TERMINATOR: THE CONNOR WARS

"Whereabouts Unknown" F0318

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:

INT. BASEMENT (1996) - NIGHT

The semi-finished basement is crudely decorated for Christmas with well-used tree parts and ornaments. Middle-school-aged children are about. Most playing games, a couple of pairs trying their lips at necking.

JOHN (V.O.)

When I was in middle school, I went to a neighbor's Christmas party. I was still the new kid...

13-YEAR-OLD JOHN CONNOR staring intently at something.

JOHN (V.O.) (cont'd) So I stayed at a table playing a stacked tower game.

PULL BACK to reveal 13-year-old John playing Jenga with

JOHN (V.O.) (cont'd) Sometimes it only took a few missing pieces to make the tower fall.

The tower falls early in the game.

JOHN (V.O.) (cont'd) Sometimes dozens of pieces would be gone and the tower stayed up.

An aging tower is still standing.

JOHN (V.O.) (cont'd)
You just never knew which piece
would be the one to make it all fall
apart.

The tower falls.

another KID.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ZEIRA GRAVEYARD - DAY

A few TUNNEL TROLLS are around the many graves. Twenty of the plots are still clearly new graves. Near one is TAWNY (9). JOHN CONNOR stands off to the side, scrutinizing not one grave, but all of them; his right hand still gloved.

Farther away from the graveyard stand ALLISON and CAMERON, by themselves, observing the scene.

CAMERON

I don't understand grieving.

Allison looks at Cameron.

CAMERON (cont'd)

I know what it's like to feel alone when someone is gone, but I don't think that's grief.

ALLISON

Like when you were alone after you got here?

CAMERON

No. When John died.

It clearly still affects Cameron even if she appears emotionless.

CAMERON (cont'd)

I saw it happen. I knew he was gone and I missed him.

ALLISON

Did you feel sad?

Cameron thinks about it.

CAMERON

No. I don't know how to feel sad.

ALLISON

And that's why you don't understand what we feel like when we grieve.

Cameron accepts the answer, but seems annoyed or confounded by it.

ALLISON (cont'd)

OK. My turn for a question.

CAMERON

Yes?

ALLISON

Why are machines such lousy shots?

Now it's Cameron's turn to look at Allison.

ALLISON (cont'd)

ALLISON (cont'd)

the broad side of a barn without automatic fire.

CAMERON

Targeting an object that's in relative motion is complicated. Marksmanship takes practice and the ability to adapt. The machines under Skynet lack that capability.

ALLISON

So you're a perfect shot, I suppose?

CAMERON

No. I haven't practiced enough. Perhaps I should.

(beat)

With a non-moving object, machines can be very precise.

ALLISON

OK, then. Good to know.

And they quietly return to watching the scene.

EXT. DEPOT 37 PERIMETER - DAY

DOUG (35), BUTCH (20), and NUR (25) Raptors with a coating of desert dust, mill about together in this patch of desert. In b.g. several hundred meters away is Depot 37. LETICIA (25) approaches. All these Raptors have plasma rifles, are dressed in BDUs (not all desert camo), and have skin marked by years of sun damage.

LETICIA

Taking a break?

BUTCH

We're trying to figure out why we're here.

LETICIA

We're guarding ...

(points)

...that building.

DOUG

No we aren't. We can't repel an attack from out here.

NUR

It's busy work.

LETICIA

What, then? You think you can just pack up and leave?

NUR

I'd like to know what we're guarding.

BUTCH

Yeah.

LETICIA

OK. That's enough. Get back to your posts.

(beat)

We can't go until just before the morning watch change.

The other three cheer up.

BUTCH

Yes ma'am.

The quorum splits up. Leticia lingers and takes her own look at Depot 37.

INT. SUB-LEVEL 4 ROOM - NIGHT

Around the conference room table are John, Allison, Cameron, KYLE REESE, and GENERAL PERRY. Maps and one laptop connected to a fuel cell are on the table.

ALLISON

What if we pull in troops from the east?

GENERAL PERRY

It's too far. They'd never get here in time.

ALLISON

No, I mean... where's the big map?

Some shuffling of maps...

JOHN

Yeah. I get it. That'll work.

... results in a big map of North America.

ALLISON

John?

JOHN

We have no choice but to pull in Clarke, Park, and Lee. BUT, if we also move troops west-- small units, but spread out-- we could keep up minimum force strength while also masking our intentions to Skynet.

CAMERON

Like a ripple.

JOHN

That's right.

GENERAL PERRY

It's still going to take about a week for Clarke and Lee to get here.

JOHN

We need to push them. Move them out now. A quick offensive so Skynet can't prepare.

KYLE

What if Skynet launches an offensive while we're concentrating on Serrano? We just lost a lot of people.

There's a pause.

ALLISON

As the air slowly leaks out of the tire.

CAMERON

What if we do what John did before? Attack several targets?

GENERAL PERRY

We'll be spread too thin. One loss and it will domino.

A quick pause for consideration.

JOHN

We feint with multiple targets. Keep our forces safe but distract Skynet enough that it doesn't know what the real target is.

ALLISON

It could also hide some of the troop movements.

KYLE

We're still going to take big losses.

Another pause.

ALLISON

You're just mister sunshine, today, aren't you?

KYLE

Someone's got to fight this thing. And it's usually not the generals.

That stings Perry--and John a little.

GENERAL PERRY

Reese.

CAMERON

The people have to matter.

And everyone stares at Cameron, which catches her off-guard.

JOHN

Endos have to be a big part of this. Delta and infantry.

ALLISON

I don't know. If it was just us--

KYLE

That's not going to go over so well with the new troops.

JOHN

People are going to die. They aren't expendable. Neither are the T-zeros. But the endos...

CAMERON

They can lessen our losses.

ALLISON

That <u>is</u> why we've been reprogramming them.

And a pregnant pause as they look at the maps and at each other.

GENERAL PERRY

I quess we're decided.

JOHN

I guess so.

GENERAL PERRY

OK. We need to start working out specific troop movements. Let's try to get this done before we have to leave in the morning.

Perry and Allison move maps around.

EXT. DEPOT 37 - MORNING

The sky is beginning to lighten, but the sun hasn't yet risen.

Butch and Nur's silhouettes dash from the cover of some debris from the battle to join up with the shadowy figures of Doug and Leticia already flush with the building.

ANGLE

All four have their sidearms drawn. Doug has a plasma rifle strapped to his back. Through hand signals, Leticia indicates that she and Doug will take point and that Butch and Nur are to follow with 2-by-2 cover formation.

Doug and Leticia move out and stealthily skirt the building for about five meters. When they stop, they wave on Butch and Nur who move past them and stop when they reach the corner of the building. Leticia and Doug follow and round the corner.

ANGLE AROUND CORNER

Leticia and Doug stand under a ventilation port that's about three meters up. Butch and Nur are quickly moving to join them when:

WEAVER (O.S.)

Excuse me.

Butch and Nur skid to a stop...Butch a little too hard as he slips to the ground. Pistols are brought to bear on Weaver as Butch regains his feet.

DOUG

Who the hell are you?

WEAVER

You're trespassing.

LETICIA

And you aren't armed.

BUTCH

I don't think you can stop us, lady.

WEAVER

I don't have to. She will.

Weaver gestures with her head. Nur looks behind.

NUR

Uh, guys.

They all turn to see that ALEJANDRA "ALEX" CRUZ A/K/A LA CAZADORA has a Hi Point Model 995 carbine trained on them. Butch quickly tries to aim his gun at La Cazadora and is rewarded with a round in his shoulder. Butch falls to the ground.

WEAVER

That was your only warning.

LETICIA

Can you walk?

Butch nods. The other three lift him up. The four Raptors support Butch as they walk away, La Cazadora keeping her rifle aimed at them.

WEAVER

You might want to go faster.

The Raptors pick up the pace.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. PLAZA LAB - MORNING

Cameron is at a tub washing the goo off of a captured T-888 CPU. JASON enters, a little shaken.

CAMERON

You look nervous.

JASON

Having a trip-8 point a rifle at you will do that.

CAMERON

They're good guards.

JASON

I'm supposed to tell you when the refugees arrived.

CAMERON

Yes. Thank you.

Cameron puts the CPU in the tub and dries her hands.

As Cameron walks to the door, she smiles at Jason.

CAMERON (cont'd)

We should welcome them.

Cameron exits.

JASON

Just like the work camps.

Jason exits.

EXT. ROUND MOUNTAIN - MORNING

YOUNG SAVANNAH WEAVER (13), scraped, bruised, and dirty, cautiously stands up. She can see the nuked remains of Bakersfield and the lights of East Hills Work Camp.

MATCH CUT TO:

EXT. MOUNT HOLLYWOOD - MORNING

SAVANNAH WEAVER (25) (a/k/a Fresno Woman - F0312), who looks out onto the nuked remains of Los Angeles.

The sun has risen as a group of over a hundred dirty and tired REFUGEES, watched over by ten SOLDIERS. They are at the ruins of Griffith Observatory. The area has been reclaimed by nature and is thick with plants.

The Refugees all walk toward Los Angeles.

INT. JIMMY CARTER BRIDGE - DAY

John and Perry are at the Comm station. The RADIO OPERATOR mans the control console as John and Perry crowd in. In b.g. is CHIEF HAYES.

WYMAN (COMM)

...amazing string of accomplishments.

JOHN

Thank you, Mr. President.

WYMAN (COMM)

I'm granting you, in War Powers Order 2027-1515, the title of Field Commander of North American Forces.

JOHN

Yes sir.

GENERAL PERRY

Mr. President, what does that mean, exactly?

WYMAN (COMM)

The order I signed gives the colonel:

(reads)

The authority to utilize all necessary assets without prior authorization of the chain of command for the purpose of prosecuting the war against Skynet.

John and Perry exchange a disbelieving look.

WYMAN (COMM) (cont'd)
The Joint Chiefs aren't thrilled
about it. For now, until the
politics is sorted out, your
authority is greater than your rank.
I'll make sure all commands are
clear about having to follow your
orders, Colonel.

JOHN

I don't know what to say, Mr. President. Thank you.

WYMAN (COMM)

You earned it.

(MORE)

WYMAN (COMM) (cont'd)

It seems everything Sarah Connor told me about you is true.

JOHN

She was biased, sir.

WYMAN (COMM)

Doesn't mean she was wrong. General, I assume you have no problem with this since your reports had a lot to do with it?

GENERAL PERRY

No sir. It might just win us a war.

WYMAN (COMM)

I hope so, General. Anything you need to know, Colonel?

JOHN

I think it's a little too early for me to know that, sir.

WYMAN (COMM)

You're probably right. Listen to the General. He's a smart man. We'll be in touch.

JOHN

Yes sir. Thank you, sir.

A pause.

RADIO OPERATOR

L-0-S

John seems a bit stunned.

JOHN

Wow.

The BRIDGE CREW, including Hayes and JESSE FLORES break into applause. T-ELLISON, the captain, follows suit.

INT. MESS - DAY

The mess is filled with SOLDIERS having their mean breakfasts. Allison sits on a rubble-bench, drinking "coffee", and looking not-quite-awake.

PLEBE (14) jockeys through the crowd to Allison.

PLEBE

Excuse me, Colonel, but you're wanted in C-n-C.

Allison sighs.

ALLISON

Fine.

The Plebe waits.

ALLISON (cont'd)

You're an annoying little gnat, aren't you?

PLEBE

Ma'am? C-n-C?

Allison downs the last of her drink and gets up.

INT. ZEIRA COMMAND AND CONTROL - DAY

Allison enters. YURI and TIFFANY man the radios. FRANK LIN is at the tactical board.

ALLISON

I'm here.

TIFFANY

Tracey Proctor.

ALLISON

Let me guess--she's upset about something.

TIFFANY

I think she passed upset a while ago.

ALLISON

This secure?

TIFFANY

Yeah.

ALLISON

Give me the mic.

Tiffany hands Allison a button-controlled mic.

ALLISON (cont'd)

(on radio)

This is Colonel Young.

TRACEY (COMM)

I wanted Connor.

ALLISON

(on radio)

You got me. What is it, Tracey?

TRACEY (COMM)

I'm not talking to some damn flunky. You get me Connor.

Allison is decidedly irked.

ALLISON

(on radio)

I'll let John know you want to talk. Zeira out.

Allison motions a cut throat.

TRACEY (COMM)

Don't you--

With a bit of a smile, Tiffany cuts the speaker.

ALLISON

Bitch.

Allison tosses Tiffany the mic.

INT. RAPTOR COMMUNICATIONS ROOM - DAY

TRACEY PROCTOR is in the device-filled room with RAPTOR OPERATOR and AARON PROCTOR.

RAPTOR OPERATOR

Signal lost.

TRACEY

Sig-- Bitch!

(to Aaron)

I'm getting fed up. We're going to head up to that Depot and get some answers.

AARON

Now Tracey, calm down.

TRACEY

The first day he was here he shot one of our men.

AARON

Yes dear, I know, I was here.

TRACEY

Then it's--

RAPTOR OPERATOR

Excuse me, Ma'am. John Connor.

Tracey grabs the mic.

TRACEY

Proctor

JOHN (COMM)

What's the problem, Tracey?

TRACEY

Problem? One of your people shot one of my people.

JOHN (COMM)

Where?

TRACEY

That depot.

INT. JIMMY CARTER BRIDGE - DAY

John's at the communications station.

JOHN

(on radio)

Did they go inside the perimeter?

TRACEY (COMM)

What the hell does that--

JOHN

(on radio)

You know the orders. Any unauthorized personnel are to be shot on sight. Period.

There's a pause.

TRACEY (COMM)

Where's Perry? I want to talk to him about this.

GENERAL PERRY

(on radio)

I'm here. I'm afraid I can't help you.

TRACEY (COMM)

What?

GENERAL PERRY

(on radio)

You'll see the order soon. If you want to go over Connor's head, you'll have to talk to the president.

INT. RAPTOR COMMUNICATIONS ROOM - DAY

Tracey is speechless. Words try to come out, but they don't. Finally, she hits a switch on the control panel.

INT. JIMMY CARTER BRIDGE - DAY

The Radio Operator looks at John.

RADIO OPERATOR

L-0-S.

JOHN

I'm glad I'm not there right now.

Perry nods agreement.

INT. RAPTOR COMMUNICATIONS ROOM - DAY

It's quiet. Tracey's face expresses anger, confusion, determination, resignation, and finally a small smile.

TRACEY

Aaron.

AARON

Tracey.

TRACEY

They put that boy in charge.

After a little contemplation:

AARON

I think you're right. We should see for ourselves what's going on up there. Maybe take a platoon or two.

Tracey gives Aaron a "say what?" Look.

AARON (cont'd)

What?

TRACEY

Nothing.

AARON

Connor's been nothing but trouble-shooting our people. I bet he's responsible for Reese getting killed. It's time we start leveraging our position.

Tracey wears a small smile.

EXT. PERSHING PLAZA - DAY

The Refugees and their guards walk toward the Pershing Plaza area, a relatively debris-free section of Zeira about 200 m from the base. A medical tent has been set up as well as a water station and a soup station.

Cameron and KYLE REESE watch as the wretched refuse walks by. The Refugees pretty much just look worn out and don't pay much attention to the observers.

KYLE

It's going to be hard with more mouths to feed.

CAMERON

We'll find what we need.

KYLE

And security is going to be tougher.

CAMERON

That's true.

Something catches Cameron's attention. Of all the faces, one, Savannah's, stares straight at Cameron.

TERMINATOR DISPLAY (CAMERON)

Savannah's face is targeted and isolated. In the corner, an image of 6-year-old Savannah is morphed to an aged version. That image is compared to the targeted image. "92.1% MATCH"

BACK TO SCENE

CAMERON (cont'd)

Excuse me.

Cameron starts walking toward Savannah who has stopped moving with the crowd.

Kyle has his weapon ready but not aimed.

The crowd parts as Cameron approaches Savannah in a terminator-like manner.

CAMERON (cont'd)

Come with me.

Cameron indicates the direction. Savannah starts moving. Cameron takes the lead as Savannah follows. Eyes are on them as they disappear around a debris mound.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. ZEIRA BASE - DAY

Cameron and Savannah walk amid the Zeira rubble. No one is around. They stop walking. Cameron faces Savannah.

CAMERON

What's your name?

Savannah can't help looking at Cameron...a little stunned.

CAMERON (cont'd)

What's your name?

SAVANNAH

Savannah. Weaver.

CAMERON

I need to get you to--

SAVANNAH

Are you, uh, Cameron?

CAMERON

You remember.

Savannah nods.

SAVANNAH

You're the same one I met when I was little?

CAMERON

Yes. I need to find you a place to stay so you'll be safe.

SAVANNAH

Wait.

(beat)

If you're here-- is my mom here?

CAMERON

No.

Savannah's face drops.

CAMERON (cont'd)

She's at another facility.

Savannah's face perks up.

CAMERON (cont'd)

Come. We have to go.

Cameron leads the way as a now renewed Savannah follows.

As they walk past the debris, the base is close. A Volt is outside the motor pool. It's horn HONKS.

Cameron looks at the driver.

CAMERON (cont'd)

Come on.

Cameron and Savannah walk over to the driver's side of the car. Allison is behind the wheel.

SAVANNAH

How many of you are there?

ALLISON

Who the hell is she?

CAMERON

Savannah Weaver.

Allison smiles.

ALLISON

Son of bitch. There are some people that are going to be happy you're here.

SAVANNAH

I know. My mom.

ALLISON

Yeah. Alejandra.

Savannah tries to be cool and not giddy.

SAVANNAH

Ale-- Really?

ALLISON

Yeah.

(to Cameron)

I'll call when I get to Palmdale. John's on his way back. So I guess you're in charge, Tin-man.

CAMERON

That's incorrect.

ALLISON

What?

CAMERON

Sarah used to call me Tin-miss.

Allison smiles.

ALLISON

I like it. Savannah, stay safe.

Allison puts the car in gear and drives off.

SAVANNAH

She's real?

CAMERON

She's human. I guess that's real.

Cameron smiles a little.

CAMERON (cont'd)

Follow me.

Cameron leads the way to the main entrance. Savannah follows.

INT. SUB-BASEMENT (2027) - DAY

Cameron leads Savannah through the populated space. As they walk through...

SHUTTER CUT WITH

INT. SUB-BASEMENT (2012) - DAY

Savannah remembers when it was populated with weapons, vehicles, and Sarah's worn couch and coffee table.

BACK TO SCENE

As they walk through, wary eyes are on Cameron. Seems the TUNNEL TROLLS can tell her apart from Allison.

They stop at Tawny's home.

CAMERON

Tawny?

TAWNY steps out.

TAWNY

Hi.

CAMERON

Hello. This is Savannah.

(louder)

She's a friend of John's.

(normal)

I was wondering if she could stay here for a while?

Tawny shrugs.

TAWNY

OK.

CAMERON

(to Savannah)

If you need anything, let Tawny know.

SAVANNAH

I haven't eaten in two days.

CAMERON

I'll get you something.

TAWNY

It's OK, Cameron. I can handle it.

CAMERON

I'll be upstairs.

And with that, Cameron leaves.

SAVANNAH

You want to know a secret?

TAWNY

OK.

SAVANNAH

I knew her when I was your age.

TAWNY

How?

SAVANNAH

It's a long story.

Tawny and Savannah retreat into the abode.

EXT. BROWN BUTTE - DAY

TERMINATOR DISPLAY (BRANDI)

Depot 37 is targeted.

SWISH PAN to the distance as small images of Raptors can be seen on guard duty.

ZOOM to see a small convoy kicking up a dust trail heading toward the Raptors, but still several kilometers away.

BACK TO SCENE

Brandi stands on top of this barren big hill in the middle of the desert.

BRANDI

(to herself)

Well. This is going to be interesting.

Brandi turns to go back down the back of the butte... where there are a dozen HKs and a platoon of endos.

EXT. DEPOT 37 PERIMETER - DAY

The Raptor Convoy of two troop carriers and two pickup trucks pulls up to the tent city where the Raptors are bivouacked. Leticia meets Tracey and Aaron as they get out of the lead troop carrier.

TRACEY

Latrine.

Leticia points to a lone tent about ten meters away. Tracey rushes toward it.

AARON

Guard duty is over. We're taking over command of that facility.

LETICIA

Frankly sir, anything to get us off this scut detail is music to my ears.

AARON

Get the men together. We'll move out soon.

With a smile, Leticia calls over a GUARD.

EXT. BROWN BUTTE FOOTHILLS - DAY

Brandi sits on her fuel-cell motorcycle and fires up her portable transmitter.

BRANDI

Slight modification. Reinforcements have arrived. I need a quick diversionary attack on Palmdale. Nothing big. I just need to get the extra troops out of here.

(beat)

That will work.

Brandi puts the transmitter on standby. She settles back on the cycle's seat and looks around.

BRANDI (cont'd)

Damn, I hate the desert.

She reaches into a saddle bag and pulls out a water bottle which she takes a swig from.

INT. DEPOT 37 FLOOR - DAY

La Cazadora walks onto the production floor. There are still over 250 endos standing CPU-less vigil from when the building was captured. La Cazadora goes to the side where Weaver and a half-dozen TOK endos are tending to large machines.

ALEJANDRA

We've got a problem.

Weaver seems intrigued.

EXT. DEPOT 37 - DAY

Weaver and La Cazadora stand outside the building.

ALEJANDRA

Over there.

TERMINATOR DISPLAY (WEAVER)

Weaver's display is almost devoid of clutter, just a few metrics at the edges.

The image zooms in on the well-armed Raptors closing in on foot and vehicle. A targeting dot briefly flashes and the image quickly zooms on Tracey and Aaron in the cab of one of the trucks.

BACK TO SCENE

WEAVER

It appears our guards have turned on us. Contact Connor. I'll send out some reinforcements.

Both re-enter the Depot.

INT. TRUCK - DAY

Tracey and Aaron sit side-by-side next to the DRIVER. They look serious. PLING.

The windshield breaks and a puff of blood emerges from the instantly dead Driver, causing the truck to start veering.

TRACEY

What the--!

Aaron reaches over to the wheel. The truck speeds up. Aaron struggles to get his foot on the brake or clutch.

EXT. DEPOT 37 ROOF - DAY

La Cazadora is set up with her M82 and methodically fires at the approaching force, often shooting at the bench sides of the trucks, resulting in increased casualties.

EXT. DEPOT 37 - DAY

The ground troops scatter and run toward the building.

At the entrance, eight TOK CYBORGS exit the building. Most are unknown, but they include a T-TUCK (S0201), a T-VICTORIA (S0206 - Weaver's assistant), and a T-GOODNOW (S0218). They are all armed with various rifles, most phased plasma in the 40-watt range. They spread out and start firing as targets come within range of their weapons.

The Raptor advance slows as they find cover--usually a vehicle.

EXT. BROWN BUTTE PASS - DAY

Brandi and her Skynet force emerges from behind their natural cover to see a firefight going on at the Depot.

TERMINATOR DISPLAY (BRANDI)

It appears that humans are attacking the depot and other humans are defending it.

BACK TO SCENE

BRANDI

Ok, I didn't see that coming at all.

She turns to a nearby endo.

BRANDI (cont'd)

Seriously.

She turns her attention back to the fighting.

EXT. ZEIRA BASE - DAY

John and Perry pull up to the base, their Volt has some supplies in an attached small utility trailer. Jason rushes to the car as John and Perry get out.

JASON

John, there's a problem.

INT. ZEIRA BASEMENT - DAY

John and Jason are together, Perry brings up the rear, as they head to C-n-C.

JASON

It looks like Palmdale and the Depot are under attack.

JOHN

Kyle's in C-n-C?

JASON

Palisades.

INT. ZEIRA COMMAND AND CONTROL - DAY

John, Jason, and Perry enter. DWAYNE and Tiffany man the communications equipment. Cameron is at the tactical board with Frank.

JOHN

Sit-rep.

Cameron steps forward.

CAMERON

Palmdale reports a minor rocket attack. La Cazadora reports that the Raptor guards are attacking Depot 37.

JOHN

The Raptors.

CAMERON

Yes.

GENERAL PERRY

That doesn't make sense.

JOHN

Tracey was a little upset.

(to Cameron)

Does Weaver need help?

CAMERON

They believe they can hold. It's only two platoons.

JOHN

Wait. They brought in more troops?

CAMERON

Apparently.

JOHN

OK. If they contact again, tell Alex or Weaver to take them down.

Cameron stares at John, and then looks at Perry. Perry notices and:

GENERAL PERRY

John.

JOHN

And send a message to Peter to be ready to send reinforcements if necessary.

GENERAL PERRY

John, we need to talk.

EXT. ZEIRA BASEMENT - DAY

Outside Command and Control, John and Perry alone.

GENERAL PERRY

John, you can't just be taking out your own people like this.

JOHN

I can't trust them. They went rogue.

GENERAL PERRY

Maybe, but some of them are just following orders.

JOHN

And who's going to weed them out, General?

Perry puts his hand on John's shoulder.

GENERAL PERRY

You're walking a dangerous line, John. Step over it and you aren't a leader because no one will follow.

John considers this.

JOHN

Cameron, wait.

John gives an accepting nod to Perry before stepping back into C-n-C. Perry sighs in relief.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

EXT. DEPOT 37 - DAY

Aaron and Tracey have made it to the entrance. Aaron checks his plasma rifle.

AARON

No charge.

Tracey looks at hers.

TRACEY

Few shots left.

Tracey puts her weapon next to the door and draws her sidearm. Aaron does likewise. Tracey carefully, quietly opens the door. She and Aaron slip inside.

INT. DEPOT 37 - DAY

The entrance, as usual, is nothing to write home about. Some half-disassembled equipment lays about. The Proctors see none of that as they move to see the main floor.

They are stunned to see the rows of endos. Dozens of other endos are hurrying about. And they see Weaver.

TRACEY

What the...

And Weaver sees them. She runs at an astonishing speed and goes out of view.

AARON

(too calmly)

Run.

Aaron breaks for a hasty exit. Tracey isn't far behind.

Suddenly, Weaver is right behind them. Both Aaron and Tracey fire their sidearms, almost blindly, at Weaver as they rocket out of the building. They don't see the occasional lucky shot being absorbed by Weaver.

EXT. DEPOT 37 - DAY

Aaron and Tracey stumble a bit as they make with the great skedaddle.

EXT. DEPOT 37 - MOMENTS LATER

Aaron and Tracey make it back to the vehicles. After some glances to confirm that they are both equally scared but hiding it, Tracey climbs into the cab of the truck.

INT. TRUCK - DAY

Tracey turns on the radio and flips the switch to PA.

TRACEY

(on PA)

Raptors break off. Repeat, break off. Everyone return to base. Everyone. Now.

EXT. DEPOT 37 - DAY

And suddenly the battle is QUIET as the surviving Raptors run away just as fast as their little legs can take them.

INT. TRUCK - DAY

Tracey is behind the wheel and starts the truck. Aaron is on the passenger side.

AARON

What the hell is Connor playing at?

TRACEY

Playing, hell... he's on the wrong damn side.

There's a double POUND from the back of the truck.

VOICE (O.S.)

Go!

TRACEY

They can defend their own damn selves.

EXT. DEPOT 37 - DAY

Tracey's truck leads the way away from the base.

The TOK Cyborgs and TOK Endos watch the retreat. Weaver meets up with La Cazadora who is down from the roof.

WEAVER

They saw inside.

ALEJANDRA

They're going to cause trouble.

WEAVER

I'd assume so. We should prepare our contingencies.

Two of the Cyborgs are being carried back with significant injuries, but not to their heads.

WEAVER (cont'd)

Get them inside so we can tend to them.

ALEJANDRA

I'll grab a bite and then stand watch.

Everyone is heading back inside.

INT. SUB-BASEMENT (2027) - NIGHT

John carries a box about the size of a hardcover bestseller. He arrives at Tawny's abode. Tawny comes outside to great him.

JOHN

Hey.

Tawny gives John a hug.

JOHN (cont'd)

I hear we have a visitor. Come on.

John and Tawny go inside.

INT. TAWNY'S ABODE - NIGHT

Savannah stands from her spot in a back corner as John enters. The lighting isn't great, in this sparse but organized hovel, but it's more than good enough for them to get a good look at one another.

SAVANNAH

John taught me how to tie my shoes when I a little younger than you.

JOHN

Squirrel runs around the tree...

SAVANNAH

Dives in the hole...

JOHN

SAVANNAH

side.

Scurries out the other Scurries out the other side.

They both smile.

TAWNY

What's that?

JOHN

This is some food the General and I brought up to help feed all the new people.

SAVANNAH

Tawny already got me some soup and some bread.

JOHN

She's a good host.

(to Tawny)

It's one of the reasons she's special.

TAWNY

I have to...

John nods. Tawny exits.

It's a little awkward. John puts the box on a rickety crate that doubles as a table.

JOHN

You grew up.

SAVANNAH

You got hurt.

John absently rubs the burn scar on his face.

JOHN

Yeah.

John motions for Savannah to sit. He sits first.

SAVANNAH

Your mother and Aunt Sandy told me about the future. Who you are.

JOHN

Aunt Sandy?

SAVANNAH

Alejandra Cruz?

JOHN

I know her. I just can't picture her as "Aunt Sandy".

(beat)

And I can't help thinking of you as that little girl.

SAVANNAH

Can I tell you something?

JOHN

Sure.

SAVANNAH

Growing up, I sort of had a crush on you.

JOHN

No.

SAVANNAH

Yeah, really.

Savannah leans closer. John tenses up.

SAVANNAH (cont'd)

This isn't me; this is from your mom.

Savannah gives John a light peck on his cheek. As Savannah pulls back, John struggles to keep the tears from flowing.

SAVANNAH (cont'd)

Everything she did... She never stopped loving you.

John can't take it any more. He exits. Savannah looks filled with compassion, but doesn't follow.

INT. SUB-BASEMENT (2027) - NIGHT

John's gathering himself as Cameron walks up.

CAMERON

What's wrong?

JOHN

Memories. What's up?

CAMERON

Allison's missing.

That shakes John out of his funk.

JOHN

What?

CAMERON

She hasn't reached Palmdale.

JOHN

When should she have gotten there?

CAMERON

Six hours, twenty minutes ago.

John tries not assuming the worst, but it does cross his face as does anger, frustration, and a couple of added years of stress.

JOHN

C-n-C.

John walks as Cameron follows.

JOHN (cont'd)

Perry?

CAMERON

With Heinrich.

As usual, all eyes are on them as they exit.

EXT. BROWN BUTTE FOOTHILLS - NIGHT

Under the cover of night, Brandi watches as her Skynet force moves from its cover onto the desert flats toward Depot 37. She absentmindedly crosses herself.

INT. ZEIRA COMMAND AND CONTROL - NIGHT

Cameron is in b.g. while John is at the communications center now being manned by ALYSSA and Tiffany.

PETER (COMM)

We didn't know when she was arriving.

JOHN

Don't worry about it. She got back here a little while ago.

John motions for Cameron to come to the mic.

JOHN (cont'd)

Here's Bo Peep.

CAMERON

Sorry to worry you. My car broke down.

PETER (COMM)

No sweat, as long as you're OK.

JOHN

Are you still set to send reinforcements?

PETER (COMM)

No need. Attacker abandoned the base.

This alarms John.

JOHN

It's still guarded, right?

PETER (COMM)

Not that I've heard. Total bug-out.

John silently curses to himself.

JOHN

I need you to send a squad ASAP. I'll send Bo Peep to assess.

PETER (COMM)

We'll move at first light.

JOHN

Thanks. Zeira out.

John stands and quickly thinks.

JOHN (cont'd)

You need to get up there right away.

CAMERON

Allison?

JOHN

If you find a trail, send a squad. I
don't want you doing it. But...
 (steels himself)

It's been too long.

INT. ZEIRA BASEMENT - NIGHT

John and Cameron walk to the motor pool.

JOHN

First priority has to be completing Allison's mission as well as securing the Depot.

CAMERON

I understand.

JOHN

They don't know about you, yet, so you're going to have to be Allison to them.

CAMERON

We prepared for that.

JOHN

Peter's an OK commander, but Allison hates him. I don't know why.

CAMERON

I do.

(off John's look)

We talk.

JOHN

OK.

INT. ZEIRA MOTOR POOL - NIGHT

The motor pool is surprisingly bare. One Humvee, a dozen bikes, the fuel tank, a repair station, and nothing else.

CAMERON

I'm taking the Humvee.

John gives an oh-really look to Cameron.

JOHN

Kyle must have taken the other Volt. I guess I'm going to have to find a few more cars somewhere.

(beat)

Since you can see in the dark, you should leave once you're fueled and stocked.

CAMERON

Of course. Should I tell Weaver or Alejandra about Savannah if I see them?

John considers this.

JOHN

Now might not be the best time to distract them.

CAMERON

Has she distracted you?

JOHN

Yeah. A little bit. But I'm already here.

CAMERON

You should question her. Find out where she's been.

(off John's look)

She could be a Gray.

JOHN

Do you think she's a Gray?

CAMERON

We need to make sure.

JOHN

You're right. She knows a lot of us. We might trust her too easily.

CAMERON

Yes.

JOHN

I'll work on it.

That satisfies Cameron.

CAMERON

I'll leave in approximately twenty minutes.

JOHN

Your code name's Trademark. Need any help?

CAMERON

I'll be fine.

JOHN

Well, then...have a safe trip.

John and Cameron have a longer-than-necessary look before John exits.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

EXT. ZEIRA BASE - NIGHT

John walks up to THOMPSON who's guarding the tent city.

JOHN

How's it going?

THOMPSON

Not bad. There was some disagreement about the placement of the main latrine.

JOHN

Everybody get fed?

THOMPSON

Think so.

JOHN

Good.

John strolls into the tent city. It's quiet as most everyone is asleep.

EXT. DEPOT 37 - NIGHT

Brandi straddles her parked motorcycle about forty meters in front of the advancing machines. She acts like a traffic cop directing traffic to where she wants it to go.

The machines fork off with Brandi as the wedge. The proceed quiet and steady.

INT. HUMVEE - NIGHT

Cameron drives in the dark. She notices something.

TERMINATOR DISPLAY (CAMERON)

In starlight mode, there is a Volt sitting abandoned on the road next to Lake Palmdale.

EXT. LAKE PALMDALE - NIGHT

Cameron walks around the Volt. The driver-side door is open.

TERMINATOR DISPLAY (CAMERON)

In starlight mode, the targeting cursor scans the vehicle. It flashes on and IDs "PLASMA SCORING" on several locations.

On the driver seat, the targeting cursor IDs "BLOOD"

BACK TO SCENE

Cameron crouches to the driver's seat. She touches the blood and then brings her fingers up to look at them. There's a moment of recognition.

Cameron stands and starts looking at the surrounding area.

She follows a trail but soon stops. She looks out toward Lancaster.

Cameron returns to the Humvee.

INT. ZEIRA MESS - NIGHT

John absently dunks toof into his mug of "coffee". He's the only on in the Mess. The base is quiet.

SAVANNAH (O.S.)

Need some company?

Savannah looks rested.

JOHN

Sure.

SAVANNAH

You look terrible, John.

JOHN

Long day.

SAVANNAH

That coffee?

JOHN

No. They call it that, though.

Savannah gets up and pours herself a mug from the pile that sits on a table. She returns, takes a sip, makes a face, and then pays attention to John.

John sees the tattoo of three dots on the underside of Savannah's right wrist.

JOHN (cont'd)

Your tattoo.

Savannah absently touches it.

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. SHELTER - DAY

PRE-TEEN SAVANNAH (11) sits on a bunk while Alejandra carefully applies the tattoo of the three dots using a pin. It doesn't look at all comfortable.

BACK TO PRESENT

Savannah points to one dot.

SAVANNAH

ALEJANDRA (V.O.)

This is your mother. Esta es Tia Sarah.

Savannah point to another dot.

SAVANNAH

ALEJANDRA (V.O.)

This is Aunt Sandy. Esta es su madrina.

Savannah points to the final dot.

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. SHELTER - DAY

Alejandra points to the same dot as Pre-teen Savannah looks raptly on.

SAVANNAH (V.O.)

ALEJANDRA

And this is me.

Y esta es mi bonita

Savannah.

Alejandra kisses Pre-teen Savannah's forehead.

BACK TO PRESENT

Savannah looks lost in the memory. She emerges from it.

SAVANNAH

Aunt Sandy has one, too.

JOHN

Do you know what it really means? The three dots?

SAVANNAH

No. Your mom talked about it, but she never really said. I think some guy named John Henry knew.

JOHN

What happened after you disappeared?

SAVANNAH

I wandered too far.

(MORE)

SAVANNAH (cont'd)

The shelter was in Lancaster, in Skynet territory. I got picked up by a patrol. They were taking me to a work camp, but I escaped. Don't ask me how. I've thought about it for years and I still don't know. I wandered around trying to find someplace on our side. Then I...

Savannah has hit a rough patch. She takes a gulp of "coffee".

SAVANNAH (cont'd)

I ended up with an Imam and his family...in Fresno. I've been there for the last ten years. Then Skynet attacked and... That's that.

John just sort of stares at Savannah.

SAVANNAH (cont'd)

And I know that sounds a little rehearsed. I've been saying it in my head, one way or another, for a long time--in case I found someone.

JOHN

Who was your first choice?

Savannah can't stifle a smile.

SAVANNAH

John Connor.

(beat)

Kidding. I'm kidding.

(beat)

Probably Aunt Sandy. I mean, I want to see my mom, but it's been a long time.

Jason appears at the threshold.

JASON

John, we've got trouble.

John gets up and bolts for the door. Jason leads the way as the two exit.

Savannah grabs John's toof and takes a bite. And spits it out.

INT. ZEIRA COMMAND AND CONTROL - NIGHT

Frank is at the tactical board. Dwayne is relieving Alyssa. Tiffany is manning her equipment. John and Jason hover at Tiffany's station.

WEAVER (COMM)

...[su]dden attack. Skynet. We're [garbled] [re]inforcements. It won't [static]

TIFFANY

Lost the signal.

JOHN

Get it back.

(to Dwayne)

Palmdale?

Dwayne holds up a finger for a moment.

DWAYNE

Secure.

CAMERON (COMM)

This is Trademark.

John shifts over to the other station.

JOHN

Glad you made it. Whiskey's under attack.

INT. PALMDALE COMMAND AND CONTROL - NIGHT

The room is more map-room than Zeira's. Cameron is there with PETER and a COMM OPERATOR.

CAMERON

(on radio)

So are we.

PETER

(on radio)

This is Peck. Heavier attack this time. Waiting for light to assess.

INT. ZEIRA COMMAND AND CONTROL - NIGHT

John has his eyes closed, working out the moves.

JOHN

(on radio)

Trademark, is this kikashi?

CAMERON (COMM)

I believe so.

JOHN

You know the stakes. Play the board.

INT. PALMDALE COMMAND AND CONTROL - NIGHT

CAMERON

(on radio)

I understand. I'll keep you updated.

JOHN (COMM)

Every hour. Out.

Cameron and Peter step away from the equipment.

PETER

Kikashi?

CAMERON

We may have to let Depot 37 fall in order to protect Palmdale. But John would rather not.

PETER

Well...there's not a lot to do until--

A significant EXPLOSION outside shakes the facility.

PETER (cont'd)

Until sun-up. You might as well get some sack-time. It's going to be a long day.

CAMERON

But--

PETER

Go. I mean it.

Cameron glares at Peter in an Allison-like way before exiting with attitude.

INT. TOSHIRO'S BUNK - NIGHT

Cameron enters the toy-accented quarters. TOSHIRO has a pillow folded around his ears, but it's obvious he's not sleeping.

CAMERON

Toshiro.

Toshiro clutches the pillow a little tighter. Cameron walks over, considers her options, and then tugs on the pillow.

CAMERON (cont'd)

Toshiro.

Toshiro squints.

TOSHIRO

Ali, go to sleep.

CAMERON

I need you to get up.

With a sigh and resigned shake of his head, Toshiro gets himself to a sitting position. He wears a nightshirt.

Cameron reaches into a pocket and pulls out a note.

CAMERON (cont'd)

You need to read this.

Toshiro takes the note, unfolds it, and starts reading. Before long he's wide awake and looking back and forth between the note and Cameron.

TOSHIRO

You're metal?

Cameron doesn't answer right away.

END OF ACT FIVE

ACT SIX

INT. TOSHIRO'S BUNK - NIGHT

Toshiro sits on his bunk, Cameron standing in front of him.

TOSHIRO

You're metal?

Cameron puts her finger to her lips.

CAMERON

(as Allison)

Shh. Not so loud. You want to get us into trouble?

TOSHIRO

Ali... Wait.

Toshiro stands and gets a closer look at Cameron.

TOSHIRO (cont'd)

It's really good.

Cameron smiles like Allison.

CAMERON

Thanks.

Toshiro hands Cameron back the note. Cameron takes it.

TOSHIRO

It's a good thing Allison's good at codes or else you'd be... Wait. Why aren't the dogs barking?

CAMERON

I'm different.

Cameron sits on the empty bunk opposite Toshiro. He sits on his own.

CAMERON (cont'd)

Allison said you'd help me. I brought supplies. Components. Chemicals.

TOSHIRO

For what?

CAMERON

We need more HK-busters. Also, we need help with a special project.

TOSHIRO

And by we--?

CAMERON

John Connor. The Resistance.

The base SHAKES again from a nearby EXPLOSION.

TOSHIRO

Fine. We'll go to the lab. I'm obviously not getting any sleep tonight.

Toshiro stands, as does Cameron. Toshiro spins his finger indicating Cameron should turn around. Cameron finally understand and turns her back. Toshiro pulls off his nightshirt.

EXT. DEPOT 37 - NIGHT

La Cazadora is behind a tipped-over dolly at the corner of the building. She has a plasma rifle with a scope. She deliberately aims and fires.

HK plasma bolts whiz through the air.

ALEJANDRA

Pull back! Everyone, pull back!

TOK Cyborgs run from their current positions to around La Cazadora and are shielded by the building. As the second-to-last cyborg is about to round the corner, a thick plasma round scores a direct hit and partially disassembles the Cyborg and continues to blow a small chunk from the building's corner.

La Cazadora plucks a small piece of shrapnel from her forehead, a stream of blood now trickling down the right side of her face.

Weaver steps out and stays behind cover next to La Cazadora.

WEAVER

We have to abandon this place. We'll rendezvous at your shelter.

ALEJANDRA

You know where it is?

WEAVER

About two kilometers, in the hills. You take the cyborgs. I'll bring the endos.

ALEJANDRA

Fifteen minutes.

WEAVER

Fifteen minutes.

Weaver exits and goes back inside the building.

ALEJANDRA

Everyone on me! We're leaving!

Though there is some cover fire, for now most of the plasma bolts are coming from Skynet's side, but soon they also decrease. The sky is starting to lighten.

TERMINATOR DISPLAY (BRANDI)

Infrared and starlight scans reveal the exodus from Depot 37.

BACK TO SCENE

Brandi is still on her motorcycle. She activates her headset.

BRANDI

(on radio)

Hold fire. Ring the building eighty meters out. Squad four, you'll go in with me.

Brandi powers up her motorcycle and leads a squad of endos to the building.

INT. ZEIRA COMMAND AND CONTROL - MORNING

John leans against a wall. He's exhausted and stressed. Dwayne and Tiffany are still at the comm stations. Jason is at the tactical board.

DWAYNE

I got Park. Non-secure. Code Pickup-seven.

John goes over to Dwayne's station.

JOHN

(on radio)

Pickup, this is Little Pond. We need you ASAP.

CLARKE (COMM)

(male voice)

Little Pond, I've touched base with the others. We're talking fourteen for me, twenty-five and maybe ten for the rest.

JOHN

(on radio)

What if you redirect to the pepper farm?

CLARKE (COMM)

About nine or ten for me.

JOHN

(on radio)

Stage there.

Tiffany stands and emphatically waves John over.

JOHN (cont'd)

(on radio)

Stand-by Pickup.

TIFFANY

Palmdale's relaying from Depot 37. Secure.

John moves over to Tiffany's station.

JOHN

(on radio)

I'm here.

ALEJANDRA (COMM)

[garbled...] base.

[garbled...re]peat, Abandoned base.

CW [garbled...] rendezvous.

[Garbled] missed rendezvous.

JOHN

(on radio)

Understood. What's your situation?

ALEJANDRA (COMM)

[garbled] have eight [garbled]. Skynet has building. [garbled] destroyed.

JOHN

(on radio)

Say again.

ALEJANDRA (COMM)

Got out...

TIFFANY

L-0-S.

John hits the table hard in frustration.

DWAYNE

John?

John goes back over to Dwayne's station.

JOHN

(on radio)

Pickup, Little Pond. Pass the word: best possible time.

CLARKE (COMM)

Got it. Will pass along.

JOHN

(on radio)

Godspeed. Little Pond out.

John takes a cleansing breath. He's worn out.

JOHN (cont'd)

I'm getting some coffee.

John exits.

INT. ZEIRA MESS - DAY

The morning crowd fills the mess as usual. Savannah is still where she was when John left, except now she has some real food...and a few Soldiers seeking her attention.

The crowd gives John his space as he sees Savannah and heads to her rubble table. The would-be suitors find an elsewhere to be. John sits heavily opposite Savannah.

SAVANNAH

You look dead.

JOHN

I don't feel that good.

SAVANNAH

I'll get you some of that brown stuff.

JOHN

Wait.

Savannah waits.

JOHN (cont'd)

Catherine's missing.

SAVANNAH

When?

JOHN

A little while ago, during a battle. Knowing her, I'm not worried. We just don't know where she is at the moment.

Savannah pats his hand.

SAVANNAH

I'll get you some coffee.

Savannah has eyes on her as she gets a mug of coffee and returns to the table.

John's rested his head on his arms on the table. He is asleep.

JOHN (V.O.)

When I was ten, my mom left me in a desert. She said it was to test me; to see how much I'd learned.

EXT. LA CAZADORA CAMP - DAY

There are about eight Cyborg endos-- including T-Tuck, T-Victoria, and T-Goodnow-- crowded together with La Cazadora.

JOHN (V.O.)

Surviving against the heat. Searching for food. Finding water.

La Cazadora pops new power packs into two plasma rifles, crosses herself, and heads off on her own with only the weapons, leaving the endos behind.

INT. BLACK OPS ROOM - DAY

Cameron carries a box of electronic gear into this hacker's workshop filled with computer guts and hacked devices.

JOHN (V.O.)

I wasn't sure how long I'd be out there. It was just me and the desert.

Toshiro is already digging through one box like a kid in a candy store.

INT. ZEIRA MESS - DAY

John still asleep, alone at the table. The mess is still well-filled with Soldiers.

JOHN (V.O.) Now, surrounded by people, I've never felt so alone.

As John sleeps we:

FADE OUT:

SUPERIMPOSE:

"To be Continued"

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT SIX

THE END