

THE EXTRACTION

Written by

Dan Wolpow

When the guest arrives at the experience, LAB ASSISTANTS usher him/her inside warmly, welcoming them to the ETC. They indicate that the guest will begin their orientation momentarily and to watch the large screen.

Pre-show video footage for "The Extraction" interactive experience.

EXT. LABORATORY

The video opens on a quick montage of polished, scientific-looking buildings and settings as the ENDOTROPHIC TESTING CENTER logo appears and a female voice-over is heard.

FEMALE VOICE (V.O.)

Welcome to the Endotrophic Testing Center, where we not only put the "fun" in fungus, but also the "us!" We truly value all of our employees and welcome you aboard on your first day. We are now connecting you live to our founder and director, Doctor Xenophon S. Hubris.

INT. LABORATORY

We are in a containment lab of some kind. Test tubes, chemicals, etc.—it looks dangerous. DR. XENOPHON S. HUBRIS is fiddling with a strange, large mushroom. A few LAB ASSISTANTS are working in the background. Dr. Hubris turns towards the camera.

DR. HUBRIS

Ah, there you are. You must be the new hire. My name is Doctor Xenophon S. Hubris.

(His nametag displays "Dr. X. S. Hubris")

You've come to us at a very exciting time! You'll join me down here in the containment lab once you've completed your training, but I wanted to share something with you to whet your appetite. We currently stand on the precipice of finally being able to eliminate world hunger.

(He gestures to the mushroom.)

(MORE)

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

This Glomeromycota beneficially invades plant hosts, allowing them to absorb tenfold more nutrients than they could on their own. I've finally modified a strain to work on a human host—

LAB ASSISTANT

But Dr. Hubris, we're nowhere near ready for clinical trials, the animal tests were terrifying—

DR. HUBRIS

Terrifyingly inconclusive, yes, I concur. The bureaucrats would have us wait years before we can deploy our solution to change the world, so I've decided to take matters into my own hands—I will serve as my own test subject. In fact, I have a specimen ready right here!

He grabs a vial and brings it to his lips. The lab assistants protest.

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

Bottoms up, little Glomer.

He drinks the liquid.

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

There, see? What did I tell you? I feel absolutely—

His knees buckle and he collapses to the ground. The lab assistants ad lib distress and concern.

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

Oh my god, it's eating me from the inside! Quickly, you have to kill it!

LAB ASSISTANT

I'll get the FungiTracker...

DR. HUBRIS

No, only someone who has yet to be exposed to it can eliminate the fungus. Someone who hasn't been down here—

(He passes out)

The lab assistants pause and then look at the camera.

LAB ASSISTANT

We need your help. You're the only one who hasn't been in the containment lab. Hurry and get to the operating theater and we'll get you suited up. Looks like you're going to have a busy first day!

The lab assistant presses a button and the video cuts out.

INT. THE OPERATING THEATER

A typical operating theater, like you'd see in a movie. Arena-like seating looking down at an advanced operating table and medical equipment. The GUEST is outside the room, speaking to the lab assistants.

LAB ASSISTANT

Thank goodness you're here. Quickly, put these on.

They dress the guest in a surgical mask and strap the FungiTracker to the guest's head.

LAB ASSISTANT (CONT'D)

Don't worry about how it all works, the doctor will guide you through everything inside. We're all counting on you—good luck!

The guest steps through into the operating theater. DR. HUBRIS lies on the table, immobile, but conscious.

DR. HUBRIS

Ah, excellent, you're here. My team managed to stabilize me for the moment, but I fear that any further delay could result in my immediate and immeasurably painful death. Luckily, you're supposed to be the best. Remind me, where did you attend medical school?

If the guest replies with a legitimate answer:

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

Wonderful! This should be a walk in the park for you then.

If the guest replies with a bad or non-existent school or simply doesn't respond:

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

I see. If I survive this procedure, I will have to have a talk with our human resources department.

Then the following:

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

Let's get to it then. Please bring the FungiTracker online by tapping anywhere on my body. Not literally on my body, of course, but as it appears in front of you in the display. Hold your thumb and middle fingers together, and move your index finger up and down.

If the FungiTracker gestures fail to work, the following line of dialogue can be inserted at any time:

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

You appear to be having some difficulty operating the FungiTracker. I suppose you could try using the experimental wireless FungiClicker prototype. It's there in your labcoat pocket. You simply have to click it. Not terribly exciting, but it gets the job done.

The FungiTracker boots up and the guest sees Dr. Hubris' skeleton and internal organs.

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

Are you able to see my skeleton and internal organs?

The guest confirms.

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

Very good. You'll note the absence of my spleen. It's—well, it's a very long story for another time. Now look around my body and the device will initiate a scan.

The FungiTracker goes into scanning mode.

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

Let me know what it says.

The FungiTracker displays "1 ACTIVE FUNGAL COLONY DETECTED."
The guest relays this information.

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

All right, that shouldn't be a problem. Look around my body until you find it, and when you do, simply tap on the fungus and drag it away from my body and you'll destroy it.

There is one mischievous little mushroom creature attacking Dr. Hubris' heart. If the guest has trouble locating the fungus:

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

I feel a sensation in the center of my chest, perhaps try looking there.

Either way, the guest succeeds in removing the fungus.

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

Wonderful. I believe you've done it. We'll give it a moment to rescan and confirm, but I believe that should be the last of Glomer—

By this time, the FungiTracker has completed a second scan and the results display "200 ACTIVE FUNGAL COLONIES DETECTED."

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

Well, what's happening?

The guest relays the information.

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

200?! Oh my, that means that Glomer has begun reproducing. It could be all over my body. Look around and whatever you do, don't let it get to my heart!

The guest begins looking around Dr. Hubris' body, as music begins to play. The fungi begin pouring in from everywhere, marching towards Dr. Hubris' heart. They have a few distinct personalities and appear to be having a good time, until the guest picks them up and kills them. There is room for improvisation depending on how long it takes for the guests to eliminate the fungi. When there is only one more:

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

Good job. I can feel that there's only one left, back near my heart. Remove it and we should be good to go.

The guest picks up the fungus, which proves resilient. The guest succeeds in removing it, but the fungus takes the heart with it, seemingly killing Dr. Hubris instantly. Somber music plays. The heart squishily bounces around the operating table. A flat line heart monitor noise is heard and the display flashes "Subject Heart NOT detected." The lab assistants come into the room looking grim. They stare mournfully at Dr. Hubris and then focus on the shining, bouncing heart. If the guest doesn't get the hint to put the heart back, a lab assistant prompts with the following:

LAB ASSISTANT

He had so much heart. It was really his best asset.

If the guest still doesn't figure it out:

LAB ASSISTANT (CONT'D)

His heart is still beating. I wonder...

And finally:

LAB ASSISTANT (CONT'D)

Maybe you could try putting it back inside him?

At some point, the guest does so. Instantly, Dr. Hubris is revived. Joyous music plays as everyone celebrates.

DR. HUBRIS

(Dr. Hubris)

You saved me! Thank you so much, you saved my life! The Glomer fungus has been eradicated and I've certainly learned my lesson: next time, use one of my assistants as a human test subject.

A lab assistant grabs a camera and takes the guest's picture with Dr. Hubris and the other lab assistants. Many hands are shaken and the guest goes to leave with the souvenir photo.

DR. HUBRIS (CONT'D)

And just so you know, the first day is always the easiest. See you tomorrow!

The end.