

THE VAULT

Episode 1 "Survivor"

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EXT. WASTELAND - DAY

We're flying high above an urban wasteland.

We begin to hear the WHINES and SQUEAKS of rolling metal tracks.

Through the fog we can make out two vehicles crawling their way forward on a broken road.

They pass debris and scattered wreckage amongst snowy fields.

SUPER - 14:30 Zulu, July... 2025.

EXT. LEOPARD 2 MAIN BATTLE TANK - DAY

The Leopard 2 Tank cuts through thick fog. Sitting on top are two observers wearing gas masks and armed with machine guns, this is the TANK COMMANDER and TANK GUNNER.

Behind the tank, an Armored Honda Element painted in full military camo, trails behind.

INT. VAULT 13 / COMMAND CENTER - DAY

In a concrete bunker, several large screen monitors and rows of computer screens cast the room with blue green light.

They display various diagrams, radar images, coordinates etc.

A young woman SIGNAL OFFICER 1 watches her screen and talks into a headset.

Another 3 Signal Officers can be seen at similar terminals.

SIGNAL OFFICER 1
Surveyor Two Three, you're coming
in weak and unreadable.

INT. LEOPARD 2 MAIN BATTLE TANK - DAY

In the driver's seat is the Tank Driver, DAVIS, a soldier in his late 20's.

He chews bubble gum with a look of tired boredom. Leaning his head slightly back, he smacks his headset against the tank's interior.

Radio Static.

DAVIS
How you read me now?

INT. VAULT 13 / COMMAND CENTER - DAY

SIGNAL OFFICER 1
Command has you loud and clear.
Copy.

GENERAL PIERCE, a battle hardened woman in her early 30's with strong features and athletic build, stares at an overhead map on the main screen.

Arms crossed, she studies the incoming data.

GENERAL PIERCE
They've been out long enough.
Call'em back in.

INT. ARMORED HONDA ELEMENT - DAY

On the radio.

SIGNAL OFFICER 1 (O.S.)
Surveyor Two Two, Surveyor Two
Three... be advised redcon one and
five mikes.

Sitting in the passenger seat is SANTOS, a young female soldier. She picks up the radio.

SANTOS
(to radio)
Surveyor Two Two, copy that
Command.

She looks over at the driver, 28 year old MCKINLEY.

SANTOS (CONT'D)
Looks like we're going home early
tonight.

MCKINLEY
What are you so happy about being
indoors all the time?

SANTOS
Cause I'm not an adrenaline junky
like you Mckinley. I'd rather be
safe inside than out here. Shit
gives me the creeps.

EXT. LEOPARD 2 MAIN BATTLE TANK - DAY

The Leopard 2 Tank breeches the top of a large hill. The Tank Commander stands looking out the hatch.

INT. LEOPARD 2 MAIN BATTLE TANK - DAY

TANK COMMANDER (O.S.)
(on the radio)
Hold it right here Davis.

DAVIS
(to headset radio)
Command already called us back in.

TANK COMMANDER (O.S.)
(on the radio)
I know but I think I got something.

Davis eases the throttle on the tank and comes to a stop.

EXT. LEOPARD 2 MAIN BATTLE TANK - DAY

The wet, snow covered rolling tracks come to a stop. The loud diesel engine cuts out and it becomes eerily quiet now.

Tank Commander removes a pair of High End Binoculars. He scans the distance.

Tank Gunner looks over at Tank Commander.

TANK GUNNER
What is it?

Tank Commander continues to look through the binoculars.

TANK COMMANDER
Not sure. 2:00 o'clock. Take a
look.

Tank Gunner picks up his High End binoculars. He looks in the same direction.

BINOCULAR POV:

A damaged building in the distance, fenced off with what looks like a few military vehicles surrounding it.

INT. ARMORED HONDA ELEMENT - DAY

Santos and Mckinley wait quietly in the car.

SANTOS
What happened? Why'd we stop?

INT. VAULT 13 / COMMAND CENTER - DAY

General Pierce looks down from the screen at Signal Officer 1.

GENERAL PIERCE
Why did they stop?

SIGNAL OFFICER 1
(to radio)
Surveyor Two Three, Command.
Report.

TANK COMMANDER (O.S.)
(on the radio)
Ah... Command, we've spotted
something a few hundred meters up
ahead to our 2 o' clock. Over.

SIGNAL OFFICER 1
Roger. What do you see?

TANK COMMANDER (O.S.)
(on the radio)
Standby.
(radio static)
Command, Surveyor Two Three reports
what may be a possible military
installation.

A moment of silent disbelief washes over the command center. Signal Officer 1 looks up at General Pierce, not sure how to respond.

A tall, well built man named HATCH early 40's steps close to General Pierce. Hatch is her sidekick, her Lieutenant and confidante.

They both watch the main screen.

HATCH
(Whispering to General)
Another Regiment? This close?

GENERAL PIERCE
We would have come across them by
now.

EXT. LEOPARD 2 MAIN BATTLE TANK - DAY

Tank Commander stares ahead with his binoculars.

TANK COMMANDER

(to radio)

Building is intact. If I had to guess, I'd say it might be a field hospital. Over.

INT. VAULT 13 / COMMAND CENTER - DAY

HATCH

(to General Pierce)

What do you think? We could use the supplies.

SIGNAL OFFICER 1

General... it's almost curfew already, Surveyors won't have enough time.

GENERAL PIERCE

We need intel on any grid north of the line. If it is a field hospital it's got to have something.

(to Signal Officer)

Tell Santos and Mckinley they have twenty minutes to scout the location, have Two-Three watch over them.

SIGNAL OFFICER 1

Surveyor Two Three remain at location and watch for bogeys.

INT. LEOPARD 2 MAIN BATTLE TANK - DAY

Davis sulks in his seat tilting his head back.

DAVIS

Fuuuuuuk.

INT. ARMORED HONDA ELEMENT - DAY

SIGNAL OFFICER 1 (O.S.)
 (over radio)
 Surveyor Two Two proceed to
 location map grid Charlie Alpha
 Three One Five Niner Niner Two.
 Approach with extreme caution,
 report every ten mikes.

Mckinley starts up the car. Santos grabs the radio.

SANTOS
 Surveyor Two Two, copy all.

She mutters something under her breath.

MCKINLEY
 The saga continues. Wu-tang.

EXT. ARMORED HONDA ELEMENT - DAY

The Armored Honda Element drives away from the tank and towards the military hospital in the distance.

EXT. FIELD HOSPITAL - DAY

The floor is littered with trash and debris.

The Armored Honda Element slows as it approaches the building. It stops, McKinley and Santos get out, drawing their machine guns.

They leave the car running, as they make their way forward.

AT THE FENCE

Santos hands McKinley a pair of bolt cutters from her back pack. Mckinley busts the chain and lock open.

They walk through the fenced off section and past several military vehicles hidden under rain soaked tarp.

They get to a garage door. Santos takes position as McKinley opens the door.

SANTOS
 (into headset)
 Clear.

McKinley shines his light inside.

MCKINLEY
(into headset)
Entering the building.

INT. VAULT 13 / COMMAND CENTER - DAY

RADIO STATIC takes over the speakers. The Main Screen displays - "Signal Lost."

GENERAL PIERCE
Link up another line.

SIGNAL OFFICER 1
Negative. No other encrypted lines
ma'am. Any other communications
will jeopardize our position.

EXT. LEOPARD 2 MAIN BATTLE TANK - DAY

Tank Gunner looks far into the horizon, while Tank Commander has his binoculars pointed at the field hospital.

TANK GUNNER
Commander, you might want to take a
look at this. Commander.

Tank Commander puts down his binoculars and turns to face Tank Gunner.

TANK COMMANDER
What?!

Beyond Tank Gunner, Tank Commander can see an ominous storm looming over the horizon.

Dark clouds form as lighting flashes.

INT. FIELD HOSPITAL / CORRIDOR - DAY

McKinley and Santos walk down a pitch black hospital corridor.

Lights from their machine gun's guide the soldiers.

They walk past several dead bodies covered in medical blankets.

Rain water drips from the ceiling onto puddles of water below. The corridor is littered with trash and medical equipment.

They turn another corner and walk towards the end of the hallway.

SANTOS
There's nothing here.

MCKINLEY
Keep looking.

EXT. LEOPARD 2 MAIN BATTLE TANK - DAY

Tank Commander and Tank Gunner are staring ahead at the storm which has grown bigger, darker, and closer.

TANK COMMANDER
(to Tank Gunner)
Gunner, get inside and take positions. Gunner!

Tank Gunner finally breaks his hypnotic gaze at the storm, and climbs inside the tank.

INT. OPERATING ROOM - DAY

McKinley and Santos enter a somewhat still intact operating room.

Lying on an operating table is the body of a male soldier in his 30's wearing a gas mask, this is HALE.

McKinley and Santos shine their lights around the room. They spot a medicine cabinet on the wall.

MCKINLEY
Santos check that cabinet.

Santos opens the medicine cabinet.

SANTOS
Holy shit! We got everything but your blue pills here.

She stares at rows of medical supplies and drugs. Santos takes off her backpack and starts dumping in all the supplies.

MCKINLEY
Hey check this out, there's still power.

McKinley starts pushing buttons on all kinds of medical equipment.

SANTOS

Quit that shit. We're good, let's go.

McKinley touches a button that sparks on the surgical lights for a brief moment as...

...Hale EXPLODES into a sitting position, like he just woke up from a nightmare. He SCREAMS.

The surgical light shuts off again as a startled McKinley falls back onto the medical equipment.

Santos drops her backpack and aims at Hale in the dark with her flashlight.

SANTOS (CONT'D)

Jesus! He's fucking alive!

EXT. LEOPARD 2 MAIN BATTLE TANK

TANK COMMANDER

Surveyor Two Two, this is Surveyor Two Three. Be advised, danger close. Surveyor Two Two do you copy?

The Tank Commander sneaks back under the hatch to man the controls.

INT. LEOPARD 2 MAIN BATTLE TANK - DAY

TANK COMMANDER

Gunner sabot/heat plane.

Tank Gunner loads an anti-tank shell "heat" round, into the breech.

TANK GUNNER

Up!

The Tank Commander scans his video monitor for the target.

TANK COMMANDER

Right Front-Reference. Hill seven six two. From hill, target elevation two one five. MSL.

TANK GUNNER

Switching to high magnification.

ON THE TANK MONITOR:

In night vision / thermal view - a large flying craft unlike an airplane can be seen. The gunner lines up the target in his sights.

TANK GUNNER (CONT'D)
Identified.

EXT. LEOPARD 2 MAIN BATTLE TANK - DAY

The tank's main gun turns and raises up towards the sky.

INT. OPERATING ROOM - DAY

In the dark, Santos and McKinley are trying to wrestle Hale back down onto the operating table.

Hale keeps reaching for his mask.

MCKINLEY
Calm down!

SANTOS
He's trying to take off his mask.

MCKINLEY
Stick him.

Santos pulls out a syringe from her pocket and jabs it into Hale's thigh.

Hale relaxes and goes limp.

INT. LEOPARD 2 MAIN BATTLE TANK - DAY

TANK COMMANDER
Fire.

TANK GUNNER
On the way.

EXT. LEOPARD 2 MAIN BATTLE TANK - DAY

The tank FIRES a missile into the sky.

INT. OPERATING ROOM - DAY

BANG the tank's fire catches McKinley and Santos's attention.

SANTOS
What the hell's going on?

MCKINLEY
(beat)
Shit something's wrong. We gotta go. Come on' help me get him up.

SANTOS
What!?

MCKINLEY
We can't leave him here.

The room begins to SHAKE and VIBRATE as if in an Earthquake.

Medical equipment and items from shelves fall over, as Santos and Mckinley stumble.

Santos and McKinley share a look of terror before springing into action.

They grab Hale by the arms and carry him between themselves, running out of the room.

INT. FIELD HOSPITAL / CORRIDOR - DAY

They rush back out the way they came, dragging Hale along with them.

MCKINLEY
(to headset)
Surveyor Two Three, Surveyor Two Two, we are leaving!

Santos grunts trying to carry Hale's dead weight.

EXT. FIELD HOSPITAL - DAY

The garage door opens. McKinley and Santos stare into the distance, a warm glow flickers across their face.

IN THE DISTANCE

What's left of the Leopard 2 Main Battle Tank burns in flames. Thick black smoke coming from the wreckage.

SANTOS
(under her breath)
No.

MCKINLEY

Come on.

Santos and McKinley rush through the fenced off section, and head back to the Armored Honda Element.

INT. ARMORED HONDA ELEMENT - DAY

They throw Hale's unconscious body in the rear and jump inside the car.

McKinley floors it.

EXT. ARMORED HONDA ELEMENT - DAY

The armored vehicle drives at a high rate of speed.

INT. ARMORED HONDA ELEMENT - DAY

Santos is on the radio, yelling frantically over the car's engine.

SANTOS

Command this is Surveyor Two Two.
How copy?

INT. VAULT 13 / COMMAND CENTER - DAY

The Signal Controller types in commands as broken RADIO CHATTER comes in.

SIGNAL OFFICER 1

We're back online with Surveyor Two Two, General.

SANTOS (O.S.)

Command, this is Surveyor Two Two.
Surveyor Two Three is K.I.A!

INT. ARMORED HONDA ELEMENT - DAY

SANTOS

I repeat, Surveyor Two Three is KIA! Break. We are down to three men. How you copy?

INT. VAULT 13 / COMMAND CENTER - DAY

The General shuts her eyes at the news of a losing an entire tank crew.

HATCH

Fuck.

SIGNAL OFFICER 1

(to radio)

Roger. Command copy's all. Go ahead.

SANTOS (O.S.)

(through radio)

We have extracted an unidentified survivor and are en route.

Signal Officer looks back over her shoulder at The General.

GENERAL PIERCE

That can't be.

SIGNAL OFFICER 1

Surveyor Two Two. Please repeat.

SANTOS (O.S.)

Command. Surveyor Two Two. I repeat, we have extracted an unidentified survivor.

INT. ARMORED HONDA ELEMENT - DAY

SANTOS

Our position is untenable, we are out of here. I repeat, we are getting the fuck outta here!

Santos hangs up the radio. She checks her side view mirror then turns to McKinley.

SANTOS (CONT'D)

Tell me we're not being followed.

McKinley checks his mirrors.

MCKINLEY

We're clear. We're clear.

Santos sinks back in her seat, finally able to relax for a second.

She looks back over her shoulder at Hale.

IN THE REAR SEAT

Hale's body bounces around in the back of the car. He looks up at the window as he floats in and out of consciousness.