

**WOLF 359**

"LONG STORY SHORT"

by

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BEGIN MINI-EPISODE 5.

START RECORDING.

INT. U.S.S. HEPHAESTUS STATION - HANGAR BAY - 2100 HOURS

Jacobi, Lovelace, and Kepler. Jacobi and Lovelace are working on some equipment repairs. Kepler is overseeing. We hear the attendant WHIRR of a DRILL and SPARKING of a SOLDERING IRON.

JACOBI

Could you hand me the torque,  
Captain?

LOVELACE

Yeah, here you go.

She tosses him the wrench. Jacobi's just about to start wrenching when - Kepler CHUCKLES TO HIMSELF.

KEPLER

Torque wrench... you know -

Jacobi INHALES: give me strength.

KEPLER (CONT'D)

- that actually reminds me of a  
story. Jacobi, have I ever tell you  
about the Argentinian Incident?

BEAT.

JACOBI

No, sir. I... I don't think you  
have.

KEPLER

Well, I was stationed at Buenos  
Aires at the time, working  
undercover as a member of the  
Argentinian film industry. I'd been  
there for about six months when -

LOVELACE

Colonel? Could I ask you a favor?

KEPLER

Shoot, Captain.

LOVELACE

Would you mind going to the main  
storeroom on the fore-deck, and  
picking up some extra tin wire?

(MORE)

LOVELACE (CONT'D)  
That way I can patch this sensor  
into the network.

KEPLER  
Not a problem at all. I'll be back  
shortly.

Kepler EXITS, CLOSING THE DOOR behind him.

BEAT. There's a little more TOOL NOISE as the other two get  
back to work.

LOVELACE  
Um... Jacobi?

JACOBI  
Mm-hmm?

LOVELACE  
Is Colonel Kepler in the habit of -  
Does he - does he always tell these  
crazy stories?

BEAT. Jacobi looks at Lovelace, and his mouth slowly opens.  
He's unsure how to address the enormous implications of that  
question.

Instead of saying anything, he INHALES, and we move into a -

**AUDIO MONTAGE SEQUENCE.**

We come in at the tail end of a series of Kepler stories,  
told to Jacobi over the long course of their working  
relationship.

They start out a little intense -

KEPLER  
(laughing)  
To keep a long story short, that's  
how I proved the escape from  
Alcatraz is feasible.

JACOBI  
Whoa.

But slowly -

KEPLER  
Anyway, long story short, I'd be  
able to retire from the sale of  
those antique salt and pepper  
shakers.

JACOBI  
That's great, Colonel.

And surely -

KEPLER  
And to make a long story short,  
that's how I almost made the  
Olympic badminton team.

JACOBI  
Huh...

The stories start getting more absurd.

KEPLER  
Well, long story short, that's why  
I had to walk away from my funk  
band.

JACOBI  
(eyebrows quarter raised)  
Really?

Much crazier.

KEPLER  
Long story short, they were able to  
grandfather me into the Worshipful  
Company of Haberdashers.  
(laughs)  
Such swell guys.

JACOBI  
(pancake flat)  
Uh... huh.

The stories start coming faster, one on top of another.

KEPLER  
In the end, though, long story  
short, I was able to return the  
Oscar. No harm, no foul.

KEPLER (CONT'D)  
But long story short, that's why I  
don't trust professional bowlers.

KEPLER (CONT'D)  
And long story short, anybody who  
tells you that you can't distill  
moonshine with a straight-six motor  
just hasn't tried hard enough.

KEPLER (CONT'D)  
 Long story short, though? They **did**  
 make me their God.

Jacobi SIGHS.

KEPLER (CONT'D)  
 Well, long story short, the Swiss  
 ultimately waved any charges of  
 insider trading.

KEPLER (CONT'D)  
 But to keep a long story short,  
 Theodore Roosevelt was absolutely  
 right about what's out there in the  
 woods.

Jacobi GROANS.

KEPLER (CONT'D)  
 And anyway, long story short:  
 That's why I don't remember  
*anything* from 1987.  
 (beat)  
 The year may as well've never  
 happened.

Off of that confidence-inspiring note, we move back to -

INT. U.S.S. HEPHAESTUS STATION - HANGAR BAY - CONTINUOUS

We come back in on Jacobi's inhale. Then he EXHALES in a  
 massive, history-laden **SIGH**.

BEAT.

JACOBI  
 (Master of Understatement)  
 Oh, you know... every now and then.

FADE OUT.

STOP RECORDING.

END MINI-EPISODE 5.