

THE VAULT

Episode 2 - "We Lost Betty"

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INT. VAULT 13 / CORRIDOR 1 - NIGHT

The General walks with purpose down a long corridor. She takes a right and walks down another corridor.

INT. VAULT 13 / DECONTAMINATION CORRIDOR - NIGHT

This corridor has blue tarp, almost tent like material lining the walls and ceiling. Like a blue tunnel it leads to two glass doors.

General Pierce reaches the glass doors and stares through them to see...

INT. VAULT 13 / DECONTAMINATION ROOM - NIGHT

A room filled with plastic drop sheets and nuclear radiation signs everywhere.

Two men in full Hazmat suits, boots, and masks... move around under flashing amber lights.

A bright orange coiled cable leads from the ceiling to each of the men. In slow motion, they use a spray hose blasting fluorescent liquid on a shivering, confused, barely conscious Hale.

Sitting on the floor and not knowing what to do, Hale looks up at the General and matches her gaze.

INT. VAULT 13 / MRI ROOM - NIGHT

In a grey futuristic MRI room, Hale's body slides backwards on the MRI table, ready for scanning.

INT. VAULT 13 / MRI BOOTH - NIGHT

Behind a glass window, General Pierce and another man in his early 50's DR. ISAAC, watch over Hale as he is scanned.

They look up at two overhead monitors which display real time FMRI images and a non-stop read out of biological data.

GENERAL PIERCE

How is he?

DR. ISAAC

He's healthy.

GENERAL PIERCE

Okay.

Dr. Isaac winces just a bit.

DR. ISAAC

That's a bit bothersome.

GENERAL PIERCE

Why?

DR. ISAAC

Frankly... he's too healthy.

GENERAL PIERCE

What do you mean?

DR. ISAAC

You said he was found out there right? Above ground.

GENERAL PIERCE

Yeah.

DR. ISAAC

Well, this man doesn't seem to have a hint of radiation poisoning. I mean none whatsoever.

GENERAL PIERCE

So what? Maybe they were well protected, insulated somehow.

The doctor gives that same doubtful wince.

DR. ISAAC

That's rather dubious. Think about it. We all have some radiation, trace amounts at least. Even those of us who never go out there.

GENERAL PIERCE

Maybe he's just immune, got lucky or something.

DR. ISAAC

Maybe life is a simulation and none of this matters. But putting maybe's aside, let's just stick to facts, and the fact is, radiation affects all life forms.

INT. VAULT 13 / WAR ROOM - NIGHT

Hatch sits in a sterile futuristic looking board room. Above him a rectangular light array fills the room with soft light.

Across him sit Santos and McKinley. They are getting reprimanded for their actions.

HATCH

Three men. An entire tank crew.
That's what you cost us.

Heads down, McKinley and Santos don't dare to say a word.

HATCH (CONT'D)

Well?!

SANTOS

Sorry sir. We were told to scout the location.

HATCH

Yeah... for supplies. Not bring back a fucking stranger. This fiasco's got your name written all over it McKinley.

MCKINLEY

I didn't kill three men. I didn't blow up the fucking tank. I saved a life, how is this my fault?

HATCH

Tell me Santos, whose call was it to bring in the survivor?

SANTOS

It was both of us sir. We both made the call.

HATCH

Ah huh. Let me tell you two idiots what this means. It means you just invited a potential unknown enemy to the only place we call home. It means I gotta watch this son of a bitch 24/7. We don't know where he's from, who he's with, or what's he's done.

Santos looks down in silence, McKinley bites his tongue.

SANTOS

With all due respect, isn't that a good thing sir?

HATCH

Santos, you're giving me a fucking headache.

SANTOS

I'm just saying... We haven't found a single survivor out there in what a year now? More maybe? This guy could be like... a God send, you know? Maybe there are others. Maybe it's not just us. Don't we want to ask him those questions?

Hatch considers.

EXT. VAULT 13 / CORRIDOR 1 - NIGHT

Santos and McKinley step outside the War Room. They bicker in slightly hushed tone.

SANTOS

I told you! I told you I had a bad feeling about it.

MCKINLEY

Yeah but I have a big heart Santos, you know that. And you know what they say about guys with big hearts.

SANTOS

Fuck off McKinley, four people just died, think about that when your scrubbing shit off the toilets for us.

AROUND THE CORNER

Standing on a ladder just around the corner of the corridor is AMANDA, 27 years old with eyes that suggest much more wisdom and experience.

With greasy face and hands, she wrenches on an overhead pipe/duct which blows steam.

She stops what she is doing and listens in on Santos and McKinley's conversation.

MCKINLEY

Look I feel bad about it too
alright, but we didn't kill those
guys.

SANTOS

Davis, Jahbez, Easely, they all had
our backs. We should have never
been there in the first place.

MCKINLEY (O.S.)

Wait, so what was all that shit in
there?

SANTOS (O.S.)

Christ McKinley, I was just
covering for you. The Lieutenant is
right, for all we know we just
brought back a ticking time bomb.

Amanda is frozen in anticipation.

We can hear Santos walk away, FOOTSTEPS trail off.

MCKINLEY (O.S.)

Santos, Santos...

Amanda tightens a bolt and puts her wrench back into a tool
box. She wipes her hands on a greasy towel while staring
into nothing, zoned out.

INT. VAULT 13 / TANK BAY - NIGHT

MUSIC blasting from an old 80's style portable stereo.

PUSH IN on a garage full of tanks and armored vehicles.

The sound of a DOOR OPENING and closing as Amanda leads the
camera towards a mechanic laying under a US Sherman Tank on
a mechanic's crawler.

TIGHT on Amanda pressing stop on the stereo's cassette
player.

The mechanic, 25 year old JEREMY is Amanda's younger brother.

He slides out from under the tank and looks up at Amanda.

AMANDA

Guess what?

JEREMY

Another attack?

AMANDA

Yeah.

Jeremy gets up to put away his tools. Amanda follows him around.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

I heard they lost Surveyor Two
Three.

Jeremy stops and turns.

JEREMY

What? They lost Betty? That was
our only working tank.

AMANDA

We lost more than a stupid tank
Jeremy. We lost people, our
people. Our friends.

Jeremy looks his sister in the eye.

JEREMY

Not my friends. They're just
people we're stuck here with sis...

Jeremy goes back to organizing a tool cabinet. Amanda just watches him, arms crossed, disappointed.

AMANDA

They found someone.

Jeremy continues doing his thing, doesn't even look at her.

JEREMY

Yeah right.

AMANDA

I'm serious. A survivor.

Now Jeremy stops what's he's doing.

JEREMY

Impossible.

AMANDA

I overheard some of the soldiers
talking. They brought him back
here.

Jeremy doesn't know what to say. Amanda gives him a stern big sister nod.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

What did I tell you. There's more
of us out there.

Amanda leaves. Jeremy stands in stunned silence. His expression suggests a slew of questions are beginning to flood his mind.

INT. VAULT 13 / HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

In a concrete make shift hospital room Hale lies recovering in bed.

His fingers, bandaged and strapped with an I.V. Tube running between them, twitch as we PUSH IN TIGHT.

His eyes lids are shut tight but under them, we can see his pupils dart back and forth as Hale enters REM sleep.