

# E3 - Marginal City

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**[00:12] Bianca**

Huey, once we reach the hospital,  
you can get some rest.

**[00:16] Huey**

Thank you, ma'am.

**[00:21] Donald**

A traveling carnival, eh?

**[00:25] Bianca**

You wanted to see that, didn't you? How lucky.

**[00:29] Donald**

What's lucky about these legs?

**[00:44] Nean1**

I'm very sorry.

**[00:45] Naomi**

Huh? For what?

**[00:47] Nean1**

We will need to inspect your carry-on luggage.

**[00:50] Rouge**

Should we not have brought the chocolate?

**[00:53] Nean1**

This way.

**[00:55] Nean1**

Right in here.

**[00:56] Naomi**

Why, thank you.

**[00:58] Rouge**

Hey, you're...

**[00:59] Naomi**

Ah, I get it.

**[01:01] Naomi**

I see you did your job. Good for you.

**[01:03] Smith**

Got Viola's id?

**[01:13] Smith**

Duly received.

**[01:15] Smith**

I do apologize for the imposition.

**[01:16] Smith**

Have a lovely trip, now.

**[01:19] Naomi**

Thanks a lot.

**[01:26] Rouge**

Hey, it's the little bird!

**[01:28] Naomi**

My outside persona, Mk II.

**[01:32] Naomi**

Hello?

**[01:34] Naomi**

No, not a problem.

**[01:37] Naomi**

Yes, it's finished.

**[01:39] Naomi**

Yes.

**[01:41] Naomi**

Yes, it has been received.

**[01:44] Naomi**

No, thank you very much.

**[01:47] Naomi**

Yes. Thank you.

**[01:50] Naomi**

Goodbye, then.

**[01:53] Rouge**

Was that Gene?

**[01:54] Naomi**

He's not "Gene."

He's Vice-Director Junghardt.

**[01:58] Naomi**

Keep business and private matters separate.

**[02:00] Rouge**

So...

**[02:02] Rouge**

What did he say?

**[02:03] Naomi**

About what?

**[02:04] Rouge**

Well, I mean... Work's been going really well, so...

**[02:08] Rouge**

I was just wondering what he thought about that...

**[02:13] Rouge**

I guess.

**[02:16] Naomi**

Your big brother said he has high hopes.

**[02:20] Rouge**

Really?!

**[02:21] Naomi**

Yeah. For me.

**[02:23] Naomi**

He said to keep taking good care of you.

**[02:26] Rouge**

What?!

**[04:07] Gene**

Nius...

**[04:09] Gene**

Achillus... Viola...

**[04:12] Gene**

The Immortal Nine... The nine who never die.

**[04:18] Gene**

No...

**[04:20] Gene**

I guess it's really six now.

**[04:23] Gregory**

*Vice-Director Junghardt.*

**[04:25] Gregory**

*We've received a report that the id  
retrieved from Viola has left Mars.*

**[04:29] Gregory**

*But Ochrona seems to be  
nosing around, as well.*

**[04:34] Gene**

We certainly wouldn't want  
them finding out about it.

**[04:37] Gregory**

*Measures will be taken.*

**[04:39] Gregory**

*Also, regarding the traveling carnival...*

**[04:41] Gregory**

*The town where Rouge currently is...*

**[04:44] Gene**

They're putting on a show  
in Wellstown, right?

**[04:47] Gene**

And that doesn't seem to be mere coincidence.

**[04:52] Naomi**

It seems we'll find a lead on our next target,  
Phantom Verde, in the Nean settlement.

**[04:57] Rouge**

Don't the Immortal Nine take human forms?

**[05:01] Naomi**

They might be hiding among the Neans,  
disguised as Neans.

**[05:07] Naomi**

That's Investigator Ash from Ochrona.

**[05:09] Naomi**

He sure went to a lot of trouble,  
coming all the way to Mars.

**[05:13] Rouge**

He's from Ochrona?

**[05:16] Naomi**

Hm? Oh, I saw him on the list.

**[05:18] Naomi**

Something about an old man  
on the rebound, or something.

**[05:23] Ash**

Neans, Neans, Neans.

**[05:26] Ash**

What the hell is going on?

**[05:28] Noid**

Of course they're here.

**[05:29] Noid**

The biggest Nean settlement  
on Mars is in this city.

**[05:34] Ash**

Bet you're thrilled to have so many  
of your own kind around, huh?

**[05:39] Naomi**

You have to go through a heavily  
guarded gate to enter the settlement.

**[05:44] Naomi**

Only registered Neans and authorized  
personnel can pass through.

**[05:51] Rouge**

What did Gene say?

**[05:52] Naomi**

Dumped it all on us.

**[05:54] Naomi**

Seriously. Don't come up with  
only half a date plan, damn it.

**[06:05] Naomi**

Whole boiled herm is so good!

**[06:09] Rouge**

Huh? It's gone... It's gone!

**[06:14] Naomi**

Huh?

**[06:15] Rouge**

My chocolate is gone.

**[06:17] Rouge**

I know I still had more!

**[06:19] Naomi**

Your chocolate? Oh, I know where that is.

**[06:22] (Flashback) Naomi**

Here you go.

**[06:23] (Flashback) Miguel/Emily**

Thank you!

**[06:25] (Flashback) Emily**

Bye-bye!

**[06:26] (Flashback) Naomi**

Be sure to brush your teeth.

**[06:28] Naomi**

You grew up a little by giving those kids chocolate, right?

**[06:31] Naomi**

Good for you.

**[06:33] Rouge**

I'm going to buy more.

**[06:34] Naomi**

No, you're not.

**[06:36] Naomi**

We're having a strategy meeting.

**[06:39] Rouge**

Jill said I was free!

**[06:42] Naomi**

Jill? Why bring up that camera nerd now?

**[06:46] Rouge**

She said freedom means I can make my own choices.

**[06:48] Naomi**

Hah. Freedom? You know there's no such thing.

**[06:52] Rouge**

There is!

**[06:53] Naomi**

Nope.

**[06:54] Naomi**

Acting on your own free will disqualifies you as an agent.

**[06:58] Rouge**

I always fight of my own free will.

**[07:01] Rouge**

All you do is stand behind me and watch!

**[07:04] Naomi**

Don't get smart with the person who makes all that possible for you.

**[07:08] Naomi**

You're nothing but a tool for Aletheia.

**[07:11] Naomi**

Just a piece of equipment, really.

**[07:22] Naomi**

Hey...

**[07:25] Naomi**

Welp, she's gone.

**[07:29] Rouge**

Stupid Naomi! Stupid Naomi!

**[07:31] Rouge**

Stupid Naomi! Stupid Naomi! Stupid Naomi!

**[07:45] Rouge**

Stupid, stupid, stupid, stupid.

**[07:48] Rouge**

Stupid, stupid, stupid, stupid.

**[07:50] Rouge**

Stupid, stupid, stupid, stu...

**[07:51] Troop1**

Hey! You just touched me!

**[07:52] Rion**

I didn't.

**[07:54] Troop1**

You just did! See?

**[07:55] Troop2**

Whew, scary. Imagine a Nean touching a human without permission.

**[07:59] Troop2**

It must be broken.

**[08:01] Troop1**

Yeah, definitely broken.

**[08:03] Troop2**

And broken tools must be disposed of.

**[08:05] Rion**

Please wait a minute. I haven't...

**[08:07] Troop1**

Shut up, Scar Head!

**[08:09] Troop2**

Let's take you to where you'll be dealt with.

**[08:14] Troop3**

Who are you?

**[08:15] Troop3**

What're you lookin' at? Hey!

**[08:21] Troop1**

Bitch!

**[08:22] Troop1**

On the ground! Now!

**[08:24] Rouge**

Neans are not tools.

**[08:26] Rouge**

Or equipment!

**[08:29] Troop1**

What are you?

**[08:30] Afdal**

Rion, what's all this?

**[08:33] Rion**

Doctor Afdal!

**[08:35] Troop1**

Doctor Afdal. You know this boy?

**[08:37] Afdal**

He's my assistant.

**[08:39] Troop1**

Ah, I see.

**[08:41] Troop1**

That girl over there, too?

**[08:43] Afdal**

Yeah, that's right.

**[08:46] Troop1**

All right, then. Yo, let's go.

**[08:49] Troop2**

What? But...

**[08:50] Troop1**

The doctor's always been good to us.

**[08:54] Troop1**

I'm counting on you to bring us  
the you-know-what again.

**[08:57] Troop1**

C'mon, let's go.

**[09:00] Afdal**

Rion, don't make trouble.

**[09:03] Rion**

I'm sorry, Doctor.

**[09:05] Afdal**

Let's go.

**[09:06] Rion**

Yes, sir.

**[09:11] Rouge**

Oh!

**[09:13] Rouge**

Uh, I mean...

**[09:16] Rouge**

O-Over there!

**[09:19] Afdal**

You want in there?

**[09:22] Rouge**

Someone I'm looking for is in there.

**[09:27] Afdal**

Yeah, of course.

**[09:29] Afdal**

Come.

**[09:31] Rion**

Doctor?

**[09:34] Afdal**

Good work, boys.

**[09:35] Troop4**

Hm? Ah.

**[09:37] Troop4**

Doctor Afdal.

**[09:55] Dumas**

I'm against this.

**[09:58] Dumas**

She may be an Alter. It's too dangerous.

**[10:01] Huey**

No, she isn't...

**[10:03] Dumas**

Shut up, Nean outsider.

**[10:05] Dumas**

Humans are looking for  
an excuse to destroy us.

**[10:08] Dumas**

There's no need for us to meet  
with an unknown Nean.

**[10:12] Juval**

No, let's meet with her.

**[10:14] Dumas**

Juval!

**[10:16] Juval**

What we need is hope.

**[10:19] Juval**

Even if it's only as much as  
the thinnest spider's thread.

**[10:35] Nean2**

Doctor!

**[10:36] Nean3**

Thank goodness!

**[10:37] Afdal**

Did something happen?

**[10:38] Nean4**

Doctor, we need help! It's Dahlia!

**[10:44] Afdal**

Hold her down!

**[10:45] Rion**

Yes, sir!

**[10:46] Afdal**

You! Come help!

**[10:47] Afdal**

Quit dawdling!

**[11:01] Afdal**

All good now.

**[11:02] Rouge**

Huh?

**[11:03] Rion**

Dahlia!

**[11:06] Dahlia**

Doctor... Thank you.

**[11:18] Rion**

Dahlia is stable now.

**[11:20] Afdal**

It's a temporary fix.

**[11:22] Rouge**

She won't get better?

**[11:24] Afdal**

Her signals are out of sync.

**[11:27] Afdal**

But if I let her die,  
her employer will give me hell.

**[11:30] Rouge**

Why would they do that?

**[11:32] Rion**

People who hire combat  
Neans receive a subsidy.

**[11:36] Afdal**

It means they don't even  
have the freedom to die.

**[11:40] Rouge**

That's cruel.

**[11:42] Afdal**

They're still better off here than elsewhere.

**[11:44] Afdal**

The Neans they're throwing  
at the Venus Project

**[11:47] Afdal**

are being worked to death in  
that planet's harsh environment.

**[11:51] Afdal**

They work only for the  
terraforming of a world

**[11:56] Afdal**

so hellish that humans can't  
touch or even look at it,

**[11:59] Afdal**

and then they die.

**[12:02] Afdal**

They're literally consumable goods.

**[12:06] Afdal**

Anyway, where are you headed?

**[12:10] Afdal**

You said there's someone  
here you're looking for?

**[12:12] Rouge**

Huh? Oh, uh...

**[12:16] Rouge**

Where should I go, I wonder?

**[12:19] Rion**

Huh?

**[12:21] Rouge**

He's very cunning. I don't know where he is.

**[12:26] Afdal**

You're pretty funny.

**[12:30] Levi**

You are Rouge, yes?

**[12:33] Levi**

I am Levi 328 of the CFN.

**[12:36] Rouge**

CF...?

**[12:38] Afdal**

The Council of Free Neans.

**[12:41] Levi**

I represent someone who  
wishes to meet with you.

**[12:52] Dumas**

What now? At this rate...

**[12:54] Giallon**

Looks like things aren't going your way.

**[13:03] Ash**

Chief!

**[13:05] Ash**

About that investigation  
data I asked you for...

**[13:08] Chief**

Eh?

**[13:09] Ash**

The case of the red silhouette!

**[13:11] Ash**

That one that recently showed up

again in Canal City!

**[13:13] Chief**

Sorry. I'm busy right now.

**[13:16] Ash**

Wai—

**[13:17] Police**

I'm very sorry. I must ask you to leave.

**[13:20] Subordinate**

He's from Ochrona. You sure about this?

**[13:22] Chief**

Just leave him.

**[13:24] Ash**

Damn it.

**[13:26] Noid**

Smoking is prohibited inside this building.

**[13:29] Ash**

What about those guys, then?

**[13:33] Noid**

I'll warn them.

**[13:34] Ash**

Whoa, whoa, whoa! Don't!

**[13:39] Naomi**

I went too far.

**[13:40] Naomi**

A tool for Aletheia? Equipment?

**[13:44] Naomi**

I guess I'm still pretty immature, too.

**[13:50] (Flashback) Naomi**

It seems we'll find a lead on our next target,  
Phantom Verde, in the Nean settlement.

**[13:56] Naomi**

Did she go alone?

**[13:58] Naomi**

Nah, no way.

**[14:00] Naomi**

No way... No way?

**[14:05] Rouge**

Huey?

**[14:07] Huey**

I'm certain of it.

**[14:09] Huey**

This is the girl I saw  
turning into the red figure.

**[14:12] Juval**

I see.

**[14:16] Juval**

Pleasure to meet you, Rouge. I'm Juval.

**[14:20] Rouge**

Uh-huh...

**[14:22] Rion**

What would the CFN want with a human?

**[14:25] Afdal**

Who knows?

**[14:26] Afdal**

But you keep yourself clear  
of dangerous guys like that.

**[14:29] Rion**

How can they be dangerous?

**[14:32] Rion**

We aren't even capable of violence.

**[14:35] Dahlia**

The CFN is only trying to win the right  
for Neans to live in freedom.

**[14:41] Afdal**

That's how it starts out,  
no matter who's doing it.

**[14:44] Afdal**

"We only want to live.  
We only want to be free."

**[14:47] Afdal**

Eventually, that's not enough anymore.

**[14:50] Afdal**

Neans are every bit as greedy as humans.

**[14:53] Dahlia**

But if nothing else,

**[14:55] Dahlia**

humans aren't sent to war  
the moment they're born.

**[14:59] Dahlia**

I've only ever known the battlefield,  
this town, and the factory.

**[15:06] Rion**

Dumas?

**[15:07] Dumas**

Doctor Afdal.

**[15:09] Dumas**

It's been a long time.

**[15:14] Juval**

After the signing of the ceasefire  
agreement with the Usurpers,

**[15:17] Juval**

this town was built for the Neans  
returning from the war.

**[15:23] Juval**

At first, we were permitted  
to govern ourselves.

**[15:27] Juval**

But now...

**[15:37] Juval**

The movement for autonomy is at a standstill,

**[15:40] Juval**

thanks to the wedge driven  
deeply into our consciousness:

**[15:43] Juval**

the Asimov Code.

**[15:48] Juval**

We cannot harm humans.

**[15:51] Juval**

We must obey the orders of humans.

**[15:55] Juval**

We must protect our own existence.

**[16:13] Juval**

My third set of parents  
was an old human couple.

**[16:17] Juval**

They were very kind.

**[16:20] Juval**

I was made as a substitute child  
for humans who couldn't bear their own.

**[16:24] Juval**

I have had 23 human parents.

**[16:29] Levi**

There were some who used Juval,  
a permanent child, for evil.

**[16:34] Juval**

What did I just say? Some were kind, too.

**[16:38] Juval**

All we want is to live in freedom.

**[16:42] Rouge**

Freedom...

**[16:45] Juval**

The Alters...

**[16:48] Juval**

are a group of Neans who try to  
rebel against humans by force.

**[16:52] Juval**

There are some like that, yes.

**[16:55] Juval**

We even have contact with them.

**[16:57] Rouge**

Even with the Asimov Code in place?

**[16:59] Juval**

I don't really know all the details.

**[17:02] Rouge**

They might be the people I'm chasing after.

**[17:06] Rouge**

You said you can contact them?

**[17:08] Juval**

They seem to have an informant  
within this settlement.

**[17:12] Rouge**

Do you know who it is?

**[17:15] Rouge**

You do?

**[17:17] Juval**

Not for certain.

**[17:19] Rouge**

But whoever it is...

**[17:21] Juval**

What we seek is not your strength.

**[17:26] Juval**

It's your free will.

**[17:29] Juval**

You aren't bound by the Asimov Code.

**[17:31] Juval**

You interact with humans as an equal.

**[17:34] Juval**

That gives your existence  
itself great meaning.

**[17:37] Juval**

Even just knowing that a Nean like you  
exists and walks in step with us

**[17:43] Juval**

will give many Neans hope.

**[17:47] Rouge**

Give Neans... hope?

**[17:50] Juval**

Of course, you don't need  
to answer right away.

**[17:53] Juval**

Take your time thinking about it  
during your stay here.

**[18:01] Dumas**

Well, then, Doctor Afdal,  
I'll be counting on you.

**[18:08] Afdal**

He's as full of shit as ever.

**[18:13] Rion**

Doctor!

**[18:14] Rion**

It's... It's Dahlia!

**[18:22] Rion**

I'm sure she's grateful to you.

**[18:24] Afdal**

The battlefield, this town, and the factory...

**[18:27] Afdal**

She said those were all she ever knew.

**[18:31] Rion**

This city is all I know.

**[18:34] Rion**

I've lived here, helping you,  
ever since I was born.

**[18:40] Afdal**

If I can learn techniques from you  
that I can use to help my kind...

**[18:44] Afdal**

What did I tell you?

That's always how it starts.

**[18:48] Afdal**

But soon...

**[18:50] Afdal**

that won't be enough.

**[18:56] Rion**

Doctor?

**[18:59] Rouge**

Tools.

**[19:00] Rouge**

Equipment.

**[19:02] Rouge**

Freedom.

**[19:04] Rouge**

Hope...

**[19:09] Rouge**

I wonder what Naomi would say.

**[19:13] Rion**

Excuse me.

**[19:16] Rion**

Juval wishes to see you.

**[19:23] Naomi**

Bingo!

**[19:24] Naomi**

She got into the settlement on her own!

**[19:27] Naomi**

She's more competent than I thought!

**[19:33] Rion**

He said to have you come in alone.

**[19:36] Rouge**

Thanks.

**[19:57] Naomi**

*What the heck are you doing?*

**[20:00] Rouge**

I didn't do it!

**[20:02] Naomi**

*I know that. So who's the kid?*

**[20:06] Rouge**

Juval.

**[20:07] Naomi**

Juval?

**[20:08] Naomi**

Juval...

**[20:10] Naomi**

Juval 087...

**[20:11] Naomi**

Dang, he's a big fish!

**[20:14] Levi**

Juval!

**[20:17] Nean5**

Don't tell me you...

**[20:19] Dumas**

Everyone, calm down.

**[20:24] Dumas**

Let's keep this quiet for a while.

**[20:26] Levi**

But...!

**[20:27] Dumas**

If the humans find out,  
they'll try to meddle in our affairs.

**[20:33] Levi**

Well...

**[20:36] Security Officer**

Hm? Ah, Doctor. Is something the matter?

**[20:43] Ash**

Chief!

**[20:45] Ash**

What's all the fuss?

**[20:46] Chief**

I'm sending a security force  
to the Nean settlement.

**[20:49] Ash**

What happened?

**[20:49] Chief**

Ochrona or not, this area

is under our jurisdiction.

**[20:53] Chief**

I'd prefer it if you stayed out of this.

**[20:56] Ash**

Aren't we both public servants?

**[20:58] Chief**

Excuse me.

**[21:02] Naomi**

Did she get set up by those Alter guys?

**[21:06] Naomi**

What should I do?

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