

ACT IV - PROSE OUTLINE

Player Characters: WASH, ZOE, MAL, KAYLEE, SIMON

Crushed Hopes: Enraged over the loss of his child, his wife, and now his power, JACK draws his weapon and shoots the ABRAHAM. ANGELA screams, but JACK wastes no time in calling in security. They run into the room and JACK immediately blames the death of their beloved foreman on the suspicious outsiders. The crew denies it all, they and ANGELA shout that it was JACK, but the room is full of his own forces. MAL knows when to fight and when not to. Reluctantly, he and his crew surrender and will be taken to the prison. Before leaving, they see ANGELA and the child also being taken away. ZOE kicks and screams, but they have no hope of freeing themselves like this. Zoe reaches for the child, but they are soon taken out of sight.

No Place for a Kid: Who knows how many times the Serenity crew has found themselves behind bars. This time, WASH and ZOE argue over the child and where its gotten them. ZOE feels proven right that their life is too dangerous for a child, that the peril and chaos of this situation is no place for a little boy. In this case, she's right. WASH and KAYLEE find themselves wondering if they did the right thing.

Can't Hold Us Down: Whatever their feelings are, its a shared sentiment that they have to rescue ANGELA and the child from JACK. They break out of the prison with a mix of deception and scuffling, all without raising any alarms. Along the way, they find ANGELA and free out of her cell. But she is not as happy as expected of a freed prisoner.

You Are Strong: ANGELA feels unable to care for her child. She tried to protect him and give him a better life, but everything only turned out worse. She has lost hope in herself and the future.

MAL does what he does best and thinks up of a plan; he knows that they can only leave if the hangar is open, which only Jack can do, so they need to stop him. Not only that, but they need to find the baby. He also remembers the intercom ABRAHAM often used, and sees that if ANGELA can testify to the whole colony through it, it could take away JACK'S control. But unfortunately, ANGELA expects only failure in her hopeless state, and doesn't see the point.

Of all the voices to respond, it is ZOE'S that comes next. ANGELA and ZOE have a heart-to-heart, in which ZOE confesses that a lot of the spite toward her was undeserved. More importantly, she talks about how strong ANGELA is, and how strong ANGELA can be. She's been trying so hard to

fight for this child, despite all of the danger, and ZOE respects that. She inspires ANGELA to not give up, and to fight against JACK.

Slippery Snakes: The freed crew and ANGELA sneak throughout the city, their freedom still a secret. ANGELA makes it very clear that they can't just blaze through in a firefight; civilian lives could easily be lost in the crossfire. It's a challenge, but the crew make it to the captain's quarters without getting caught.

After getting past the guards, the crew realizes that JACK is not here. A rare blessing, or so they think. An unconscious guard's comm system is still on, and MAL notices. With it, he can hear JACK roaring about how he has just come to the prison only to not see the prisoners. When he hears the guards at the captain's quarters not report, JACK orders all of his men to attack that location.

Am I Strong Enough: Part of the crew rushes to the intercom system and the other part, ZOE and WASH, run to see if the child is here. Before achieving the intercom, ANGELA is overcome with fear and uncertainty again. ANGELA is unsure if the security forces are more loyal to their chief or to their mayor. If they are more loyal to ABRAHAM, they could turn on JACK. But, if they are more loyal to JACK, the announcement might cause gunfire between Security and furious citizens. Not only that, but this is the moment she fights back against JACK. This is the moment where she reveals to everyone what a monster he is. She is not sure she can do it

ZOE finds the child in his room, and embraces him. Then, there is the sound of security forces ramming the front door. Some crewmembers barricade it, but that will only last so long. They are running out of time. ZOE holds the child to her tightly, an arm around him and a gun pointed at the door, fire in her eyes.

My Son Deserves Better: Security is tearing it through the barricade, and have worn it down enough that they can shoot and throw grenades. ZOE tells WASH to take the child to a safer place away from the blind gunfire, which he barely manages to do under all of the constant shooting.

ANGELA is still frozen by fear, thinking out loud of her worry that she's not strong enough for her son. But KAYLEE refuses to believe that, and reminds her that it was

that it was ANGELA's decision to give her the baby! Her decision to try her best to give a good life to her son, her decision to reveal her abuse to her father and to oust Jack. **KAYLEE** tells her that she has done so much for her son, and she can do it again. This is the last chance for a better life for her son; she will not, cannot give up now. She has the strength.

The announcement is made, and ANGELA reveals everything, from JACK's abuse of her to his murder of ABRAHAM.

The Truth Will Set You Free: Just as the security forces are about to break through, their noises of fury cease. Through the windows, the crew can see the effects taking place outside. The security forces have stopped sieging the quarters. The crew is filled with relief.

The crew, the child, and Angela exit the building peacefully. Jack is restrained by his own men, the hangar-opening device now out of his hands, but he still screams at the crew for ruining everything, and tries to intimidate Angela into doing as he says. Without any help, Angela walks up to Jack and slaps him across the face. She lets the crew decide his fate, which is a one-way trip to the freezing recesses of space.

Freedom: The crew stands at the entrance to the Serenity at last. Angela comes aboard, and after one last look at her prison for the past years, she leaves into the infinite possibility of space.

WASH admits to **ZOE** that she was right; the child almost died in the chaos, their life is no place for a little kid. But **ZOE** stops him, and talks about what she felt in the recent chaos. Fear for her child, but also intense love and the need to care. Yes, she says, their life is no place for a baby. But it doesn't have to be that way.

My Beautiful Baby: The crew land on BOOK'S planet, where ANGELA can have a second chance. When she is ready to leave, she asks for her child, who she is ready to care for in a better world.

ZOE holds the child in her arms, and comes slowly towards ANGELA. It is so hard. She holds the baby close to her one last time. After an embrace she wishes could last forever, **ZOE** gives the baby to ANGELA. Behind **ZOE**, her family awaits.