

OPERATION : MOCKINGJAY
SIMULATOR PRESHOW

An Attraction Based On 'The Hunger Games' Trilogy
By Suzanne Collins

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DISTRICT 13 COMMAND CENTER

Guests (here, called 'volunteers') enter a dimly lit, stale, concrete room. While cold in feeling, the room is ablaze with activity, as large monitors stream information from every square inch of the country of Panem. Dramatic music underscores the room's tense mood.

A large glass window lets us peek into the brain center of District 13's rebellion, where HAYMITCH ABERNATHY and PLUTARCH HEAVENSBEE are locked in a heated discussion.

NOTE: The glass window is a large movie screen, giving us the effect of the actors being behind the glass window.

As volunteers enter the room, they maneuver around a large command center table, where SOLDIER COLLINS is in the middle of a call. Twentysomething, brash and devout, s/he personifies the seriousness of the room's activities.

SOLDIER COLLINS

(ad libs)

Yes... we're tracking you on the monitor. Understood. We're about to start the briefing. Good luck.

NOTE: Soldier Collins is non-gender specific.

SOLDIER COLLINS (CONT'D)

Volunteers of District 13, may I have your attention please? I'm Soldier Collins, your squadron liaison. We apologize for keeping you out of the loop of our operations. This is a time-sensitive mission, and we'll brief you in a moment. First, let me introduce you to the people that have planned your operation.

Collins gestures towards the glass window.

SOLDIER COLLINS (CONT'D)

Mr. Heavensbee. Mr. Abernathy. The volunteers have arrived.

Plutarch and Haymitch halt their conversation and peer at the volunteers. Haymitch retreats as Plutarch eagerly approaches.

PLUTARCH

Thank you Soldier Collins. Welcome everyone, and thank you for participating in this mission.

(MORE)

PLUTARCH (CONT'D)
I'm sure you all know the final
member of our strike team.
(turns)
Haymitch.

Haymitch dubiously approaches and examines the volunteers.

HAYMITCH
That them?

SOLDIER COLLINS
Yes. Sir.

Haymitch's long, cold stare is shattered with a thoughtful snort. He delicately leans into Plutarch.

HAYMITCH
Plutarch, Is there anyone else we
could...

PLUTARCH
Haymitch.

HAYMITCH
This is a complicated operation.

PLUTARCH
It will work out fine.

HAYMITCH
Sure. Just like it did when we got
the boy out, eh?

Haymitch stomps away. Plutarch turns to Soldier Collins.

PLUTARCH
Bring them up to date Soldier.

Soldier Collins hits a button, sending the room into near darkness. Dramatic music swells as the room's largest screen flickers on, revealing a familiar object...

VIDEO

The golden mockingjay symbol.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
The mockingjay. A symbol of hope.
Of freedom... and the spark that
ignited a rebellion.

The symbol bursts into flames. A rebellion ignited.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Katniss Everdeen, the girl from District 12 displayed courage, fierceness and compassion in the midst of the brutal 74th annual Hunger Games.

We see familiar images from the Hunger Games -- Katniss lets an arrow fly -- Katniss and Peeta ride on their chariot -- Katniss embraces Prim at the reaping -- Katniss honors Rue and the people of District 11 -- Peeta and Katniss share a quiet moment.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Her victory in the games gave the people of Panem hope, that even in the darkest times, everyone has the power to fight. Her mockingjay, became the symbol that united the Districts, and started an uprising.

Images of the mockingjay symbol appear in various incarnations -- in loaves of bread -- on necklaces -- as a pocket watch. Scenes of uprising in the districts appear -- normal citizens take on Capitol Peacekeepers -- chaos -- revolution.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

President Snow attempted to snuff out the rebellion, and Katniss, by thrusting former Hunger Games victors back into the arena.

The bloodthirsty President Snow flashes onto the screen, followed by images of the 75th Hunger Games.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

But, larger plans were in motion, making sure that the Girl On Fire would glow even brighter.

Katniss flings her arrow at the arena's force field - A massive explosion rips apart the arena -- Katniss is retrieved in a daring in-arena hovercraft operation.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Rumored to have been destroyed by the Capitol, the underground District 13 became the headquarters for the rebellion against the Capitol. Katniss was asked to be the symbol to unify the districts.

Shots of the massive, underground District 13.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Still, the Capitol has taken every opportunity to remind us of what they're capable of

Images of the Capitol's ruthless bombing of District 8 flash.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Yet, the Capitol is crumbling, and those that have taken risks to save us are being saved themselves.

We see shots of Peeta's dramatic rescue from the Capitol's grasp.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

We are on the verge of a new Panem. Katniss Everdeen, the mockingjay, has ignited a revolution for everyone.

The fiery mockingjay symbol reappears as the music triumphantly peaks to a powerful ending.

END VIDEO

The house lights come back up as the video screens switch over to animated sequences of the upcoming mission.

PLUTARCH

The goal of Operation : Mockingjay is to retrieve up our team in District 2 and drop them on President Snow's doorstep. You'll proceed up the Capitol's concrete reservoir, through the Avenue of Tributes, and right to Snow's mansion. The ground team takes it from there.

A 50-seat hovercraft appears on screen.

PLUTARCH (CONT'D)

You'll be flying in one of our modified hovercraft. They're more maneuverable, heavily armored, and most of all, fast. Soldier Collins, are we ready?

SOLDIER COLLINS

Final systems checks are underway. Is the team in District 2 ready?

Haymitch enters the conversation, hand pressed to his ear.

HAYMITCH

Putting them on screen. District 2 team. Come in.

The screen flickers over to a static transmission. Through the electric snow, we can make out GALE HAWTHORNE and the mockingjay herself, KATNISS EVERDEEN. The images coming from behind the team convey a hectic war-zone atmosphere.

KATNISS

It's us Haymitch. Are we on?

HAYMITCH

Looking good sweetheart. Say hello to your new friends. Your life's in their hands.

Katness flashes the best smile she can.

KATNISS

Glad to... have you.

GALE

When's our ride coming Plutarch?

PLUTARCH

We're just a few moments from loading. Our route through the reservoir is set and...

The pair gasp at Plutarch's information.

GALE

No. No. You can't

HAYMITCH

Talk to me.

GALE

We'll show you.

Katniss hits a button on her wrist communicator. A fuzzy picture emerges -- Huge Capitol hovercraft line the city's reservoirs. Haymitch, Plutarch and Soldier Collins can't comprehend the images.

KATNESS

This is from the Capitol's network feed.

SOLDIER COLLINS

They've blocked our way in.

KATNISS

Exactly.

The video feed switches back to Katniss and Gale. Haymitch becomes unhinged. The room seems to fill with dread.

HAYMITCH

Well, ain't that sweet.

PLUTARCH

We can still do this Haymitch.

HAYMITCH

Sure. Just gonna be a short ride.

That doesn't sit well with Soldier Collins. Sensing the chance to contribute, s/he seizes the moment.

SOLDIER COLLINS

Maybe not.

They sprint to the console on the table. As s/he talks, the pictures on the main video board accompany what's being talked about.

SOLDIER COLLINS (CONT'D)

We ran simulations to test the various strengths and weaknesses of multiple routes. I'm putting the three with the highest success rating on the screens.

Three screens display alternate routes, marked 'Charlie' 'Sierra' and 'Tango. While different, they go from District 13 to District 2, and into the Capitol. It's clear Haymitch objects to this new tactic, but Plutarch interferes.

PLUTARCH

We have no choice. Those spies put their lives down for this information.

HAYMITCH

(re: the volunteers)

I'm not thrilled with risking more.

BOOM. A HUGE EXPLOSION rips apart the buildings directly behind Katniss and Gale. The pair are tossed off-screen.

KATNISS

Haymitch!

The blast knocks out the connection, snapping their screen into static. The Command Center goes berserk.

PLUTARCH

Katniss. Gale. Someone get them back.

HAYMITCH

Well, we'd better think of a way in fast, or people will be reading about the shortest revolution in Panem's history.

Soldier Collins to the rescue.

SOLDIER COLLINS

I have it. The volunteers.

Haymitch and Plutarch shoot each other a quizzical look. Soldier Collins directly addresses her crew.

SOLDIER COLLINS (CONT'D)

Volunteers, take out your mobile devices, phones, tablets or wrist communicators. Please open your District 13 application.

PLUTARCH

You're suggesting we let the volunteers choose?

SOLDIER COLLINS

They're not just volunteers sir. They're coal miners, workers, people who made tough decisions everyday.

Soldier Collins addresses the volunteers.

SOLDIER COLLINS (CONT'D)

On your District 13 application, open the Operation : Mockingjay screen. You should see the three routes displayed above. Click on the one you think we should use. Quickly. We're running low on time.

NOTE: At this point, volunteers would select the route using their apps. If there is a glitch, or a tie in the voting, the computer will randomly select the mission.

VOICE (O.S.)

Hovercraft prepared for launch. All volunteers please report to the hangar.

The feed from District 2 re-appears. Katniss and Gale re-appear, looking shaken, dirty and on edge.

GALE

Whatever you guys are doing, now would be a good time to do it.

HAYMITCH

Ohh, you're gonna love this. We're letting the rookies make the call.

KATNISS

Well, that's... comforting.

PLUTARCH

What's our result Soldier Collins?

SOLDIER COLLINS

Putting in on screen now.

The winning mission, either Charlie, Sierra or Tango pops up on screen. The group exhales, yet quickly re-focuses.

GALE

Works for us.

KATNISS

We'll be waiting for you at the rendezvous point.

SOLDIER COLLINS

Good luck mockingjay.

KATNISS

Thanks Collins.

HAYMITCH

I'll be in your ear the entire time sweetheart. No funny business.

KATNISS

Now Haymitch, why in the world wouldn't I obey you?

The feed from District 2 cuts out.

HAYMITCH

Well, this should be fun.

PLUTARCH

Soldier Collins, please escort the
volunteers to their hovercraft.
Operation : Mockingjay begins, now.

The control room lights up like a Christmas tree. Buttons flicker and flash. SIRENS pierce the air. A LOUD HUM starts to build. With a WHIRL and CLICK, the massive steel hangar doors begin to open.

HAYMITCH

Talk to you folks in the air.

The MUSIC CRESCENDOS into an exciting military feel as Soldier Collins leads the volunteers out of the command room.

Haymitch and Plutarch watch the volunteers exit. After a moment, Haymitch blurts.

HAYMITCH (CONT'D)

It's all on you Plutarch.

PLUTARCH

Well, as we say in the capitol,
"May the odds be ever in our favor"

The pair turn their focus back to the mission as the last volunteers exit the room.

END OF SCENE