

INT, CAPTAIN'S CHAMBER, DAY

The standoff between JACK the first mate, and the crew was abruptly ended by the presence of ABRAHAM, the captain. He orders the crew and Jack's henchmen to both surrender their weapons, so that peaceful negotiations may ensue. He takes the crew into custody and asks MAL for a private word in the captain's quarters. Just before he is taken into custody, Mal learns that the ANGELA's child is unharmed and is still with the rest of the crew. However, ZOE has sustained injuries and has still not received the medical attention she needs, adding to Mal's agitation.

The captain's quarters consists of concentric hallways, each containing small capsules for various functions of order. A network of small passages connect the concentric hallways. At the centre of the quarters is the captain's living chambers with a single entrance facing the front. Mal stands crossed hands, leaning on a desk. The office is in complete disrepair. The air wreaks of alcohol, and the carpet is covered with stains. Clothes are strewn haphazardly over the bed and half eaten bowls of food have mold growing on them.

As Mal surveys the area with growing disgust, his concealed walkie-talkie crackles weakly with incoherent sounds. He turns the device off and looks around, running his hands across the walls. He looks up at the ceiling only to find that it seems quite solid and without any vents. He kicks a lamp in frustration and sits down on a chair burying his hands in his face. Suddenly, the door rattles with a key sound and Angela enters. Her face changes from tension to relief.

ANGELA

Oh thank God you're ok.

MAL

Angela, what in God's name are you doin here?

ANGELA

Mal quick, there's not much time. Jack ... I've never seen him this angry before.

Angela draws closer and kneels in front of him looking up at his face.

ANGELA

I can't stay long. If he finds out he'll ...

Angela shudders in fear.

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ANGELA

Little Kenny ... Is he alright?
Do you know where he is?

MAL

He's with Kaylee and Zoe. They're
all locked up somewhere on the
ship.

Mal leans in and grasps Angela's shoulders.

MAL

We've got to help them. Zoe's
hurt real bad. Do you know where
he's keeping them?

ANGELA

I'm so sorry, I wish I knew. Jack
and captain Abraham ... I heard
them talking, but the door was
locked. I couldn't hear what they
were saying.

Mal swears and walks over to the door, his back to Angela.
Angela follows and rests her hand on his shoulder.

ANGELA

I really wish I could help. You,
Kaylee, Wash ... it's all my
fault. Your pain, it's all my ...

Footsteps echo in the corridor. Mal and Angela freeze. He
makes a gesture to tell her to be quiet. The footsteps
fade away into the distance and Mal relaxes.

ANGELA

I have to go. This is too risky.
I can't leave the entrance
unlocked for too long. Quick Mal,
tell me. Kenny ... you said he's
with Kaylee and Zoe. Is he safe
with them?

MAL

Wait ... The entrance you say.

Mal takes steps towards Angela and points at the key bunch
dangling from her waist.

MAL

That bunch has keys to ... the
entire goddamn place?

Angela backs away.

ANGELA

Yes, how do you think I got in?

Angela's eyes widen as she looks at the smile growing on Mal's face.

ANGELA

No ... You can't be serious. It's too dangerous. If Jack found out. He would ... he would ...

Angela's entire body shivers and she shakes her head uncontrollably.

ANGELA

No Mal. I can't do it. He might even hurt Sarah, just to punish me.

MAL

If you don't let me out, then ... I can't help Kennie.

ANGELA

Help Kenie? What do you mean? I-I thought you said he was with Kaylee.

Mal turns away from Angela and squints out of the crack in the door as he speaks. The hallway is empty.

MAL

Angie, I didn't want to tell you but ... Kennie, he's hurt.

Angela rushes to Mal, turns him around and grips his shoulders tightly.

ANGELA

Hurt ... How badly is he hurt? What does he need? Tell me, please.

MAL

Shhh. You have to calm down.

Mal glances at the door again.

MAL

Listen, now I don't know how bad his condition is. All I know is that, last time I spoke to Kaylee, she told me he needs a doctor real quick.

Angela claps a hand to her mouth and shakes her head in disbelief.

ANGELA

No. This isn't happening. My boy,
my sweet little boy.

MAL

Angela ... I can

ANGELA

Go. Take this and go. Hurry now.

Angela throws Mal the key bunch. Mal seizes it and dashes
to the door.

ANGELA

Mal wait.

Mal pauses at the door and looks back.

ANGELA

They're in the prison cells below
the docking area. I saw them
dragging Kaylee and Zoe there.

Mal nods and rushes out of the room. Angela collapses on
the floor sobbing uncontrollably.