

HIVE Audition Script

Character: JURI

CONTEXT: JURI is confronted by GRACE, who is attempting to reconcile their diverging attitudes to entrapment within 'Hive'.

JURI is playing 'DOOM' on an ancient computer. **GRACE** enters.

GRACE

Hi. I hope I'm not interrupting? I was thinking we should talk some things over.

JURI is distracted by the game for several seconds more. He finally pauses, looks up innocently, and smiles -

JURI

What's on your mind?

GRACE

I wanted to start by taking responsibility for losing my temper during breakfast today. I was unprofessional, and I want you to know that I am working on that.

JURI

Okay. I uh, didn't really notice, but... Yeah, all good. Hey, is this about the character sheets you made? I have 'em here - I was planning to have a geeze later...

GRACE

No, it's... Well, yes, in a way. Please let me finish. I-

JURI

Grace, I'm kind of in the middle of.... Is there a specific question you wanted to...?

GRACE

I want to know why you've been disrupting our story plans. It feels like you're deliberately obstructing the approved plots.

JURI

(light)

"Obstructing"... or making them better...?

GRACE

(frustrated)

It's dangerous! You're putting everyone at risk by dragging us into situations we're unprepared for.

JURI

How were we prepared for any of this? I mean, come on - we're trapped performing in a magical sitcom dimension or whatever.

(picks up the character sheet)

Is trying to plan everything out going to make any difference? We're all just, y'know, gettin' by – dancing along to the song as best we can and trying not to think too much ab-

GRACE

-But you need to think about it Juri. Making the wrong choices could get us killed.

JURI

I'm n... Look, I'm... I'll be at the next meeting, okay? I'll check the fridge. I'm not "trying" to be a dick or anything, I just...

(considering)

I'm not really a character-actor-type guy, y'know? I just... I don't know, work out who I am as I go. That's just me.

GRACE

Okay. Well I mean, that's... I appreciate that, Juri. I'm just trying to understand why you do these things you do.

JURI

Okay... That's... I don't really know what you want from me here. And, I mean, what kind of question is that? Why do I "Do the things I do"? Christ...

GRACE

I'm not trying... I came here in the spirit of reconciliation.

JURI

- Hey, I've got an idea! Perhaps if you modelled the manner of answer you're seeking to acquire, I could better *astertain* your request. Tell me, why do you do these things you do, Grace?

GRACE

I'm not... What?

JURI

Well, you barge in here. Tell me I'm 'obstructing' everyone. Give me the whole "performance"...

GRACE

I'm trying to keep you from getting yourself killed!

JURI

Wow, thanks. That's really good of you. Look, in all your charting and hypothesizing and shit, did the possibility occur to you that maybe I'm not the problem here? I mean, the audience seems to like me, s-

GRACE

I should have known this would be pointless...

JURI

Was it? Maybe. Then again, maybe I'll think about it and change my whole frame of mind because of this conversation. I suppose there's only one way we'll find out...

JURI goes back to his game.

GRACE

Don't say I didn't try to help you.

JURI

Right back 'atcha. Good luck with yourself, Grace.

GRACE closes the door behind her.

END OF SCENE.