

E31 - What Was Lost

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(Please feel free to edit the speaker names if incomplete or inaccurate. Names are handled on a best-effort basis depending on the info on the source file. Dialogue is left as is.)

[00:08] Na

Admiral Ernest Mecklinger is a capable staff officer serving under Reinhard.

[00:13] Na

He is also blessed with artistic talent,

[00:17] Na

earning him the nickname of the "Artistic Admiral."

[00:28] Hilde

Thank you very much for coming, Admiral Mecklinger.

[00:32] Hilde

I'm very sorry to ask something like this of you.

[00:35] Ernest

Please, think nothing of it.

[00:38] Ernest

How is Baron Kümmel doing?

[00:40] Hilde

He's feeling quite well today.

[00:43] Hilde

He seems overjoyed by the news of your visit.

[00:47] Hilde

I'm happy, as well.

[00:49] Hilde

Ah... I don't have any siblings,

[00:53] Hilde

so my cousin Heinrich is like a younger brother to me.

SIGN Legend of the Galactic Heroes

[02:31] Heinrich

Wow! He really did come!

SIGN Baron Heinrich von Kümmel

[02:35] Heinrich

You're truly amazing, Sister!

[02:38] Heinrich

Oh, Hilde has always been very clever,

[02:41] Heinrich

and very driven, as well.

I've always looked up to her.

[02:43] Heinrich

But still, I couldn't believe it when she became Duke Lohengramm's secretary!

[02:48] Heinrich

So... that's when I made a selfish request of her,

[02:51] Heinrich

by asking her to introduce me to you.

[02:54] Heinrich

Please forgive my appearance, Admiral Mecklinger.

[02:59] Heinrich

Ever since I was born, I've spent the better part of every day in bed...

[03:03] Hilde

Heinrich.

[03:05] Hilde

Try slowing down a bit.

You're putting off the admiral.

[03:10] Hilde

Please have a seat, Admiral.

[03:18] Heinrich

I'm sorry, Sister Hilde.

[03:20] Heinrich

I got a bit too excited.

[03:22] Ernest

Baron Kümmel.

[03:24] Ernest

The pleasure is mine.

I am honored by your invitation.

[03:29] Hilde

Let's have tea.

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[03:38] Ernest

I see you have lots of books.

[03:41] Heinrich

Yes...

[03:43] Heinrich

I'm only here today thanks to my uncle, Count Mariendorf, and Sister Hilde.

[03:49] Heinrich

I can't ask for much,

[03:51] Heinrich

but because of my condition,
I can't go anywhere,

[03:54] Heinrich

nor can I do anything on my own.

[03:57] Heinrich

So all I can do is read books and dream.

[04:01] Heinrich

I love to read about the great
people who wrote history.

[04:05] Heinrich

In particular, I find myself drawn to those

[04:08] Heinrich

who are in the military,
but who also have a talent

[04:10] Heinrich

for poetry, science, math, and the like.

[04:13] Heinrich

People with two talents are true geniuses.

[04:16] Heinrich

You yourself have accomplished
many great military deeds,

[04:20] Heinrich

but you've also won the
Imperial Academy Award

[04:22] Heinrich

for your prose poetry and
watercolor paintings, right?

[04:25] Heinrich

And your piano playing has earned
rave reviews from critics, as well.

[04:29] Heinrich

You are my ideal,
Admiral Ernest Mecklinger.

[04:35] Ernest

You honor me with such praise.

[04:39] Ernest

Oh, yes...

[04:40] Ernest

I brought one of my paintings.
I'd like you to have it.

[04:45] Ernest

My hope is that it brings you
some degree of comfort.

[04:49] Heinrich

This is... for me?

[04:54] Heinrich

How wonderful!

[04:56] Heinrich

This is truly a fantastic day!

[05:00] Hilde

Heinrich!

[05:03] Hilde

Heinrich... Are you all right?

[05:07] Hilde

Heinrich!

[05:11] Ernest

How is the baron now?

[05:13] Hilde

His fever went down quickly.

[05:15] Hilde

It appears he simply got a bit overexcited.

[05:18] Hilde

Still, I haven't seen him enjoying himself so much in a long time.

[05:23] Hilde

Thank you so much.

[05:26] Ernest

So long, then.

[05:28] Hilde

If I may...

[05:30] Hilde

Earlier, you appeared surprised by something for a moment.

[05:35] Ernest

Oh, my face gave me away, did it?

[05:41] Ernest

It's nothing of any importance.

[05:44] Ernest

Many people who are physically disabled have a pet of some sort.

[05:49] Ernest

Such as a little bird, or a cat.

[05:51] Ernest

They enjoy watching another creature moving around freely where they cannot.

[05:56] Ernest

But I didn't see anything of that nature in Baron Kümmel's room,

[06:00] Ernest

so I thought, perhaps, he disliked animals.

[06:05] Ernest

That's all, really.

[06:09] Na

Hilde found his words curious,

[06:12] Na

but she would not recall this brief conversation until much later.

[06:22] Na

There was one other thing that concerned her.

[06:33] Hilde

Pardon me.

[06:37] Hilde

The plan to warp Geiersburg Fortress seems to be progressing.

[06:42] Reinhard

The first warp test will be conducted around the middle of next month.

[06:48] Hilde

I see...

[06:50] Hilde

Why dispatch so many troops at a time like this?

[06:53] Hilde

Shouldn't he be tying up the loose ends of the civil war?

[06:57] Hilde

Do you really think it's possible?

[07:01] Hilde

Won't warping an object with as much mass as Geiersburg Fortress

[07:05] Hilde

affect the rest of the universe in some way?

[07:09] Hilde

Everyone is harboring such questions.

[07:13] Reinhard

Warping is far more troublesome than one might expect.

[07:17] Reinhard

Schaft insists that warping the fortress

[07:20] Reinhard

will not be a problem in terms of the technology.

[07:24] Reinhard

He says the only issue will be operating all that mass and the warp drive simultaneously.

[07:29] Hilde

Still, no warp on a scale this massive has been conducted before.

[07:33] Hilde

If even one step in the process goes wrong...

[07:36] Reinhard

If it does, the more than one million men and officers in the fortress

[07:40] Reinhard

will be atomized and scattered across the universe.

[07:45] Reinhard

No matter how confident Schaft is,

[07:47] Reinhard

the difficulty in this plan lies not in its conception, but in its execution.

[07:52] Reinhard

He has no need for arrogance at this stage.

[07:56] Hilde

And Admiral Kempff is the one running the tests to prepare for the execution, yes?

[08:01] Hilde

He really is doing remarkable work.

[08:04] Reinhard

He hasn't been entirely successful yet, though.

[08:07] Hilde

I do hope he is successful.

[08:09] Hilde

If he were to fail, we would suffer the loss of a competent admiral.

[08:14] Reinhard

If he died doing that, it would mean that was all there was to him.

[08:18] Reinhard

No matter how long he lived, he wouldn't be very useful.

[08:28] Hilde

I wonder what Admiral Kircheis would say if he were still alive...

[08:47] Reinhard

When I think about it, it's a strange thing.

[08:50] Reinhard

It hasn't been long since I met you,

[08:52] Reinhard

yet we dine together like this every day.

[08:55] Hilde

You honor me.

[08:59] Reinhard

No, I enjoy talking with you.

[09:02] Reinhard

You have great foresight.

[09:05] Reinhard

You did at the time of the battle with the nobles' coalition last year, as well.

[09:10] Hilde

Duke Braunschweig lost to you in that battle because he lacked three things.

[09:18] Hilde

His mind lacked balance,

[09:20] Hilde

his eyes lacked insight,

[09:22] Hilde

and his ears lacked input from his subordinates.

[09:26] Reinhard

I see.

[09:27] Hilde

You, on the other hand, possessed all three of those.

[09:33] Hilde

This is why you were able to triumph over such a powerful adversary.

[09:38] Reinhard

It would seem there is something you wish to say to me.

[09:43] Hilde

I am only making conversation over tea.

[09:45] Hilde

It frightens me when you look at me that way.

[09:48] Reinhard

I find it hard to believe you would ever fear me.

[09:52] Hilde

A nation, an organization, a society...

[09:55] Hilde

Whatever you may call it,

[09:57] Hilde

if a group of people are to come together as one,

[10:00] Hilde

there is one thing they absolutely need.

[10:02] Reinhard

Oh? What is that?

[10:06] Hilde

An enemy.

[10:08] Reinhard

That is certainly true.

[10:10] Reinhard

You are as sharp as ever, Fraulein.

[10:13] Reinhard

And what is the enemy that
my subordinates and I need?

[10:19] Hilde

The Goldenbaum Dynasty, of course.

[10:23] Hilde

The emperor is still only seven years old,

[10:26] Hilde

but he is the head of the
Goldenbaum Dynasty.

[10:28] Hilde

As the descendant of Emperor Rudolf,

[10:31] Hilde

he has the potential to rally and unify
the old powers as their symbol.

[10:35] Hilde

That is the one and only thing in your way.

[10:38] Reinhard

That's exactly right.

[10:41] Reinhard

Don't worry, Fraulein.

[10:44] Reinhard

I would never murder a young child.

[10:47] Reinhard

I will not kill the emperor.

[10:49] Reinhard

As you said, I need an enemy.

[10:53] Reinhard

And I want to do the best I can to be more
righteous and magnanimous than my enemy.

[11:00] Hilde

You are truly admirable.

[11:04] Hilde

*Killing the young emperor would surely make
you a target of reproach in the future.*

[11:10] Hilde

What the universe needs now is
your talent as an architect,

[11:15] Hilde

not your talent as a conqueror.

[11:41] Na

Before his warping experiments,

[11:43] Na

Kempff temporarily returned from
Geiersburg Fortress to bring a report.

[11:48] Reinhard

Well? Can we expect success?

[11:50] Kempff

I will make it a success
by any means necessary.

[11:57] Wolfgang

You're back, eh?

[12:00] Kempff

Yes. I planned to return
to the fortress today,

[12:03] Kempff

but I've received the fleet admiral's
permission to stay with my family tonight.

[12:09] Wolfgang

Oh, really? That's great.

[12:34] Wife

Well? Aren't you going
to see your father off?

[12:41] Isaac

Take care, Dad! Come back home soon!

[12:44] Franz

Take care, Dad! Bring back gifts for us!

[12:48] Isaac

You dork! Dad's leaving for work!

[12:51] Isaac

He's not gonna have time to buy gifts.

[12:57] Kempff

I'll buy gifts next time, okay?

[12:59] Kempff

But instead...

[13:01] Kempff

When I come back, why don't we
go visit your grandma's house?

[13:05] Wife

Are you sure you should
promise them that, dear?

[13:10] Kempff

Oh, it'll be fine.

[13:12] Kempff

I'm sure I'll be granted a vacation
once I come back successful.

[13:16] Kempff

And a promotion, too.

[13:19] Wife

Before you worry about all
that, please just be safe.

[13:22] Wife

Come home to us safe and well.

[13:25] Wife

That will be more than enough for me.

[13:29] Kempff

Of course I'll come home.

[13:37] Kempff

In all the times I went off to battle,
have I ever not made it back?

[13:56] Isaac

Don't just sit there whimpering forever.

[13:58] Isaac

We have to make an award.

[14:00] Franz

An award?

[14:08] Isaac

We're gonna give it to
Dad when he comes back.

[14:11] Isaac

Remember what he said?

[14:13] Isaac

He's gonna go get rid of the
bad guys far off in space.

[14:16] Franz

Let's make his award!

[14:28] Wolfgang

I hear we reached the execution stage,

[14:30] Wolfgang

thanks to Kempff and Müller's efforts...

[14:33] Wolfgang

But it just doesn't sit right with me.

[14:35] Wolfgang

The troops being dispatched this time...

[14:38] Wolfgang

I know we have to eliminate the
Free Planets Alliance eventually,

[14:41] Wolfgang

but sending troops for no reason and
being extravagant with the military

[14:45] Wolfgang

isn't something a healthy nation should do.

[14:48] Wolfgang

And this guy named Schaft...

[14:50] Wolfgang

Even if he did discover
a new tactical theory,

[14:53] Wolfgang

insisting on sending troops is putting
the cart miles before the horse.

[14:58] Oskar

Heh. That can't even be
called a new theory.

[15:01] Oskar

If you ask me, it's more
like slapping fresh makeup

[15:05] Oskar

on an outdated "big ship,
big guns" philosophy.

[15:09] Wolfgang

It's just a rumor, but apparently he's said

[15:11] Wolfgang

that during the warp experiments,
he wants to leave the fortress

[15:14] Wolfgang

and watch the outcome by
the fleet admiral's side,

[15:17] Wolfgang

but his request was denied.

[15:20] Oskar

That sounds plausible.

[15:22] Oskar

Trying to watch a dangerous
experiment from a safe distance

[15:27] Oskar

is just like Schaft.

[15:29] Oskar

Of course, if the experiment fails,

[15:32] Oskar

his place next to His Excellency can
hardly be called "safe" anymore.

[15:39] Wolfgang

Anyway, Schaft's ostentatiousness aside...

[15:44] Wolfgang

It's His Excellency I'm more worried about.

[15:48] Wolfgang

I thought he had recovered
from the death of Kircheis,

[15:53] Wolfgang

but it seems as though he's changed a bit.

[15:57] Wolfgang

Though I can't say exactly how...

[16:00] Oskar

Yes...

[16:03] Reinhard

The same goes for all of you.

[16:05] Reinhard

*If you have the confidence
and resolve to defeat me,*

[16:09] Reinhard

you can try it at any time.

[16:12] Oskar

It's only natural that someone would change

[16:15] Oskar

after losing the one thing
they should never lose.

[16:19] Wolfgang

The one thing they should never lose...

[16:31] Hilde

If Admiral Kircheis were still alive,

[16:34] Hilde

*would he advise against
this dispatch of troops?*

[16:38] Hilde

No one can ever replace him.

[16:42] Hilde

*His Excellency seems to have
closed off his heart,*

[16:46] Hilde

*even to the most competent
of his subordinates.*

[16:49] Hilde

*Of course. There is one person
who would find that convenient.*

[17:02] Hilde

I have yet to lose someone precious to me.

[17:07] Hilde

I don't know what that's like...

[17:13] Hilde

*Perhaps Admiral Kircheis is still
alive in His Excellency's heart,*

[17:18] Hilde

*and his eyes and ears are attuned to
the Admiral Kircheis he holds within?*

[17:30] Destroyer Operator

*Ready to enter the subspace
zone of influence.*

[17:33] Destroyer Operator

Guidance by the pilot fleet is complete.

[17:35] Destroyer Operator

*Repeat: guidance by the
pilot fleet is complete.*

[17:43] Na

On March 17th of the year IC 489,

[17:48] Na

the Geiersburg Fortress warp
experiment was conducted.

[17:52] Geiersburg Operator

*Subspace generation sequence
complete through 8.*

[17:55] Na

Aboard the fortress was Chief Engineer
Schaft, the one who proposed the plan;

[17:56] Geiersburg Operator

All divisions report zero issues.

[17:59] Geiersburg Operator

*Subspace generation sequence
now in the final stage.*

[18:00] Na

Kempff, the commander of the operation;

[18:02] Geiersburg Operator

*Observe strictest precautions with
regard to point of generation.*

[18:02] Na

and the vice commander, Müller,
in addition to 12,400 officers and soldiers,

[18:05] Geiersburg Operator

*Countdown to generation:
ten, nine, eight, seven,*

[18:07] Na

mainly those from the engineering division.

[18:10] Na

Meanwhile, in the control room
of the flagship* Brünhild*,

[18:10] Geiersburg Operator

six, five, four, three, two, one...

[18:14] Na

Reinhard was surrounded
by Mittermeyer, Reuenthal,

[18:16] Geiersburg Operator

Subspace generating.

[18:19] Na

and Oberstein, among other staff officers,

[18:23] Na

along with Chief Adjutant Streit,
several vice admirals and rear admirals,

[18:28] Na

plus the commanders of each fleet.

[18:31] Na

All of the Imperial Navy's elite
stood gathered together,

[18:34] Na

holding their breath as they watched
the large screen before them.

[18:39] Wolfgang

It's impressive to see all
these people together.

[18:41] Oskar

A single bomb thrown into
this room right now

[18:45] Oskar

would change the future
of the whole universe.

[18:51] Brünhild Operator

Beginning countdown.

[18:53] Brünhild Operator

*Thirty... twenty-nine... twenty-eight...
twenty-seven... twenty-six... twenty-five...*

[18:55] Geiersburg Operator

*Rear support team, evacuate the
warp gate axis immediately.*

[18:59] Brünhild Operator

*twenty-four... twenty-three... twenty-two...
twenty-one... twenty... nineteen...*

[18:59] Geiersburg Operator

*Repeat: rear support team,
evacuate the warp gate axis immediately.*

[19:05] Brünhild Operator

*eighteen... seventeen... sixteen...
fifteen... fourteen... thirteen...*

[19:11] Brünhild Operator

twelve... eleven... ten... nine... eight...

[19:16] Brünhild Operator

*seven... six... five... four...
three... two... one...*

[19:31] Geiersburg Operator

This is Fox Acht.

[19:33] Geiersburg Operator

*Gravitational field at time of
generation within acceptable range.*

[19:35] Geiersburg Operator

*No objects of significance
detected in nearby space.*

[19:38] Geiersburg Operator

*All craft excluding the
three authorized mega fleets*

[19:40] Geiersburg Operator

*are to evacuate the subspace
field generation point.*

[19:56] Brünhild Operator

Message from Fox Acht:

[19:58] Brünhild Operator

Success!

[20:03] Reinhard

I hereby officially declare war
for the conquest of Iserlohn!

[20:28] Reinhard

I'm going to pay a visit to Geiersburg.

[20:31] Reinhard

I'll be right back.

[20:52] Reinhard

Kempff, Müller,
well done getting this far.

[20:56] Kempff

Thank you, sir.

[21:00] Kempff

We never imagined Your Excellency
would come here in person.

[21:04] Kempff

The men and officers are
delighted to welcome you.

[21:09] Reinhard

Go on ahead.

[21:11] Kempff

Yes, sir... but...

[21:17] Reinhard

I want to be alone for a while.

[21:21] Reinhard

No one may enter.

[21:25] Kempff

This is where we held the party to celebrate
our victory in the Lippstadt War.

[21:33] Kempff

In other words, it's where
Admiral Kircheis died.

[22:01] (Flashback) Kircheis

Reinhard...

[22:05] (Flashback) Kircheis

Make the universe... yours.

[22:10] (Flashback) Kircheis

And...

[22:12] (Flashback) Kircheis

tell Annerose...

[22:18] (Flashback) Kircheis

that Sieg kept the promise...

he made so long ago...

[22:32] Reinhard

You kept your promise, Kircheis.

[22:38] Reinhard

So now, I'm going to keep

my promise to you.

[22:43] Reinhard

No matter what I must do,

[22:46] Reinhard

I will make the universe mine.

[22:51] Reinhard

But... I feel so cold, Kircheis.

[22:56] Reinhard

There is no warm light in a world

without you and my sister.

[23:02] Reinhard

If I could turn the pages of time

backward and return to those days...

[23:07] Reinhard

And if I could do it all over again...

[23:12] Reinhard

Would my world still be a little

bit brighter and warmer?

SIGN Episode 32

SIGN The Inquiry

[25:01] Na

Next time, "The Inquiry."

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