VO

FAR OFF IN THE DISTANT SKIES OF WORLDS UNKNOWN THERE FLIES A SHIP CALLED THE KURGAN. ABOARD, SOME OF THE TOUGHEST SONS OF GUNS FOR HIRE THIS WILD UNIVERSE WILL EVER KNOW. THEY ARE THE MISERY LOVES COMPANY.

(theme?)

VO

After divulging the fate of their former leader and friend, Magna has suggested that Dom may still be alive.

AHAB

It's just not happening Magna. It's totally possible that this Hexil guy is trying to do whatever it was Dom was up to, which, by the way, we don't know. I've run what he said over in my mind a thousand times, the thing he was born for, but all he ever talked about was power. He already had a buttload of that.

MAGNA

We'll keep looking into it. Thank you though, Ahab. I promise we'll do everything we can to figure out how he's involved.

AHAB

Well, thanks I guess.

BLOODSTORM

One more thing.

AHAB

What?

BLOODSTORM

I'm having a housewarming party.

AHAB

YOU'RE having a housewarming party.

BLOODSTORM

Shutup, I'm inviting you and your stupid friends. It's in a couple of weeks. I'll send the details to the Kurgan. I want you to be there.

AHAB

Uh... okay General Bloodstorm.

BLOODSTORM

Just call me Mr. Bloodstorm now, if you don't mind.

AHAB

Who is the new general, by the way?

BLOODSTORM

Some asshole, who cares.

MAGNA

Actually, he's pretty much right on the money this time.

BLOODSTORM

I'm always on the money. Anyway, housewarming, you maggots, be there.

AHAB

We'll... We wouldn't miss it for the world.

BLOODSTORM

The hell you would. You won't be there if someone offers you ten dollars to deliver a pizza.

AHAB

I PROMISE we'll be there.

BLOODSTORM

Yeah we'll see.

MAGNA

Now about all those injured you've saved.

VO

Solomon and the techs were all escorted to Magnas ship.

SOLOMON

Thanks again, guys. And Ahab, I won't forget what you've done for me.

AHAB

Remember-- think first, shoot first, bombs first, die later.

SOLOMON

Kill 'em all.

AHAB

Exactly.

VO

Magna's ship lifted off, and for the first time in ages it seemed, Ahab Bernie and Clyde were back on the Kurgan without a care in the world.

BERNIE

Did you tell Magna about when I rode that bull tank.

AHAB

I did. It's the only thing you've ever done that I'm proud of.

BERNIE

Well, I guess it's time for me to heal up then. I'm shot to hell, man.

AHAB

Do it downstairs this time, your dumb cocoons smell worse than you normally do.

BERNIE

Fine, doggone man. Anyway, wake me up when you guys are dead or we're rich. I should be all healed up in a day or two.

CLYDE

See you Bernie.

BERNIE

Bye honey.

(SFX: Bernie leaves)

AHAB

He's been doing that too much. He gets fatter every time.

CLYDE

Kurgan, report. How long before Bernie cocoons too much and is too fat to fly.

KURGAN

I can withstand many more tons of cargo weight. We should be fine for quite awhile.

AHAB

Damn. Well, time to go see Cobb Gnarly again.

CLYDE

Dude, are you *kidding* me.

AHAB

Nope.

CLYDE

Why do we have to keep going back to COBB.

AHAB

I made a deal with him. I made copies of some of that data, he's going to erase some debt over it.

CLYDE

Yeah right. Man, we just stole that life raft from his port. I'm gonna end up having to pay SOMEONE something.

AHAB

Well, Magna just unloaded a ton of money onto us, so, that should help.

CLYDE

Maybe so. Still. Cobb. So soon.

AHAB

I have to do it man. He's looking into who tried to have us killed on the Gladiator planet.

CLYDE

That was like five people trying to kill us ago. Plus we have a new guy trying to kill ME.

AHAB

I wouldn't worry about it.

CLYDE

Well of course YOU wouldn't.

AHAB

Oh, who's that there, is it my pilot and second in command Clyde, who is supposed to be taking us to the Golden Bear port?

CLYDE

Ughhhhh.

AHAB

I need to hear a good ol' fashioned "Yes sir"

CLYDE

I need to a hear a good ol' fashioned "THANK YOU"

AHAB

How 'bout a pat on the back and an 'atta boy.

CLYDE

Kill me.

I'll be getting some rest. Kurgan, don't let him make any detours.

KURGAN

I'll keep us on route, Company member Ahab.

AHAB

That's what I like to hear.

(SFX: Ahab leaving)

KURGAN

Company member Clyde, would you like me to keep you company while you watch the controls.

CLYDE

Have you looked at any of the data I gave you about Hexil?

KURGAN

I have examined all the available information, including what you pulled from the servers. I believe Hexil was employed by the group, but there is no indication as to what its purpose was in the facility.

CLYDE

It?

KURGAN

I have not been able to so far understand what type of life form Hexil is.

CLYDE

Well, that's not troubling. Why do you think everyone else is acting so casually about it?

KURGAN

I believe it's just the lackadaisical nature of Company member Bernie to shrug threats aside. For an example: Company member Bernie encountered an unknown technological artifact that knew both who he was and what his purpose at the facility was. He merely blew it up.

CLYDE

What about Ahab?

KURGAN

My psychological profile of Company member Ahab suggests that anything he doesn't understand is considered lesser, or otherwise not worth his attention. It is why he always asks you to fix the wifi.

CLYDE

So Ahab doesn't know how to unplug the router.

KURGAN

Company member Ahab simply does not care.

CLYDE

What a world.

KURGAN

I do have a question about you and your behavior, Company member Clyde.

CLYDE

Is it about magnets

KURGAN

No, although--

CLYDE

I don't want to hear anything about magnets.

KURGAN

Why is it that you always say you love no one.

CLYDE

...That's personal.

KURGAN

Do you not care for Company members Ahab or Bernie? Or me?

CLYDE

That's not... I do care about you.

KURGAN

But you do not "love" us.

CLYDE

Let's talk about this later.

KURGAN

Understood.

VO

The companies' path towards Golden Bear port was uneventful, a first for them in recent days. Clyde awoke Ahab and they departed from the Kurgan.

AHAB

You want to come talk to Cobb or are you good out here.

CLYDE

I hate Cobb. You do it. I'll be fine.

AHAB

Suit yourself.

VO

Ahab made the trek once more to Cobb's office carrying some of the things and information they had procured during their latest mission. This time, Cobb was faster to see him.

COBB

Mr. Ahab! Again! So soon! How fun.

AHAB

I brought you the things we talked about.

COBB

Is that uh... did you bring me an eyeball and a package of light bulbs?

AHAB

Well, we don't--

COBB

Mr. Ahab, I don't know what that's supposed to mean, but--

AHAB

I brought you, damn it Cobb, can't you give me a chance to talk once in awhile.

COBB

Oh, I'm sorry! I forget my office is where you put on your performance art, not where I do business on the port that I own.

AHAB

I brought you information too. This is just... whatever garbage Bernie and Clyde found. Are these really just light bulbs?

COBB

Those are indeed light bulbs.

AHAB

Well, whatever, merry Christmas.

COBB

I don't celebrate Christmas.

AHAB

Look, are we cool or not.

COBB

Are we "Cool", Mr. Ahab. Well, I'm gonna take that server dump you got there, and I'm gonna decline your rotten eyes and lights. Let's think. Are we "Cool". Nope. Sorry. However... Actually... I do believe I have a way to clear the rest of your nonsense from the ledgers.

AHAB

Keep talking.

COBB

I uh, well. As you know Mr. Ahab, I'm a happily married man. Mrs. Gnarly is everything anyone could want. But let's be honest, a man has needs. Some needs met only by the glowing adoration of the crow-folk.

AHAB

The Crow-Folk?

COBB

Indeed so, the Crow-Folk.

AHAB

I don't follow.

COBB

I got a crow whore Ahab, she's good to me. Name of Vanessa Crowelton. I like the feathers. Anyway, I need her uh... there seems to be a predicament on this crow-folk planet.

AHAB

You need me to get her off world?

COBB

Yeah, see now, there's a, well. You can't exactly get on that planet due to the uh, the quarantine.

AHAB

What kind of predicament is this?

COBB

There seems to be an outbreak of the werecrows. Yes, that is indeed the correct medical terminology. A disease passed through the full moon the crow-folk planet.

AHAB

So you want me to save your crow-folk girlfriend from the middle of a planet wide quarantine due to an outbreak of werecrows.

COBB

B. I. EENGO Mr. Ahab. Now, if you do this for me without A. Blowing up the planet or B. Killing her by any mean or measure and C. do not tell my wife under any circumstances, I will not only wipe away your debt, I'll even pretend to owe YOU.

AHAB

Who's got the planet locked down?

COBB

Pure unadulterated space police.

AHAB

Alright... Alright. I'll do it. But you have to help us with a couple things.

COBB

It's practically already done.

AHAB

Thanks for your time Cobb.

COBB

Remember the rules now. Not dead.

AHAB

Not dead.

COBB

NO WIFE.

AHAB

No wife. See you Cobb

COBB

Goodbye Mr. Ahab.

VO

Ahab walked down the busy streets of Golden Bear to find CLYDE, who was busy at his favorite bar. Malinda, their perpetual barmaid, approached Clyde with all the discretion her ten foot frame could allow.

MALINDA

Is Ahab around?

CLYDE

Nah. He's dealing with Cobb.

MALINDA

Well... I guess I can tell you. After you started something last time, some people been asking about ya'll.

CLYDE

*I* didn't start something.

MALINDA

Potato tomato, want me to keep my ears out?

CLYDE

I'll make it worth your time. And I know Ahab would appreciate it.

MALINDA

I also have something for you. You bring Ahab back around soon. It's... kind of like a job.

CLYDE

The next time we're back around, I'll be sure to drag him in here. Everything good with you? I mean, you're not in danger are you?

MALINDA

Clyde, you doll. I could kill everyone in this bar blindfolded, and they all know it. Trouble. (Laughs)

CLYDE

Well, you know, just checking in.

MALINDA

Yeah well, I appreciate it. I'm off the clock anyway. I'll see you Clyde.

CLYDE

Adios Malinda.

VO

Clyde drank for awhile, thinking of No One. Ahab entered the bar, just missing Malinda.

AHAB

Clyde, time to get. Time sensitive matter.

CLYDE

Like always.

VO

Clyde and Ahab left the port in a rush, once more without paying for their drinks. Their incredibly important mission to save an incredibly important crow-woman begins next time on the intergalactic rock and roll adventures of the misery loves company in Episode 11, Bump in the night, OR, We circle around.