

Halo X DOOM: Infinite Hatred, Eternal Affairs

By

Joshua Fernandez

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Joshua Fernandez
Joshuakf3000@gmail.com

EXT. EARTH - ARC COMPLEX - NIGHT

Earth is destroyed: skies are black and grey, smoke and fire cover the streets, demons roam the city, buildings are in ruin, and corpses litter the rubble.

INT. ARC COMPLEX - NIGHT

A computer lab is in chaos as several scientists RUN AROUND in panic and shock as alarms blare to advise evacuation. Glimpses are shown of the armor of a man, we don't see his helmet. He approaches a LAB ASSISTANT tending to SAMUEL HAYDEN, a damaged humanoid robotic torso, attached to wires.

LAB ASSISTANT

(Nervously)

Are- are you the... yeah there's no doubt you're him. We've been monitoring Dr. Hayden, but keeping his vitals stable has been difficult. I must advise you to unplug the cables carefully if-

The man YANKS SAMUEL from the cables and PICKS HIM UP.

LAB ASSISTANT (CONT'D)

You want to... remove him.

A red portal opens. A MARAUDER, a humanoid demon gladiator, walks out wielding a red axe.

It fires a beam at the lab assistant, but the man swiftly moves him. The Marauder SWINGS at the man, but gets countered by his arm blade as he throws the lab assistant to the exit. He KICKS the Marauder away to keep his distance. It examines the man menacingly.

MARAUDER

(Fiercely)

You disappoint us, all of us.

A blue portal opens behind the man. VEGA, the AI in the man's suit, speaks to him.

VEGA (O.C.)

Opening the portal now. I advise we depart.

The man picks up Samuel and throws him in. The portal closes soon after.

MARAUDER (CONT'D)

You play god and savior when
you're nothing but a usurper, a
false idol.

The man and marauder slowly pace around.

MARAUDER (CONT'D)

My eyes have been opened. Let me
help you to see our ways, or die
trying, Slayer.

WIDE SHOT ON THE DOOM SLAYER.

The DOOM SLAYER is a hulking figure in muddy green battle armor with a shoulder-mounted launcher and an arm blade on his left arm.

He cocks his shotgun, the Marauder wields his axe with both hands and they CHARGE AT EACH OTHER.

CUT TO:

EXT. EARTH - CITY OUTSKIRTS - DAY

Earth has a big sprawling city with clear blue skies, bright sun, and green mountains. The town itself is in chaos, with infinitely less destruction.

A blue portal opens, and Samuel falls out.

PAN TO THE CITY STREETS.

EXT. MILITARY CENTER - CITY STREETS - DAY

A war is in progress between humans and aliens. Explosions swarm the streets, civilians are caught in the crossfire, attackers on both sides fall dead, and alien vehicles fly overhead.

WIDE SHOT OF SOLDIER AND ALIEN FIGHTING.

The soldier fires his gun, but it's empty and gets knocked down by a grunt, a 4-foot alien with purple skin and bulky armor. The grunt is about to kill the soldier when an energy blade PIERCES THE ALIEN AND SLICES UPWARDS. The soldier looks up in amazement.

SOLDIER

Master Chief! Thank god you came!

MEDIUM SHOT OF MASTER CHIEF.

MASTER CHIEF towers over the soldier in green military battle armor and golden visor. He helps the soldier up and HANDS HIM the alien's weapon.

MASTER CHIEF
 (Pointing to squad)
 Easy soldier. Help them provide cover fire by the civilians.

SOLDIER
 Yes sir!

MASTER CHIEF
 How long until forces arrive, Cortana?

Chief OEPNS HIS HAND. CORTANA, an AI in the form of a woman, appears as a blue hologram.

CORTANA
 Hard to tell. The Covenant has us cornered in the skies and on foot.

MASTER CHIEF
 We'll make it work then. We always do.

Chief closes his hand, grabs his rifle, and CHARGES into the fray, fighting alongside his soldiers.

CUT TO:

EXT. CITY OUTSKIRTS - DAY

A grunt RUNS towards a Covenant ship when it trips on something metallic. It notices Samuel on the ground and examines him. It WAVES to several brutes, 8-foot-tall muscular ape-like aliens. They pick him up and retreat to the ship.

EXT. MILITARY CENTER - CITY STREETS - DAY

CORTANA (O.C.)
 I'm picking up something 150 meters north. It's an old, powerful signature.

MASTER CHIEF
 Covenant or UNSC?

CORTANA (O.C.)
 Not sure, what's evident is the
 Covenant wants it. It's 155 meters
 away now.

MASTER CHIEF
 On it.

Screaming echoes in the distance, Chief looks back to see a
 dead squad of soldiers and humans surrounded by Hunters:
 12-foot-tall orange aliens covered in purple armor with a
 laser for their right arm.

MASTER CHIEF
 (Angrily)
 Mission's changed.

CORTANA (O.C.)
 It always does.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOUNTAINS - DAY

A blue portal opens, and the Slayer walks out. He looks at
 a city in the distance engulfed in fire and destruction.

VEGA (O.C.)
 I sense Samuel's location in the
 city.

A Covenant ship ascends and flies from the city. The Slayer
 looks menacingly as it disappears from view.

VEGA (O.C.)
 Dr. Hayden was on that ship. We
 will need another mode of
 transportation. My sensors don't
 detect the Fortress of Doom, and
 therefore cannot open a portal.

Blood-curdling screams of people from the city echo.

CLOSE-UP SHOT OF THE SLAYER'S LEFT HAND CLENCHED WITH THE
 CITY BEHIND IT.

CUT TO:

EXT. MILITARY CENTER - CITY STREETS - DAY

Chief CHARGES toward the civilians while killing grunts. Several brutes ambush him. The adults and children LOOK IN HORROR and scream as the hunters charge their weapons.

A faint burst can be heard in the distance and a green energy ball hits an alien ship in the sky. The hunters stop.

MASTER CHIEF
Is that backup?

CORTANA (O.C.)
Yeah, but not from us.

The ship crashlands into a convoy of Covenant forces. Chief and many onlookers STARE in awe of the wreckage. They wonder what weapon could produce that much explosive power.

MUSIC CUE: BFG DIVISION, VOLUME BUILDS GRADUALLY.

Several mini rockets fire through the smoke, taking out 3 hunters in quick succession.

MUSIC CUE: BFG DIVISION PLAYS FULL VOLUME.

EXT. CITY OUTSKIRTS - DAY

An explosion bursts from the fallen ship and the Slayer CHARGES VIOLENTLY at the Covenant.

He rips grunts apart, shoots brutes, and easily punches through hunters' chests like cardboard. He shows no signs of slowing down and all Covenant forces focus on him.

EXT. MILITARY CENTER - CITY STREETS - DAY

Chief kills the distracted brutes around him.

MASTER CHIEF
(At the civilians)
Get to safety, now!

CORTANA (O.C.)
Who is that Chief?

MASTER CHIEF
A soldier and that's good enough for me. Johnson, tell everyone to double on civilian protection efforts and support our mystery reinforcement.

JOHNSON (O.S.)
 (Through intercoms)
 You got it Chief.

As Johnson speaks, soldiers change tactics and bigger squads form around civilians.

JOHNSON (CONT'D) (O.S.)
 Listen up Marines, that walking
 death machine ain't one of ours,
 but damn it, he fights like he is.
 Help the people of Earth to safety
 first, then show those Covenant
 bastards how the sweet release of
 death was their only option!
 Hoorah!

The Slayer mows down hordes of aliens, charging toward those closest to civilians. He notices a group of grunts kidnapping several families, prompting him to aim his shotgun.

He fires the attached meathook to snag one and pull him toward a group 20 meters away in 2 seconds. The Slayer wipes out the grunts with blinding speed. A little girl walks to him.

GIRL
 Thank you, Mr. Spartan.

DOOM SLAYER
 (kneels down and pauses)
 Are you alright?

GIRL
 (Relieved, then worried)
 Yes, me and- and- where's my
 brother?

WOMAN
 (grabs the Slayer's arm)
 It has my baby!

The Slayer turns to see a brute with a pistol to a little boy. He raises his shotgun, but the brute holds the boy and SHAKES his head.

The Slayer snarls until Chief SLICES it off the arm with the pistol and DECAPITATES it. The boy runs to his mother's arms. Chief and the Slayer lock eyes, prompting Chief to walk toward the group.

MASTER CHIEF
Thanks for the help.

Several UNSC soldiers come to escort the group.

SOLDIER
We'll take it from here, Master
Chief.

Chief nods. He opens his hand and Cortana appears.

CORTANA
You've been a big help to us with
the Covenant, but who are you?

The Slayer stays silent.

CORTANA (CONT'D)
(Curiously)
You're not UNSC, and that armor is
foreign to my database. Maybe we
can give you an alias like Flynn
or John.

VEGA (O.C.)
The Slayer has no other alias.

CORTANA
Are you an AI?

VEGA (O.C.)
Yes. I am Vega, a sentient
intelligence assisting the Slayer
to save Earth from demonic forces.

MASTER CHIEF
You mean something other than the
Covenant or Flood?

JOHNSON (O.S.)
Chief, we got word that the
Covenant is retreating. Rendezvous
to my location.

MASTER CHIEF
Yes sir. We need to head back.

The Slayer and Chief start walking.

CORTANA

What do you mean by demonic forces? We have encountered the Jiralhanae, Unggoy, and Mgalekgolo, but nothing with demon as an official label for a species.

VEGA (O.C.)

I have no records of the creatures you mentioned. I have codex entries on demons including Imps, Mancubi, and Cacodemons.

MASTER CHIEF

Are you from Earth?

VEGA (O.C.)

The Slayer is, I am not. I was created on the UAC Mars base.

CORTANA

Do you mean the UNSC?

VEGA (O.C.)

No. What is the UNSC?

CORTANA

You don't know what it is? Something is not right, why are you here anyway?

VEGA (O.C.)

We came to retrieve Samuel Hayden and got separated. He was taken by the creatures you refer to as the Covenant.

CORTANA

That must have been the energy signature I detected.

MASTER CHIEF

Whatever it is, we'll get Hayden and you home. You've earned that much.

CUT TO:

INT. MILITARY CENTER - 1ST FLOOR LOBBY - DAY

Chief and the Slayer enter a lobby with soldiers, service animals, and medical staff tending to the wounded. SERGEANT JOHNSON, a black military Sergeant Major with a thick mustache, approaches the two.

JOHNSON

(Amazed)

Hot damn, Chief. You never fail to disappoint me. This the soldier that shredded through those sons of bitches?

MASTER CHIEF

Yes.

JOHNSON

(Extending arm for a handshake)

Sergeant Johnson, pleasure to meet you, uh...

CORTANA (O.C.)

He's called the Slayer as far as we know.

JOHNSON

Slayer? I like it. Bold, frightening, inspiring. It's almost as good as your nickname, Chief. What did Arbiter call you, Demon?

The Slayer turns his head toward Chief as he returns the favor.

MASTER CHIEF

Yes.

JOHNSON

(Marching around them)

That's right. To us, you're one of UNSC's brightest. But to those good-for-nothing aliens, you're something otherworldly, a harbinger of lead, freedom, and the human spirit.

The Slayer looks at Johnson, and Chief follows.

JOHNSON (CONT'D)

Now, while you're the type of soldier this military can use, you seem to be separated from your platoon.

CORTANA (O.C.)

That's actually what we needed to talk to you about, sir. Slayer, if you'll give us a minute.

Chief and Johnson walk away. The Slayer looks around and sees a little boy and girl holding a rabbit run to him with their mother huffing behind. He kneels.

BOY

Mr. Spartan! Is Master Chief your friend?

GIRL

How did you fly to us so quickly?

MOTHER

Alright guys, please leave the poor Spartan alone. And what do we say?

BOY & GIRL

Thank you.

DOOM SLAYER

(To the kids, concerned)

Are you two okay? Are you hurt?

BOY

We're okay.

DOOM SLAYER

Good.

The Slayer notices the rabbit in the girl's hands, and she plays into his curiosity.

GIRL

Want to pet her? Her name is Lola.

The Slayer looks toward the mom, and she nods. He slowly extends his arm to pet Lola, hitting a sweet spot that causes her to start purring. The kids laugh with joy.

CUT TO CHIEF AND JOHNSON TALKING 30 FEET AWAY.

They observe the Slayer from a distance. Cortana appears in Chief's hand as a hologram.

JOHNSON

That's a lot to dump on me,
Cortana.

CORTANA

I know, we're confused too. He
doesn't strike me as the type of
guy to kid around though. He
hardly ever speaks.

JOHNSON

A little pep talk won't hurt. I'll
ask him some questions.

MASTER CHIEF

We should bring it up with the
Admiral first.

JOHNSON

He's a soldier, he can handle
anything I throw at him.

MASTER CHIEF

(Blocking Johnson)

He can, but we don't know what's
going on inside his head, the last
thing we want to do is piss him
off.

JOHNSON

He's a 7-foot-something
ass-kicking machine like you.
Ain't he?

CORTANA

Worse, he hits like a Rhino. We
saw him rip apart grunts and
impale hunters with his bare
fists. How many Spartans do you
know can do that?

JOHNSON

Not many.

CORTANA

He may have given us a hand to
fight the Covenant, but how can we
fully trust him?

JOHNSON
(Points to Slayer)
See that Cortana?

CORTANA
Yeah.

CUT TO SLAYER PETTING LOLA.

JOHNSON (V.O.)
That there is a family man. You
don't interact with civilians,
especially kids, like that unless
it's etched into you.

CUT TO JOHNSON AND MASTER CHIEF.

JOHNSON (CONT'D)
Family men are sometimes the
scariest sons of bitches to fight.
And from my experience, a marine
who mows down enemies like that
either has everything to protect
or nothing to lose. My guess? It's
the ladder for him.

Chief and Cortana look at each other briefly.

??? (O.S.)
(Through Johnson's
intercoms)
Sir, your ride is outside. Lord
Hood is waiting for you on the
Cairo Station.

JOHNSON
Copy that. Time to move out, get
the Slayer, and meet me outside.

CUT TO THE SLAYER AND THE KIDS.

BOY
She likes you, did you have a
rabbit, Mister?

DOOM SLAYER
...Daisy.

The kids look up, and Slayer looks behind to see Chief
standing.

MASTER CHIEF
We'll be outside. Time to get
Hayden.

Chief walks away.

DOOM SLAYER
Keep Lola close, and stay with
your mom.

The kids both nod and run to their mom. The Slayer stands and observes momentarily, reminiscing before walking off-screen.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTER SPACE - CAIRO STATION

A giant space station 500 meters long and 1300 meters tall rests several miles above Earth with smaller ships occupying its space.

??? (O.S)
So we owe our victory to this man?

MASTER CHIEF (O.S.)
Yes sir.

INT. CAIRO STATION - COMMAND CENTER

A big room with engineers on computers, Cortana's hologram on a command console, and giant window panels showing the vastness of space. Chief, the Slayer, and Johnson meet with LORD HOOD, an elderly and clean-shaven military admiral.

LORD HOOD
You have our thanks then. Now, I
hear you have something to brief
me on.

VEGA (O.C.)
I may be of some assistance.

LORD HOOD
You have your own AI?

CORTANA
He does. Slayer, if you want us to
help, we'll need to connect to
your systems. Chief, hand him
this.

Cortana points to a chip for the Slayer's helmet. He hands it to the Slayer but he refuses to take it.

CORTANA

We won't take anything if that's what you're afraid of. It will only stream data to me so we can all be on the same page.

The Slayer takes it and puts it in his helmet. Vega materializes as a blue ball of light in hologram form next to Cortana.

CORTANA

The floor is yours, Vega.

Vega displays different files in a holographic form including first-person combat recordings, models and codex entries of several demons, schematics to UAC machines, and footage of Earth.

VEGA

I have been assisting the Slayer in diminishing the demonic invasion on Earth. Our current mission was to retrieve Dr. Samuel Hayden to assist us in quelling Hell's reign over it.

A hologram of Saumel is displayed.

JOHNSON

Must be a hell of an AI to have his own body.

VEGA

Incorrect. While his body is a machine, his human mind is embedded within it to prosper long after death.

JOHNSON

Jesus.

CORTANA

Vega confirmed the Covenant took him, The reason is still unknown to us and the Slayer's technology is unlike anything we've seen.

VEGA

The Union Aerospace Corporation took on projects including extracting argent energy from hell and creating interdimensional teleporters, all of which we utilize.

LORD HOOD

This doesn't look like the Earth I know, how did you get all this footage?

VEGA

Through our numerous expeditions. Based on the information received from Cortana, we believe the portal we traveled through sent us to another universe.

JOHNSON

Bullshit.

MASTER CHIEF

Not impossible. I've been in other universes myself.

LORD HOOD

How? Who or what did you encounter, Master Chief?

MASTER CHIEF

Hard to explain, sir. In one dimension I had to combat bulbous humanoid creatures.

CORTANA

I have no records of this.

MASTER CHIEF

We were separated.

LORD HOOD

Any other memory you can recall?

MASTER CHIEF

I was stranded on an island left to fight warriors and master architects. I completed the mission, but thinking about it now, the Slayer may have been there too.

JOHNSON

You sure you have enough air in that helmet Chief?

Chief looks at Johnson.

LORD HOOD

A slipospace is one thing, but this is something else entirely. What could the Covenant want with Dr. Hayden?

CORTANA

These schematics, what are these for exactly? What's argent energy?

VEGA

Energy harvested from Hell. It is potent and has advanced human technology decades earlier than anticipated. Drawbacks include its essence attracting demons and its ability to transform mortals into these creatures.

MASTER CHIEF

With everything we came across, this could be worse than the Flood if ANYONE has their hands on it.

CORTANA

Agreed. What does Dr. Hayden have to do with this?

VEGA

He is the chairman of the UAC and has led the research projects.

LORD HOOD

You want us to help you save the man responsible for Earth's destruction?

VEGA

Correct solution, incorrect assessment.

LORD HOOD

The enemy of my enemy is not always my friend, it sounds like a fair assessment. How can we trust you won't go against Earth down the line, our Earth even?

CLOSE-UP OF SLAYER CLENCHING FIST.

Chief notices this.

MASTER CHIEF
Because actions speak louder
words.

Slayer looks at Chief.

MASTER CHIEF
I can tell he's a soldier fighting
for Earth. If he hates the
Covenant half as much as he hates
demons, he's on our side. As far
as I know, he's a Spartan in
spirit.

CORTANA
I second that.

JOHNSON
That's right.

Lord Hood looks across the room, then at the Slayer.

LORD HOOD
You have my apologies, Slayer. If
espionage is not their game,
exfiltration might be.

VEGA
Correct.

JOHNSON
How do we track down the bastards
who took him?

VEGA
I can locate him, but I will need
to connect to your systems for
maximum reach.

CORTANA
You trust us, Slayer?

Lord Hood hands him another chip. He ponders momentarily
before he replaces the one in his helmet.

VEGA
Connection established.

A holographic map displays, zooming and panning tracking down Hayden's location.

VEGA

Scan complete, Samuel Hayden's location has been tracked down.

LORD HOOD

Let's head there now.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTER SPACE - CAIRO STATION

The station rests in space above a green and grey planet.

LORD HOOD (O.S.)

What do you have for me, Cortana?

INT. CAIRO STATION - COMMAND CENTER

CORTANA

Looks like Hayden's hostage in a Covenant base. Security's tight outside.

LORD HOOD

What is this world called?

CORTANA

It's not on record anywhere I can access. Might be a secret base.

VEGA

Scans show signs of Samuel Hayden, Covenant soldiers, human life, and unidentified entities.

JOHNSON

Soldiers?

LORD HOOD

Possibly, or civilians.

Johnson looks puzzled. Chief gets Cortana from the command console and the Slayer takes the chip out of his helmet. Both turn to the exit.

JOHNSON

Where you two going? We need a plan.

MASTER CHIEF

There are people down there.
That's the mission.

JOHNSON

The Covenant doesn't care for
hostages more than I care for
their guts under my heel. Why
would they need any?

Chief stops and puts his arm on the Slayer's shoulder. He
tilts his head to Lord Hood, and both turn.

LORD HOOD

A covert approach might be the
best strategy. Chief, this will be
a 2 man mission. You sneak in and
secure the hostages then contact
us to send a rescue carrier.
Slayer...

Slayer looks directly at Lord Hood.

JOHNSON

You're not my soldier, so I don't
expect you to follow my orders.
All I ask is to put your trust in
Chief, lives are at stake. Time to
head out.

MASTER CHIEF

Yes, sir, I need a weapon.

LORD HOOD

Take what you need from the
armory. Slayer?

The Slayer pulls out his shotgun and cocks it.

LORD HOOD (CONT'D)

A fan of the classics. Noted.

A small montage plays of both Chief and the Slayer arming their weapons, checking equipment, loading ammo, and synchronizing Cortana and VEGA in the same comms link.

INT. CAIRO STATION - FLIGHT BAY

Chief and the Slayer enter a Sparrowhawk, a small two-passenger aircraft, in a giant flight bay filled with carriers, fighter jets, and personnel walking around. A gateway opens, Chief ignites the thrusters and flies toward the planet.

CUT TO:

EXT. UNKNOWN PLANET - SKIES - DAY

The aircraft soars through cloudy skies, unveiling a stone base engulfed by a forest between a valley of mountains.

INT. CAIRO STATION - COMMAND CENTER

Lord Hood oversees a holographic map tracking the Slayer's and Chief's location. Slowly, the signals and points of interest begin to disappear, including life signals and the map's iconography.

LORD HOOD
Johnson, page Chief immediately.

JOHNSON
Yes, sir.

INT. AIRCRAFT - DAY

The aircraft has a cockpit with the Slayer sitting behind Chief with Cortana's hologram on the dashboard.

CORTANA
Sir, we found the base. Heading there-

Static fills the radio waves. The Slayer looks at Cortana

CORTANA
Sir?

MASTER CHIEF
Did you lose signal?

CORTANA
Yeah, it was fine a second ago. I think it's being blocked.

MASTER CHIEF

They wanted us to come. I'm going
to try to land us quickly before
they send-

The radar on the dashboard beeps intensely as several dots
home in toward the center.

CORTANA

You got this?

MASTER CHIEF

Yeah.

EXT. UNKNOWN PLANET - SKIES - DAY

Several Banshee attack flyers are shooting at the
sparrowhawk. Chief maneuvers through the skies: barrel
rolling, looping, and slipping through enemies. The
aircraft gets shot 2000 feet above the ground, forcing the
trajectory to fly the plane narrowly over the forest to a
seemingly bottomless chasm.

CORTANA

We're not going to make it Chief.

MASTER CHIEF

You're right. Slayer, get your
shotgun ready.

The aircraft gets shot several more times in quick
succession, becoming engulfed in flames.

MASTER CHIEF

Now!

Chief and the Slayer both eject midair, Chief grabs his
grapple gun and the Slayer grabs his shotgun. Both aim for
nearby trees and snag on them, causing them to whip over
the ledge of the chasm as their ship descends inside and
explodes half a mile deep. A loud roar can be heard from
within, it echoes. Both look at each other before climbing
out.

EXT. UNKNOWN PLANET - FOREST

Chief and the Slayer stand over a ledge of a giant chasm
where the bottom is consumed by darkness. The ledge leads
to a dense forest with gigantic trees and lush greenery.

VEGA (O.C.)

Hayden is located 1 Kilometer
West.

Leaves rustle in the trees.

CORTANA (O.C.)
I'm detecting 25- no 30 enemies
around us.

WIDE SHOT ROTATING AROUND MASTER CHIEF AND THE SLAYER.

Surrounding them are squads of grunts and brutes with hunters in the backlines. Jackals, lanky 6-foot blue armored aliens, take sniper positions in the trees. Chief readies his sniper, the Slayer arms his shotgun, and the Covenant CHARGES at the two.

MUSIC CUE: WARTHOG RUN

Both warriors fight the horde with finesse: Chief switches between his sniper and energy sword to target the jackals and grunts while the Slayer switches between his shotgun and fists to fight the brutes and hunters up close.

Two hunters TACKLE the Slayer from a blind spot to the ledge of the chasm while two brutes follow up. He SHOVES THEM away to shoot the shotgun's meathook into a nearby tree. Chief RUSHES to grab onto the chain as it breaks the tree bark off, barely missing.

Two brutes PUMMEP the Slayer as he hangs on while Chief holds onto the chain and SLICES several grunts, eventually SLUGGED by a hunter off the ledge and knocking the energy sword out his hand.

He quickly aims his grapple gun at the hunter, snagging and dragging it to the ledge. The Slayer uses his shoulder launcher to fire a cryo bomb to freeze the hunter while Chief and the Slayer dangle over the ledge. The Slayer swings to the chasm wall, DIGGING HIS FINGERS into it and climbing with his bare hands.

Chief lets go and starts climbing. The hunter breaks free and throws off the hook from the grapple gun, but Chief makes it to the ledge. As the hunter winds up to hit him into the chasm, a blade SHOOTs through the head, killing it instantly. The Slayer kicks it off the ledge and helps Chief up.

MASTER CHIEF
Thanks again.

CORTANA (O.C.)
That makes two saves, Chief.

Chief picks up his energy sword and they start walking West.

EXT. STONE BASE - DAY

The two stand 200 feet away in the trees. Chief pulls out his sniper and examines the base from a distance.

MASTER CHIEF

A couple of jackals and patrol.

CORTANA (O.C.)

All entry points are monitored tightly, similar to UNSC patrol methods. This place has an air duct system with vents big enough for you to maneuver through.

MASTER CHIEF

Without my grapple gun, it'll be a firefight. Unless the Slayer goes in, but I doubt espionage is his specialty.

CORTANA (O.C.)

What about the hostages?

MASTER CHIEF

We know people are inside, but not if they're hostages or otherwise. We can't risk it.

While the Chief does more reconnaissance, the Slayer taps his shoulder and PRESENTS HIS SHOTGUN.

CORTANA (O.C.)

What? You sure?

VEGA (O.C.)

The Slayer never gives his shotgun away. It would be wise to accept his offer before he revokes it.

Chief takes the shotgun and inspects it.

MASTER CHIEF

I can't leave you empty-handed.

Chief takes out his sniper and energy sword. The Slayer takes the sniper and shows his arm blade, prompting Chief to put it away.

MASTER CHIEF

Cover me until I can make it inside. We'll signal you when we stop the jammer and secure Hayden.

The Slayer looks through the scope and assumes a sniper position. Chief sneaks around, using the meathook on the shotgun to grab onto ledges and climb up walls. The Slayer snipes guards around Chief. Chief YANKS OFF the vent cover and enters the base out of view.

INT. STONE BASE - CORRIDOR - DAY

Chief descends from the ceiling and examines the corridor he's in.

CORTANA (O.C.)

There's a clump of heat signatures East and the jammer is 30 meters that way.

MASTER CHIEF

On it.

He walks down the corridor. The atmosphere is tense, with no signs of life and only the echo of Chief's armor and footsteps in the air.

CORTANA (O.C.)

No patrols? This seems too easy.

MASTER CHIEF

It never is.

INT. STONE BASE - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

An opening on the left side of the corridor leads to a room with control panels. Chief FIDGETS with it and finds a section controlling a satellite. He powers it down.

CORTANA (O.C.)

Let's try it. Sir, can you hear us?

CUT TO:

INT. CAIRO STATION - COMMAND CENTER

Lord Hood ponders. Static over the comms dissipates as Cortana's voice gradually becomes more clear with her repetition. Johnson stands next to Lord Hood.

CORTANA (O.S.)
Sir, can you hear us?

LORD HOOD
Clear as day, Cortana. Status report.

CORTANA (O.S.)
We got shot down after we lost communication. Chief and the Slayer fought reinforcements on foot and now we're invading the base.

LORD HOOD
Excellent. Any sign of prisoners or other people of interest?

CORTANA (O.S.)
Security was tight outside, but we haven't encountered anyone inside.

LORD HOOD
Sounds like a trap, keep vigilant. Slayer, can you hear us?

VEGA (O.S.)
Communication is clear.

LORD HOOD
Good. Keep me updated.

MASTER CHIEF (O.S.)
Yes, sir.

INT. STONE BASE - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Chief is about to exit when out of the corner of his eye, he sees an assault rifle. He walks to it and examines it.

CORTANA
Why is a MA5C rifle in here?

MASTER CHIEF
Don't know, we weren't the first ones here though.

Chief takes the rifle and exits the room to continue down the corridor, leading to a big open room with multiple hallways connecting.

He examines his space before walking into one on his right. A line of doors occupies both sides, with one near the end repeatedly CLOSING ON A FOOT. He hears whimpering down the hall, SPRINTING to it and opening the door to find an injured man in a fetal position. Chief examines the man.

MASTER CHIEF

Easy, you're safe now. What's your name? Is there anyone else who was taken?

MAN

(Through tears)

I'm Rudy and... maybe 10 others were taken... but I don't know... what happened to them... all I heard were screams and weird noises.

MASTER CHIEF

We'll call in for extraction. Sir, we have 1 hostage, 10 deceased. Wait for my mark to send support at my location.

LORD HOOD (O.S.)

Request accepted. Reinforcements will be on standby.

MASTER CHIEF

Let's move.

RUDY

Okay.

EXT. STONE BASE - DAY

The Slayer continues to snipe at a distance. He hears rustling behind him and immediately turns.

FIRST-PERSON VIEW OF FIGURE CHARGING AT THE SLAYER.

Rabid noises come out of the attacker as it LUNGES at the Slayer, eventually getting SLICED down the middle.

MEDIUM SHOT FROM THE GROUND LOOKING UP AT THE SLAYER.

CLOSE-UP SHOT OF THE LEFT HALF OF A HUMAN FACE.

INT. STONE BASE - CORRIDOR - DAY

Chief and Rudy are walking. Rudy stops and looks behind them. Chief notices and looks in the same direction.

RUDY
You hear that?

CORTANA (O.C.)
There's something down there.

CUT TO:

INT. STONE BASE - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

CLOSE-UP SHOT OF SATELLITE PANEL REACTIVATED BY AN UNKNOWN FIGURE.

EXT. UNKNOWN PLANET - STONE BASE - DAY

The Slayer examines the body, which is out of frame. He stands towering over it.

VEGA (O.C.)
Scans indicate this is not a demon, but not fully human.

MUSIC CUE: DEVILS... MONSTERS...

MEDIUM SHOT OF THE TORSE OF THE ATTACKER TO REVEAL A HUMAN SOLDIER INFECTED BY THE FLOOD.

VEGA (O.C.)
Communication with Master Chief and Lord Hood has been lost.

The Slayer DARTS to the base.

INT. STONE BASE - CORRIDORS - DAY

Strange grunts, footsteps, and noises get louder as the Flood Pod Infectors, yellow bulbous insectoid aliens, swarm the halls and dart toward Chief.

MASTER CHIEF
Run!

Chief and the man FLEE as the sounds grow louder. Chief is PULLING RUDY to keep him away.

CORTANA (O.C.)
I can't get a hold of the Slayer or Vega.

MASTER CHIEF

We've been compromised. Rudy, do you know a way out?

RUDY

No, but I remember passing by a lab before I was a prisoner.

MASTER CHIEF

Could be another control room. Tell me where.

CUT TO:

The Slayer drops into the base from the same entrance Chief used.

VEGA (O.C.)

The device interfering with communications is 30 meters away.

He SPRINTS down the corridors searching for anyone, He runs into Flood-infected soldiers and prepares his arm blade, charging into the enemies.

CUT TO:

INT. STONE BASE - CORRIDORS - DAY

Chief and Rudy continue running, Rudy is PANTING.

CORTANA (O.C.)

Dr. Hayden's signal is getting stronger. Looks like we have friendlies with him.

MASTER CHIEF

Good, we'll have more help with the Flood.

They approach a door. Chief fidgets with the buttons but the door won't open.

RUDY

Let me hotwire it.

Chief punches the metal off and Rudy is panicking sparking the wires together. Chief shoots the Flood with an assault rifle until the door opens. Both rush inside, and Chief throws a frag grenade, closing the door and causing a small cave-in.

INT. STONE BASE - COMMAND CENTER - DAY

Chief and Rudy are knocked down by the blast. An assault rifle is pointed at Chief and Rudy by someone off-screen.

??? (O.S.)

Hold your fire, it's UNSC.

A soldier in Spartan armor similar to Chief's is revealed to be holding the assault rifle. He puts it away and walks to 4 other soldiers surrounding Hayden, who's connected to cables on a table surrounded by engineering equipment.

RUDY

Oh thank god, it's Spartans!

???

What happened? Are you guys okay?

MASTER CHIEF

The Flood happened.

The Spartans looked at each other. Chief slowly walks forward, and Rudy follows.

???

Oh, Master Chief. We weren't expecting company.

MASTER CHIEF

Who's your squad?

???

I'm Connor. That's Ethan, Kira, Tommy, and Trent, but he greeted you already.

MASTER CHIEF

Lucky me. Now, what are you doing with him?

KIRA

The Covenant had their paws on him, but we tracked and gunned 'em down here.

ETHAN

Hayden's vitals were weak, so we plugged him in to try to power him on, but no dice yet.

MASTER CHIEF

(Whispering to Cortana)

Keep comms up and tell Slayer to come to our location.

CORTANA (O.C.)
I can't, signal's still jammed.

MASTER CHIEF
(Whispering to Cortana)
Vega probably noticed by now.
They'll come, keep the line open.

RUDY
I'm an engineer. I can help him,
but we need to get out of here.

ETHAN
Negative, we need to study him and
keep him plugged.

RUDY
But the Flood, and the Covenant...

Chief shakes his head and PUTS HIS ARM in front of Rudy, he calms down. He glances carefully at all 5 Spartans.

MASTER CHIEF
I have orders to take him and Rudy
out of here. Unplug him and help
us find a way out.

TOMMY
Not happening, we need more time.

MASTER CHIEF
I'm not asking twice.

TOMMY
And I'm not asking for permission.

Chief cocks his shotgun and Tommy arms his grenade launcher.

CONNOR
Stop it, both of you! Chief, this
AI is our responsibility. Our
superior gave us explicit orders
to look after him.

MASTER CHIEF
HE is leaving. Either you give or
I take, your call.

Connor TILTS HIS HEAD to Chief and signals Trent and Tommy to spread out.

ETHAN

Damn it guys, not here. They're going to get themselves killed.

KIRA

I kinda wanna see what happens.

CONNOR

How do you want this to play out? Because I'd rather not fight you, can't say the same for both of them.

Chief aims his shotgun at Connor, Trent, and Tommy, they raise their weapons in retaliation. Chief aims away before firing the meathook onto Samuel, PULLING HIM OUT of the cables.

MASTER CHIEF

I'm not playing anything. I'm taking Hayden and Rudy home.

Connor looks at Kira and Ethan and TILTS HIS HEAD to Chief, prompting them to grab their Shotgun and SMG respectively. Chief gets in front of Rudy.

CONNOR

Chief, unless another you bursts through that door, your hostages make you vulnerable.

CORTANA (O.C.)

Any ideas?

MASTER CHIEF

(Whispering)
Working on it.

CUT TO:

INT. STONE BASE - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

The Slayer is surrounded by corpses of infected soldiers and Covenant soldiers, blood splatters the corridors. He enters the control room, looking at panels. He hears a noise in the corner and investigates. He finds nothing, only to have a shotgun barrel pointed at his back.

???

Move, and I'll blow a hole in you
bigger than a Halo r-

The Slayer quickly turns and slaps the shotgun onto the panels. He throws a left hook and chokes the assailant, lifting him off the ground. The attacker is a man in Spartan armor.

SPARTAN

Who the hell are you? Doesn't
matter, I'm not telling you squat.

The Slayer looks over the satellite jammer panel and slams the Spartan head first on it. The console breaks and the Spartan is knocked out. The comms dissipate from static to clear talking.

MASTER CHIEF (O.S.)

I'm not playing anything. I'm
taking Hayden and Rudy home.

VEGA (O.C.)

Connection reestablished with
Master Chief.

CONNOR (O.S.)

Chief, unless another you bursts
through that door, your hostages
make you vulnerable.

CORTANA (O.S.)

Any ideas?

MASTER CHIEF (O.S.)

(Whispering)
Working on it.

VEGA (O.C.)

Tracking now... He is 130 meters
away from our location.

The Slayer examines the Spartan and takes his arsenal: an assault rifle, shotgun, and ammo. He leaves the room and runs down the hall.

CUT TO:

INT. STONE BASE - COMMAND CENTER - DAY

RUDY

Let's leave the AI, I don't know
if they're even real Spartans.

MASTER CHIEF

Hayden is a person, and we leave
no one behind.

CONNOR

Listen to him, Chief. No one wants
to be sent to the big Halo ring in
the sky. But I might extend my
grace.

MASTER CHIEF

In what regard?

CONNOR

I want to see if the legends about
the great Master Chief are true.
Put down your hook shotgun thing
and we can all settle this like
men, and woman.

KIRA (O.S.)

No offense taken.

TOMMY

(Aims grenade launcher)

To hell with that, give us Hayden
and I'll make this quick.

MASTER CHIEF

No.

CONNOR

This isn't a choice, Chief.
Bare-knuckle brawl against all of
us or get executed.

Chief puts down his weapons.

CORTANA (O.C.)

What are you doing?

MASTER CHIEF

(whispering)

Buying time.

RUDY
Please Chief don't, I got 2 kids
waiting for me.

MASTER CHIEF
I won't let them do anything to
you.

Chief walks forward slowly, all 5 Spartans drop their
weapons and walk forward.

CONNOR
Alright! I knew you couldn't
resist.

MASTER CHIEF
Keep away from Rudy and Hayden.

CONNOR
Spartan's honor. No one touches
them.

All 6 Spartans meet, and the squad surrounds Chief.

CONNOR
Just so you know, this isn't
personal, but it will scratch an
itch.

ETHAN
Sorry Chief.

TOMMY
I'm not.

KIRA
I don't really care.

Trent grunts.

CONNOR
Anything you want to get off your
chest?

MASTER CHIEF
You're outclassed.

Chief begins fighting the group with Trent throwing the first blow. Rudy HOLDS onto Hayden and the shotgun as the brawl continues.

The group LANDS SEVERAL BLOWS in quick succession, but Chief quickly picks pace and starts COUNTER ATTACKING and landing powerful blows and kicks. Ethan gets knocked back, and Kira runs to him.

KIRA

We're getting our asses kicked.
Where's the failsafe device?

ETHAN

On the table.

The other 3 Spartans can barely keep up with Chief, landing 1 successful hit for every few Chief lands. Connor and Trent GRAB CHIEF'S ARMS and Kira comes behind and PLACES a device on his back, locking his armor and preventing him from moving. Connor and Trent let go to catch their breath.

RUDY

Master Chief!

CONNOR

(Laughing, out of
breath)

Wow!... Haha, you my friend live
up to the legend.

MASTER CHIEF

Your right hook could use some
work.

TOMMY

I could've... taken you on myself.

MASTER CHIEF

Sure. What type of armor locker is
this?

ETHAN

Something I made as a last resort.
All we needed was an opening, sir.

Rudy is shaken in the corner, he holds up the shotgun and aims it at the group.

RUDY

Let him go now!

Kira grabs her shotgun.

KIRA
(Excitedly)
Now we got ourselves a standoff!
Come on, let's go!

MASTER CHIEF
Stand down!

Kira and Rudy look at Chief.

MASTER CHIEF
It's okay, stand down.

Rudy collapses and lets go of the shotgun.

CUT TO:

INT. STONE BASE - CORRIDOR - DAY

The Slayer runs down the hall into a giant room with multiple pathways. In every intersection, squads of Covenant soldiers block the path.

VEGA (O.C.)
These aliens all have foreign life signs similar to the soldier we found earlier. It is feasibly the result of parasitism.

The corridor leading to the command center has a bundle of pod infectors walking out.

VEGA (O.C.)
Those small creatures have the same signatures as the foreign entities.

The Slayer cocks his shotgun, and all enemies charge at him. He RIPS THROUGH the enemies: firing his shotgun, impaling soldiers with his blade, and using his flamethrower on the pod infectors. It's a ballet of destruction.

He points this shotgun to the camera and fires, a white flash blares on the screen.

CUT TO:

INT. STONE BASE - COMMAND CENTER - DAY

Rudy sits next to Chief, leaving Samuel and the weapons near the entrance. Kira stands behind him.

KIRA
(Cocks shotgun)
Relax.

RUDY
Why are you doing this?

KIRA
If we told ya, then we'd have to kill ya.

RUDY
What?

ETHAN
This is a covert operation, we need to keep this away from anyone else.

RUDY
But you said your superior had a mission for you.

MASTER CHIEF
Not with the UNSC.

CONNOR
You're getting warmer.

MASTER CHIEF
The Covenant.

CONNOR
Yes, but not exactly. Are you familiar with the Gravemind?

MASTER CHIEF
Very.

FADE TO:

EXT. UNKNOWN PLANET - CHASM DEPTHS - NIGHT

Connor and his squad are seen dragged away by tentacles to a big area. All their weapons are taken and they're restrained.

CONNOR (V.O.)

We failed a simple recon mission,
our first-ever mission as
recruits. Our ship was gunned down
and we were almost killed.

The Gravemind is revealed to be a slimy gray monster 2
stories tall with dozens of appendages. The Spartans try to
free themselves, but stop once it begins to speak.

CONNOR (V.O.)

Then it started talking. We felt
oddly... comforted and horrified. I
always thought the Flood were
monsters, but they're some of the
most intelligent creatures I've
ever met.

The Gravemind puts down the Spartans and from the shadows
walks Flood-infected Covenant and humans.

CONNOR (V.O.)

It was aware of Hayden's arrival
and wanted us to extract his
project plans to access argent
energy. Said it was the key to our
freedom and salvation. We couldn't
leave the planet, it was delivered
to us via Covenant soldiers.

Trent is seen yelling at the Gravemind. The Spartans were
restrained while the Flood surrounded him.

CONNOR (O.S.)

All of us were on board except for
Trent, and...

CUT TO:

INT. STONE BASE - COMMAND CENTER - DAY

Trent is seen rubbing his throat.

CONNOR

It made an example out of him and
somehow spared him.

MASTER CHIEF

You're making a big mistake. Did
it ever tell you about-

TOMMY

The demons? Hell? Other universes?
Yeah, we know.

KIRA

Honestly, we don't care. I don't
want to fight for the rest of my
life. Whatever happens happens.

CONNOR

So here's what'll happen: You both
will join the Flood, I know it's
pointless to try to convince you.

RUDY

Please, no.

MASTER CHIEF

You've been indoctrinated.

CONNOR

Call us what you want, it doesn't
make any difference. Once we free
the entrance from the rubble, a
new tomorrow can come for all of
us.

MASTER CHIEF

Like hell it will.

TOMMY

You play god and savior when
you're nothing but a soldier, a
pawn for the UNSC. Our eyes have
been opened, either you see our
ways or die trying, Master Chief.

Explosions and gunfire can be heard from a distance outside
the room.

KIRA

What the hell is that?

CONNOR

Reinforcements, but it doesn't
matter. Soon it'll stop, and
they'll join Chief.

MASTER CHIEF

He won't go down easy.

CONNOR

He? As in one guy?

KIRA
You're lying.

MASTER CHIEF
Listen.

Screams, roars, slices, bone-crunching, and flying bullets can be heard chaotically. They get louder and louder.

TOMMY
There's no way.

ETHAN
Maybe we should consider negotiating.

TOMMY
Don't go soft on me, we took down Master Chief with your tech. This guy is just a brute.

MASTER CHIEF
A brute who's punched through hunters like cardboard.

KIRA
Connor, he's not slowing down!

CONNOR
Who's your backup?

The Slayer bursts through the rubble, and everyone points their weapons at him. He slowly walks to his shotgun and picks it up while dropping the stolen one. He looks across the room and cocks the gun.

MASTER CHIEF
Three times. Nice work, Slayer.

KIRA
The Doom Slayer is his backup?!

TOMMY
Kill him!

Rudy PUSHES Kira and takes the armor lock device off Chief. Kira aims her gun at Rudy, but the Slayer grabs her with the meathook and TACKLES her to the wall. Trent swings an energy sword at the Slayer, but Chief gets up and uses his to deflect the attack, and the Slayer KICKS him back.

MASTER CHIEF
Take cover.

Rudy hides under the table in the middle of the room while Chief and the Slayer fight off the other Spartans, except Ethan. The squad is taken down easily, and Ethan is backed into a corner holding Samuel and the rifle, shaking with fear.

MASTER CHIEF

Don't do anything stupid.

The Slayer aims his shotgun at Ethan, but Chief aims it down.

MASTER CHIEF

I'll take it from here. If he tries anything funny, I won't stop you.

He walks to Ethan.

ETHAN

Please Chief, I didn't want to do this. After what it did to Trent..

MASTER CHIEF

I know, just a soldier surviving. But if you don't give Hayden over, I can't stop him if he lets loose.

ETHAN

Okay, okay. I'm handing him over.

The Slayer SNATCHES Samuel.

MASTER CHIEF

Do you know if anyone's still here?

ETHAN

No, I didn't even know he was alive.

MASTER CHIEF

I'm calling for a carrier then.

ETHAN

Tell them to stay airborne, we have to take down the defenses and ground forces outside.

MASTER CHIEF

What defenses?

ETHAN

The auto turrets and the scouts outside. I think this console controls them, but I don't know how to shut them down. Connor knew.

Chief breaks the console.

MASTER CHIEF

It's shut down. Time to move.

MUSIC CUE: HALO X DOOM THEME MEDLEY

Everybody grabs their equipment and runs out of the command center.

MASTER CHIEF

Sir, can you hear us?

LORD HOOD (O.S.)

Chief, good to hear from you. Status report.

MASTER CHIEF

We recovered Hayden and a few others. Need an evac vehicle immediately.

LORD HOOD (O.S.)

Copy that. A vehicle will be at your location in 5.

MASTER CHIEF

Keep a lookout for Banshees or other air support. You'll have company.

LORD HOOD (O.S.)

We will just get everyone out of there.

MASTER CHIEF

Yes, sir.

Everyone shoots their way through the swarm of Flood while Rudy carries Samuel. They rush through the corridors while cornered on all sides, still tearing through the enemies. They make their way to the entrance when mortar tanks aim at the base.

Ethan shoots rockets at the tanks, but the return fire destroys the foundation of the base. The crew narrowly escapes. Chief and the Slayer march ahead, but Ethan has taken damage to his legs and Rudy is succumbing to his injuries. As the structure falls, the Slayer rushes in to hold it up. Chief comes back and lifts rubble to provide cover for enemy fire.

MASTER CHIEF

Ethan, can you still shoot?

ETHAN

Yea... Oh no...

Pod infectors come rushing them. Chief and Ethan are preoccupied by gunfire and Flood rushing them. They hold position firing back while the Slayer's shoulder launcher switches between firing cryo bombs and flames.

CORTANA (O.C.)

Any ideas Chief?

MASTER CHIEF

Sarge, how long until reinforcements?

CUT TO:

EXT. UNKNOWN PLANET - SKIES - DAY

Several UNSC vehicles and Covenant vehicles are dogfighting over the base.

JOHNSON

Sons of bitches are keeping us airborne, hold out a little longer. I'm sure you or the Slayer have something these meat bags don't.

CUT TO:

EXT. UNKNOWN PLANET - STONE BASE ENTRANCE - DAY

ETHAN

Chief, more tanks in the distance.

MASTER CHIEF

Vega, what weapon did the Slayer use to take out the airship back on Earth? It shot a green energy orb.

VEGA (O.C.)
That would be the BFG.

MASTER CHIEF
Rudy, can you get it for me?

RUDY
Yeah... I'm not out yet.

Rudy crawls to the slayer and grabs the BFG. He gives it to Chief.

VEGA (O.C.)
Warning: The BFG has enough energy
for one shot.

The BFG starts charging.

CORTANA (O.C.)
What does it stand for?

MASTER CHIEF
Big Fucking Gun.

The BFG fires a massive green ball firing off green energy streaks. It evaporates all Flood-infected enemies in range and short circuits all machine artillery. Yellow blood splatters everywhere and gunfire has stopped.

Chief picks up Rudy and Ethan picks up Saumel, both get out of the rubble. Chief throws a grenade to break the foundation enough for the Slayer to punch apart.

While Ethan supports Rudy, Chief gives the Slayer back the BFG.

MASTER CHIEF
That's one hell of a weapon, but I
think I'll stick with the
classics.

A UNSC carrier descends on the battlefield. Out comes several soldiers and Johnson.

JOHNSON
Let's go home Marines, you earned
it.

CUT TO:

EXT. EARTH - MILITARY CENTER - LABORATORY - DAY

LORD HOOD

Chief, you and the Slayer did excellent work today. You saved lives, dismantled a group of rogues, and discovered a small planet with a Gravemind.

MASTER CHIEF

Thank you, sir. Is Hayden alright?

LORD HOOD

From what Johnson told me, Vega and Cortana helped us get the necessary equipment to keep him stable. We'll need to wait for Ethan to recover since he's had the most experience with Hayden's systems.

MASTER CHIEF

What of him and Rudy?

Ethan and Rudy are seen being tended to by nurses.

LORD HOOD (O.S.)

They're getting proper medical attention, but we'll need to question Ethan after. Still, if he's on good behavior, we may even put him back in the field.

A nurse approaches the trio. It's the mother of the two kids the Slayer met.

NURSE

They're bruised but not scarred, and Ethan should be back up in a few.

LORD HOOD

Excellent, I'll call you gentlemen when you're needed. I need to tend to some urgent matters.

Lord Hood leaves.

NURSE

Master Chief, I have a message for you and the Slayer.

MASTER CHIEF

What is it?

NURSE

Rudy wants to thank you for saving him, and so do I. He was so worried he wouldn't see our kids again.

MASTER CHIEF

He's your husband?

The two kids from earlier rush over with their rabbit to meet the two warriors. Their excitement consumes them.

NURSE

Don't get too wound up guys. Sorry about that, Master Chief. Normally kids wouldn't be here, but after the attack, there's no way I was leaving them out of my sight.

Chief nods and the Slayer kneels.

GIRL

Thank you, Mr. Slayer.

BOY

Thank you, Master Chief.

GIRL

Was it true you ripped and tore through like, a hundred bad guys?

BOY

Did you really fight 5 Spartans and win?

DOOM SLAYER

Yes.

GIRL

My mom says Dad will be okay.

DOOM SLAYER

He will. He fought hard and saved us from the aliens.

GIRL & BOY

Whoa, cool.

NURSE

One more thing, Slayer. Kids...

GIRL

Oh yeah.

The little girl gives her rabbit Lola to the Slayer. He holds her carefully and she starts purring.

GIRL

Mom says we should do something nice, and we can't keep her cause we have to move because of the aliens.

BOY

They won't let us keep pets in our new home, but you can, right?

The Slayer looks down at Lola, then back to the kids.

DOOM SLAYER

I won't let anything happen to her.

The kids cheer. Johnson walks over.

JOHNSON

I don't mean to pry, but we have something. We may be able to get you home, Slayer.

MASTER CHIEF

We'll finish up and meet you there.

Johnson leaves.

NURSE

We have to help Dad now, kids. Say bye to the Slayer and Master Chief.

BOY & GIRL

Bye!

DOOM SLAYER

(To the kids)

I...

Everyone looks at the Slayer.

DOOM SLAYER

...need rabbit food and toys.

NURSE

(Smiling)

You got it, Slayer.

The family leaves to see Ethan. The Slayer stands, and both warriors walk off-screen.

CUT TO:

EXT. MILITARY CENTER - LABORATORY - NIGHT

Several scientists are working with Samuel. Chief, Avery, and Lord Hood observe from a distance while the Slayer puts Lola on a bed at a nearby table.

A blue portal opens and everyone stares in awe.

LORD HOOD

There's your ride home.

SAMUEL

Vega and I made sure there were no deviations or miscalculations. We need to return to our Earth.

JOHNSON

Kind of sad to see you go, soldier. Now Chief will have no one to carry out his suicidal plans with.

CORTANA (O.C.)

For all its worth, I'm glad to have met you, Slayer. Me and everyone here.

Master Chief walks to the Slayer.

MASTER CHIEF

I prefer to work alone with Cortana, but if it's all the same with you, it was a pleasure to fight with you, Doom Slayer.

Chief extends his arm for a handshake, the Slayer pauses for several seconds before returning the shake.

DOOM SLAYER

You too, Master Chief.

The lab assistants unplug Vega while the Slayer grabs Lola and a duffle bag in one arm while holding Samuel in another. He walks to the portal and looks back one last time. Chief nods, and the Slayer nods back. He walks through and the portal closes.

CUT TO:

INT. SPACE - FORTRESS OF DOOM - DOOM SLAYER'S ROOM

The Slayer is feeding and petting Lola before walking into the control room in the fortress.

MUSIC CUE: DOOM ETERNAL, BUILDS UP

The Doom Slayer grabs his weapons, loads his ammo, and checks his equipment.

VEGA (O.C.)
The portal is ready.

The Slayer cocks his shotgun and enters the portal.

THE END