

= Nemesis (Stargate SG @-@ 1) =

" Nemesis " is the last episode from season 3 of the science fiction television series Stargate SG @-@ 1 . Written by Robert C. Cooper and directed by Martin Wood , the episode first aired in the United Kingdom on Sky One on February 11 , 2000 , and had its American premiere on Showtime on March 8 , 2000 . The episode sets up the Replicators as a new major enemy , ending in a cliffhanger that is resumed in the season 4 premiere " Small Victories " .

" Nemesis " was the first SG @-@ 1 episode to be filmed entirely on 35 mm film before the series switched from 16 mm film to 35 mm film for all purposes in season 4 . A visual effects milestone for the series , the episode was nominated for an Emmy Award in the " Outstanding Special Visual Effects for a Series " category , and won a Leo Award for " Best Overall Sound in a Dramatic Series " .

= = Plot = =

The SG @-@ 1 team gets leave time as Daniel Jackson (Michael Shanks) had his appendix removed . Just after Major Carter (Amanda Tapping) declines Colonel O 'Neill 's (Richard Dean Anderson) invitation to go fishing , O 'Neill is beamed aboard the cloaked Asgard ship Beliskner orbiting Earth . Encountering bug @-@ like robots , O 'Neill learns from the dying Asgard , Thor , that the creatures are called Replicators . They ingest the ship 's alloys in order to self @-@ replicate and will eventually land on Earth in the search of more raw material . O 'Neill contacts Stargate Command with a request to beam up explosives , however , General Hammond (Don S. Davis) also sends along Carter and Teal 'c (Christopher Judge) against O 'Neill 's wishes . An Earth shuttle may be sent to pick them up later .

SG @-@ 1 plan to steer the vessel towards Earth to vaporize it during atmospheric reentry . Because the Replicators prevent SG @-@ 1 from retaking the bridge , Carter and Thor suggest placing an elementary naqahdah @-@ enhanced bomb on the deceleration drive . When Teal 'c leaves the spaceship to place the bomb on the outside of the hull , his airtank blows , however , Carter manages to beam him back on board . Thor , whose vitals crash at this moment , is put into a stasis pod to preserve his life .

While SG @-@ 1 waits for the right time to detonate the bomb , they must devise a plan to get off the ship . They eventually beam Stargate Command 's Stargate on @-@ board and intend to travel to the planet P3X @-@ 234 before returning home using Earth 's secondary gate (" Touchstone ") . After Teal 'c has dialed the gate manually , O 'Neill detonates the bomb , crashing the ship in the Pacific Ocean . The last shot of the episode shows a Replicator crawling on remains of the sinking spaceship .

= = Production = =

The season 3 finale " Nemesis " was written by Robert C. Cooper and directed by Martin Wood . After the first three seasons of Stargate SG @-@ 1 had been filmed on 16 mm film (although scenes involving visual effects had always been shot on 35 mm film for various technical reasons) , " Nemesis " was the first episode filmed entirely on 35 mm film . Stargate SG @-@ 1 switched to 35 mm film for all purposes at the beginning of season 4 . The visual effects team used the episode to experiment with the design of the Replicators , a new recurring enemy to whom the character Thor had first alluded in the early season 3 episode " Fair Game " . " Nemesis " featured more visual effects than any previous episode , but was excelled by the season 4 premiere , " Small Victories " , which showed the best computer @-@ generated shots of " Nemesis " in its " Previously on " segment . Visual effects supervisor James Tichenor considered the few episodes with big visual effects budgets the most likely works to contain visual cues that impress Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (Emmy Awards) voters . Tichenor claimed that effective visual effects do not call attention to themselves and instead rely on the actors ' reactions to nonexistent things .

Daniel Jackson 's appendicitis reflected Michael Shanks ' real @-@ world condition at the end of

season 3 . During the last shooting day of " Crystal Skull " , Shanks suffered an appendicitis attack , which he had first misinterpreted as food poisoning from the Thanksgiving dinner . While Robert C. Cooper desperately tried to rewrite the script of " Nemesis " , producer Brad Wright contrived elaborate storylines to reduce Shanks ' involvement in the episode . Cooper eventually decided to use a common health issue to explain Daniel 's absence from the episode 's action scenes . Shanks appeared in four scenes set at Stargate Command , although he also provided the voice of the Asgard Thor in post @-@ production . Although much of Daniel 's and O 'Neill 's exchange in the infirmary was improvised , critic Jo Storm speculated in his book *Approaching The Possible* that Daniel 's question in the infirmary bed to O 'Neill (" Did you get a haircut ? ") may reflect the actors ' hairstyles which had significantly changed since the season 2 finale ; the lines may have been added to appease the many viewers who had commented on the characters ' new looks on the online boards . " Nemesis " was the last episode before actor Christopher Judge started sporting a small blond beard for several episodes in season 4 .

= = Reception = =

" Nemesis " first aired in the United Kingdom on Sky One on February 11 , 2000 , and had its American premiere on Showtime on March 8 , 2000 . In Germany , " Nemesis " was held back from season 3 and aired as the first hour of the season 4 premiere . Airing in American broadcast syndication during the 2001 May sweeps , " Nemesis " had a 2 @.@ 7 / 2 @.@ 8 household rating , which helped Stargate SG @-@ 1 's placement as second among first @-@ run entertainment hours (a second airing after a premiere on an American subscription channel is not regarded as an off @-@ network rerun) and placed fifth overall in the U.S. syndication market . " Nemesis " was nominated for an Emmy in the " Outstanding Special Visual Effects " category in 2000 , but lost to the X @-@ Files episode " First Person Shooter " ; the other competitors were *Star Trek : Voyager* episodes " Life Line " and " The Haunting of Deck Twelve " , and the X @-@ Files episode " Rush " . " Nemesis " won a Leo Award for " Best Overall Sound In A Dramatic Series " in 2000 .

Jo Storm wrote that the " cleverly disguised action mini @-@ arc " gives insight into the imperfection of the Asgard and that the " foreign , creepy " Replicators are " conquerors who make the Goa 'uld look nice by comparison " . He felt that the episode had " all the classic elements of fiction " , and lauded Robert C. Cooper 's storytelling idea to take the Stargate from the SGC and Don S. Davis 's following " best nonspeaking moment " . In Storm 's mind , the visual effects were well @-@ placed and did not overthrow the story , but he wondered about the " ubiquitous Sam / Jack interest " . If not interpreted as " flirtatiousness " , Carter could be " truly touched at being let into the ' inner circle ' of [O 'Neill 's] life , and finally being ' one of the guys ' " .