**SCIENCE FICTION BLAST-OFF THEATER**

"All Clear"

                                                               by Richard Nathan

Before the lights come up, a voice announces the title of the story:

                                                            VOICE
                                    "All Clear"

Lights come on the bridge of a space ship.  Two crew members, WILLIAMS and JOHNSON are reviewing data on the instruments.

                                                            JOHNSON
                                    Running final check of bio-data.

Johnson pushes a few buttons, waits a moment, and checks the reading.

                                                            JOHNSON
                                    Data check all clear.

                                                            WILLIAMS
                                    What if it's wrong?

                                                            JOHNSON
                                    It's not wrong.

                                                            WILLIAMS
                                    What if we're bringing back something
                                    dangerous?

                                                            JOHNSON
                                    The only thing dangerous that we're bringing
                                    back is you!

                                                            WILLIAMS
                                    You can't deny it is theoretically possible we
                                    could bring back a disease, a ***new***disease,
                                    capable of wiping out all life on Earth.

                                                            JOHNSON
                                    No, it's not possible!  Not with the bio-scan.
                                    It has twenty-five fail-safe back-up systems.
                                    Nothing can get past it.

                                                            WILLIAMS
                                    Nothing we've seen so far.

                                                            JOHNSON
                                    If you're so phobic, why did you go into
                                    space exploration?

                                                            WILLIAMS
                                    I like space.  It's the planets that make me
                                    nervous.  Look, we know that a species can
                                    only survive if it is has a strong ability to
                                    overcome obstacles to procreation.

                                                            JOHNSON
                                    Sure.  Things survive only if they have a
                                    strong survival / reproduction mechanism.
                                    That's just stating the obvious.

                                                            WILLIAMS
                                    What if there was a virus with the ability to
                                    avoid detection?  Isn't that a logical
                                    Darwinian survival mechanism?

                                                            JOHNSON
                                    If it did anything to affect us, anything at all,
                                    the bio-scan would detect it and warn us.

                                                            WILLIAMS
                                    There's some flaw in your logic.  I know
                                    there is.  But for some reason, I can't seem
                                    to get my brain around it.  I can't see it!

                                                            JOHNSON
                                    Do you feel all right?

                                                            WILLIAMS
                                    Yeah, I seem to feel okay.  But I can't
                                    help feeling we're missing something vital.

                                                            JOHNSON
                                    Well I feel great.  Here comes Daniels.  He's
                                    spent more time on the surface than both of
                                    us put together.  Hey, Daniels, do you feel okay?

Enter DANIELS.  His condition is sickening, although he doesn't realize it, nor do his crewmen.  The make-up should be as disgusting as possible.  For example, you might want to mix green food coloring with chunky peanut butter and smear it all over his skin.  Daniels is so sick that he can't speak clearly, but no one realizes it.  Depending upon how sick your sense of humor is, he could also be spitting up blood, foaming out the mouth, having coughing fits, or even having limbs and/or body parts dropping off.  Whatever happens with him, no one should show any signs of noticing he is sick, including Daniels.

                                                            DANIELS
                                                        (giving a thumbs up sign)
                                    Mmmm-rrrrr-nnnnn!

                                                            JOHNSON
                                    See, Daniels feels great.  A picture of health!

                                                            DANIELS
                                                        (giving another thumps up)
                                    Mmmmm-rrrr-nnnnnn!

                                                            JOHNSON
                                    Williams is worried that we've all contacted
                                    some disease that can outsmart the bio-scan,
                                    and we'll bring it back and wipe out all
                                    life on Earth.

                                                            DANIELS
                                    Mmmmm-rrr-nnnnn.

                                                            JOHNSON
                                    Strap in, everyone.

The three crew members strap themselves in.

                                                            JOHNSON
                                    You know, Williams, if there was anyone wrong,
                                    the alarms would be screaming by now.

The alarms start screaming.

                                                            JOHNSON
                                    And the bio-scan wouldn't permit us to take
                                    off unless all three of us hit those override
                                    switches, and our psych evaluations guaranteed
                                    none of us would willingly go anywhere
                                    near those switches if the alarms went off.

All three crew members seem to go into a trance.  As though they were sleep-walking, they un-strap themselves, get up and hit the override switches and go back to their seats, unaware of what they are doing.

                                                            JOHNSON
                                    Nothing can outsmart the bio-scan.  How are
                                    you feeling now, Williams?

                                                            WILLIAMS
                                    Okay, I feel fine.  Great, in fact.  But
                                    some day we'll come across something that
                                    fools us.  Something that finds a way to
                                    be un-detectable.  I just know it!  I keep
                                    feeling the idea is almost there, lurking right
                                    outside my consciousness, but for some
                                    reason, I just can't get to it.

                                                            DANIELS
                                    Mmmmm-rrrr-nnnnnn!

Blast-off!

Blackout!

THE END

[***Click here to go to more***](http://www.richard-nathan-scripts.com/science-fiction.htm)[***SCIENCE FICTION BLAST-OFF THEATER***](http://www.richard-nathan-scripts.com/science-fiction.htm)[***science fiction scripts***](http://www.richard-nathan-scripts.com/science-fiction.htm)

© 2002 by Richard Nathan.  All rights reserved

The author grants all internet users the right to print these scripts for their own, personal, non-commercial use.  No other use may be made without the author's permission.  *Without limiting the foregoing, the plays may not be staged without the author's express  permission.*