

INT. PHARMA BAR - DAY

Orion, Irving sit with pretty, brainy SIERRA (27), voluptuous MAYA (27) on a futuristic couch and chairs in a section of the bar. All four wear AIM uniforms, watch a giant TV:

Talk show host ELWIN HILLARD (40s) sits behind his desk.
MINISTER OF THE ARTS (male, 40s) sits in the guest chair.

ELWIN (ON TV)

Thirty years after the great war, the world enjoys true peace thanks to this man. The Minister of the Arts has been called the architect of planetary healing with his culture of love and economic program to ensure all citizens...

IRVING

(to Orion, impatient)
Come on! Just tell us!

ORION

Did you guys catch the eclipse over the city?

(when Sierra, Maya grin)

Well, guess what? We're going up there. Team J Four has been chosen as droid inspectors.

IRVING

I knew it! Awesome.

ELWIN (ON TV)

Tell us about your new line of droids for the S.E. One.

ARTS (ON TV)

It's a whole new level of human interaction, Elwin.

SIERRA

Great, but why monitor them? They're flawless.

ARTS (ON TV)

They're your friend, they're your competitor, and if you want, your lover.

MAYA

(to Sierra)

That's what makes it such a cushy job!

ORION

It's only for the first week or so, for the company's protection. We're expected to interact with the programs, test how the droids interface with guests, but also to blend in.

IRVING

A week on the S.E. One. Yeah!

ELWIN (ON TV)

Your critics have called the sexual programming of the droids immoral.

On the screen, Arts LAUGHS heartily. In the bar, a Waitress brings drinks labeled "Pleasure Principle."

ELWIN (ON TV)

How do you respond to criticism that the money would have been better spent researching hyper-drive so we could colonize space?

Orion nods TV sound off. The four drink. MUSIC with a strong beat starts, foursome dance.

Sierra dances up close to Orion, who smiles distractedly. The TV screen lights up with the image of Belinda Fawn, then cuts to gown shots of her on a red carpet amongst celebrities.

ORION

Just a second. I want to hear this.

REPORTER (ON TV)

(rises to full volume)

...Miss Fawn is in town to attend the premiere of her holo-film "Creation" based on the ride of the same name that features interactive music, art and storytelling...

The screen displays a video of Belinda in a photo shoot. Orion stops dancing to watch. Sierra dances, grins.

SIERRA

Got a crush on a movie star, eh?

ORION

I debugged the droid she's singing
with at the opening ceremony.

Satisfied, Sierra dances closer. Orion joins in, but still
watches the screen. Sierra tries to distract him.

REPORTER (ON TV)

Fawn's performance will launch the
holographic ride after docking of
guests begins in just six days.

COMPUTER (V.O.)

I notice your interest. Would you like
to watch a movie starring Belinda
Fawn? Or a music video? For a nominal
fee it can even be holographic.

The others smile at Orion, who looks found out, await answer.

ORION

Uh, no. Not right now, thank you.

Irving dances over, speaks into Orion's ear.

IRVING

Got an awesome porn clip of her if
you're interested. Holographic. I mean
awesome. I'll make you a copy.

Orion looks at him with disgust, shakes his head, moves away.