

00:00:00:17 - 00:00:33:06

Manuel:

Hello there. I'm Manuel Ravelo, otherwise known as Lucas Soto. Would you like to hear Patient Zero and Apollyon ad free and before everyone else? Then you should join Patreon. It's the perfect way to support Observer Pictures and get some extra content in return. Plus, funding people who are fulfilling their passions is good for the soul. For more information, or just to go ahead and sign up, visit Apollyon dot Observer Pictures dot com and click become a member.

00:00:37:20 - 00:01:05:01

Narrator:

Observer Pictures presents Patient Zero. This is Episode Four: Day 9, The Morning

00:01:05:01 - 00:01:29:08

Lucas:

It's 0600 local time. [yawns] Last night, Dr. Mitchell and I went over the findings from the search ground bot Marvin, and they were very promising. Marvin took photos of what appears to be a small frog or toad in Alpha Sector Three. Even with the low light lenses, they are grainy due to...*sólo Dios sabe. (Only God knows.)*

00:01:29:08 - 00:01:57:13

Lucas:

We can take 8K video from space, but these ground search bots are running on 21st century tech. Anyway, protocol is to send the bot back out to confirm any sightings, but I don't trust bots to do my work for me, so I'd like to go out and investigate myself. I informed Dr. Mitchell that she did not have to join this expedition, but she insisted.

00:01:57:13 - 00:02:18:29

Lucas:

With the reconstructed soil in Sector Two possibly being the cause of eradicating BD, she wants to get samples in Sector Three for comparison. We'd already adjusted our plans to look for amphibian life in this sector today, so we have the gear ready. It did take some convincing to get Rodolfo on board since we're going out of our expedition range.

00:02:18:29 - 00:02:44:20

Lucas:

But I reminded him that he knows this area better than any of us, and that I trust him more than any drone or ground bot. I find that compliments go far with him. Plus, the area of sector three we're headed to is

only about a half a kilometer outside our range. I doubt there will be any issues. Angeline will also be joining just in case, but we'll be fine.

00:02:45:02 - 00:02:46:21 Rodolfo:
Buenos dias. Dr. Soto.

00:02:46:22 - 00:02:47:17 Lucas:
Buenos dias!

00:02:47:26 - 00:02:52:25
Rodolfo:
Dr. Mitchell wanted you to know that the ground bot is ready. We'll be heading out in an hour.

00:02:53:08 - 00:02:54:05 Manuel
All right. Thank you.

00:02:54:27 - 00:02:59:26
Rodolfo:
Además, sus elogios no afectaron mi decisión de ir al sector 3. (Also, your praise didn't effect my decision to go to sector 3.)
[Lucas laughs.]

00:02:59:26 - 00:03:01:18 Rodolfo:
You're not as sneaky as you think.

00:03:02:24 - 00:03:04:01 Lucas:
[laughing] OK, noted.

00:03:04:25 - 00:03:12:09
Rodolfo:
No me prestés atención (Don't mind me.) Please continue with your recording. Uh... I mean, unless you need me to go?

00:03:12:19 - 00:03:16:01
Lucas:
Oh, no, no, of course not.
[Rodolfo hums in the background.]

00:03:16:01 - 00:03:41:17

Lucas:

And I don't want to speculate too much, but if we do find concrete evidence of naturally occurring amphibian life, the restoration efforts of the Lower Montane region will set a precedent for cloud forest restoration, if not all eco-restoration around the world. This seems like the perfect time to mention that this is in fact the only forest restoration program with humans on the ground on a regular basis

00:03:41:17 - 00:04:05:19

Lucas:

That is undeniable proof that field studies are still necessary. Uh... OK. Undeniable may be a little strong. There are always people, especially money managers, who will poke holes in any theory, but to explicitly say that fieldwork is outdated is just, quite frankly. B.S.

00:04:05:19 - 00:04:11:11

Rodolfo:

[laughs] *Si. Es mierda, es hablar paja. (Yes. It's shit, it's talking bullshit.)*

[They both laugh.]

00:04:11:11 - 00:04:18:05

Rodolfo:

A cold lab can never replace being with, you know, nature and stuff.

00:04:18:05 - 00:04:20:29

Lucas:

I'm happy to have you on this expedition, Rodolfo.

00:04:20:29 - 00:04:23:26

Rodolfo:

Es gusto el mio, Dr. Soto. (It's my pleasure.)

00:04:26:02 - 00:04:34:15

Lucas:

Today. I will get proof that fieldwork leads to discoveries. The lab work alone could never do. *Esta día tiene buena onda. (This is going to be a good day.)*

00:04:43:03 - 00:05:37:28

Narrator:

This episode featured the voices of Manuel Ravelo as Lucas and me, J Cuevas, as narrator. Written, directed and produced by Faith McQuinn. Sound Design and Mix by Joshua Suhy. Casting Assistance by Courtney Holly. Theme Music by Wild Wander provided by Soundstripe Music. For more information, visit Apollyon dot Observer Pictures dot com. If you enjoyed this episode, please leave a review on Podchaser or Apple Podcasts, and, more importantly, tell a friend.