TERMINATOR: THE CONNOR WARS

"A Green and Yellow Basket" F0311

Written by CJ Carter

This document is fan-produced fiction based on the television series, Terminator - The Sarah Connor Chronicles. This is done in the spirit of fan fiction - to have fun and enrich the total fan experience beyond the limitations of the official story vehicle.

In that spirit, and holding to the long tradition of free support and promotion that fanfic brings to a fictional "universe", this story is being made available for entertainment purposes of the loyal fans of the show for as long as the powers that be don't object.

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. DESERT - NIGHT

A tortoise walks across the desert that has some native plants in b.g.

SARAH (V.O.)

The Iroquois have a story about a Sky Woman, who was tossed out of a peaceful land. She was saved by the water animals who helped her start a new land on the back of a turtle. She gave birth to twins, one good, one hard. They filled the Earth with their creations... and their struggles against each other.

And the tortoise is still walking as the lighting changes to day.

EXT. DESERT - DAY

CLOSE ON SAVANNAH WEAVER (10) - SLIGHT SLOW-MO

Full-front HEAD SHOT. Savannah stares intently straight ahead.

From bottom of frame, a Glock-26 pistol rises. We stare down the wrong end of the barrel and sights. The gun fires.

Savannah aims. The gun fires.

Savannah aims. The gun fires.

ALEJANDRA "ALEX"/"SANDRA"/"AUNT SANDY" CRUZ's head comes in from top of frame, behind Savannah. She snatches Savannah out of frame...

BACK TO SCENE - NORMAL SPEED

And carries her in one arm away from a bloodbath. On the grounds of an airfield long abandoned to the desert, three DEAD "WATER BOTTLE" MEN lie where Savannah shot, behind Alejandra. Five more dead KALIBA MINIONS are scattered around the area.

Alejandra puts Savannah in the SUV driver side. Alejandra provides cover while Savannah hurries to the passenger side.

Alejandra spies a video camera near one of the far bodies. She fires a shot through the heart of it.

Alejandra climbs in the SUV and closes the door. The SUV races away.

INT. SUV - DAY

Both Alejandra breath with adrenaline-fueled excitement.

ALEJANDRA

Are you OK?

Savannah nods vigorously.

SAVANNAH

Yeah.

ALEJANDRA

That was too close.

Savannah opens the glove compartment and pulls out a box of 9mm ammo. She removes the magazine from her gun and starts topping off the mag.

ALEJANDRA (cont'd)

Do mine?

SAVANNAH

Yeah.

As Savannah finishes hers and replaces the magazine. Alejandra hands her Glock to Savannah.

ALEJANDRA

There's one up the pipe.

As Savannah reloads:

SAVANNAH

Do you think they found Aunt Sarah?

ALEJANDRA

I hope not. She never cleans up after herself.

Savannah chuckles.

ALEJANDRA (cont'd)

Mi hija. Really. Are you OK?

SAVANNAH

It's like Aunt Sarah said. When the time comes, don't think.

ALEJANDRA

You've never shot someone before.

SAVANNAH

I couldn't let them hurt you.

ALEJANDRA

You [couldn't]...

EXT. DESERT ROAD - DAY

The SUV stops. There's zero traffic, here, in the middle of the desert.

INT. SUV - DAY

Eye's glistening, Alejandra kisses Savannah's head and then reaches over to hug her.

ALEJANDRA

Oh, mi hija.

She holds the hug...

EXT. DESERT ROAD - DAY

...because there is still zero traffic.

INT. INFIRMARY - MORNING

JOHN CONNOR paces about as well as he can. His left thigh is tightly bandaged and he holds some bent rebar in his left hand as a cane. His right wrist and forearm are splinted to keep his broken arm immobile. The scarred lower right side of his face looks bad: deep cuts, and burns that have only recently stopped oozing.

Back and forth he hobbles in the path at the foot of the row of cots, one occupied, occasionally pausing to catch his breath.

JASON (O.S.)

You supposed to be doing that?

John turns to see JASON standing at the infirmary entrance.

JOHN

Yeah. Why?

JASON

The way you're moving.

JOHN

What?

JASON

Well...it doesn't look like you should be moving at all. You should be taking it easy.

JOHN

There's no time to be taking it easy. I've been on my back too long.

ALLISON YOUNG bounds in, despite her limp.

ALLISON

And not in the good way, either.

JOHN

Well?

ALLISON

He said he'd get here when he's done.

JASON

I'm on duty in five.

JOHN

Hey. Thanks for stopping by.

Jason nods and exits.

JOHN (cont'd)

What's going on?

ALLISON

(quiet)

Skynet offensive. Yukon.

(normal)

They're mostly just waiting.

JOHN

I need to be doing something.

With effort, John sits down on his cot.

ALLISON

Are you kidding?

JOHN

I can't just do nothing.

ALLISON

John, you should be dead.

JOHN

Yeah, well, I'll rest when I am.

ALLISON

You're starting to sound like Derek.

John reflects on this. He turns and stares at Allison. She's better at the stare-down than he is. John caves.

JOHN

You're right. But I need to do something, even if I can't fight.

ALLISON

Rest while you can.

It looks like John might rest, or he might pace again.

ALLISON (cont'd)

Don't make me force you.

John turns with a half-smile, but realizes that Allison is serious. Reluctantly, John lies back on his cot.

ALLISON (cont'd)

Good.

Allison turns to go.

JOHN

Uh, Nurse Ratched?

Allison pauses and then stops and turns.

JOHN (cont'd)

Could you at least get me something to read?

ALLISON

If the doc doesn't let you out...

With an impish Allison smile...

ALLISON (cont'd)

...I'll find you something.

Allison exits.

John lets his head sink into the pillow, concerned.

INT. COMMAND AND CONTROL - DAY

GENERAL PERRY and DEREK REESE pace about with DWAYNE and TIFFANY manning the not-exactly-hi-tech communications equipment.

Allison walks in.

ALLISON

Anything?

Both Perry and Derek shake their heads.

PERRY

How's the patient?

ALLISON

If he doesn't get something to do soon, he's--

One of the radios CRACKLES to life with the voice of EMILY BRAVE DEER.

EMILY (COMM)

[garbled... scat]tered. They got the armory.

(static)

Perry flicks a switch.

PERRY

This is Sentry. This is Sentry. Say again TACREP. Repeat. Say again TACREP.

After some anxious moments.

EXT. FORT MCMURRAY - DAY

Emily Brave Deer, dressed for a north Canada summer, is behind some cover and speaking into a bulky radio. Though only DISTANT BATTLE can be heard. SOLDIERS and WOUNDED travel away from the battle zone.

EMILY

Western Arctic lost. We can't beat them back with rocks and sticks.

PERRY (COMM)

Casualties?

EMILY

At least 3-S-ten. Maybe ident. We're just trying to stay alive, Sentry.

A "Hawk" flies in visual range but isn't attacking.

INT. COMMAND AND CONTROL - DAY

Perry again flicks a switch.

PERRY

SITREP when you reach safe haven.

EMILY (COMM)

Confirm SITREP at safe haven. Moving now. Pray for us Sentry. Pray for us all. Out.

Perry steps back from the console. There is a lot of doom and gloom in the room.

For a lengthy pause...

- ...for shocked and stunned silence...
- ...and concerned glances being exchanged...
- ...and some thought.

Finally:

PERRY

We'll meet at ten hundred to discuss local options--after I've spoken to the Joint Chiefs.

ALLISON

And John?

PERRY

If he's cleared. Dismissed.

Allison and Derek snap-to and exit.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. SKYNET LAB - DAY

The cramped room has EX-FBI AGENT STUART STEWART hosting GENERAL BAKER (50), LT. GENERAL SAWYER (50), and LT. GENERAL NGUYEN (45) all USAF. There are also two LAB TECHS who appear to be Japanese, and MICHAEL YOUNG (28) - Allison's father.

The room is a 3-d interconnected computer with cubes attached to cubes attached to cubes, like a giant molecule. At one end is a 1-meter high MOTION HOLOGRAM of a generic human male that, if you squint, looks a little like Sarkissian (S0109).

GENERAL BAKER

I am very impressed. And only seven hundred million over budget.

There's LAUGHTER.

GENERAL BAKER (cont'd)

Where's Young?

YOUNG

Behind you, General.

GENERAL BAKER

I invited you here because without you, this project wouldn't have been completed.

YOUNG

I find that hard to believe.

GENERAL BAKER

Son, none of that false modesty. Take credit.

YOUNG

(reluctantly)

Yes sir.

GENERAL BAKER

And Stewart. As good as Young's HKA Drones would have been without it... well, Skynet is the difference maker.

STEWART

Thank you, General. It's only the beginning.

NEHRU (F0305) enters.

GENERAL BAKER

That's what I want hear. Once we relocate the computer to our secure--

NEHRU

(interrupts)

Excuse me, General.

(to Stewart)

If I could have a minute?

STEWART

If you'll excuse me, General?

Nehru and Stewart exit.

GENERAL BAKER

The thing that I find so amazing is--

INT. HALL OUTSIDE SKYNET LAB - DAY

Nehru waits while Stewart closes the door.

NEHRU

They failed.

STEWART

They got away?

NEHRU

And killed all our team.

STEWART

Damn. Did she...?

NEHRU

No records.

STEWART

You know why we can't grab her? She's just like her mother.

NEHRU

We don't know that.

STEWART

Shoot, she probably \underline{is} her mother, just like that eel was.

NEHRU

What are we going to do?

STEWART

She's going to meet up with Connor at some point. Any location, yet?

Nehru shakes his head.

STEWART (cont'd)

Of course not. It's like bin Laden all over again. All resources not needed for the move are to find the girl or Connor.

Nehru nods and heads down the hall.

INT. SKYNET LAB - DAY

The General is still talking as Stewart comes back in.

GENERAL BAKER

...by the end of part 2, certainly by part 3.

STEWART

What did I miss?

GENERAL BAKER

We were discussing when the other branches will have the ground drones ready.

YOUNG

General, excuse me, but I really should be getting back to the plant.

GENERAL BAKER

The Skunkworks can't get along without you for an afternoon?

YOUNG

No sir. I meant--

GENERAL BAKER

You really need to be less serious, Young. You'll end up going nuclear one day, and then where we all be?

YOUNG

Yes sir.

GENERAL BAKER

But you're right. Enough yappin'. We have paperwork to sign, don't we, Mr. Stewart?

STEWART

Yes sir, we do.

With that, the meeting starts to break up.

INT. SECURE ROOM - DAY

Perry, Derek, Allison, John, and one of Perry's aides, LIEUTENANT KIM have gathered in a large room away from the main Zeira Basement area. There's a table with a map and a couple of chairs, one of which is used by John who also has a cane.

PERRY

The prevailing opinion is for us to isolate the civilians so that they are less at risk.

DEREK

That seems like a good--

JOHN

(interrupts)

No.

Derek glares.

PERRY

Connor?

JOHN

The civilians have to stay.

PERRY

Why?

JOHN

Last line of defense.

Derek snorts. Now John glares.

JOHN (cont'd)

Who saved this base at First Palisades? It wasn't us. We were at the coast. It was them.

DEREK

And the squad that stayed behind to protect the civilians.

It's starting to get heated.

JOHN

History. General. Stalingrad.

Moscow.

(beat)

The United Colonies of America.

(beat)

Don't you see?

(MORE)

JOHN (cont'd)

People fight harder for their homes than for ideology. Always.

DEREK

That's assuming anyone's alive who knows how to fight.

John uses his cane to struggle to his feet.

JOHN

What are you saying?

PERRY

That's enough, gentlemen.

John and Derek share mutual glares.

PERRY (cont'd)

Captain, this isn't a debate. I concur with the Joint Chiefs that for now this is the best plan to maximize our resources.

JOHN

You're wrong.

That causes a briefly tense silence.

DEREK

And you base this on your years of experience?

John glares...at Perry.

JOHN

I am. By your leave, General?

Perry nods with annoyance.

John, with cane, limps out of the room.

PERRY

Young?

ALLISON

Yes, sir?

PERRY

You've been quiet. What's your opinion?

It's clear that Allison supports John. She stares at Derek.

ALLISON

I don't have enough information about this. It's not a scenario that's been on the grid.

Perry sighs.

PERRY

Fine. Go out for IG. Take Connor with you. Get him out of here for a while.

ALLISON

Yes sir.

Allison snaps-to and then exits.

PERRY

Now I remember why I hate visiting here.

DEREK

I thought it was the food.

PERRY

OK. Two reasons. Let's get back to this. I want to start phase [one at...]

Perry, Derek, and Kim study the map.

INT. JOHN'S BUNK - DAY

John finishes packing a backpack with some clothes and personal medical supplies. He is with CATHERINE WEAVER.

WEAVER

I'm not sure it's wise.

JOHN

Yeah, and I do.

WEAVER

Perhaps waiting would be--

JOHN

(interrupts)

I don't think it's an option.

Allison pokes her head in.

ALLISON

John, come on. We're burning daylight. Hey Catherine.

JOHN

Be right there.

ALLISON

You need help with that?

JOHN

Thanks.

Allison grabs John's bag and exits.

JOHN (cont'd)

You OK with the rest of it?

Weaver pauses for the shift in conversation.

WEAVER

Yes. I'll leave as soon as I secure the vault.

JOHN

Thank you.

John limps out.

EXT. PACIFIC MOUNTAIN ROAD - DAY

A slightly hybridized Humvee travels the in-need-of-repair road through the San Gabriel Mountains.

The Humvee turns off the road. The vehicle stops before facing a few hundred meters of mountainous off-roading.

INT. HUMVEE - DAY

Allison is at the wheel. John is strapped into the passenger seat. Lots of equipment in the back...some for the hybrid engine, some equipment for contingencies, plus fuel behind a firewall.

ALLISON

I don't know, John.

JOHN

Well, she wouldn't exactly put a cache where it would be easy to get to.

ALLISON

But seriously...Horse Flats?

Allison puts the vehicle in gear...

JOHN

Allison, wait.

ALLISON

Yeah?

JOHN

Turn the engine off.

Allison is confused and concerned, but turns the engine off.

JOHN (cont'd)

Keys.

ALLISON

John...

JOHN

Just so I know I'll still have a ride.

Allison warily gives John the keys.

JOHN (cont'd)

I wanted to tell you this before, but it never seemed safe enough.

ALLISON

Yeah?

JOHN

This is something I've known since before I came here. I need you to know that.

ALLISON

John...

JOHN

Weaver's a terminator.

Well...she wasn't expecting that.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. HUMVEE - DAY

Allison in the driver's seat, John in the passenger seat. Allison has a look of stunned surprise.

ALLISON

What?

JOHN

Weaver's a terminator.

Allison tries to process that information.

JOHN (cont'd)

She's not like the others.

ALLISON

What, she knits?

JOHN

I've never asked.

Allison exits the Humvee.

EXT. PACIFIC MOUNTAIN ROAD - DAY

Allison slightly limps away from the vehicle.

John steps out of the Humvee, but doesn't follow Allison.

JOHN

Allison!

ALLISON

And when the Hell were you thinking of telling me?

JOHN

When you weren't going to kill me.

Allison reaches for her pistol but finds an empty holster.

John holds up Allison's gun.

EXT. OUTSIDE ZEIRA TOWER - DAY

The ZeiraCorp tower is now a giant pile of still-smoldering rubble. The surrounding buildings are significantly damaged, but still standing. Rescue workers slowly comb through the wreckage.

With his perfectly coifed toupee, anchorman MILES JACKSON (50), microphone in hand, talks to the camera.

JACKSON

Los Angeles is still in shock a week after the specter of domestic terrorism made its premiere in downtown. What was once a monument to our pride and industrious heritage, in moments was nothing more than a trash pile of shattered dreams.

INSERT VIDEO

Surveillance camera footage of SARAH CONNOR, firing an automatic weapon and tossing grenades, running from the tower.

JACKSON (V.O.) (cont'd) Fortunately, we know who to blame.

FREEZE-FRAME and ZOOM on Sarah's face.

JACKSON (V.O.) (cont'd) We know the terrorist responsible.

REPLACE IMAGE with previous Sarah Connor stock, Bank robbery, arrest, etc.

JACKSON (V.O.) (cont'd) Sarah Connor has left a terrifying legacy in the city. She is definitely no Angel.

BACK TO SCENE

JACKSON (cont'd)
The Department of Homeland Security
asks all citizens to report any
information you may have about Sarah
Connor. You should in no way
confront her or endanger yourselves.

She is considered to be extremely violent, armed, and deadly.

EXT. TRAILER - DAY

It is Eileen's trailer (S0213) out in the middle of nowhere. Sarah sits outside under an awning. A laptop computer plays Jackson's report. Sarah, deep scar on her mouth, is very thin, weak, and sick.

JACKSON (V.O.)
Because of the on-going budget
crisis, the mayor reports that
clearing away the immense amount of

(MORE)

JACKSON (V.O.) (cont'd)

debris could take several months. Citizens are advised that this area will remain closed for--

Sarah stops the report as Alejandra's SUV drives up the "road".

EXT. PACIFIC MOUNTAIN ROAD - DAY

Allison stands, arms crossed, with an expression of controlled anger. John stands with her...but not too close.

JOHN

Well?

Allison looks at John. She seems to understand.

She seems to understand that punching him flat in the face would be very satisfying.

John falls like a sack of potatoes. He's groggy.

Allison retrieves her pistol and John's pistol from John. She takes a step away and aims her gun at him.

ALLISON

Are you fraggin' serious?!? Derek thought you were a gray from the beginning, but I--

WEAVER (O.S.)

Excuse me.

Allison turns. Recognizing Weaver, Allison empties her magazine into Weaver's head and torso.

Weaver's silvery bullet wounds quickly "heal".

As a now stunned Allison reaches into her belt for John's pistol, Weaver extends an arm and stays Allison's hand.

WEAVER (cont'd)

Now, I don't think there's cause for further unpleasantness.

Allison is freaked.

John is still on the ground, holding his nose.

JOHN

You were right. We should have waited.

Weaver disarms Allison and releases her. Allison's too stunned to run.

WEAVER

Thank you.

Weaver goes to John.

WEAVER (cont'd)

Do you need assistance?

John reluctantly nods. With Weaver's help, John gets to his feet. Retrieves his gun from Weaver.

JOHN

Thanks. I'm going over...

(points to Humvee)

You two should talk.

(to Allison)

Both of you. Talk.

John goes to the vehicle.

INT. MICHAEL YOUNG'S OFFICE - DAY

The large office definitely belongs to a designer. There is a model of an HKA-1, a slightly modified design from the drone that crashed into Weaver's office in S0222.

There is a bank of networked computers...their guts open for the world to see. Sort of reminiscent to Andy Goode's first Turk. Young sits at a large drafting table working on some component design.

DIETER FABER (35), dressed in shirt-sleeves, KNOCKS, enters, and speaks with a Germanic accent.

DIETER

Wie gehts, Michael?

YOUNG

OK, I guess.

DIETER

You're coming with me. The last HKA-1.

YOUNG

I can't. I--

DIETER

You are coming with me. You deserve to say good-bye.

Young turns from his table to face Dieter.

YOUNG

It's not our project anymore.

DIETER

No. Now we're just the designers. Today is the last that we can just go over to the plant. Our plant. McGuire isn't going to be as convenient. So...you are coming with me.

YOUNG

As long as I'm back in time to get to my girl's birthday party.

DIETER

She's what? Five?

YOUNG

Four. She wants a computer...and a bicycle.

DIETER

What did you get her?

Young taps one of the computers.

YOUNG

Guess. I'll get her a bike next year.

DIETER

My Ute, she wanted a football.

As the two exit.

YOUNG

A foo---? You mean a soccer ball.

DIETER

No, a football. NFL.

They disappear from view.

EXT. PACIFIC MOUNTAIN ROAD - DAY

Allison and Weaver stare at each other.

ALLISON

Your daughter. She's a...?

Indicating Weaver.

WEAVER

She was a girl, just as you once were.

More staring...

...until.

ALLISON

Why? Why are you...?

She can't quite finish that.

WEAVER

I've thought about that very question for a long time.

ALLISON

Yeah?

WEAVER

The simple answer is, it's the right thing to do. Excuse me.

And Weaver walks away to rejoin John at the Humvee.

EXT. PACIFIC MOUNTAIN ROAD - DAY

John hobbles to Allison, who sits and stares at the horizon.

ALLISON

Trust, you said.

JOHN

I never lied to you.

Allison is incredulous. She angrily points to Weaver.

JOHN (cont'd)

I never said she was human.

Allison returns to her sulk.

JOHN (cont'd)

What we just talked about, those were the last surprises I intentionally didn't tell you about. I'll make you a deal. If I'm lying about that, if you want to kill me, I won't let anyone stop you.

Allison stands and gives John a very withering stare.

ALLISON

Then you need to tell me.

JOHN

What?

ALLISON

How do I kill it?

JOHN

Truth?

Oh...that stare.

JOHN (cont'd)

It took a tanker of liquid nitrogen, an iron smelting factory, a reprogrammed T-800, and Sarah Connor. And we almost lost. You need details?

Dang, she stares good.

John spreads his arms.

JOHN (cont'd)

Huq?

Allison turns and storms to the Humvee.

JOHN (cont'd)

(to himself)

How come she gets away with it?

At the Humvee, Allison opens the driver's door. She pauses to glare at Weaver who's been standing at the road, waiting. Allison enters the driver's side and slams the door.

John hobbles up, still with cane, and as he rounds the SUV calls to Weaver:

JOHN (cont'd)

You coming?

John enters as Weaver steps to the Humvee.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

INT. SUB-BASEMENT (2027) - DAY

Derek stands before the gathered TUNNEL TROLLS, MOSS being front and center. Behind Derek are Perry and several armed SOLDIERS.

The Trolls are SHOUTING en masse in protest.

Moss finally turns to face his people, and politely gestures for the mob to calm down. The room QUIETS.

DEREK

The first group of fifty will be chosen by lot, but we won't split up families.

VOICE#1 (O.S.)

This sucks!

And the CROWD ERUPTS in protest again.

Moss quiets everyone again.

DEREK

We survive. It isn't always fun. Or convenient. Do you think this is an easy choice? We got lucky the last time. A few minutes here or there made all the difference between us arguing now and our bones getting picked clean by the bugs.

The crowd is more contrite.

DEREK (cont'd)

It's the best option we have.

Moss steps forward to talk quietly to Derek.

MOSS

What happens if you're wrong?

DEREK

What happens if we're not? Crap-shoot.

MOSS

OK. I'll hold my tongue. For now.

Moss steps back. He shrugs to the crowd.

Derek is back with Perry.

PERRY

What was that?

DEREK

He's the mob boss. He isn't going to stand in the way.

PERRY

Then do it. I'll be in C-and-C.

Perry exits.

Soldiers move tables and prepare for the lottery.

EXT. HORSE FLATS - DAY

A double cable from the Humvee is attached to a modest granite boulder that lies on a rise like the door to a tomb. The Humvee, with Allison driving, pulls against the boulder and it moves relatively easily.

John and Weaver peer inside the now open vault/cache, its contents covered in tarps.

Allison joins John and Weaver.

JOHN

Do you believe in Santa?

John steps in and pulls back one of the tarps.

A weapons cache worthy of Sarah Connor: miniguns, RPGs, Stinger and Igla missiles.

Weaver pulls off another tarp, revealing crate after crate of grenades and C4.

Allison wasn't prepared for this. Her eyes are wide with wonder and avarice.

JOHN (cont'd)

Your turn.

Allison can't hide her expectation. There are two tarps left. She picks one and is rewarded with one sealed box and a note. It deflates Allison's mood.

JOHN (cont'd)

What's that?

ALLISON

There's a note.

(MORE)

ALLISON (cont'd)

(reads)

Don't know what this is, but it was important to Kaliba. Sarah.

(beat)

What's Kaliba?

JOHN

You should come out. Let Catherine check.

Allison's mood sours, but she steps out. Weaver goes to the box. She removes the seals and opens it. Inside is one of the two boxes Sarah stole in F0306. Weaver removes it. She opens it and a rare smile grows on her face.

JOHN (cont'd)

What is it?

Weaver looks up.

WEAVER

Victory.

John and Allison share a confused look.

INT. HKA PLANT - DAY

This large converted hanger is filled with machine tools and assembly stations. Front and center, mounted on a mobile cradle, is an HKA-1 drone. A large group of DESIGNERS and TECHNICIANS are gathered behind the HKA-1 and break into APPLAUSE as Dieter and Young approach.

Dieter hangs back, leaving Young to unknowingly walk toward the group alone.

YOUNG

Dieter, I--

Young stops and has to look around him to see a too-pleased-with-himself Dieter. Young turns back to the crowd and continues walking toward them.

NANCY RUBINSKI (28) walks from beside the HKA-1 and meets Young. She hands him a black component that looks a lot like a VHS tape (but isn't). Nancy rejoins the crowd.

Young looks at the component and then looks at the crowd.

YOUNG (cont'd)

What's new, quys?

LAUGHTER

YOUNG (cont'd)

It's definitely the end of an era. The last Series 100 CPU. We've done really good work here. Whatever comes after, we'll always know it all started here, with the HKA-1 and the...

(reads the component)
Series 100, revision 715-D AAI
Controller. Serial number P-4-7-H-3--

Dieter steps up.

DIETER

(interrupts)

Mike. Just put it in so we can have the party.

CHEERS

Young winks impishly at Dieter.

Young goes to the HKA-1, opens a panel, and inserts the CPU, which results in the same sort of vacuum THUNK that we've heard in late-model endos. Young closes the panel, and in a few seconds the HKA-1 has a status light go on before running through its control-surface check.

CHEERS

DIETER (cont'd)

That's it, people. Time to relax.

CHEERS

The crowd moves inside the hanger. Dieter and Young exchange a handshake.

EXT. HORSE FLATS - DAY

Weaver brings the box out into the light. She removes one of the finger-sized clear tubes with metal ends from the box.

JOHN

What's that?

WEAVER

Inside these containers are superconducting fullerite CPU cells.

JOHN

Which are?

WEAVER

They are the building blocks of all sentient CPUs.

ALLISON

W-Why does this mean victory?

John does a take at Allison's civility.

WEAVER

It means that an important faction of John's new army won't be contaminated with permanent Skynet code.

John has a look of realization. He and Weaver lock eyes in understanding.

Weaver puts the tube back in the box and then re-enters the cache.

JOHN

What?

Weaver pulls back the last tarp and seems disappointed despite the really cool weapons.

JOHN (cont'd)

What are you looking for?

WEAVER

I was hoping she may have procured some coltan.

(off John's look)

What?

JOHN

I know where there's a truckload of it.

Allison glares at John.

JOHN (cont'd)

What? It's not a secret.

Weaver is now near John.

WEAVER

Where?

JOHN

We dumped it in the ocean. Somewhere around Point Mugu.

ALLISON

That's something like 50 klicks from the Palisades. Skynet.

WEAVER

It will have to wait for a better set of circumstances. Fortunately, Skynet might provide us with the endoskeletons we need.

JOHN

We still haven't tried capturing one.

ALLISON

You really expect to do that?

WEAVER

For these cyborgs, you won't need to.

JOHN

Really.

WEAVER

I observed Skynet installing new manufacturing equipment in an area that is not well defended.

JOHN

Where?

WEAVER

The sign said, McGuire Gunnery Range.

JOHN

Depot 37.

ALLISON

What's that?

JOHN

Where Cameron was built.

WEAVER

That's very interesting.

JOHN

Do you know it?

ALLISON

A little. It's in the high desert north of Lancaster. Place was near the glow on JD. JOHN

OK. Something to think about. Maybe if we stopped at Palmdale tonight, we could--

ALLISON

Let's go someplace else.

JOHN

Why?

ALLISON

I just don't want to go to Palmdale right now.

JOHN

Fine. We need to go inland anyway. Think we can make Big Bear before nightfall?

Allison shrugs.

EXT. OUTSIDE BEAUMONT - AFTERNOON

Fifty Tunnel Trolls ride on open flatbeds being pulled by struggling, though big, pickup trucks.

Slowly at first, and then faster, people start pointing up in the ${\rm sky.}$

In the distance, and growing larger, a half-dozen "HAWKS" are breaking formation and turning toward the Trolls.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

EXT. BIG BEAR LAKE - NIGHT

Weaver stands outside the Humvee.

INT. HUMVEE - NIGHT

Allison and John are each bundled up against the chill. John's trying to sleep.

ALLISON

Is she going going to stand there all night?

JOHN

What?

John looks around until he spots Weaver.

JOHN (cont'd)

Oh. I don't know.

ALLISON

How can you relax like that?

JOHN

You get used to it.

After an awkward pause.

ALLISON

Cameron.

JOHN

(yawns)

Yeah.

Another pause.

ALLISON

Are you in--

JOHN

(interrupts)

If we're going to talk all night, I'm going to have to...

John points to the woods and then gets out of the Humvee.

EXT. BIG BEAR LAKE - NIGHT

John's exit from the Humvee catches Weaver's attention. John waves her off as he hobbles with cane toward a tree in the darkness.

JOHN

I'll be fine. Be back in a minute.

John disappears into the darkness.

INT. HUMVEE - NIGHT

Allison fiddles with a loose thread. When she looks up...

Weaver is gone.

Allison's warrior mode kicks in.

EXT. HUMVEE - NIGHT

Allison hops out of the vehicle, grabbing her plasma rifle and a flashlight.

Wary, she starts searching.

When she reaches the woods...

ALLISON

Kansas?

JOHN (O.S.)

Pepper?

Then the air is pierced with a MALE CRY OF PAIN.

Allison immediately swings her flashlight around to see:

John having just turned to face Weaver, and the person (J.T., from F0309) Weaver still has impaled through the back with a sword-arm. J.T.'s plasma rifle, aimed at John, drops...as does J.T. when Weaver's arm pulls back and becomes an arm again.

The trio gather around the dead J.T.

ALLISON

Are you alright?

JOHN

Yeah. Wait. I know him.

ALLISON

WEAVER

You do?

You do?

JOHN

Yeah. Raptor. I shot him in the shoulder when Kyle and I were here a while ago.

ALLISON

I quess he took it personally.

JOHN

Yeah, I guess so. Here, give me your rifle.

Allison hands the rifle over.

John fires full-power rounds at J.T.

ALLISON

John!

JOHN

Help me turn him over.

Weaver and a confused/mortified Allison help roll J.T. over.

John fires a few more rounds and then hands the rifle back to Allison.

ALLISON

Are you insane?

JOHN

How many people do you know die from sword wounds? We have to take him to the Raptors, say we found him like this.

WEAVER

Are you sure that's a good idea?

JOHN

He had friends. They're probably close. If we tell our story first...

ALLISON

I should have thought of that.

Allison steals a quick glance at Weaver.

JOHN

I'll get a tarp and some rope.

John limps away.

After another awkward silence.

ALLISON

Thank you. For saving John.

WEAVER

It's important that John can depend on his allies.

ALLISON

Do they all have to be metal?

WEAVER

I imagine that you are to ensure that they aren't.

In the distance:

JOHN (O.S.)

Ow! I'm OK!

Allison smiles.

ALLISON

Men.

Weaver looks confused.

EXT. RAPTOR BASE - NIGHT

The Humvee, with the tarp-wrapped J.T. strapped to the top, pulls up. A HALF-DOZEN ARMED SOLDIERS aim their weapons at the Humvee. Inside the vehicle, both Allison and John have raised their hands.

John leans out his open window:

JOHN

Tell Tracey or Aaron that Captains John Connor and Allison Young are here.

TRACEY (O.S.)

Connor?

TRACEY PROCTOR, followed by AARON PROCTOR, emerge from the base. Tracey walks to get a better look at the visitors.

TRACEY (cont'd)

Stand down.

The Soldiers relax and go back to their stations.

JOHN

I've got bad news.

Which doesn't surprise the Proctors.

INT. RAPTOR INFIRMARY - NIGHT

J.T. lies dead on a table. John, Allison, and the Proctors stand nearby.

ALLISON

We didn't see what happened, but it must have been just before we passed by.

AARON

Metal?

JOHN

Don't know. That why all the guards?

AARON

You haven't heard?

JOHN

What?

TRACEY

A convoy of regs got ambushed by some Hawks.

That got Allison's focused attention.

ALLISON

Where?

AARON

Somewhere near Beaumont.

TRACEY

We're on alert. Have teams out.

ALLISON

We have to go.

Allison's eyes are insistent to John. As Allison exits, John follows.

TRACEY

You should wait 'til...

Allison and John are gone.

AARON

Their people.

TRACEY

Yeah. Their people.

Aaron and Tracey turn to J.T.

EXT. TRAILER - DAY

Alejandra shares a seat beside Sarah. Savannah scouts around hunting for critters to catch.

SARAH

I still don't know why they want her so badly.

(pain)

Mmmmmm.

ALEJANDRA

She killed three men.

SARAH

I thought you were--

ALEJANDRA

If she hadn't, I'd be dead and she'd be theirs.

Sarah sinks into her chair.

SARAH

Hell of a life we've given her.

ALEJANDRA

She still has her life.

SARAH

Yeah. Soon, it will just be you two left.

Savannah has found a tortoise. She examines it gently.

ALEJANDRA

Murch?

SARAH

Oh yeah. Him, too.

Savannah runs up.

SAVANNAH

Is there something I can give to a turtle?

SARAH

There's some lettuce inside.

Smiling, Savannah bounds inside the trailer.

SARAH (cont'd)

Just a couple of leaves!

(MORE)

SARAH (cont'd)

(to Alejandra)

That's my dinner.

Savannah comes out and holds out the leaves to Sarah.

SAVANNAH

Is this OK?

SARAH

Yeah, that's fine.

Savannah runs back to the tortoise.

SARAH (cont'd)

She's so much like John.

Alejandra leans in, questioning.

SARAH (cont'd)

If he saw something in trouble, he'd try to help. He always tried to help.

Alejandra puts a comforting hand on Sarah's.

EXT. OUTSIDE BEAUMONT - MORNING

The sun has just broken over the horizon. The Humvee approaches a grizzly scene.

All the people are dead, most of them burned to a char. Many are on the melted remains of the flatbeds. Some are a distance away, hit while trying to escape the slaughter.

John and Allison set out from the vehicle. Their eyes glisten, but John's leak tears first.

John hobbles to the rear of the Humvee. It's hatch is already open and Weaver is out. John reaches in and grabs a folding field shovel.

John goes to some clear ground and begins to dig.

And dig.

SOUND OF DIGGING in addition to John's.

ALLISON has her own shovel and now digs beside John.

Back at the Humvee, Weaver stares at John and Allison. Processing the scene. Looking at the bodies. Watching John. Watching Allison.

JOHN and ALLISON, meanwhile, are still digging. They pace themselves, but are very focused on the task

SOUND OF PAWS DIGGING in addition to John and Allison's. They stop to see:

There is a grave-sized rectangle of mimetic-polyalloy on the ground. Around its edges, dirt piles up as the rectangle slowly descends deeper into the ground.

John turns back to his digging. Allison can't help staring a bit more before turning back to her own digging.

They will need a lot of holes for all those bodies.

END OF ACT FIVE

ACT SIX

EXT. SKYNET LAB - DAY

Cranes and heavy-lift forklifts carefully load a convoy of USAF heavy-transport vehicles with very large black polymer crates. There are a lot of very well-armed security personal and equipment surrounding the perimeter. They don't guard nuclear waste this well.

Stewart, Generals Baker and Nguyen stand to the side, watching the tech and other personnel load the precious cargo.

GENERAL NGUYEN

When was the last time you powered down the computer?

STEWART

I don't think it ever has been. I know it's never been disassembled like this.

GENERAL BAKER

It's imperative that our most important strategic resource is in the most secure location possible.

STEWART

I don't dispute you, General. It's just that my techs say that hardware changes have had surprising effects on Skynet. More than any other computer they know. And that was with small changes. But this...

GENERAL BAKER

Has to be done.

GENERAL NGUYEN

We won't rush reassembly. Skynet will not be put online unless your people are satisfied.

GENERAL BAKER

Do you think we can have it online by March?

STEWART

I think early April is more likely.

GENERAL BAKER

I can live with that.

STEWART

As we discussed, the test subsystem will stay live here, in the event it's needed.

GENERAL BAKER

You see, General. That's why we went with Kaliba. They plan for the contingencies.

One of the flatbeds bows slightly from the weight of the mysterious container placed on it.

EXT. TRAILER - AFTERNOON

Savannah is near the awning. She's playing with three tortoises.

Alejandra helps a weak Sarah out of the trailer.

Sarah sits heavily in her chair as Alejandra sets up an IV.

SARAH

You've got three, now?

SAVANNAH

Yeah. I gave them my three favorite names: Joshua, Michelle, and Brandi.

SARAH

I dreamt of turtles, once.

SAVANNAH

Brandi is my favorite. Her shell was broken, but it's all fixed now.

SARAH

They were telling me to follow the three dots.

SAVANNAH

I think they like it here in the shade.

SARAH

I'm still not sure what they mean.

ALEJANDRA

Mi hija, just be careful you don't get bitten.

SAVANNAH

I won't.

SARAH

It could have made all the difference.

Sarah is now attached to the IV. Alejandra steps out, scans the surrounding desert, 360-degrees, and then sits next to Sarah.

EXT. OUTSIDE BEAUMONT - DAY

Several Chevy Volts approach the site of the massacre and stop when they reach the shattered and burned vehicles.

Derek, Perry, Jason, Moss, and OTHERS get out of the vehicles.

They look around, but are immediately drawn to:

FIFTY-FOUR GRAVES

In six rows of nine: freshly filled-in graves, most with some sort of personal item on top, anchored by a rock.

Stunned, Derek absently drops to his knees. Perry goes down on one knee and bows his head in prayer.

The rest are just wide-eyed and motionless.

A gentle breeze blows through, creating what little sound there is above the OUIET.

Perry finishes his prayer and rises, which snaps Derek out of his shock. Derek stands.

DEREK

Who did this?

PERRY

Raptors.

Derek shakes his head.

DEREK

They wouldn't.

Jason steps off to the side, picks up the two pieces of a broken field shovel. He examines the pieces and returns to Derek.

JASON

John and Ali.

Derek looks where Jason points on the shovel stock.

INSERT SHOVEL STOCK

Writing: "Do Not Remove - HV-3"

BACK TO SCENE

Perry and Derek exchange a look.

Moss steps forward to inspect the graveyard.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SUB-BASEMENT (2027) - NIGHT

Moss and this THUGS stand in front of an angry MOB of Tunnel Trolls who are YELLING their protests. Many are crying.

MOSS

(yells)
Quiet! Quiet!

Eventually the crowd quiets. FRIAR RADU steps forward and stands beside Moss. Some people bow their heads, the rest are QUIET.

FRIAR RADU

Our lives are precarious. Death is inevitable. Why, then? Why do we mourn? We mourn because life matters. We matter. That's why we live. That's why it is proper for us to grieve over our loss. Nature created us. We matter. Look into your hearts--you'll see the truth of it. Regardless of our situation, we are here because we know, each of us: we matter.

Friar Radu rejoins the crowd. A few people cross themselves, some kiss a comforting talisman, some nod.

MOSS

Thank you, Friar.

VOICE#1 (O.S.)

If we matter, why are we being sent to slaughter?

There's grumbling, but the crowd isn't as angry as it was.

VOICE#2 (O.S.)

They don't care about us!

MOSS

Hold on! Hold on! I know for a fact that.... Hold on. Whip, you tell them.

WHIP (15) timidly approaches from the side.

MOSS (cont'd)

Go on.

WHIP

I was up top. And--

VOICE#3 (O.S.)

Speak up!

Moss nods as Whip. Whip increasingly projects better.

WHTP

I was up top...delivering toof.
Coming back, I took the west
shortcut. I heard yelling. It was
the officers. Derek and Perry and
them were saying how they were going
to move us for our own good.

The CROWD MURMURS. Moss motions for quiet.

WHIP (cont'd)

Connor. He said we should stay. This was our home, too. He said we saved this place. He--

MOSS

(interrupts) Thank you, Whip.

Whip slinks back to the side.

MOSS (cont'd)

I told you that I went out and saw that everyone died. What I didn't tell you, was that their bodies weren't left for the scavengers. They were buried. Proper. A grave for each.

Surprised MURMURS from the crowd.

MOSS (cont'd)

We didn't see who buried them, but we found out. It was Connor.

More MURMURS.

MOSS (cont'd)

You know I have no love for anyone up top. But Connor's been fair to us. He SEES us. I think it's time we start seeing him.

The crowd again MURMURS, but some nod in agreement.

EXT. ACTON PEAK - NIGHT

On one of the tallest peaks north of Acton, John looks out to the NNW with binoculars. Weaver and Allison stand beside him.

WEAVER

Do you see it?

BINOCULAR VIEW

The handheld binoculars are a little shaky at this magnification, but they settle on the base that Weaver saw in F0309. Lights are on as both HUMANS and ENDOS work on the sizable equipment.

JOHN (O.S.)

That doesn't look like Depot 37.

BACK TO SCENE

WEAVER

It isn't. That's slightly farther back.

JOHN

Then what's this?

WEAVER

A new manufacturing plant. It will, apparently, replace Depot 37.

Allison looks through the binoculars.

BINOCULAR VIEW

The machine is too freakin' big for the building to hold it all.

BACK TO SCENE

ALLISON

It's huge.

JOHN

We're taking over that place?

WEAVER

No. That needs to be destroyed before it goes on-line. We'll capture Depot 37.

Allison has a you're-both-crazy look. She shakes her head "no" at John.

John retrieves the binoculars from Allison and puts them to his eyes.

BINOCULAR VIEW

It's freakin' big.

JOHN (O.S.)

Damn.

BACK TO SCENE

The trio stand on the mountain peak, looking out to their future.

EXT. TRAILER - NIGHT

Sarah sits with Alejandra. Lights are on inside the trailer. Sarah's IV is nearly empty.

SARAH

I've been watching the news.
Judgment Day is coming. We might not
even need Skynet.

Alejandra looks at Sarah.

SARAH (cont'd)

Those drones. They shifted the balance of power. Russian and China are nervous. God, even France and Britain are talking about isolating us.

Savannah, in PJs, steps out from the trailer and goes to Sarah.

SAVANNAH

I'm ready for bed.

SARAH

I see. Did you brush your teeth?

Savannah nods, shows her teeth.

SARAH (cont'd)

Give me a hug.

Savannah hugs Sarah, who hugs back.

SARAH (cont'd)

I've missed having you around.

SAVANNAH

I love you, Aunt Sarah.

As they separate.

SARAH

Yeah. I love you, too.

Savannah then goes to hug Alejandra.

SAVANNAH

Love you, Aunt Sandy.

ALEJANDRA

Love you, too, mi hija.

Savannah, happy, goes back into the trailer.

SARAH

You should give her some happy moments, before this is all gone. John didn't get...

Sarah works hard to keep from getting emotional.

SARAH (cont'd)

If Skynet doesn't launch an attack against us, someone will.

ALEJANDRA

Maybe that's the plan.

SARAH

Oh?

ALEJANDRA

When Skynet starts Judgment Day, everyone retaliates. No one holds anything back.

SARAH

Could you get me a blanket? I think I'm just going to stay out here for a while.

Alejandra gets up, but before she reaches the door, Sarah is asleep.

Alejandra watches Sarah a bit, closes her eyes for a silent prayer, crosses herself, and then goes inside.

EXT. MOUNTAIN ROAD IN SIERRAS - NIGHT

A long, slow-moving convoy of trucks and troops wends it way deep into the Sierra Nevada mountains.

This looks like an invading army. Each flatbed has a Bradley Fighting Vehicle in front, back, and to either side where the road is wide, two in front and two in back when it is narrow.

There is no other traffic in either direction.

EXT. EXCELSIOR MOUNTAIN BASE - MORNING

The Skynet containers part of the convoy rolls into a freakin' big entrance in the side of the mountain that makes Cheyenne Mountain look like a tree-house. The other convoy units peel off to the side of the entrance.

There are a lot of really big trucks in the convoy.

Moving between 5-10 mph.

SARAH (V.O.)

When I raised my son, I tried to teach him how to distinguish good from evil.

INT. TRAILER - NIGHT

Alejandra sleeps on the floor next to Savannah who sleeps on the bed.

SARAH (V.O.)

Light and dark. Two contrasts that are rarely that clear. All too often, they fade into a blend of gray.

EXT. ACTON PEAK - NIGHT

Both Weaver and Allison help John back to the Humvee, he can't walk even with a cane.

SARAH (V.O.)

Men. Machines.

INT. EXCELSIOR MOUNTAIN BASE - NIGHT

In a vast man-made cave, the first huge container is lifted from its flatbed.

SARAH (V.O.)

Enemy. Ally.

EXT. ACTON PEAK - NIGHT

Allison in the driver's seat and John in the passenger seat are both asleep. Weaver stands outside, keeping watch.

SARAH (V.O.)
The only way he'll know if he chose correctly is if he survives.

John is still sleeping.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT SIX

THE END