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T H E X F I L E S [™]

SEASON 10



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"ELDERS" PART 5

Previously on The X-Files.

For years, FBI agents Fox Mulder and Dana Scully toiled in the X-Files Unit, a one-office division of the Bureau dealing with cases deemed unsolvable and related to unexplained phenomena. Eventually, both agents left the FBI and began a new life together in peaceful anonymity. However, recent events prompted them to return to the Bureau and the X-Files.

After an attempt on his life discredited his work with the FBI, Mulder has been kidnapped by a new iteration of the Syndicate and spirited away to Guantanamo Bay, where their leader—a grown-up Gibson Praise—begins to unveil his plans to his former friend. Meanwhile, Scully has traveled to Cuba in an attempt to rescue Mulder, but first comes face-to-face with Gibson...

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I REALIZE THIS IS ALL DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO COMPREHEND.

IT'S NOTHING TO FEEL BAD ABOUT, I PROMISE.



YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO WATCH YOUR STEP ACROSS THESE NEXT HUNDRED METERS OR SO.

GIBSON, WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?

I CAN TAKE OVER YOUR MOVEMENTS AND GUIDE YOU IF YOU MISSTEP.

BUT YOU REALLY DON'T WANT TO MISSTEP.



IT'S LIKE I WAS TELLING MULDER—I'M PROVIDING FOR YOUR SAFETY.



OF ALL THE STATISTICALLY POSSIBLE THINGS YOU COULD BE DOING TODAY, I ASSURE YOU...



...THIS IS THE SAFEST YOU COULD POSSIBLY BE.



I TRIED TO EXPLAIN EVERYTHING TO MULDER.

BUT ACCEPTING THINGS HE DOESN'T WANT TO HEAR HAS NEVER REALLY BEEN HIS STRONG SUIT, HAS IT?



IT'S SO DIFFICULT TO HIDE THINGS AWAY THESE DAYS. BUT IF RECENT HISTORY IS PROLOGUE AT ALL...

GIBSON, HOW ARE YOU?—

...I'VE COME TO BELIEVE PLAIN SIGHT IS THE BEST PLACE TO DO SO.



THEY DON'T SEE YOU... CAN'T HEAR YOU...

UNTIL I JUST—

SNAP

SQUAARK

—AND BRING THEM BACK, WITHOUT ANY MEMORY THAT I'D STOPPED THEM AT ALL.



—INSPECTIONS WILL RESUME ONCE DRILL EXERCISES HAVE COMPLETED.

LET'S GO, VACATIONERS! THIS PLEASURE CRUISE IS PULLING OUT!

MORNING PRAYER TIME IS DONE!





IT TOOK A **WHILE** FOR ME TO PUT THE NECESSARY PLANS IN MOTION.

THE EVENTS THAT LED TO **THIS PLACE** BEING BUILT PROVIDED THE NECESSARY SECRECY EVEN BEFORE I CULTIVATED THE RELATIONSHIPS AND RESOURCES ESSENTIAL TO PULLING ALL THIS OFF.

YOU'RE ACTUALLY OPERATING OUT OF **CAMP X-RAY**...

IT SEEMED LIKE A **LOGICAL** CHOICE TO ME, AS WELL.

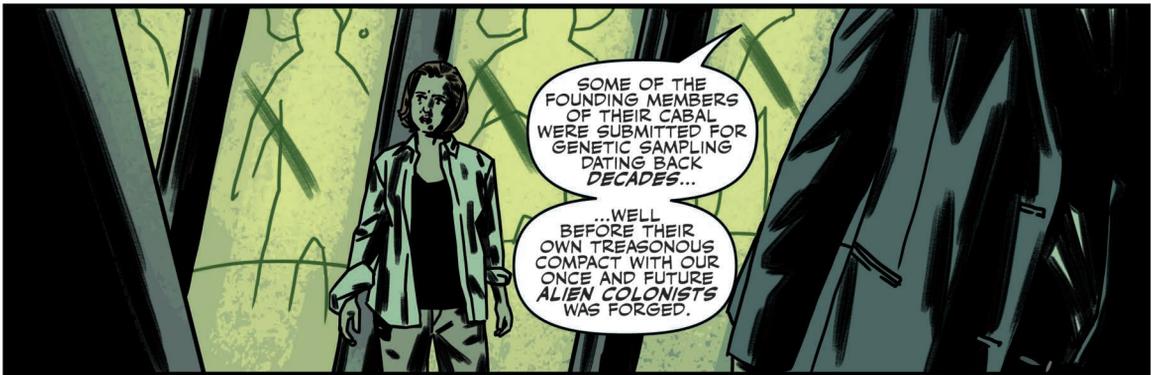


IN A WORLD FILLED WITH **SHADES OF GRAY**, WE HAVE TO CAREFULLY CHOOSE WHICH CLOAK WE WEAR.

I'D LIKE TO THINK OUR **OLD FRIENDS** WOULD AGREE.



THEY WERE ALL SUBJECT TO CATALOGING AND INVENTORY **LONG BEFORE** I HAD THIS IDEA.



SOME OF THE **FOUNDING MEMBERS** OF THEIR CABAL WERE SUBMITTED FOR GENETIC SAMPLING DATING BACK **DECADES**...

...WELL BEFORE THEIR OWN TREASONOUS COMPACT WITH OUR ONCE AND FUTURE **ALIEN COLONISTS** WAS FORGED.



BUT I'D LIKE TO THINK THEY'RE SERVING THEIR **BEST PURPOSE** NOW.



THEY'RE ALL SO FULL OF **KNOWLEDGE AND SECRETS**, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A **WASTE** TO LEAVE THEM TO HISTORY.



AS BOTH A **COMMODITY AND A TOOL**, THESE **OLD MEN** ARE ALMOST **INCALCULABLY VALUABLE**.



THEY **HUNTED** ME ONCE, AND I KNOW WHAT THEY DID TO **ALL OF US** WASN'T PERSONAL...



ELGG...?

BUT I'D BE **LYING** IF I SAID I DIDN'T HOLD A **GRUDGE**.



THE BEST PART IS, IT **DOESN'T MATTER**.

THEY **SERVE A PURPOSE**, AND IF I REQUIRE **ADDITIONAL HELP** LATER ON...



GGLRG-!



...I'LL JUST MAKE **MORE**.



I TRIED TO EXPLAIN THIS TO MULDER, EVEN THOUGH I ALREADY KNEW HE'D NEVER SEE IT MY WAY.

I HOPE HE UNDERSTOOD THAT I WOULD NEVER HARM HIM DIRECTLY, AND THE ONLY REASON HE'D BEEN SUBJECTED TO ANY OF MY PLANS IS THAT CALCULATION AND DEDUCTION HAD DETERMINED THERE WASN'T ANY OTHER WAY.



IT MEANS EVERYTHING TO ME THAT YOU BOTH—

SMACK



I'M GOING TO ASK YOU NOT TO TALK ABOUT WHAT MULDER AND I MEAN TO YOU RIGHT NOW, GIBSON.



NO FAIR WAITING UNTIL I WAS DISTRACTED LIKE THAT...



I ONLY MEANT...