INT. ROOM -- DAY

Cory wakes up in his bed. He glances at the alarm clock. 08:07. He sits up, groans, looks around him and notices a note next to his bed. He picks it up. It says "COME SEE ME AT THE COMM WHEN YOU ARE UP. SAMUEL". He sets the note down, exhaling sharply.

INT. COMM ROOM -- DAY

When Cory enters the comm room, everybody is already assembled there. He looks at the system, a large console with many blinking lights, dials and switches.

Samuel, who has been sitting in the chair reading a book, looks up.

SAMUEL

Good to see you among the living. Are you ready to start the system up?

CORY

Sure am.

He glances at the group.

CORY (CONT'D)

Sorry for having been out for so long.

Emilio shrugs.

EMILIO

It doesn't matter much to me. I recovered only shortly before you. But I know that the others have been waiting forever.

Cory takes his seat at the comm system.

MARTINA

Do you blame us? We've been around for four days already!

EMILIO

What's the hurry? It's going to be some bullshit hush-hush thing again where they only tell us a fraction.

MARTINA

A fraction is still better than not knowing anything at all.

She glances at Cory.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

And of course, the one person who knows how to run the system goes catatonic.

Cory huffs.

CORY

Relax. I know what I am doing.

EMILIO

Famous last words.

CORY

There. Connection is -- on. Comm with the slave satellite is up.

He looks at Samuel.

CORY (CONT'D)

Do you want to do the honors of starting the transmission? I'd love to hear what they have in store for us this time.

EMILIO

Ten bucks that it's going to be bullshit instructions again.

Sharp static emerges from the equipment's speakers, punctuated by some voice-noises. Samuel starts the transmission. The static subsides and a voice starts to speak clearly and distinctly.

VOICE

My greetings to your team. This is General La Toya of Sector Command. You are now ready to begin Phase One of mission UNBOUND.

The voice pauses.

VOICE (CONT'D)

First of all, I am certain that you have many questions concerning the mission ...

EMILIO

Oh, for fuck's sake, get on with it!

CORY

Shut up, Emilio. We're listening!

EMILIO

What? It's a bloody recording. It can be re-run any time!

Samuel hits a button and pauses the transmission.

SAMUEL

Shut the hell up, Emilio!

He hits the PLAY button.

VOICE

Mission UNBOUND is top secret which is why only a small team of select individuals were sent out. Your instructions for Phase one are as follows. The team is to --

All at once, the voice stops; the speakers blare and whistle; ear-piercing static bursts in. Cory quickly lowers the volume, hits dials and switches frantically. The static dies, starts again, the voice of General La Toya coming through in unintelligible bursts, and then --

Silence.

EMILIO

Wow. That was impressive. What the hell you do this time, Cory?

Cory works some more dials and buttons, then hits the console.

CORY

FUCK! Fuck fuck fuck fuck fuck!!!!!

SAMUEL

What is it, Cory?