

“THE ABYSS” (1989) BEATSHEET 12.09.2009

beated by Erik LeDrew

1. Sonar pings over black. STUDIO LOGO. CHYRON: “...when you look long into an abyss, the abyss also looks into you. Friedrich Nietzsche”. TITLE CARD.
2. The ocean blue. A submarine -- the “USS Montana” -- appears at depth.
3. In the bridge, sailors track a vessel moving at 60 knots. “No way...the Reds don’t have anything that fast.” The sonar signature is unique, couldn’t possibly be a submarine. The captain’s XO tells him what’s its not: “...not one of ours.” The Montana dives past 900-feet into a canyon as the vessel continues to accelerate to unimaginable speeds. It draws close and the sub loses power.
4. A shimmering object jets past the sub, leaving a shockwave in its wake.
5. The power comes back up in the sub, but they’re meters away from the canyon wall and its too late.
6. The sub rakes along the rock wall and plunges down.
7. Fires, leaks break out all over the sub. The captain tries to get them to level-out, but the sub continues its descent. Capt: “We’re losing her.” He orders his XO to launch an emergency buoy.
8. The buoy launches and the sub smashes into a ledge.
9. The torpedo room floods. Sailors try to close hatches but the pressure is too great.
10. The sub tumbles off the ledge and disappears into the depths.
11. The buoy’s beacon flashes on the surface.
12. Two Naval helicopters request permission to land aboard the “Benthic Explorer”, a large catamaran ship.
13. BENDIX, the BE crew chief, clears the birds for landing. Bendix to his supervisor, MCBRIDE: “This could get pretty ugly.” McBride concurs.
14. Several Navy officials pile out of the first bird. The second sets down and the boots of a SEAL team hit the deck: LT. COFFEY, MONK, WILHITE, SCHOENICK. A pair of high heels follows: this is LINDSEY BRIGMAN.

15. Bendix observes Lindsey's presence: "...Queen Bitch of the Universe..."
16. A video feed of underwater welding. DEMARCO, a Navy officer, asks KIRKHILL, the BE company man, if the divers on the video feed can go below 2000 feet. K: "No problem." Lindsey objects: "...you just turn the whole thing over to the goon squad?!" Bendix radios to the divers, asks to speak with "Brigman". He remarks to McBride that Lindsey will throw a fit if "Bud" goes along with the Navy's op.
17. The welding divers swarm over a well-lit structure, in water too deep for sunlight to reach. This structure is DEEPCORE. The divers swim up to a view port in the hull, where they crack wise with a guy watching them from the water-tight interior.
18. This guy is BUD BRIGMAN, man in charge down in the depths. He walks through the grungy, blue-collar station, chatting with fellow roughnecks. Someone tells him he has a call from topside on "the bitchbox." Bud clearly dislikes Kirkhill, the suit calling him.
19. Bud answers the phone. We HEAR only his side of the conversation: "Yeah, I'm calm. I'm a calm person. Is there some reason I shouldn't be calm?...WHAT?!"
20. HIPPY, another Deepcore worker, watches the video feeds in the rig's control room. He dances to music while his pet RAT roosts on his shoulders. He pilots something with a radio-control board.
21. That "something" is a remote-operated vehicle (ROV), snaking around the welding diver. A utility submersible piloted by ONE NIGHT assists the welding diver using her minisub's hydraulic arm.
22. Bud stomps into the control room, turns off Hippy's music, recalls all the divers.
23. The divers bitch about being recalled after just getting to work. Lots of blue-collar joshing.
24. One Night pilots her sub, "Flatbed", into the moonpool inside Deepcore.
25. Flatbed surfaces inside Deepcore with the diver riding on top. Over the intercom, Bud asks everyone to gather at the moonpool. The workers stow the dive gear and Bud arrives. He tells them they've been ordered to close down their drilling operation and relocate the rig. B: "We've received an invitation to cooperate in a matter of national security." Lots of grumbling, "aw, shits" -- no patriots, these guys.

26. DeMarco briefs the Deepcore crew via video feed: they're to investigate the downed submarine, search for survivors. DeMarco reveals a hurricane is en route, which is why the Navy is requisitioning a civilian operation. Hippy objects, Kirkhill offers them triple-time and their collective attitude 180's. Bud is still reluctant, so DeMarco introduces Coffey's SEAL team, which will be leading the mission. Bud makes it clear that in charge down there. B: "There's me and then there's God, understand?"
27. The Deepcore rig lumbers along the ocean floor. Flatbed is out in front pulling it like a tug. Bud directs One Night's piloting from inside Deepcore control.
28. The BE is taking a beating as the storm picks up.
29. McBride video's down to Bud, telling him hurricane Fred will be arriving shortly. B: "I don't know, I think hurricanes should be named after women, don't you?" Which is Lindsey's cue to enter the BE bridge.
30. She and Bud bicker over the video feed. L: "I can't believe you let them grab my rig." Lindsey designed it, but Benthic Petroleum owns it, therefore Bud goes where they say. In anger, Lindsey calls Bud "Virgil" -- his real name. Bud shuts the video off mid-sentence and Hippy pokes fun at Bud's name-revelation. B: "God, I hate that bitch." H: "Probably shouldn't've married her then, huh?"
31. Aboard the BE, workers struggle to get a minisub, "Cab 3", over the water for launching.
32. Inside the submersible, Lindsey sits pilot while the SEALs cram in the rear. She releases the winch and the sub drops to the surface. Everyone is jostled around by the impact, but this is the routine. Cab 3 descends the umbilical linking the BE to Deepcore.
33. Deepcore's lights materialize out of the darkness. One Night still tows the rig with Flatbed. Bud checks in with her, she's struggling to stay awake. She cranks up her country tunes. The Deepcore crew sings along. Then Lindsey arrives. Bud and Hippy's are surprised and not at all pleased.
34. The SEALs and Lindsey sit in a compression chamber on Deepcore. CATFISH greets Lindsey -- he's happy to see her. Coffey and Lindsey are already rubbing each other the wrong way. As the pressure equalizes, Lindsey tells everyone to watch each other for signs of "HPNS". Monk helpfully explains: "High Pressure Nervous Syndrome..." characterized by tremors in the hands, leading to psychosis. Coffey makes a condescending retort at the end of Monk's explanation.

35. Hippy watches the SEALs compress, makes chit-chat with Catfish. Catfish talks about being a former boxer: he's fought guys tougher than SEALs. Hippy makes fun of him waxing nostalgic. Catfish raises his fist: "You see this? They used to call this 'The Hammer'."
36. Catfish opens the chamber, the SEALs and Lindsey exit. She runs into a giant, JAMMER. L: "I don't remember putting a wall here."
37. The SEALs carry their gear to the moonpool.
38. Coffey returns to the chamber for the last of the gear. While checking the snaps on cases, he notices his hands trembling ever so slightly.
39. Lindsey arrives in control, greets Hippy. Bud greets her as "Mrs. Brigman." L: "Not for long." They immediately start jabbing at each other. Lindsey says "hi" to One Night out in Flatbed.
40. One Night returns the greeting, mimes a gag reflex.
41. Bud hands the Deepcore controls off to Hippy, follows Lindsey around the rig. He asks Lindsey why she's there. L: "Because you need me." They have to disconnect from topside during the storm, she wonders what they'd do if a problem arose during that time. Bud takes offense at her suggestion that he and his crew can't handle themselves. Lindsey goes around adjusting dials, Bud follows, adjusting them back. He wants her to admit she came down for him, she says she came for the rig. L: "I have over four years invested in this rig..." B: "Yeah, and you only had three years invested in me." L: "Well, you have to have priorities." Bud is beaten.
42. Bud gives Lindsey his room. She notices he's still wearing his wedding band. She asks why and Bud tries to brush it off. Lindsey admits to not having worn hers in months. Bud brings up her boyfriend. Lindsey reveals they're not seeing each other anymore. Bud pries: "...you realized, 'This guy never makes me laugh.'" Lindsey drives him off.
43. Bud bursts into a restroom, throws his wedding ring into the blue-dyed shitwater, exits. Beat. He re-enters, reaches down into the toilet, pulls the ring back out and puts it on. His hand is now dyed a dark shade of blue.
44. Deepcore comes to a stop. One Night detaches Flatbed's tow cable.
45. Coffey briefs the Deepcore divers on the situation with the downed submarine. Schoenick hands out dosimeter badges, Hippy whines about radiation poisoning. Coffey overreacts to Hippy's whining and the crew doesn't take it well. Bud has everyone suit up, goes to make peace with

- Coffey. He asks for slack, Coffey rebuffs him. Bud sits down next to Sonny to finish suiting up. S: "Bud, you know your hand is blue?"
46. Preparations in the moonpool continue. Hippy and Catfish watch Monk break out some heavy duty dive gear -- a "fluid breathing system". He explains you breath liquid so your body can withstand extreme pressure. To demonstrate, Monk throws Hippy's rat in a tub of the liquid. Hippy thinks it's drowning, but sure enough, the rat stops struggling and it breathes the liquid. M: "He's diggin' it." H: "She's doin' it, she ain't diggin' it." Monk pulls the rat out and lets the fluid drain from her lungs.
 47. Lindsey leads the rescue team down into the trench. Someone asks how deep the drop-off is. Catfish: "This here's the bottomless pit baby: 2 ½ miles, straight down." Out of the dark materializes a massive propeller screw: they've found it. Low radiation readings. Coffey keeps them moving. Hippy in Cab 3 hovers over the midship's hatch. A Team drops from Flatbed down to the hatch. Monk pries open the outer hatch. Hippy launches "Little Geek", the smaller ROV. Monk pounds on the inner hatch: it's flooded. Little Geek goes in with a Geiger counter. The warheads are still intact. Lindsey asks how many the sub carries. C: "24 Trident missiles. 8 MIRVs per missile...say 5-times Hiroshima." Little Geek goes into the reactor room, but readings are safe. A Team enters the sub.
 48. Coffey's team enters through the damaged hull at the bow.
 49. Coffey leads, Bud follows. Behind him are Jammer and Catfish. They walk through flooded lavatories, bunkrooms. Debris floats around inside the sub. They pry open a hatch and a body drifts out. Jammer starts to freak and Coffey offers little reassurance. Bodies float around inside the bridge. Coffey removes the missile-arming key from the dead captain. Jammer looks ill. Bud checks on him and the rest. Catfish: "Triple-time sounded like a lot of money Bud. It ain't." Coffey sends Bud and his men onward.
 50. Bud leads the way into missile control. Jammer is clearly on edge. They push through flooded room after flooded room. Jammer sees crabs run out of a body and starts to freak. Bud let's Jammer stay put while he finishes the sweep of the sub. Bud leaves Jammer with a guideline and disappears from sight.
 51. Coffey opens a safe, extracts a book of arming codes.
 52. Bud radios Jammer, Jammer says he's fine. Bud's checking the last few compartments.
 53. Bud is cut off mid-transmission, Jammer's lights die too. He starts to panic, yanks on the guideline, which severs on a piece of twisted metal.

- Jammer starts to hyperventilate. Then an ethereal light manifests in the room. We see a reflection of something butterfly-like and bioluminescent in Jammer's faceplate. He freezes, then panics. He swims away and slams his backpack into the hatch, cranking up his O2 mixture. Jammer starts convulsing and Bud comes rushing back. Catfish arrives to help.
54. Lindsey and One Night wait for the divers to return. Lindsey's sub power dies. The same ethereal light materializes out of the sub. The vessel moves swiftly, and pauses near Lindsey's sub. It looks like a large jellyfish. Lindsey can't quite get a good look at it. Then the object dives into the depths at impossible speed. Her power comes back up and she immediately receives a "diver emergency" call from Bud.
 55. Back at Deepcore, Monk gives his prognosis on Jammer's comatose state. M: "I'm a medic which is mostly about patching holes...the coma could last hours or days."
 56. Lindsey develops film in her darkroom. Bud grills her over what she saw. Lindsey doesn't think it was either a Russian submersible or an American one. They talk about what might've caused Jammer's panic.
 57. DeMarco questions the SEALs over the incident via video. DeMarco relays info on two Russian attack subs that are in the area but they've lost track of. He orders them to go to "Phase 2": "You're to recover one warhead. Arm it. Wait for further instructions." Coffey shows the slightest hesitation, but he and his team jump to.
 58. The Deepcore crew watch a news report on their operation. A newscaster reports from the deck of a destroyer circling the BE topside. He relays that Cuba is only 80 miles away, and that Russia and Cuba are nervous.
 59. Hippy compares this incident to the Cuban missile crisis. Bud and Lindsey try to calm him down. B: "Hippy, you think everything's a conspiracy." H: "Everything is." One Night comes up furious, tells Bud the SEALs have hijacked Flatbed. Bud runs into the moonpool as Flatbed dives. Bud tries to explain that they need Flatbed's arm to unhook the umbilical before the storm hits.
 60. The storm rages around the BE. McBride tells his people to stay below decks.
 61. McBride enters the BE's bridge, tells DeMarco they can't unhook because Flatbed's been taken by his SEALs. DeMarco is nonplussed.
 62. Coffey and his SEALs open one of the Trident missiles at the Montana wreck.

63. Deepcore crew watches a news report about a ship collision between American and Soviet ships topside. The Soviet destroyer is shown sinking, with 100 crewmen missing. Russians take it as a provocation.
64. Coffey and his men continue to remove one of the warheads from the missile. Coffey notices his shakes are getting worse.
65. Deepcore watches more news about escalating tension between American and Soviet navies. They try changing channels, but the news is inescapable. They stop on a Man-on-the-Street series of interviews with various people. Opinions range from apathetic to pacifist.
66. The SEALs return. Bud gets the Deepcore crew into action to prep Flatbed for unhooking the umbilical. Hippy tries to pick up a bag, Coffey tells him to walk away. Coffey and Wilhite carry the bag O.S. Bud turns to One Night, already down the hatch: "This ain't no drill slick, make me proud."
67. Coffey and Wilhite carry the dripping wet duffle down a corridor.
68. The BE takes a beating topside. The crane guiding the umbilical sways under the stress.
69. The cable swings with the motion of the boat topside. One Night has trouble getting a grip on it.
70. One of the BE's thrusters blows and the boat begins to drift out of position. McBride watches the cable get pulled around outside.
71. The corresponding action starts dragging Deepcore along the ocean floor. One Night gets tossed around inside Flatbed. Bud runs to the control room, radios for slack from McBride.
72. McBride tries to signal the crane operator to pay out slack. The radio operator can't hear/see him through the storm.
73. Lindsey sees the drop-off approaching, but they catch on a rock outcropping.
74. Topside, the crane buckles, crashes into the water, taking the operator with it. McBride watches helplessly as the crane wreckage submerges.
75. Hippy tells Bud they've lost the topside feeds.
76. McBride brings Deepcore up on "UQC" radio, tells Bud they lost the crane: "It's on its way down to you."

77. Bud trips the alarm, tells everyone to brace for impact. The Deepcore crew runs around, sealing hatches. Coffey sends two of his men to help secure the rig. He and another go to do something else. Bud tells One Night to watch for the falling wreckage.
78. Flatbed dodges cable.
79. One Night tells Bud she's clear. The first of the cable lands on top of Deepcore. Hippy puts his rat in a ziplock bag.
80. The crane continues to sink. Sonar pings pick up.
81. Lindsey catches it on sonar. Bud watches as cable coils out near the drop-off. He and Lindsey watch in anticipation as the sonar pings become a solid freq. Then the crane crashes out in front of Deepcore. They laugh with relief -- then their expressions change, and they see the crane tip over and roll down the trench wall. L: "Oh shit."
82. The wreckage tumbles into the depths.
83. They watch the cable turn taut and then the station jerks: they're being pulled toward the drop-off.
84. Deepcore tips and begins to slide down the slope toward the edge.
85. Electronics short out. Bud sends everyone to put out fires and turn on pumps. Lindsey heads for the battery room while Bud goes to the pump room. An explosion sends a hatch flying at Monk. Lindsey puts an O2 mask on.
86. Hippy runs through the flooding moonpool, tells Wilhite to stop putting out a fire and get the hell outta there. Wilhite screams at Hippy to seal the room.
87. Lindsey puts a fire out.
88. Cab 3 slides around the moonpool. Wilhite jumps into the moonpool to dodge it. Hippy runs away, drops his rat. He turns around to see his rat floating helplessly in its ziplock as Cab 3 hurtles toward it. He gets her in time, and leaps into a corridor as Cab 3 smashes the hatch, disabling it. The station shifts weight and Cab 3 rolls backward onto Wilhite as he tries to get out of the moonpool. It sinks on top of him.
89. Lindsey tries to put out a fire, sees Monk trapped beneath the blown hatch. She pulls him out of the flames.
90. Deepcore slides over the dropoff, comes to rest just on the precipice.

91. Water floods into Deepcore's corridors. Three crewman get trapped in the drill room as it floods. The hatch seals automatically and they pound helplessly from the otherside as the water rises. Bud runs up to the other side. He can see their faces through the small porthole. He tries to tell them to cut the hydraulics hose but they can't hear him. The hallway around Bud begins to flood and he runs to the next hydraulic door. It begins to slide closed as he runs at it. Just before it closes all the way, he jams his hand into the crack and the door catches on his wedding ring. He screams for help through the crack as the water level rises. Catfish and Sonny run up to the door. They cut the line to the hose and the three of them manage to push the door open. Bud moves them down the hallway and water pours from the other corridor. They get to the hatch and are able to seal it behind them. Bud gives his ring a huge kiss.
92. Deepcore sits powerless, hanging over the trench.
93. Sonny tries radioing BE but no response. Bud tells him to give it a rest. Sonny wants to get out of this, see his wife again. B: "Then you better keep tryin', huh?"
94. Bud walks around his damaged rig. He checks on Jammer, who's still out cold. He checks on the SEALs, who are patching Monk and still aren't able to find Wilhite. Coffey offers a pathetic mea culpa: "...I was under orders. I had no choice." Bud nods and walks off.
95. Bud goes down to the battery room where Catfish and Lindsay work to restore power. Lindsey gives him the shakedown: no heat, only 12 hrs. worth of O-2. Lindsey thinks she can extend this if she goes outside and ties into exterior storage tanks. Bud watches her work a beat, then: "Hey Lins, I'm glad you're here." L: "I'm not."
96. The larger ROV, "Big Geek", moves around Deepcore, surveying the external damage.
97. Hippy and One Night pilot the ROVs from the moonpool room. Bud enters. One Night tells him she's found Cab 3: destroyed by crane wreckage. Hippy pilots around inside the flooded compartments of Deepcore, finds their last unaccounted for crewmember drowned in the living quarters. Four dead in all. H: "We just leave them there?" Bud says priority one is to get something to breathe.
98. Lindsey is suited up, walking outside with Big Geek by her side. She confers with Bud, Hippy as she moves under the different trimodules.
99. Bud feeds Lindsey's hose into the moonpool. He tells One Night how he and Lindsey got hitched: they were aboard a ship for 6 months and

“married couples got a stateroom, otherwise it was bunks.” Everything was fine until Lindsey got promoted to chief engineer on Deepcore. B: “She didn’t leave me, she just left me behind.” One Night pretends to kink Lindsey’s hose.

100. Lindsey walks to the trench wall. She starts freeing tanks from the crane wreckage.
101. Hippy’s video feed dies. Then Deepcore’s power fades.
102. Lindsey’s lights, radio feed go out. She can’t raise anyone. Then the jellyfish shape from the Montana rises behind her. She freezes, slowly turns. We see it in CU: a biomechanical creature, similar in shape to an ROV. Lindsey watches as it moves off. Then a greater light rises from the abyss below. Beneath her a massive biomechanical shape comes up. She walks out to it, touches its “hull”. She smiles: it is beautiful, like a giant biomechanical manta ray. It drifts back down into the abyss. Lindsey pulls out her camera but it jets off into the deep before she can snap a picture. The jellyfish ROV flits past her, dives. She manages to take a few pictures as it disappears below. Once out of sight, power returns everywhere. Lindsey smiles, sensing the connection between these creatures and electromagnetism.
103. Bud examines Lindsey’s photos: a streak of violet light. He mocks her photography skills. The rest of the crew is gathered and they too are skeptical. L: “There’s something down there, something not us.” Catfish requests specificity. L: “A non-terrestrial intelligence.” Hippy gets off on this “NTI” coinage -- which, because of his conspiracy theorizing, actually hurts Lindsey’s argument. L : “Hippy, do me a favor: stay off my side.” Bud pulls her out into the hallway.
104. Bud accuses Lindsey of rocking the boat. B: “When you’re hanging on by your fingernails, you don’t go waving your arms around.” Lindsey begs Bud to believe her. Bud grudgingly hears her out. L: “It wasn’t some clunky steel can like we would build...it was a machine, but it was alive.” Lindsey asks Bud to go on his feelings. B: “You think Coffey’s gonna go on a feeling?” L: “We all see what we wanna see. Coffey looks and he sees Russians. He sees hate and fear. You have to look with better eyes than that.” Bud wants to believe her, but can’t allow himself to.
105. Coffey tries to boss around Bud’s crew like a military unit, tries to get them allied against the “Russian bogey.” They give him the kiss off and he starts to lose it. Bud steps in to rescue the situation. Coffey turns away to recompose himself while Bud sends everyone to their tasks.

106. Coffey and Schoenick disassemble the warhead. In B.G., Big Geek rises outside the porthole.
107. Hippy watches the videofeed, sees the warhead. He starts to record the footage.
108. Hippy plays the footage back for Bud, observing the shakes that wrack Coffey's body as he works. Bud is skeptical of the MIRV. Hippy hypothesizes they're planning to use it to blow up the Montana. They realize Lindsey has been watching from the doorway for some time. Lindsey marches off. Bud goes after her.
109. Lindsey walks up to Coffey's hatch. She grabs a fire extinguisher and pounds on it. Bud tries to calm her down. The hatch opens. Coffey tries to block her access to the warhead, but unsuccessfully so. Coffey tries to calm her down, while holding his hand behind his back. Lindsey won't hear it. C: "You're becoming a serious impediment to our mission. Now you either do an about face, walk outta here, or I'll have you escorted out." Lindsey throws herself at him, Schoenick grabs her, Bud pounds the alarm, shouts over the intercom. Catfish et al run up, Bud demands her let go. Coffey concedes. B: "Smartest thing you ever did." Bud talks everybody down, they leave. CAMERA DOLLIES to reveal Coffey has been holding a loaded handgun behind his back this whole time. C: "We can't trust them. We may have to take steps...we're gonna have to take steps."
110. Hippy tells Lindsey Coffey's got the shakes. Bud lists the reasons to leave Coffey be: pressure-induced psychosis, cut-off from his chain of command, in possession of a nuclear weapon. B: "So as a personal favor to me, would you put your tongue in neutral for a while?"
111. Coffey looks out of his room's viewport, CAMERA PANS to the abyssal depths.
112. Lindsey asks Hippy to program Big Geek to dive down to the NTIs.
113. Coffey watches Lindsey's convo from a security camera. Lindsey wants to prove to Coffey there aren't Russians down there, Hippy is just plain afraid of the man.
114. Lindsey gives Monk some coffee, he thanks her.
115. Everyone is asleep in one of the common areas. Bud snores, Lindsey tells him to turn on his side and he does without waking up.

116. Sonny sleeps in the sonar room. Sonar starts pinging, the screens fritz-out.
117. Pseudopod POV rises from the trench to Deepcore, heads for the moonpool.
118. Hippy puts the finishing touches on Big Geek's programming, exits. The moonpool room fills with violet light from beneath. Then the water itself rises, tentacle-shaped. The pseudopod enters the station.
119. Lindsey is asleep. The hatch opens. The pseudopod enters the room. It looks over the various crew members, moves on. It moves to Lindsey. She starts awake, shakes Bud. A tentacle of water writhes before them. One Night wakes as well. Bud wakes Catfish, who does a double-take. The pseudopod approaches Lindsey. It's bulbous tip forms into a facsimile of her face. She makes faces, it mimes them back. Then it transforms to Bud's face. Lindsey touches it, tastes the substance: seawater. The pseudopod backs into the corridor. Lindsey and the others run after it.
120. They find it hovering over the warhead, inspecting it.
121. Coffey and Schoenick enter the moonpool, see the trunk of the pseudopod running into the station. Coffey's mind is blown, he panics and slams the door shut, severing the tentacle.
122. All over the station, the pseudopod collapses into plain seawater.
123. In the moonpool, the severed tentacle rises over Coffey, who falls backward as if to ward off evil. Then the pseudopod jets back into the water. The light disappears and Coffey lowers his hands.
124. Sonny wakes and the sonar equipment comes back online.
125. The SEALs and Deepcore crew gather to discuss the event. Lindsey asks who actually thought that was a *Russian* water tentacle, but nobody knows what the hell it was, not even Coffey. Lindsey reasons whoever these things are must've learned to control water intelligently, that their whole technology is based on that. Coffey watches them while under the table, he rakes a K-Bar across his forearm.
126. Coffey steps out into the hallway with Schoenick. He punches the wall: "It went straight for the warhead and they think it's cute."
127. Coffey barges into his quarters, starts assembling weapons from his duffel. Schoenick tries to calm him, but Coffey grabs him instead, shakes

violently. C: "We have no way of warning the surface...whatever happens, it's up to us." He gives a machine gun to Schoenick, who takes a breath, cocks it.

128. Hippy walks around Deepcore by himself. He peeks into Coffey's room: the warhead is gone.
129. Coffey struggles to carry the warhead down a hallway.
130. Bud looks out on Deepcore through a viewing bubble. The Deepcore crew talks about the NTIs. Lindsey hypothesizes that they're from another planet with similar conditions: cold and intense pressure.
131. Hippy follows the sound of a drop-chain to the moonpool. He peeks around the corner: Schoenick has the warhead strapped to Big Geek and is positioning it over the water. Hippy backs away, turns to find Coffey blocking the hallway, pistol in hand.
132. Coffey barges into the crew quarters. He throws Hippy into the room, hands bound behind his back. Coffey pulls out his pistol. Schoenick is at his side, weapon in hand. Coffey and Schoenick back out. Hippy explains that the SEALs are using Big Geek to send the warhead down to the NTIs. Coffey hands his pistol to Monk, drags him into the hallway, tells him they're going to Phase 3. Monk says they don't have orders for that. Coffey leaves him against the wall, strides to Lindsey. Coffey grabs her, throws her against the wall. Schoenick holds the others off. C: "This is something I've wanted to do since we first met." He tears something BELOW FRAME. He raises a strip of duct tape, places it firmly over her mouth. He moves everyone into the kitchen. Hippy tries to talk sense into the SEALs as he's thrown into the kitchen. Monk asks what the timer is set for: "3 hours", not enough time to reach minimum safe distance. Monk isn't onboard, so Coffey takes the pistol back. He leaves Schoenick to guard the door.
133. Lindsey tries to talk sense into Schoenick through the door. Monk tries to as well from outside the door. Schoenick tells them both to shut up. Jammer still lies unconscious in B.G. M: "The shockwave'll kill us. It'll crush this rig like a beer can..." Schoenick doesn't listen.
134. Coffey jams hatches shut behind him as he runs to the moonpool.
135. Lindsey still yells through the door. Then, to the others: "I dunno, I think I'm reaching him." They scoff. Then the hatch release spins, the door opens. Jammer steps in, hands Schoenick's weapon to Hippy. Hippy charges out, aims it at Monk, who sits on the floor beside the unconscious Schoenick. M: "I'm the least of your problems." Bud calms

him down, asks Jammer how he's feeling. J: "I'm okay...I just figured I was dead back there when I saw that angel coming for me." Bud thinks Jammer's still a little out of it.

136. Bud and Lindsey try to spin the hatch release that leads to the moonpool. No luck.
137. Bud, Catfish, Lindsey jump down to the flooded lower deck. Bud opens a hatch in the floor, he and Catfish start to strip. L: "What are you doing?" B: "I'm going to swim to hatch 6." Catfish tags along. Bud hyperventilates, jumps down.
138. The hatch opens outward and Bud and Catfish swim out under the Deepcore rig. They swim up to another hatch, spin it open, and swim into the flood chamber.
139. The inner hatch is also locked, so Bud resolves to swim all the way to the moonpool. Catfish doesn't think he can make it. Bud tells Catfish to head back and swims down, leaving Catfish alone. Catfish is guilt-ridden for not going with Bud, bangs his fist against the hull.
140. Bud swims on alone.
141. He surfaces in the moonpool, does his best to keep quiet. Bud sees Coffey aimlessly pulling chain through the drop-chain winch, struggling with something. Bud climbs out of the water, shivering.
142. Jammer tapes Schoenick to a chair in the control room. Hippy, Lindsey watch the moonpool on the video monitors. H: "[Bud] can't make it to the door, he's going to try to take [Coffey] out himself." Lindsey can't believe Bud would be so stupid.
143. Bud picks up a heavy piece of pipe, creeps up behind Coffey. Just as Bud readies to swing, he sees Coffey's pistol tucked in the waistband at the small of his back. Bud reaches for it instead. But just as he's about to grab it, Coffey whirls, aims the pistol at Bud.
144. Lindsey watches as Coffey jabs the pistol into Bud's forehead.
145. Bud tries to talk Coffey down. Coffey pulls the trigger -- click. It's empty. Coffey re-cocks, but Bud swings his pipe into him, knocking Coffey to the deck. Coffey knocks Bud back and they both struggle to get out of the water.
146. Monk pushes 9-mil rounds out of a clip: he disarmed Coffey's pistol earlier.

147. Coffey pulls out a knife and they fight. Coffey gets Bud down and starts to choke him with dangling cable. Then he hears someone yell "Hey" and turns -- to face Catfish, who smashes Coffey's face in with "The Hammer". Coffey goes down, gets back up, then thinks better of tangling with Catfish: he runs for Flatbed. Coffey starts to dive. Catfish and Bud leap up onto Flatbed and try to get Big Geek off but no luck.
148. Bud and Catfish climb out of the moonpool. Bud grabs diving gear while Catfish goes to the locked hatch.
149. Catfish unlocks the hatch and Hippy spills out, weapon in hand.
150. The crew runs into the moonpool. Catfish urges Hippy to shoot, Lindsey checks on Bud who is getting his drysuit on. Hippy doesn't know how to fire the gun so Catfish grabs it from him and empties the magazine into the moonpool. The bullets do no damage to the departing Flatbed.
151. The others turn to Bud, help him finish suiting up, while One Night helps Lindsey get into Cab 1. Bud jumps into the water.
152. Bud pulls himself along the structure, catches up to Flatbed, "leaps" for it. He misses but manages to catch a trailing strap. Coffey is unaware of Bud's presence. Bud pulls himself on top of Flatbed and starts wrestling with Big Geek.
153. Coffey readies to launch Big Geek.
154. Bud can't get the straps off so he ties a lead of rope to Big Geek, starts swimming for the rig. Coffey releases Big Geek. Bud arrives at the structure. Coffey sees the rope trailing behind Big Geek. Bud slings the rope around some extruding pipes, and fights against Big Geek to tie it off. Coffey brings Flatbed around, extends the arm and prepares to ram Bud. Bud swims out of the way in time and Coffey crashes into the structure, breaking the arm off. One Night's radio starts playing inside Flatbed. He smashes it in with his elbow to kill it.
155. Bud swims partway down the trench wall and Coffey follows him. Just as Coffey is about to run Bud down, Lindsey comes roaring over the lip and rams Cab 1 into Coffey. Flatbed spins into the wall, killing its engines, and a fire breaks out inside. Coffey tries to put it out. Lindsey pilots over to Bud and Bud moves to get inside Cab 1.
156. Big Geek still struggles against the loosening-rope.
157. Bud climbs inside Cab 1 and they head for Big Geek. The rope frees just as Cab 1 arrives. Bud tries to use Cab 1's arm to clamp down on the

rope. But Coffey comes up behind them and rams Cab 1, jarring Big Geek free. It disappears down into the abyss.

158. Lindsey tries to outrun Coffey. They race along the trench wall, moving further away from Deepcore. Lindsey gets the upper hand, rams Flatbed, smashing Coffey into the wall. Both subs are disabled. Coffey hangs over the precipice while Bud and Lindsey rest just on the edge. Flatbed slides off into the deep. Cracks spider-web over the view port, water sprays in, Coffey screams, and Flatbed implodes.
159. Cab 1 floods. Bud and Lindsey try to raise Deepcore, but their power shorts out. Bud is unable to stop the flooding. Lindsey reasons that Bud is the stronger swimmer: "I drown and you pull me back to the rig." Bud is eventually convinced. They kiss. Bud puts his helmet on and Lindsey starts to cry. The sub floods completely. She kisses his faceplate, her body tenses, then goes limp. Bud screams, "No..."
160. Out of the black, a light shines: Bud, and he's towing Lindsey's limp body. He swims hard, pulling her through the rig wreckage.
161. The Deepcore crew sees him on the video feed. His voice breaks over the radio. He tells them to get medical supplies, meet him at the moonpool.
162. He swims on.
163. They set up frantically, breaking out the defibrillator kit, etc. Bud arrives, Catfish jumps into the water to help lift Lindsey. Everyone goes to work on her. Nothing brings back her pulse. Bud takes over, gives Lindsey CPR. He starts breathing for her. Still nothing. Catfish stops Bud. C: "It's all over man..." Long beat. But Bud doesn't give up, he resumes CPR with renewed intensity. He starts slapping her, screaming at her, everything. Then she blinks. Color returns to her face. She coughs. Everyone gets very emotional.
164. Lindsey lies on a bunk, wrapped in a blanket. Bud watches over her. L: "Next time, it's your turn, okay?"
165. Bud gets prepped to "drown" in the fluid breathing suit. Bud holds Hippy's rat, then starts hyperventilating with O-2. Lindsey seals Bud's helmet. B: "Let's rock 'n' roll." Pink fluid fills the helmet. Bud struggles to breathe the fluid. Monk: "We all breathe liquid for nine months Bud..." He stops struggling. He types a message on his keypad. They help him to the moonpool. Hippy has re-programmed Little Geek, so it should take him straight to Big Geek's location. Bud descends.

166. Bud approaches the trench wall. He stands on the edge, waves up to the crew in the control room, and steps off.
167. Lindsey talks to Bud from the control room.
168. Bud drifts past the crane wreckage.
169. Lindsey tells Bud he's set the record for the deepest suit dive: 4200 feet.
170. Bud continues down.
171. Lindsey asks Bud about pressure effects. Bud has a hard time typing. One Night tells her to talk to Bud. Lindsey starts talking about intimate memories to keep Bud focused.
172. Bud's flashlight implodes from the pressure.
173. Bud's signal starts to fade. The crew kills all unnecessary power to boost the signal. Bud starts typing gibberish. Monk encourages Lindsey to talk more, keep him with them.
174. Little Geek implodes too.
175. Bud pops a flare. He glances off the wall, tumbling down along it.
176. Monk tells Lindsey Bud can still make it back, nods at her to continue. She tells him she knows how lonely he feels "...but I'm there with you. You're not alone." She pours her soul out to keep Bud conscious. No response.
177. He falls further and further.
178. Catfish tries talking to Bud. Still no response. Lindsey tries again. Then, from Bud: "Fel better som lite belo." Monk thinks Bud's hallucinating.
179. But as Bud falls, we see that the canyon wall is painted with that ethereal, violet light. Bud sees Big Geek on a shelf beneath him. He lands, types a message: "Touchdown".
180. Monk takes the mic from Lindsey, ready to talk him through the disarming process.
181. Bud follows Monk's instructions, but then his flare goes out. He pops green chem lights. Monk tells him to cut the blue wire with the white stripe, not the black wire with the yellow stripe -- but in the green light, they both look black with a white stripe. Bud pulls out his wirecutters, types "cutting now". He holds his cutters over one wire, squeezes, stops.

Then he cuts the other wire -- and nothing happens. Bud types "still here."

182. Bud has only 5 minutes O-2 left, nowhere near enough time to get back. Lindsey begs him to start back, he types: "...knew this was a one way ticket I had to come...love you wife" Lindsey, between sobs, responds in kind.
183. Bud sits on the shelf next to the disabled warhead. He appears on the verge of blacking out, when the same shape Jammer saw approaches Bud: an angelic, bioluminescent creature, with a humanoid face. It offers Bud its hand, Bud takes it.
184. The NTI leads Bud down to the bottom of the trench where a massive structure rests. The alien swims into a passageway, taking Bud deep inside. Psychedelic lights and patterns fly past.
185. Finally Bud is dropped to the floor of a flooded alien room, and the water parts like the Red Sea. In a dry space now, Bud removes his helmet. He vomits up liquid and takes a deep breath. He tears off his gear.
186. Bud notices that a crowd of the NTIs has gathered just on the other side of one of the walls of water. B: "Howdy. Uh, how you guys doin.?" The wall of water behind him turns into a TV screen. Clips of newscasts on the American-Russian crisis topside begin playing. This transitions to chaotic live coverage. We catch a snippet about ..."1000-ft. waves..." massing on coastlines. The camera spins and we see a massive wave coming at the California coastline. Bud understands that the aliens are causing this, asks them why. Images of nuclear explosions bombard him. B: "How do you know...they're really gonna do it? Where do you get off passing judgement on us?" Images of various atrocities during the 20th Century answer Bud.
187. Waves thousands of feet high threaten beaches, NYC, the Golden Gate Bridge, Russian Naval stations. Then they freeze in mid-crest. They hold for a beat, then start to slowly recede. This transitions to video footage --
188. -- and Bud sees that they've rescinded their threat. Bud asks why they stopped and the aliens show Bud's message to Lindsey. "Knew this was one-way ticket but you know I had to come..." Bud turns to look at the aliens, turns back to see: "Love you wife." The aliens nod at him through the water, Bud returns a friendly salute.
189. On the surface, the clouds mysteriously part and the sun comes out.
190. McBride tries hailing Deepcore from aboard the BE.

191. Catfish answers. They explain their situation.
192. While Catfish and McBride work out the rescue details, Hippy and One Night notice a message appear: "Virgil Brigman back on the air." There is much rejoicing, then Bud sends a few texts explaining the aliens' motivation: "They want us to grow up a bit, and put away childish things."
193. McBride turns to DeMarco: "Looks like you boys might be out of business."
194. Bud sends Lindsey one more message: "Keep your pantyhose on. You're gonna love this." And then the Deepcore rig starts shaking more and more violently.
195. Bendix starts getting huge readings on sonar.
196. One Night sees on Deepcore's sonar the same thing Bendix sees. Then violet light floods the control room from beyond the edge of the abyss.
197. The alien structure rises up the abyssal wall, dwarfing Deepcore and bathing it in blinding light.
198. Bendix watches the sonar reading come up beneath them. DeMarco looks ready for an attack, asks where the object's going to surface. B: "Where? Everywhere."
199. DeMarco et al run out to the deck of the BE and watch as alien spires rise out of the water all around them. Bendix and McBride watch in amazement as the spires dwarf their ship. Then the BE jerks and starts rising out of the water. The BE and a half dozen destroyers rest on top of the domed surface of the alien craft. Then Bendix sees the Deepcore rig resting on top of the craft as well.
200. A hatch drops on Deepcore and Lindsey, Catfish, et al drop out of the rig. Lindsey reasons they should be dead since they didn't decompress. H: "They musta done something to us..." Lindsey agrees that they've done something to them spiritually, as well as literally. Then something catches her eye: a small white figure walks out of one of the structural mouths: Bud. Lindsey goes to Bud. L: "Hi, Brigman." B: "Hi, Mrs. Brigman." They kiss.

FADE TO BLACK