

Rev. 9/15/67

STAR TREK

"JOURNEY TO BABEL"

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RODDENBERRY.COM

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STAR TREK  
"JOURNEY TO BABEL"

CAST

CAPTAIN JAMES T. KIRK  
MISTER SPOCK  
DR. LEONARD McCOY  
SAREK  
AMANDA  
CHEKOV  
UHURA  
NURSE CHRISTINE CHAPEL  
GAV  
SHRAS  
THELEV  
SECURITY OFFICER JOSEPHS

SECURITY GUARDS  
3 VULCANS  
VARIOUS ALIENS, CREW PERSONNEL

SETS

INTERIORS:

ENTERPRISE CORRIDORS  
SPOCK'S QUARTERS  
BRIDGE  
SAREK'S QUARTERS (REDRESS)  
RECREATION ROOM-LOUNGE  
SICKBAY  
EXAMINATION ROOM  
BRIG  
AUXILLIARY CONTROL ROOM  
OBSERVATION DECK  
SHUTTLECRAFT HANGAR DECK

STOCK:

ENTERPRISE IN SPACE  
ENTERPRISE ORBITTING  
ENTERPRISE FIRING PHASERS  
SHUTTLECRAFT ENTERING HANGAR DECK

9/20/67

Majel Barrett

STAR TREK

"JOURNEY TO BABEL"

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (STOCK) 1  
in orbit around the hot yellow-orange planet of Vulcan.

2 INT. KIRK'S QUARTERS - KIRK AND MCCOY 2\*  
They are in formal dress uniforms. McCoy twists a little uncomfortably, tugs at the collar of his dress blue jacket, trying to ease it. Kirk finishes dressing, takes a last look at the mirror.

MCCOY  
I don't know how much longer I  
can stand this...  
(tugs collar)  
It's like having my neck in a  
sling.

KIRK  
The Vulcans are the last group  
of delegates we have to pick  
up, Bones. After we take them  
aboard you can relax.

He goes out. McCoy follows.

2A INT. CORRIDOR - DOLLY 2A\*  
as Kirk and McCoy comes out, SPOCK comes around corner  
and joins them.

MCCOY  
(snorts cynically)  
Sure... with a formal reception  
tonight. With a hundred and  
fourteen Federation delegates  
aboard for two weeks. Thirty-  
two of them ambassadors. Half  
of them mad at the other half.  
The whole lot touchier than a  
raw anti-matter pile over this  
Coridan question...

(CONTINUED)

2A CONTINUED:

2A

From the communications speaker on the wall:

CHEKOV'S VOICE

(filtered)

Bridge to Captain.

Kirk stops, flicks the communicator button:

KIRK

Kirk here.

(CONTINUED)

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2 CONTINUED:

2\*

CHEKOV'S VOICE  
Shuttle craft approaching with  
Ambassador Sarek's party.  
Estimate arrival, one minute.

KIRK  
Bring them aboard, Mr. Chekov.

Flicks off switch and continues toward elevator.

CHEKOV'S VOICE  
Stand-by to recover shuttle  
craft. Honor guard to the hangar  
deck.

Kirk, Spock and McCoy enter elevator.

3 EXT. SPACE - GALILEO

3\*

streaks across to star field toward its rendezvous.

4 INT. HANGAR CORRIDOR - CLOSE SHOT - AIRLOCK

4\*

as Honor Guard assembles.

TECHNICIAN'S VOICE  
(over speaker)  
Clear hangar deck. Clear hangar  
deck. Depressurizing.

The honor guard of eight security men is lined up before the airlock.

4A INT. HANGAR DECK - (STOCK)

4A\*

as the huge doors swing open and reveal the Galileo as it settles to the huge deck of the hangar. Behind it the hangar doors close.

TECHNICIAN'S VOICE  
(over loudspeaker)  
Hangar bay opening. Recovering  
shuttlecraft.

4B INT. ELEVATOR - CLOSE SHOT - KIRK & GROUP

4B\*

McCoy turns to Spock.

(CONTINUED)

4C INT. HANGAR DECK (STOCK)

4C

As the Galileo revolves on the turntable.

TECHNICIAN'S VOICE

(over speaker)

Hangar deck pressurizing.

4D OMITTED

4D\*

4E INT. AIRLOCK - CLOSE SHOT - SIGN

4E\*

As the row of red lights turn to green. The outer door of the airlock hisses open, as Kirk and the group appear round the corner. The inner door hisses open to reveal the Galileo out across hangar deck. The steps of the shuttle craft extend. At Kirk's signal, the honor guard runs out across the deck, men dropping out every ten feet to form a line up to the shuttle craft. The door of the shuttle craft opens and AMBASSADOR SAREK emerges, followed by his wife, AMANDA. Amanda wearing a traveling outfit with a colorful hooded cloak, walks several paces behind her husband. She is followed by two Vulcan aides.

McCOY

(to Spock)

How does that Vulcan salute go?

Spock demonstrates. McCoy makes an attempt to copy it and shakes his head.

McCOY

(continuing)

That hurts worse than the uniform.

Kirk, Spock and McCoy stand at attention as the party walks up past the honor guard to Kirk. Spock steps forward. Stops formally in front of Sarek. Because of Vulcan longevity, it is impossible to tell Sarek's age. He appears no more than late forties. He is actually one hundred two -- middle age for a Vulcan. Spock gives the Vulcan hand salute.

SPOCK

Vulcan honors us with your presence. We come to serve.

Sarek pointedly ignores Spock, addresses himself to Kirk, giving the hand salute. Sarek's speech is almost without inflection.

(CONTINUED)



4E CONTINUED:

4E\*

SAREK

Captain, your service honors us.

KIRK

Thank you, Ambassador.

(slight bow)

Captain James Kirk. My first officer, Commander Spock. Dr. McCoy, chief medical officer.

Sarek nods brief, formal acknowledgment of the introduction, indicates his own party.

SAREK

My aides...

He holds up his hand, first and second fingers extended. Amanda steps forward, touches her first and second fingers to his.

SAREK

(continuing)

...and she who is my wife.

AMANDA

Captain Kirk.

KIRK

My pleasure, Madam.

(to Sarek)

As soon as you're settled, I'll arrange a tour of the ship. My first officer will conduct you.

SAREK

I prefer another guide, Captain.

Kirk glances at the expressionless Spock, then back at the equally expressionless Sarek. He's puzzled but does not wish to offend a ranking Ambassador.

KIRK

Of course... if you wish.

(turns to Spock)

We have two hours until we leave orbit, Mister Spock.

(a look at Sarek)

Would you like to beam down and visit your parents?

A momentary silence. Then:

(CONTINUED)

4F CONTINUED: (2)

4F\*

SPOCK  
Captain... Ambassador Sarek  
and his wife are my parents.

On Kirk's surprise... and the unchanging Vulcan faces...

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

5 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (STOCK) 5

leaving orbit around Vulcan.

6 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (STOCK) 6\*

ANOTHER ANGLE on the ship heading into the distant sparkle of scattered star fields.

KIRK'S VOICE

Captain's log, Star Date 3842.3  
... we have departed Vulcan for  
the neutral planetoid 'Babel'.  
Our mission...

7 INT. CORRIDOR - FULL SHOT 7\*

There are crewmen, and a number of aliens in hall traffic. We should see one or two of the aliens to whom we will be formally introduced later... GAV the Tellarite, SHRAS (pronounced SHRAHS) the Andorian, other strange types in bright costumes. (The extent of this depends upon budget... there should be enough variety to indicate an interplanetary representation.) Kirk leads Sarek and Amanda down the corridor toward the Engineering section. Over this:

KIRK'S VOICE

... to transport ambassadors of  
Federation planets to a vitally  
important all-Federation council.  
Five other starships are engaged  
in the same journey from other  
sectors of the galaxy.

8  
&  
9 OMITTED8  
&  
9

9A INT. ENGINEERING ROOM - ANGLE ON SPOCK 9A\*

(COSTUME NOTE: Spock is now in regular uniform. Kirk still has dress jacket on.) Spock is working at the computer banks behind the grilled partition. CAMERA PULLS BACK TO WIDER ANGLE as the main door opens, and Kirk escorts Amanda and Sarek in. For the first time we'll get a good look at this remarkable woman. Amanda habitually walks behind and to the side of any man, but especially her husband... Vulcan ritual to which she has adapted.

(CONTINUED)



ACT ONE

FADE IN:

5 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (STOCK) 5

leaving orbit around Vulcan.

6 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (STOCK) 6\*

ANOTHER ANGLE on the ship heading into the distant sparkle of scattered star fields.

KIRK'S VOICE

Captain's Log, Star Date 3842.3...  
We have departed Vulcan for the  
neutral planetoid code named 'Babel.'  
Since it is in our sector, the  
Enterprise has been assigned...

7 INT. CORRIDOR - FULL SHOT 7\*

There are Crewmen, and a number of Aliens in hall traffic. We should see one or two of the Aliens to whom we will be formally introduced later... GAV the Tellarite, SHRAS (pronounced SHRAHS) the Andorian, other strange types in bright costumes. (The extent of this depends upon budget... there should be enough variety to indicate an interplanetary representation.) Kirk leads Sarek and Amanda down the corridor toward the Engineering section. Over this:

KIRK'S VOICE

... To transport Ambassadors of  
Federation planets to this vitally  
important council. The issues of  
the Council are politically complex.  
The passengers explosive.

8  
&  
9

OMITTED

8  
&  
9

9A INT. ENGINEERING ROOM - ANGLE ON SPOCK 9A

(COSTUME NOTE: Spock is now in regular uniform. Kirk still has dress jacket on.) Spock is working at the computer banks behind the grilled partition.

(CONTINUED)

9C ANOTHER ANGLE - INCLUDING KIRK AND SAREK

9C\*

Kirk has been showing Sarek the console and its instruments. Amanda joins them silently. Kirk looks up as Spock passes in b.g... heading for the door.

KIRK

Mister Spock... a moment, please.

Spock turns reluctantly and moves to them.

SPOCK

Yes sir?

KIRK

Spock, will you explain our computer components?

SAREK

I gave Spock his first instruction in computers... before he chose to devote his knowledge to Star Fleet, rather than the Vulcan Science Academy.

Kirk shifts uncomfortably. In trying to be helpful, he's put his foot into a family quarrel, and he had not meant to. Meanwhile:

SPOCK

If you'll excuse me, Captain.

Kirk nods, and Spock exits. As he goes, Kirk turns to Sarek.

KIRK

I'm sorry, Ambassador. I didn't mean to...

SAREK

There is no offense, Captain. I am returning to my quarters. Continue, Amanda.

She bows her head in the characteristic acceptance, and Sarek leaves. Kirk stands, puzzled and confused as he has never been before by his first Officer and his relatives. Kirk turns to Amanda, shaking his head.

KIRK

I'm afraid I don't understand, Mrs. Sarek.

(CONTINUED)



9B CONTINUED:

9B

SAREK'S VOICE

My wife, attend.

Amanda glances o.s. at her husband, he holds up the first and second finger again. Without a word, she nods to Spock to excuse herself, and obediently moves to Sarek, joining her fingers with his. Spock gathers up a handful of tapes with which he had been working and also starts away.

9C ANOTHER ANGLE - INCLUDING KIRK AND SAREK

9C\*

Kirk has been showing Sarek and Amanda the console and its instruments. Kirk looks up as Spock passes in b.g. ... heading for the door.

KIRK

Mister Spock... a moment, please.

Spock turns reluctantly and moves to them.

SPOCK

Yes, Captain?

KIRK

Spock, will explain our computer components.

SAREK

I gave Spock his first instruction in computers. He chose to devote his knowledge to Star Fleet rather than the Vulcan Science Academy.

Kirk shifts uncomfortably. In trying to be helpful, he's put his foot into a family quarrel, and he had not meant to. Meanwhile:

SPOCK

If you'll excuse me, Captain.

Kirk nods, and Spock exits. As he goes, Kirk turns to Sarek.

KIRK

I'm sorry, Ambassador. I didn't mean to offend you in...

SAREK

Offense is a human emotion, Captain. I am returning to my quarters. Continue, my wife.

(CONTINUED)

9C CONTINUED:

9C \*

She bows her head in the characteristic acceptance, and Sarek leaves. Kirk stands, puzzled and confused as he has never been before by his first officer and his relatives. Kirk turns to Amanda, shaking his head.

KIRK

I'm afraid I don't understand, Mrs. Sarek.

AMANDA

(quickly)

Amanda. I'm afraid you couldn't pronounce the Vulcan family name.

KIRK

Can you?

A smile flutters on her lips, then vanishes as habit overtakes her.

AMANDA

After a fashion... and after many years of practice.

(beat)

Shall we continue the tour? My husband did request it.

KIRK

It sounded more like a command.

AMANDA

Of course. He's a Vulcan. I'm his wife.

KIRK

Spock is his son.

Amanda glances at him sharply, as though surprised, and then she covers it.

AMANDA

You don't understand the Vulcan way, Captain. It's logical. It's a better way than ours.

(pause)

But it's not easy. It has kept Spock and Sarek from speaking as father and son for eighteen years.

(CONTINUED)

9G CONTINUED:

9G\*

AMANDA

You have your duties, Captain.  
I leave you to them.

And she is gone. On Kirk's inability to comprehend  
any of the clan:

DISSOLVE TO:

10 OMITTED

10

11 INT. RECREATION ROOM-LOUNGE - FULL SHOT

11\*

To ESTABLISH. Cocktails... conversation. Ranking  
officers in dress uniform... Kirk, Spock and McCoy.  
Also in the group are Sarek and Amanda, Gav the  
Tellarite, and Shras the Andorian. The others are  
scattered, intermixed with other aliens and crew.  
There should be no junior officers, no "minor" aliens  
(such as Thelev). A table in f.g. holds exotic  
drinks. Des hors d'oeuvre fineberg. People will move  
in and out of the conversational groups as needed.  
Prime group includes Kirk, McCoy, Sarek and Amanda...  
Spock near Amanda because it is his duty. Sarek  
ignores him. As we come in, McCoy is addressing  
Sarek.

McCOY

... Mr. Ambassador, I understood  
you had retired from public  
service.

SAREK

I was recalled by my government  
to serve in this matter of  
admitting the Coridan system  
to the Federation.

Gav puts down the glass of brandy he was sipping and  
leans forward. Gav's voice is rough, grating, and  
accented in some way... as though English is very  
alien on his tongue.

GAV

Sarek of Vulcan... do you vote to  
admit Coridan to the Federation?

SAREK

The vote will not be taken here,  
Ambassador Gav. My government's  
instructions will be heard in  
the Council Chamber on Babel.

(CONTINUED)



9F INSERT - SMALL SCREEN - UHURA

9F

UHURA

That's what bothers me, Sir.  
Impossible to locate. There  
wasn't enough of it. Sensors  
show nothing in the area. But  
it was a strong signal... as  
though it was very close.

9G SHOT - KIRK

9G

concerned... frowning.

KIRK

Go to alert status 4. Begin  
long range scanning. Kirk out.

He thoughtfully flicks off the switch.

10 OMITTED

10

11 INT. RECREATION ROOM - CLOSE - TABLE

11\*

There is a murmur of conversation. A table in f.g. holds  
exotic drinks, des hors d'oeuvre fineberg. CAMERA MOVES  
ALONG table as delegates pick up drinks, move to various  
conversational groups. There is a fantastic array of  
types from all cultures, some pleasant, some hostile.

KIRK'S VOICE

Captain's Log, Star Date 3842.4.  
The Interplanetary Conference will  
consider the petition of the Coridian  
Planets to be admitted to the  
Federation. The Coridiansystem has  
been claimed by some of the races  
now aboard our ship as delegates.  
Races who have strong personal  
reasons for keeping Coridan out  
of the Federation. The most pressing  
problem aboard the Enterprise is to  
make sure that open warfare does not  
break out among the delegates before  
the Conference begins.

CAMERA HAS NOW PICKED UP Kirk, Spock and McCoy mingling  
with the guests. We see Gav, the Tellarite, Shras and  
Theler, the Andorian. McCoy has joined Sarek and Amanda.

11A CLOSE SHOT - SAREK, AMANDA AND McCOY

11A\*

McCOY

Mr. Ambassador, I understand you had retired from public service before this Conference was called.

(as Sarek nods)

Forgive my curiosity but, as a Doctor, I'm interested in Vulcan physiology. Isn't it unusual for a Vulcan to retire at your age? You're only a hundred and two.

SAREK

102.437, measured in your years. I had other... concerns.

Gav appears.

GAV

Sarek of Vulcan...

Gav puts down the glass of brandy he was sipping and leans forward. Gav's voice is rough, grating, and accented in some way... as though English is very alien on his tongue.

GAV

Do you vote to admit Coridan to the Federation?

SAREK

The vote will not be taken here, Ambassador Gav. My government's instructions will be heard in the Council Chamber on Babel.

GAV

No... you. How do you vote, Sarek of Vulcan?

Shras lifts his head now. (Habitually, because of the sensitive antennae, Andorians listen with heads down and slightly tilted.) Andorian voices are also different... soft, whispering.

SHRAS

Why must you know, Tellarite?

GAV

(stabs a finger towards Sarek)

In Council, his vote carries others. I will know where he stands, and why.

(CONTINUED)

11A CONTINUED:

11A \*

SAREK

Tellarites do not argue for reasons  
...they simply argue.

Gav starts to murmur angrily, but Kirk interrupts firmly.

KIRK

Gentlemen, as Ambassador Sarek pointed out, this is not the Council Chamber on Babel. I'm aware the admission of Coridan is a highly debatable issue, but you can't solve it here.

For a moment, the three Ambassadors stare defensively at each other. Then Sarek nods toward Kirk.

SAREK

You are correct, Captain. Quite logical.

SHRAS

Apologies, Captain.

Gav stares at Kirk and Sarek, finally nods.

GAV

You will excuse me.

He leaves the group angrily.

SHRAS

(to Sarek)

You have met Gav before, Ambassador.

SAREK

We debated at my last Council session.

AMANDA

Ambassador Gav lost.

12 CLOSER ANGLE - McCOY AND SPOCK

12

McCoy can't resist applying a light needle to the First Officer as the group shifts, Shras moving off.

McCOY

Spock, I've always suspected you were more human than you let on.

(MORE)



16 TWO SHOT - KIRK AND SPOCK

16\*

as Kirk crosses to Spock.

KIRK  
Identification, Mister Spock?

SPOCK  
The size of a scout ship, but  
the configuration is unfamiliar.  
Most unusual.

KIRK  
(to Uhura)  
Does she answer a hail?

UHURA  
I've tried all frequencies and  
hooked in the universal translator.  
No response, sir.

KIRK  
Maintain translator broadcast...  
and check Star Fleet Registry  
for authorized ships in this  
quadrant.

UHURA  
Aye sir.

17 ANOTHER ANGLE

17

as Kirk moves back to his command chair.

KIRK  
Mr. Chekov, plot a course to  
intercept that vessel. I want  
to see what she looks like up  
close.

CHEKOV  
Aye sir.

Chekov starts laying in the course.

18 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (STOCK)

18

peeling off in a turn.

19 INT. BRIDGE - ANGLE ON COMMAND POSITIONS

19\*

Spock frowns, checks his scanner quickly. Kirk  
snaps alert as:

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

19\*

SPOCK

The vessel has changed its course,  
Captain. Heading toward us at  
high warp speed.

KIRK

Ready main phasers.

CHEKOV

Phasers armed and ready, sir.

20  
thru OMITTED  
23

20  
thru  
23

24 INSERT - MAIN VIEWING SCREEN (MEASURE)

24

A faint glowing blip appears in one corner of the  
screen, cutting diagonally across screen, growing  
rapidly larger. As it whizzes out of shot:

25 WIDE ANGLE

25\*

SPOCK

Interesting. They were traveling  
at approximately Warp ten.

KIRK

Come back on original heading,  
Mr. Chekov... report on the  
intruder's movements.

As Chekov begins to work controls, Uhura turns from  
her console.

UHURA

Captain...

(as he turns)

Star Fleet Registry logs no  
authorized Federation vessel in  
this quadrant except ours.

KIRK

(rising)

Very well, lieutenant. Notify  
Star Fleet command of the present  
situation. Request recommendations.

UHURA

Aye sir.

(CONTINUED)



15A INSERT - MAIN VIEW SCREEN

15A

Moving stars... and in screen center a small pulsing point of light indicates the other ship.

16 TWO SHOT - KIRK AND SPOCK

16 \*

As Kirk crosses to Spock.

KIRK  
Identification, Mister Spock?

SPOCK  
Sensors indicate the size of a scout ship, but the configuration is unfamiliar. Most unusual.

KIRK  
(to Uhura)  
Does she answer a hail?

UHURA  
I've tried all frequencies and hooked in the universal translator. No response, sir.

KIRK  
Maintain translator broadcast.  
(to Spock)  
Check records for authorized ships.

Spock checks the computer.

SPOCK  
Star Fleet records no authorized vessel in this quadrant except ours.

KIRK  
Care to guess what it is?

SPOCK  
(raised eyebrows)  
Captain. I shall need more data for an estimate.

17 ANOTHER ANGLE

17

As Kirk moves back to his command chair.

KIRK  
Mr. Chekov, plot a course to intercept that vessel. I want to see what she looks like up close.

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED:

27\*

AMANDA

Sarek, you're proud of him,  
aren't you? You're showing an  
almost human emotion for your  
son.

SAREK

It does not require emotion to  
ask that Spock receive the respect  
that is his due... not as my son...  
but to Spock.

(gently)

You understand?

AMANDA

Not really.

(takes his hand)

But it doesn't matter. I love  
you anyway.

As Sarek shakes his head, she smiles.

AMANDA

I know. It isn't logical.

CUT TO:

28 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE ON UHURA

28\*

(Costume note: Kirk and Spock still in dress uniform.)  
She turns in her chair toward command positions.

UHURA

Captain, message coming in from  
Star Fleet Command.

CAMERA ANGLE WIDENS as Kirk goes to her side.

UHURA

To Kirk, commanding Enterprise.  
Your message received and  
acknowledged. Continue on course  
... avoid contact with intruder if  
possible. Consider safety of  
passengers your prime mission.  
Signed: Komack, Star Fleet  
Command.

Kirk stands quietly a beat, and Uhura waits, looking  
up at him. Finally he stirs.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

UHURA

Captain...

(as he turns)

Star Fleet acknowledges report on our situation and confirms no authorized Federation vessel in this quadrant.

CHEKOV

Back on original heading, Captain. The intruder changed course immediately after we did... it's paralleling us again.

26 CLOSER - KIRK AND SPOCK

26

The Captain moves to Spock, glances into hooded viewer, nods slowly.

KIRK

So we have a shadow... faster, more maneuverable... and unidentified. Mister Spock, full analysis of sensor readings. I want to know who that intruder is.

CUT TO:

27 INT. SAREK'S QUARTERS (REDRESS)

27\*

The room is not made up to suit Vulcan taste. Sarek is seated at the desk. Amanda is reading from the o.s. viewers.

SAREK

You embarrassed Spock this evening. Not even a mother may do that. He is a Vulcan.

AMANDA

He's also human.

SAREK

He is a Star Fleet Officer.

AMANDA

(quickly)

I thought you didn't approve of Star Fleet.

(CONTINUED)



27 CONTINUED:

27\*

SAREK

It is not a question of approval.  
This fact exists. He is in  
Star Fleet. He must command  
respect, or he cannot function.

AMANDA

Sarek, you're proud of him,  
aren't you? You're showing an  
almost human pride in your son.

SAREK

It does not require pride to ask  
that Spock receive the respect  
that is his due... not as my  
son... but as Spock.

(gently)

You understand?

AMANDA

Not really.

(takes his hand)

But it doesn't matter. I love  
you anyway.

As Sarek shakes his head, she smiles.

AMANDA

(continuing)

I know. It isn't logical.

CUT TO:

28 OMITTED

28

29 INT. RECREATION-LOUNGE ROOM - CLOSE ON GAV

29\*

He sits isolated. Before him is a small bottle of  
Saurian brandy to which he has been helping himself  
rather liberally. (NOTE: Tellarites do not get drunk,  
just feisty.) CAMERA PULLS BACK TO WIDER ANGLE to  
reveal there are other delegates in the room... no  
other Tellarites, but the Andorians named THELEV and  
SHRAS. Several other aliens we may have seen before.  
Gav looks up as Sarek enters from the corridor and  
crosses toward a drink dispenser.

30 CLOSE ON SAREK

30

He takes a glass of purple liquid, surreptitiously  
takes a pill from a small box, pops it into his mouth  
and downs the drink.

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED:

30\*

He turns as he senses someone behind him. CAMERA ADJUSTS to include Gav.

GAV

Vulcan, I will speak to you.

Since Gav is planted firmly between Sarek and the open part of the room, Sarek nods coolly and sets the glass aside.

SAREK

It does seem unavoidable.

GAV

How is your vote on the Coridan admission?

SAREK

You seem unable to wait for the Council meeting, Ambassador. No matter. We favor admission.

GAV

You favor? Why?

SAREK

Under Federation law, Coridan can be protected -- its wealth administered for the benefit of its people.

GAV

It's well for you. Vulcan has no mining interest.

SAREK

The Coridans have a nearly unlimited wealth of dilithium crystals but are underpopulated and unprotected... This invites illegal mining operations.

GAV

Illegal! You accuse us?

SAREK

Reports indicate your ships have been carrying Coridan dilithium crystals.

GAV

You call us thieves?



35 INT. CORRIDOR - ON SECURITY OFFICER JOSEPHS

35\*

Most of the ship is on night status. This corridor is silent except for Josephs' muffled steps as he comes along the corridor, nearing the Jefferies tube. He glances at it casually... then he freezes, staring.

36 SHOT - JEFFERIES TUBE

36\*

From the angle of the shot we can see one alien foot and hand hanging down. (Gav's).

36A INT. KIRK'S QUARTERS - ON KIRK

36A\*

He is just changing into his duty uniform.

JOSEPHS' VOICE  
(filtered)  
Security to Captain Kirk.

KIRK  
Kirk here.

36B INT. CORRIDOR - CLOSE ON JOSEPHS

36B\*

JOSEPHS  
(into intercom)  
Lieutenant Josephs, sir. I'm  
on Deck 11, Section A-3. I  
just found one of the Tellarites  
murdered. I think it's the  
Ambassador himself, sir.

36C INT. KIRK'S QUARTERS - CLOSE ON KIRK

36C\*

shocked and alarmed. As CAMERA PUSHES IN on him:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

37 INT. CORRIDOR - GROUP SHOT

37\*

(COSTUME NOTE: All personnel in regular uniform from this point on.) McCoy is kneeling beside Gav's body taking a medical instrument reading. There are also two SECURITY GUARDS waiting for McCoy's order to remove the body. Josephs is nearby. CAMERA MOVES IN CLOSER as McCoy snaps off the instrument and rises to face Kirk and Spock.

KIRK

How was he killed?

McCOY

His neck was broken. By an expert.

Spock glances sharply at McCoy, bends to examine the body as:

KIRK

Explain.

McCOY

From the location and nature of the break, I'd say the killer knew exactly where to apply pressure to snap the neck instantly.

KIRK

Who aboard would have that knowledge?

Spock straightens now.

SPOCK

Vulcans.

(as Kirk reacts)

On Vulcan, the method is called Tal-shaya... considered a merciful form of execution in ancient times.

KIRK

Mr. Spock, a short time ago, I broke up an argument between your father and Gav.

SPOCK

Indeed, Captain? Interesting.

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED:

37\*

McCOY

Interesting? Spock, do you realize that makes your father the most likely suspect?

SPOCK

Vulcans do not approve of violence.

KIRK

Are you saying your father couldn't have done this?

SPOCK

It would be illogical to kill without reason.

KIRK

But if he had such a reason?

SPOCK

If there were a reason, my father is quite capable of killing... Logically and efficiently.

Kirk and McCoy stare at him, appalled... Spock's implacable expression does not change as we:

CUT TO:

38  
&  
39

OMITTED

38  
&  
39

40

INT. SAREK'S QUARTERS

40\*

buzzer SOUNDS.

AMANDA

Come.

The door slides open, and Kirk, Spock and McCoy enter. Amanda rises and comes toward them, smiling.

KIRK

I'm sorry to disturb you. But I must speak with your husband.

AMANDA

He's been gone for some time. It's his habit to meditate in private before retiring. What's wrong? Spock?

(CONTINUED)



40 CONTINUED:

40\*

At that moment, the door behind them slides open again.  
They turn as Sarek enters.

SAREK

You want something of me, Captain?

41 ANOTHER ANGLE - EMPHASIZING KIRK AND SAREK

41\*

During this scene, Sarek will appear somewhat tense,  
strained... as though fighting back something.

(CONTINUED)

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41 CONTINUED: (2)

41\*

AMANDA

What's wrong?

McCoy bends over Sarek again to take readings. Sarek's agony seems to have eased, but he is still in pain.

McCOY

I don't know... I can't be sure with Vulcan physiology. It looks like it may have to do with his cardio-vascular system, but...

KIRK

Can you help him, Bones?

McCOY

I don't know that yet, either.

CAMERA MOVES IN for CLOSE SHOT as Kirk turns to look at Amanda and Spock. He finds Spock expressionless as always. But Amanda's eyes are haunted... she cannot cover this kind of worry, no matter how many years she's adapted to Vulcan tradition.

CUT TO:

42 OMITTED

42

43 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE ON HOODED VIEWER

43\*

CAMERA PULLS BACK QUICKLY to reveal Spock leaning over the viewer, Kirk beside him. Spock makes an adjustment or two on the library-computer as he answers.

KIRK

Is he still there?

SPOCK

No change. The ship's hull seems to have a high density level or is cloaked against sensor probes. It is manned, but sensors cannot make out specifics.

KIRK

The Klingons don't have anything like it... certainly not the Federation or neutral planets. Romulans?

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED: (2)

41

He takes out an air-hypo and makes a setting, gives Sarek a quick injection.

AMANDA

What's wrong?

McCoy bends over Sarek again to take readings. Sarek's agony seems to have eased, but he is still in pain.

McCOY

I don't know... I can't be sure with Vulcan physiology. It looks like it may have to do with his cardio-vascular system, but...

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CUT TO:

42 OMITTED

42

43 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE ON HOODED VIEWER

43\*

CAMERA PULLS BACK QUICKLY to reveal Spock leaning over the viewer, Kirk studies him sympathetically, starts to speak.

SPOCK

Captain, I get sensor readings of Tritritanium from the alien ship's hull.

He readjusts the instruments.

KIRK

Spock, I'm sorry about your father.

SPOCK

Yes, it could adversely affect our mission.

KIRK

Aren't you worried about him?



43 CONTINUED:

43\*

SPOCK

Worry is a human emotion. I accept what has happened. The ship's hull seems to have a high density level or is cloaked against sensor probes. It is manned, but sensors cannot make out specifics.

KIRK

The Romulens don't have anything like it... certainly not the Federation or neutral planets. What about the Klingons?

SPOCK

I think it unlikely this is one of theirs, Captain.

KIRK

Who then?

44 ANOTHER ANGLE - ON UHURA

44

She is ranging the communications monitor over the frequencies one by one, so there must be a certain system in her moves... activating a series of switches or buttons... listening, then activating another. Now she suddenly stiffens, punches a button and a small red light flares on the board.

UHURA

Captain.

45 WIDER ANGLE - INCLUDING KIRK

45

as he snaps around and comes across to her station. She is frowning and puzzled as he reaches her side.

KIRK

What is it, Lieutenant?

UHURA

(shakes head)

I picked up the last part of a transmission just like that other one. I put the recorder and the directional locator on it immediately.

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTINUED:

48\*

UHURA

Yes, sir.

KIRK

If the alien vessel transmits again, I want to know who aboard the Enterprise is receiving.

CUT TO:

49 INT. SICKBAY - CLOSE ON BODY FUNCTIONS PANEL

49\*

The panel is registering strangely, as it always does on a Vulcan. CAMERA PULLS BACK to reveal Sarek in the bed; NURSE CHRISTINE CHAPEL is assisting McCoy as they take final readings. Amanda hovers in the door, trying to keep out of the way. Sarek looks as though he feels inconvenienced, but if suffering pain, he can at least control it. Kirk and Spock enter from Examination Room area, and McCoy turns to them.

KIRK

How is he, Bones?

McCOY

As far as I can tell from instrument readings, our prime suspect has a malfunction in one of the heart valves. It's similar to a heart attack in a human, but with Vulcan physiology, it's hard to say for sure without operating.  
(to Amanda)

Has he had any previous attack?

AMANDA

No.

SAREK

Yes.

50 OMITTED

50

51 INCLUDING SAREK

51\*

as they turn to look at him curiously.

SAREK

There were three others.  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTINUED:

48\*

KIRK

(surprised)

Are there any conclusions possible from the information?

SPOCK

Only negative. It fits none of our computer records. It is alien.

Kirk glances at Uhura's panel.

KIRK

(flares angrily)

Lieutenant, you've still got your locator on wide beam. We've established a receiver aboard the Enterprise. Tighten the field to the interior of our ship.

UHURA

Yes, sir.

KIRK

(more gently)

If the alien vessel transmits again, I want to know who aboard the Enterprise is receiving.

CUT TO:

49

INT. SICKBAY - CLOSE ON BODY FUNCTIONS PANEL

49

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KIRK

How is he, Bones?

McCOY

As far as I can tell from instrument readings, our prime suspect has a malfunction in one of the heart valves.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)



SAREK

Unquestionably.

KIRK

How about it, Bones?

McCOY

I'm glad someone's asking me something. With this procedure, the patient will need tremendous amounts of blood.

(to Christine)

Nurse, did you check the status of the blood bank?

CHRISTINE

Yes sir... we don't have enough Vulcan blood and plasma to even begin to operate.

KIRK

There are other Vulcans aboard.

SAREK

You will note my blood type is T-negative... somewhat rare even for Vulcans.

SPOCK

(abruptly)

I have T-negative blood.

CHRISTINE

But...

As they look at her, she flushes, embarrassed, then goes on:

CHRISTINE

(continuing)

We've run a number of blood tests on Mister Spock. It's not a true Vulcan blood either... it has human blood elements in it.

SPOCK

It should be possible to filter out the human factors.

McCOY

Even you couldn't give that much blood, Spock. It'd kill you.

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED:

51\*

Kirk nods and turns away as:

SPOCK

Doctor, you propose surgery  
for the heart defect?

McCOY

I'm not sure. It's tough enough  
on a human. On a Vulcan, the  
ordinary operation is out of  
the question.

KIRK

Why?

SAREK

Because of the construction of  
the Vulcan heart.

SPOCK

I'd say a cryogenic open-heart  
procedure is the logical approach.

SAREK

Unquestionably.

KIRK

How about it, Bones?

McCOY

I'm glad someone's asking me  
something. With this procedure,  
the patient will need tremendous  
amounts of blood.

CHRISTINE

Doctor, I've checked the blood  
bank. We don't have enough  
Vulcan blood and plasma to even  
begin an operation of this type.

KIRK

There are other Vulcans aboard.

SAREK

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T-negative... somewhat rare  
even for Vulcans.

SPOCK

(abruptly)

I have T-negative blood.

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED: (2)

51\*

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SPOCK

It should be possible to filter out the human factors.

McCOY

Even you couldn't give that much blood, Spock. It'd kill you.

KIRK

Bones, if you have any answers in those medi-comps of yours,

SPOCK

You must understand, Mother. The chances are extremely small of finding a way to produce sufficient T-negative blood. I would estimate them at...

AMANDA

(interrupts)

Please don't.

Spock stares at her... surprised... but does not continue.

DISSOLVE TO:

51A EXT. ENTERPRISE

51A

flyby.

52  
&  
53

OMITTED

52  
&  
53



54

INT. LAB - ANGLE ON WALL COMPUTER

54\*

Its patterns pulse and shift restlessly as it works. CAMERA PULLS BACK QUICKLY to reveal Christine taking a tape cartridge as it is emitted from a slot. She carries it across to where McCoy is seated at the viewer screen, Spock at his shoulder. There is a pile of rejected cartridges beside the viewer, and Spock is just removing another as McCoy takes the tape Christine hands him, slots the cartridge, hits the switch. A beat, then both men stiffen, taut with discovery. Christine swings back as:

SPOCK

Doctor...

McCOY

I see it, Spock. But that was a Rigelian.

SPOCK

Rigelian physiology is very similar to Vulcan.

McCoy reads quickly, avidly, then his face starts to crumple in disappointment.

McCOY

Similar's not good enough. It's still experimental.

SPOCK

It looks promising.

McCOY

We'll need blood in such volume that even if this drug works on Vulcans as well as it did on the Rigelian - which is doubtful - it would still drain Sarek to the critical level.

SPOCK

I consider the safety factor to be low, but acceptable.

McCOY

Plus which I've never operated on a Vulcan. I've studied the anatomical types. I know where all the organs are. But that's a lot different from having actual surgical experience. And if I don't kill him with the operation, the drug probably will.

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED:

54\*

AMANDA'S VOICE

What drug, Doctor?

They turn toward the sickbay door.

55 WIDER ANGLE

55\*

Amanda crosses to McCoy and Spock from sickbay.

AMANDA

My husband's asleep. What drug?

McCOY

A chemical stimulant that speeds up reproduction and replacement of blood in the body. But it's only experimental.

SPOCK

It has been used successfully on test subject on Rigel Five...

McCOY

It puts a tremendous strain on the spleen and liver. In Sarek's condition, the stimulant would kill him.

SPOCK

I underwent a physical examination last week. If you will pull those records, Miss Chapel...

CHRISTINE

(to Spock)

Already pulled. You're... perfectly healthy, Mr. Spock.

McCOY

What has that got to --

Amanda has already grasped Spock's purpose.

AMANDA

You want to use it on yourself?  
... A transfusion from you to your father?

SPOCK

It seems the only answer.

(CONTINUED)

55 CONTINUED:

55

McCOY

(shakes head)

It could damage you internally,  
kill you... And, even then it  
might not work at all... I can't  
sanction it, Spock...

Christine reacts.

(CONTINUED)

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55 CONTINUED:

55

AMANDA

And I refuse to permit it. I  
won't risk both of you...

SPOCK

Then you automatically condemn  
Sarek to death.

Amanda winces; the logic of Spock's argument is  
clear. Spock turns to McCoy.

SPOCK

And you have no choice either,  
Doctor. If you do not operate,  
Sarek will die. You have the  
means to perform the operation  
now. I am volunteering myself  
as the blood donor.

Amanda stares at McCoy with stricken face. And  
McCoy does not exactly relish this heavy  
responsibility... but there is nothing else he  
can do, except take it. He nods, very slowly.

SPOCK

(continuing)

I will be at my station until  
you require me.

Spock starts to exit as we:

55A EXT. ENTERPRISE

55A

Flyby.

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56 INT. CORRIDOR - BY KIRK'S QUARTERS - ANGLE ON KIRK

56

The Captain enters from his quarters. He's tired... it's been one helluva long day. Suddenly he is jumped from behind. The assailant is taller but slighter than Kirk, and has an Andorian bladed weapon. He slashes at Kirk, then uses it as a club. Kirk is staggered by at least one heavy blow on the head. Though dazed, he manages to throw the assailant from him, sending him against the wall. As Kirk turns to face the attacker, the assailant moves in quickly, now using the blade to slash at Kirk. Kirk receives a bad cut on the body before he can block it. Then he closes with the assailant, parrying the weapon. Kirk unleashes a punch that slams the assailant into the wall. The momentum of the punch carries Kirk around and the Andorian lunges at his back. Kirk turns, grabs the man, drops him with a quick, brutal chop.

57 CLOSER - KIRK AND ASSAILANT

57

Kirk holds a moment, swaying. Almost as though his legs won't hold him, he drops to his knees beside the limp assailant, turns him over. In this CLOSER ANGLE we see the assailant is Thelev, the Andorian. Kirk hauls himself to his feet, has to use the wall almost as a support. He has been hurt... has a hard time correlating what he's doing. He reaches a wall intercom, activates it.

KIRK

Bridge... Mister Spock...

INTERCUT Kirk in corridor and Spock on bridge.

SPOCK

Spock here.

KIRK

This is Kirk. I'm on... deck five... outside my quarters. I was... attacked by an Andorian. Security... security team...

He sways, blinking, fighting dizziness and nausea. He reaches behind his back and in agony, pulls out the deeply embedded knife. NOTE: At no time do we see the knife in his back. As he pulls it free, we see the Andorian blade in his hand. Then he collapses.

SPOCK

Captain? Captain!

CAMERA PANS DOWN TO CLOSE SHOT of Kirk's limp body.

FADE OUT.



ACT THREE

FADE IN:

57A EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (STOCK)

57A

flashing across space.

SPOCK'S VOICE

Captain's log, Star Date 3843.4  
... First Officer Spock in  
temporary command. The Captain  
has been critically wounded by  
one of the delegates to the  
Babel Conference. The ship is on  
alert status. We are still being  
followed by the intruder vessel.

58 INT. SICKBAY - C.U. McCOY

58\*

He looks very concerned.

McCOY

It's a bad wound...

CAMERA PULLS BACK to reveal Spock.

McCOY

(continuing)

... Punctured the left lung.  
A centimeter or so lower and  
it would have gone through the  
heart.

SPOCK

I'll be in the brig, questioning  
the Andorian prisoner.

CHRISTINE

Doctor, the K2 factor is dropping.

Catching the urgency of her tone, McCoy crosses quickly to Sarek's bed, checks the Life Support Panel.

McCOY

Spock, your father is much worse.  
There's no longer a choice. I'll  
have to operate immediately. We  
can begin as soon as you're  
prepared.

SPOCK

No.

(CONTINUED)



58 CONTINUED:

58\*

McCoy and Amanda stare at him, stunned.

McCOY

What?

AMANDA

Spock, the little chance your father has depends entirely on you. You volunteered.

SPOCK

My immediate responsibility is to the ship. Our passengers' safety is, by Star Fleet order, of first importance. We are being followed by an alien, possibly hostile ship. I cannot relinquish command under these circumstances.

McCOY

(harshly)

You can turn command over to Scott.

SPOCK

On what grounds, Doctor? Command requirements do not recognize personal privilege. I will be in the brig interrogating the Andorian.

He nods formally and walks out. The Examination room door closes firmly after him as we:

59  
THRU OMITTED  
63

59  
THRU  
63

64 INT. BRIG - CU- THELEV

64

Thelev is huddled on a bunk.

SHRAS' VOICE

He is Thelev...

CAMERA PULLS BACK to reveal Spock and Shras outside the cell. A force field glows brightly at the entrance.

SHRAS

(continuing)

... a minor member of my staff.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

64 CONTINUED:

64\*

SHRAS (cont'd)

I know nothing of him except  
that he has served adequately.

SPOCK

(indicates Thelev)

He has been subjected to questioning  
under verifier scan and truth drug.  
He registers... nothing. I  
suggest his mind has been so  
conditioned as part of a pre-  
conceived plan.

SHRAS

(coldly)

My people are a violent race,  
but we had no quarrel with  
Captain Kirk.

SPOCK

Apparently Thelev did.

SHRAS

You suggest a plot. How could  
it profit us to harm the Captain?

SPOCK

I do not know... There is no  
logic in Thelev's attack.  
There is no logic in Gav's  
murder.

SHRAS

Perhaps you should forget logic  
and devote yourself to motivations  
of passion or gain. Logic will  
tell you those are reasons for  
murder.

He turns and walks away. Spock holds a moment,  
staring in at Thelev, who does not move at all.  
Spock moves to a wall communicator, activates it.

(CONTINUED)

65 INT. SPOCK'S QUARTERS - CLOSE ON COMPUTER

65

The small computer is fluttering its intricate patterns and carrying on its "hum hum, click click" conversation with itself. A hand reaches in, takes a tape cartridge from a slot and flicks a switch. The computer goes dark as CAMERA PULLS BACK to reveal Spock at his desk. He swings around in his chair and drops the cartridge into a view screen. There are three or four other cartridges lying on the desk. The door buzzer SOUNDS.

SPOCK  
(abently)

Come.

Amanda enters, crosses to Spock.

AMANDA  
Spock, you must turn command over to someone else.

Spock flicks off the o.s. view screen as:

SPOCK  
Mother... when I was commissioned I took an oath to carry out responsibilities which are clearly and exactly delineated.

AMANDA  
Any competent officer can command this ship. Only you can give your father the blood transfusions he needs to live.

SPOCK  
Any competent officer can command this ship under normal circumstances. The circumstances are not normal. We carry over one hundred valuable Federation passengers. We are being followed by an alien ship, subject to possible attack. There has been murder and attempted murder aboard. I cannot dismiss my duty.

AMANDA  
And your duty to your father?

SPOCK  
If I could undergo the transfusion with no loss of efficiency or time, I would.

(pause)  
Sarek understands my reasons.



SPOCK

Any competent officer can command this ship under normal circumstances. The circumstances are not normal. We carry over one hundred valuable Federation passengers. We are being followed by an alien ship, subject to possible attack. There has been murder and attempted murder aboard. I cannot dismiss my duty.

AMANDA

Duty? You have a duty to your father.

SPOCK

I know. But this must take precedence. If I could give the transfusion without loss of time or efficiency, I would. Sarek understands my reason.

AMANDA

Well, I don't. It's not human.

(quickly)

I know that's a dirty word to you. But you're human, too. Let that part of you come through. Your father's dying.

SPOCK

Mother, you married a Vulcan, lived on Vulcan, raised a son on Vulcan. But you've never really understood what it means to be a Vulcan.

AMANDA

If this is what it means, I don't want to know.

SPOCK

It means to adopt a philosophy -- a way of life that is logical and beneficial. We cannot disregard that philosophy for personal gain --

(slowly)

-- no matter how important that gain might be.

AMANDA

Nothing's as important as your father's life.

(CONTINUED)

SPOCK

Can you imagine what my father would say if I were to agree? If I gave up command of the ship - jeopardized the lives of hundreds, risked interplanetary war, all for the life of one person.

AMANDA

When you were five years old and came home stiff-lipped, anguished, because the other boys tormented you, saying you weren't really Vulcan! I kept praying you'd cry... that you'd be human!

SPOCK

I did not cry.

AMANDA

You should have. There must be some part of me in you -- some part I can reach.

(pause)

If being Vulcan is more important to you, then you'll stand there quoting Starfleet rules and Vulcanur philosophy and let your father die.

(beat)

And I'll hate you for the rest of my life.

SPOCK

Mother...

AMANDA

Go to him now. Please.

SPOCK

(slowly)

I cannot.

Amanda holds still, staring at him, tears splashing down her face. Spock reaches out to touch her, and she suddenly slaps him with all the strength she has. He stands rigid, unmoving... and unmoved. Amanda turns and leaves.

CUT TO:



66 INT. SICKBAY - CLOSE ON KIRK

66\*

For a beat he is still; then he begins to stir. His eyes flutter open, and he turns his head slowly to one side. CAMERA ANGLE WIDENS to include Christine at the side of the bed. As he moves, Christine calls quietly, O.S.

CHRISTINE

Doctor McCoy.

KIRK

I'd like to catch the guy with the sledgehammer...

CHRISTINE

(smiles)

The one who hit you?

KIRK

The one inside my head.

(starts to sit up)

How long have I been...

(CONTINUED)

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66 INT. SICKBAY - CLOSE ON KIRK

66

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KIRK

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CHRISTINE

(smiles)

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KIRK

The one inside my head.

(starts to sit up)

How long have I been...

McCoy comes from Sarek's side as Kirk attempts to rise. Kirk is hit by a wave of dizziness and nausea as soon as he straightens, and he promptly lies down again, even before McCoy has to order it.

McCOY

Let that be a lesson to you. We analyzed the poison on the knife and counteracted it, but you'll have to stay off your feet for a while.

KIRK

(nods)

How's the Ambassador?

67 ANOTHER ANGLE

67

Sarek is in b.g. bed, apparently asleep. Christine tactfully moves away as Kirk and McCoy talk.

McCOY

Not good. If I could only operate...

KIRK

What's stopping you? I thought you were all ready?

(CONTINUED)

67 CONTINUED:

67

McCOY

(angrily)

I was. But with you injured, Spock assumed command. And he'll stay there until you get back on your feet... even if it costs Sarek his life.

(disgustedly)

Regulations...

KIRK

He's right, Bones. I can't damn him for loyalty, or for doing his duty. But I'm not going to let him commit patricide.

Kirk sits up and swings his feet off the bed. McCoy catches his shoulders, preventing him from rising.

McCOY

Jim, you can't even stand up.

KIRK

Bones, Sarek will die without that operation.

(as McCoy nods)

And you can't operate without the transfusions from Spock.

(again a nod)

I'll convince Spock I'm all right, and order him to report here. Once he's off the bridge, I'll turn command over to Scotty and go to my quarters. Will that fill your prescription?

McCoy holds a beat, looking at Sarek, then back to Kirk. He nods, starts to help Kirk off the bed and toward the door.

CUT TO:

68 OMIT

68

69 INT. BRIDGE - ON ELEVATOR DOORS

69

They snap open, and Kirk and McCoy enter the bridge. Spock turns, surprised and pleased, but masking it immediately.

SPOCK

Captain.

(CONTINUED)



69 CONTINUED:

69

CAMERA MOVES to CLOSER SHOT as Kirk steps very carefully down to his command chair. He tries to appear as though he is casually surveying the bridge. Actually, he is keeping precarious hold on his balance as spasms of dizziness grab at him. McCoy remains glued to Kirk's side, but doesn't dare offer a supporting hand. Spock comes down into the well of the bridge as Kirk reaches his chair and eases into it. The captain smiles at Spock, nodding approval.

KIRK

I'll take over, Spock. Report to sickbay with Doctor McCoy.

Spock has been studying Kirk closely. The Captain is pale and fighting off dizziness with conscious will.

SPOCK

Captain, are you quite all right?

McCOY

(testily)

I've certified him physically fit, Mister Spock. But if you'd like to examine his medical tapes...

SPOCK

(eyes Kirk  
and McCoy)

That will not be necessary.

McCOY

I have an operation to perform. And since both of us are required...

He gestures toward the elevator. Spock hesitates briefly, still studying Kirk.

KIRK

(kindly)

Get out of here, Spock.

Spock nods, moves quickly with McCoy toward the elevators. The doors open, and close firmly behind their exit.

70 EMPHASIZING KIRK

70

KIRK

Mister Chekov... what is the status of the intruder ship?

(CONTINUED)



McCOY

(testily)

I've certified him physically fit, Mister Spock. Now, I have an operation to perform. And since both of us are required...

He gestures toward the elevator. Spock hesitates briefly, still studying Kirk.

KIRK

(kindly)

Get out of here, Spock.

Spock nods, moves quickly with McCoy toward the elevators. The doors open, and close firmly behind their exit.

70

EMPHASIZING KIRK

70\*

KIRK

Mister Chekov... what is the status of the intruder ship?

CHEKOV

No change, sir. Maintaining its distance.

KIRK

(to Uhura)

Any further transmissions, Lieutenant?

UHURA

None, sir.

Kirk nods, relaxes a little ... and finds he has to pull himself together sharply as dizziness returns.

KIRK

Call Mister Scott to the bridge...

He is interrupted by Chekov, who has been reading his scanner and now straightens sharply.

CHEKOV

Captain, the alien vessel is moving closer!

KIRK

Belay that last order, Lieutenant Uhura. I'm staying here.

(CONTINUED)

70 CONTINUED:

70

CAMERA MOVES IN on Kirk... sweating now... blinking frequently to fight off the spasms of weakness. He raises his hand to wipe his brow and finds he is shaking. Suddenly Uhura tenses over her panel.

UHURA

Captain... I'm picking up the alien signal again. But it's coming from inside the Enterprise.

KIRK

Specific origin?

UHURA

(whirls knob;  
reading)

From the brig, sir!

She turns to him for orders, just as he is wracked by another dizzy, sweating spell. Presses button to talk.

KIRK

Security... Security to the brig.

(controls self)

Search the prisoner immediately.

71 thru 72 OMITTED

71 thru 72

73 INT. EXAMINATION ROOM - CLOSE - SPOCK

73\*

He lies on an examination table, bare chested. With his look, CAMERA PANS to the device on his arm. From the device CAMERA FOLLOWS transparent tube carrying his green blood to a wall computer.

CAMERA PANS to a second computer, follows the tube from it to the Jefferies Separator. HOLD on the green Spock blood entering the separator, an orange portion dropping down to a bottle labeled 'Waste Factors', CAMERA NOW FOLLOWS another tube which carries blood of a brighter green hue to a device on Sarek's arm. Sarek is anesthetized.

McCOY'S VOICE

Readings, Nurse.

73A CLOSE SHOT - McCOY & SAREK AT SURGICAL TABLE

73A\*

In the b.g. Christine consults the Life Support Panel. Sarek is covered with a cryosurgical frame. McCoy operates through the top of the frame. In the b.g. we see Spock. Christine checks his function panel. Amenda stands in the doorway.

(CONTINUED)



73A CONTINUED:

73A\*

CHRISTINE

Mr. Spock's blood reproduction rate is up over two hundred per cent.

(checks Sarek's panel)

Sarek's heart beat has risen to 324. Blood pressure 90 over 40... dropping.

McCOY

I wish I were sure whether that's good or bad.

(to Christine)

Initiate sterile field.

Christine flicks a switch on the cryosurgical box. A faint hum. A flow of light from the top of the box. Spock stirs, lifts his head as something occurs to him. McCoy turns.

McCOY

(continuing;  
sharply)

Where do you think you're going?

SPOCK

I must see the captain.

McCoy nods to Christine, who picks up a syringe.

McCOY

My patients don't walk out in the middle of the operation.

He nods. Christine injects the hypo.

SPOCK

That unknown vessel out there. I just realized that, if their power utilization curve does not follow the norm, it should be possible to deduce who they are.

(drowsily)

It is... is very important.

McCOY

So is your father's life.

Despite his best efforts, Spock's eyes close.

CUT TO:



74 INT. BRIG - ANGLE ON THELEV

74

He is being unceremoniously searched by Josephs and a security guard. He does not seem to mind, until Josephs touches the delicate antenna on his head. Then he wrenches away, fighting... striking out like a cornered rat. Security guard draws his phaser and fires. (Optical Phaser effect). The Andorian drops like a sack of grain.

75 CLOSER ON THELEV

75

as the guards come in to examine the antennae. The tip end of one breaks off in Josephs' hands, and the two men look at each other, startled, then Josephs runs for a wall communicator.

76 INT. BRIDGE - ANGLE ON KIRK

76\*

in his command chair, still weak, holding together with will alone. Buzz. Kirk hits button.

KIRK

Kirk here.

JOSEPHS' VOICE

(filtered)

Security. I had to stun the Andorian. He has some sort of transceiver, sir. It was in his antennae.

At that moment, Chekov tenses in his chair.

CHEKOV

Captain, the alien ship has changed course and speed. Moving directly toward us at Warp 8.

KIRK

(to speaker)

Bring the prisoner to the bridge.

(to Chekov)

Deflectors on. Red Alert. Phasers stand by for fire on my signal.

Chekov hits the red alert button. The Alarm starts.

CHEKOV

(hits button)

Aye, sir. Shields on... phasers manned and ready.

(CONTINUED)

76 CONTINUED:

76\*

KIRK  
(to ensign)  
Chekov, take over Spock's scanners.

As Chekov goes to Spock's station, an Ensign takes the helm.

53  
RODDENBERRY.COM

76 INT. BRIDGE - ANGLE ON KIRK

76

in his command chair, still weak, holding together with will alone. Buzz. Kirk hits button.

KIRK

Kirk here.

JOSEPH'S VOICE

(filtered)

Security here. The Andorian had some sort of transceiver sir. It was in his antenna...

At that moment, Chekov tenses in his chair.

CHEKOV

Captain, the alien ship has changed course and speed. Moving directly toward us at Warp 8.

KIRK

(to speaker)

Bring the prisoner to the bridge.

(to Chekov)

Deflectors on. Red Alert. Phasers stand by for fire on my signal.

A Yeoman hits the red alert button. The Alarm starts.

CHEKOV

(hits button)

Aye, sir. Shields on... phasers manned and ready.

KIRK

(to Ensign)

Ensign, relieve Mr. Chekov.

Chekov goes to Spock's station.

77 INSERT - VIEW SCREEN (MEASURE)

77

A blip appears, flashes by, looming large, but only a blur at this speed. (Same as Scene 24).

78 BACK TO SHOT

78

Suddenly the bridge is SLAMMED and ROCKED under impact of attack. Crew personnel hang on, quickly regain stations.

(CONTINUED)



81

CONTINUED:

KIRK

Standard phasers. Good. They've got more speed but they're not giants.

81\*

UHURA

Captain, the intercom is jammed. All the Ambassadors are asking what's going on.

KIRK

Tell them to... tell them to take a good guess, but clear that board, Lieutenant!

UHURA

Aye, sir.

The Ship SHAKES AGAIN furiously.

CUT TO:

82

INT. EXAMINATION ROOM - ON OPERATING TABLE

82

~~McCoy and Christine balancing against the shock. The Nurse hesitates, fumbling for an instrument McCoy wants. McCoy looks ceilingward angrily as another SHOCK hits.~~

McCOY

Another one like that and I'm going to lose both these men!

82A

SHOT - AMANDA

82A

Afraid... anxious... helpless. The ship SLAMS again as we:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

82AA EXT. ENTERPRISE (STOCK)

82AA

as she takes a hit.

83 INT. BRIDGE - FULL

83\*

The bridge SLAMS and SHAKES violently. Kirk has to hang on, due more to weakness than anything else.

CHEKOV

Fire control locked into the computers, Captain.

KIRK

On my order, fire photon torpedoes ... two, four and six... set for widest possible scatter.

CHEKOV

Aye, sir.

84 INSERT - VIEWING SCREEN (MEASURE)

84

The blip appears once more, this time approaching on a curving trajectory. Approach speed is very high... blurring the shape and outline of the ship. As it reaches screen center:

85 INT. BRIDGE - ANGLE ON COMMAND POSITIONS

85\*

KIRK

Fire!

Chekov hits buttons; the ship SHUDDERS a little under the released power of the torpedoes.

85A EXT. ENTERPRISE

85A

as she fires a spread of photon torpedoes.

85B INT. BRIDGE

85B\*

CHEKOV

Photon torpedoes away.

He looks up at the viewscreen.

85C VIEWSCREEN (STOCK)

85C

as photon torpedoes explode in space.

85D INT. BRIDGE

85D

CHEKOV

Full spread missed, sir. They're moving too fast for us.

Before Kirk can react, the ship SLAMS and ROCKS UNDER another impact. The lights and panels flicker.

CUT TO:

86

&

87

OMITTED

86

&

87

88

INT. EXAMINATION ROOM - ON OPERATING TABLE

88\*

Christine glances up at the body functions panel. The heart indicator has dived to zero.

CHRISTINE

Doctor, his heart's stopped.

McCOY

(quickly checks)

Cardiostimulate.

89

OMITTED

89

90

SHOT - AMANDA

90

Nothing she can do but stare in anguish.

91

ANGLE ON OPERATING TABLE

91

Christine has quickly hooked in a machine which is working. The ship BUCKS and staggers heavily again. The lights and systems go BLACK.

Lights come on almost immediately... but the key machines stay silent. Christine clicks a switch on the cardiostimulator... nothing happens. She tries it again, a little frantic.

(CONTINUED)



88 CONTINUED:

88

CHRISTINE

Doctor...!

McCOY

(quickly checks)

His heart stopped. Hook in the  
cardiostimulator.

CHRISTINE

Yes, sir.

89 SHOT - INCLUDING SPOCK

89

The ship SLAMS again... McCoy and Christine grab for  
support. As it subsides, Spock starts to rise.

SPOCK

Doctor, may I suggest that you --

McCOY

(harshly)

Shut up. And lie still.

This is a man at work, and Spock subsides. He raises  
his head a little to look toward Amanda, who stands  
at the door between sickbay and examination room.

90 SHOT - AMANDA

90

Nothing at all she can do... nothing she can even  
contribute... and bitterly anguished.

91 ANGLE ON OPERATIONG TABLE

91

Christine has quickly hooked in a machine which is  
working. The ship BUCKS and staggers heavily again.  
The lights and systems go BLACK.

Lights come on almost immediately... but the key  
machines stay silent. Christine clicks a switch  
on the cardiostimulator... nothing happens. She  
tries it again, a little frantic.

CHRISTINE

All the systems are off...

McCOY

Get me that portable cardiostimulator.

She turns quickly, takes a small odd-shaped instrument  
from an instrument drawer nearby. This should not be  
any of the instruments we have seen before. She hands  
it to him, and as he snaps it on (APPROPRIATE SOUND EFFECT):

91 CONTINUED:

91

McCOY  
(continuing)  
Call Engineering and put priority  
call on the Sickbay systems.

CHRISTINE

Yes, sir.

She hurries to wall intercom near Amanda.

92 CLOSE ON McCOY

92

Leaning over Sarek... slowly, carefully beginning  
heart massage with the instrument. (SOUND OVER.)  
Light glows from the cryosurgical box.

93 SHOT - SPOCK

93

He twists his neck to stare up at the body functions  
panel which is still registering.

94 INSERT - BODY FUNCTIONS PANEL

94

All indicators slowly sagging down.

95 CLOSE - McCOY

95

Working on Sarek. Perspiration beginning to bead on  
his face with his effort.

96 SHOT - AMANDA

96

Tears have crept into her eyes... pain beyond words  
sketched on her face.

97 SHOT - BODY FUNCTIONS PANEL

97

No indication of reaction.

CUT TO:

97A INT. BRIDGE - ANGLE ON KIRK

97A

Kirk is still weak here, but performing well under the  
pressure of crisis. The ship SLAMS again under attack.  
Red lights throb on Chekov's console with insistent  
urgency.

(CONTINUED)



97A CONTINUED:

97A

CHEKOV  
Number four shield has buckled,  
sir...

KIRK  
Auxiliary power.

CHEKOV  
(works console)  
Switching over... shields firming  
up. Number four still weak, sir.  
If they hit us there again, it'll  
go altogether.

CUT TO:

98 INT. EXAMINATION ROOM - CLOSE ON MCCOY

98

Continuing heart massage. The ship SLAMS again,  
under attack. McCoy continues. Christine is beside  
him, but can be of no help.

99 SHOT - BODY FUNCTIONS PANEL

99

Suddenly the heart indicator begins to nudge its way  
up slowly. Other indicators also start to move.

99A SHOT - CHRISTINE

99A

She glances up at the panel, reacts in relief and  
pleasure as the panel registers more strongly.

100 SHOT - SPOCK

100

Lets out a breath he is surprised to find he'd been  
holding in anxiety.

101 SHOT - AMANDA

101

Leans her head against the door frame in relief.

102 WIDER ANGLE - OPERATING TABLE

102

Sarek is beginning to breathe on his own again.  
Christine glances around as the cardiostimulator  
and other systems start to go on. McCoy grimaces  
at them in disgust.

(CONTINUED)



102 CONTINUED:

102

McCOY

Machines...

(to Christine)

Nurse, I need some help here.

As Christine gathers herself and begins to hand him the instruments he requires:

CUT TO:

103 OMITTED

103

104 INT. BRIDGE - INCLUDING ELEVATOR

104

as the doors snap open and Josephs and Security Guard pull Thelev in and down to face Kirk. The Captain turns to Thelev harshly, without ceremony.

KIRK

Your friends out there are good  
... But they'll have to blast  
this ship to dust to win.

THELEV

That was intended from the  
beginning, Captain.

KIRK

You're not an Andorian. What  
did it take to make you over?

Another jolting SLAM... and another.

UHURA

Damage reports coming in, sir.  
(shakes head)  
I can't correlate them all.  
Every deck reporting...

KIRK

Relay General Order Seven,  
Lieutenant. Damage control  
procedures on all decks.

105 CLOSER - KIRK & THELEV

105

as the Captain turns to him.

(CONTINUED)

KIRK

That ship out there carries phaser weapons. It's highly unlikely aliens from another galaxy would have developed weapons exactly like ours.

Thelev reacts. More and heavier SHOCKS.

CHEKOV

Shield two is gone, sir...

KIRK

(hits button)

Engineering... this is the Captain. Blank out all power on the port side of the ship except for phaser banks. On my signal, cut starboard power. Kirk out.

(to Thelev)

Who are you?

THELEV

Find your own answers, Captain. You haven't long to live.

KIRK

You're a spy, surgically altered to pass as an Andorian. You were planted in the Ambassador's party to use terror and murder to disrupt us and prepare for this attack.

THELEV

Speculation, Captain.

Another SHAKE as the ship is hit.

KIRK

(hits button)

Engineering, blank out starboard power... all decks. Maintain until further orders.

Thelev looks slightly alarmed as panels go out around them, and overhead lights dim appreciably.

THELEV

What are you doing?

KIRK

You speculate.

(CONTINUED)

111 BACK TO SHOT

111\*

CHEKOV

Range decreasing, sir. His  
speed dropping close to sublight...

KIRK

Hold your fire, Mr. Chekov.

112 WIDER ANGLE - ON BRIDGE

112\*

Crew personnel tense at their stations, watching the  
screen... throwing quick looks at Kirk... waiting.

CHEKOV

Alien now at sublight speed,  
sir... closing range one hundred  
thousand kilometers...

(hits button)

Phasers locked on target...

KIRK

Fire!

Chekov hits console controls with quick precision.

113 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (STOCK)

113

firing phasers.

114 INT. BRIDGE

114

everyone intent on the screen.

115 INSERT - VIEWSCREEN

115

The blip flares brightly.

116 INT. BRIDGE - ANGLE ON COMMAND POSITIONS

116

Thelev turns away as a jubilant shout goes up from  
Chekov.

CHEKOV

Got him!

KIRK

Lieutenant Uhura, open a  
hailing frequency. If they  
wish to surrender...

(CONTINUED)



111 BACK TO SHOT

111

CHEKOV

Range decreasing, sir. His  
speed dropping close to sublight...

KIRK

Hold your fire, Ensign.

112 WIDER ANGLE - ON BRIDGE

112

Crew personnel tense at their stations, watching the  
screen... throwing quick looks at Kirk... waiting.

CHEKOV

Alien now at sublight speed,  
sir... Closing range one hundred  
thousand kilometers...

(hits button)

Phasers locked on target...

KIRK

Fire!

The Ensign hits console controls with quick precision.

113 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (STOCK)

113

firing phasers.

114 INT. BRIDGE

114

Everyone intent on the screen.

115 INSERT - VIEW SCREEN

115

The blip flares brightly.

116 INT. BRIDGE - ANGLE ON COMMAND POSITIONS

116

Thelev turns away as a jubilant shout goes up from  
Chekov.

CHEKOV

Got him!

KIRK

Lieutenant Uhura, open a  
hailing frequency. If they  
wish to surrender...

(CONTINUED)

116 CONTINUED:

116

Suddenly a GLARING FLASH OF LIGHT bursts off the view-screen, sending our people ducking instinctively. As it dies away:

THELEV

They could not surrender,  
Captain.

117 INSERT - VIEW SCREEN

117

Normal space... black, dotted only with stars...  
nothing else.

THELEV'S VOICE

If we failed, each ship had  
orders to self-destruct.

118 BACK TO SHOT

118

KIRK

Each ship?

THELEV

Did you think you were so special,  
Captain? That you were the only  
target? All six starships carrying  
delegates to Babel were attacked  
at the same time.

KIRK

Lieutenant Uhura... verify with  
Star Fleet Command. Tell them  
we have a prisoner.

THELEV

Only temporarily, Captain. You  
see, I had self-destruct orders,  
too. Slow poison... quite painless,  
actually, but there is no known  
antidote. I anticipate another  
ten minutes of life.

KIRK

(harshly; to  
Security)

Take him to Sickbay.

Josephs and Guard come down to flank Thelev, move  
him up toward the elevator. As he reaches the door,  
he suddenly starts to sag, crumpling to his knees.

(CONTINUED)

120 INT. SICKBAY - FULL

120\*

Kirk enters, followed by McCoy. Sarek and Spock rest in adjoining beds. (One other bed is empty.) Both look pale and exhausted, but otherwise reasonably chipper. Amanda sits happily beside Sarek's bed.

McCOY

That pig-headed Vulcan stamina...  
I couldn't have pulled them through  
without it.

KIRK

Some doctors have all the luck.

121 CLOSER - KIRK, SPOCK, McCOY

121\*

SPOCK

Captain... I believe the alien...

KIRK

We damaged their ship... they  
destroyed it to avoid capture.  
Bones, Thelev's body is being  
brought to your lab. I want  
an autopsy as soon as possible.

SPOCK

I believe you'll find he's an  
Orion, Doctor.

McCOY

Orion?

SPOCK

There are intelligence reports  
that Orion smugglers have been  
raiding the Coridan system.

KIRK

But what do they gain with an  
attack on Starfleet?

122 ANOTHER ANGLE - INCLUDING SAREK

122\*

SAREK

Mutual suspicion and Inter-  
planetary War.

KIRK

(nods)

With Orion carefully neutral.  
She'd clean up by supplying dilithium  
to all sides... and continue to raid  
Coridan.

(CONTINUED)



122 CONTINUED:

122\*

SPOCK

It was the power utilization curve that confused me. It made it appear more powerful than a starship -- than anything known to us. That ship was constructed for a suicide mission. Since they never intended to return to base they could utilize one hundred percent power in their attacks. I cannot understand why I didn't realize it earlier.

KIRK

You might have had a few other things on your mind...

Looks at Sarek.

SPOCK

That does not seem likely.

KIRK

(wryly)

No. But thank you anyway.

AMANDA

(to Sarek)

And you, Sarek. Would you also say thank you to your son?

SAREK

I do not understand.

AMANDA

For saving your life.

SAREK

Spock behaved in the only logical manner open to him. One does not thank logic, Amanda.

AMANDA

(stiffens; explodes)

Logic! Logic! I am sick to death of logic. Do you want to know how I feel about your logic?

123 OMITTED

123

124 ANGLE ON SAREK AND SPOCK

124\*

The two Vulcans are studying the angry woman. Now Spock glances at his father and inquires quite conversationally.

SPOCK

Emotional, isn't she?

SAREK

She has always been that way.

SPOCK

Indeed? Why did you marry her?

SAREK

At the time, it seemed the logical thing to do.

Amanda stares at them, stunned. Kirk and McCoy grin. Amanda, startled, sees their reaction, then looks back at her Vulcans, realizing her leg is being pulled. A smile breaks over her face.

Kirk's smile suddenly stops. He grabs the edge of the table in a spasm of dizziness. Instantly, McCoy grabs him, guides him toward the third bed. Kirk protests weakly.

KIRK

Bones... really... I'm all right.

McCOY

If you keep arguing with your kindly family doctor, you'll spend the next ten days right here. Cooperate and you'll get out in two.

Kirk subsides in the bed, glaring at McCoy. In the second bed, Spock sits up a little.

SPOCK

If you don't mind, Doctor, I'll report to my own station now.

McCOY

You're at your station, Spock.

McCoy points firmly at the bed. Spock shrugs, settles back. McCoy surveys his three restive patients in satisfaction.

KIRK

Bones, I think you're enjoying this.

(CONTINUED)



123 CONTINUED:

123

AMANDA

(stiffens;  
explodes)

Logic! Logic! I am sick to death  
of logic. Do you want to know how  
I feel about your logic?

124 ANGLE ON SAREK AND SPOCK

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Spock glances at his father and inquires quite  
conversationally.

SPOCK

Emotional, isn't she?

SAREK

She has always been that way.

SPOCK

Indeed? Why did you marry her?

SAREK

At the time, it seemed the logical  
thing too.

Amanda stares at them, stunned. Kirk and McCoy break up.  
Amanda turns startled, then looks back at her Vulcans,  
realizing her leg is being pulled. A smile breaks over  
her face.

Kirk's laughter suddenly stops. He grabs the edge of  
the table in a spasm of dizziness. Instantly McCoy  
grabs him, guides him toward the third bed. Kirk  
protests weakly.

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McCOY

If you keep arguing with your  
kindly family Doctor, you'll spend  
the next ten days right here.  
Cooperate and you'll get out in  
two.

Kirk subsides in the bed, glaring at McCoy. In the  
second bed, Spock sits up a little.

SPOCK

If you don't mind, Doctor, I'll  
report to my own station now.

(CONTINUED)



124 CONTINUED:

124

McCOY

You're at your station, Spock.

McCoy points firmly at the bed. Spock shrugs, settles back. McCoy surveys his three restive patients in satisfaction.

KIRK

Bones, I think you're enjoying this.

SPOCK

Indeed, Captain. I've never seen him look so happy.

McCOY

Shut up.

They do.

125 OMITTED

125

126 CLOSE ON McCOY

126

McCOY

Well... what do you know? I finally got the last word.

127 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE

127

Moving away... on toward Babel.

FADE OUT.

THE END