

SHADOW OF LIGHT

Written by

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INT. SPACE SHIP, CORRIDOR - UNKNOWN

O.S. "Tranzformer" by Gorillaz

A small ROBOT, V-80, rolls down a dark corridor. His wheels BUMBLE down the echoing hallway until he reaches a door frame.

He scans it up and down, pauses for a moment, then looks to his right.

He continues rolling on.

He reaches an open doorframe.

WINDOW ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A strong, faintly yellow-tinted light blasts through a large window.

Inside the room is ANDY, a old man in a silver jacket. He's seated behind a control pad, occasionally shifting glances from the pad to the window.

V-80 rolls over to him, and looks up at him.

V-80  
(beeps)  
Let me up.

Andy is mildly startled by V-80, but quickly calms down.

ANDY  
Oh, yeah. Here you go, buddy.

He picks up the robot and places him on top of the control pad's console, beside him.

The two sit in front of the window, which shows the dark, star speckled beauty of outer space.

A single, bright spot lies at the upper left hand corner. A black dot sits dead center of the glow.

EXT. SPACE SHIP - CONTINUOUS

The station slowly rolls in front of the emptiness of space, and a black hole resides far beyond, casting a bright spotlight upon it.

INT. SPACE SHIP, WINDOW ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Andy presses a few buttons on the module. He lets out a hearty SIGH.

ANDY  
Isn't it beautiful, Vee.

V-80  
(beeps)  
I was.

ANDY  
So much power, and I got the  
opportunity to spend my life  
researching it first hand - see it  
with my own eyes.

V-80  
(beeps)  
It does seem quite powerful.

ANDY  
Well, if the mission commander's  
calculations were correct, the  
event should be taking place today.  
Aren't you excited?

V-80 turns his head to Andy.

V-80  
(beeps)  
No

Andy shakes his head.

ANDY  
Well, it's inevitable. I was sent  
here for this very purpose.

He slaps one button.

ANDY (CONT'D)  
I knew what I signed up for.

V-80  
(beeps)  
I didn't sign up for anything.

V-80 slowly returns his gaze to the window.

ANDY

I know you didn't sign up for anything. But this is what you were programmed to do. . .

V-80 looks down.

Andy slouches and sighs.

ANDY (CONT'D)

You shouldn't think so poorly of it. We're entering the next step. Every living thing goes through this, and we get to do it with spectacle.

V-80

(beeps)

(sad tones)

But what if the next step is nothing?

ANDY

Don't say that, there's gotta be something after. I spent my whole life on this work, a reward of some sort must be waiting for me.

V-80 looks back to the window.

Andy glances at V-80's power cable on the back right side of his carriage.

Andy gulps, looks away, then sighs.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Vee, look at me.

V-80 turns his head.

ANDY (CONT'D)

I can try to get us out of here. I just have to push the station out of the event horizon fast enough.

V-80 perks up.

V-80

(beeps)

(happy tones)

Really?

ANDY

Yes, do you want me to?

V-80  
(beeps)  
Please.

ANDY  
Alright, friend.

Andy begins pressing buttons randomly, glancing back and forth at V-80's power cable.

A RUMBLE comes from outside the ship.

The black hole grows in size, slowly but surely.

V-80  
(beeps)  
Hurry!

Andy reaches over to his far right.

ANDY  
Just gotta hit the boosters. . .

Andy uses his hand to flick off V-80's power.

V-80's head begins to snap, but quickly decelerates. The light in his scanner dims to darkness.

The black hole is enormous in front of the window.

Andy looks out the window. Then to V-80.

ANDY (CONT'D)  
I'm sorry, buddy.

He returns to the window.

Time and space begin to warp, the light intensifies beyond sight, and finally, darkness consumes the room.

The screen is left black.

END.