FAITH

Ву

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INT. FALCON HANGER BAY SCENE I

A hangar bay is filled with a dozen falcons and miscellaneous ships. The Falcons' propellers whirl to life; exhaust fumes fill the air. ODST's and Marines are running and climbing on board their ships.

Two Spartans are approaching a fully prepped and ready Falcon. This is Anton and Malcolm. The camera pans over to see another two Spartans boarding a falcon across the hangar, they nod to Anton. A voice is heard over their radio.

ADMIRAL

Sierra 044, you are to take White team and reinforce the evac point at Manassas spaceport. The Winter Contingency is in effect, so all units are mobilized; we'll need a fallback point if we lose the generators. Remember, we need those MAC cannons operational; they'll buy us the time we need to evac civilians.

Their ship lifts off and joins the others.

EXT. MOUNTAINS SCENE II

A squadron of Falcons drift over a vast mountain range.

They crest the mountain range to reveal a massive battle going on in the valley on the other side, though only brief flashes of the fighting is visible through the clouds.

Immediately the tone shifts and the Falcons take on a tighter and more aggressive formation as plasma starts bursting in the air around them.

CUT TO:

INT FALCON SCENE III

The leader of the squad, ANTON, is outfitted in white armor and watching the battle below, the ordinance lighting up the clouds.

Anton turns to the other Spartan who is wearing dark blue armor. He looks across to the Falcon carrying the other two Spartans. He touches a finger to his ear activating a comm line.

CONTINUED: 2.

ANTON

Alright, listen up white team. Once we are on the ground our primary objective is to secure a perimeter around the Manassas spaceport. All UNSC forces will use this spaceport as the final evac point if we lose the generators. The other Spartan teams are tasked with defending the generators for the Orbital Defense Platforms. The MAC cannons-

Just then, a plasma blast takes out the falcon across from them. The craft plummets to the ground wrapped in flames.

ANTON (cont'd)

White 3 come in! White 3 do you copy?!

MALCOLM

A large part of the covenant force is breaking off from the city assault, they are heading for the outposts!

ANTON

White Team come in!

A voice crackles in over the radio;

ISAAC (O.S)

This is Sierra three niner, requesting reinforcements at Kilo 1 outpost.

Anton and Malcolm exchange moment of surprise; why is another Spartan making a distress call?

ANTON

Sierra Three Niner this is Four Four what's your status?

Cut to Isaac, kneeling behind cover. His head lifts up slightly as he realizes who he's talking to.

ISAAC (O.S)

Anton? The Covenant are moving in a scarab to take Kilo one. The Generator has been hit but is still functioning.

Cut Anton

CONTINUED: 3.

ANTON

What about the marines stationed there?

ISAAC (O.S)

Negative

ANTON

What is the status of green team?

A brief pause.

ISAAC (O.S)

Negative.

Another beat; things are worse than expected

ANTON

Stand by.

MALCOLM

They're going to circle around the city and knock out the generators.

Anton ponders; he looks up into the spinning propeller blades of the falcon, and gazes momentarily into the horizon. He comes back, a plan formulated.

ANTON

(To Malcolm) Get ready.

(Comm line to Pilot)

Pilot! Change of plans, get us as close to Kilo 1 as you can.

PILOT

Aye sir.

The Falcon shifts away from the squad. The Spartans continue grabbing gear, checking rifles etc.

ANTON

Malcolm, you're up first.

Malcolm moves to the edge of the pelican getting ready to drop. The besieged outpost comes into view. The Spartans put on their helmets.

CUT TO:

EXT REACH SCENE IV

What appears to be a missile crashes into the ground tossing snow everywhere. Isaac looks over. Dust settles, Malcolm stands from his kneeling position, grabs the rifle off his back and looks to see massive covenant forces and a scarab approaching fast. He engages.

Anton lands a few seconds after.

ISAAC

Glad you could join us.

MALCOM

Thanks for keeping our seat warm.

ANTON

Eyes on the Scarab!

Anton grabs the mini gun beside him and unleashes a line of destruction, ripping and cutting covenant forces in half. In the distance he can see Isaac doing the same with his AR. Forces are closing in quickly on Isaac.

Malcolm is advancing slowly, taking precise aim with his Specialty AR, He takes out two grunts. A vampire is seen approaching in the background, he takes a few shots at it, the Vampire crashes into the ground.

Isaac notices several grunts moving toward him and starts burst firing his AR.

Anton notices a Hunter approaching extremely fast.

Anton stops and plants his feet solidly into the ground, unleashing a hail of bullets at the Hunter. The hunter bulls forward, the bullets pinging off its armor; it's unscathed. Anton's turret gun overheats and ceases to work, the Hunter still approaching fast. Anton draws both his pistols and starts firing in rapid succession, hitting each of its weak points with deadly accuracy. With a final few shots to the neck, the hunter slows, and eventually drops dead mere feet in front of Anton.

Isaac is only seen indistinctly through the chaos but it is clear he is being overrun.

Isaac dispatches one foe, then a second but a third walks up and plunges an energy sword through his chest. Anton and Malcolm witness this all from across the battlefield, too late to save their teammate.

CONTINUED: 5.

Isaac stares at the Elite, who snarls in victory, and draws back his hand, revealing the grenade he is holding. He takes his thumb off the safety pin.

Both disappear in the blast. Anton witnesses the death of Isaac from close by. Stationary for a split moment in disbelief of Isaac's death.

A loud impact is heard on the ground; one of the Scarab's rounds impacting close by. Anton refocuses.

ANTON

We have to take out that Scarab!

The scarab opens fire on Anton. He takes off to one side, a stream of plasma trailing right behind him.

Malcolm observe the Scarab advancing, a Warthog interrupts the Scarab, the Scarab shifts its attention to the Warthog.

Anton stops running.

Malcolm notices a banshee fly past him in the air. He follows it for a moment.

MALCOLM

See that Banshee?

Anton looks up and follows it, dawning realization.

ANTON

Don't miss.

EXT REACH SCENE V

Anton fires at the banshee, shots pinging off its armor. It spins about and bears down on him as he takes off toward the Scarab. Malcolm starts sniping enemies clearing Anton's path. The scarab turns towards Anton, seeing him running towards it, and begins to charge its main gun. Anton dodges small fire from both scarab and banshee as Malcolm provides cover. Anton spins to face the Banshee which is now right on top of him; the Scarab is about to unleash the shot its been charging.

ANTON

Do it.

Malcolm, sighting down his rifle, blasts the stabilizer off the banshee, sending it into a uncontrollable corkscrew and it slams right into the Scarabs gun assembly. The built up charge backfires into the scarab causing both to explode. CONTINUED: 6.

Anton hits the ground and his armor locks up as the wreckage comes down near him.

Malcolm sprints toward the wreckage during the aftershock explosions, the remaining Covenant infantry are seen retreating in the distance. He arrives just as Anton walks out of the wreckage.

They look at each other. Then at the battlefield.

MALCOLM

Kilo 1 outpost, Covenant threat in the vicinity has been neutralized.

Inside Anton's H.U.D he is scrolling through a list of names and moves Isaac 039 to the list of Spartans labeled as missing in action.

MALCOLM (CONT'D)

Sir, Kilo Outposts three and four report being engaged by Covenant forces.

Anton nods.

ANTON (COMM LINE)

Sierra Actual, this is Sierra 044. requesting permission to take white team and reinforce Kilo 3.

SIERRA ACTUAL (O.S.)
Permission granted. Good hunting
Spartans. 117 Out.

TITLE, OVER BLACKNESS. Credits. End.

ANTON 044

MALCOLM 059

ISAAC 039