

KARIN

Hi! Karin Heimdahl here, creator of Chaika. I am really excited to bring you a sample episode of our Patreon-exclusive series Chaika: Dust Storm. This is a micro fiction series in seven episodes that starts right after the post credits scene at the end of season 1, and serves as a bridge into season 2, which is in production and will release sometime this year. Now, you do not need to listen to the Dust Storm story to understand season 2, but if you do listen, it will hopefully both broaden and deepen your understanding of the world and the story of the main series. In Dust Storm, you get to know three characters that Chaika will meet and interact with throughout season 2. The Mars commander, the Mars second-in-command, and the operations lead of the Mars base, Russian AI UYUT. You may remember hearing briefly from all three in the season 1 finale.

Y2K Productions is basically just me, creating audio drama, and relying entirely on listener support in order to pay production costs, voice actors and other collaborators. For now, I offer both Y2K and Chaika as free audio drama downloads without ads. Chaika: Dust Storm is my way of thanking our amazing patrons for their support. If you want to listen to the full series, there are two ways you can obtain it. You can either join our Patreon at an eligible tier. As I'm recording, there is one spot left of our earlybird 3 US\$ per month tier, but if someone else has grabbed that, all tiers at 10 US\$ per month and up include Chaika: Dust Storm. If you want to get only the Chaika: Dust Storm series, you can do that as a one-time purchase of 12 US\$. For links and details on all of this, please go to y2kpod.com/chaikaDS/, all one word.

Links also of course in the show notes of this episode.

But now, let me introduce you to episode four of Chaika: Dust Storm. The Mars commander has been having an increasingly difficult day, where crucial support systems on the base seem to all be failing. As this episode starts, the commander and her second-in-command are rushing into the water processing engine room to see if they can fix at least one of the issues.

1 DUST STORM: EPISODE 4

1

INTRO MUSIC, starts, then fades to low

NARRATOR

Chaika: Dust Storm. A Patreon micro series. Episode 4.

INTRO MUSIC, up to full volume

MARS COLONY, WATER PROCESSING ENGINE ROOM

Water rushing. Malfunctioning engine clonking. Alarm bleeping. Doors open, COMMANDER and SECOND hurry in.

COMMANDER

There.

SECOND

(starts ineffectual tool handling, out of breath, conversational)

So they want democracy, the engineering crew?

COMMANDER

(scoffs)

Such nonsense. They knew what they signed up for.

SECOND

Mm.

(more ineffectual tool handling, slight grunt of exertion)

Can't get this off, mer.

COMMANDER

Put some effort in, second.

SECOND
(more exertion)
Trying, commander.
(small grunt)
Not really my field, this.
(more tool clanking)

COMMANDER
(sarcastic)
Thought your tertiary was
engineering? [as in 'tertiary skill'
but the 'skill' has been dropped]

SECOND
(more tool clanking and
exertion)
Chemical engineering, mer.
(beat)
It's been fifteen-

COMMANDER
(interrupts)
Excuses.

SECOND
(more tool clanking and
exertion)
Well.
(beat)
What's **your** tertiary, commander?

COMMANDER
(almost wistful for a
moment)
Botany...

SECOND
(more tool clanking and
exertion)
Could **you** still - I dunno what
botanists do - prune a tree?

COMMANDER
(snaps back to present)
Naturally.
(exasperated)
Move, second.

COMMANDER takes over tools and swiftly starts to remove the
cover SECOND has struggled with.

COMMANDER

(slight exertion)
There... And now...
(tool clanking)
There.

Alarm ceases, engine starts to hum smoothly.

SECOND
(breath of relief,
surprised)
Huh. Blimey. I should have backed
away earlier.

COMMANDER
(replacing cover)
Chain of command, second.

SECOND
Yes, mer.

COMMANDER
(satisfied)
One down. Now, OM2.

COMMANDER starts walking out, SECOND follows.

SECOND
(slightly out of breath)
OM2, mer?

COMMANDER
Security crew are trapped there.

SECOND
Really?

UYUT entry beep.

UYUT
Commander! The ship - Eventyr 24601
[two-four-six-oh-one] - has entered
Mars atmosphere, but they appear to
have a steering malfunction. Current
trajectory would result in impact on
greenhouse wing.

SECOND
(gasps in surprise)

COMMANDER
You've hailed them.

UYUT
Affirmative. No response.

COMMANDER
Keep trying.

UYUT
(in Russian)
Будет сделано, commander [It will be
done, commander] (Budet sdelano)

UYUT exit beep.

COMMANDER
Change of plans. We split. Me to
command central. You, OM2.

SECOND
(as they hurry off)
Yes, commander.
(whispers)
Oh, we got more running...

Footsteps hurrying away.

Fade out.

CREDITS

CREDITS MUSIC

NARRATOR
You have listened to Emma Laslett as
Commander, Hem Cleveland as Second
and Roma Garustovich as UYUT. Sound
design by Maddy Searle. Music by
Chris Gregory and Kevin McCleoud.
Chaika: Dust Storm is a Y2K
production and was written and
directed by Karin Heimdahl - that's
me! - I also do the narration. Thank
you so much for listening.

OUTRO MUSIC.