

PARADYSE

"New Sheriff in Town"

By Daniel South

ACT ONE

EXT. OUTER SPACE -DAWN

View of yellow planet spinning. One star appears rising,
then a second star comes out from behind the planet
Introduction credits and music plays.

EXT. UTOPIA CITY- day

The town is small, maybe 2000 people. The houses are generally small aligned in crosshatch of planned streets. There is a main street with a doctor's sign, a store, and a bank. They are futuristic style buildings, but there is an air of the Old West about them too. The exteriors look sandblasted and well-worn. There are piles of sand in nooks and crevices, colors have faded. The wind is blowing and there is sand in the air. A dark cloaked man enters the bank. A couple and their 10 year old daughter are struggling through the wind towards the bank.

FATHER

C'Mon Tess, I want to get this deposit to the bank quick. Looks like a storm is coming, bad one I think, and I want to check on the herd.

MOTHER

I'm trying Lawrence but this dress is slowing me down. We're almost there dear. It has been a very nice day in town, wouldn't you say Tonya Dear?

TONYA

Yes Ma, but I'm with Pa. The Auros are going to be pretty restless tonight.

They reach the door, open it, step in and start to shake the sand off. They are horrified to see a man holding a gun on the teller, holding a bag in his other hand. The robber turns towards the newcomers and fires. His first shot hits the Father, the second shot hits the mother, then his guns jams with a buzzing sound.

ROBBER

Dammit!

He flees out the door. Camera focuses on teenage girl clutching her parents.

GIRL

Mother! Father! Help! Help! Oh please...Help, please help me!

FADE OUT

FADE IN TO:

EXT. PARADYSE DESERT - DAY

Again two suns are in the sky, dry craggy hills are in the background. A stunningly beautiful woman is astride a large horse-like creature, strong and muscular, it has a golden coat which shines like metallic gold. It has two short straight tusks coming from its mouth. She is wearing a white thin shirt soaked with sweat, backlit from the suns. She has sunglasses on, and an old leather broadbrimmed hat and slacks. She has on a holster with a gun on her right and a 6-inch rod on her left. She scans the horizon then pulls out high-tech binoculars. VIEW SHIFTS to that of the binoculars. She spots a land-rover vehicle stuck in the sand amid jagged, dry rocks. A father stands in front of the vehicle trying to figure out what's

wrong and a mother and daughter stand to the side, bored or worried. The daughter starts to wander a little from the mother.

TONYA
(in alarm)

Dammit!

She starts galloping her Auro towards the family.

Get back in the cruiser! Get back in!

CUT TO FATHER:

FATHER

Hey look! That girl sees us. Now
we'll be out in no time!

MOTHER

Oh thank goodness!

FATHER

She certainly seems excited. I wonder
if she's in trouble.

MOTHER

What is she saying?

FATHER

I don't know, but she'd better be
careful or she could hurt herself out
here.

As he is saying this a large creature's head appears behind him. It looks like a cross between a scorpion and a cockroach, but is as big as a bus.

FATHER

Well, thank goodness she's here. She
can take you and Sally back and you can

send out a towing cruiser. Let me
write down the coordinates.

He bends down to get a pen and a giant stinger on the end
of a tail stabs into the vehicle smashing a window)

All three scream as the scorpion-roach chases the father,
pincers snapping, tail slamming forward. He avoids the
tail twice but the creature traps him against a rock ledge.
Looking at the creature he sees the tail waving preparing
to strike. Just as it reaches the point when it snaps
forward, a burst of energy hits the stinger and blows it
off. The creature turns from where the shot was fired.
There, fully illuminated by the sun is Tonya Honor. In one
hand is a laser pistol; in the other is the rod which has
become an energy whip. The whip crackles with energy as it
moves jaggedly around.

The creature surges towards Tonya snapping its pincers, she
ducks one and comes up and lashes the creature with the
whip, leaving a deep burn in the side. Another surge and
she dives, rolls, and springs to her feet. The whip cracks
again at the joint of the pincer. The pincer is cut off
and falls. The creature flails and emits a hiss like a
steam whistle in pain. It slams its tail which still hits
like a pile-driver into the vehicle over and over as Tonya
just barely dodges them. Finally, she uses her whip to
snag a rock outcrop. She leaps off of the vehicle like an
acrobat and swings up onto the head of the creature. She
shoots four shots in rapid succession into the creature's
head. It collapses suddenly throwing her off. She hits
the ground in a roll and lands on her feet just in front of
the little girl. The girl's eyes are wide with hero
worship.

TONYA

Are you okay? Is anyone hurt?

FATHER

No, I mean yes. (Pauses to collect his
words) We're all okay. No one is hurt
thanks to you.

TONYA

(Angry now that she knows no one else needs help.)

What the hell are you doing out here?
You are damned lucky I heard you went off. It is dangerous out here.
Didn't you have anyone tell you about this place?

FATHER

I'm sorry. We just thought we'd drive around, maybe find a good place to stake a claim.

TONYA

Look, I know you just got here, but you need to learn some things quick or you're gonna be dead real soon. First, the outback is deadly. Every creature and plant out here wants to eat you, drink your fluids, or lay its eggs in you. If you go into the outback, you go armed and aware. You need guns and you need to know how to use them, got it?

FATHER

Got it.

TONYA

Second, you may have noticed we have two suns. That means in the two summers when both suns are visible it get very hot. If you don't have good clothes and plenty of water, you pass out pretty damn quick.

FATHER

We knew about the two suns, we just didn't quite realize how hot it was.

TONYA

Finally, with all of the sandstorms and heat vehicles break down out here pretty quick. You need to keep them constantly maintained, or better yet. Learn to ride one of these. They're called Auros. They cover themselves in organic gold sheaths to reflect the light and protect them from the heat. They'll last out here much longer than a cruiser and they're smart and loyal. I raise auros so I can get you a good deal on one. I'll even give you some lessons.

DAUGHTER

You really raise them. They're so beautiful!

TONYA

(Her anger fades quickly)

Yes they are Darlin'. Tell you what, how about I show you around town and get you situated. Later on we'll get you over to my ranch and get you some food and drink. I'll show you my auros. What's your name Darlin?

DAUGHTER (SALLY)

I'm Sally Jenkins.

FATHER (NED)

I'm much obliged to you ma'am. I'm Ned Jenkins and this is my wife Mary.

TONYA

CAMERA PULLS BACK to take in the whole scene of the demolished cruiser, dead scorpion-cockroach and dry rocky surroundings.

Well Ned, Mary, and Sally Jenkins, My name is Tonya Honor, and welcome to Paradyse!

Camera focuses on suns

CUT TO:

EXT - CITY OF UTOPIA, DAY

CAMERA sees suns, PULLS BACK to see a city street. The city is futuristic with domes, steel structures, and plastic asphalt, but it is very weathered. Everything looks sandblasted and dusty. They are on Main Street, the same street at the beginning of the show but more built up. The Bank, saloon, hotel, hardware store are all visible. Each building has a sizeable awning for shade. There is a mixture of rovers and Auros parked and moving on the street.

TONYA

GESTURING towards the buildings.

And this is the great metropolis of Utopia. It has everything you could want. When Earth began the colony they set up the capitol at Destiny City. Utopia was second but the mines here have turned out to be better, so new settlers tend to come here first.

NED

That's what I heard! This is the place to get rich! That's why we came here. We're gonna find us a rich load of ore and live the good life.

A drunk stumbles out of the bar bumping into Ned and Mary then staggers off.

TONYA

That's what he thought. That's old Marty. He was one of the first colonists as a young man so I hear. He even found not one, but two rich veins. He was rich, sure enough.

MARY

(looking apprehensive)

Then what happened?

TONYA

He met up with a sharp sandshark who fleeced him of everything. Filled his head with dreams, visions, and lies. Before he knew it, he had lost his mine, his claims, his money and eventually everything dear to him.

MARY

My word!

TONYA

It's not just the native creatures that can eat you alive here. There's plenty of humans here who'll suck you dry too. You have to watch out for them everywhere.

A large, fancy hover car pulls up and opens with a hiss. An extremely well-dressed man steps out, lightly brushes off his clean coat. A rough-looking man gets out from the front passenger seat, hand in his breast pocket like he's prepared to pull a gun. He looks around for potential problems, glares at Tonya, Ned, Mary, and Sally.

TONYA

Speak of the Devil...

The rich man ignores everyone and walks to the bank. Rough man opens the door for him as the hovercraft departs.

MARY

My word! Who was that?

TONYA

(with obvious distaste)

That's the very same smooth talking bastard we were just talking about. That's the honorable John D. Pendergast, owner of the Great Star Mine, the richest mine found so far on Paradyse.

NED

I've read about him in Great Fortune e-zine! Self-made and rich as rich can be! It said he came here penniless and struck it rich.

TONYA

That's the version he likes to put out. Old Marty struck it rich. Pendergast just struck Marty and stole his mine from him. Great Star used to be Marty's, now it belongs to Pendergast. Stay away from him. He'll take you for everything you own and charge you for the privilege.

MARY

Who was that rough-looking man with Mr. Pendergast?

TONYA

That's Grant Dercum. He's Pendergast's right-hand man, enforcer, and all-around problem solver as long as the

problem can be solved with threats or violence. He's a dangerous man, that one. Stay away from him too.

NED (smiling)

Well shall we? I've heard a lot about the saloons of Paradyse. He pushes open swinging doors. The place is crowded, a man pounds a futuristic piano, a big, brawny man with a large mustache is tending bar. He smiles when he sees Tonya.

BARTENDER

My little Tonya! You finally come to visit your old friend, No?

TONYA

Constantine, it's good to see ya old buddy. Constantine, these are some new friends of mine. Ned and Mary Jenkins, and their daughter Sally.

CONSTANTINE

(Big, booming voice)

Friends of Tonya are friends of Constantine, eh? Welcome my friends! First drink is on the house.

TONYA

And could we get four of your dinner specials Constantine?

CONSTANTINE

Four Rock Crab Delights coming up.

He GOES to the kitchen. Ned, Mary, and Sally SIT at a table, Tonya waits at the bar. Tonya smiles and looks up at a staircase across the room. A dashing man with a world-class smile is casually making his way down the stairs. He

is well-dressed and radiates self-confidence bordering on cockiness, he is incredibly good-looking, and he smiles like he finds the world absurdly amusing. On his arm is a dancer from the bar. He makes eye contact with Tonya then heads to the bar, flashes Tonya a smile.

HANDSOME MAN

Nods his head, smiles with a gleam in his eye.

Good evening Ma'am

Dancer glares at Tonya. Tonya merely nods.

HANDSOME MAN

They told me there were some pretty flowers on Paradyse, but they didn't say that the prettiest flowers in the galaxy were here.

TONYA

Did they tell you that the flowers here had thorns and that if you try to pluck them you'll find yourself in a lot of pain?

HANDSOME MAN

(Laughing with humor at the retort)

Ma'am, of that I have no doubt. Besides, it'd be silly to pluck a flower when you can just sit back and admire it. Ma'am, it's been a pleasure chatting about flowers with you, but you'll have to excuse me, I need to go to work now.

TONYA

And what sort of work do you do, sir?

HANDSOME MAN

I swim in an ocean of probabilities and compete with my fellow man for wealth and glory.

TONYA

In other words, you're just a gambler.

HANDSOME MAN

Ma'am, you wound me. I am not just a gambler, I am the consummate gambler. I am the gambler all others aspire to be. I am the best partaker of the games of chance that has ever been.

TONYA

Well sir, I would say good luck, but I suspect you have all the luck you need.

HANDSOME MAN

I am particularly blessed with that attribute, my dear. One of many I might add.

TONYA

I assume humility is not one of them.

HANDSOME MAN

(Laughing)

A man needs to know his strengths and weaknesses. If you're talented in one area or another, there's no reason to pretend otherwise. I know what I'm good at, and I know what I'm not. You can't ask more than that of a person. Allow me to introduce myself, I am Brett Austin Carver, recently of Beta Caledonia. (He bows)

TONYA

My name is Tonya Honor, Mr. Carver.
It's been interesting to meet you.

HANDSOME MAN (BRETT)

It has been a pleasure, Ma'am. I hope
our paths cross again soon. Good
evening to you Ms. Honor.

Carver and dancer move towards a table where a card game is going on. Dancer continues to glare at Tonya as they walk away. Constantine returns with steaming dishes and hands them to Tonya, who sets them on the table. The crabs are eight-legged, spiky with a single four pointed pincer. The Jenkins all look hesitant until Tonya uses a laser knife to cut hers in half and takes a bite of the meat inside.

TONYA

It's easy folks, just use your laser to
cut them in half and eat the meat
inside. These little critters are mean
and nasty while they're alive, but
they're mighty good eating when they're
cooked.

Ned hesitantly cuts his in half and takes a bite.

NED

My word that's good!

Everyone digs in and starts eating. The camera focuses on Ned, then looks behind him at the door. Four men burst through the door, very rowdy, partially drunk.

FIRST ROWDY (GEORGE PUTIN)
(Howls, pounds on the bar)

Barkeep, set us up a round of the good
stuff.

CONSTANTINE

Hey you, wild guy. You keep under
control you hear me or out you go.

GEORGE

(Laughing in disbelief, turns to his sycophantic companions)

Boys, did you hear that? This man says he might kick us out.

(Companions laugh)

I don't believe he knows who we are. Perhaps he's just slow.

(turns back to Constantine)

Barkeep, I asked for your best whiskey. Why don't I have what I asked for?

Constantine pours four shots. George GRABS the bottle from his hand.

CONSTANTINE

Here's your drinks. Now just take it easy young fellow. I don't want any trouble from you.

GEORGE

Or what? What'll you do old man if you do get trouble from us?

CONSTANTINE

I'll toss you in the street you punk. I've handled your kind before.

Like lightning, George pulls his gun and puts it under Constantine's chin, George's companions pull their guns, the saloon is suddenly quiet,

GEORGE

I don't think you've handled anyone like me before, old man. My name's George, George Putin!

Constantine's eye widen at the name, slight gasp.

Us Putins do what we want to do. We don't take orders from anyone, especially worthless old bartenders. Is that clear Bartender?

CONSTANTINE

Yes

MARY

(whispers in panic)

Tonya, who are these people?

TONYA

(whispers)

The Putins are a gang of criminals who've been preying on the people for years.

GEORGE

(Addressing the crowd)

Y'all just go about your business. We're just here to have some fun, so don't mind us. I want you all to notice though, what happens to people who aren't nice to the Putins and their friends. Dong, Salvador, Arku, teach him a lesson.

After holstering their weapons, Salvador and Arku grab Constantine's arms, Dong hits him in the stomach.

GEORGE

Now old man, we're going to teach you a lesson so that next time we come, you'll treat us with respect.

CONSTANTINE

I will never respect you, punk.

Dong draws back his fist to punch Constantine hard. Just as his fist starts forward an energy whip lashes around his arm in a sizzling crack. He cries out in pain. The whip releases and goes off camera. Dong grabs his wrist and looks up at the camera. The camera turns to Tonya who is standing holding the whip, ready to fight. The whip is crackling with energy. She is the very image of power.

TONYA

Let him go!

GEORGE

Whoa-ho! We've got a feisty one here boys. (with venom) Back off babe. You don't want to mess with us.

TONYA

No bonehead, you don't want to mess with me.

She cracks the whip and strikes him in the face. He grabs his face and falls back. Salvador and Arku drop Constantine and charge for Tonya. She dodges Salvador as he jumps for her and swirls around kicking Arku in the face. He falls on a table surrounded by customers and breaks the table. Still whirling, Tonya turns and cracks Salvador in the chest with the whip with a bright, loud zap.

DONG

I'm gonna gut you girl!

Dong has pulled out a large knife which glows red with heat.

TONYA

You're pathetic. You couldn't gut a desert chicken (Tonya elbows him in the chest, then backhands him in the face, then swirls and kicks him in the chest sending him flying.

GEORGE

Take another move and the old man dies!

He is holding his gun to Constantine's head. He has a burned scar on his face from the whip.

TONYA

Tonya steps forward, the whip seems to coil and move on its own.

I don't think you want to do that
Georgie.

GEORGE

Back off babe, or I swear I'll vaporize
his head.

TONYA

Oh Georgie, you know that you would be
dead a moment after you did that don't
you.

She pats her holster.

I'm the one that you want to shoot, not
him

The whip is crackling and coiling around her feet like a
snake)

GEORGE
(Shouts)

Don't you know who I am? I'm a Putin!
I'm Nico Putin's brother!

TONYA

So that's your claim to fame? You're
somebody's little brother? How
pathetic!

George, furious, points gun at Tonya. Tonya jumps to side, does somersault, lands solidly on her feet and lashes her whip which strikes his gun hand, burning him.

GEORGE

Aarrgh!

Tonya delivers right and left punches followed by a roundhouse kick which sends George flying. The saloon patrons cheer.

Sally runs up to Tonya, hero-worship in her eyes

SALLY

Oh Tonya that was wonderful! How'd you learn to fight like that?

Tonya bends down and binds the hands of the four men with a thin cord.

My parents were murdered when I was just a little younger than you. I swore I'd get the guy who did it and I studied every fighting program and simulation I could find. I've worked every day since they were killed to be ready, and someday I'm going to get that bastard.

CONSTANTINE

(Addressing the crowd)

It's all over folks! Please enjoy your food and drinks. It's all over!

(addresses Tonya)

Thank you Tonya.

Tonya smiles but then someone rushes into the room. It is the sheriff.

SHERIFF

Alright, what's going on here?
Constantine, what's the problem?

CONSTANTINE

Constantine gestures to the four men laying on the floor face down.

Ah, Sheriff Parkhurst, I am glad to see you. These punks attacked me and threatened to kill me.

SHERIFF PARKHURST

And you took all four of them out? I'm impressed Constantine.

CONSTANTINE

Not me, Tonya.

Sheriff turns to Tonya.

Tonya Honor? I might've known. Okay, let's see who we got.

He turns over George and gasps.

George Putin? Oh Lord, What've you done Tonya?

GEORGE

You got that right cop! When my brother finds out you've arrested me he's gonna come for me, and ain't no one gonna be alive who stands in his way.

SHERIFF PARKHURST

Tonya! What the hell you want me to do with him? I'm not arresting no Putin. That's suicide.

TONYA

You have to arrest him, that's your job Sheriff.

SHERIFF PARKHURST

(Close to panic)

It's not my job. You want to kill yourself, you go ahead and do it. I'm not doing it. You want to be Sheriff fine, you do it. I hereby make you a sheriff. You want to arrest him, go for it. I'm leaving this cruddy planet anyway.

He takes off his badge and throws it at Tonya who catches it. He then storms out of the saloon. There is a moment of stunned silence until Carver comes forward smiling with a light clapping.

CARVER

Well done Sheriff! Well done indeed.
So now what do you want done?

Tonya pauses, momentarily indecisive. Suddenly, she stands erect, attaches the badge to her shirt and gestures to the men on the ground.

Take this trash to the jail. Let's move it, there's a lot to get done. There's a new Sheriff in town!

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. DESERT - DAY

In the desert with two suns in view over the horizon of harsh, barren rock. A snake-like creature with segmented plates and a round sucker/razor mouth is slithering rapidly across the rock towards a hole. Just as it is about to reach the hole a flash of light hits the creature accompanied by a buzzing sound. The snake-creature explodes in flame and is vaporized. Camera cuts to a lean, harsh-looking man. He is very angry and is holding a glowing blaster. A man and a woman stand with him. The woman is slightly behind him, the man is nervously standing immediately next to him.

MAN WITH BLASTER (NICO PUTIN)

What do you mean George has been arrested?

NERVOUS MAN (CLYDE BARROW)

Well, the sheriff locked him in the jail, and...

NICO

Nico points blaster at Clyde's face.

I know what being arrested means Clyde you idiot. Are you telling me that coward Parkhurst had the guts to arrest George?

CLYDE

No, no. Our spy Sanders says it was some chick who nailed him. Says she kicked his butt. His and Dong, Salvadore, and Arku's too.

NICO

One bimbo kicked all four of their butts?

Pokes his hat up with his blaster.

She must be pretty damned good.
(musing, then snarls)

So then Parkhurst arrested them?

CLYDE

No boss. Sanders says that when
Parkhurst saw who it was, he quit
right then and there and skedaddled.

NICO

(Getting dangerously impatient)

So who arrested George, dammit?

CLYDE

It was the chick. She's the new
sheriff and she threw George and the
others in jail.

WOMAN (LILY TREELANGE)

(Laughs)

I bet that just torqued his bolt.

NICO

Lily, be quiet. This chick, what's her
name?

CLYDE

Honor, Tonya Honor.

Close-up on Nico.

NICO

Then I think we need to have a talk
with little Miss Honor. She needs to
learn a few lessons when it comes to
the Putin Gang.

Nico takes aim and shoots another fast-moving snake-creature.

CUT TO:

INT. JAIL - DAY

Tonya has her hands on her hips staring at a computer screen. Brett Carver is relaxing in a chair with a cold drink, seemingly amused. George and Dong are in one cell, Salvadore and Arku are in the other.

TONYA

I can't believe this mess! His files are completely scattered. How could he possibly get anything done?

BRETT

My dear, all he had to do was give the illusion of being organized. He pretended to be a sheriff and you fine people paid him to do it.

GEORGE

I wouldn't worry about it if I were you cop. You ain't gonna last long enough for it to cause you a problem. When my brother hears about this he's gonna come and vaporize you, so don't worry about his stupid files. You got a lot more to worry about. You hear me?

BRETT

So what do you plan to do with these fellows, Sheriff?

TONYA

As far as I can tell, I'm supposed to hold them for a few days until the main prison can send a craft to pick them up. They'll go to trial in front of a

judge in Nirvana. The earliest they can pick them up is four days from now, so I guess we get to enjoy their company until then.

GEORGE

I wouldn't worry about it Lady. You be dead before four days. My brother'll be here in three days and then you'll see.

TONYA

If your brother comes, then the prison ship will just get more value for their trip out here and get to bring back more of you stinking Putins.

Tonya gets up and leaves the prison area for an office. Carver, amused, follows her.

INT SHERIFF'S OFFICE - DAY

BRETT

He's right you know. His brother will try to free him. He has to, for his reputation's sake.

TONYA

Tonya starts clearing junk off of the desk.

Let him try. I'm not afraid of him.

BRETT

You're not afraid of anything, are you?

TONYA

I wouldn't go that far, but I've learned to stand up for myself. My parents were murdered when I was young, and I was terrified. People my parents

trusted tried to swindle me out of my ranch, others tried to steal it outright. I grew up quick and I learned to look out for myself, so if they want to try to kill me, let 'em try.

BRETT

You know that the fine citizens here won't risk themselves for you, don't you.

TONYA

You're pretty cynical aren't you?

BRETT

I'm a pretty good judge of people. When the Putins come, only a couple folks will stand by you. The others will slink away and hide.

TONYA

Not everyone is able to overcome their fears. They've lived in fear for a long time, and it's not easy to start believing in justice and fairness again.

BRETT

Well, you're pretty tolerant. You can make excuses for them, but the fact that they won't back you up is the bottom line.

TONYA

And what about you? Will you back me up?

BRETT

(Chuckling)

As you said, Ma'am. A person has to look out for himself. Luckily, my fortune is already tied up with yours. I stand to gain much more by siding with you than with them. So for a strictly selfish reason, I need to stand by you.

TONYA
(Slight smile)

I see. Well how fortunate I am.

A light flashes on a big monitor screen and it makes a buzzing sound.

TONYA

Looks like I've got a call

Tonya touches a button and a face appears on the screen.

FACE ON SCREEN

Are you Tonya Honor, the woman who calls herself the new Sheriff in town?

TONYA

That would be me. With whom do I have the pleasure of speaking?

FACE ON SCREEN (NAJEED KHAN)

I'm Najeed Khan and I'm calling for Nico Putin. You've heard of him I'm sure. Nico demands that you release his brother George and his friends immediately.

TONYA

What's the matter? Nico's not man enough to call me himself? He has to have a flunky call me?

NAJEED KHAN

Watch your mouth woman. These are the Putins you're talking to. You release George Putin now and maybe Nico'll let you live.

TONYA

Listen to me you little worm. George and his buddies stay in jail until I get to ship them off to the judge. If Nico wants to say something to me, have him call me. I don't need to listen to a flunky so unimportant he's not even on my list of most wanted. George Putin is going to prison. Tell that to your master, you flunky. Good bye.

She presses a button that ends the transmission.

BRETT

(Chuckling)

Well, you told him.

TONYA

I just get so mad at these punks. All my life men have tried to bully me, and I just don't get bullied.

BRETT

Have you always been so self-sufficient?

TONYA

Pretty much. Mom and Dad were always teaching me to be strong and self-reliant. They taught me how to defend myself and stand up for what I believe. Then when they died, I was on my own for real, and their lessons saved me.

BRETT

I'm sorry. What happened to them?

TONYA

They were murdered by a coward during a robbery, a coward just like those creeps in there, and just like Nico Putin.

BRETT

And that's why you're standing up to them?

TONYA

That's why. Most people don't have the ability to stand up to these bullies, but I do. If I don't help them, who will? My Father and Mother had a dream that one day Paradyse would live up to its name, and I'm going to make that happen.

BRETT

You realize that these good people will likely desert you and run when the going gets tough?

TONYA

Maybe they will. How about you? Will you stand beside me when the Putins come?

BRETT

(Smiling)

Considering my use in a fight, if I stand beside you I'll just get tangled in your whip and that would hurt. I look out for myself, but luckily, my self-interest happens to be with you,

and it certainly will be fun watching
you give the Putins what-for.

Screen beeps again for incoming call.

TONYA

Busy telecom. Let's see who it is this
time.

She activates the screen. Nico Putin's angry face fills
the screen.

NICO

This is Nico Putin. Are the fool who's
thrown my idiot brother in jail?

TONYA

I'm Tonya Honor, Sheriff, and yes, I
threw your idiot brother in jail. What
can I do for you Putin?

NICO

You listen to me Lady, and you listen
good. Nobody throws a Putin in jail,
nobody! You release my brother right
now, Little Miss Sheriff, and I mean
right now.

TONYA

I'm not releasing anybody. Your
brother and his friends are going to
the judge and that's it. I've got
enough on him to put him away for a
long time. So work on your writing
skills, he's going to need a lot of
letters where he's going.

Nico's face is very close to the camera thus filling the
screen.

NICO

Nobody talks to me like that! Do you know who I am you stupid bitch? I'm Nico Putin! Nico Putin! You know what? I'm coming for you Sheriff. I'm coming and I'm gonna free my brother. I'm gonna burn that whole stinking town and I'm gonna kill everyone there, everyone you got that? But you, Sheriff, you're gonna die slow. You hear me, you're going to be begging me to kill you, then we'll see how tough you talk.

TONYA

Come on and try Nico you wimp. You come down here and I'll throw your butt in jail too. Paradyse'll be a lot better off without you.

NICO

That's it Lady. You're dead! I don't care if you let my brother out this instant, you're dead! I'm coming for you so go out and buy your coffin, cause you're gonna need it.

TONYA

You know where to find me, loser. That is assuming you can read that well.

View changes to INT Nico's hideout. Tonya is on the screen.

TONYA

So come on down, Nico. I'd love to throw your ass in jail with your loser brother and his friends.

She turns off the telecom. Nico stares at the screen open-mouthed, shaking in rage.

Nico screams in rage, slams his fist on the console. He pulls out his gun and blasts the screen. It explodes in fire and smoke, shooting it several times. His companions Clyde, Najeed, and Lily duck for cover. They cautiously poke their heads up after the shooting stops. They see Nico standing, gun still drawn, quivering in anger,

NICO

(Quietly with menace)

Get everything ready. We're heading to Utopia, and get the gunship ready too. We're going to level that town and teach Little Sheriff Honor a lesson.

CUT TO:

EXT UTOPIA CITY STREET - DAY

The city is futuristic with lots of shiny metal, but the buildings are worn and pitted. Sand piles up in corners. The twin suns are visible. Mary and Sally Jenkins are walking towards the town's school, St. Peter High School. In front of the school three older kids (~16 years old) are bullying a younger kid (13 years old).

1st BULLY

So dork-face, did you bring me a gift?

YOUNG KID

Leave me alone

1st BULLY

Don't you have my money? I told you. You have to give me a gift every day if you want to come to school.

2nd BULLY

What? Are you stupid you little dweeb?

YOUNG KID

(Trying to leave)

I don't have any money. Just leave me alone.

3rd BULLY

What's the matter? Aren't you our friend? Don't you like giving gifts to your friends?

Pushes young kid.

Mary and Sally see the exchange. Sally starts to go over, but Mary pulls her back.

MARY

Sally! What do you think you're doing?

SALLY

Ma! They're picking on that young kid. I'm going to make them stop.

MARY

You'll do no such thing. You are not getting yourself involved.

SALLY

Ma! They're stealing that kid's money.

MARY

You are not getting involved. I will not have you getting into trouble on your first day of school. Do you understand me young lady?

SALLY

But...

MARY

No butts. Look, I'm sorry he's having problems, but he'll have to solve them himself. We, especially you, are not getting involved.

She starts directing Sally by the arm past the boys into the school.

SALLY

If Tonya Honor thought that way, we'd be dead now Ma. She got involved in our problems and helped. You're just running away.

MARY

That was different, and you just watch your mouth young lady. Now let's go.

Shot shows them entering the school. Camera is inside building as they come in. In the background the three kids are beating up the young kid. Door is sliding, hydraulic door that opens with a whoosh then creaks as it shuts. Hallway has the once-sterile, now weathered look.

A woman comes up to Mary and Sally. She is a prissy, spinster principal of Asian ancestry, holding an IPAD-like clipboard. She has a small green light on her temple.

PRINCIPAL CHUE

May I help you?

MARY

Yes, Ma'am. My name is Mary Jenkins and...

PRINCIPAL CHUE

(looking at her clipboard then interrupting)

And you must be young Sally.

SALLY

Yes, Ma'am

PRINCIPAL CHUE

Well Miss Jenkins, we are happy you are joining us. We run a very tight ship

here, so I will be expecting you to follow the rules absolutely.

SALLY

Yes, Ma'am.

PRINCIPAL CHUE
(addressing Mary)

We expect your payments to be on time, and she must obey the rules.

SALLY

Excuse me Ma'am, but I saw some boys just outside the building bullying another student. Isn't that against the rules?

Principal Chue's green light turns red.

PRINCIPAL CHUE

I didn't see anything improper outside. I'm sure you're mistaken.

She glances at her clipboard, her face lit up from lights in the screen.

Everything seems to be in order Mrs. Jenkins. I will bring young Sally to her first class now. Good day.

MARY

(Slightly confused at being dismissed, but accepting the Principal's implied authority meekly departs)

Oh, all right. Good bye Sally. We'll see you after school.

CUT TO:

EXT UTOPIA STREET - DAY

Tonya is loading heavy crates onto a wagon hitched to two large Auros. Ned Jenkins is helping her, but mostly in the way.

NED

So do you think that Putin fella is really going to come and cause some problems?

TONYA

(Pauses and reflects a moment)

Yeah, probably will.

NED

Aren't you nervous about that?
Shouldn't you be getting ready or something?

Tonya loads another box.

Ned, I was a rancher before I became Sheriff. My ranch needs these supplies 'cause it looks like a storm is coming. Those clowns are safely locked up, and the computer will tell me if they are hurt or there's some problem. Putin hides out in the Screaming Mountains, and it'll take him a couple of days to get here. I'm going to take care of my animals, and then I'm going to get ready for those snakes.

NED

Well, if you need help, I'm gonna be there. I owe you one.

TONYA

Thanks Ned. I may take you up on that, but I think I'll be fine.

NED

(Looking doubtfully at the auros)

Tonya, I been meaning to ask you. How come you use these critters and not one of those cruisers.

TONYA

(Smiles, pats one of the auros)

That's a good question Ned. Have you ever seen one of the sandstorms here? They're big and fierce, and they sandblast everything. They'll have an engine so clogged with sand in one or two minutes that the engine seizes and dies. If you're flying and the engine dies, so do you. One of these auros, now, well, they can hunker down in a sandstorm, curl into a ball and you can crawl right in the middle and be snug as a bug. These auros are native and they can keep going regardless of heat, drought, cold, wind, or storm. You won't see many carriers surviving the elements here.

NED

Well, if they're that good, I'll just have to get me one.

Tonya

That's the spirit Ned. Tell you what, stop by the ranch and I'll set you up with one. Hey, do you need a ride?

NED

No thank you Tonya, I need to meet up with Sally at her new school.

TONYA

Okay then, we'll catch up with you later.

She drives off as Ned waves then crosses the street. A metallic whistle signals that the schoolday is over. Several kids come out. Sally is angry. As she is walking up the three bullies run past her to a fancy hover carrier. First Bully turns and sneers at Sally.

1st BULLY

Hey Farmgirl, next time you try to get someone in trouble, find out how much money he has. I can't get in trouble you stupid twit.

Laughing he gets into the hover carrier and it speeds off.

NED

Who was that boy Sally? Did something happen today?

SALLY

(About to say something, then changes her mind)

No Pa, nothing happened.

Sally looks up at the suns, we follow her gaze till the twin suns fills the screen, then pull back and we are now looking at Nico Putin, Lily Treelange, and Najeed Khan.

EXT. PUTIN'S HIDE-OUT, AIRFIELD - DAY

There are four aircraft visible: a transport ship that can hold ~20 people, two fast-looking single-person fighters, and a heavily armed gunship that looks less maneuverable but stronger. Ominous light glow and flicker as systems are tested out, a hum is in the desert air.)

NICO

How much longer till we're ready to ride?

NAJEED

Another few minutes Boss. They're loading the last missiles on now.

LILY

Are you sure this is what you want to do, Nico? We don't want the town completely destroyed. If there's no people, then there's no people to rob.

NICO

You think I don't know that Lily? I ain't stupid. I'm gonna leave just enough people alive to restart the town, but they'll never forget what happens when I get angry, and they'll never give me problems again.

The doors of the vehicles shut except for the gun ship.
The engines rev up.

NAJEED

Okay Boss. We're ready to rock and roll.

NICO

Then what the hell are we waiting for?
Get on. Utopia and Tonya Honor are about to die!

The three climb onto the gunship. The door shuts and all four ships lift off slowly straight up, dust is flying around, loud ominous hum. The gun ship takes the lead and streaks off over harsh forbidding desert mountains. The fighters go to either side, and the troop ship follows in the tail of the diamond. Harsh music plays in the background.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. ABOVE THE DESERT - DAY

The Putin ships are streaking across the desert, bristling with guns, harsh music pounding. Camera shifts position until the planes get obscured in the bright double suns.

Camera pulls back from the suns to find Utopia. Camera zooms down to

EXT Sheriff's office & Jail, Day

Tonya is getting off of her auro, tying it up, and taking off its saddlebag. Two men see Tonya and hurry up to her.

1st MAN (ARTURO JONES)

Sheriff! Sheriff, can we ask you something?

2nd MAN (ASMAL SINGH)

Is it true, Sheriff?

TONYA

Is what true Asmal?

ASMAL SINGH

Is it true that the Putins are coming to town to free their buddies?

ARTURO JONES

We heard that the Putins are planning to torch the town and kill everyone here!

TONYA

Now where did you hear something like that?

ASMAL SINGH

It's all over town, everyone knows it.

TONYA

(Pauses, chooses her words carefully)

Yes, I believe the Putins are saying that, but that shouldn't affect what we do. These men broke the law and are going to the judge. If Nico Putin wants to come and try to free them, then I'll stop him.

ARTURO JONES

But these are the Putin Gang. You can't stop them. Nobody has ever stopped them.

TONYA

The Putin Gang has terrorized this colony for years. I'm going to stop that. You men go back to your stores. I'll handle the Putin Gang.

She enters the jail.

CUT TO:

INT. JAIL - Day

George Putin is standing behind a force field with Dong lying on his cot.

GEORGE PUTIN

He's coming you know. My brother's coming for you.

TONYA

You know, I'm already getting tired of hearing about your goofy brother. If he comes then I'll throw him in with you and you can tell each other how tough you are.

GEORGE PUTIN

Are you crazy woman, or just stupid?
Us Putins don't have to obey laws. We
take what we want and do what we want.

TONYA

That's how it's been, but those days
are over. Paradyse deserves better
than that and I'm the woman to do it.
Remember, there's a new Sheriff in
town.

Tonya puts on her hat and heads for the door. George
hollers after her.

GEORGE PUTIN

Not for long! Do you hear me? Not for
long!

CUT TO:

INT. GUNSHIP - DAY

Nico Putin is talking to his men. They are scraggly, rowdy
and rough, but hardened. They do not appear self-
disciplined, but are under Nico's control.

NICO

All right, Listen up! When we get
there we teach them a lesson. First
we hit the jail and free George and the
others. Then we teach Sheriff Honor a
lesson. After I'm done with her you
guys have a free hand. We're gonna
raze the city. Take whoever you want,
we'll dispose of them later. Treat
yourself once I say so, but not until
I've dealt with Honor.

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL PLAYGROUND - DAY

The three bullies are at it again. They are hassling a youngster. Sally is nearby and sees them.

1st BULLY

So where's my money punk?

VICTIM

I don't have any money. Leave me alone.

1st BULLY

It doesn't work that way punk. This is how it works. I demand your money. You give it to me and I let you leave without beating you to a pulp. You don't pay and I beat the crap out of you.

SALLY

He said leave him alone, so leave him alone.

1st BULLY

Stay out of this farmgirl. This ain't none of your business.

SALLY

I'm making it my business.

1st BULLY

(Laughing)

Oh really farmgirl? I don't think so loser.

Bully grabs her and tosses her in a pile of dust. He walks away laughing heartily as Sally sits up. She is covered with sand and dust. She glares at him, sets her jaw, and pushes up her sleeves.

SALLY

Hey Loser! I'm not through with you yet...

CUT TO:

INT. - SHERIFF'S OFFICE - DAY

Tonya is checking a computer console. Brett Carver is sitting with his feet up drinking a cold drink.

TONYA

I'm looking at this weather report. It says a storm is moving in. I'm going to have to go out to the ranch and get the auros set.

BRETT

Will it get here before or after the Putins come?

TONYA

Hard to say. I don't know how fast it's moving, or the Putins either for that matter.

Brett looks out the window.

BRETT

Uh oh, looks like you're about to have some company.

A crowd of townspeople pack the doorway of the jail.

1st MAN

Sheriff we need to talk to you. We don't know what you're trying to prove, but it needs to stop.

2nd MAN

You need to let these Putins go! Then maybe the Putin Gang will leave us alone.

TONYA

Really Bart, you think so? Do you really think the Putins will leave us alone? They haven't left Utopia City alone for years, why should they start now?

1st Man

Tonya, do you know what they're going to do? I've heard that Nico Putin said he was going to destroy the entire town and kill all of us.

TONYA

Did he really?

2nd MAN

Yes he did. Don't you understand Tonya? He's going to destroy everything that we've worked for. If you stand up against him it'll all be gone.

TONYA

What I understand is that if you don't stand up to Nico Putin, you will really be destroying all that we've worked for and everything we hope for. Do you think that I don't know what kind of a bully Putin is? Of course I know. I know that he will continue to prey on us forever if we don't stand up to him. Everything I want Utopia to be depends on standing up for what's right, standing up for who we are, and not bowing down to the thugs and killers. So no boys, I will not release these Putins. I will take on Nico Putin if he dares to show his face around here,

and I will make Utopia City, and the
Paradyse colony a place to be proud of.
Oh, and by the way, if you come to my
ranch, you can call me Tonya, but here,
you can call me Sheriff Honor.

1st MAN and 2nd MAN

Yes Sheriff

CUT TO:

EXT. DESERT SKY - DAY

The Putin aircraft are flying in rough formation. They are
bristling with weapons. Harsh, angry, driving music plays
in the background. CAMERA focuses on lead ship and zooms
in through the windshield to focus on Nico Putin's
psychotically angry face.

NICO PUTIN

Faster Jason. I want to get there
faster.

JASON (pilot)

I'm going as fast as I can Nico, but
there's a storm coming and I need to
conserve fuel.

NICO PUTIN
(Menacingly)

Jason, I said I want you to go faster.
Now, go faster or I blow your damn head
off.

Nico holds his blaster up to the pilot's head. Everyone in
the cockpit is wide-eyed with fear because they know this
psycho is crazy enough to shoot his own pilot.

JASON
(Terrified)

Okay Nico, Okay! I'll push her up to
the maximum.

NICO PUTIN
(Smiles)

That's better. Thanks Jason. Thanks a bunch.

Nico puts his gun away and everyone exhales.

CUT TO:

EXT. - UTOPIA CITY - DAY

People in the town are looking scared. People are hurrying from stores loaded with supplies. Some people are carrying weapons in the open. The wind is blowing and sand and dust devils are common. Tonya steps out of the Sheriff's office. She is again the image of power. She addresses a group of armed men and women.

TONYA

As you know, the Putin Gang is on its way to free those losers in there. We're not going to let them do that. You fine people have volunteered to help me stop them, and I thank you for that.

NED

How are we going to stop them Sheriff?

TONYA

I'm the one they want, so I'm going to make it easy for them to find me. They'll concentrate on me and leave the rest of the town alone. Then I'll take them down.

PENDERGAST (O.S.)

Anyone who stays here is a fool.

CAMERA TURNS to see Pendergast in a nice suit with his bodyguard Dercum next to him.

PENDERGAST

There's no way to defend this town. It doesn't have the weapons or the

manpower. The only thing a fool on a rooftop will do is die.

TONYA

Mr. Pendergast, there are some things worth dying for. Utopia City and Paradyse are two of those things. We're going to stop the Putins, here and now.

PENDERGAST

I hate to see so many people get killed because of one person's stupidity. Listen to me. Anyone who wants to stay alive can come to the Great Star Mine. I've got enough powerful weapons to stop anything Putin has. Come to the Great Star, and I'll protect you.

TONYA

And what will it cost them Mr. Pendergast? Will they have to give their claims to you? Work at your mine? What price will you claim for your protection?

PENDERGAST

(Smiling oily)

I'm sure we can come to some reasonable reimbursement for the service I am providing. Anyone who wants to stay alive, come to the Great Star Mine. Anyone who wants to die, stay with the good sheriff here.

Pendergast and Dercum depart in a hovercraft.

CHANG

I'm sorry Sheriff, but I'm going to take him up on his offer. I'm not a good shot anyway.

TONYA

Chang, don't you see? He's going to use your fear to make a profit.

CHANG

I don't care Sheriff. I'm not fighting the Putins. I'm no fool.

DUNSTON

Me either. I'm going where I'm away from the trouble.

Several people agree and start leaving.

TONYA

Wait! We need to stick together to make this truly a Paradise. We can't just surrender.

Everyone except Ned, Jake McGraw, and Brett depart. Brett is sitting with his feet up.

BRETT

I hate to tell you I told you so Sheriff, but I told you so. I said these people would desert you.

TONYA

Yes Mr. Carver you did, but I still say these are good people. They're just scared so they're just trying to stay safe. It takes a while before you realize that you have to rely on yourself to be safe, and not on people like Pendergast.

BRETT

I can just imagine what Pendergast will charge them. He'll probably own most of the colony by the time he's through.

TONYA

Parasites like Pendergast will always be around. We'll deal with him later. For now, we've got to take care of the

Putins, and here's how we're going to do it...

CUT TO:

INT. PUTIN SHIP - DAY

Putin gang members are locking and loading their weapons. Lots of clicks and snapping sounds as weapons get ready. Larger weapons start energizing.

NICO

How much longer Jason?

JASON

Ten minutes and we'll be in gun range.

NICO

(Grabs microphone)

Alright listen up! We'll pass through town once, then you guys launch. Najeed, you and Lily, Duane, and Sanchez stay with me. We'll bust my dumbass brother and the others out of jail and take care of Sheriff Honor. The rest of you boys and girls go have some fun. Tear this piece of heaven to the ground. I want this place all but destroyed, do you understand me?

Nico howls like a werewolf. He is answered by everyone in all ships howling back. There is fierce excitement in his gang at the thought of the looting and assaulting about to take place. The gang is now armed, bristling with weapons and in various types of armor.

NICO

Remember! Destroy the town, kill whoever you want...except for Sheriff Honor. No one touches her. She's mine, all mine.

CUT to:

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - DAY

Tonya is at the window looking out at the approaching storm. Carver is sitting, sipping on a cold drink. Ned and McGraw are looking at a monitor. McGraw has an earpiece in his ear.

MCGRAW

Sheriff! Jackson at the shuttle station has just picked up the Putin ships. They'll be here in ten minutes!

TONYA

Okay boys! Time to put up or shut up. Anyone wants out, now's the time.

Everyone is quiet and shake their heads no.

BRETT

(Smiling like he is at a picnic)

Sheriff, there is no finer seat than next to you to see this thing through. I think if I was facing you across a gambling table, I'd fold my cards. Let's hope that Mr. Putin has a fifth of my wisdom.

TONYA

(still looking out the window at the worsening weather)

So Ned, where's Mary and Sally?

NED

I sent them to the basement of the hotel. They'll be safe there.

MARY (O.S)

Sorry husband, but Sally and I aren't going to hide in the dark.

Everyone turns to see Mary and Sally standing in the doorway. Sally is

scuffed up with a bit of a black eye,
but smiling.

NED

Mary! What are you doing here? I told
you to find somewhere safe.

MARY

We're not going to hide, Ned. We're
going to help.

NED

It's too dangerous here. Go where it's
safe.

SALLY

Pa, there is nowhere safe. This is our
world now too. We're going to stand up
and defend our homes. If you and
Sheriff Honor can fight for what you
believe in, I reckon Ma and I can fight
too.

MARY

(Looks fondly at Sally)

Yes, Sally has taught me a thing or two
today about doing the right thing, so
here we are.

NED

(Pauses, thinks about it for a moment)

You're right. You have the right to
fight for our home too.

He reaches over to the gun rack and pulls out two blasters.
He hands one to each.

TONYA

Welcome to Paradyse ladies.

Over Mary's shoulder there is a large explosion in the background as the Putin ships scream towards them blasting at buildings. Townspeople scatter for cover. Tonya and crew run to open windows.

TONYA

Okay ladies and gentlemen, let's teach
them a lesson.

She takes aim and fires, hitting the transport ship which veers slightly. The rest of the defenders open fire. The Putin ships scream overhead shooting at will. Loud blasts and explosions, smoke and fire surround them. It is very chaotic. A blast shatters the jail window. It starts parts of the jail on fire. Then several armored thugs are launched from the ships.

TONYA

They're launching attackers. We have
to spread out and stop them.

BRETT

We'll stop them Tonya. Ned, stay here
and keep these prisoners under wraps.
Jake, come with me. Let's go have a
pleasant chat with these guys.

They depart into the smoke and flame. The wind is blowing fiercely and the sky is dark. The Putin gunship hovers in front of the jail and lands. A door opens with a ramp sliding down. In the smoke and flame and backlighting from the ship, one silhouette (Nico) walks down followed by others. Nico steps into the light, radiating menace and murderous intent.

NICO

Where's Honor? Come on out Sheriff.

Tonya steps out of the jail. Flame is all around her. Smoke billows around. Her shirt is partially open. Wind is blowing her hair. She has her energy whip crackling in her right hand and a blaster in the left hand. She is the very image of powerful woman.

TONYA

I'm right here Putin.

NICO

(Psychotically and menacingly calm)

It's time to die Sheriff.

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

EXT. OUTSIDE OF JAIL - DAY, IN SANDSTORM

Tonya is standing with energy whip in right hand and blaster in her left. There is smoke and flame surrounding her. The storm is whipping up with lightning flashing in the dust storm. Three Putin ships are screaming overhead shooting lasers and missiles attacking the town. Nico Putin stands at the foot of his ship with Lily Treelange, Najeed, Duane and Sanchez behind him.

NICO

It's time to die Sheriff.

TONYA

Not today it's not, loser. Besides,
you're not man enough to kill me
anyway.

Nico screams in rage and blasts at Tonya. She jumps in a somersault and strikes at him with her whip. The whip knocks the blaster from his hand.

NICO

I'll kill you for that woman! Duane,
Sanchez! Go get my fool brother and
the others while I take care of this
bitch. Jason! Take her up and blow the
hell out of this place!

TONYA

Do you really think you can handle me
Nico, or do you want your friends with
you to make it a fair fight?

Nico draws a vorpal knife. It has two fine threads of wire sticking out with energy surrounding them. It can cut through anything. He swings wildly cutting a steel pipe in half. The gunship rises and soars off blowing dust and sand around. Just then one of the Putin's single-person ships flies overhead blasting a building. Tonya glances at it and decides.

TONYA

Sorry Nico, I've got to take care of something. Back in a minute.

Tonya cracks her whip on a beam above her wrapping it around the beam then swings up and does a somersault, landing on the roof.

NICO

Where are you going Sheriff? Scared of me? Think you can get away from me that easy. Too late lady.

TONYA

Don't worry little boy. I haven't forgotten you.

NICO screams in anger and starts to climb after her, swinging his knife. Tonya is on the roof as the ship makes another pass directly over her, firing its guns, blasting the roof. Tonya cracks her whip just as it streaks over. The whip hits the bottom of a wing. The plane starts flying out of control, the pilot struggling to control it. Tonya pulls out her pistol and fires four shots into the plane which explodes.

CUT TO:

EXT. UTOPIA CITY-DAY IN STORM

Brett and Jake see six armored attackers stomping through the street shooting randomly. Overhead two other Putin craft blaze through the sky shooting at buildings. Brett glances up, then at the armored thugs.

BRETT

Keep me covered, Jake. I'm going to try something.

Jake positions himself, rifle aimed at the armored men. Brett calmly walks out and casually motions at the men. They are dumbstruck at his nerve and watch this unarmed man approach.

BRETT

Howdy boys. Fine weather we're having,
isn't it?

1ST ARMORED THUG

Are you crazy buddy or are you just
trying to get yourself killed.

BRETT

No Sir, that is most surely not my
intent. But you gentlemen seem to be
the ones in charge, the ones with
power.

1ST ARMORED THUG
(LAUGHING)

You got that right little man.

BRETT

Well sir, I have an offer for you.

1ST ARMORED THUG

Talk quickly little man. I've got a
town to destroy.

The whine of the aircraft grows louder until it sounds like
it is overhead.

BRETT

Oh, I'll be quick Sir, don't worry
about that. Worry about this!

Brett pulls a gun from hidden holster on his back, drops to
a knee and fires several rapid shots at the approaching
gunship then jumps away. The gunship returns a devastating
fire and takes out the armored thugs.

Jake runs up to Brett.

JAKE

Are you crazy or what?

BRETT

Crazy? No, I felt lucky. I figured the pilot would take offense at someone brazenly shooting at him from the open. Luckily, they never thought I'd do something that stupid.

There is a loud crack of thunder and flash of lightning.

CUT TO:

INT. BURNING JAIL - DAY

The prisoners are in two cells with force fields keeping them in. They are yelling loudly to be released when they see Duane and Sanchez come in.

GEORGE

Duane! It's about damn time you got here. Get us out of here!

DUANE

Hold your horses.

Duane goes up to the control console trying to find the off switch.

MARY

Step away from the console.

Duane stiffens, looks up towards the ceiling. He is facing away from Mary.

DUANE

It's okay. I'll do what you say.

Suddenly Duane whips around pulling his gun from his holster, but Mary fires without hesitation blasting him. Sanchez fires at Mary but misses. Sally and Mary fire at Sanchez as he fires at them.

GEORGE

Sanchez you idiot! Shoot the console
and let us out.

Sanchez shoots the console which explodes in sparks. The
force fields disappear and the four prisoners jump out to
hide behind cover with Sanchez as Mary and Sally shoot at
them.

GEORGE

Sanchez, give me your other gun. When
I count three all five of us jump up.
Arku, you, Dong and Salvador rush them
while Sanchez and I cover you.

ARKU

They've got guns. You rush 'em.

GEORGE

I've got a gun too Arku, and I know how
to use it, they don't. If you don't
rush them, I'll blow you away first.

ARKU

Okay, okay. I'll do it.

GEORGE

Good idea. Now, when I say go, you go.
Got it?

ARKU, DONG, SALVADOR

Got it.

GEORGE

Okay, go!

George and Sanchez jump up and start firing. Dong, Arku,
and Salvador jump up and run through the flames towards
Sally and Mary. Arku comes around the corner right at Mary
yelling menacingly. Mary lifts the gun and blasts him at
close range. Dong and Salvador come around from opposite
sides, stepping through smoke and flame. Sally is in

between them. She lifts her gun and fires at Salvador, but misses. The two men both lunge at her. She ducks and they run into each other. She scoots out just as the ceiling above them collapses on them.

MARY

Sally! This way!

Mary and Sally run through the burning jail, jumping out the broken front window as a burst of flame erupts behind them. Ned is in the middle of a firefight with Najeed. Lily has a gun out, but is not participating. She is watching for who is winning before playing her cards.

NED

Mary! Sally! Get down!

Mary and Sally duck down with Ned as Najeed fires.

NED

Are you alright? What happened to the prisoners?

Mary

Two are definitely dead, two others probably are. I don't know what happened to the last two.

GEORGE (O.S.)

I'll give you a hint, lady, turn around real slow. Time for a lesson, folks.

CAMERA TURNS

George and Sanchez are standing, burnt, dirty, and holding guns on the three.

CUT TO:

EXT. UTOPIA CITY-DAY IN STORM

The ship shot by Tonya has just blown up. Nico screams in rage, pulls his other pistol and shoots at Tonya. It

grazes her shoulder. She cries out in pain and drops her pistol.

NICO

Now I got you Sheriff!

Nico fires several more shots, but Tonya does a series of flips and somersaults avoiding the shots. On her last flip, she lands hard and her right leg gives out and she falls to the roof. Nico jumps after her stabbing and cutting with the vorpal blade. He cuts into the wood, slices through some steam pipes, just barely missing Tonya. She punches him hard in the face and scrambles out from beneath him, favoring her right leg.

TONYA

Dance Nico, dance!

Tonya cracks the whip at Nico several times. He jumps and avoids it three times, but the fourth whips his legs causing him to scream. He shoots randomly.

NICO

I'll get you for this woman!

TONYA

You keep saying that, little boy, but I don't think you've got it in you.

Nico screams and throws the vorpal blade at Tonya. She knocks it out of the air with her whip. Nico runs at Tonya, but she does a roundhouse kick that sends him flying.

TONYA

Wait, let me guess... you'll get me for that, right?

NICO

You got that right bitch! Planes two and three, come here. I need you. Blow her away.

Tonya looks in the sky. Amid the roiling black dust clouds and amid the flashes of lightning two Putin ships come streaking towards her. She starts running towards the edge of the roof. One of the ships is strafing her with laser blasts, blowing apart the building. She grabs her gun which is lying on the floor. She does a somersault to get it. One of the planes, the remaining single-person jet, is heading straight for her, strafing ahead of her. She coolly takes aim as the blasts are hitting in front of her and takes three shots. The ship explodes in a fireball raining balls of fire down around them. The storm flashes big bolts of lightning. The second ship, the gunship, is screaming towards the building. She stands on the edge of the roof and pulls her whip out.

NICO

Nowhere to run now Sheriff!

TONYA

Shoot Nico, I ain't runnin'. I just can't take any more of your witty repartee. A girl needs at least a little intelligent conversation.

Tonya swings her whip and catches a pole, then swings down to the street. An auro is tied up sleeping. She jumps onto the golden creature's back. It rears up just as a flash of lightning brightens the stormy sky. She races the auro over to the burning jail where George and Sanchez have their guns trained on Ned, Mary, and Sally.

GEORGE

You stupid rockbuster. You should have just run and hid like the rest of these losers in town. Then you would have lived a little longer.

NED

I would rather die here and now as a free man than to bow to a punk like you.

Najeed Kahan steps out from the other side and joins the other two.

SANCHEZ

Kill him Little Boss.

GEORGE

Well rockbuster, looks like you came an awful long way just to die.

George takes aim at Ned, enjoying himself. Suddenly the lightning flashes and there is the rearing auro with Tonya on its back. The auro comes down hard on Sanchez as he screams. Tonya's whip cracks and wraps around George's throat shocking him. Najeed jumps to the side and shoots the auro. The shot partially reflects off of the auro, but makes it mad. It whirls around and kicks him with both back hooves sending him flying some yards off where he lands in a crumpled heap.

Tonya pats the auro on the neck. Then she spots Lily Treelange.

TONYA

How 'bout you lady? Want to try your luck and see if you fare any better than these clowns?

LILY

(Not the least perturbed)

No thank you Sheriff. I was just along for the ride and was a just prisoner of the Putins. I haven't raised a gun at anyone tonight and I'm just an innocent victim here.

TONYA

Just innocent as a newborn babe, aren't ya lady? Well I don't have time for you right now, so keep your nose clean and I'll pretend to buy your little story. Ned, ladies, do me a favor

please and tie these losers up good and tight. I need to see the boss of this bunch of misfits before he does any more harm.

Tonya rides through the town past burning buildings and through the storm. Behind her the gunship is visible coming towards her. Tonya is running the auro hard as the gunship quickly pulls up. It starts blasting. The auro just manages to jump as each blast hits. Finally, one blast knocks the auro up in the air, sending Tonya sailing. She hits the ground and rolls, springing a bit wobbly to her feet. She is facing the oncoming gunship. It hovers directly in front of her.

NICO (O.S. from gunship)

You put up a good fight Sheriff, but it's over now. I promised you that I'd kill you, and I always keep promises like that.

TONYA

Gosh Nico. Are you sure you want to try this? You only have an armored gunship against little ol' me. Are you sure that's enough for a big brave man like you? Sure you don't want a starcruiser at least?

NICO

You don't ever stop woman do you? Die!
Die! Die!

FLASH on NICO repeatedly pressing the fire button.

A series of devastating explosions as the blasts strike. Tonya does a series of jumps, rolls, and cartwheels avoiding the blasts. She cracks her whip on a building and swings up the side. She is level with the hovering gunship. She fire several shots directly into one engine and the next. Suddenly, one engine explodes and the ship veers violently to the side and then the second engine explodes.

CUT TO:

INT. GUNSHIP - Day IN STORM

Nico and Jason the pilot are at the controls. The ship is rocking and spinning. Jason is in a near panic. Nico is furious beyond words.

NICO

Jason, keep after her.

JASON

Are you crazy? We've lost two engines! With this wind we'll be lucky to get out of this with our lives.

NICO

I said go after her Jason!

JASON

To Hell with you, I have to land this thing.

Suddenly Nico fires into Jason, killing him.

NICO

Nobody disobeys me Jason, nobody!

Jake slumps forward and the gunship plows into the street tearing it up, but not exploding.

CUT TO:

EXT. UTOPIA CITY - DAY IN STORM

Tonya is standing on Main St. watching the gunship dig into the street towards her. The ship is bucking and heaving as it crashes. It finally comes to a halt fifty feet in front of Tonya. She is standing tall and strong. Her clothes are torn, burned and dirty. In her left hand is the whip. The pistol is loose in the holster. Resolution is etched on her face. The storm is blowing and lightning is cracking behind her. Nico opens the hatch and crawls out looking completely psychotic.

NICO

You ain't human. Whatever you are, you ain't human.

TONYA

Oh, I'm human alright Nico. I'm just not the kind of human you're used to. I stand up for myself and for what's right. I don't give in to bullies.

NICO

You've caused me too many problems. I'll kill you if it's the last thing I do Sheriff.

He starts getting in position to draw his weapon. Tonya widens her stance and gets her hand ready to draw.

TONYA

Don't do it Nico. There's still time to give yourself up.

NICO

You want me Sheriff, you're gonna have to take me.

TONYA

If that's how you want it Nico.

Nico draws, but Tonya is faster. She shoots the gun out of his hand, wounding his shoulder in the process. In the next second she is striking with her whip around his throat and yanking him face first to the ground in front of her. She is on him in an instant throwing futuristic handcuffs on him.

TONYA

Nico Putin, you are under arrest for murder, assault and a host of other crimes. It's time you faced justice.

Brett, Ned, Sally, Mary, and Jake come out to Tonya. A flame in the distance rises and shoots away. Lots of

gunshots from various building show that some of the townspeople have joined the fight.

JAKE

The last ship! They're leaving,
running away!

NED

You did it Tonya. You saved the town!

TONYA

No Ned, we all saved it. You all
risked your lives for the dream of
Paradyse and I'm very proud of all of
you.

BRETT

What happens to the delightful Mr.
Putin and associates?

TONYA

He's going in front of a judge to pay
for his crimes. I suspect he'll be
lucky if he doesn't get a firing squad.
Either way, he's going to jail for a
long time.

NICO

I'll be out someday Sheriff, and when I
do...

TONYA

Oh stuff a sock in it Putin. You're
not man enough to come after me.

(Talking to the others)

Let's take this loser to the rest of
the losers and lock them all up. The
shuttle to the judge comes tomorrow and

they'll be on their way. We've done our work today.

CUT TO:

EXT. UTOPIA CITY - JUST BEFORE DAWN

The city is busy with activity as happy people sweep and do repairs. Several building are burned or scorched, but they all seem to be undergoing repair. Tonya is talking with Sally as they clean up the gutted jail.

SALLY

So are they gone? Will the Putin gang come back?

TONYA

Well, some of them got away, but Nico and George went out on the transport yesterday morning. They'll be in jail for the rest of their lives probably.

SALLY

What about the ones that got away?

TONYA

Well, they may re-group and try to prey on us, but it will never be the same. The town has learned how to stand up for itself, to not be afraid.

SALLY

You know, a few days ago I was new to this world. It was strange and scary, but now after fighting for it, it feels like home.

TONYA

Well, welcome home Sally Jenkins. There's a world out there waiting for you.

As they stand there the twin suns dawn over the horizon in a beautiful double sun rise.

THE END