

ACT 1: Sunset Ranch

SCENE 1: The Barn

INT: Camera is looking from above. It's Evening time.

A barn house. The stables are not filled with animals, but people. Everyone is section off in their own areas. They have their own cage with a fence. Only women and children are here. Everyone is wearing the same ragged and torn clothing as if they've never changed since they got here. It's all races, white, black. Latino, Hispanic. Asian, European.

Everyone looked well fed. Some were slightly overweight.

The camera moves down to stick with two children in a stable in the very back of the barn. A young dark skinned girl and her little Caucasian brother playing with hay in their stable.

ARNOLD

"Look Awya , I can make the hay stand."

ARYA

"What? No you can't. Show me."

Arya is 14 years old and Arnold, only 8. Both were born in the barn house and have never known anything else.

Arnold struggles to make the hay stand up.

ARNOLD

"Sweaw, It was standing."

Arya laughs at her brother's attempt to make the hay stand.

A girl named Mariana, 14 years old, in the next stable is watching Arya & Arnold.

MARIANA

"Are you trying to get the piece of Hay to stand?"

ARNOLD

"Yeah. Have you done it?"

MARIANA

"Well you can stand it only for a second. Then it'll just fall over."

Mariana looks for a more hay in her stable. She hands them a bundle through the bars.

MARIANA

"You need to group them together. Then the hay will stand and not fall over."

Arnold uses Mariana's idea and does it successfully.

ARYA

"Thanks for the help. What's your name?"

MARIANA

"I'm Mariana. Are you two siblings?"

ARYA
"yeah"

MARIANA
"You don't look like each other."

ARYA (smiling)
"Doesn't mean we're not related. Do you have any siblings?"

MARIANA
"Not anymore."

ARYA
"What do you-"

Then the Large barn doors open revealing a group of 10 women walking into the shed with aliens walking behind them.

These guard aliens looked different. These were more built and mimicked the bipedal motion of humans with their tentacles. Their faces look liked squid. Similar to the octopus sentries we saw earlier, but longer. Some were wider at the top. They didn't speak, to the humans at least.

The women were pushed into the barn and into their respective stables. The woman we saw from earlier is Arya's & Arnold's mother, Anna. This is years later from her first capture. The guard aliens closed the door behind them. Anna is dripping wet. She wipes the water off her face.

ANNA
"How are the two of you doing?"

ARYA
"Arnold has been trying to get hay to stand."

ARNOLD
"And I did it!"
He proudly shows off the standing bundle of hay in the corner of the stable.

ARNOLD
(points to Mariana)
"She helped."
Anna looks to Mariana's stable. She sees her embrace her mother.

ANNA
"That's good. We should always help our fellow neighbor."

ARNOLD
"When awe we getting food?"

ANNA
"Soon sweetheart."
(she brushes Arnold's hair)
"While we wait, do you want to hear any stories?"

ARNOLD

"yeah! Tell one about what fawms awe fo."

ANNA (laughing)

"I've told you it a million times before."

ARNOLD

"I love it."

ANNA

"well on these farms, we had animals. Large horses, sheep, cows. Big animals. We raised and fed them here."

ARNOLD (to Arya)

"Can you imagine that Awyweea? Big animals living here?"

Arnold ushers to the stable in which they were being held. Then a question pops in his head

ARNOLD

"What did you do with the animals on the farm?"

ANNA

"....well we -"

Mariana speaks up.

MARIANA

"My mom told me our family used to live on the farm. We raised animals. Then we let them go. That's what they used to do to animals on the farm."

Mariana looks to Arya. Both of them acknowledge the lie they told Arnold.

The doors opened. The guard aliens were carrying a buffet of food placing them in each of the stables. Anna glared at the aliens and scrutinized the food as it was placed in their stable. The Guard Alien glared back with its cuttlefish like eyes and soulless demeanor. It seemed to be studying Anna as much as she was studying it.

ANNA (passing the food to Arya)

"Be careful before you eat it."

ARYA

"It looks ok."

Anna nods for them to eat.

ANNA

"Eat just enough. Don't eat too much."

ARNOLD

"But they're eating as much as they want."

Arnold points at people in the other stables and their gluttonous appetite.

ANNA

"Do Not Eat More than what you need."

ARNOLD

"Why not?"

ANNA

"It's too dangerous to eat too much."

As they eat, laughter can be heard throughout the barn as the mothers and children enjoy their time together. A jovial atmosphere in bleak times.

Soon the lights of the barn went out. Everyone went to sleep. Some slept on small batches of hay, but majority slept on the dirt.

FADE OUT:

SCENE 2: The Ranch

FADE IN:

The next day, early in the morning before sunrise. The barn is still dark with a sliver of sunlight shining through the cracks. The Guard aliens & human hunters burst into the barn. They're searching for something. They analyze everyone in the stables and choose certain people. The human hunters are the ones from the beginning with their special collars.

The hunters grab the people the aliens tell them too. Soon screaming children and mothers engulf the barn as the mothers are being torn away from their children.

Word of a slaughterhouse spread throughout the barn. Whispers that they're mothers or children were taken away to the slaughterhouse.

Arya & Arnold woke up from the screaming terror. Their mother Anna was guarding them from the hunters.

ANNA (whispered)

"Stay behind me."

The barn was still dark, Arya & Arnold could barely see.

The screaming continued as the hunters grabbed the mothers and some children. They dragged them out of the barn. The eyes of the guard aliens glow beautifully in the dusk of the day. The hunters and alien left the barn leaving the barn in an eerie silence. No one moves a muscle until the sunlight illuminates the barn.

Everyone looked around to see who was remaining. Anna looked to Arya & Arnold. Arya was holding Arnold in her arms. Some people were silently sobbing. Mariana was one of them. Her mother was gone.

ARYA (to Anna)

"Mom..."

(points to Mariana)

"we can't leave her alone. We should help her."

Before Arya could move, the barn doors opened and the guard aliens stood at

the entrance.

It was time to walk around. Exercise time. *Grazing the field.*

The guard Aliens walked to each stable and opened it. All of the women and children inside the barn were forced outside.

This is the first time we see the expanse. Fields stretching for acres in all directions, but sentry aliens along the perimeter. The guard aliens stay by the barn.

This is the first time we see how many people are on this ranch. Thousands of people, at least. We only see a few aliens on the perimeter and guarding the ranch. The spaceship overshadows the ranch reminding the humans who's in charge.

When they reach outside, Arya runs to Mariana.

ARYA

"You can stay with us."

Arya brings Mariana with her and meets up with her mother and Arnold.

ARNOLD

"I'm going to go play."

Arnold runs off.

ANNA

"ARNOLD!"

Another woman, Yi, calls Anna's name from the distance.

YI

"Anna! We need to talk about- "

Anna stops Yi from continuing.

ANNA(to Arya)

"keep watch over your brother."

(to Yi)

"Have you found anything yet?"

Arya & Mariana run off to find Arnold.

YI

"No. The guards change every minute. Haven't seen an entrance to the ship."

ANNA

"Keep your voice down."

(speaking quietly)

"Have the guys found anything?"

YI

"We think the place might be a few miles out down the river. But there's open land between us and that river. After that, there are some hills that we can hide in and shrubs, but not a lot of places to hide."

ANNA

"Damn. Do you know if they can understand us?"

YI

"No. I have noticed the sentries change color when they're in a group. I think that might be how they communicate."

ANNA

"what about the hunters?"

YI

"I think their collars control them or track them. I'm not sure. But I've seen their horses strung up behind the barns. We'll escape at the same time and head for the mountains."

Anna looks around to make sure no one else is listening, guards or alien.

YI

"We need to act soon. How many are we taking?"

ANNA

"Me and 3 others. How about you?"

YI

"Me and my son. We should be able to get out quietly. Just the 6 of us."

ANNA

"When are you thinking?"

YI

"Tomorrow. We meet at the Juniper tree."

Yi points to the tree in the distance.

ANNA

"Alright. So, what's the plan?"

CUT TO:

Arya and Mariana run off to find Arnold.

This is happening the same time as Anna is talking with Yi.

ARYA

"Do you see him?"

MARIANA

"No. Where is he?"

Mariana sees Arnold by the edge of the ranch. By the fence. He's staring outside.

MARIANA

"There he is! By the fence."

Arya and Mariana continue to run around the land. They've reached to the edge of the perimeter.

A sentry alien sees them and rushes over thinking they are escaping.

The Sentry Alien stops in front of them and stares at them. They all freeze.

The alien is right beside Arnold. Arya and Mariana are a few feet away. The

alien isn't holding a gun or anything. It's just standing between them and the gate.

Arya points at Arnold. Signaling *We're just looking for him*. She slowly moves towards Arnold and grabs him.
They back away slowly maintains eye contact with the Sentry alien.

Once they feel they're a safe distance away. They turn and walk quickly back to their mom.

ARYA

"What were you looking at?"

ARNOLD

"I saw a big building. what's out thewe?"

He pointed to beyond the fence. The land on the other side of the fence lies a building where people are being pushed in. These people looked slightly overweight or larger than normal. More meat on them than the rest.

ARNOLD

"There were people lined up."

ARYA

"I don't know. But you need to be more careful, they thought you were escaping. You could've gotten hurt"

ARNOLD

"Why can't we go out thewe?"

ARYA

"Because we're not allowed."

ARNOLD

"I know that, but why?"

MARIANA

"It's too dangerous. We'll get hurt. My mom told me stories of that building. Only certain people go there."

ARNOLD

"What is that building?"

MARIANA (quietly)

"It's a slaughterhouse. You don't want to go there."

Arnold doesn't respond. Mariana knows that's where her mother went.

The three of them find Anna. Anna is still talking with Yi.

Anna sees them coming.

ANNA (to Yi)

"Where is your son?"

YI

"Li, He's 18. So he's put into the men's side. I'll have to find him."

ANNA

"He knows the plan?"

YI

"He helped me come up with it. He better know it."

ANNA (to Arnold)

"Are you ok?"

Arnold nods.

SUDDENLY.

There's a lot of commotion. People are screaming or cheering. It's tough to tell the difference. All 5 of them are looking around. There's a large group of people gathered by the fence.

Anna looks to Yi with a glance that knows what's going on.

MARIANA

"What's going on? Should we help?"

ANNA

"Stay close to me."

The 2 sentry aliens glide their way to the source of commotion. Their motion swift, fluid, and effortless. It is enchanting to watch them move.

The 5 of them slowly move toward the commotion to get a better look but keep their distance.

A group of men are cheering at someone...beyond the fence. Someone has made it outside and is running away.

ARNOLD

"Is he winning?"

Arnold starts to cheer for him.

Anna quickly places her hand on his mouth.

ANNA

"Shush. Stay quiet."

We see the 2 hunters on horseback chase after the man. He's only a mile out before the hunters catch up to him. The entire farm, aliens included, are watching him.

It's not new to Anna and Yi, they know what's going to happen.

CUT TO: The man on the run.

He's running but slowing from fatigue. We see something flash in the sunlight. A gun.

The hunters catch up to him quickly. One reads a rope to subdue him, but the man quickly aims the gun and fires.

BANG.

One of the hunters falls off his horse. The horse runs away.

RUNAWAY
"I ain't goin' back."

He points the gun at the other hunter.
The hunter cowers in fear and also grimaces in pain from the collar.
Anna & Yi see the hesitation of the hunter. The collar begins to smoke.

ANNA
"Yi, the collar."

YI
"I see it.."

The hunter falls off his horse from the pain of the collar. The runaway man tries to help him take the collar off.

But the collar is stuck on the hunter's neck.

HUNTER (through pain)
"Get...it..offf."

RUNAWAY (yelling)
"I can't! It's stuck"

The pain become unbearable. The skin of the hunter begins to boil. The runaway shoots the collar, but the bullet ricocheted off without any damage.

Sentry Aliens soon approached their locations. The hunter is still squirming in pain on the ground. The runaway backs away in fear.

RUNAWAY
"GET AWAY!"

He shoots at the aliens.

BANG. BANG.

The bullets pass right through their gelatinous flesh. One alien loses a tentacle, but it quickly grows back.

Some of the bullets reach the ranch and hit the fence and few of the people. The crowd of people duck and cover to avoid being hit by the bullets.

The runaway continues to shoot at the aliens. One bullet lands in between the eyes of one of the sentry aliens. And the sentry alien falls to the ground dead.

The runaway looked surprised that he killed an alien.

The other sentry alien looked at its fallen comrade. We can't see any expressions on the alien's face, we can interpret sadness, grief, and anger in its blank stare at the corpse of the alien.

The sentry alien looks at the runaway. The runaway is frozen with fear. The sentry alien moves swiftly towards the runaway.

CUT AWAY TO:

The reaction of the people watching. We don't see the runaway being killed but from the horror and screams of those watching and the sounds of the runaway's last moments, describing the action of the alien as "butchering" would be an understatement.

The camera faces the people in the fences. They are afraid. A few are running back to their barns.

The Camera turns right:

To look at the runaway, the hunter, and the sentry alien.

The hunter is dead on the ground and smoking. The mangled body of the runaway is all that's left. The dead sentry alien body lies on the ground. The other sentry alien is dripping with blood. It picks up the dead sentry alien and hunter, and carries both back to the ranch.

The mangled runaway is left outside the ranch. Left as a reminder.

The people at the ranch part a way for the alien as it carries its dead comrade. The dead alien is carried into the ship.

Anna & Yi watch carefully as it enters the ship, but the guard aliens begin to corral people back into their barns. The guard aliens are holding staffs and pushing people back into the barn.

Anna & Yi are separated. Both are trying to watch.

ANNA (to Arya)
"watch the alien."

Arya tries to see where the dead alien is take, but the guard aliens keep pushing them into the barn. We see the sentry alien carrying the dead alien stand directly underneath the starship, then it floats up to the ship into a compartment. We're pushed into the barn at this point.

Anna, Arya, Mariana, and Arnold fall into their stable. There are more guard aliens than usual that were herding the people into the barn house.

ARNOLD
"What's going on? What happened?"

ANNA
"Someone tried to escape."

ARNOLD
"What happened to him?"

ANNA
"Not good things."

ARNOLD
"Will that happen to us?"

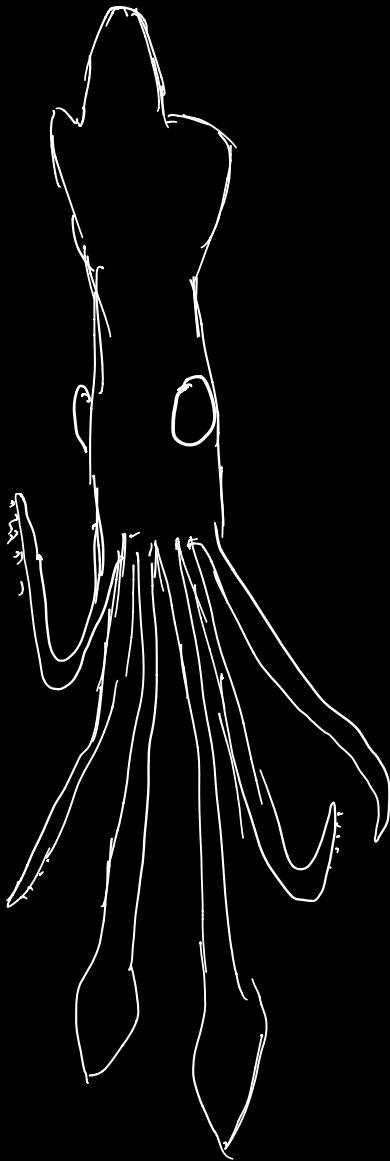
ANNA
"No. I won't let it."
(speaks quietly to Arnold, Arya & Mariana)
"We're getting out of here."

ARYA
"How? You saw what they did to the man AND the hunter."

ANNA
"We have a plan."

Concept Art for Act 1

Guard Alien



Anna



Arnold



Mariana



Arya



Yi



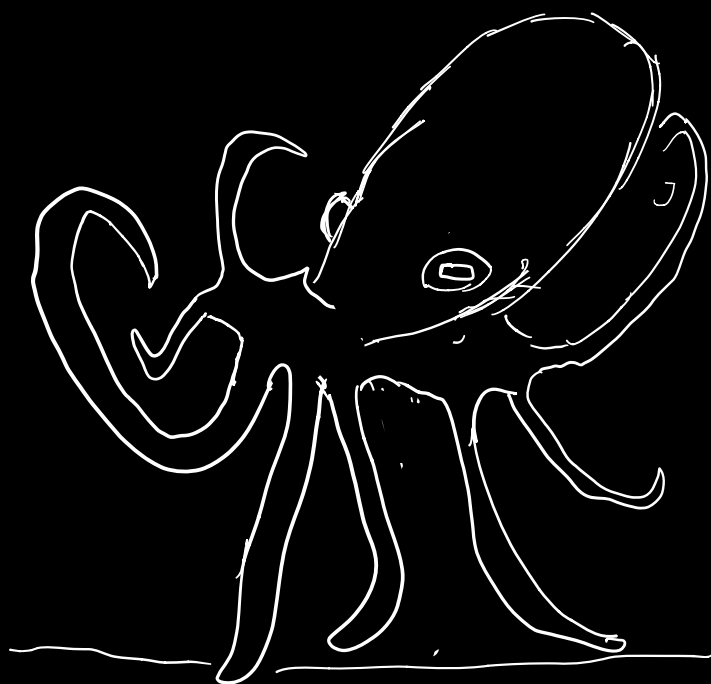
Anna



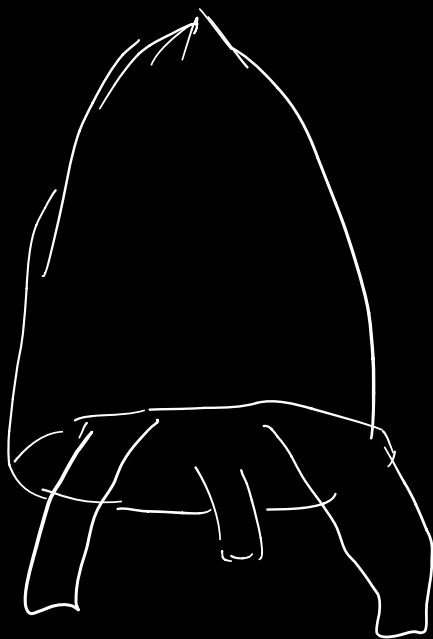
Gordon



Sentry Aliens



Starship



Map of Ranch

