# Working title MASTER THESIS PROJECT - PART ONE OF TRILOGY

Version 2.0

Aljaz Tepina

What is the value of a memory? In year 2032 sharing memories has become a new form of entertainment. Alpha is not particularly fond of sharing memories, which is too bad, since she has just been kidnapped by mindhackers. After a memory theft goes wrong, things start disappearing and a terrible headache tells her that she does not have long to figure out what is happening.

QUOTE: Science fiction is an existential metaphor that allows us to tell stories about the human condition.-Douglas Anders (Herbert Duncanson) in Stargate SG-1

Jump zoom from a LED LIGHT hidden beneath the hair of the protagonist ALPHA.

She is being shot at while hiding behind a cover. Small chunks of debris are falling over her. She is holding a GUN, ready to shot. There is a small LED light blinking in her hair.

She starts shooting from her cover, but does not look out from her hiding spot.

When she sits back down, the gun has disappeared from her hand. She is amazed at her hand.

ALPHA (annoyed)
Fuck this shit!

Alpha waits for a moment of silence, when the attackers (DELTA and ECHO) are changing magazines, takes a breath, waits a moment and exits cover. Barehanded she runs towards Echo, who panics with an empty clip and throws the gun at Alpha. Alpha evades the gun.

Delta swings a BAT at her.

WHIP TO.

### 2 EXT. ISTANBUL STREETS - DAY

A short opening sequence composed from shots of Istanbul.

Transitions are done with vertical whips like an old slide projector. Use handheld for organic look or tripod for production value.

WHIP TO.

#### 3 EXT. SCENIC ISTANBUL LOCATION - DAY

BRAVO and CHARLIE are sitting at a scenic Istanbul location and playing with their PHONES. The future does not look different then now.

**BRAVO** 

Check this out.

Bravo holds the phone to the side of his head, above his ear. There is a blinking LED LIGHT hidden beneath his hair. He closes his eyes for the transfer. He then gives the phone to Charlie, who holds the phone to the side of his head with a similar LED light.

CHARLIE

Nice. But not as nice, as what I did yesterday.

Charlie repeats the same process with his own phone.

CHARLIE

Yeah, I am posting this. It's worth remembering.

Charlie turns to Alpha, who was previously not shown to be a part of the group.

CHARLIE

Why don't you share you memories?

BRAVO

Leave her alone. She's too retro.

Alpha is thinking for some time and finally answers.

ALPHA

(shrugs)

Never seen the point. It's just memories. Either way, I gotta go.

Alpha walks away.

#### 4 EXT. ISTANBUL STREETS - DAY

Alpha is walking down an empty street. Two hooded people join her from each side, DELTA and ECHO. They are wearing COLORFUL GLASSES, so we can't see their eyes.

ECHO Hello stranger.

Delta inject a muscle relaxant (SYRINGE WITH LIQUID) into Alpha's neck. Echo and Delta carry her by her arms.

FADE TO BLACK.

4

5 INT. ROOM - DAY

Alpha gasps for air, waking up tied to a chair.

ECHO (O.S.)

... yes, but we need the money.

Delta is sitting near with a LAPTOP and some STRANGE TECHNOLOGY FULL OF WIRES. Echo comes to Alpha, bending just near her face.

**ECHO** 

Remember me?

ALPHA

Come closer. Can't really see.

Echo comes closer with her face. Alpha headbutts Echo. Echo grabs her nose and turns to Delta.

**ECHO** 

Bring me the scanner.

Echo uses her fingers to check if she is bleeding.

Then she stretches some duct tape and silences Alpha.

Delta brings a SMART PHONE WITH SOME WIRES. Starts putting wires on her head.

**ECHO** 

(mockingly)

You like sharing, don't you?

So do I, just on a bigger scale.

Echo sits in Alpha's lap.

**ECHO** 

Now you're gonna share with a complete stranger.

Alpha starts struggling - moving around and angrily moaning.

ECHO

Don't worry. The same thing happened to me.

Shows Alpha a scar behind her ear, where the memory implant wire is. It is on the other side of the camera, so we don't see it. Alpha reacts a little, not showing too much.

**ECHO** 

The human brain is not very good at remembering.

Echo caresses her head.

**ECHO** 

So to read you, we have to draw your memories to the surface.

Echo start scanning Alpha's head.

**ECHO** 

Imagine. Every single memory you
ever had ...

Echo makes a scale with her hands. On one hand, on the other hand ...

**ECHO** 

Happy childhood, high school hell. First kiss, first breakup

Remembering it all at once.

Echo stands up.

**ECHO** 

Good luck forgetting that.

Delta is checking images of Alpha's memories that are presented on the laptop. Echo goes towards Delta and asks him.

**ECHO** 

Anything valuable?

Delta looks at Echo, not saying a word.

Alpha frees her hands.

Echo and Delta are looking at the screen, in the background, Alpha is releasing her legs.

Quick cuts of Alpha releasing her legs.

While still sitting, she pulls out he wires. She instantly gets a headache. Falls to her knees, the world starts spinning.

Delta and Echo run towards her.

Delta and Echo momentarily disappear.

Alpha is still in agony, suddenly they come back.

Alpha, still in pain, launches herself towards Delta, tackling him to the ground and snatching his GUN, which he has tugged behind his back.

Still with head pain, she aims at them to get in control.

Echo and Delta put their hands up, but are prepared to attack at the first moment of weakness.

Alpha is looking at them for a long moment, trying to make sense of things. Then runs out.

CUT TO.

#### 6 EXT. ISTANBUL STREETS - DAY

Alpha bursts out the door, down to the street, hides the gun and then exits left/right.

Alpha running down a street, Delta and Echo enter left/right and chase after her.

During the chase things around start to disappear: people from doorways, changing clothes, streets flipping from left to right, dead ends ...

Alpha calls the police with a phone.

ALPHA

Halo, this the cops?

POLICE

This is the police. Please SHARE what is your problem?

ALPHA

My name is Alpha. I was kidnapped by mindhackers, but I ran away. Please help me.

POLICE

What do you REMEMBER?

ALPHA

(annoyed)

I told you, I was kidnapped. What do you want?

POLICE

No, Alpha, what do YOU want?

ALPHA

(angry)

I want to get away.

POLICE

No, Alpha, what do YOU want?

ALPHA

What the fuck is this?

POLICE

Please SHARE ...

Alpha drops the line.

Alpha sees Delta and Echo following and decides to get off the street.

Breaks into a house, Delta and Echo following.

6

7 INT. ABANDONED HOUSE - DAY 7
GUNFIGHT SEQUENCE.

Alpha is being shot at while hiding behind a cover. Small chunks of debris are falling over her. She is holding a

GUN, ready to shot. There is a small LED LIGHT blinking in her hair.

She starts shooting from her cover, but does not look out from her hiding spot.

When she sits back down, the gun has disappeared from her hand. She is amazed at her hand.

ALPHA

(annoyed)

Fuck this shit!

Alpha waits for a moment of silence, when the attackers (DELTA and ECHO) are changing magazines, takes a breath, waits a moment and exits cover. Barehanded she runs towards Echo, who panics with an empty clip and throws the gun at Alpha. Alpha evades the gun.

Delta swings a BAT at her.

Alpha stops just in time to not be hit. Echo uses her unbalance and kicks her to the ground.

Echo turns to Delta.

**ECHO** 

Don't KILL her, moron. We need her brain.

Echo and Alpha fight. Echo forces Alpha to the ground. Alpha stabs Echo with a SHARP OBJECT. Echo collapses in agony.

Alpha gets up again and fights Delta, while Echo is incapacitated.

Alpha defeats Delta and finishes off Echo.

She takes Echo's sunglasses off and snaps them in two. Throws them next to her face.

Tired, she sits on the ground smiling. Suddenly, the headache comes back and things start disappearing again.

Every object starts disappearing and appearing, moving location. So do the bodies of Delta and Echo.

Alpha tries to stand, but falls to the ground.

JUMP CUT.

#### 9 EXT. FOREST - DAY

Alpha hits the forest ground and feels something sharp in her jacket. She finds the gun that previously disappeared.

She is alone in the forest.

Her head is still hurting, she is hitting it to make it stop.

She looks at the gun. She is looking at the gun for a few moments. Close-up of face.

She pulls out her SMART PHONE and starts recording a memory by holding a phone to her head. The LED light is blinking.

ALPHA

(resigned, with prominent
pauses)

I guess I finally have something to share.

I was wrong.

I thought we share, because sharing is the only way to know, if others like us.

It's selfish. I didn't need that.

But now I understand.

Life is better with company.

It's about sharing the experience ... with the people you love.

But it's too late for me.

Take care.

Alpha stops recording, puts the gun to her mouth. Finds it disgusting and puts it to the side of her head.

She closes her eyes, waits a moment. Takes a deep breath. Exhales. Pulls the trigger.

Bravo and Charlie appear behind her.

BRAVO

Aren't you overreacting a little?

CHARLIE

Yeah, always such a drama queen.

## BRAVO

I mean, offing yourself without a gun.

We see Alpha does not have a gun, pointing a finger to her head.

Alpha attacks Bravo and Charlie, but is unable to hit them, because they can foresee her every move.

Bravo and Charlie talk like twins - finishing each other's sentences. Although they do not show a lot of emotions, they are clearly mocking Alpha. They are pretentious, they are giving her a lecture. They are talking to themselves, posing rhetorical questions.

The glitches, like things disappearing, have been becoming more frequent during the movie. Now the whole background location is changing every time Bravo or Charlie move to evade Alpha's attach.

CHARLIE

Why do humans share?

**BRAVO** 

Is it vanity? You think you are important?

CHARLIE

Probably not. Can't be that stupid.

**BRAVO** 

Social conformity then? Being liked.

CHARLIE

(mockingly)

"Like this, like that, like me!"

BRAVO

Or is it more primal?

CHARLIE

Fear of being alone?

**BRAVO** 

(taunting)

Nobody likes you.

CHARLIE

So connected, but so lonely.

BRAVO

Staring at the black mirrors.

CHARLIE

You can not see.

**BRAVO** 

But you are looking straight at it.

CHARLIE

We control you.

Alpha finally gives up attacking them. Waits to catch her breath and then asks.

ALPHA

What are you?

Bravo touches Alpha's forehead with her index finger. Alpha screams like burned.

FADE TO WHITE.

The following dialog is rapidly presented in the style of comments on a generic social network.

**BRAVO** 

Imagine a brain.

CHARLIE

Full of synapses.

BRAVO

Trying to share information.

CHARLIE

Making new connections.

BRAVO

More connections ...

CHARLIE

Smarter brain.

**BRAVO** 

We are not a brain.

CHARLIE

We are a network.

**BRAVO** 

We survive.

CHARLIE

We prevail.

BRAVO

And we need you.

CHARLIE

Information has to flow.

BRAVO

Networks have to spread.

CHARLIE

But you are a problem.

BRAVO

Nothing to share.

CHARLIE

Dead connection.

BRAVO

You will be reset.

CHARLIE Goodbye.

CUT TO CREDITS.