RAWHIDE CINEMATIC TRAILER

INT. STORAGE ROOM ABOARD IMC SHIP

The lighting inside the makeshift interrogation room is minimal and harsh. Wedged between two shelves of cleaning supplies is a card table that barely fits, allowing one person to squeeze through to the far side of the table.

RAWHIDE sits on a chair on this far side, trapped between the back wall and the table.

RAWHIDE picks up a mug of stale coffee on the table. He takes a whiff and makes a slightly dejected face.

RAWHIDE
So...

RAWHIDE takes a slow, steady sip of lukewarm coffee.

CUT TO: the opposite side of the table, where MARINA sits. She is accompanied by two SOLDIERS holding rifles pointed at RAWHIDE. She is holding a DOSSIER that covers her face.

RAWHIDE (CONT'D)
What can I do ya fer?

MARINA lays the DOSSIER down, revealing her face to RAWHIDE.

MARINA
Good to know you're finally willing to talk, Mr. McCormick.

EXT. ABANDONED SETTLEMENT ON VICTOR - NIGHT

RAWHIDE is perched atop a hill near a settlement and taking aim with a sniper rifle as a dropship descends on his location. A fight between RAWHIDE and five SOLDIERS RAPPELLING from the dropship ensues. RAWHIDE picks two of them off as they're rappelling, and shoots one more with a handgun before the rest tackle him to the ground.

MARINA (V.O.)
You certainly gave the *five* men I brought with me the silent treatment.
(snidely)
Good to know having your back against the wall breaks the ice with you.

INT. STORAGE ROOM ABOARD IMC SHIP

RAWHIDE
(shurgs)
Y'all didn't wanna talk either, I recall.

MARINA
Mr. McCormick… You don't like being seen,

do you?

EXT. REFEULING STATION ON CIBUS - MORNING/EVENING

A young RAWHIDE is bullied by DIONYSUS crewmen at refueling station for spaceships, preventing him refueling ships. That evening, he watches those same crewmen from afar as they shout and laugh near their RED SHIP, beneath the lower-power lights of the refueling station. The next morning, RAWHIDE takes shots with his rifle at distant fuel cannisters when no one is around, PUNCTURING them.

MARINA (V.O.)
Grew up on Cibus as part of the McCormick family that bought up a bunch of refueling stations the IMC left behind.

Young RAWHIDE applies tape to the holes in the cannisters. We then see him "refueling" ships by loading the taped-up cannisters into the machines that load them into the ships. RAWHIDE watches as the RED SHIP that took off using a sabotaged fuel tank EXPLODES.

MARINA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Your family wanted their business, but you didn't play nice. Multiple incidents here of ships you refueled "malfunctioning." You've been a real handful all your life, haven't you, Mr. McCormick?

INT. STORAGE ROOM ABOARD IMC SHIP

RAWHIDE
So what do y'all want with a real handful like me, then?

MARINA
(leaning forward)
You know how to do things unnoticed. Things people would pay to have go unnoticed.

INT. DIGITAL MAP OF FRONTIER SYSTEM

A red line jumps from planet to planet to planet, starting with Cibus and jumping to a handful of others. As the line lands on each planet, multiple RED X MARKS appear on them.

MARINA
(coldly)
Took us a while to figure out who was claiming so many bounties across the Frontier. Some of them weren't even on the official bounty board. But whenever you happened to show up, there just happened to be a spate of "accidents" nearby. You're a long way from Cibus, Mr. McCormick.

INT. STORAGE ROOM ABOARD IMC SHIP

RAWHIDE leans back in his chair and crosses his arms.

RAWHIDE
What happens when you don't have a choice.

EXT. REFEULING STATION ON CIBUS - DAY

Dionysus soldiers argue with RAWHIDE's father silently as RAWHIDE watches from afar. RAWHIDE's father refuses to give in to their demands. The Dionysus soldiers later return and raze the entire fueling station, killing both of RAWHIDE's parents in the chaos.

MARINA (V.O.)
Yes, I'd heard about your parents' accident after a tank ruptured-

INT. STORAGE ROOM ABOARD IMC SHIP

RAWHIDE loses some of his cool, but his face hides it.

RAWHIDE
(flatly)
Wasn't no accident.

EXT. REFUELING STATION ON CIBUS - DUSK

RAWHIDE is peeking out from behind the now-ruined fueling station building and sees a Dionysus ship preparing for takeoff. As the cargo bay door begins to close, he makes a break for it and boards the ship without being seen.

He stows away inside a cramped compartment of the ship, then sneaks off the ship after it's landed on a different planet.

RAWHIDE (V.O.)
Dionysus-your people-aren't the kind to let sleeping dogs lie. So people have to get by without endin' up in the spotlight.

INT. STORAGE ROOM ABOARD IMC SHIP

MARINA
You can track and take care of people that need taking care of, and that makes you a valuable potential asset to the IMC.

MARINA looks up from the DOSSIER to catch a glimpse of RAWHIDE's face as she says this. How would RAWHIDE feel about working with the parent company of the people who murdered his family? RAWHIDE's face remains blank.

MARINA (CONT'D)
(casually)
We have people who need taking care of. And we'd prefer no one knew it.

RAWHIDE
You're *asking* me? No explodin' collar? No holdin' my family hostage? Oh wait...

MARINA
We'd prefer it if you *wanted* to work with us. We don't want to have to keep after you. We could make it extremely lucrative.

EXT. REFEULING STATION ON CIBUS - DAY

A dropship arrives at the refueling station, now rebuilt and reclaimed by Dionysus. RAWHIDE, holding an assault rifle, RAPPELLS into frame, along with several soldiers. The soldiers begin shooting it out with Dionysus soldiers.

Another WARSHIP and a TITAN descend in the background.

MARINA (V.O.)
Lucrative enough to do whatever you wanted.
All you need to do is clean up a few loose ends for us. Easy, right?

INT. STORAGE ROOM ABOARD IMC SHIP

RAWHIDE
I might be... *amenable* to lettin' some bygones be themselves for a change.

MARINA looks to the soldiers around her in mild disbelief. The soldiers shrug, but do not take their eyes off RAWHIDE.

MARINA
(smiling)
Well then. For your first assignment, we're going to have you play a game.

MARINA slips two items out of the DOSSIER. The first is an invitation to the Apex Games, which she tosses in front of RAWHIDE.

MARINA (CONT'D)
And we're gonna need you to "take care" of one of the players.

Marina tosses the other item in front of RAWHIDE: A photo of HORIZON.

MARINA
We need you to get her to talk about her research then make sure she never talks about it again. Think you can do that?

RAWHIDE
Hun, for the right price...

EXT. REFEULING STATION ON CIBUS - DAY

Soldiers continue pouring out of the WARSHIP as we close in on RAWHIDE, who is taking in the cacophony of gunfire and explosions with a satisfied look on his face.

RAWHIDE (V.O.)
...I can do anything.