

Stargate SG-1

"Oracle"

TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. DELPHI STARGATE - DAY

The planet has a Mediterranean feel to it. The area is green, but rocky. Surrounding the Stargate are Greek style ruins.

Beside the Stargate are two large columns made out of the same material the Stargate is made out of.

The DHD is broken, with the orange glass broken and caved in. However, two symbols are lit on the panel.

The Stargate lights up, and SG-1 steps through the portal. Following them is a tray of equipment.

O'NEILL walks over to the DHD.

O'NEILL

The MAP said it was busted.

He gets there.

O'NEILL (CONT'D)

It's busted alright.

CARTER walks over.

CARTER

Yehp. The gate is stuck in mid-dial.

She starts examining it.

O'NEILL

That means we can't dial out manually, right?

CARTER

Nope. We can't.

Jackson walks up.

JACKSON

Can you fix it?

CARTER
Oh yeah. Piece of cake.

TIELK
What does cake have to do with it?

CARTER
It's a metaphor Tielk.

TIELK
Oh.
(beat)
How is cake a metaphor

O'NEILL
(referred to large columns
on the either side of the
Stargate)
What are those?

CARTER
I don't know sir, but they seem to
be a part of the Stargate.

The Stargate lights up again. No one is alarmed. No one comes through the gate.

The teams radios crackle to life.

HAMMOND (ON COMM)
Can you fix the DHD?

O'NEILL
Sam says she can.

HAMMOND (ON COMM)
Do you need any more equipment?

CARTER
I don't think so sir.

HAMMOND (ON COMM)
Okay. Give us a ring when you fix
it. We'll check-in in three hours
if it's not up yet.

O'NEILL
Yes sir.

HAMMOND (ON COMM)
And Jackson...

JACKSON
Yes General?

HAMMOND (ON COMM)
Let them fix the DHD before you go
look at the city.

JACKSON
Yes sir.

The Stargate shuts down.

O'NEILL
You heard the man.

CARTER
Daniel, would you bring me the box
of power relays please?

Daniel heads over to the boxes.

JACKSON
Where are they?

TIELK
O'Neill!

Everyone looks up.

A bunch of people from the village are walking towards them.

The people are all dressed in Greek togas. They carry wine, food, and other Greek party implements.

The leader of the group is ADEMETUS, the high priest. He is an older man dressed in a much nicer toga than the others.

Among the group is also HELEN, Ademetus's daughter, who observes everything.

O'NEILL
Hi there,

ADEMETUS
Greetings to the saviors.

JACKSON
Um... We aren't gods.

ADEMETUS
You are SG-1 from the planet Earth.
You have come to redeem our
civilization.

O'NEILL

What?

ADEMETUS

The Oracle hath foreseen it.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. DELPHI STARGATE - CONTINUOUS

SG-1 is trying to absorb the shock of those words.

O'NEILL

I'm sorry. Who are you?

ADEMETUS

I am Ademetus.

JACKSON

King of the Molossians?

ADEMETUS

No, I am the High Priest of Delphi.
Please, come with us to the
village.

O'NEILL

Right. Could you give us a moment?

SG-1 forms a huddle by the DHD.

O'NEILL (CONT'D)

Well?

CARTER

Who are the Molossians?

Before Jackson can answer, O'Neill does.

O'NEILL

A tribe from the Peloponnesian War.

Everyone looks at him.

O'NEILL (CONT'D)

What? I had to major in something
in college. Military history
seemed interesting.

TIELK

This could be a trap. They may
know about us from the G'auld. And
we can't leave without the
Stargate.

JACKSON

Or the oracle may be Asgard. The Asgard may have told them to expect us.

O'NEILL

Carter, how long will it take you to fix the DHD?

CARTER

Oh, an hour or two, I think. I have to take the whole thing apart and replace half the systems.

Beat while O'Neill thinks.

O'NEILL

Tielk, you stay with Carter. Daniel, you come with me. Carter, get that gate working.

CARTER

Yes sir.

Jackson and O'Neill start to go with the priest.

CARTER (CONT'D)

Keep in touch sir.

O'NEILL

Yeah sure ya bet ya.

FADE TO:

EXT. DELPHI ROAD TO VILLAGE - DAY

D

JACKSON

So, Adametus, what exactly did the prophecy say?

ADEMETUS

A great Steel bird will fly without flapping wings and watch. Then, four warriors from Earth called SG-1 will arrive through the gateway of stone and blue light. O'Neill, Jackson, Carter, and Tielk. They shall quell the hubris of many; they shall redeem Delphi; and they shall reap the knowledge from the Oracle.

O'NEILL

Hubris?

JACKSON

Pride, arrogance. Belief that one can escape fate.

O'NEILL

So we're to quell people's pride? Sounds like a tall order.

JACKSON

So you saw our UAV and came to the stargate to meet us?

ADEMETUS

UAV? Stargate?

O'NEILL

The Stargate is the ring of stone with the blue light. The UAV is a flying thing we use to scout a planet.

ADEMETUS

Oh. Than yes.

JACKSON

How exactly are we suppose to redeem Delphi?

Helen catches up to them.

ADEMETUS

The Hubric, as they are called, are a faction of society that, in their arrogance, rejects the teachings of the Oracle.

HELEN

But the Oracle's profocies are sometimes criptic and fulfilled in unexpected ways.

ADEMETUS

Helen, that's enough.

(beat)

You must forgive my daughter. She is young and of the waiting.

JACKSON

The waiting?

ADEMETUS

The oracle has yet to speak of her.
What do you call such people on
Earth?

JACKSON

What people?

ADEMETUS

The people whose futures the oracle
has yet to predict.

O'NEILL

We don't have an Oracle.

JACKSON

We had one once in Greece at a city
called Delphi, but it has been
abandoned for twenty centuries.

ADEMETUS

You've lived without an oracle. So
that's what it must mean when the
prophesy says you will reap the
knowledge of the Oracle.

O'NEILL

And how are we to deal with these
rebels?

ADEMETUS

We will talk of it when we reach
the village. The council of Kings
has been summonsed. Until then,
you are our honored guests. Come.

FADE TO:

EXT. DELPHI STARGATE - LATER IN THE AFTERNOON

The sun is a bit lower in the sky and the shadows are a bit
longer.

Carter has the DHD opened and greatly dissassembled. She has
her head inside the DHD and is fiddling with something.
Tielk is standing by her, keeping a lookout.

CARTER

(inside the DHD)

What is this?

Tielk starts walking over.

TIELK
What is what?

CARTER
There's a system in here I've never
seen before.

She fiddles inside some more.

CARTER (CONT'D)
Hold on.

She pushes something inside. There is a CRACKLE, than a
SIZZLE. Carter takes her head out of the DHD.

There is a SOUND OF A FORCEFIELD GOING UP, and a light-blue
shimmer appears right in front of the Stargate, emminating
from the collumns.

Sam hands Tielk a rock. Tielk throws the rock at the
Stargate. When it hits the forcefield, the forcefield
becomes dark blue, and the rock desentagrates.

CARTER (CONT'D)
Try your staff weapon.

Tielk fires the staff weapon at the field. The field becomes
dark blue again, and the blast is absorbed by the field.

TIELK
It appears to be some sort of Iris.

CARTER
That's just what I was thinking.

Sam picks up her radio.

CARTER (CONT'D)
(into radio)
Colnol.

O'NEILL (ON COMM)
Yeah Carter.

CARTER
Sir, those columns appear to be
some type of forcefield that acts
like an iris in front of the
Stargate. I just activated it sir.

O'NEILL (ON COMM)
Can you shut it off?

CARTER

I think so.

O'NEILL (ON COMM)

Good. What's the status on the DHD?

CARTER

This one's a little different sir, but I'm starting to figure it out. It'll probably be another hour or so.

O'NEILL (ON COMM)

When you get it working come down and join the party.

CARTER

Party?

O'NEILL (ON COMM)

Yeah, I'll talk to you later.

CARTER

Yes sir, Carter out.

Carter puts down the radio and sticks her head back in the DHD.

CARTER (CONT'D)

Tielk, would you please bring me the box of converters.

TIELK

Certainly.

Tielk sets down his staff weapon and goes over to the equipment by the gate. He picks up a box.

CARTER

And the camera too, please.

Tielk sets the box down and starts opening some of the others, searching for the camera.

TIELK

(Still looking in the boxes)

Which box is it in?

Beat. No response.

TIELK (CONT'D)
(turning around)
Major?

Tielk comes face to face with A REBEL, dressed in very light armor and holding a blow-gun in his mouth, about to fire.

Carter is by the DHD with a dart in her shoulder.

Tielk charges the rebel. The rebel fires, hitting Tielk in the chest. Tielk is not phased. Tielk crushes into the man linebacker style, sending the rebel to the ground.

PROCNE, a young female rebel, and PYTHES, a male rebel, fire darts at Tielk, hitting him. Tielk ignores the darts, draws his zat, and fires once at each of them, sending them to the ground.

The rebel leader, TERES, picks Carter's zat off of her and fires at Tielk before Tielk gets his weapon around.

Tielk collapses. More rebels, both male and female, emerge from the trees around the Stargate.

INT. HIGH PRIEST'S PALACE, COURTYARD - EARLY EVENING

The high priest lives very well. There are many people inside the courtyard, with large tables filled with food.

Jackson is talking to the Priest and the Priest's daughter, and seems to be doing pretty well.

JACKSON
So, in effect, those that the oracle has prophesied about are called the Fated. They form your upper class. Those that the oracle has yet to speak of are the Waiting. They are the lower class.

ADEMETUS
That is a vast over simplification. Those that the Oracle speaks of do what the Oracle has said that they will do. Those that the Oracle has not spoken of do whatever else needs to be done to support these activities. After all, why spend resources on activities you're not sure of?

JACKSON

I see. And who is told what the Oracle says.

ADEMETUS

Those the Oracle has seen do it, of course. I was a farmer before the Oracle foresaw me as High Priest.

JACKSON

Is the Oracle ever wrong?

ADEMETUS

Never.

HELEN

But sometimes the Oracle is evasive.

JACKSON

How does the Oracle speak?

ADEMETUS

You have many questions Daniel Jackson. The priest stands in the Oracle and the Oracle gives prophesies, some in words, others in images.

An AIDE walks up.

AIDE

The Megarian delagation has arrived.

ADEMETUS

Excuse me.

Ademetus goes off with the aide.

O'Neill is talking in his radio.

O'NEILL

Carter.

Beat.

O'NEILL (CONT'D)

Carter., Do you copy?

Jackson sees what O'Neill is doing and steers Helen in that direction.

O'NEILL (CONT'D)
Tielk, this is O'Neill. Do you
copy?

JACKSON
What is it?

O'NEILL
Carter was supposed to be done half
an hour ago. I can't reach them.

HELEN
What does this do?

JACKSON
It's a field radio. You use it to
communicate over long distances.

HELEN
How does it work? Magic?

JACKSON
No. It transmits a signal using
radio waves, which are sort of like
light only you can't see it.

O'NEILL
Carter, Tielk, do you copy?

HELEN
I don't understand.

JACKSON
We had better go back and look for
them.

O'Neill looks at his watch.

O'NEILL
Hammond is going to call soon. How
long did the probe say the day was?

JACKSON
Eighteen hours and 43 minutes for
one day and night.

O'NEILL
Planet spins fast. It will be dark
soon then. We had better get back
up there.

O'Neill starts to walk out.

JACKSON
Helen, is there a faster mode of
transportation than walking?

CUT TO:

EXT. DELPHI STARGATE - EVENING

Jackson, O'Neill, Helen, and Ademetus arrive in a cart pulled by two creatures that look like a cross between a horse and a warthog.

The camp is deserted. The DHD is still open. Most of the equipment of is gone. The darts litter the area.

The forcefield still hums in front of the Stargate.

O'Neill and Tielk jump off the wagon, followed by Helen. Ademetus simply observe the scene from his vantage point.

O'Neill picks up one of the darts.

ADEMETUS
Teres.

HELEN
You don't know that father.

O'NEILL
Who.

ADEMETUS
Teres is the leader of the Hubric.
He dips those darts in a numbing
toxin that knocks you out. He then
drags you away. You're friends
have been kidnapped.

Jackson is looking around the camp.

JACKSON
Sam's radio is gone, Jack; you
might want to try it.

O'NEILL
O'Neill to Carter, come in please.

Nothing.

JACKSON
We could be out of range.

The Stargate begins to come on line. Adamentus and Helen are alarmed.

It's Okay.

The Stargate opens.

HAMMOND (ON COMM)
SG-1, this is General Hammond.
Respond please.

ADEMETUS
Where is he.

O'Neill holds up his radio.

O'NEILL
I'll explain later.
(in radio)
We're here General.

HAMMOND (ON COMM)
Colnol, I expected you to have that
Stargate fixed by now. What's
wrong?

O'NEILL
Tielk and Carter have been
kidnapped by some rebel faction.

HAMMOND (ON COMM)
I'm sending reinforcements.

JACKSON
Wait, the forcefield.

O'NEILL
General, there is some kind of
forcefield here that may be working
like an iris. You may want to toss
something through first.

HAMMOND (ON COMM)
(not talking to SG-1)
Tell the sargent to toss a bullet
through the gate.

Beat.

There is a SIZZLE, and the incoming object is fried on the forcefield before it can reintegrate.

O'NEILL
I'd hold off on those
reinforcements.

HAMMOND (ON COMM)
Tell me what is going on over
there.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. REBEL CAVE, PRISONER ROOM - NIGHT

It is a dark, damp, and dingy side cave in a much larger cavern complex. WATER DRIPPING can be heard. Carter is sprawled out on cave's floor.

Carter begins to stir.

CARTER

Colnol?

Tielk is sitting a few feet away. Pythes is standing in the doorway pointing a Zat at Tielk.

TIELK

Relax major. It's a simple organic nuero-toxin. The effects will wear off in a few minutes.

Carter begins to get up.

CARTER

Talk about a hangover.

PYTHES

That is a normal reaction to bolch.

CARTER

Where are we?

TIELK

In an underground cave system. We are being held prisoner by a group armed with blow-guns and our weapons.

CARTER

Why are they holding us?

TIELK

I don't know.

PYTHES

What would you do to the people sent to kill you.

CARTER

We didn't come to kill or hurt you.

PYTHES

(in a quoting kind of
voice)

A great Steel bird will fly without flapping wings and watch. Then, four warriors from Earth called SG-1 will arrive through the gateway of stone and blue light. O'Neill, Jackson, Carter, and Tielk. They shall quell the hubris of many; they shall redeem Delphi; and they shall reap the knowledge from the Oracle.

CARTER

What?

PYTHES

That's what the Oracle says. Now, being as we are the many with hubris, wouldn't you say you are here to kill us? You seem quite well armed for the task.

Pythes shakes the zat.

Teres walks in carrying a zat and Carter's radio. Behind him is Pronce, carrying Carter's gun.

Teres is now dressed in a toga. He is dashing, in a roughish kind of way.

CARTER

We don't mean you any harm, no matter what this thing says. But, if you don't let us go back, my planet will send more people and they will hunt you to get us back.

TERES

Some "iris-like forcefield" prevents more of you from coming through the Stargate.

Carter looks stunned.

Teres holds up the Radio.

TERES (CONT'D)

This is a long-range talking device, yes?

Carter doesn't say anything.

TERES (CONT'D)
 Well, it was talking earlier. Your
 O'Neill told someone named
 "general" about the "iris-like
 forcefeild.

Carter still doesn't say anything.

Teres holds up the Zat.

TERES (CONT'D)
 This device. It emmitts lightning
 that stuns people. How does it
 work?

Carter still says nothing.

TERES (CONT'D)
 I could experement on you and find
 out.

Teres points the weapon at Carter.

They stare at each other.

Teres sees that Carter will take it, and points the zat at
 Tielk. This breaks Carter.

CARTER
 The first shot stuns. If you shoot
 the person again, it kills. A
 third shot vaporizes.

TERES
 Concern for one's comrads. I like
 that. What do you call this thing.

CARTER
 A zatnicatel.

TERES
 And this?

Teres holds up Carter's gun.

Carter says nothing.

TERES (CONT'D)
 It shoots a projectile like a blow
 gun. How does it work?

Teres waves his head in Tielk's direction.

CARTER

It uses a chemical reaction to launch a small piece of lead. It's called a gun.

TERES

Very interesting weapons.

Teres sets them down and turns to Tielk.

TERES (CONT'D)

You are not human.

TIELK

No.

TERES

I am going to take a wild guess and say that this ... um ... zatnikathingy is your technology and the gun and radio is hers.

Tielk doesn't say anything.

TERES (CONT'D)

I thought so.

Teres removes a small waterskin from his cloths and hands it to Carter.

TERES (CONT'D)

Drink this for the headache.

Carter looks at him for a moment, and then takes the skin and drinks.

TERES (CONT'D)

I like you. Here's what I'm going to do. We take you back to the Stargate, and you show me how to work that Iris thingy. Then, you all go back to where you came from, and the priests say that this was a redemptive act and you took knowledge with you and so forth. Deal?

CARTER

I have to fix the Stargate first, and that could take some time.

TERES

That won't work. Don't you understand that they are hunting for us now. We aren't going to hang out in the open for them to find us.

TIELK

Let Major Carter return to the Stargate and fix it. I will remain here as you hostage.

Teres thinks about this for a moment.

TERES

I'll agree if one of your other two companions returns with us as a second hostage.

Carter nods. Teres tosses her the radio.

TERES (CONT'D)

Alone, unarmed, at the Stargate. Arrange it.

FADE TO:

INT. HIGH PRIEST'S PALACE, COURTYARD - NIGHT

The Council of Kings is meeting in the Courtyard. In the background is a large fire. Jackson and O'Neill stand in the council.

JACKSON

All I am saying is maybe we shouldn't rush in before we try and get our friends back.

KING ONE

I say we strike now!

KING TWO

I agree.

O'NEILL

Has the Oracle not said that we are the redeemers.

Everyone starts murmuring, reaching an agreement.

JACKSON

(quietly to O'Neill)
Jack, what are you doing?

O'NEILL
(quietly back)
Trust me.

KING ONE
Yes it has.

O'NEILL
Thus, we should decide how to
handle this.

Everyone starts murmuring again. The high priest stands up.

ADEMETUS
The Oracle has named these as the
redeemers. They shall decide.

That settles the issue. Ademetus gestures to O'Neill and Jackson.

JACKSON
We wish to try to retrieve our
comrads using a diplomatic
approach. We will reserve the use
of force until later.

ADEMETUS
The redeemers have decided. Let us
adjorn.

The meeting begins to break up.

Ademetus walks over to Jack and Daniel.

ADEMETUS (CONT'D)
That was well handled.

JACKSON
Thank you for the backup.

The radio on O'Neill begins to crackle.

CARTER (ON COMM)
Colnol, come in.

O'Neill grabs his radio.

O'NEILL
Carter, where are you? Are you
okay?

CARTER

Tielk and I are guests of the rebels. They've agreed to allow me to fix the Stargate and let all of us leave if one of you become their hostage until we go.

O'NEILL

Agreed.

CARTER

They want you to go to the Stargate, alone and unarmed.

O'NEILL

I'm on my way.

ADEMETUS

Are you sure that is a good idea?

O'NEILL

It's the best option on the table.

ADEMETUS

But what about redeeming us?

JACKSON

If we are fated to do it than it will happen. Don't worry about it.

(to O'Neill)

I think I should go.

O'NEILL

Not an option.

JACKSON

Who is the better diplomat?

Beat.

O'NEILL

You should go.

CUT TO:

EXT. DELPHI STARGATE - NIGHT

Sam is standing in the middle of the clearing, blindfolded and with her hands tied. Jackson walks up.

JACKSON

Sam?

CARTER

Daniel?

Jackson is about to remove the blindfold when two darts slam into him, sending him to the ground.

Pythes and Teres run up. Pythes goes to Daniel and droops him over his shoulder.

Pythes unties Sam.

PYTHES

My sincerist appologies for your friend's coming headache. We have the radio. Contact us when you finish.

With that, they dissappear leaving Sam alone.

Beat.

Sam gets out her radio.

Before she can use it, O'Niell comes into view.

CARTER

Colnal.

O'NEILL

Major. You okay?

CARTER

I'm fine.

O'NEILL

Let's get to work.

FADE TO:

INT. REBEL CAVE, PRISONER ROOM - MORNING

It is the same scene as before, but with Daniel Jackson replacing Carter.

Daniel Begins to stir.

JACKSON

Huh?

TIELK

Daniel Jackson. The drug will wear off soon.

JACKSON
 (grogally)
 Hi Tielk.

Beat. Daniel tries to wake up?

JACKSON (CONT'D)
 Do you have an asperin?

Pronce and Pythes LAUGH. They are standing gaurd.

JACKSON (CONT'D)
 You must be the rebels.

PRONCE
 Rebels. That sounds so much better
 than Hubrics.

Daniel begins to get up. Pronce hands him the water skin.

PRONCE (CONT'D)
 Drink this.

Daniel looks at Tielk.

Tielk nods.

Daniel dirnks, with the obvious reaction that it taists
 terrabble.

JACKSON
 That's awful.

Beat.

Daniel's head begins to clear.

JACKSON (CONT'D)
 Hey, that's pretty good.

Beat.

JACKSON (CONT'D)
 What are your names?

PYTHES
 I'm Pythes and this is Ponce.

JACKSON
 And why are you rebelling?

PYTHES
 Everyone here has their reasons.

JACKSON

Okay. What's yours?

PRONCE

The man has a lot of questions
doesn't he?

PYTHES

The Oracle said I was to marry
someone, and I was in love with
someone else.

Pythes kisses Pronce.

JACKSON

So, the Oracle says you are to
marry someone, you have to marry
that person right there and then.

PRONCE

Pretty much.

JACKSON

Why can't you marry who you want
to, and just know that you will
someday marry that other person?
After all, it may not be until you
are very old that fate says you
will marry that person.

PYTHES

That is exactly what I said. But,
the law says that would be
wasteful, and arrogant, and not in
accordance with the wishes of the
Oracle.

Jackson has sat up and is now well engaging them in debate.

JACKSON

The Oracle doesn't issue commands
though, it just predicts the
future.

PRONCE

What's the difference?

JACKSON

Well, if the Oracle issues
commands, than it can be disobeyed.

(MORE)

JACKSON (CONT'D)

However, if the Oracle predicts the future, than you can do whatever you want just knowing that eventually that event will happen.

PYTHES

The Oracle predicts the future. Everything it says comes to past whether you defy it or not.

JACKSON

So, has the Oracle ever been wrong?

PYTHES

No, never.

PRONCE

But sometimes the prophecies are fulfilled in unexpected ways.

TIELK

I don't understand. If you know your destiny, why would you want to defy it? Attempting to defy fate would be a waist of energy.

PRONCE

That's what they say.

TIELK

And how do you conduct war? If both armies are comprised of men that know that they are fated to do something else? How can a battle be won?

PYTHES

That's why we use the drugged blow guns.

Teres enters the Cave.

TERES

The sun is coming up. They'll be hunting us soon, so I've ordered the entrances hidden.

PRONCE

(to Jackson)

What is it like without an Oracle?

JACKSON

What?

PRONCE

Well, Teres tells us you don't have one, or that yours was destroyed long ago. What's it like to not have glimpses of the future? Is life wild and unpredictable? Do people do as they please? How do you determine leaders? How do people know where they are going in life?

JACKSON

Well, let me think about that. There's a lot of fear about the future. There is a lot of concern about what might happen. There is a lot of unpredictably and waist. And there's also a lot of risks. Life is chaotic, and you have to take many chances.

Jackson sits for a beat, contemplating. The others look dissappointed in his answer, but Daniel doesn't notice.

JACKSON (CONT'D)

But, there's also an anticipation about what the world may bring. People are willing to take chances to reap the rewards. It's also exciting. Every new experiance has an element of unpredictably. With every first date, there is the possibility that this is the one. There's hope. Lot's of hope about the future.

The others almost have tears in their eyes with wonder and joy.

JACKSON (CONT'D)

What's it like to live here?

TERES

Dreadful. The world is full of dread and helplessness. Imagine going through life knowing that at some point you will do a thing, and there is nothing that you can do about it. Imagine knowing that all the choices you make have already been decided, and there is nothing you can do to avert fate.

(MORE)

TERES (CONT'D)

Imagine going through life knowing the day you will die. And for all your life that leans over you like the shadow of your executioner.

JACKSON

That's awful.

TERES

It's worse. Imagine not being able to get an education, or start a new enterprise, or speak a new idea unless the Oracle said you would. For those who the Oracle never speaks of, life is fated to be dull and tedious serving those who have been seen in a vision. The Oracle keeps our society in mediocrity by not letting us take chances.

The radio in the center of the floor CRACKLES to life.

O'NEILL (ON COMM)

Daniel, do you read me?

Daniel picks up the radio.

JACKSON

Yeah Jack, I'm here.

O'NEILL (ON COMM)

Carter just got the Stargate working, so grab Tielk and our gear and let's get out of here.

JACKSON

Jack, I think we need to stay.

CUT TO:

EXT. DELPHI STARGATE - MORNING - CONTINUOUS

Sam has the DHD back together and the Stargate on.

Helen and Ademetus are there too.

O'Neill is talking into the hand-held radio.

O'NEILL

What?

JACKSON (ON COMM)
 Jack, these people have a lot of legitimate grievances and I think we need to stay and try to help them work it out.

ADEMETUS
 That's insane.

O'NEILL
 Hold on Ademetus.
 (into radio)
 Daniel, that's insane.

CUT TO:

INT. REBEL CAVE, PRISONER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

JACKSON
 Well Jack, these people did say we were suppose to help them. Maybe this is what we are suppose to do - help them work it out.

Beat

JACKSON (CONT'D)
 Jack?

O'NEILL (ON COMM)
 I'm thinking.

JACKSON
 We could at least get a look at the Oracle.

O'NEILL (ON COMM)
 Fine, but on one condition, you and Tielk come out of there now. They can keep the walkie-talkie if they want to talk.

Beat while Jackson looks at the rebels.

JACKSON
 Jack, I'm not sure that's possible.

O'NEILL (ON COMM)
 It's non-negotiable.

Beat while Teres concedes it.

CUT TO:

EXT. DELPHI STARGATE - CONTINUOUS

JACKSON (ON COMM)

Done Jack. We're on our way out right now.

O'NEILL

We're expecting you at the Stargate. I'll try and explain this one to Hammond. O'Neill out.

O'Neill shakes his head.

O'NEILL (CONT'D)

Sam, which channel was Hammond on again?

CARTER

Oh. Three sir.

O'Neill switches his radio.

O'NEILL

General Hammond?

HAMMOND (ON COMM)

Don't bother, I heard the whole thing. Mission reluctantly approved.

O'NEILL

Thank you for eavesdropping sir.

HAMMOND

My pleasure. Do you need anything?

O'NEILL

I don't think so sir.

HAMMOND

Very well. Have a nice day.

O'NEILL

You too sir.

The Stargate shuts down.

O'NEILL (CONT'D)

Ademetus, assemble the council please.

ADEMETUS

This is madness. I must consult
the Oracle.

O'NEILL

Very well, just please do it after
assembling the council.

FADE TO:

INT. HIGH PRIEST'S PALACE, COURTYARD - DAY

The council is assembled.

The council is in an uproar with what SG-1 is proposing.

Ademetes is not there.

KING ONE

We will never agree to that.

JACKSON

Okay, will, how about that you make
knowledge of the future optional:
if a prophesy applies to you, you
decide whether or not it should be
read. And then, people are free to
fulfil the prophesies in any way
they see fit. For those that don't
have prophecies, they can just go
about freely?

The council looks absolutely horrified at the prospect.

KING THREE

Then how do we choose our leaders?
How do we maintain order?

O'NEILL

Have you ever tried elections?

KING TWO

What are elections.

O'NEILL

The people who want to be leaders
stand before the public and the
public votes. The person with the
most votes wins.

Something occurs to Jackson.

JACKSON

What portion of the population has
the Oracle prophesied about?

HELEN

About a fifth.

CARTER

One-fifth? As in Twenty Percent?

TIELK

So it is not just a culture. The
Oracle is then how your society
maintains order.

KING ONE

Yes, but it's more than that. The
Oracle allows us to best allocate
resources.

O'NEILL

Market Economy with a Welfare
Safety net.

Ademetus comes rushing into the Forum.

ADEMETUS

The Oracle has prophesied.

Everyone gets quit.

ADEMETUS (CONT'D)

I'm sorry O'Neill, but you are soon
to die. The Hubric will kill you
before sunset.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. HIGH PRIEST'S PALACE, COURTYARD - CONTINUOUS

The area is quiet.

O'NEILL

What?

ADEMETUS

I have just seen it.

O'NEILL

Alright I'm sick of this thing.
We're going in there and we are
going to find out what this Oracle
thing is.

They start to head off towards the stairway that Ademetus
just came up.

King Two tries to block them.

KING TWO

You will not desecrate the Oracle.
Only those who it calls may enter.

JACKSON

But we have been called. "And they
shall reap the knowledge of the
Oracle."

KING TWO

No. You shall not pass.

O'Neill points his Zat at the King.

O'NEILL

Step aside.

KING TWO

I have seen how I die; you cannot
kill me.

O'NEILL

No.

O'Neill shoots him. The king goes down in pain.

O'NEILL (CONT'D)

But there are some things you'd
rather not live through.

Beat.

ADEMETUS

The Oracle has called them. Let
them pass.

Everyone steps aside.

SG-1 heads down the staircase.

FADE TO:

INT. ORACLE - DAY

SG-1 is walking down a long hall lit by torches, with
Ademetus following.

At the end of the hall is a large room.

The party enters the room one at a time.

The room housing the oracle is a large square one.

In the center of the room is a large shperical device that
looks like some type of computer. Surrounding the device are
a group of columns. A blue glow encases the circle of
columns around the device.

The door behind SG-1 is set in the center of the wall. In
Sunlight Filters down from staircases in the center of the
other three walls. The Staircases lead up to the top of the
Oracle.

The room is filled with short height and short length walls
arranged like book cases in a library. There is writing on
both sides of each one.

Daniel looks at the first one he comes to.

Carter heads straight for the center of the room.

CARTER

It looks like some type of
computer.

O'Neill, who was on point, stops her.

O'NEILL

Why don't you hold off there Sam.
That blue glow does not look
healthy.

DANIEL
Jack this is... not right.

O'NEILL
What?

DANIEL
These inscriptions are in Greek and describe recent events on Earth.

O'NEILL
How recent?

DANIEL
Twenty-five hundred years.

O'NEILL
Okay. That's BC. That's not recent.

DANIEL
Jack, this is all stuff that occurred two millennia after the Stargate was buried. And it's written in an language and a system of Alphabetic writing that didn't exist when the gate was buried.
(to Ademetus)
How do you know of these events?

ADEMETUS
The Oracle told us.

Tielk, who has been wondering around, spots something.

TIELK
Daniel Jackson.

They all go over to where he is standing.

O'NEILL
(as if to say "not again")
That's Ancient.

ADEMETUS
We can't read that.

O'NEILL
The first time we messed with their technology, I ended up speaking that language. The last time, we ended up in a time loop and I had to learn how to read that stuff.

O'Neill looks at the writing.

O'NEILL (CONT'D)
What's it say?

CARTER
For the record, the Stargate is
Ancient technology too.

O'NEILL
My mistake.

JACKSON
I don't know. This looks like
older Ancient - some earlier form
of the writing.

Tielk has been wondering again.

TIELK
The Ancient is newer over here.

Jackson walks over to where Tielk is and looks.

JACKSON
Okay I can read this.

TIELK
As can I. "We must leave to allow
the Fifth to develop on their
own."

Jackson begins moving back to the older Ancient, mumbling to himself and noting language changes as he goes.

JACKSON
That's a vowel shift... The
direction of character changes...
consonant drop... vowel shift.

He reaches the spot where he was before and reads a bit.

JACKSON (CONT'D)
Okay. This talks about the Ancient
wanting the Answer.

O'NEILL
To what?

JACKSON
The emphasis is on the singular
article. I think they wanted *the*
answer... to everything.

O'NEILL
Forty-two.

Carter chuckles. Daniel and Tielk don't understand.

DANIEL
Forty-two?

O'NEILL
From Douglas Adams, *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. The answer to life, the universe, and everything is Forty-two.

DANIEL
What was the question?

O'NEILL
That's why the Earth was built.

Jackson is really confused.

CARTER
Who's on first. Read the book Daniel.

O'NEILL
You really should read something written after the fall of the Roman Empire.

DANIEL
Anyway, they built this device, the Oracle, to tell them the answer.

HE moves a bit farther.

DANIEL (CONT'D)
This says they used the Stargates to collect data which they fed to the Oracle. Once it had enough data, it would predict.

CARTER
It's a computer. Oracle means computer.

Every one looks at her for an explanation.

CARTER (CONT'D)

If you know the laws by which an isolated system operates, and the state of the system at any given moment in time, than you perfectly predict the future of the system.

Jackson understands, nods, and goes back to reading.

Everyone is still confused.

Carter thinks for a second.

CARTER (CONT'D)

Okay, we know where the planets will be in our solar system in three weeks because we know the laws of planetary motion and we know where those planets are right now.

O'NEILL

Okay I get it. Basic astronomy stuff.

CARTER

Right. Now, what they did was the same thing, just on the scale of everything. So, they would have to have the universal laws by which all things operate, and they would have to know the state of the entire Universe at any given time. So they used the Stargate system to collect data.

(to Daniel)

Did they succeed

Jackson is still reading.

JACKSON

Not according to this. Apparently there was too much data. They tried to compensate by building a second Oracle on another planet and tying it to the first. But that didn't work either.

Beat

JACKSON (CONT'D)
 Here it says "overlapping realities
 make accurate collection
 impossible".

Beat

JACKSON (CONT'D)
 It could only make limited
 predictions within limited, I think
 that word is "time cones."

CARTER
 That makes sense, because outside
 of those time cones unobserved
 events can have an effect and throw
 off the predictions.

JACKSON
 What's a time cone?

O'Neill interrupts before Carter can start again.

O'NEILL
 Ah Ah Ah. Later. This thing
 predicts limited events within a
 limited time-frame, correct?

CARTER
 Yes.

O'NEILL
 (to Ademetus)
 When did it predict our coming?

ADEMETUS
 About five days ago.

O'NEILL
 (to Carter)
 And the Oracle is just a machine?

CARTER
 Yes.

ADEMETUS
 That cannot be.

O'NEILL
 (to Ademetus)
 How does it tell you the future?

ADEMETUS

The priest stands inside the blue light and receives visions from the oracle. But...

O'Neill cuts him off.

O'NEILL

And you saw me killed by the rebels.

ADEMETUS

Yes but...

O'Neill cut him off again.

O'NEILL

That all I wanted to know. Carter, is the gate dialing out normally.

CARTER

Yes sir.

O'NEILL

And that iris field is down?

CARTER

Yes sir.

O'NEILL

Alright. Daniel, continue translating this stuff. Go in there...

(gesturing towards the blue light)

...and see if you can figure out how that thing works. Tielk, you're with me.

CARTER

Where are you going?

O'NEILL

To defy prophecy.

ADEMETUS

You Can't!

Ademetus runs out of the room.

O'NEILL

Let's go.

CARTER

But what if the prophecy is correct?

O'NEILL

In that case, my ex-wife gets my pension; my sister gets my money minus the twenty Hammond took off me in last week's Oriels game. Tielk gets my house. Sam, you get my car. And Daniel, you get my home entertainment system.

JACKSON

I don't watch TV.

O'NEILL

I have hope for you yet. That everything?

Beat

O'NEILL (CONT'D)

Alright then, let's move out.

He goes to leave.

CARTER

Sir...

Carter looks as if she is about to say something profound.

O'NEILL

I'll be back Sam. Don't worry.

CARTER

Yes sir.

O'Neill uses his radio as he walks.

O'NEILL

Teres, you there?

Beat

O'NEILL (CONT'D)

Push the button on the side to talk, release to listen.

TERES (ON COMM)

I got it.

O'NEILL
Bring your companions and meet me
in front of the Stargate in two
hours.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. ORACLE - LATER

Sam is inside the blue light, and has one of the spheres open.

Daniel is sitting on the floor translating one of the innermost wall segments.

CARTER

This thing is neat.

JACKSON

How so?

SAM

Well, it uses crystals like the G'auld do. That would make this primitive by Asgard Standards. The DHD's are nothing like this. The DHD's are more advanced. This thing is old.

DANIEL

Ah ha. When the Ancients turned on the other Oracle, the Oracle predicted that intelligent life, the Fifth, would emerge on that planet. To prevent the Oracle from interfering with their history, they destroyed the central processor, leaving only the data collectors.

SAM

I assume that's the Oracle in ancient Greece.

DANIEL

That doesn't seem like a large leap. It also explains why there is a record of Earth history here.

Beat

DANIEL (CONT'D)

The Ancients left here over five thousand years ago, to allow for the development of the Fifth.

SAM

So when did the G'auld visit and deposit people here?

DANIEL

I don't think they did.

SAM

So did the Ancients bring them here?

Daniel goes to the next panel.

DANIEL

No. This panel is in G'auld. It states that Tari of the Titan Cronus learned how to use the Stargate and escaped to here. When they arrived, they activated the forcefield, keeping their pursuers out. They then smashed the "opener" so that no one could follow them.

SAM

Looks like they got that part backwards.

DANIEL

They found this place, and built their civilization based upon the observations and predictions of the Oracle.

Beat

DANIEL (CONT'D)

It makes you think though. I mean the computer chooses the future by choosing what to tell. So, in a way, the computer has to know what it is going to tell about the future in order to tell what that future will be.

SAM

Kind of a feed-back effect.

DANIEL

Exactly. And if there are two predicting computers, than they have to both know what the other is going to say in order to predict the future.

SAM

Maybe that's why they connected them.

Beat

SAM (CONT'D)

Everything this thing does then is a self-fulfilling prophecy.

A new light glows inside the panel that Sam is looking at.

SAM (CONT'D)

That's neat, I wonder what it's doing.

The field inside the columns turns dark blue and opaque.

ANGLE - DANIEL

Daniel gets up and runs to the field.

DANIEL

Sam!

He hits the field with his fist and is sent back in pain.

ANGLE - CARTER

Carter is lying on the floor with her eyes wide open and her eyeballs moving quickly.

ANGLE - DANIEL

Daniel fires his zat at the field. The blast comes straight back at him, forcing Daniel to dive out of the way.

Beat

The sound dies down and the field returns to normal.

Sam is lying in the center with her eyes shut.

Daniel runs up to her and feels her pulse.

Sam begins to stir.

SAM

Ow.

Sam rubs her head.

DANIEL

Are you okay?

SAM

Yeah, my head just...

Sam stops and opens her eyes with urgency.

SAM (CONT'D)

Ademetus is going to try and fulfill the prophecy by killing O'Neill. Come on.

Sam is up in an instant and running.

Daniel tries to catch up.

EXT. DELPHI STARGATE - EVENING JUST PRIOR TO SUNSET

O'Neill is standing in the middle of the Clearing waiting for the rebels. Tielk is standing next to him.

The collected kings are behind them, all decked out in classic Greek armor and carrying weapons.

TIELK

If you are about to die, I want you to know that the only thing greater in my life than being free was serving with you Jack O'Neill.

O'NEILL

I appreciate that Tielk, but I'm not going to die.

Teres, Pythes, Pronce, and other rebels step out of the trees. Teres, Pythes, and some of the other rebels are carrying a variety of Earth weapons. Pronce has a zat.

O'NEILL (CONT'D)

Greetings. Where did you get those big guns.

TERES

They were in one of the boxes you brought here.

O'NEILL
We'd like to have them back.

TERES
And we would like to keep them.

O'NEILL
Fair enough.

TERES
Why have you summoned us here?

O'NEILL
Well, I thought that if we all got together, we could work this thing out.

ANGLE - BEHIND THE ROCKS

Ademetus is holding a blowgun and a dart in one hand and a bottle in the other. As O'Neill speaks, the Priest opens the bottle, filled with a stick brown substance, and dips the dart with it.

O'NEILL (CONT'D)
The entire problem is generated by a machine, and a flawed machine at that. The Oracle.

KING TWO
You Lie.

O'NEILL
No I don't it was built by a race called the Ancients. They are the same people that built the Stargate here.

ANGLE - DANIEL AND SAM

Daniel and Sam are running down the path from the city.

Daniel and Sam, from their vantage point, see Ademetus on the far side of the Stargate.

Carter starts running for Ademetus.

ANGLE - THE SUN.

The sun begins to dip below the horizon.

ANGLE - O'NEILL

O'NEILL (CONT'D)
And they couldn't get the Oracle to
work right. And to prove it, The
Oracle says I am to die before
sunset. Look at the sun.

Daniel comes screaming down the hill.

JACKSON
Jack, behind the Stargate. He's
going to shoot you.

ANGLE - ADEMETUS

Ademetus puts the blowgun in his mouth and stands up to
shoot.

Carter lunges into him sending his shot wide...

ANGLE - PRONCE

...and into Pronce as she tries to bring her weapon around.

ANGLE - KING TWO.

King Two draws his sword and charges.

ANGLE - PYTHES

Pythes fires wildly at King Two, unable to control his gun.

ANGLE - O'NEILL

O'Neil is hit twice in the chest sending him to the ground.

ANGLE - SUN

The last of the sun dips beneath the horizon.

JACKSON (CONT'D)
Stop Firing!

Sam runs flat out for O'Neill.

CARTER
Jack. Jack, speak to me.

She slides in right next to him and begins CPR when O'Neill
fuzzes out and disappears.

Where he was lying is a small, black device.

Carter picks it up.

O'Neill walks out of the woods, all smiles and feeling kind of cocky.

Carter runs to him.

CARTER (CONT'D)
(relieved)
I thought you were dead.

O'Neill takes the black device from her hand.

O'NEILL
The Asgard holo projector we found
two weeks ago.

Carter's mood changes.

CARTER
(angry)
I thought you were dead.

O'NEILL
Sorry to disappoint you.

PYTHES
Help. Can we get some help over
here.

Angle - Pronce

Pronce is lying on the ground with the dart sticking out of her. Her eyes are bloodshot and her breathing is shallow.

Pythes is holding her head up. Teres is knelling next to her. Carter, O'Neill, and Daniel arrive just as Teres pulls the dart out of her.

He looks at it, and then smells it.

TERES
Shaker poison, I'm sorry.

CARTER
Shaker poison, you mean it makes
the body convulse. It's a
neurotoxin.

TERES
Yes. It's always fatal.

Carter starts running to the DHD. She begins dialing.

O'Niell begins to talk to General Hammond in the background, calling in the medical emergency.

PRONCE

Looks like you will marry that girl sooner than you thought.

JACKSON

Don't send out the invitations just yet. We may be able to save her if we get her to our lab.

PYTHES

What?

JACKSON

Get her up and through the gate.

FADE TO:

EXT. HIGH PRIEST'S PALACE, COURTYARD - DAY

There is a wedding going on. When the bride and groom turn around, it is Pythes and Pronce.

FADE TO:

EXT. HIGH PRIEST'S PALACE, COURTYARD - LATER

Tielk, Carter, and O'Neill, dressed in dress uniforms, are talking and enjoying the local punch.

O'NEILL

The President is assembling an excavation team for our Oracle in Greece right now.

CARTER

What excuse is he using.

O'NEILL

I don't know, but it should be good.

(to Sam)

Did you take spec photos of the DHD and the force-field iris yet.

Carter holds up a sophisticated digital camera.

CARTER

Right here.

Jackson walks up.

JACKSON

Well, the moderates won the day.
They're going to seal the Oracle's
entrances and let it keep recording
in silence.

CARTER

That's probably for the best.

TIELK

I still don't understand why you
don't want to keep it open for
tactical intelligence.

CARTER

Because Tielk, the oracle cannot
predict the activities of
interstellar species. Too many of
the Stargates are inactive now.

JACKSON

And besides that, locally the
Oracle dictates the path of
society. It's like living in a
state of slavery.

TIELK

I understand.

O'NEILL

Um, before they seal it up, can it
tell me who wins the Oriels-Yankees
game tomorrow night, because I
would love to get my Twenty bucks
back from Hammond.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW