XERIAN

Side 1

1. Part 1 – Journey	7:08
2. Part 2 - Salvage	8:59
3. Part 3 - Reflections	6:52

Side 2

4. Part 4 - Kidnap	7:23
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6. Part 6 - Homegoing	8:45

All songs written and performed by J. P. Morris, Copyright (C)2020-2022
Guest starring Sofox as Niall, and Ikodo Moonstrife as Valdemar

Explosion sound effects by Tom McCann and Craig Smith's optical effects library on Freesound

Recorded using the Old Ways at The Lab, Cwmbran 2020-2021
All songs recorded on 2" 24-track on SM900 tape, Mixed Dec 2021 on ATR tape.
Mastering by Alex Balzama at Swift Audio Solutions, Jan 2022

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Cover by TheKC, logo by Turnsky.
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Part I - Journey

Once on a world with a famine blight
Robot serfs were built to set the world to right
As their reward they were turned loose and set free

Xerian, he was one of these - he could fly a ship or fell a tree with ease
He roamed the stars living life as it should be

Sector 3 was a routine trip for a Mk.14 transstellar ship
The only crew on board was Xerian

But as he homed in on his goal, hyperspace was rent by a cosmic hole
He had no time to adjust his course or run

As his ship passed through the rift, all the systems crashed leaving him adrift
Above a world where none should be at all

Hitting manual override he reduced his speed with the backup drive
All he could do was to brace against the fall

Part 2- Salvage

Something bad was clearly wrong as he crawled out of the wreck
As his vision glitched again he performed a systems check
There was damage in his brain and it spread throughout his core
Xerian gave a cry of pain and collapsed upon the floor

MEMORY PARITY ERROR
SYSTEM HALTED

Floating in an endless void, I assumed that I was dead
No sense or feeling, just these voices in my head
A flood of colours shapes and textures swam before my line of sight
One of the Voices spoke a curse and I fell back into the night...

EQUIPMENT LIST

Otari MX80 2” 24-track tape machine
with Brian Roth output drivers
TASCAM TSR-8 tape machine
Studer A807 master recorder
TASCAM DA3000 digital master recorder
TASCAM ATS-500 sync unit
Allen & Heath GL2400 main mixer
Soundcraft MFXi-20 sub mixer
American Standard Razorblades

WEM Copicat tape echo
Echolette ECS-4 disc echo
LA Audio valve compressor
KT-2A levelling amplifier
TL Audio 5051 valve channel
American Audio 152B equalizer
Modified Strymon BlueSky reverb
Behringer noise gates
SPL Vitalizer 2

Roland MVS-1, JV1010 & D550, Waldorf Pulse, MicroWave mk1 & Streichfett with JH Triple Chorus, Behringer VC340, Hammond XM-1 with Rotosphere mk2, Hammond SK-1, Cheetah MS6, Moog Voyager, Manikin Memotron, Alesis DM10, Gem RPx, Yamaha Reface CP & TX7, Korg M1R, N1R, Triton Rack & Extreme, Dave Smith OB-6, Raspberry Pi running Aeolus organ, Modded Apex 460 valve microphone, Steinberger XT2 bass, Antares ATR-1, TRAN speech synthesizer

Valdemar: "...So your friends have alerted the authorities...
Well, I won't be taken! With this hyperspace modulator
from your ship, I can escape - and barter your advanced
technology for my freedom!"
Xerian: "No! Stop! Turn it off... you'll kill us all!
That's not part of the hyperdrive!"
Valdemar: "Do you expect me to believe that...?"

Jakob: "Hello there, Xerian, I'm glad you're back again...
I hope your new legs haven't caused you any pain..."
Xerian: "No, but they'll take some getting used to."

"This was the best that we could do but still at least you're not left crippled.
We think your spaceship's good to go although the paintwork's kind of rippled.
Your kidnappers have been arrested and convicted for their crime
We made some films to help explain things once you're back in your own time."

Part 6 - Homegoing

Ship: "Gravity planer online. Main drive ignition in 3, 3, 3, 2, 3, 3, 3"

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Xerian: "Sir, I've brought you the artifact.. It was where you said, and it's still
intact. I've said goodbye to the ones who saved my life..."
Bob: "Well done, my robot friend! I knew you'd do this in the end.
You've served Me well, and so...
I shall send you back to the land you know!
'Cause I can see the future and I know you're The One!"

Comms: "Space Traffic Control to XK31-Gamma. Distress call acknowledged.
Rescue ship will rendezvous in thirty-one Rels."

As my sense of touch returned I was lying on a slab
Like the natives took my corpse to dissect inside their lab
I tried in vain to speak and let them know that I was still alive
I hoped and prayed they'd stay their hand until a rescue could arrive...

When my vision finally cleared, I could see the creatures plain
They had got my visor off and had tampered with my brain
I couldn't move, I couldn't speak, and yet they seemed to understand
They probed and pulled my mine apart, these monsters from another land

"Blink if you can understand me, Mr..." "...Xerian."
"You've been badly damaged but we've done the best we can
Sorry if the operation caused distress or pain
I also have to warn you that we've just replaced your brain."

"You're in a land where magic works but it can act like radiation
It cooked your brain and left you in this situation
We used our spells to move your mind into a brain of our design
You're still the same guy as before, so just relax it will be fine."

"But what you're saying can't be true!
I feel like I'm still me, as sure as you are you!"
"We've done this kind of thing before.
So just relax, no need to worry anymore."

"If you insist, I'll walk you through the gory details.
I have the power to steal your soul and all that entails
The hardest part was matching up your senses to our interface
It took a while to give you sight but now we're talking face-to-face!"

"I find this all hard to believe!
I'd like to trust you, but it makes me feel naive..."
"We'll do our best to ease your mind.
Now can you flex your arm, if you would be so kind?"

Part 3 - Reflections

I'm a stranger in a stranger land... with no way home.

All the places I have been, all the things that I have seen,
Everything I knew is out of reach...
All the people that I knew, everything I long to do,
Everything I knew is out of reach...

A glowing figure said "Do not fear! I am the one who brought you here.
I have a task for you, then I'll send you home (if you want me to...)
'Cause I can see the future and I know you're The One!"

"Sir, your plan may have come undone.
I'm a spaceship jock, not the promised one. If I can help you in any way, I will..."

"There's an item that I need from a world that's far from here indeed.
I've planned a little trip, and you're the only one here who can fly a ship.
'Cause I can see the future and I know you're The One!"

Part 4 - Kidnap

He thought he saw a stranger follow him as he made his way to bed
It quickly turned into a kidnapping with a sack stuffed on his head

Xerian: **"Hey! What do you think you're doing?!"**
Chadwick: **"You're coming with us, robot!"**

The strangers scanned him and the prodded him and discussed him for an hour
But there was one thing they had overlooked - he was running out of power

Xerian: **"Uh... I'm feeling thirsty."**
Chadwick: **"Oh! And I suppose you want some cookies too...**
Do you expect us to believe *that?!*"
Xerian: **"NO! I have to recharge!"**

Valdemar: **"Xerian has solar panels on his wings. If we get some sun lamps, that should keep him alive until we can acquire one of his rescuers to build a charger for him."**

Niall: **"Urgh... who kidnapped me this time? Another anti-wing group?"**
Xerian: **"Looks like it. They want you to build a charger for me."**
Niall: **"I'd love to. But I have no idea how you work!"**
Xerian: **"That's not funny! You're one of the people who rescued me!"**

Valdemar: **"What do you mean, there are TWO of him...?**
An android replica...? Are you saying we kidnapped *the wrong one?!*"

Part 5 - Rescue

Robot Niall had his limbs switched off and was dumped inside a cell
He waited hours in the cold and dark in a lonely, private hell

Niall: **"Urgh... who kidnapped me this time? Another anti-wing group?"**
Xerian: **"We've had this conversation before. Who are you supposed to be this time, Niall's long-lost cousin?!"**
Niall: **"Gods, Xerian! What have they done to you?! Are you alright...?"**
Xerian: **"No! No I'm not! I've been kidnapped, threatened, studied and I'm running out of power! There's an impostor who looks like you but says they aren't and I don't know what to believe anymore!"**

Chad: **"So, you've escaped, android Niall. Give up! Your safeguards won't let you harm me. I'm protected personnel... Urgh!"**
Niall: **"I'm not harming you... I'm just giving you a big, friendly hug!"**
Chad: **"You can't hurt me, Niall... but I can hurt you! ...Argh!"**
Niall: **"YES! Apparently, I can! Despair thy charm, rogue!"**
Chad: **"...You'll be destroyed for this! You can't hurt protected personnel!"**
Niall: **"Actually, your protection's just been revoked!**
But if you want to run, I'll give you a head start..."