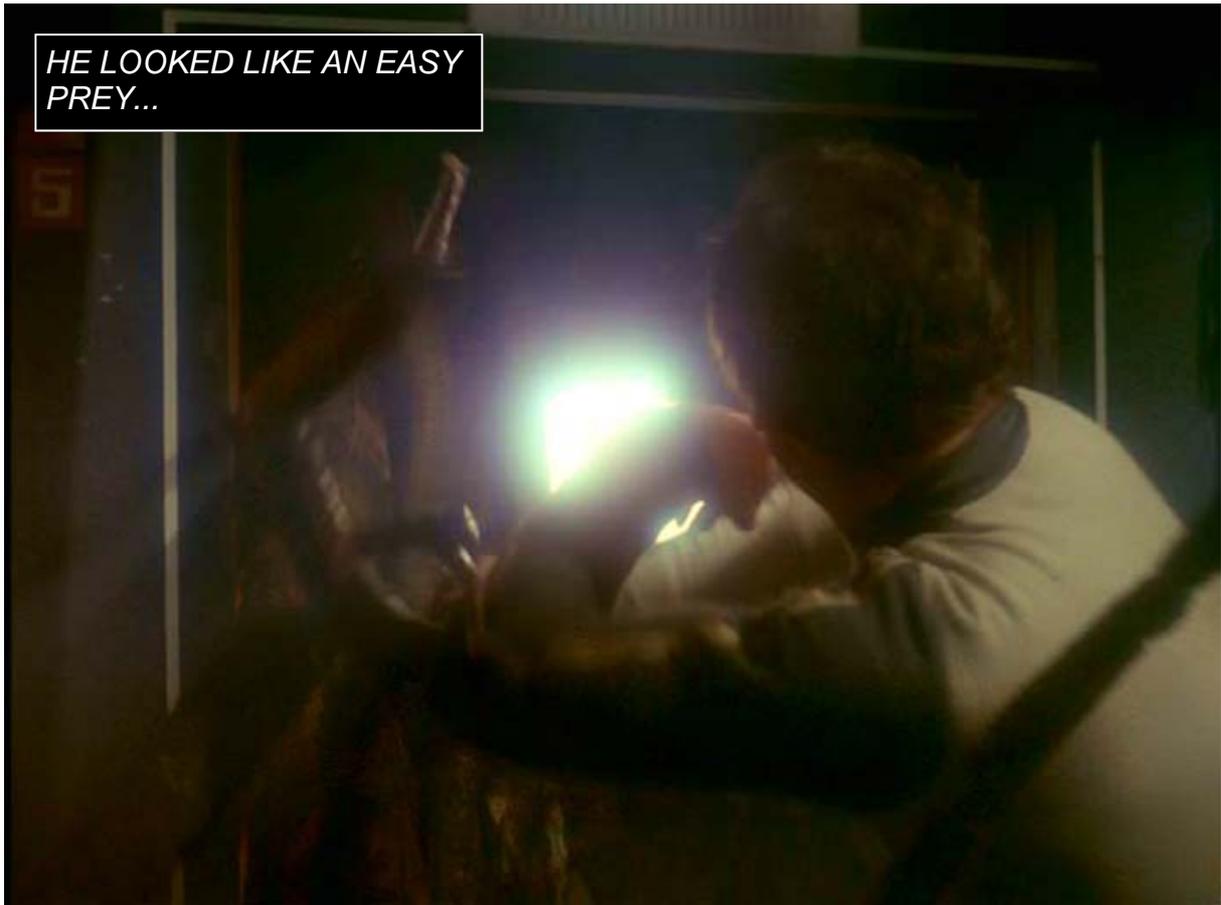
*KOENIG NOTICED CELLINI'S AXE
AND HAD A SUDDEN IDEA.*



*HE WENT CLOSE TO THE BEAST,
TRYING TO AVOID THE TENTACLES...*



*HE LOOKED LIKE AN EASY
PREY...*



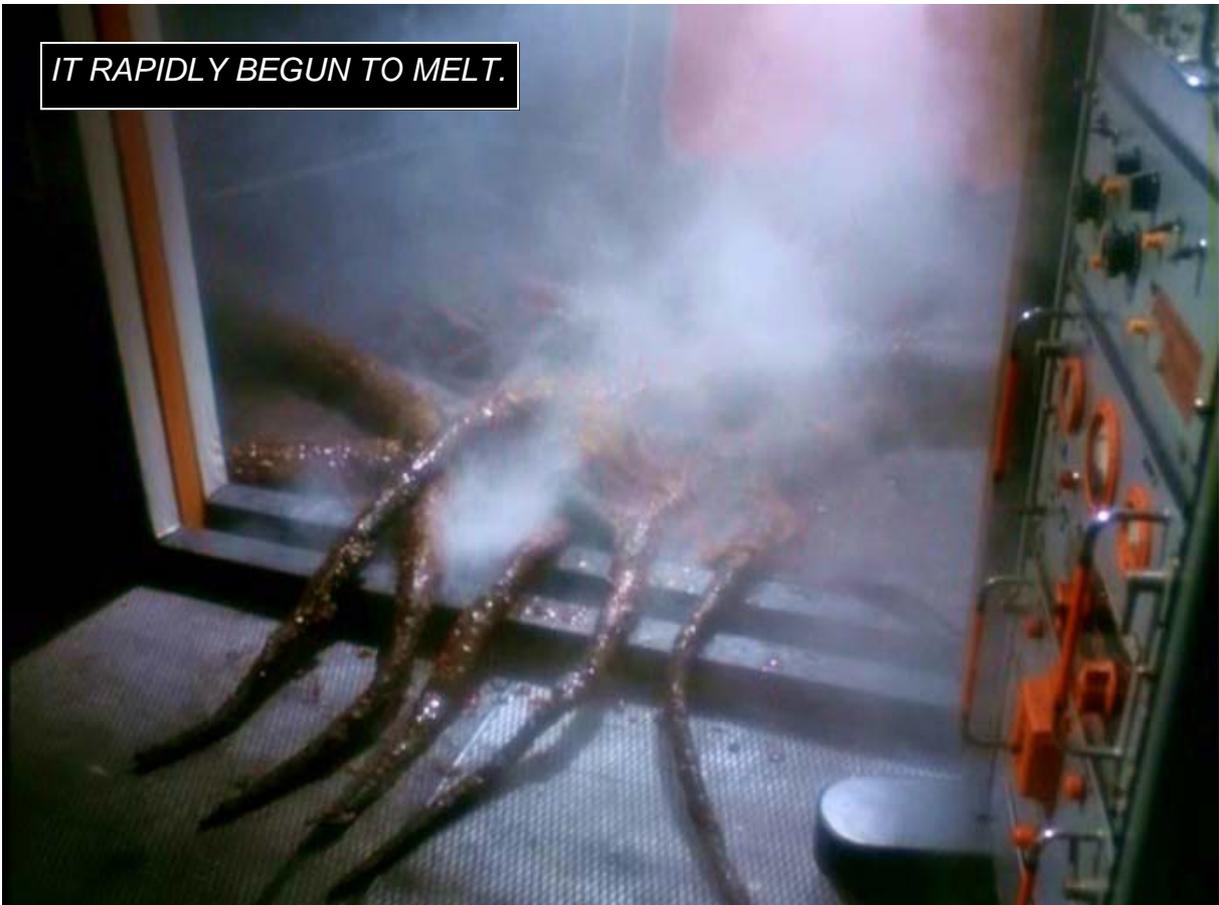
*BUT KOENIG HIT THE CREATURE IN
ITS LIGHTING EYE.*

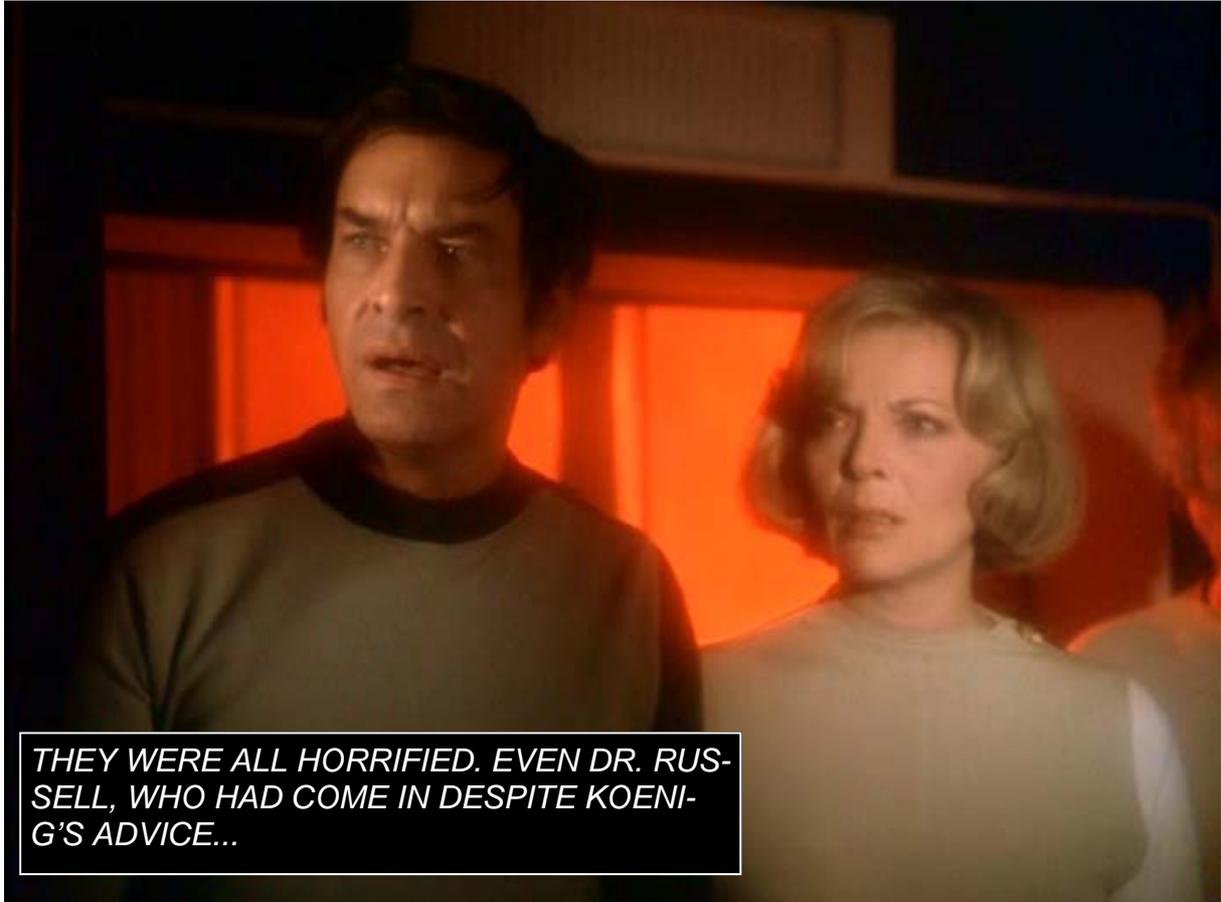


THE MONSTER WHEEZED WHILE THE LIGHT WAS DYING...



IT RAPIDLY BEGUN TO MELT.



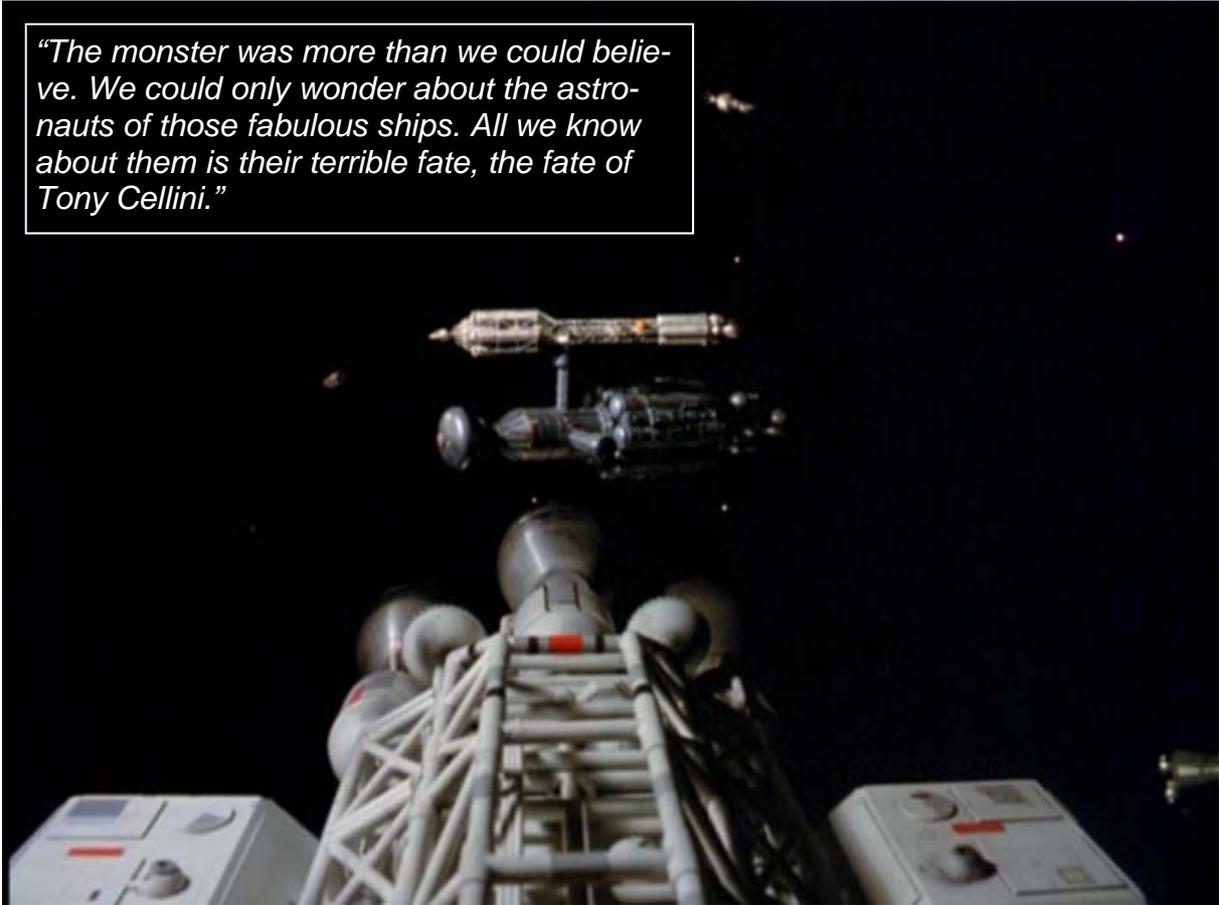


THEY WERE ALL HORRIFIED. EVEN DR. RUSSELL, WHO HAD COME IN DESPITE KOENIG'S ADVICE...



TONY CELLINI SHARED HIS COMPANIONS' DESTINY. HE WOULD HAVE REMAINED WITH THEM FOR EVER.

"The monster was more than we could believe. We could only wonder about the astronauts of those fabulous ships. All we know about them is their terrible fate, the fate of Tony Cellini."



DR. RUSSELL'S STORY HAS ENDED...

John... if we ever do find a new place to live, we're going to need a whole new mythology...

"Tony Cellini and the Monster" like "St. George and the Dragon"? Nah... but I think Tony would be happy to know he put new life into an old myth.

THE END

