

Traitor Among Us: First Person Edition

by Mohammad Khan

SCENE 1: 6 Lifeforms

INT: On a spaceship traveling through hyperspace towards Alpha Centauri. The crew-mates and the captain are resting in their cabins.

Matt is sleeping in his cabin until an alarm goes off. OXYGEN DEPLETION. 95%. 90%. 85%. Matt wakes up gasping for air and falls out of bed as the alarm continues. 80%. 75%. 70%. Matt crawls across the floor to his cobalt blue space suit on the wall. 65%. 60%. Matt grabs his cobalt blue suit and turns on his oxygen tank. A plant sits on his shelf with its own O2 supply.

Matt runs out of his cabin and bumps into a crew mate, Drew. He is wearing a cerulean blue spacesuit.

DREW

"Someone depleted the oxygen level, I'm gonna check it out"

Drew continues to run towards the O2 filters.

The alarm stops. OXYGEN LEVEL CRITICALLY LOW.

Matt runs to the control and navigation room. There's no one inside and they're still on course for Alpha Centauri. He uses his radio.

MATT (on radio)

"Meeting in the East control room."

In the small cafeteria, Matt and the 5 crew mates are standing around a table. Drew, Xhon, Jordan, Shubham, and Sergei. All wearing their spacesuits. Xhon and Jordan wear a spruce green and emerald space suits. Sergei wears a teal green suit and Shubham brandies an azure blue suit. Drew dons a cerulean blue suit.

XHON

"Drew and I got the O2 levels under control. They'll be back to normal in a few hours."

MATT

"Since we're all up, might as well do routine checkup on the ship to make sure we can make it to Centauri."

Matt goes to Control room monitor and checks the path and time.

MATT

"We're in dead space. No contact with Centauri. We definitely need to do a checkup."

SHUBHAM

"I've heard of hijackings happening in dead space."

MATT

"Yeah. Kepler-186 colony has been known for hijacking passing ships for their cargo."

Matt pulls up Kepler-186 info. A blue cassowary insignia.

MATT

"Keep an eye out for the blue insignia on any documents. Go in pairs when doing your tasks keep a watch for anything."

XHON
"Why would they hijack us?"

MATT
"We're carrying Ruthenium. Vital metal used in solar cells to harness the energy of nearby stars. Kepler-186 needs those cells to survive."

DREW
"Now that you mention it, the filters did look like they were damaged. It looked deliberate."

SHUBHAM
"How'd you know they were tampered with & it wasn't old?"

XHON
"One was shattered and hidden out of sight. Wires were pulled from the filters that sent that oxygen out of ship."

Drew looks at Xhon then to Matt.

SERGEI
"I'm sorry Xhon"
(beat)
"I don't trust you. I mean, you could've easily done it and said it was tampered"

XHON (sarcastically)
"Oh yeah, like I would want to sabotage this spaceship."

SHUBHAM
"hey hey no one is sabotaging anything alright. Take it easy."

SERGEI
"It's Xhon if we have any hijackers. Just a hunch. Trust me."

XHON
"Me?! What about you? Or Drew? Maybe he could've done it."

DREW
"What??! Why you putting me in this? I didn't do anything. You were with me dawg."
The three of them squabble back and forth as the rest watch on.

Matt types on the computers searching for the number of lifeforms. Searching.....

MATT
"Your tasks are on your heads up displays. Complete them in teams. Drew and Xhon fix the lights. Jordan and Shubham, take Medbay. Sergei check electrical."

CUT TO:

*INT: O2 level: 40%: Northwest MedBay
Everyone leaves the cafeteria. Jordan and Shubham walk down the towards the Medbay.*

JORDAN
"Shubham, I don't think I can do this. Was Matt saying something? I don't know what are tasks are."

SHUBHAM
"You did look zoned out and confused, but you usually look like that."

JORDAN
"Fuck you Shubham."

The clean floors reflect bright fluorescent light as they enter Med Bay. Shubham walks towards the console in the back that monitors everyone's health and contains their medical history.

SHUBHAM

"I said do you think, we'll find an imposter?"

JORDAN

"Maybe."

Jordan continues working on the inventory. He shifts through the cabinets making sure there's medicine for wounds and illness. Bandages. Looks good. Shubham's continues working on the medicine. Jordan holds a scalpel and looks at Shubham working on the console.

JORDAN

"I'm done here. Going to the engine room you coming?"

SHUBHAM

"Almost done"

The lights shut off immersing them in darkness. The console goes dark. Emergency red lights turn on casting everything in the blood red hue. The floor vents release water vapor in the ship casting a light haze floating on the floor. Their radios crackle.

SERGEI

"Electrical's been sabotaged. G-get- here.h-n"

The radio hisses and screeches. Then cuts out. Shubham takes out his radio. No response. Jordan tries his. Nothing.

JORDAN

"what the fuck just happened?"

The lights shut off immersing them in darkness. Emergency red lights turn on casting everything in the blood red hue. Jordan walks to the hallway. It's empty. Shubham's still at the console. Jordan walks back.

JORDAN

"we need head to electrical to fix the light."

SHUBHAM

"look at this"

Shubham shows the biometrics of all crew mates. Matt, Drew, Xhon, Jordan, and Shubham's vitals are shown on screen. Their radios crackle on.

DREW(on radio)

"h-h-- hello? Anyone? Can-can- can you hear me?"

SHUBHAM (to radio)

"Loud and clear."

DREW (on radio)

"Fixed coms. I'm gonna have to fix the wiring in the individual rooms. I'm in the Northwest engine room if you need me."

The radio turns off.

SHUBHAM
"Alright, let's head to electrical."

JORDAN
"wait- look at the vitals."

The vitals on screen look fine except for Sergei's. His vitals spike then quickly flatline.

Their radios hiss on again.

XHON
"Get to electrical. Sergei's dead."

SCENE 2: Tensions

INT: Oxygen Level: 35%. Electrical Room

Everyone is standing in the electrical room. The red lights and haze are gone. It's a sideshow of everyone standing in the room. Xhon leans with his back against the right wall, arms crossed. Matt stands in background looking behind the protruding wall. Drew stands off to the left while Shubham and Jordan stand closest to the door way.

SHUBHAM (to Xhon)
"You didn't see anyone else leave? Just a shadow moving?"

Xhon shakes his head. The camera works its way to Xhon slowly revealing more of what's behind the wall.

MATT
"Where was everyone? I was with Drew in the engine room."

The camera reveals Sergei's body on the ground. Blood trails from his mouth outside of the suit. A few feet past Sergei was ventilation and directly above him was the junction box.

DREW
"Yes I was with Matt."

JORDAN
"Shubham and I were in Medbay."

SHUBHAM
"Could this be a hijacker? From Kepler-186?"

MATT (shrugs)
"I don't know maybe-"

SHUBHAM
"Xhon, could've killed Sergei. Then covered it up & called it in."

Xhon steps forward.

XHON
"What? Like I'd kill Sergei."

SHUBHAM
"You were arguing with him earlier."

XHON
"Maybe you killed him"
(beat)

"Or Matt killed him. I only heard Drew's voice on the radio. And Drew didn't mention working with Matt."

MATT

"I just said I was with Drew."

JORDAN

"Can anyone confirm it? Besides Drew?"

The group stays quiet.

SHUBHAM

"Well, if you are the imposter. Then you'd have some sort of identification... right? So we can search the cabins and the ship for it?"

JORDAN

"start with Xhon's"

SHUBHAM

"what about the body?"

JORDAN

"I can throw him in the trash chute."

INT: CONTINUOUS Xhon's cabin.- located in center of the ship, beside electrical room

Claustrophobic shot of the small cabin, size of a dorm. People don't have much room to move. Xhon stands on the far end of his cabin. Matt stands in the middle. DREW stands by the door. Shubham is searching through Xhon's small desk.

Drew picks up a small trash can by the door and flips it. 10 ketchup packets fall out of the bag.

Jordan walks in the room after getting rid of Sergei and steps on the packets.

JORDAN (picking up a packet)

"Xhon-what the fuck?"

XHON (shrugs)

"I like my meals wet."

They continue to search through everything and don't find any evidence.

MATT

"Ok. Let's search mine now."

XHON

"Forget it. What if it's none of us & we actually do have a hijacker?"

An alarm starts blaring. The lights flicker and the ship rumbles.

JORDAN

"what the fuck is that?"

MATT

"reactor meltdown."

The intercom speaks. 5 minutes till reactor meltdown.

Everyone scrambles out of the cabin towards the reactors. As they're running towards the West Reactor room, the lights shut off. Only the red reactor meltdown warning lights are on. Then bright white lights start flashing, someone's sabotaging Medbay.

MATT

"Jordan, Shubham, you take Medbay. Xhon and I will fix the reactor. Drew get the lights."

They split off.

SCENE 4: Meltdown

INT: Medbay. 5 minutes before reactor meltdown

Jordan and Shubham are running towards the north Medbay from south electrical. The red alarms are still blaring. A voice goes over the intercom, Reactor meltdown in 5 minutes. They reach the north hallway. Medbay is 30 feet away. 3 minutes. Jordan and Shubham arrive in Medbay. The strobing white lights nearly blind them.

JORDAN

"what the fuck is going on?"

SHUBHAM (shielding his eyes from white lights)

"I think it's the scanner."

they slowly make their way to the back, shielding their eyes from the strobing lights. Shubham looks at the scanner.

SHUBHAM

"I don't see anything wrong."

(beat)

"Here, you check it out. I'll check the kiosk for any corrupted info."

JORDAN

"Who the fuck cares?! We're about to blow up if the reactor isn't fixed. Why does this matter?"

2 minutes.

SHUBHAM

"Ok. Go help them. I can take care of things here."

Jordan takes off. He quickly zooms around the corner and heads straight for the reactor room.

1 minute. The lights turn off. He's running in the dark.

30 seconds. Almost there. The the reactor room lights turn on and the alarms stop. They've must've stopped the reactor.

Jordan runs into the room and bumps into Matt & Xhon.

JORDAN

"I thought you weren't going to make it."

XHON

"Almost didn't if Matt WASN'T SO FUCKING SLOW!"

MATT

"Is MedBay fixed?"

JORDAN

"Shubham is handling it. He told me to make sure you guys could fix it."

(Beat)

"but he should be done by now..."

The rest of the lights turn on. Jordan takes out his radio. Shubham?. No response. Drew?

DREW (on radio)

"yeah what's up? I'm in upper engine room"

JORDAN (on radio)

"Have you seen Shubham?"

DREW

"I thought he was in Medbay."

JORDAN
"we're getting no response."

He turns off the radio. Jordan, Matt, and Xhon walk towards Medbay with Matt trying his radio. Shubham! Still no response. The three of the jog quickly towards the North Medbay. They pass Drew exiting in the engine room.

MATT
"Shubham's not responding"
Drew follows behind them.

They arrive at the MedBay to find Shubham dead by the scanning area. His body was hiding in the corner near an open floor ventilation shaft.

SCENE 5: Imposters

INT: Medbay
Everyone stands around Shubham's body. Matt looks at the body. Jordan is standing by the ventilation shaft looking in. Xhon and Drew stand off to the side. Matt finds his radio

MATT
"His radio isn't damaged why didn't he pick up?"
Jordan sees something in the ventilation. He picks it up.

JORDAN (holding up a small device)
"Because of this. It's a jammer. Nothing would reach his radio."
Matt looks at the device. There's a blue cassowary insignia on it.

MATT
"We do have a hijacker. Something's picking us off."
Xhon and Jordan looks around the room. Xhon looks at the cabinets. Jordan looks at the kiosk and checks the data on it.

JORDAN
"Whoever it is, is using the floor vents to sneak up."
Jordan looks at the health data. He tries to scan his wrist device. It shows a flatline on the screen.

JORDAN (contin)
"The jammer also blocked the system from reading the wrist vitals."

DREW
"Now what? Just wait for them to kill us?"

JORDAN
"Check this out."

Jordan looks at the logs of the kiosk. It shows everyone who's logged on the kiosk with their wrist device. The last log was Shubham twice.

MATT
"Why did he scan twice?"

XHON
"His wrist band is still on his arm. Maybe it scanned twice when he fell?"

JORDAN
"No the system only scans if they're alive. Shubham died after scanning."

XHON

"Oh yeah. Forgot about that."

MATT

"Drew where were you? Did you see anyone? You were the closest to Shubham."

DREW

"No one. I checked on Shubham when Jordan radioed me. He was alive then."

JORDAN

"I'm not buying it. Drew could've killed him before he left for the engine room."

DREW

"I didn't kill him. You saw me in upper engine room."

JORDAN

"Can anyone confirm that Drew was only in upper engine?"

MATT

"Wait Drew if you were in upper engine, then who fixed the lights in the reactor room?"

DREW

"I went to the lower engine room and diverted power to the reactor room so you could see. After it went dark, I diverted the power."

JORDAN

"So you just lied? You could've killed Shubham."

DREW

"I didn't kill Shubham."

JORDAN

"It's Drew. We should jettison him like we did Sergei. Can't have hijackers on board."

XHON

"I'm with Jordan. Drew's been acting suspicious."

DREW

"It's not me!"

Everyone looks towards Matt. He stays quiet thinking.

MATT

"I don't know. We don't have enough to go on."

JORDAN

"What do you mean? He's been separate from us the whole time. The only times I've seen Drew is when we found someone dead."

DREW

"Bro? What? What about Sergei? You found Xhon with the body that time?!!"

(beat)

"and I've been separate because Matt's been calling the shots."

JORDAN

"Maybe it's Matt... He has been calling the shots. It would be a good cover."

MATT

"It's not me. I was with Drew and Xhon, so I couldn't have killed anyone."

JORDAN

"Both people who were accused of killing someone."

Jordan takes a few steps towards the door.

"I can't trust any of you. I'm done."

Jordan leaves Medbay. He walks towards the east control room. The room had a large table in the center with navigation controls on the far wall ahead of them. He walks to the navigation panel.

A small metal thud is heard behind him. Jordan turns and sees Sergei standing on top of the floor vent holding a switchblade.

CUT TO:

INT- Medbay Xhon, Drew and Matt- SAME

XHON

"You just gonna let him go?"

MATT

"There's not much we can do. We need to make sure this ship makes it safely to Centauri. Even if there's something trying to kill us."

Suddenly, the ship lurches sharply left. Matt, Drew, and Xhon fall down. Then the ship stabilizes.

XHON

"The fuck was that?"

MATT

"Someone changed course?"

DREW

"I thought only you could do that?"

Everyone gets up and heads towards the east control room.

MATT

"Me or two crew members."

They arrive at the control room. They see Jordan dead outside the room. His body half outside the room and half inside. The automatic doors can't close on him, they bounce open and closed.

They head inside the room.

The room had a large table in the center with navigation controls on the far wall ahead of them. They walk throughout the room. Matt walks to the navigation controls. Xhon and Drew walk to the other side of the table. Matt looks at the current course of the ship.

MATT

"It's going to Kepler-186."

He looks for his keycard so he can change course. Suddenly, he feels a sharp pain in his back. Matt fell to the ground in pain. He looks behind and sees an open floor vent.

Matt looks at the door and sees Sergei standing with with a bloody switchblade. Jordan stands in the doorway, the blood's still on his face. He stands by Drew's dead body.

MATT

"Damn."

Xhon walks to the navigation panel. They're on track to Kepler-186. Matt is still writhing from pain on the ground. In a few seconds, he dies from pain.

SERGEI

"Let's go boys."

