

S T A R T R E K

"Yesteryear"

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STAR TREK

"Yesteryear"

CAST

CAPTAIN JAMES T. KIRK
MISTER SPOCK
DR. LEONARD "BONES" McCOY
MONTGOMERY SCOTT
ENSIGN CHEKOV

ON VULCAN:

SAREK OF VULCAN
AMANDA
YOUNG SPOCK (child)
THE HEALER
SEPEK (child)
SOFEK (child)
STARK (child)

ON THE TIME PLANET AND ENTERPRISE:

THELIN (Andorian)
ALEEK-OM (Aurelian)
GREY
ERICKSON

GUARDIAN OF FOREVER (voice only)

"Yesteryear"

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE - USS ENTERPRISE - IN ORBIT

The starship is in orbit around a silvery gray planet. There is a peculiar aura to the world below, a kind of shimmer which makes it seem even more unearthly than might be expected. Every once in a while, we see a RIPPLE shiver through the atmosphere between the planet and the ship.

KIRK'S VOICE

Captain's log, star date 5373.4. We are in orbit around the planet of the time vortex -- the focus of all the times lines of our galaxy.

EXT. PLANET - DAY - FULL SHOT - THE GUARDIAN OF FOREVER

It is a desolate landscape. Ruins of a city extend to the silvery horizon. In the near foreground is an alien artifact of great size. It is dark blue-gray in color. The shape resembles a lopsided doughnut, but its age and alienness make it anything but funny. This is the time portal, the cross-weave of time lines known as THE GUARDIAN OF FOREVER. Two historians named GREY and ALEEK-OM stand before the Guardian, taking notes on tricorders as the center of the vortex flashes a continual stream of images in some planet's history (Vulcan, as it will turn out). Grey is a human woman, dressed in a comfortable, practical jumpsuit. Aleek-om is a native of the planet Aurelia, and he is a bird-like creature of blue-green hue. He keeps his wings neatly folded along the line of his back and has a pair of short arms ending in a spread of delicately taloned claws. These do not stop him from operating a tricorder efficiently. DR. LEONARD MCCOY is also there, an interested onlooker.

KIRK'S VOICE

Our mission is to assist a team of historians in the investigation of Federation history....

CLOSER SHOT - THE GUARDIAN

We see the stream of pictures flickering past, too fast for the human eye to distinguish exactly what they are.

(continued)

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

Suddenly, the Guardian speaks. (It throbs with LIGHT with each syllable.)

GUARDIAN

The travelers are returning.

GREY

Cease review.

The stream of pictures STOPS. The center area of the Guardian fills with a drifting silvery mist.

CLOSE SHOT - THE GUARDIAN'S TIME PORTAL

A figure appears, ~~FADING~~ IN to solidify as it comes leaping from the middle background of the vortex into the foreground. It is CAPTAIN JAMES T. KIRK. He is followed by an historian named ERICKSON, a small, intense man. Then we see a familiar tall, lanky form coming through -- MISTER SPOCK.

FULL SHOT - THE GROUP

The two historians and McCoy stare at Mr. Spock. Kirk and Erickson do not seem to notice. Kirk is enthusiastic:

KIRK

(to McCoy)

What a trip, Bones! Orion at the dawn of its civilization! I was afraid to pick up a seashell for fear of changing time lines, but....

CLOSE ON KIRK

as he realizes the others are not paying attention. They are staring at Spock, puzzled.

KIRK

What's the matter? Bones?

CLOSE ON MCCOY

He shakes his head and points at Spock.

MCCOY

Who's he, Jim?

TWO SHOT - KIRK AND SPOCK

Kirk looks at Spock, amazed. Spock's eyebrows arch up in bemusement...as close to looking puzzled as he will ever come. Kirk turns back to McCoy.

KIRK

What do you mean, "who's he"? You know Mister Spock.

CLOSE SHOT - MCCOY

MCCOY

(shakes head again)
'Fraid I don't, Jim.

CLOSE SHOT - SPOCK

Just a touch...the veriest hint...of annoyance around the edges.

SPOCK

I am not amused, Doctor.

GROUP SHOT - KIRK, SPOCK, MCCOY

MCCOY

I'm not being funny, Mister.

Kirk is plainly angry as he pushes forward, toward McCoy.

KIRK

All right, Bones, I've had enough of this game.
(flips open communicator)
Transporter Room, this is Captain Kirk. Three to beam up.

SCOTT'S VOICE

(filtered)
Aye sir.

CUT TO:

INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM - CLOSE ON TRANSPORTER CHAMBER

The Transporter Chamber THROBS with LIGHT and begins its SOUND EFFECT. Three piles of glowing sparkles begin to form in the TRANSPORTER EFFECT, finally materializing into Kirk, McCoy and Spock.

REVERSE POV - AT TRANSPORTER CONSOLE - SCOTT

CHIEF ENGINEER MONTGOMERY SCOTT is operating the transporter controls. He looks very surprised as he sees who has materialized in the chamber.

SCOTT

Captain...I was expecting it to be one of the historians with you. But a Vulcan ---

FULL SHOT - GROUP

KIRK

That will be enough, Mister Scott.

SCOTT

(frowning, confused)

Sir?

CLOSE SHOT - KIRK

as he steps down from the transporter chamber. O.S.
SOUND of the Transporter Room DOORS SLIDING OPEN AND SHUT as:

KIRK

(angrily)

I'm ordering you to stop playing games with the dignity of my First Officer. I don't know who started it ---

THELIN'S VOICE

Captain, I assure you my dignity is quite intact.

Kirk snaps a startled look o.s. (to his right).

FULL SHOT - THELIN

THELIN stands just inside the Transporter Room entrance. He is an Andorian, clad in Star Fleet uniform with blue shirt (Sciences) and with a Commander's stripes on his sleeves. Andorians are slim, almost fragile-looking humanoids with pale blue skin and silver hair. Two slightly curved antennae which end in little flared knobs adorn their heads. These are their listening organs; therefore, no ears are in evidence. When an Andorian listens to anyone speak, he bows his head slightly to get maximum "receiving". Andorian speech is accented, softly spoken and deliberate. By heritage, Andorians are a savage race of warriors, and their agility and strength belie their slender builds.

THREE SHOT - KIRK, SPOCK, MCCOY

Kirk is stunned at the sight of the Andorian.

KIRK
Who are you?

McCoy has remained in the background until this moment, now answers Kirk wryly:

MCCOY
I thought sure you'd know
Thelin by now, Jim. He's
been your First Officer for
five years.

CLOSE TWO - KIRK AND SPOCK

Spock is the first to break the silence. He calmly turns to Kirk and:

SPOCK
Captain, I have come to the
conclusion this is not a game.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BRIEFING ROOM - GROUP SHOT

Seated around the conference table are the historian, Erickson, Kirk, Spock, and Thelin. Erickson is busy consulting his tricorder readings as we come in. He looks up at Kirk and shakes his head.

ERICKSON
Nothing. I can't find one
thing we did when we were in
the vortex that could possibly
have changed any time lines.

KIRK
But something was changed.

CLOSE SHOT - SPOCK

SPOCK
It seems, Captain, I am the
only one affected. The mission,
the ship, the crew...except for
myself...remain the same.

THREE SHOT - KIRK, SPOCK, THELIN

The three-sided view screen on the table sits before them. The distinctive BOSUN'S WHISTLE intership signal SOUNDS, and Kirk flips a switch on the table top.

KIRK

Kirk here.

CLOSE SHOT - THREE SIDED VIEW SCREEN

We see only one side of the triangular apparatus, but the view is the same on all sides. The screen FLASHES UP a picture of ENSIGN CHEKOV.

CHEKOV

Sir, we've checked the Star Fleet records Commander Thelin asked for.

KIRK'S VOICE

Your findings?

CHEKOV

There is no Vulcan named Spock serving with Star Fleet in any capacity.

CLOSE SHOT - SPOCK

One eyebrow rises; that's all.

CLOSE SHOT - THELIN

THELIN

Did you also research the Vulcan family history requested?

CHEKOV'S VOICE

Yes sir. I can relay that to your screen.

CLOSE SHOT - THREE-SIDED VIEW SCREEN

Chekov pushes an o.s. button and his image flashes OFF SCREEN, replaced by a still picture of a distinguished looking Vulcan male in formal ambassadorial attire.

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

CHEKOV'S VOICE
Sarek of Vulcan. Ambassador
to seventeen Federation planets
in the past thirty years.

TWO SHOT - SPOCK AND KIRK

SPOCK
That is not correct....

KIRK
It is in this case.

SPOCK
(to viewer)
I wish to ask a question.
What of Sarek's family --
his wife and son?

CLOSE SHOT - THREE-SIDED VIEWER

The photo of Sarek FLIPS OFF and is REPLACED by a still
picture of a lovely human woman in her early thirties.
She is fair-haired, slim, one of those women who will
always look youthful, no matter what her age.

CHEKOV'S VOICE
Amanda, wife of Sarek. Born
on Earth as Amanda Grayson.

TWO SHOT - KIRK AND SPOCK

Kirk looks at Spock sympathetically as:

CHEKOV'S VOICE
The couple separated after
the death of their son.

CLOSE ON SPOCK

CHEKOV'S VOICE
The wife was killed in a
shuttle accident at Lunaport
on her way home to Earth.
Ambassador Sarek has not
remarried.

Spock is very still for a beat, then he speaks with a
slight catch in his voice that could be emotion...if
we didn't know better.

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

SPOCK

The son...what was his name
and age when he died?

CHEKOV'S VOICE

Spock. Age seven.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PLANET - DAY - GROUP SHOT - AT GUARDIAN

The group includes the historians Grey and Aleek-om, Kirk, Spock, and Thelin. The Guardian of Forever is quiescent in the background, with only the silvery white mist drifting lazily in its center area.

KIRK

(to historians)

If we didn't change anything
while we were in the time
vortex, something else must
have happened. Was the Guardian
in use while we were gone?

THREE SHOT - GREY, KIRK, SPOCK

GREY

Yes, but it was nothing unusual.
We were scanning recent Vulcan
history....

SPOCK

What time period?

GREY

Twenty to thirty Vulcan
years past.

KIRK

Was there any notation on
the death of Ambassador
Sarek's son?

WIDER ANGLE

Aleek-om checks his tricorder, delicately working its controls with taloned claws. We HEAR a HUM from the tricorder as he runs it back, then he stops it, and looks up at Kirk.

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

ALEEK-OM

Yes. The boy is recorded as dying during the...maturity test....

SPOCK

(to Kirk)

The Kahs-wan. A survival test traditional for young males.

ALEEK-OM

The date was ---

SPOCK

(interrupting)

The twentieth day of Tasmeen.

THELIN

How do you know this?

CLOSE ON SPOCK

SPOCK

(pause; then;)

That was the day my cousin saved my life in the desert.

TWO SHOT - KIRK AND SPOCK

KIRK

This cousin...what was his name?

SPOCK

(frowns)

I do not recall clearly... I was very young. He called himself...Selek, a common name in my father's family. He was visiting us. But I never saw him after that...nor did any of my family.

KIRK

Speck...did Selek look... like you do now?

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

SPOCK
(considers, then
nods slowly)
I believe so, Captain. And
I know what you are thinking.
It was I who saved myself that
other time.

KIRK
But this time, you were in
Orion's past with us when Vulcan
history was replayed -- so you
died as a boy.
(turns toward Guardian)
Guardian! Did you hear that?

ANGLE ON THE GUARDIAN

It comes to life, glowing with each syllable of its
response.

GUARDIAN
I hear all.

CLOSE ON KIRK

KIRK
Is it possible for Spock to
return to Vulcan and repair
the time line that has been
broken?

FULL SHOT - THE GUARDIAN

GUARDIAN
It is possible..if no other
major factor is changed.

TWO SHOT - KIRK AND SPOCK

Kirk turns to Spock questioningly. Spock shakes his
head slightly.

SPOCK
I do not remember everything.
There is a vague memory from
a child's point of view, but
the details are not clear.

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

KIRK

You have to remember -- to exist.

CLOSE ON SPOCK

SPOCK

(nods slowly)

Yes. I will need a Vulcan desert soft-suit and boots and a small selection of street wear, circa 8877 Vulcan years. The carry bag should be of the same period.

TWO SHOT - KIRK AND SPOCK

KIRK

You've got it. I'll order the Wardrobe Section to prepare it now.

Kirk moves OUT OF SHOT, flipping open his communicator. The two historians also discreetly move away.

ANOTHER ANGLE - INCLUDING SPOCK AND THELIN

Thelin in b.g., Spock in f.g. The Andorian studies Spock thoughtfully, then moves closer to him.

THELIN

This change in the time line will put you in my place. Yet I am not aggrieved.

SPOCK

Andorians are not known for their charity.

THELIN

True. A warrior race has few sympathies. But one we do possess is for family. In your time plane, you will live and so will your family. That is valuable.

(gives Vulcan hand salute)

Live long and prosper in your world, Commander Spock.

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

SPOCK
(returns gesture)
And you in yours, Commander
Thelin.

ANOTHER ANGLE - OPEN AREA

TRANSPORTER EFFECT begins to APPEAR, but not a very large image. When the EFFECT FADES, there is a Vulcan carry bag -- small and efficient -- resting on the ground. Kirk ENTERS SHOT, picks up the bag.

WIDER ANGLE - KIRK, SPOCK, THELIN

Kirk brings the carry bag to Spock, hands it to him.

KIRK
Nice to know the crew is
efficient in this time plane,
too.
(pauses, holds out hand)
Spock.

Spock clasps his hand firmly. Old friends, they don't need too many words to understand each other. Spock turns and moves OUT OF SHOT toward the Guardian. Kirk and Thelin watch him go.

FULL SHOT - SPOCK AT GUARDIAN

SPOCK
Activate for planet Vulcan,
thirty Vulcan years past, the
month of Tasmeen. Location...
near the city of Shikahr.

CLOSE SHOT - GUARDIAN

The mist in its center dissolves and begins to FLASH pictures of a hot, dry, yellow-orange world.

GUARDIAN
The time and place are ready
to receive you.

FULL SHOT - SPOCK AND GUARDIAN

Spock does not hesitate...runs forward to leap through the time portal and FADE OUT of our sight.

EXT. VULCAN - DAY - FULL SHOT

Spock appears, FADING IN to our view as he completes the leap he began on the time planet. The landscape behind him is desert -- harsh ocre yellows and umber browns dominating. In the far background, a range of forbidding black mountains claws up. The atmosphere is thin on this planet...no clouds soften the orangy red of the sky. Spock turns to see:

LONG SHOT - Shikahr

The city seems to grow from the desert, protected by a wide barrier of landscaped park from encroachment by the arid sands. Foliage and vegetation tend toward the softer and warmer hues of yellow, orange and brown, with a few sparkles of pink and an occasional purple, blue or green (beds of flowers imported from other planets). The city itself is old, built by a highly intelligent and logical race. The buildings are of many geometric shapes and combinations of soft colors...all architecturally sound and carefully planned to present an aesthetically pleasing look.

FULL SHOT - SPOCK

City in b.g. Here he is...home...thirty years "ago". From here on, his very existence depends on what he does. He squares his shoulders and begins to walk toward the city.

FADE OUT:

(END OF ACT ONE)

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. VULCAN STREET - DAY - FULL SHOT - SPOCK

He has changed from Star Fleet uniform to the Vulcan desert soft-suit and boots. Everything else is in the carry bag. The soft-suit and boots are dust repellent. The suit is form fitting, no excess material to get in the way, a light color to stand out against the dark yellows and browns of the landscape. The boots are black, supple, rising over the legs of the soft-suit to mid-calf height. This street is a walking street, for pedestrians only. It is quiet, tree shaded, meant for serene appreciation. High walls keep homes and gardens secluded, but delicate, symmetrical blossoms on vines trail over the walls, brightening the scene. On a main artery behind Spock, we may see ground car activity ...sleek vehicles which ride a cushion of air. Spock stops as he hears a clamor of young voices.

SEPEK'S VOICE

Earther! Barbarian, emotional
Earther!

Spock moves to a corner where a high wall fronts on an intersection of paths. There is a gate behind him, important later.

SPOCK'S POV - YOUNG SPOCK AND VULCAN CHILDREN

There is a gateway to the garden here too, and a very young SPOCK stands before it, trying to tolerate the cold taunts of three other Vulcan boys -- SEPEK, STARK, and SOPEK. Sepek is larger, probably a year or so older than the others.

STARK

You're a Terran, Spock. You
could never be a true Vulcan!

YOUNG SPOCK

(tight, holding temper)
That is not true. My father ---

SEPEK

(makes it sound dirty)
Your father brought shame to
Vulcan. He married a human.

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

That does it. Young Spock rushes forward furiously, arms flailing, to swing on his tormentors. Sepek, nearest and biggest, easily ducks young Spock's undisciplined and angry haymaker, deftly trips him backward. Young Spock unceremoniously lands on his backside in the dirt -- an action more humiliating than harmful to him.

SEPEK

You haven't even mastered a simple Vulcan neck pinch yet
...Earthier.

The three Vulcan boys walk away, leaving young Spock sitting on the ground, alone and insulted.

CLOSE SHOT - SPOCK

He is pained to see his younger self...reliving the difficult moments of his childhood.

LONG SHOT - YOUNG SPOCK - OVER SPOCK'S SHOULDER.

The boy gets to his feet and runs into the garden enclosure, SLAMMING the gate behind him. Then, suddenly, Spock HEARS the deceptively quiet, unhurried voice he would recognize in an instant anywhere.

SAREK'S VOICE

My apologies, visitor.

Spock TURNS INTO CAMERA, his face betraying no emotion.

MED. FULL SHOT - SAREK

SAREK OF VULCAN looks very much like the picture of him seen earlier, but he has less gray in his hair and eyebrows, a few less age lines in his face. He is a tall, broadshouldered Vulcan, obviously in physical trim. His sharply planed, strong features and deepset eyes make him attractive. He is seventy-three (Earth) years old ...in the prime of Vulcan life. His clothes always are subdued, neutral colors, brightened only by the badge of office he wears.

SAREK

I regret you were witness to that unfortunate display of emotion on the part of my son.

TWO SHOT - SAREK AND SPOCK

They look much alike, these two. Spock holds up his right hand in the Vulcan hand salute.

SPOCK

In the family, all is silence.
No more will be said of it.
Live long and prosper, Sarek
of Vulcan.

SAREK

(returns gesture)
Peace and long life.
(studies him)
You are of my family?

SPOCK

My name is...Selek. A humble
cousin descended of T'Pel and
Sasak. I am journeying to the
family shrine to honor our gods.

SAREK

You have a long way to go.
Will you break your journey
with us a while, cousin?

SPOCK

I am honored.

He is very much aware of Sarek's close scrutiny of him,
but he can't avoid it.

SPOCK (continuing)

Is something wrong, cousin?

SAREK

No. ..no. It was only that
it seemed I knew you.

SPOCK

A family resemblance to
our forefathers, no doubt.

SAREK

No doubt. Well, come then.
Allow me to welcome you to
my home.

He leads Spock toward the gate behind them, not the one
young Spock used.

CUT TO:

EXT. GARDEN - DAY - CLOSE ON YOUNG SPOCK

The boy is buried against a vast, shaggy wall of fur. It could be he is crying, but we HEAR NO SOUND. CAMERA PULLS BACK TO REVEAL the wall of fur is actually the accommodating flank of young Spock's pet sehlat, I-CHAYA (pronounced Ee-chiya). A sehlat looks something like a giant teddy bear...with six inch fangs. It is not cute ...a sehlat can be dangerous as hell. If you make a wrong move, a sehlat will probably rip your arm off... but Vulcans never make wrong moves. That would be illogical. This particular sehlat has a brown coat frosted with patches of grizzled beige, and one of his worn, yellow fangs is broken off at the tip, indicating he is aging. Young Spock has had him all his (Spock's) life, and it is very clear the boy loves his pet.

SAREK'S VOICE

Spock.

Young Spock slowly detaches himself from the safe haven of I-Chaya's massive side and gets to his feet.

TWO SHOT - SAREK AND YOUNG SPOCK

Young Spock presents himself to his father in the proper attitude of respect...straight backed, chin up, hands clasped behind his back. Sarek looks at him and shakes his head slightly.

SAREK

Spock, being Vulcan means following disciplines and philosophies that are difficult and demanding of both mind and body.

YOUNG SPOCK

Yes, father.

SAREK

Your schoolwork has been disgraceful...you constantly display your emotions...you have even been seen fighting in the street.

YOUNG SPOCK

Personal combat is not dishonorable.

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

SAREK

Brawling like a common deckhand
off a freighter is.

YOUNG SPOCK

(head down)

Yes, Father.

CLOSE ON SAREK

He lifts his eyes briefly in a tiny display of disgust.
That meek "Yes, Father" is getting to him.

CUT TO:

INT. SAREK'S DWELLING - DAY - ANGLE ON SPOCK

From what we see of the house, it is typically Vulcan in design...efficient but serene. On the other hand, there are touches of Amanda's Earthwoman influence...a cascade of blue flowers from a flower box built into the wall... a brightly colored handmade afghan casually tossed over a chair...and books on shelves. Real books...books to handle and read, not to be flashed up page by page on a reader viewer. Spock stands by a large open doorway which leads out to the garden...where we FAINTLY HEAR the sounds of Sarek and Spock discussing matters. He TURNS as:

AMANDA'S VOICE

I hope you were not disturbed
by my son's behavior, Selek.

WIDER ANGLE - TO INCLUDE AMANDA

AMANDA, wife of Sarek, is as lovely as her picture. She is intelligent, gentle, and gracious. More than that, she understands much of the difficulty her son is going through now. She too lives with it constantly.

SPOCK

No, my lady Amanda. Any child
has much to learn. My...young
cousin has a more difficult
road to travel than others.

AMANDA

(studies him closely)

You seem to understand him
better than my husband.

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

SPOCK

It is difficult for a father to bear less than perfection in his son. Spock will find his way.

(pause)

He goes through the Kahs-wan soon, does he not?

AMANDA

Next month.

Spock stares at her, startled.

SPOCK

But tomorrow is the twentieth day of Tasmeeen.

AMANDA

(puzzled)

Yes. Is something wrong?

SPOCK

I seem...to have lost track of time.

CUT TO:

EXT. GARDEN - DAY - TWO SHOT - YOUNG SPOCK AND SAREK

Young Spock still stands in the respectful attitude before his father...it's been a long lecture.

SAREK

Soon you will undergo your test of adulthood in the desert. To survive for ten days without food, water, or weapon on Vulcan's Forge will demand more of you than anything ever has. To fail once is not a disgrace...for others.

Young Spock lowers his eyes, looks down at the ground as:

SAREK

If you fail...there will be those who will call you coward all your life. I do not expect you to fail.

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

YOUNG SPOCK
(up at Sarek)
What if I do, Father?

SAREK
There is no need to ask
that question. You will
not disappoint me. Not
if you are a Vulcan.

He turns abruptly then and walks OUT OF SHOT, leaving
young Spock alone.

ANGLE ON YOUNG SPOCK AND I-CHAYA

The boy turns to the sehlat, who has dozed patiently
in background throughout scene. The big animal stirs
as young Spock sits down beside him.

YOUNG SPOCK
I-Chaya...what if I'm not
a true Vulcan like they say?

The sehlat SNUFFLES and GRUNTS, nosing at him with rough
affection. Young Spock puts his arms around as much of
the huge animal as he can reach and hugs him hard.

CUT TO:

INT. SAREK'S DWELLING - DAY - ANGLE ON SPOCK

watching his young self from the open doorway, feeling
his pain and unable to help now.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SPOCK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT - CLOSE ON SMALL TRICORDER

It is held in Spock's hand.

SPOCK'S VOICE
Personal log, star date 5373.9,
subjective time.

CAMERA ANGLE WIDENS TO REVEAL Spock sitting on the edge
of the built-in bed in a small room. The window is
shuttered, a lamp glows softly from the wall. Spock
is dressed in a simple toga-like robe of pale yellow,
obviously sleepwear. He keeps his voice low as he
records the personal log:

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

SPOCK

The time line seems to have changed again. Yet I do not believe I have done anything to disrupt it. My memory is quite clear regarding the date my cousin saved my life... and it is tomorrow.

EXT. GARDEN - NIGHT - FULL SHOT - AT DWELLING

A door opens quietly, and young Spock steals out. He is dressed in a desert soft-suit and boots, but he carries nothing. He closes the door behind him and cautiously looks around before moving further. There is a RUSTLE in the shrubbery near the house, and the boy freezes.

CLOSE SHOT - AT BUSHES

I-Chaya rises and pads out into view, SNUFFLING, like an old man with a sinus condition.

CLOSE SHOT- YOUNG SPOCK

He shakes his head and holds up a hand, palm out, to I-Chaya. The sehlat stops at the hand signal, but continues his SNUFFLING.

YOUNG SPOCK

No, I-Chaya. I must do this alone. Stay.

He moves OUT OF SHOT, headed for the garden gate. I-Chaya looks after him, then lumbers right along behind him.

INT. SPOCK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT - CLOSE ON SPOCK

He is packing away the small tricorder, stashing it with the other items in the carry bag. Suddenly, his head comes up as realization hits him.

SPOCK

Of course! I should have remembered...it wasn't the actual Kahs-wan....

He quickly gathers and lays out the desert soft-suit and boots to change as we:

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. DESERT - DAWN - FULL SHOT - YOUNG SPOCK AND I-CHAYA

Young Spock is trotting easily over the hard-baked desert floor, heading for the rugged black mountains in the distance. He maintains an even pace, seemingly untired. I-Chaya trundles along behind him determinedly.

CLOSER - YOUNG SPOCK AND I-CHAYA

The boy stops and waits for I-Chaya to catch up. The sehlat promptly lies down in a "sphinx" position, regaining his energy, panting from exertion. Young Spock faces him sternly, hands on hips.

YOUNG SPOCK

I-Chaya, go home. You are too old and too fat for this.

I-Chaya looks at him mutely, puts his great head down on his forepaws, and patiently waits. Young Spock shakes his head.

YOUNG SPOCK (continuing)

That's how you always get around Mother, but it does not work with me. Go home, I-Chaya.

The sehlat does not budge. Finally, young Spock lifts his hands in a very human gesture of "I've done what I can", turns, and moves OUT OF SHOT at a trot. I-Chaya lurches to his feet and follows.

CUT TO:

EXT. DESERT (ANOTHER AREA) - DAWN - FULL SHOT - SPOCK

This area is distinguished from the place we saw young Spock by a high, sharp-edged rock projection thrusting up out of the desert floor. No vegetation or flora here ...only the wind off the desert plain swirling sand into occasional dust demons (something like miniature twisters). Spock is moving along at a methodical trot, not obviously tracking young Spock. He already knows where the boy is going...he's been there before.

CUT TO:

INT. SAREK'S DWELLING (MAIN ROOM) - DAY

Sarek is just ENTERING from the garden as Amanda hurries to him from some other part of the house.

AMANDA

Sarek, I've looked everywhere.
Spock and Selek are just gone.

SAREK

And I-Chaya.

AMANDA

(frowns)

I-Chaya...?

SAREK

He would go with Spock...
he always does. But this
cousin, Selek....
(shakes head)
...something strange about
him....

AMANDA

You don't think he'd harm
Spock?

SAREK

I don't know, Amanda. I
will notify the authorities
and ask them to initiate a
search.

On Amanda's worried expression:

CUT TO:

EXT. MOUNTAIN FOOTHILLS - DAY - ANGLE ON SPOCK

The desert abruptly ends, and the foothills of the forbidding black mountains begin. The rock formations are oddly shaped and piled, for while Vulcan is an old planet, its thin atmosphere keeps erosion to a minimum. Spock is climbing among the rugged rocks when he hears a SOUND ahead and stops, listening. The SOUND seems to have two notes...one a GROWLING SNARL and the other a high-pitched ANIMAL SCREAM...both indicate fury, rather than fear. Spock runs toward the SOUND.

EXT. ROCKY AREA - DAY - FULL SHOT

The sharp-edged black rocks form something of a natural amphitheatre here. Young Spock is scrambling for safety while a deadly Le-matya swipes at him with its venomous claws. A Le-matya is a creature resembling a mountain lion...but it is huge, has an almost impenetrable leathery gray hide, and the poison of its claws and fangs is lethal. It is the Le-matya who utters the furious high-pitched scream. Between the Le-matya and young Spock stands I-Chaya, snarling and growling. For a fat, aging animal, he manages to move very quickly...charging in on the other when it turns toward young Spock, delivering a slash with his yellowing old teeth, feinting back out of the way when the Le-matya turns its attention on him. Young Spock tries to distract the Le-matya away from the sehlat by YELLING and waving his arms, but the cat-like creature ignores him and charges at I-Chaya. The sehlat is bowled over, scrambles for a footing...and the two animals lock in a snarling, screaming tangle.

ANGLE ON SPOCK

He runs INTO SCENE, takes it in with one look, and moves directly for the two fighting animals.

ANGLE ON YOUNG SPOCK

watching...surprised to see his "cousin"...but more afraid for I-Chaya.

WIDE ANGLE - SPOCK AND THE TWO ANIMALS

The sehlat has his fangs buried in the Le-matya's leathery hide. He's not doing that much damage (no blood or open wound), but it's enough to keep the Le-matya off balance and away. Spock poises, looks for his chance, then leaps on the Le-matya's back. The beast HOWLS in rage and tries to shake him off. I-Chaya skitters back out of the way as the Le-matya tries to deal with Spock. The Le-matya SCREAMS again...it cannot reach Spock with its fangs or claws, nor can it rid itself of him. Spock reaches forward, administers the Vulcan neck pinch on the animal's neck near the join of the shoulder...and the Le-matya sinks to the ground, unconscious.

ANOTHER ANGLE

as young Spock jumps down from his perch on the rocks and runs across to the sehlat. I-Chaya is just getting to his feet as the boy reaches him and throws his arms around the big animal's neck. The sehlat seems to be unharmed.

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED.

YOUNG SPOCK
I-Chaya...good boy...good
old boy....

Spock dusts himself off and clears his throat.

SPOCK
I suggest we move away from
this area before the Le-matva
regains consciousness.

YOUNG SPOCK
Yes.
(looks up at him)
Thank you...for helping me...
and I-Chaya.

SPOCK
It was my duty, Spock.

YOUNG SPOCK
Mother says you should always
say 'thank you'.

SPOCK
(a little off-guard)
The lady Amanda is known
for her graciousness.

Young Spock looks down at the still unconscious Le-matva,
then back to Spock.

YOUNG SPOCK
Do you think I'll ever be
able to do that neck pinch
as well as you?

SPOCK
(drily)
I dare say you will. Come
now.

He leads the way among the rocks, higher up, I-Chaya
following after. We may notice the sehat is moving
very slowly, as if with some difficulty.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER AREA - AMONG ROCKS - DAY - SPOCK AND YOUNG SPOCK
as they move among the rocks.

YOUNG SPOCK
You followed me. Why?

SPOCK
I...suspected you would go.
You are worried about the
Kahs-wan.

YOUNG SPOCK
(stops, looks up)
I cannot fail.

SPOCK
That is your father's wish?

YOUNG SPOCK
(slowly)
Yes...and my mother's. They...
they confuse me. Father wants
me to do things his way, and
Mother says I should. But then
she goes and ---

He stops and looks away from Spock, embarrassed at what
he was about to admit. Spock picks it up.

SPOCK
She is a human woman with strong
emotion and sensitivities. She
embarrasses you with those
traits. And you are afraid when
you see them in yourself.

YOUNG SPOCK
(quietly)
How did you know?

SPOCK
(pause, then)
There is some human blood in
my familyline.
(wryly)
It is not fatal.
(quieter)
What you do yet understand,
Spock, is that Vulcans do not
lack emotion. It is only that
ours is controlled. Logic
(continued)

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

SPOCK (cont'd)
offers a serenity humans
seldom experience in full.
We have emotions...but we
deal with them and do not
let them control us.

At that moment, a low MOAN comes from I-Chaya. Startled,
they run to him.

ANGLE INCLUDING I-CHAYA

The sehlat is swaying on his feet. He collapses as
they reach his side.

YOUNG SPOCK
I-Chaya!

Spock examines him efficiently, looks up at young
Spock, his face puzzled.

SPOCK
The Le-matya struck him with
its claws in the fight. Just
a graze...it should not have
happened ---

YOUNG SPOCK
(interrupts)
Is he dying?

SPOCK
(slowly)
Yes.

CLOSE SHOT - YOUNG SPOCK

on his stricken face:

FADE OUT:

(END OF ACT TWO)

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. ROCKY AREA - DAY - YOUNG SPOCK, SPOCK, I-CHAYA
as we left them.

SPOCK
We cannot get him back to
the city to a healer. He
is too large to move.

YOUNG SPOCK
Then...what?

SPOCK
You are a Vulcan. What is
the logical thing to do?

YOUNG SPOCK
I can bring a healer here.

SPOCK
It is a long journey across
the desert...there are many
dangers and it will be night
soon. I will go.

YOUNG SPOCK
No. This is my duty. No one
else can do it for me. Will
you stay with him?

Spock reluctantly nods...and Young Spock takes off,
running, heading down the rough slope.

CLOSE ON SPOCK AND I-CHAYA

Spock strokes the massive head of the sehlat, and the
big animal looks back at him with trust.

SPOCK
This did not happen before.
I found my way without your
sacrifice, old friend.

I-Chaya emits a SLIGHT MOAN, but seems calm under Spock's
hands.

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

SPOCK
I know there is pain. I can
help a little....

He moves his hands on the sehlat's neck, a move unlike a neck pinch. I-Chaya relaxes a bit, but remains conscious. Spock strokes the sehlat's head gently...and here we see a less rigid Spock...more like the boy he used to be.

CUT TO:

EXT. DESERT - LATE DAY - ANGLE ON YOUNG SPOCK

traveling at a fast trot across the barren and forbidding landscape. He trips, falls sprawling. But almost instantly he is up and running again.

EXT. ROCKY AREA - TWILIGHT - ANGLE ON SPOCK

He still sits beside I-Chaya. The sehlat MOANS SOFTLY, and Spock gently pets him. He looks up at the rapidly darkening orangy-red sky...worried.

CUT TO:

EXT. DESERT - NIGHT - ANGLE ON YOUNG SPOCK

Vulcan has no moon. We can barely make out the boy trotting fast and without letup across the dark landscape. The predatory animal SCREAM of a hunting Le-matva cuts the night...but it is distant...and young Spock keeps on going.

ANOTHER ANGLE - ON YOUNG SPOCK

He does not notice a dark coil of vines on the sand. As he approaches, the vines suddenly uncoil, reaching out at him, grabbing with tendrils at his legs. He dodges the clutching vines...one just missing catching him...and continues on OUT OF SHOT. The writhing, leafy vines retreat and begin to coil again, waiting for less elusive prey. (NOTE: It will be clear these are not snakes.)

CUT TO:

EXT. HEALER'S DWELLING - NIGHT - ANGLE AT DOOR

A softly TINKLING CHIME...like crystal windbells...rings insistently as young Spock pushes the flat plaque that is the doorbell. The door opens, and a tall, middle-aged
(continued)

CONTINUED:

Vulcan appears, dressed in the toga-like night garment.
This is THE HEALER. He eyes young Spock with some displeasure.

HEALER

The hour is late. I trust
your errand is urgent?

YOUNG SPOCK

Most urgent, Healer. My
sehlat fought a Le-matya
in the L-langon foothills. He
suffered a small wound, but
the poison of its claws is
working in him now. Please...
you must come with me...he needs
your healing.

HEALER

You are Spock, son of Sarek,
are you not?

YOUNG SPOCK

Yes sir.

HEALER

I have heard of you. I have
heard of a tendency toward
what humans call "practical
jokes".....

YOUNG SPOCK

I did that once...two years
ago. Healer, I would not call
you out unless a life was in
danger. Have you ever heard
the son of Sarek was a liar?

HEALER

No. That has never been said.
(nods)'

Very well. Wait here and I will
get my medicines.

YOUNG SPOCK

Healer...please hurry.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROCKY AREA - NIGHT - CLOSE ON SPOCK

He is still ministering to I-Chaya. The sehlat emits
another soft MOAN, and his sides heave in a spasm of pain.

(continued)

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

Then we hear another SOUND, a kind of smooth ENGINE PURR...some distance off, but growing LOUDER. Spock stands and scans the horizon.

EXT. DESERT - NIGHT - FULL SHOT - DESERT FLYER

The desert flyer is a streamlined skimmer...not saucer shaped, please. It is large enough to carry several passengers, but young Spock and the Healer are the only ones in it at this time. The desert flyer gently comes to a halt, hovering a few feet off the ground, then settles, barely raising a puff of dust. The landing area is very near the first line of rugged rocks where the foothills begin. The Healer and young Spock clamber out, and the boy leads the way up among the rocks.

EXT. ROCKY AREA - NIGHT - FULL SHOT - SPOCK AND SEHLAT

Spock again kneels beside the big animal and strokes his head, scratches his ears.

SPOCK

It will not be long now,
old friend.

ANOTHER ANGLE

as young Spock and the Healer come INTO SHOT and move quickly to the stricken animal. The Healer begins his examination, using small sensor instruments taken from his medical carry bag. Spock rises from his place beside I-Chaya and draws young Spock aside.

CLOSER TWO SHOT - SPOCK AND YOUNG SPOCK

SPOCK

You made the desert crossing
most efficiently. You will
not disappoint Sarek in your
Kahs-wan.

YOUNG SPOCK

I wanted only to help I-Chaya.
(looks at Healer)
He was my father's before he
was mine. To lose him...

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

SPOCK
(interrupts gently)
A Vulcan would face such a
loss without tears.

YOUNG SPOCK
How?

SPOCK
By understanding every life
comes to an end...when time
demands it. Loss of life is
to be mourned...but only if
the life was wasted. I-Chaya's
was not.

ANGLE ON THE HEALER AND I-CHAYA

The Healer looks up from the sehlat.

HEALER
Spock.

TWO SHOT - SPOCK AND YOUNG SPOCK

Young Spock turns, of course...but so does Spock, automatically. Young Spock glances up at him, but dismisses it as he crosses toward the Healer. Spock follows.

YOUNG SPOCK
Yes sir?

GROUP SHOT - AT I-CHAYA'S SIDE

The sehlat has begun a soft, continuous MOAN now. The Healer shakes his head at the boy.

HEALER
It has been too long. No
antidote known will save
his life.

YOUNG SPOCK
Is there nothing you can do?

HEALER
I can prolong his life...but he
will be in pain. Or I can release
him from life. I will need your
decision...he is your pet.

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

Spock silently puts his hand on the boy's shoulder.
Young Spock glances up at him, then down at I-Chaya.

YOUNG SPOCK
(quietly, no emotion)
Release him. It is fitting he
dies with peace and dignity.

The Healer nods and reaches into his bag for an automatic injection tube. (It looks nothing like a needle ...it operates on a spray principle.) As he sets the control:

CLOSE ON YOUNG SPOCK AND I-CHAYA

The boy kneels beside the sehlat and takes his head in his lap. I-Chaya looks up at him and burrows his head closer to the boy.

EXTREME CLOSE SHOT - YOUNG SPOCK

We hear the HISS of the spray injection o.s. Young Spock's face remains emotionless...Vulcan.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SAREK'S DWELLING - DAY - EXTREME CLOSE SHOT -
YOUNG SPOCK

YOUNG SPOCK
I regret having troubled you in
any way, but it was necessary.

CAMERA PULLS BACK TO REVEAL he is speaking to Sarek and Amanda. Spock is standing in b.g. Young Spock's manner, attitude, and speech pattern are already strongly moving toward the Spock we know so well. Sarek studies his son ...flicks a look toward the Vulcan "cousin".

SAREK
(to young Spock)
I trust you can explain why
it was necessary?

YOUNG SPOCK
There was a decision to be
made...a direction for my life
had to be chosen. I chose Vulcan.

CLOSE ON AMANDA

She looks away briefly, fighting off tears...a sense of loss...her son has taken the most difficult path.

BACK TO SAREK AND YOUNG SPOCK

Sarek is obviously pleased, but of course, he cannot allow himself to smile. Instead he nods solemnly.

SAREK

It is good then. You have
comported yourself with honor.

(pause)

We will see I-Chaya is brought
home from the mountains.

YOUNG SPOCK

Thank you, Father. If you will
excuse me now...I have some
business to conduct with school
mates.

SAREK

(suspiciously)

Business?

YOUNG SPOCK

A demonstration of the Vulcan
neck pinch. Our cousin taught me.

He nods to them to excuse himself and LEAVES the room.

ANGLE ON SAREK AND SPOCK

Spock moves toward Sarek and Amanda.

SPOCK

I too must make my farewells.
Your hospitality has been most
kind, but I must journey on.

SAREK

You saved my son's life, Selek.
There is no way I can fully
repay you for that.

SPOCK

(pause; quietly)

Try to understand your son,
Sarek of Vulcan. It will
be repayment enough for me.

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

SAREK

A strange request...but I
will honor it. My home is
yours if you pass this way
again.

SPOCK

I think I shall not.
(Vulcan hand salute)
Peace and long life.

Sarek and Amanda return the hand salute.

SAREK

Live long and prosper, cousin.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PLANET - DAY - AT GUARDIAN OF FOREVER

Only Kirk stands waiting at the time portal. The mists
of time drift in random patterns in the center of the
portal. Suddenly, the Guardian activates.

GUARDIAN

The traveler is returning.

CLOSE SHOT - GUARDIAN

From the far background, a transparent figure leaps
toward us, solidifying as he comes through the portal
...the familiar lanky frame of Mister Spock, again
dressed in his Star Fleet uniform and holding the
carry bag.

ANGLE ON KIRK AND SPOCK

Kirk steps forward to greet Spock.

KIRK

I sent the others up to
the ship. What happened?

SPOCK

One...small thing was changed
this time. A pet died.

KIRK

A pet? Well, that wouldn't
mean much in the course of time.

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

SPOCK
It might...to some.

Kirk studies his First Officer, decides not to ask any more questions. Instead he flips open the grid of his communicator.

KIRK
Enterprise, this is the
Captain. Two to beam up.

SCOTT'S VOICE
Two to beam up. Aye sir.

Kirk and Spock freeze, and the TRANSPORTER EFFECT builds over them.

CUT TO:

INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM - ANGLE AT TRANSPORTER CHAMBER

The two glowing piles of TRANSPORTER SPARKLE form, then DISSOLVE, materializing Kirk and Spock. For a brief second, Spock holds, apprehensive about his welcome. Then:

McCOY'S VOICE
Well, well, well...

WIDER ANGLE - INCLUDING McCOY AND SCOTT AT CONSOLE

McCOY
(irascible as ever)
So you two finally got back
from your vacation. While
you've been running all over
Orion's creation, I've been
running the annual crew physicals.
You're the last ones....

Kirk and Spock exchange a glance...Spock relieved, Kirk grinning.

KIRK
Welcome aboard, Mister Spock.

McCOY
Never mind the chitchat...
I've got my medical scanners
all set up for a Vulcan. I
have to recalibrate every time
I run a physical on you, Spock.

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

SPOCK

Dr. McCoy...you do not know
your good fortune. If the
times were different, you
would have to recalibrate
for an Andorian.

He and Kirk move toward the Transporter Room door.

McCoy

What's that supposed to mean?
(ignored, he follows)
If that was supposed to be a
joke, I have to remind you
Vulcans don't tell jokes!

SPOCK

Times change, Doctor. Times
change.

CUT TO:

EXT. SPACE - USS ENTERPRISE

moving swiftly away from us, heading toward the myriad
stars and a new adventure.

FADE OUT:

THE END