

STAR TREK II

"KITUMBA"

PART ONE

Written

By

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STAR TREK II

"Kitumba"

Part I

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

1 EXT. SPACE

1

as the new Enterprise hurtles by, its speed enormous.

2 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE SHOT - UHURA

2

UHURA rises from the communication station. CAMERA  
PANS her across to KIRK. She holds out her electronic  
slate.

UHURA  
Signal from Starfleet Command,  
Captain. Just decoded.

Kirk studies it, turns to ILIA.

KIRK  
Lieutenant, plot a course to  
Starfleet Command.

ILIA  
(surprised)  
Star Fleet --  
(sees Kirk's  
expression)  
Aye, aye, Sir.

KIRK  
We're ordered to pick up a  
patient suffering from  
radiation burns.

DECKER  
Surely Starfleet has more  
complete hospital facilities  
than --

KIRK  
Yes. And, with all the tension  
in this part of the galaxy, there  
must be a better use for the  
Enterprise. But it's an order.

(CONTINUED)

2

CONTINUED:

2.

2

DECKER is about to add something. Seeing Kirk's expression, he decides against it.

3

EXT. SPACE STATION

3

As Enterprise ENTERS THE SHOT, executes a braking maneuver, goes into orbit.

4

INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE GROUP PAST SULU

4

SULU

Standard orbit, Captain.

Uhura listens to her earpiece an instant, turns to Kirk.

UHURA

Sir, Admiral Li is beaming aboard.

KIRK

Acknowledge. Alert Sick Bay to break out radiation gear. I'll be in the Transporter Room. Mr. Decker, you have the con.

He heads for the elevator.

5

INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM - CLOSE SHOT - TRANSPORTER STAGE 5  
as a figure begins to materialize.

6

CLOSE KIRK, MCCOY AND THE TRANSPORTER TECHNICIAN

6

As they watch. All wear bulky radiation suits.

7

CLOSE SHOT - TRANSPORTER STAGE

7

as the figure materializes ADMIRAL LI PO YU wears no radiation gear. She is in her forties, strikingly attractive without being pretty. CAMERA PANS her as she steps down from the platform, greets Kirk.

LI

Jim, it's been a long time.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

KIRK

(smiles)

Yes, it has.

(then, more  
formally)Admiral, this is Commander McCoy,  
Chief Medical Officer.

McCOY

Where's the patient?

LI

He'll be along in a moment.

You can get out of that gear.

It won't be needed.

McCoy and the technician look surprised, but, at Kirk's  
nod, they all strip off the bulky suits.

8 CLOSE - LI

8

As Kirk comes up, speaks softly.

KIRK

Admiral, what's going on. We've  
monitored coded orders to thirty  
starships. That sounds as though  
something big is happening. In  
such circumstances, why is the  
Enterprise being employed as a  
hospital ship?

ANGLE WIDENS as Li turns to McCoy.

LI

Doctor, will you and the Ensign be  
good enough to leave us, please?

McCoy looks indignant to Kirk, waiting for him to  
protest. Kirk says nothing. In a huff, McCoy strides  
out, followed by the Ensign.

9 CLOSE - KIRK AND LI

9

Alone, Kirk allows his anger to be evident.

KIRK

Admiral, I respectfully submit  
that --

(CONTINUED)

LI

No formalities, Jim. And no patient, either. That was a cover.

KIRK

A cover?

LI

I couldn't even trust Starfleet code. You're right. Something big is happening. You've fought the Klingons?

KIRK

Several times. They're savage, incredibly brave, brilliant fighters. But we've heard nothing on Subspace channels of border raids.

LI

Our Intelligence Drones report starships building in orbit around hundreds of Klingon subject planets. Our Intelligence Chiefs warn of an imminent overwhelming attack.

KIRK

I have great respect for Intelligence. But interpreting Klingon mentality is --

LI

It's been confirmed, Jim.

She looks toward the transporter.

LI

(continuing)

Beam up your passenger.

Puzzled, he crosses to the transporter panel.

KIRK

My passenger? Same coordinates?

As she nods, he throws the switch.

- 10 CLOSE - TRANSPORTER PLATFORM 10  
As a figure begins to shimmer in.
- 11 CLOSE - KIRK AND LI 11  
Kirk stares, startled. Li makes no movement.
- 12 CLOSE - PLATFORM PAST KIRK AND LI 12  
As a fully armed Klingon materializes. Kirk is stunned,  
Li amused.

LI

Captain Kirk, this is Ksia. He  
was tutor to the Kitumba, the  
Sacred Ruler of the Klingons.

KIRK

(tense)

Admiral, may I have a word with  
you in private?

LI

It's not necessary. Ksia is  
working with us.

KSIA

Not quite. We merely have a mutual  
goal.

KIRK

How did he get here?

LI

He stopped a patrol ship at the  
border and asked to be brought  
to Headquarters.

KIRK

No Klingon would ever do that.  
The few we've captured refused  
to talk and have always found  
a way to kill themselves.

KSIA

The Captain knows, for a Klingon,  
there is no greater disgrace than  
capture. He, therefore, suspects  
a trap.

(CONTINUED)

LI

We've naturally considered that, Jim. But it's the consensus of the General Staff that the danger justifies the risk. Ksia has told us they're going to make a secret strike -- probably from several directions and with everything they have.

KIRK

(to Ksia)

If it were true, why would you tell us?

KSIA

We are not properly prepared for war at this time.

LI

Let me give you a little of the background we've learned, Jim. First, Klingon is not the name of a people, it's the name of the ruling class, the warriors, male and female.

KSIA

Below us are the Technos, the scientists and technicians who keep our empire together. Below them are the Subjects.

LI

The Kitumba is almost a God-King. But he's a figurehead. The Empire is really ruled by the Warlord -- a military rank analagous to my own.

(wryly)

But with infinitely more authority.

KIRK

This Warlord rules in the name of the Kitumba?

KSIA

Correct. Kitumba means 'the power.'

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

KSIA (CONT'D)

He never leaves the Sacred Planet. That's in the very center of our empire. His person is sacred. All the planets of the Klingon Empire, the starships, the people, belong to him, personally. But this power is used only through the Warlord.

LI

The Kitumba is actually a pampered prisoner.

KIRK

That doesn't explain why a Klingon would suddenly betray his own people.

KSIA

The Kitumba is a seventeen-year-old boy. The present Warlord is Malkthon. He objected to what he considered subversive ideas I was instilling in my pupil. I was ordered to Remove.

LI

That's their term for suicide.

KIRK

Admiral, the more I hear of it, the less I like it.

LI

You may speak your mind freely, Jim. What must be done can only be done with complete trust -- understanding.

KIRK

All right. He sounds like a spy. Suppose the part about the war is true. He could still be sent here as a Trojan horse.

KSIA

I considered I had a higher duty. Instead of Removing, I escaped in a ghost ship.

KIRK

Then, it's true. You do have them?

(CONTINUED)



12 CONTINUED: (3)

KSIA

I will not discuss weapons.

KIRK

We've heard rumors of fast, one man spacecraft with invisibility shields.

LI

They're unarmed. All power goes to the shields.

KIRK

I still don't trust him.  
(to Ksia)

What do you hope to gain from us?

KSIA

To avert the suicidal war Malkthon plans.

KIRK

That's why you surrendered?

----- Ksia's eyes blaze with fury. His hand moves toward his sword. -----

KSIA

I did not surrender.

(regains control)

Incredible as the power Malkthon has built, war between the Federation and the Klingon Empire could only result in mutual annihilation. I know the power of your starships, Captain. In my younger days, I fought them.

KIRK

Are there others who feel as you do? A Peace Party?

KSIA

(carefully)

There is a party among certain of the Baros who oppose Malkthon.

(quickly)

They are not a party that hates war. They simply oppose this insane suicidal war we cannot win.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (4)

12

LI

Captain, you will take the  
Enterprise deep into Klingon  
space... to the Sacred Planet.

KIRK

With one single starship?

KSIA

If you reach the Home System,  
you will be granted Sanctuary.  
That is our custom.

KIRK

If I can reach it.

LI

Ksia may be able to help you  
avoid Klingon patrols, to avoid  
open battle. But you must get  
through. You must talk to the  
Kitumba. This war must be  
averted.

Kirk goes to the door, opens it, calls.

KIRK

Bones!

After an instant, McCoy appears with the Ensign  
technician.

KIRK

(continuing)

Bones, it's time to examine  
your patient.

CAMERA PANS McCoy as he enters the room, then stops,  
stunned, staring at Ksia. He turns back incredulously  
to Kirk as he comes in.

McCOY

A Klingon? Jim, he's armed.

KIRK

He's our passenger, Bones..  
I'll explain the mission later.  
You're not going to believe it.

(to Ksia)

Ksia, this is Doctor McCoy,  
chief of our medical service.  
Will you permit the doctor to  
examine you?

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (5)

12

Ksia hesitates, his hand near the hilt of his tri-edged sword.

KIRK

(continuing)

We have no knowledge of Klingon physiology. In the event of an accident, we would be unable to treat you.

KSIA

As captain of this vessel, do you order me to submit.

KIRK

(after a moment)

I so order.

Ksia nods to McCoy.

LI

Jim, you'd better be underway immediately.

She holds out her hand to Ksia. He looks at it.

LI

(continuing)

It is our custom to touch hands in greeting or farewell. Good luck.

Ksia takes her hand. Then he goes out with McCoy. Kirk walks Li to the transporter platform.

KIRK

The Enterprise is the fastest, most modern starship in the fleet. If they're planning war, nothing could help them more than to study our best weapon.

LI

The war would be so catastrophic. Starfleet decided we have to take the chance and assume Ksia's sincere. The Kitumba is the one hope we have. Urge him to use his authority. All he has to do is say 'stop.' But the weight of custom is against you.

(CONTINUED)

11.

12 CONTINUED: (6)

12

KIRK

What if he won't listen? If  
we're attacked?

LI

(gravely)

The Enterprise is not to fall  
into their hands. You will be  
prepared to implode the matter-  
antimatter reactors.

Kirk hesitates a moment, then goes to the transporter  
panel.

KIRK

Ready to beam down?

LI

Are the orders clear, Jim?

KIRK

Perfectly.

She begins to shimmer out.

KIRK

(continuing)

We are expendable.

13 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE

13

as she leaves orbit about Starfleet Command.

KIRK'S VOICE

Captain's Log. Star Date 1427.3.  
The Enterprise, on its top  
secret mission, proceeding at  
Warp Six to the Klingon border.

14 INT. BRIEFING ROOM - CLOSE SHOT - SCOTTY

14

his face indignant.

SCOTTY

Captain, I'll not have an enemy  
poking about my engines.

CAMERA PULLS BACK to REVEAL him in the Briefing Room  
with Kirk, Xon, Decker and McCoy.

(CONTINUED)

KIRK

Scotty, you heard our mission.  
If there's any chance of success  
we must have Ksia's total  
cooperation.

McCOY

He's a cold fish, but he held  
still for every test and scan I  
could think of. Our first real  
look at a Klingon.

(frowns)

And it may be our last, Jim.  
I'd like my files sent to Star  
Fleet Medical computers, just  
in case we don't bring them  
back ourselves.

KIRK

Will you attend to that, Mister  
Xon?

XON

Gladly, Captain. I, for my  
part, must admire Ksia. He is,  
in many ways, much less  
emotional than humans.

KIRK

Gentlemen, if we trust Ksia and  
act on his information, we have  
to go all the way. He'll be  
treated as an ally with free  
run of the ship.

SCOTTY

(mutters)

Until we catch him at something.

KIRK

If we catch him at something we  
will take appropriate measures,  
Mister Scott. Now, let's get  
back to work.

as his eyes move, taking in everything.

KSIA

I am most impressed by your  
ship, Captain.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED:

15

CAMERA PULLS BACK to REVEAL him with Kirk on the bridge.

KSIA

(continuing)

It can outrun anything we currently have.

(quickly)

Speed, of course, cannot make up for dedication.

Decker, overhearing the remark, turns, annoyed, but Kirk's eyes catch his and he is silent.

KSIA

(continuing)

Mister Xon has been most helpful in showing me your history records. Naturally, we do not burden our warships with such non-essentials.

KIRK

The records are also for the education of the crew.

KSIA

Klingons use spare time to sharpen their fighting skills.

Ilia looks at him, her great eyes limpid in the completely bald head.

ILIA

Surely, Ksia, Klingons must do something besides fight or the race would die out.

Ksia looks at her, interested despite his austerity.

KSIA

You are not of the same planet as the Captain.

ILIA

(smiles enchantingly)

No, we Deltons have a -- considerably different culture.

KSIA

Our women may bear children between the ages of twenty-one and twenty-nine.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED: (2)

15

KSIA (CONT'D)

Those who are past their warrior  
prime care for the children  
until the age of six, when they  
begin warrior training.

SCOTTY

You mean the mothers don't  
raise their own children?

KSIA

They return to warrior status  
at twenty-nine.

Scotty shakes his head.

XON

It is, in many respects, not  
unlike some of the ancient  
cultures of your own planet.  
The Spartans, for instance.

SCOTTY

Well, I'm no Spartan. And I  
think --

XON

(interrupts)

Captain.

(he stops, puzzled)

For just a moment I got a -- I  
thought I'd picked up something  
on the sensors. A blip. But  
I've lost it. Wait. There it  
-- No, I've lost it again.

KIRK

Direction, Mister Xon?

XON

Four fifty-three -- twenty-four.  
I can't tell range.

KIRK

Main viewer.

16 CLOSE SHOT - GROUP - VIEWER IN B.G.

16

as they search through the moving starfield.

KIRK

Maximum magnification.

(CONTINUED)

15.

16 CONTINUED:

16

The screen shifts.

KSIA

Captain, you'll never find it that way. May I work with Mister Xon? It's a ghost ship that must be destroyed.

KIRK

I thought ghost ships were unarmed.

Ksia studies him, genuinely puzzled.

KSIA

While its shields are up, it can't transmit. Given a chance, it will report your position. It must be destroyed now.

DECKER

But that's one of your own people.

Ksia stares at him. The reasoning, obviously, is baffling.

KSIA

To fail to destroy it would be a fatal weakness.

KIRK

Forgive us. We operate less comfortably on pure logic than you do.

XON

Captain, I acquired the blip three times, only milliseconds on each sighting, but I plotted an approximate area at a distance of a half million kilometers.

KIRK

Feed those figures to Navigation. Mister Sulu, when you get the course, take us to maximum warp.

17 CLOSE SHOT - XON - GROUP

17

as Xon works over his computer.

(CONTINUED)



17 CONTINUED:

17

XON

It's an incredibly elusive target.

KSIA

Ghost ships are well engineered. We've plotted a great deal of Federation space with them in the last few years.

XON

I have it again. Approximately two hundred thousand kilometers.

KIRK

Stand by phasers.

SULU

Phasers standing by.

XON

He's taking evasive action. Wait. I have a course correction.

(feeds it to  
computer)

Range, one hundred thousand, closing.

KIRK

Mister Sulu, slow to Warp Six. Let's not overshoot him.

SULU

Warp Six. Aye, sir.

XON

He's turned again. New coordinates.

He feeds them in.

KIRK

(to Ksia)

Broadcast an appeal to surrender. He must realize he has no chance to escape.

KSIA

(incredulously)

Surrender? The danger is, he may drop his shield and signal your position.

(CONTINUED)

17.

17 CONTINUED: (2)

17

KIRK

Mister Sulu, Photon torpedoes,  
broad spread. He'll probably  
try to reverse and pass us.

XON

I have him. Thirty thousand  
kilometers.

KIRK

Photon torpedoes, fire.

SULU

Torpedoes away.

18 EXT. ENTERPRISE

18

as a wide spread of Photon torpedoes streak out.

19 INT. ENTERPRISE - CLOSE - GROUP PAST XON

19

XON

Target range, eighteen thousand  
kilometers. He's inside the  
blast.

KIRK-

Mister Sulu, Photon torpedoes  
targeted five thousand kilometers.

DECKER

Sir, that close, the blast'll  
catch us.

KIRK

Mister Sulu, cut engines.  
Mister Scott, all power to the  
shields.

SCOTT

Aye, sir.

SULU

Torpedoes ready, sir.

KIRK

Fire!

SULU

Torpedoes away.

18.

20 EXT. ENTERPRISE 20  
as the torpedoes speed out again.

21 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE - KIRK 21  
They hesitate, waiting, all eyes on the viewer.

22 CLOSE SHOT - VIEWER 22  
as the Photon torpedoes explode, perilously close to the Enterprise, one after the other, like gigantic suns going nova in white hot incandescence. Then suddenly, in the midst of the spread, something smaller and bright red explodes.

SULU

Got him.

KIRK

Brace.

He holds onto the chair. The others are strapped in as the shock wave hits. A shudder goes through the Enterprise. Then it's over.

KIRK

(continuing)

Shields down. Resume course.

KSIA

He died well.

KIRK

I'm sorry it was necessary.

KSIA

He was a warrior. He was prepared.

He goes to the elevator. They watch him. Then McCoy, in fury, turns to Kirk.

McCOY

Those Klingons are cold-blooded killers. We couldn't order the death of our own unarmed people.

XON

Doctor, I must remind you, he took the only logical course to prevent a much larger loss of life. Ours and theirs.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

McCOY

But it's inhuman.

XON

Inhuman?

(his eyebrows  
raise)They could hardly be otherwise,  
Doctor.

McCoy shakes his head in disgust.

23 INT. BRIEFING ROOM - CLOSE SHOT - STAR MAP

23

We SEE a small star with a planet fairly close and another larger planet in orbit, far out.

XON

It's a Class M star. Main  
planet's only slightly larger  
than Earth.CAMERA PULLS BACK to REVEAL Xon in the Briefing Room  
with Ksia, Kirk, Decker and McCoy.

KSIA

This is the Sacred Planet.  
From there, our people have  
carried the glory of the  
Kitumba and the order of Klingon  
rule to star systems beyond  
measure.

McCOY

Enslaved other people is what  
you mean.

Kirk throws him a warning look.

KSIA

Our rule is harsh only to  
ourselves. To Klingons who  
choose it for honor. In our  
Empire, the Technos live in the  
effete luxury you people enjoy.

DECKER

(puzzled)

Effete luxury?

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

23

KSIA

(contemptuously)

Recreation rooms! Well appointed cabins! Klingons would be ashamed to live like Subjects.

DECKER

Your Subjects have a higher living standard than you do?

KSIA

A lower standard. But more luxurious. They live in perfect comfort, serving the Technos and Klingons.

McCOY

A slave is a slave, however you house him.

XON

There are, of course, similarities to your Earth cultures... particularly the ancient caste system of India and --

KSIA

Subjects are not slaves. They are not conditioned to bear the rigid discipline of the Klingons. Nor the brain-wrenching study of the Technos. They are happy, contented. We do not despise our Technos or Subjects. They simply lack the honor and glory of the Klingons.

The COMMUNICATOR BUZZES.

ILIA'S VOICE

Bridge to Captain.

Kirk answers.

KIRK

Kirk here.

ILIA'S VOICE

Nearing neutral zone. Sensors picking up objects at extreme range.

KIRK

On my way.

He starts hurriedly out. The others follow.

21.

24 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE SHOT - ELEVATOR DOOR

24

It opens to disgorge the group. Kirk, in the lead, goes quickly to Ilia's position.

KIRK

Klingons?

ILIA

Trying for confirmation.

XON'S VOICE

Yes, Captain, a battle group.

25 GROUP - PAST XON

25

He is bent over the computer.

XON

Five ships.

Decker and Kirk come up quickly.

DECKER

Even with our speed advantage, the Enterprise is no match for five ships.

KIRK

Evaluation, Mister Xon?

XON

It might be prudent to turn back now and wait for a clearer opportunity.

KSIA

(contemptuously)

We are about to launch war. You'll find battle groups everywhere.

Kirk nods.

DECKER

Shall I sound battle stations, Captain? Do we fight?

CAMERA MOVES IN TIGHT on Kirk's face. It is grim as he debates the answer.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT-TWO

FADE IN:

26 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE SHOT - VIEW SCREEN 26

as the star field seems to rush by with the incredible speed of the Enterprise. Five tiny dots are VISIBLE.

27 CLOSE SHOT - GROUP PAST SULU 27

Kirk studies the screen, turns to Ksia.

KIRK

What's the range of the Klingon sensors?

KSIA

Six parsecs. But they're unreliable at maximum range.

Kirk hesitates just an instant, then spins to the helm.

KIRK

Mister Sulu, stop all engines. Let us drift.

SULU

(startled -- obeys)  
All engines stop.

DECKER

We're drifting toward them, Captain.

KIRK

Yes. If they pick us up, we'll be a sitting duck. But, with power off, their sensors will have less chance to spot us.

(to Ksia)

What's the nearest Klingon base or colony?

28 CLOSE SHOT - XON - GROUP IN B.G. 28

A series of star charts flash rapidly on Xon's computer viewer.

XON

Gamma 35.

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED:

28

KSIA

Yes. That would be closest.  
Gamma 35 was subdued only two  
years ago. It is now a  
profitable colony.

KIRK

Then they'll have full  
communications and deep space  
relay.

(to Ksia)

I want you to use the Klingon  
battle code. Broadcast a call  
for help.

Ksia hesitates a moment, then nods in approval.

KSIA

It is not an honorable choice,  
but a clever one.

Ksia is already composing a message. He hands the  
electronic slate to Xon.

KIRK

Broadcast to the relay on tight  
beam so those Klingon ships  
can't pick up the ingoing  
signal.

KSIA

I have reported a Federation  
attack in force on Gamma 35.

DECKER

What will we do now, Captain?

KIRK

Wait.

29 CLOSE SHOT - GROUP - PAST XON

29

XON

Their deep space relay is  
functioning. I'm getting the  
echo.

KIRK

Will the Klingons take the bait?

(CONTINUED)



24.

29 CONTINUED:

29

KSIA

Yes. Since we are readying for war, all units will be expecting counter strikes.

DECKER

We've drifted much closer, Captain. We should be within their sensor range now.

KIRK

You find that uncomfortable?

DECKER

I -- . Yes, sir.

KIRK

(smiles, pleasantly)

So do I, Commander.

XON

Sir, target's changing course.

(after a moment)

They're moving at maximum speed toward Gamma 35.

30 CLOSE SHOT - SULU

30

as Kirk turns quickly back to the helm.

KIRK

Mister Sulu, resume course, Warp Six.

SULU

Resuming course, Warp Six. Aye, sir.

DECKER

We're across the neutral zone now.

Kirk goes to his command chair.

KIRK

Yes, Mister Decker, we're now in Klingon space.

31 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE

31

as she streaks AWAY FROM CAMERA.

32 INT. BRIEFING ROOM - CLOSE SHOT - VIEWER

32

We SEE again the Home System with its two planets.

KIRK'S VOICE

So that's the Klingon Home  
System? What are its defenses?

KSIA'S VOICE

There are none.

CAMERA has PULLED BACK to REVEAL Ksia, Kirk, Xon,  
Decker and Scotty.

DECKER

(astonished)

None?

(looks at Kirk)

That's not possible.

KIRK

(warningly)

Mister Decker, we're here to  
learn from Ksia.

KSIA

Your Second Officer expects a  
trap. Xon showed me computer  
tapes of your Earth's history.  
There are analagous conditions.

XON

True. During the period of the  
Roman Empire's greatest  
expansion, the city had no  
walls. The Roman's proudest  
boast was that her legions were  
her walls.

KSIA

It is so with us.

KIRK

There may not be walls on the  
Sacred Planet, but there are a  
lot of starships between here  
and there.

KSIA

There is no way to avoid them.  
Your best defense is speed and  
surprise. It will not be  
expected that a lone starship  
would penetrate so deep into  
Klingon territory.

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED:

32

DECKER

Suppose, by some miracle, we  
get through undetected.

KSIA

The Sacred Planet is our most  
holy shrine because the Kitumba  
is there. If you reach it, you  
will be granted sanctuary. No  
Klingon would contest that  
custom. But I recommend a  
course change to put the Home  
System directly between us and  
Ultar.

KIRK

What's Ultar?

KSIA

The Warlord's star system. The  
base of the Klingon Grand Fleet.  
It is only three light years  
beyond the Sacred Planet.

ILIA'S VOICE

Bridge to Captain.

KIRK

(flips intercom)

Kirk here.

ILIA'S VOICE

Heavy Klingon patrol dead  
ahead, range 2.9 parsecs.

KIRK

Sound battle stations. On my  
way.

They all head for the elevator.

33 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE SHOT - MAIN VIEWER

33

On it we SEE the fast-moving star field.

ILIA'S VOICE

Klingon patrol bearing 28/27.  
Range 2.7 parsecs.

34 CLOSE SHOT - BRIDGE PAST KIRK

34

He stares at the screen, looks over his shoulder at Xon.

KIRK

What do you make of them, Mister Xon?

XON

Heavy armed starships, Captain. There are ten. Their sensors should have us by now.

KSIA

(nods)

Outer defense patrol protecting the Home System.

KIRK

Mister Sulu, maximum warp.

SULU

Maximum warp. Aye, sir.

35 CLOSE SHOT - VIEWER - PAST GROUP

35

as the speed of their passage through the star field VISIBLY increases.

36 BRIDGE - PAST KIRK

36

DECKER

Captain, on this course, we can't avoid contact.

KIRK

Correct.

(to Ilia)

Lieutenant, I need you here.

(to Sulu)

As we come within range of their weapons, begin evasive action.

(to Xon)

Mister Xon, ready electronic countermeasures.

XON

Ready, Captain.

KIRK

Mister Sulu, plot a course for Ultar.

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED:

36

KSIA

(spins about)

Ultar? But --

KIRK

We'll try to draw them off,  
then double back into the Home  
System. You know it perfectly,  
Ksia? Know every object that  
orbits there?

KSIA

I do.

KIRK

(indicates Ilia)

Deltans have considerable Esper  
ability. Let Ilia absorb your  
thoughts. Imagine yourself  
entering the Home System from  
the direction of Ultar. See  
everything -- including orbit.

KSIA

I do not understand the  
necessity of --

KIRK

We need greater precision than  
star charts can give us. We'll  
be entering the system at  
maximum warp.

Ksia looks as shocked as Decker and the others.

DECKER

Sir, there's a Starfleet  
directive against --

KIRK

I'm aware of the directive.

(to Ilia)

Start, Lieutenant. Ksia, let  
her probe your mind.

SULU

Warp Eight, Captain. Still  
accelerating. Klingons closing  
at maximum speed. Now 1.6  
parsecs from contact. Shall I  
arm Photon torpedoes?

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED: (2)

36

KIRK

Negative. Mister Scott, all  
power to the shields.

SULU

Estimate contact twenty seconds.

KIRK

(to Ilia)

Lieutenant, do you have the  
coordinates?

ILIA

Yes. Clearly.

KIRK

Feed them into the main computer.  
Use that for the maneuver. The  
Nav-Comp won't take the strains  
we'll be imposing.

SULU

Firing range five seconds.

KIRK

Scott, keep those shields  
powered.

SULU

Here they come.

37 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE

37

Moving at incredible speed, the Enterprise closes with  
the Klingon battleships, which lay down a broadside.

38 INT. BRIDGE - GROUP

38

as the shields take a momentary pounding.

ILIA

Out of range, Captain. But  
they're following.

KIRK

Mister Xon, deploy countermeasures.

Xon works his dials.

30.

39 EXT. SPACE 39

as a replica of the Enterprise appears, turns and streaks off at an angle to the pursuing Klingon ships.

40 INT. BRIDGE - GROUP 40

They watch the main viewer.

ILIA

Three ships have taken the bait.

KIRK

Deploy Number 2, Mister Xon.

41 EXT. SPACE 41

as a second replica of the Enterprise appears on the far side of the battle group. It peels off in a run calculated to lure off the ships in its area. Some follow.

42 INT. BRIDGE - KIRK AND GROUP 42

as they watch the viewer.

KIRK

Mister Sulu, on my command, execute a 180, head back through the remnants of that fleet, straight for the Home system.

SULU

Still at Max warp?

KIRK

Affirmative.

UHURA

Captain, picking up Klingon transmissions. They're informing Ulter of our presence.

KIRK

Ready, Mister Sulu?

DECKER

Even systems such as Sol contain asteroids. And there's always the possibility --

(CONTINUED)

31.

42 CONTINUED:

42

KIRK

Let the log read that we made  
the maneuver on my responsibility.

(to Sulu)

Come about!

43 EXT. SPACE

43

Several dozen Klingon warships are spread out in the  
pursuit of the Enterprise. Others are chasing the  
two phantoms. The Enterprise reverses course with  
startling suddenness.

44 INT. BRIDGE

44

On the main viewscreen we SEE the Klingon ships rush-  
ing at us. Several veer to avoid collision.

KIRK

They didn't expect that.

SULU

Entering Home System in eight  
seconds.

KIRK

(to Ilia)

You have navigation through the  
main computer?

ILIA

Yes, sir. It's on automatic  
now.

The all look up at the main viewer.

45 CLOSE SHOT - MAIN VIEWSCREEN

45

Out of the swiftly moving background of stars, one  
star grows rapidly larger, nearly FILLING the SCREEN.

46 CLOSE SHOT - GROUP

46

as they watch.

DECKER

At this speed, I can't even see  
the planet.

(CONTINUED)



46 CONTINUED:

46

SCOTT

Captain, will you not reconsider?  
We could plow straight into  
that star.

KIRK

Calculated risk, Scotty. The  
only possible chance of getting  
through.

On the viewer, the star grows huge. They are almost  
on top of it.

47 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE SHOT - GROUP

47

Ilia and Sulu are in the f.g., sweating, as are all  
of them. Kirk, too, betrays his tension. Only Ksia  
is imperturbable. Then, with sickening suddenness,  
everything stops. Some of the crew collapse with  
shock. Kirk gulps, clutches the arm of his command  
chair.

ILIA

We've dropped to sublight,  
Captain.

Kirk manages a wry smile.

KIRK

Learn to trust the computer,  
Scotty. Mister Sulu, standard  
orbit.

48 EXT. SPACE

48

Below the Enterprise is a small, Earthlike planet.  
Beyond it, the giant red mass of a sun.

49 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE SHOT - GROUP - PAST SULU

49

SULU

Standard orbit, Captain.

Kirk turns to Uhura.

KIRK

Open a hailing channel.

Uhura, herself in shock, bends over the board.

UHURA

Coming up on main viewer,  
Captain.

50 CLOSE SHOT - MAIN VIEWER - PAST KIRK

50

as the face of TARU comes on. She wears a Klingon uniform, and, despite her warlike appearance, is very lovely.

KIRK

I am Captain James Kirk of the Federation Starship Enterprise, on a peaceful mission. We request sanctuary.

Her face is flushed with fury, but she manages to control it.

TARU

I am Baro Taru, Deputy Warlord. You are granted sanctuary, Captain. I must also congratulate you on a brilliant maneuver.

KIRK

Thank you.

TARU

But I remind you that a hundred Klingon warships wait outside the system for any hostile move. Sanctuary has its rules, as the traitor I see on the bridge can tell you.

51 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK AND KSIA

51

as Ksia comes up, whispers to Kirk.

KSIA

Request an audience with the Kitumba, to offer your reverent homage.

KIRK

(whispers)

Ksia, we don't offer homage.

(back to screen)

Baro Taru, we request an audience with the Kitumba to offer our respect and assure him of the peaceful intent of the Federation.

34.

52 CLOSE SHOT - VIEWER - PAST KIRK

52

Taru looks annoyed.

TARU

I will take the request to  
Malkthon, who will suggest it  
to the Kitumba. You will be  
advised of the decision.

The screen goes blank.

53 CLOSE SHOT - BRIDGE - PAST KIRK

53

He draws his first deep breath.

KIRK

Well, we're here, and we're  
still alive.

54 EXT. ENTERPRISE

54

as she orbits the Sacred Planet, lit by the glow of  
the red giant sun.

KIRK'S VOICE

Captain's log, Stardate 1428.7.  
The Enterprise has been in orbit  
about the Sacred Planet for a  
full day. No answer received  
to our request for an audience  
with the Kitumba.

55 INT. BRIEFING ROOM - CLOSE SHOT - XON

55

XON

Under the rules of sanctuary,  
we are safe only as long as we  
continue in orbit.

CAMERA PULLS BACK to REVEAL him with Kirk, Decker,  
Scott and McCoy.

SCOTTY

Aye, but if they refuse us the  
audience, we'll have to try to  
get home.

DECKER

Through a cordon of a hundred  
Klingon starships.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

55 CONTINUED:

55

DECKER (CONT'D)

We're like a mouse in a hole.  
Our supplies could last a long  
time, but ultimately they'd run  
out. There'd be nothing left  
but surrender.

KIRK

There'll be no surrender.  
Starfleet's orders are to  
implode our engines.

DECKER

Since the real power is the  
Ultr System under the direction  
of Malkthon, the Warlord, why  
are we here?

KIRK

Because the Kitumba is the  
formal head of the Empire, and  
everything must be done in his  
name.

There is a KNOCK. The door opens to REVEAL Ksia. He  
nods coldly at them, in his usual custom.

KIRK

(continuing)

No word yet. It doesn't look  
as though permission is going  
to come through.

KSIA

I do not agree. Having served  
aboard a starship, the Kitumba  
will be anxious to see the face  
of his enemy.

KIRK

He was on a warship? He's only  
seventeen.

KSIA

It is the custom of all Klingons,  
male and female, to begin  
warrior training and serve  
aboard warships.

McCOY

But you said the Kitumba lived  
in luxury.

(CONTINUED)

55 CONTINUED: (2)

55

KSIA

Only since four years ago. On the death of his father, the Power descended. He returned to the Sacred Planet. I know his mind. With an alien spaceship above him, his curiosity will force a meeting.

SCOTT

But, if he's only a figurehead...

Kirk's quick look breaks off that line of questioning.

DECKER

If, for whatever reason, he doesn't grant us an audience, what do we do?

KIRK

There is no alternative. Those are our orders.

The INTERCOM BUZZES. Uhura's face appears on the viewer.

UHURA

Communication from the planet, Captain.

KIRK

Patch it through.

Taru's face appears on the viewer. She is cold, hostile, but punctiliously polite.

TARU

The Sacred Power has granted an audience to the Commander of the starship Enterprise. Your escorts will beam aboard your ship in fifteen minutes. You will accompany them to --

KIRK

(interrupts quickly)  
I'm taking Ksia with me.

Ksia, horrified, grabs his arm, shaking head. Taru continues as though there had been no interruption.

(CONTINUED)

55 CONTINUED: (3)

55

TARU

You will carry no weapons, save whatever ceremonial ones you people use. The escort will instruct you in protocol. End of communication.

The screen goes dark. Kirk looks around at his crew.

SCOTT

(indignantly)

That's a warm, friendly invitation.

KIRK

We didn't expect a brass band.

(to Ksia)

Why don't you want to go with me?

KSIA

I may never again touch the Sacred Planet.

KIRK

Why?

KSIA

Because of my shame. But there is no time to discuss such things. You must prepare for the audience. Do you have a proper sword?

KIRK

I never wear a sword.

DECKER

I have one in my cabin, sir. The ceremonial sword from my full dress uniform at the Academy.

KIRK

I had one, too. We used them principally for cutting cake.

(to Ksia)

Is it really required?

KSIA

It would make a better impression.

He displays his own, which is really a long, razor-sharp, three-sided dagger..

(CONTINUED)

55 CONTINUED: (4)

55

KSIA

(continuing)

These are the only weapons  
allowed on the Sacred Planet.  
No modern armaments of any kind.  
I suggest you wear your second  
officer's sword. It will give  
you dignity in Klingon eyes.

Decker heads for the door.

DECKER

I'll send a yeoman to get it,  
Captain.

Ksia hands his own dagger to Kirk.

KSIA

Take this with you. If Baro  
Kali has not yet Removed, he  
will stand at the right hand of  
the Kitumba. You will recognize  
him from a lightning-shaped  
scar on his forehead. Announce  
that you bear the Kitumba a  
gift -- the dagger of a Klingon  
killed honorably in battle.

KIRK

This is an historic meeting.  
It might be more suitable to  
offer some artifact of  
Federation culture.

KSIA

This is the only gift that  
would be honored. Keep it in  
your jacket and present it only  
if you see Kali. It contains a  
message.

KIRK

(studies the dagger)

This is a peaceful mission.  
I'm not very happy about  
performing as a spy.

KSIA

Kali is head of the Peace Party  
and has contacts throughout the  
Klingon Empire. The war we  
hope to avert will depend on  
him alone.

Kirk accepts the dagger.

39.

56 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM - CLOSE SHOT - KIRK, DECKER AND SCOTTY 56

Feeling a little ridiculous with Decker's gleaming Academy sword at his side, Kirk stands in the Transporter Room.

SCOTTY

Two beaming up.

They watch the Transporter platform.

57 LOW ANGLE - TRANSPORTER PLATFORM 57  
as TWO ARMED KLINGONS materialize.

58 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK AND DECKER 58

KIRK

(whispers)

Mister Decker, if I don't return, you have your orders. Free judgment in everything except surrender of the Enterprise. You are to implode the engines before capture.

DECKER

I understand, Captain.

CAMERA PANS Kirk as he takes his place between the two silent Klingons.

KIRK

Mister Scott, Energize.

The three figures vanish.

FADE OUT.

END ACT TWO



ACT THREE

FADE IN:

59 INT. ANTECHAMBER

59

The room, with its mirrored walls, luxurious dressing, is in sharp contrast to the austerity of the Klingon Guards. Kirk looks around, studying the decor.

FIRST KLINGON

When the Kitumba appears in the Sacred Chamber, you will walk five paces forward, then prostrate yourself, face down, until the signal is --

KIRK

No!

(after a moment)

I will bow. That is the gesture of respect among our people.

The Klingons look at each other, then turn back to Kirk as though they would protest. But his expression dissuades them. A strange, hollow GONG with rippling overtones SOUNDS. The doors of the chamber open.

KIRK

(continuing)

Well, gentlemen, let's not keep the Kitumba waiting.

Annoyed, the Guards follow.

60 INT. AUDIENCE CHAMBER - HIGH SHOT

60

PANNING Kirk and the Guards through the door. The Sacred Audience Chamber is entered through a row of crystalline fountains. As the CAMERA PANS AROUND, we REVEAL the Chamber itself. Vast. In the center is a huge dais, supporting a fabulously faceted jewel five meters tall.

61 CLOSE SHOT - GROUP - PAST DAIS

61

The facets of the jewel reflect hundreds of fragments of the room, dazzling multi-colored images. Arranged around the dais are a number of exquisitely clad women in diaphanous chiffon-like garments. They contrast startlingly with the stark armor of the Klingons, the dignitaries on the lower steps of the dais. Kirk walks forward.

- 62 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK 62  
his eyes searching the crowd at the base of the dais.
- 63 CLOSE PANNING SHOT - GROUP 63  
We RECOGNIZE Taru. She wears the austere uniform of the Klingons, but her dark, sensual face somehow renders it attractive. On the step above her is a boy, PRINCE KLUN, younger brother of the Kitumba. As the CAMERA PANS ACROSS it comes to hold on KALI on the far side of the dais. The jagged lightning scar runs from his forehead to his right ear. His eyes look up swiftly.
- 64 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK 64  
as he meets the glance, a slight movement of his head acknowledging it. There is a sudden intake of breath. Kirk looks up.
- 65 CLOSE SHOT - DAIS - PAST KIRK 65  
There is no fanfare, no announcement, only the sudden ripple of tension in the room as a young man appears from the unseen entrance of the jewel. He seems to emerge from the mirrors, almost to materialize on the dais. He wears a cowed ceremonial robe, shimmering, opalescent.
- 66 ANOTHER ANGLE - GROUP 66  
All prostrate themselves save for Kirk, who bows. The young man makes a motion with his hands. All rise, shouting in unison: "The Kitumba is."
- 67 CLOSE SHOT - KITUMBA 67  
THE KITUMBA lets the cowl slip back. We SEE that he is young, good looking, and, at seventeen, in that strange area between awkwardness and dignity. Beneath the robe he wears a silver chain mail chiton. He looks down at his young brother Klun, nods formally. The boy cannot quite repress a smile, as dignity demands. Then the Kitumba looks at Kirk. His head nods almost imperceptibly.
- 68 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK AND GUARDS 68  
as the Two Guards nudge Kirk. CAMERA PANS WITH him as he advances the prescribed five steps, bows.

69 CLOSE SHOT - TARU 69  
as she watches, her eyes hostile.

70 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK 70

KIRK

I come in peace to greet the  
Sacred Power of the Klingons in  
the hope that our two great  
peoples may avoid conflict and  
develop peaceful cooperation.

71 CLOSE SHOT - KITUMBA 71

as he listens, interested, his eyes studying Kirk.

KIRK'S VOICE

We have everything to lose by  
war. Everything to gain by  
peace.

Thoughtfully, the Kitumba nods.

72 CLOSE SHOT - TARU 72

as she sees the Kitumba's reaction. Her jaw tenses.

KIRK'S VOICE

I can envision a day when trade  
may exist between the Federation  
and the Klingon Empire,  
bringing prosperity and --

TARU

(cuts in)

The Sacred Power needs no trade  
beyond his own realm, certainly  
no trade with enemies.

73 LONGER SHOT - GROUP - PAST KIRK 73

TARU

The Kitumba expressed interest  
in seeing the alien. He has  
now done so. The audience is  
concluded.

74 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK 74

as his eyes watch the Kitumba.

75 CLOSE SHOT - KITUMBA 75

The boy's face is impassive. Not a muscle moves. But his eyes are searching Kirk, obviously interested.

76 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK 76

KIRK

The Kitumba has been most gracious to receive me and to accept the esteem and good wishes of all our people. I ask him, also, to receive a small gift.

77 CLOSE SHOT - TARU 77

as she reacts, about to intervene.

KIRK'S VOICE

-- a Klingon dagger, taken from one of his warriors --

78 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK 78

Kirk produces the dagger.

KIRK

-- who died bravely in battle. I return it with honor. It belonged to the captain of one of your ships, Klamar.

79 CLOSE SHOT - KALI - PAST KITUMBA 79

The Kitumba's eyes flick quickly to the older man.

KITUMBA

You may receive it for us, Kali.

Kali bows. CAMERA PANS him as he comes forward to Kirk.

KALI

I am pleased my son died well.

He receives the dagger.

KALI

Were you the victor?

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED:

79

KIRK

It was not my honor.

His eyes watch the almost imperceptible swiftness with which Kali slips the dagger into the sleeve of his chain mail shirt and produces an identical one. The eyes of the two men meet for just an instant. Then Kali turns. CAMERA PANS BACK WITH him as he comes to the dais and lays the second dagger at the feet of the Kitumba. He steps back two paces, then he, and all the others in the chamber shout: "The Kitumba is." The Kitumba bends, takes up the dagger.

KITUMBA

I will honor it.

He turns then, as swiftly and mysteriously as he appeared, he vanishes again into the mirrored maze of the jewel.

80 HIGH SHOT - ROOM

80

All present, with the exception of Kirk, prostrate themselves. After an instant, they rise and disperse.

81 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK AND GUARDS

81

FIRST KLINGON

The audience is finished.

Kirk nods, turns, and walks between the Guards back through the crystalline fountains.

82 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE SHOT - KSIA

82

His face reflects as much delight as is possible in a Klingon.

KSIA

I am pleased that Baro Kali has the dagger. You did well.

CAMERA PULLS BACK to REVEAL him with Kirk on the bridge.

KSIA

(continuing)

When Kali is ready to receive you, a signal will be given. A fire will break out in the Subject section of the city.

(CONTINUED)

82 CONTINUED:

82

KIRK

Mister Decker, set a watch.

Decker nods.

KSIA

Have your ship's facilities  
prepare your disguise. You will  
be dressed as a Subject.

KIRK

Kali seems like a good man.

KSIA

A fine soldier who lost his  
only son.

KIRK

Where did his son die?

KSIA

A raid on Delta Five.

Ilia has been listening. She turns, puzzled.

ILIA

I am from Delta Five. In all  
our history there has been only  
one Klingon raid and the Klingon  
vessel was totally annihilated.  
There was no debris.

Again, something almost approaching a smile appears on  
Ksia's face.

KSIA

That is correct. What I gave  
the Captain was my own dagger  
with a message in its hilt.

Ilia reacts.

83 INT. KIRK'S QUARTERS

83

as the ship's TAILOR fits him in iridescent, luxuri-  
ous clothes. Ksia stands with him as Kirk surveys  
himself in the mirror. Decker and Xcn look on.

KIRK

Very impressive.

(CONTINUED)

83 CONTINUED:

83

KSIA

(shrugs  
disdainfully)

Such luxury is only for Subjects.

He starts out of the room.

XON

Kali is a Baro. Is that a  
military or noble rank?

KSIA

Both. Everything in Klingon  
culture is military. Kali was  
once Warlord.

Kirk turns, surprised.

KSIA

(continuing)

At the time of the old Kitumba's  
death, the Council of Baros,  
under Malkthon's scheming,  
deposed him. Malkthon had  
himself appointed. He got rid  
of me because he wanted complete  
control of the Kitumba, who was  
then only thirteen. But Kali  
has many supporters. Malkthon  
does not dare to move openly  
against him.

Ksia leaves.

XON

Captain, is it realistic to  
hope to convince a seventeen-  
year-old boy to stand against  
the incredible power Malkthon  
has amassed?

KSIA

Should this plan fail, you must  
advise the Federation to launch  
an all-out attack on Ultar.  
You can break the back of  
Malkthon's strength without  
destroying our Empire.

KIRK

The Federation would never agree  
to a first strike. More  
important -- our mission is to  
prevent war.

(CONTINUED)

83 CONTINUED: (2)

83

XON

Relevant to the Captain's first point, the ships surrounding the Home System could effectively block our message. The question of advising Starfleet is academic.

DECKER

(wryly)

So is getting out of here in one piece.

The INTERCOM BUZZES.

UHURA'S VOICE

Bridge to Captain.

CAMERA PANS Kirk as he goes, flips the switch.

KIRK

Kirk here.

84 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE SHOT - UHURA AT HER STATION

84

On her viewer is a SHOT of the city. A fire rages, covering a fair area.

UHURA

Captain, a fire consuming numerous structures is burning 1.7 kilometers east of the Sacred Palace.

85 INT. KIRK'S QUARTERS - CLOSE SHOT - KIRK

85

KIRK

On my way to Transporter.

He goes out.

86 INT. CORRIDOR

86

Ksia hurries toward him as they enter the Transporter Room.

KSIA

I saw the signal on the viewer.  
I will hope for your success.



87 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM

87

as they come in.

KIRK

You won't come with me this  
time, either?

KSIA

I may not touch the Sacred  
Planet.

He fights away the wave of sadness, turns to Scotty.

KSIA

(continuing)

Before the Captain beams down,  
order a one second burst on the  
hydrogen frequency transmitted.  
That will signal Kali to jam  
the sensors of the Klingon  
guardships so his beaming down  
is not detected.

DECKER

Captain, I don't like you going  
alone.

KIRK

This whole mission's a trap.  
But a trap works both ways.  
Emergize, Scotty.

Decker frowns, puzzled, as Kirk shimmers out.

88 INT. KALI'S QUARTERS - CLOSE SHOT - KALI AT TRANS-  
PORTER DESK

88

as Kirk shimmers into being. Kali steps forward, ex-  
amines him critically.

KALI

Good. However, on your next  
trip, I suggest a ruffled  
collar. A new fashion among the  
Subjects since Ksia's --  
departure.

KIRK

I'll have it attended to.

Kali touches a plate and the door snaps upward.

(CONTINUED)

88 CONTINUED:

88

KALI

Come into my personal quarters  
where we can talk.

He leads the way.

89 INT. KALI'S QUARTERS

89

It is a simple room, Spartan and bare as a Klingon warship. There is a bench on the far side of the room. A bunk, for sleeping. Kali indicates the bench. Kirk sits.

KALI

Captain, you took an incredible chance. You have brilliantly accomplished your mission -- thus far. Now I would like to know why? In your speech to the Kitumba you offered trade, but you are obviously no merchant.

KIRK

I didn't come here for trade,  
but to stop a war.

KALI

And how do you propose to stop  
it with one starship?

KIRK

Obviously, by asking your help.

KALI

I do not have Ksia's stomach  
for working with the enemy.

KIRK

Surely being here proves I'm not  
an enemy.

KALI

To Klingons, all aliens are  
enemies until conquered.

KIRK

But you want the war stopped.

KALI

Yes. I am confident we could  
destroy you. But I think we  
should ourselves be destroyed.  
Malkthon is a man mad for power.

(CONTINUED)

89 CONTINUED:

89

KIRK

Why can't he be removed from  
office? You were.

It is obviously a wounding blow. It is an instant be-  
fore Kali speaks.

KALI

Such a change is not unusual at  
the death of a Kitumba. And  
Malkthon had many supporters.  
He is not alone in his desire  
for conquest. The whole purpose  
of Klingon life is warfare. But  
this time, Malkthon has tackled  
an enemy too big, too powerful.

(smiles)

In a generation we may be ready  
for you, Captain. Not yet.

KIRK

Ksia tells me assassination is  
not unknown to your people.

KALI

There are many who would gladly  
kill Malkthon. But so long as  
he has the Kitumba's favor, it  
would be sacrilege.

(he rises)

Also, he rarely leaves his base  
on Ultar. That entire star  
system has been made into one  
gigantic fortress. Malkthon's  
meetings with the Kitumba are  
rare and secret. He operates  
through his deputy, Baro Taru.

KIRK

Where does she stand?

KALI

Taru's family has served with  
honor for many generations.  
It's surprising she serves  
Malkthon.

KIRK

Why surprising?

KALI

Because of the suddenness with  
which the Power descended --

(CONTINUED)

89 CONTINUED: (2)

89

He breaks off, obviously unable to face the implication of what he is saying.

KIRK

You suggest that Malkthon killed the Kitumba's father?

Kali turns his face away. His voice is choked.

KALI

It would be sacrilege. I cannot -- I will not pursue this.

Then he studies Kirk, looks into his eyes, puzzled.

KALI

(continuing)

I find you an honorable man.

(quickly)

I meant no insult. I have fought Federation ships and found many of their captains brilliant and courageous. But we are taught that you conquer by treachery and deceit. You have given me many things to rethink, Captain.

Kirk hands Kali a communicator.

KIRK

It's set to a secret frequency. You won't have to burn down the city next time you want to contact me.

(as Kali nods)

Now, how can we speak privately to the Kitumba? Obviously, only he can stop the attack.

KALI

He could, if he would use the Power. But he is no match for Malkthon.

KIRK

(nods)

He's seventeen years old. That's not much time to develop mature judgment.

KALI

You might influence him.

(CONTINUED)

89 CONTINUED: (3)

89

KIRK

Why me?

KALI

As an alien, you would be able to take his displeasure and still insist. You cannot realize how difficult it is for us. Once the Power has spoken, the matter is closed. If we have incurred his slightest displeasure, we must Remove.

KIRK

Then how can it be arranged?

KALI

A meeting would be impossible in the Sacred Palace. But the Kitumba is seventeen. He has a young man's curiosity and recklessness.

KIRK

He'd agree to a meeting outside?

KALI

(quickly)

I did not say that. But frequently he goes disguised into the city, into the taverns of the Subjects. My informants tell me he is on such an escapade now.

He leads Kirk back to the Transporter Room.

KIRK

Let's go.

KALI

It's dangerous for you to be on the planet. Malkthon has spies everywhere. Capture means death. We cannot afford to lose you.

KIRK

(grins)

Baro, I share your sentiments.

90 EXT. REAR OF BAR

90

Cautiously, Kali leads Kirk out of the alley maze. The architecture of the Sacred Planet, unchanged from time immemorial, contains stone buildings as crudely built as in Earth's Middle Ages. From the back of the bar comes the SOUND of MUSIC, the MURMUR of VOICES.

KALI

The Kitumba is inside. But we will have very little time. My spies report Malkthon has assigned strike positions to the fleet. Several battle groups have already begun to move.

KIRK

Does the Kitumba know?

KALI

Malkthon will report the war order when it's too late to stop.

KIRK

Then don't waste any more time.

KALI

Stay back while I contact him. If you're recognized, you'll be put to death.

KIRK

And I'm unarmed. At this moment, I'd even settle for my Academy sword.

KALI

Subjects do not wear arms. Only a Klingon may kill.

KIRK

I meant that as a joke.

KALI

(puzzled)

A joke?

KIRK

(sighs)

Never mind.

Kali leads the way into the bar. Kirk shrugs, follows.

91 INT. BAR

91

It is packed with Subject people, talking, dancing. Kirk takes his place near the rear wall, watching, as Kali shoulders his way through the crowd. The women are lightly and excitingly dressed. This is obviously a place for carousing. No Klingons are in evidence.

92 CLOSE SHOT - BAR

92

as Kali makes his way through the crowd, then looks toward a group of young men at the end of the bar. The Kitumba stands with a voluptuous woman on either side.

93 CLOSE SHOT - KITUMBA

93

as Kali comes up. He bows his head slightly but makes no formal greeting. The Kitumba is surprised to see him.

KITUMBA

I'd have thought you were a little old for this.

KALI

A man is never too old -- for duty.

He looks pointedly at the women. The Kitumba disengages his arms.

KITUMBA

I'll be back.

The women look disappointed but resigned.

94 CLOSE SHOT - KALI

94

as the Kitumba comes up to him.

KITUMBA

(frowns -- softly)

How did you know I'd be here?

KALI

(avoids the question)

You seemed interested in the alien captain. I have him with me.

(CONTINUED)

94 CONTINUED:

94

KITUMBA

(startled)

On the Sacred Planet? Without  
permission?

KALI

If I have displeased you, give  
me permission to Remove.

The Kitumba shakes his head. He looks intrigued.

KITUMBA

Where is the alien captain?

KALI

You could speak in the alley.  
But it is important that your  
friends not notice. Perhaps if  
you started with one of the  
women, they would not question  
your absence.

The Kitumba smiles. CAMERA PANS WITH him as he goes  
back to the bar, takes one of the delighted women,  
walks quickly across the crowded floor.

95 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK

95

He watches the Kitumba send the woman, disappointed,  
away, then slips out the rear door. Kirk, making sure  
he is not observed, follows.

96 EXT. ALLEY - CLOSE SHOT - KITUMBA

96

as Kirk and Kali come up to him. The Kitumba studies  
Kirk's costume, then reverts to his haughty Klingon  
style.

KITUMBA

You begged to speak to me  
privately?

KALI

(warns Kirk)

It must be quick. You're in  
danger here.

Quickly Kirk flips a communicator concealed in his  
sleeve.

(CONTINUED)



96 CONTINUED:

96

KIRK

Scotty, now!

Before Kali's startled eyes, Kirk and the Kitumba shimmer and vanish.

97 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM - CLOSE SHOT - TRANSPORTER  
PLATFORM 97

as Kirk and the Kitumba materialize. The Kitumba looks around, furious. Kirk still holds his communicator in his hand. From it come SCREAMS of rage.

KALI'S VOICE

Come back! You have betrayed  
our trust. Malkthon is correct.

KIRK

(to communicator)

Kali, the Kitumba is aboard.  
He is safe. He'll be returned  
safely. I'm sorry I had to  
trick you. But you have my word  
no harm will come to him. Wait  
there for us.

KITUMBA

(eyes flashing  
angrily)

Do you realize what you've done?  
What will happen to you now?

KIRK

(snaps)

Nothing will happen. No one can  
take this ship without destroying  
it. No one will destroy it  
while you're aboard.

(more calmly)

I mean no disrespect, and I mean  
you no harm.

KITUMBA

But I am your prisoner?

KIRK

You have been a prisoner of the  
Sacred Palace. I hope to show  
you that there are other options  
than the ones you know.

The Kitumba studies him, still angry, but obviously  
intrigued. Slowly, he nods.

98 INT. COMMUNICATION ROOM

98

(PRODUCTION NOTE: REDRESS OF KALI'S QUARTERS)

The complex communications gear is manned by several Klingons. Taru looks up from a scanner.

TARU

Open a channel to Malkthon on  
Ultar.

KLINGON

Yes, Baro.

He flips the controls. On the screen MALKTHON appears.  
Behind him is Ultar's magnificent master control room.

TARU

Guard ship reports two people  
beamed aboard the alien vessel.  
Sensors were unable to pinpoint  
the place of origin. Special  
security patrols have been  
alerted to catch the traitors  
when they return.

MALKTHON

If they return. I wish we could  
get Kali and all his dissidents  
on that ship and dispose of them  
at once.

99 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE - KITUMBA

99

KIRK'S VOICE

And last, this is Lieutenant  
Ilia, our navigator.

CAMERA PULLS BACK to REVEAL Kirk and the Kitumba with  
all the Bridge officers. He turns in a full circle,  
looking at the extent of the Control Room.

100 CLOSE SHOT - KITUMBA AND KIRK

100

The Kitumba shakes his head.

KITUMBA

You have so many different kinds  
of aliens. Which is the ruling  
class?

KIRK

We've learned to work together.  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

100 CONTINUED:

100

KIRK (CONT'D)

I'd like Lieutenant Xon to show  
you the ship's computers.

CAMERA PANS WITH them as Kirk leads the Kitumba to  
Xon's station.

KIRK

(continuing)

Mister Xon, give the Kitumba a  
brief look at Federation history.

XON

Several of the Earth cultures  
somewhat parallel Klingon  
development.

(to Kirk)

I'll show him Rome, feudal  
Japan, and Sparta.

The Kitumba bends over the computer.

101 INT. ALLEYWAY - CLOSE SHOT - KLINGON PATROL

101

as three armed soldiers come out of the darkness of an  
alley, past the rear of the bar, with a glance toward  
the NOISE inside, continue on their way. CAMERA  
PUSHES IN to the shadows of the doorway where Kali  
crouches, waiting.

102 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE SHOT - KITUMBA, KIRK, XON AT VIEW  
SCREEN

102

The Kitumba is watching, his eyes half on the screen,  
half on Ilia, who stands near him, providing an obvi-  
ous distraction. And Ilia seems more than willing to  
distract him.

KIRK

Lieutenant Ilia.

103 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK

103

as Ilia comes up to him.

ILIA

Yes, Captain.

(CONTINUED)

103 CONTINUED:

103

KIRK

It is necessary that we get the  
Kitumba on our side, but we  
don't want too personal a  
foreign entanglement.

ILIA

(sighs)

Sorry, Captain, I wasn't  
thinking.

The CAMERA PANS Kirk back to the Kitumba.

KIRK

Forgive me, but considerable  
time has passed and there is one  
thing more you must see before  
you return.

The Kitumba nods, lets Kirk lead him back toward the  
elevator.

104 INT. BRIEFING ROOM - CLOSE SHOT - DOOR

104

as it slides open. The Kitumba and Kirk enter. The  
Kitumba stops, startled.

105 CLOSE SHOT - KSIA

105

as he prostrates himself.

106 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK AND KITUMBA

106

The Kitumba looks stunned, glances at Kirk question-  
ingly. CAMERA PANS them as the Kitumba walks forward,  
claps his hands. Ksia rises. The two look at each  
other, a look of friendship, almost of adoration be-  
tween the young boy and the old man. It is a moment  
before the Kitumba speaks.

KITUMBA

So, you live, Ksia? You have  
not Removed?

KSIA

(voice unsteady)

I brought the aliens here.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

106 CONTINUED:

106

KSIA (CONT'D)

(as the Kitumba  
reacts)

It was the only chance for all,  
I believe -- all I hope for you.  
For all your people.

KITUMBA

(nods slowly)

I have missed you, Ksia.

KSIA

And I you, Lord.

(pleads)

Listen to the alien. He is an  
enemy, but what he says is true  
and wise. It is the only hope  
for our people, for you. This  
war Malkthon wishes would destroy  
both cultures. The alien will  
teach you.

KITUMBA

(after a moment)

I will consider it, Ksia. I  
will weigh what you said.

KSIA

Then I am happy.

KIRK

Ksia has been our one indispensable  
link that may prevent a galaxy-  
wide conflagration. I'm glad  
that you're reconciled.

KSIA

(kneels)

Lord, will you witness?

Kirk looks relieved, pleased at the interview. It is  
going so well.

107 CLOSE SHOT - KITUMBA

107

It is a long moment before he answers.

KITUMBA

I will witness.

He walks forward to the old man.

61.

108 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK

108

as he looks, puzzled.

109 LOW ANGLE - KITUMBA AND KIRK - PAST KSIA

109

as Ksia takes the iron band from his wrist, presses it against his throat, adjusts it. There is a glow, a HISSING SOUND. His body stiffens in agony for a moment, then disintegrates. Only the chain mail clothing is left. Kirk stares in horror.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

110 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM - CLOSE SHOT - CHAIN MAIL - 110  
KIRK AND KITUMBA IN B.G.

Kirk looks down in fury at all that is left of Ksia, unbelievably. Then he swings back to confront the Kitumba. CAMERA PUSHES WITH him to a TWO SHOT.

KIRK

After what he did, all he went  
through for you, you killed him.

The Kitumba looks puzzled.

KITUMBA

Ksia Removed because he broke  
the law.

(adds, in  
satisfaction)

He died well. With honor. His  
name may be spoken again.

Then dismisses the matter completely.

KITUMBA

(continuing)

Now, return me to the planet as  
you promised.

He clearly has no further interest in the matter.  
Kirk's face is grim as he steps onto the Transporter  
Platform, gestures for the Kitumba to follow.

KITUMBA

(continuing)

What you have done is punishable  
by death.

Kirk looks him straight in the eye.

KIRK

If it was reported.

KITUMBA

(thoughtfully)

If it was reported.

CAMERA PANS Kirk to the wall communicator. Kirk hits  
the communication button.

KIRK

Captain to Mister Decker.

CONTINUED)

110 CONTINUED:

110

DECKER'S VOICE

Decker here, sir.

KIRK

You have the con. Ksia committed suicide. I'm beaming back with the Kitumba.

DECKER'S VOICE

(incredulous)

Why?

KIRK

If I don't return, contact Kali.  
If you can't do that, you know the mission.

He flips the communicator off. CAMERA PANS him back to the Transporter beside the Kitumba.

KIRK

(continuing; calls)

Energize.

111 INT. ALLEY

111

The figures of Kirk and the Kitumba materialize in the alley where Kali stands between two Klingons, their swords at his throat. Seeing the Kitumba, the Klingons immediately prostrate themselves, as does Kali, looking incredibly relieved. The Kitumba claps his hands. They rise.

KALI

Lord, your companions thought I had brought harm to you.

The COMPANIONS come forward, examine the Kitumba.

FIRST COMPANION

Lord, are you well?

(then he looks at

Kirk)

The alien!

Kirk has already snapped out his communicator.

KIRK

Kirk to Enterprise. Scotty,  
I --

The communicator is knocked from his hands by the Klingon's sword. CAMERA PANS Kirk as he is hurled back against the wall, the Klingon's sword at his throat. The Klingon looks to Kitumba for permission to kill.



112 CLOSE SHOT - KITUMBA 112  
as he hesitates thoughtfully.

113 INT. ENTERPRISE TRANSPORTER ROOM - CLOSE SHOT - 113  
PLATFORM  
as Kirk's communicator shimmers into being. Scotty's  
hand picks it up. CAMERA PULLS BACK to REVEAL him  
with Decker.

SCOTTY  
The Captain's either killed or  
a prisoner. What do we do now?

Decker's face is grim, but he offers no suggestion.

114 INT. ALLEY - CLOSEUP - KIRK 114  
tense, sweating out the point of the dagger at his  
throat. CAMERA PULLS BACK to REVEAL him with the  
Klingons and the Kitumba. The Kitumba studies him  
calmly, letting him sweat. After a moment, he shakes  
his head at the Companions. The dagger is removed.

KITUMBA  
Take him to the Sacred Palace.  
We must learn from him.

115 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM - CLOSE SHOT - SCOTTY 115  
His face is shocked, indignant.

SCOTTY  
But you can't leave the Captain  
on the surface. We must send a  
landing party to rescue him.

CAMERA PULLS BACK to REVEAL him with Decker and McCoy.

XON  
A landing party would be little  
use against an entire hostile  
planet. And we have not yet  
established whether the Captain  
is still alive.

SCOTTY  
If we have phasers and they  
have no weapons at all. We  
should be able --

(CONTINUED)

DECKER

(cuts in)

No phasers. That would break the rule of sanctuary. The Klingons would blow us out of orbit before we'd gotten off the second shot.

(thoughtfully)

I'll go.

McCOY

You'd be recognized and cut down.

DECKER

The Captain said to contact Kali. Those were his only instructions. I'll beam down and try to do that.

He starts toward the Transporter Platform. Xon enters in Klingon uniform.

SCOTT

What the devil are you doing in that get-up?

XON

(to Decker)

Commander, the Captain gave you the con. You are responsible for the Enterprise.

DECKER

I'm aware of my responsibility, Lieutenant. Stand aside.

McCOY

He's right. I'll go. I'm the most expendable member of this team.

XON

Except for my ears, I more closely resemble a Klingon than any of you. Also, Vulcans have specialized training that may be of advantage. I will have a communicator and, should it be necessary, I will request an armed landing party.

Decker hesitates a moment, then nods. Xon steps up to the Transporter Platform.

(CONTINUED)

115 CONTINUED: (2)

115

SCOTTY

(to Decker)

Surely, you're not going to  
let the lad go down there  
all alone? They'll eat him  
alive.

116 CLOSE SHOT - XON

116

His eyebrows raise.

XON

There is no indication in our  
records that the Klingons are  
cannibals. If you please,  
Mister Scott, energize.

117 CLOSE SHOT - SCOTTY, DECKER AND McCOY AT TRANSPORTER  
PANEL

117

Decker nods. Scotty sighs, throws the switch.

118 CLOSE SHOT - XON

118

as he disappears.

119 INT. SACRED PALACE - CLOSE SHOT - DOOR OF ANTEROOM

119

as it opens to admit the Kitumba, Kirk and the  
Kitumba's Two Companions. The door closes behind them.

KITUMBA

(to Kirk)

You will remain here.

KIRK

Very nice prison.

KITUMBA

You are a guest -- under  
restraint. This is part of my  
private apartment.

He takes Kirk's arm, leads him away from the compan-  
ions. CAMERA MOVES WITH them. They are remote enough  
so that the Companions cannot hear their conversation,  
but close enough for their swords to come into play at  
the first sign of trouble.

(CONTINUED)

119 CONTINUED:

119

KITUMBA

(continuing)

You are either an extremely brave man or a stupid one. And you don't seem stupid. Ksia would never have picked a stupid man.

KIRK

Ksia killed himself. To us, that's stupid.

The Kitumba studies him a moment in silence.

KITUMBA

That's a strange thought.

(he frowns)

Ksia said that one who holds power must learn to look deep. He told me not to see what the eye sees, but what lies behind appearance. For the first time I begin to understand what he meant. Your thoughts, your ways are upside down to us.

KIRK

We believe that every life is sacred.

KITUMBA

Every life must end. What's important is that it end with honor.

KIRK

If Ksia had lived, he'd have been able to convince you that your Warlord, Malkthon, is throwing every resource of your empire into one desperate gamble ... a gamble he can't win. Both our peoples would be hurt, probably beyond recovery. No one would gain. There's no honor in that. You are the Kitumba. Order him to stop.

KITUMBA

(hesitantly)

He has not yet reported to me. Our custom is that --

(CONTINUED)

119 CONTINUED: (2)

119

KIRK

(breaks in)

Your custom is for the Warlord  
to keep you isolated and  
powerless. That's what Ksia  
was trying to tell you.

KITUMBA

(angrily)

You will not speak to me in this  
manner.

KIRK

Someone has to. Your Warlord  
has acted without your knowledge  
or approval... acted in a way  
that will destroy your empire.  
One word from you can stop it.  
Stand up to him.

The Kitumba is torn by the frustrating fury of his  
seventeen years, caught between boyhood and manhood  
with its fears and uncertainties. There is rage on  
his face, but his eyes glisten with what might possibly  
be tears. Abruptly he turns on his heels, slams out  
of the room. The Guards look after him, alarmed, and  
move hostilely toward Kirk.

120 INT. ALLEY - CLOSE SHOT - TAVERN WINDOW

120

Xon, in Klingon uniform, appears, looks in through the  
window of the tavern. From inside comes MUSIC, the  
SOUND of VOICES, confusion. Xon moves toward the door.

KLINGON'S VOICE

(calls)

Soldier!

CAMERA PULLS BACK as Xon turns to face a KLINGON with  
a hard, cruel face.

KLINGON

Our orders are not to frequent  
the Subject taverns.

(adds wryly)

Unless disguised.

(studies Xon)

Who are you? What is your  
group?

Xon hesitates an instant, notices the Klingon's hand  
is on his sword hilt.

(CONTINUED)

120 CONTINUED:

120

XON

On detached service.

KLINGON

Who cleared you to this area?

The sword is now partially out of its sheath.

XON

You wish my orders?

From his belt he takes a paper and, as the Klingon leans forward to read in the dim light, Xon's hand streaks out, applies a Vulcan nerve pinch. The soldier's sword arm drops, paralyzed. He opens his mouth. The scream is cut off. Xon keeps his hand in place.

XON

(continuing)

So long as I maintain this pressure, you can neither speak nor act. I am looking for Baro Kali. He has a lightning scar on his face. Do you know him? You may nod.

The Klingon maintains a stoic silence until Xon increases the pressure. In agony, the man nods..

XON

(continuing)

I have no wish to hurt you, but you will take me to him. I know you do not fear death. But you have no defense against this.

As the Klingon makes another effort to resist, Xon intensifies the pressure. The man writhes in agony.

XON

(continuing)

You will take me to Kali?

The Klingon nods in anguish. Xon eases up, but maintains his grip.

XON

(continuing)

I deeply regret the necessity of this. Please lead the way.

The now-docile Klingon leads him down the alley.

121 INT. SACRED PALACE ANTEROOM - CLOSE SHOT - DOOR 121

as Taru enters. She is hurried, upset. CAMERA PANS her to REVEAL Kirk and the two Klingons.

TARU

So, it's true that the alien is here.

(to First Klingon)

How dare you bring him to the Sacred Palace?

FIRST KLINGON

The Kitumba's orders, Baro.

TARU

(to Kirk)

What have you said to him?

KIRK

Why don't you ask the Kitumba?

Furious, she checks her hand just short of drawing her dagger.

TARU

That is the last time you will speak in that insulting way to a Klingon Baro. What was said between you? To save your life, answer quickly.

Kirk looks at her, makes no reply.

122 ANOTHER ANGLE - GROUP - PAST KIRK 122

as Taru stands back.

TARU

Kill him.

FIRST KLINGON

But the Kitumba --

TARU

(snaps)

On my order.

Kirk has quietly removed his cloak, holds it in his left hand. As the Klingon lunges, Kirk sidesteps, grasps the sword in his protected hand, pushing in the direction of the thrust.

(CONTINUED)

122 CONTINUED:

122

As the soldier passes, Kirk uses his right hand to deliver a Judo chop at the base of his skull. The Klingon drops. Grabbing his sword, Kirk turns to meet the rush of the Second Klingon. He does not attempt to duel but simply parries and binds the blade. His right foot kicks the Klingon's leg off balance. Then he rolls the Klingon over his back in a Judo throw, sends him sprawling. But Kirk's own back is now unprotected. Taru draws, rushes him, her dagger upraised.

KITUMBA'S VOICE

(shouts)

Stop!

Taru stops, turns, as the Kitumba enters.

KITUMBA

How dare my prisoner be attacked.

Taru and the Two Guards prostrate themselves. He claps. They rise.

KITUMBA

(continuing)

Explain.

TARU

Forgive me, Lord, I had no idea the alien was under your protection. Shall I Remove?

But the Kitumba has disregarded her, comes forward to Kirk, puzzled.

KITUMBA

How did you overcome the soldiers?

KIRK

It is an ancient method. Bare-handed defense. Fighting without weapons, without killing.

KITUMBA

What honor is there in that?

KIRK

Honor doesn't consist of killing or dying. What's important is how you live.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)



122 CONTINUED: (2)

122

KIRK (CONT'D)

(wryly)

That's a particularly important  
lesson for you.

KITUMBA

I don't understand.

KIRK

You own the life of everyone in  
your empire. Therefore, every  
life lost diminishes you.

123 CLOSE SHOT - KITUMBA

123

He looks stunned.

KITUMBA

Not even Ksia has ever expressed  
such a thought. Show me again  
how you did that weaponless  
fighting.

Kirk turns to the Klingons.

KIRK

Gentlemen, would you oblige?  
Rush me. You first!

The Klingon looks to Kitumba for permission. He nods.  
Quickly, the Klingon lunges. Kirk falls backward with  
the lunge, rolls over, throws the Klingon. Then,  
jumping to his feet, he turns to the Second one.

KIRK

(continuing)

Now you.

The Second Klingon is not to be taken in by the mis-  
take of the first. He circles, warily. Kirk ducks  
suddenly, comes up with both fists under the man's  
sword arm, knocks his weapon flying, trips him with a  
leg kick so that he lands comically on his rump. His  
fellow Klingon laughs uproariously.

124. CLOSE SHOT - SECOND KLINGON

124

as the laughter continues, even Taru joins in. Humi-  
liated, the Second Soldier gets to his feet.

125 CLOSE SHOT - GROUP - PAST TARU 125

as the Second Soldier comes up to her, bows.

SECOND SOLDIER

May I erase the shame?

Taru nods and, before Kirk and the Kitumba can intervene, the Soldier has snapped off his bracelet, pressed it to his neck and...

126 CLOSE SHOT - GROUP - PAST KITUMBA 126

as Kirk turns to him. He has trouble containing his fury.

KIRK

That is another soldier lost to you. He did not die with honor. He died a coward, running away from his humiliation instead of living to learn the technique that could have made him master of a new defense.

The Kitumba looks to Taru, then back at Kirk, puzzled.

KITUMBA

You aliens have a way of looking at life that is -- astonishing.

TARU

It is disgusting.

(to Kitumba)

I beg permission to withdraw.

The Kitumba nods. She goes quickly. Kirk looks after her with a faint smile on his lips.

KIRK

There are a few lessons the Baro Taru could learn. It would be interesting to teach her.

127 INT. CORRIDOR 127

as Taru comes quickly up to two heavily armed Klingons guarding the door. They snap to attention, open the door for her. She walks in.

128 CLOSE SHOT - COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER 128

surrounded by banks of electronic gear.

(CONTINUED)

128 CONTINUED:

128

TARU

Call Ultar on the emergency  
frequency. I must talk to  
Warlord Malkthon at once.

129 INT. ULTAR COMMAND CENTER

129

It is, in effect, a war room, surrounded by star  
charts, electronic displays of battle unit movements.  
Malkthon's back is to us, his huge head and thick neck  
studying the battle display.

COMMUNICATOR'S VOICE

Lord Malkthon.

He turns and we SEE the heavy eyes and the cruel mouth.

COMMUNICATOR'S VOICE

(continuing)

Baro Taru calls from the Sacred  
Planet.

CAMERA PANS WITH Malkthon as he moves quickly to a  
view screen which holds Taru's image.

TARU

The alien captain is here in  
the Sacred Palace.

MALKTHON

He has broken the terms of  
sanctuary?

TARU

No. He is under the Kitumba's  
protection. With his bare  
hands, I saw him defeat two  
armed Klingon warriors. He  
seems to have cast a spell over  
the Kitumba. He does what he  
pleases in the Sacred Presence.

Malkthon's face is dark with rage.

MALKTHON

Why do you call me? Can't you  
handle a simple execution?

TARU

But he has the Kitumba's  
protection.

(CONTINUED)

129 CONTINUED:

129

MALKTHON

He does not have mine.

CAMERA MOVES IN to his face as he adds with finality:

MALKTHON

(continuing)

Kill him.

FADE OUT.

END OF PART ONE

STAR TREK II

"KITUMBA"

PART TWO

Written by  
John Meredyth Lucas

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Harold Livingston  
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WRITER'S WORK DRAFT

January 27, 1978

STAR TREK

"Kitumba"

PART TWO

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

- 1 REPRISE OF PART ONE - POSSIBLY SEVERAL MINUTES - OR: 1  
ALTERNATIVE - ENTERPRISE IN ORBIT

DECKER'S VOICE

Captain's log, Stardate 1428.9.  
Commander Decker in command of  
the Enterprise. The captain is  
on the Klingon Sacred Planet,  
believed a prisoner. Lieutenant  
Xon has beamed down to find Kali,  
leader of the Klingon opposition.  
The success of the mission is in  
grave doubt. Rather than risk  
capture, our standing orders are  
to destroy the Enterprise and  
ourselves.

- 2 EXT. SACRED PLANET - DOOR - NIGHT 2

as the door is opened to reveal KALI. He looks sur-  
prised.

KALI

Kluman, what are you doing here  
at this hour?

CAMERA PULLS BACK TO REVEAL A KLINGON with XON. Xon's  
hand still rests gently on the pressure point, control-  
ling the soldier.

KLINGON

I am a prisoner, Lord.

Kali's sword clears its sheath.

KALI

(to Xon)

Who are you?

XON

Lieutenant Xon, Captain Kirk's  
science officer.

(CONTINUED)

2.

2 CONTINUED:

2

Quickly Kali's eyes check the street to be sure they are unobserved. He holds the door wide, and gestures them in.

KALI

Bring him in quickly.

3 INT. KALI'S ROOM

3

Spartan, bare. Kali closes the door.

KALI

What do you want here?

XON

You are our only contact on the planet. As head of the Klingon underground I hope you will know what has become of Captain Kirk.

Kali's face is suffused with rage.

KALI

You fool! In front of this soldier you betrayed me and the entire movement.

XON

I'm sorry, I took the only logical course.

KALI

Kluman will report this.

He turns to the Klingon.

KALI

(continuing)

Kluman, capture by an alien is a shame that can only be erased by removal. I order you to --

XON

(cuts in)

Wait! You're telling him to commit suicide?

(as Kali nods)

I will not be responsible for this man's needless death.

Still maintaining his hold on the pressure point, Xon speaks slowly and distinctly to the Klingon.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

XON

(continuing)

You will return to the tavern  
where I found you. You will  
enter by the rear door and will  
remember nothing of this encounter.  
Is that clear?

KLINGON

I will enter the tavern and  
remember nothing of this encounter.

Xon releases him.

XON

Go now.

The Klingon's eyes are somewhat glazed as he turns and  
goes out the door. Kali stares at him until the door  
shuts. Then he looks back at Xon, stunned.

KALI

How did you do that?

XON

The procedure is too complex  
to explain, but it is quite  
effective.

Kali studies Xon's ears.

KALI

You are of a different race from  
the Captain. Are you a Vulcan?

XON

That is correct. Where is the  
Captain?

KALI

He was taken as a prisoner to  
the Sacred Palace.

XON

He is alive?

KALI

The Kitumba would probably spare  
his life. But, under the  
influence of Taru, I can't be  
sure. Certainly she and Malkthon  
want him dead. Malkthon is ready  
to move.

(CONTINUED)



3 CONTINUED: (2)

4.

3

XON

You have spies in Malkthon's command?

KALI

Yes, even on Ultar itself. They've just given me the code word for the sneak attack on the Federation. It is Kitumbala -- which means the spread of Power.

One of Xon's eyebrows raises quickly.

XON

The spread of power. Where will it end?

KALI

The entire galaxy. Malkthon is trying to arrange a non-aggression treaty with the Romulans. There's a Romulan delegation on Ultar now. If he can get the Romulans to keep hands off while he destroys the Federation --

XON

(concludes)

-- then he will turn on the Romulans next. Logical. Divide and conquer. An ancient and tested treachery. Does your anti-war group have enough strength to stop Malkthon?

KALI

It's not a question of numbers. As long as Malkthon is Warlord -- as long as he acts in the name of the Kitumba -- even I would not dare oppose him. Our only hope is that the Kitumba will stand against him.

Xon's communicator SOUNDS. Quickly he takes it.

XON

Xon.

DECKER'S VOICE

A Klingon warship has just entered the system, and is orbiting the Sacred Planet.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: (3)

3

XON

Understand. Out.

He replaces the communicator.

KALI

That could only be Malkthon.  
He's come to ask the Kitumba to  
issue battle orders.

XON

Will the Kitumba agree?

Kali shrugs.

XON

(continuing)

How can we get to the Sacred  
Palace?

KALI

As a Baro I have free access to  
the Palace. But, with the  
additional security of Malkthon's  
arrival, you would certainly be  
discovered. That would implicate  
me and all of us who hope to avoid  
this war. It would be the end of  
any opposition.

XON

Whatever the odds are, Baro, it  
is necessary to act. If what  
your informants say is true, the  
war starts now -- unless we  
prevent it.

CAMERA PUSHES IN TIGHT on Kali's face as he wrestles  
with the decision.

4 INT. AUDIENCE CHAMBER

4

We are SHOOTING PAST the glittering fountains at the  
great room filled with people.

5 CLOSE SHOT - KALI

5

He stands in the crush of people, near the dais with  
its incredible jewel. Xon is concealed behind him.  
Kali looks across the other side of the dais, where  
TARU stands, her face tense. The boy, PRINCE KLUN,  
is with her. Suddenly there is a hush in the room.

## 6 LOW ANGLE - ENTRANCE 6

as MALKTHON, Warlord of the Klingons, strides forward past the fountains. Malkthon is a stocky man, hard faced, wearing the Klingon uniform of silver mail, but with a gold chain around his neck. CAMERA PANS with him as he strides to the dais. All except the young prince fall to one knee. Malkthon comes to an arrogant stop before the dais, waits. After an instant, as though materializing from the many-faceted mirrors of the jewel, the KITUMBA appears. Malkthon prostrates himself with all the others.

## 7 CLOSE SHOT - KITUMBA 7

With a graceful movement of his head, he drops the cowl and signals his people to rise.

## 8 HIGH SHOT - MALKTHON AND GROUP PAST KITUMBA 8

MALKTHON

Lord Kitumba, your servant  
Malkthon wishes you long life  
and happiness.

(as the Kitumba  
nods)

In accordance with your divine  
wishes battle plans have been  
drawn to insure a stunning  
victory, and an almost incredible  
extension of your empire.

From his sleeve he takes a scroll.

MALKTHON

(continuing)

Your servant asks you to approve  
this glorious war with your sacred  
seal.

Malkthon's manner is reverent, humble, but his eyes are imperious, commanding, as he extends the scroll. The Kitumba accepts it.

## 9 CLOSE SHOT - KITUMBA 9

He hesitates, looking as though he will comply. Then suddenly he seems to stiffen.

KITUMBA

Our thanks, Malkthon. We will  
study the order and advise you.

Instantly he turns and vanishes into the mirror maze of the great jewel.

10 CLOSE SHOT - MALKTHON

10

stunned, totally unprepared for this. He turns, walks to Taru. They stare at each other, unbelieving. Malkthon's face is filled with rage.

11 CLOSE SHOT - KALI AND XON

11

Kali steps back, quickly signals Xon to follow him. Quickly they make their way to the side door of the audience chamber.

12 INT. ANTEROOM

12

As Kali and Xon enter, Kali closes the door.

KALI

That was a surprise. But I'm worried about Malkthon's next step.

XON

His face expressed intense emotion.

KALI

And with good cause. He's in a terrible position. If he's forced to recall all the battle fleets, stop the war he's already set in motion, his shame will force him to Remove.

XON

The Kitumba's action seemed somewhat impetuous. Do you believe he will really oppose the war?

KALI

(shrugs)

If he does it will be because of your Captain. Despite the Kitumba's protection, I think Captain Kirk's life is in grave danger.

XON

Do you know where the Captain is held?

KALI

Somewhere near the Kitumba's quarters.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

KALI (CONT'D)

But they'll be under heavy guard.  
I might possibly be admitted,  
but --

XON

(insistently)

We must both try.

13 INT. CORRIDOR - CLOSE SHOT - KLINGON GUARD

13

as Kali walks up with Xon partly concealed behind him.  
The GUARD studies him with cold eyes.

KALI

Announce Baro Kali to the Kitumba.

GUARD

My orders are that nobody --

That is as far as he gets. Xon has leapt forward and  
his Vulcan neck pinch drops the Guard like a sack.  
Kali looks around.

KALI

There. The maintenance room.

CAMERA PANS them as they pull the Guard's body to the  
narrow door, stuff him inside.

XON

He will regain consciousness in  
an hour. We must hurry.

14 INT. KITUMBA'S ANTECHAMBER - CLOSE SHOT - KIRK AND GUARD

14

The GUARD spins, his hand going for his sword as the  
door opens and Xon and Kali enter.

KALI

(to Guard)

We were passed through on Lord  
Malkthon's orders.

XON

Baro Kali is here to interrogate  
the alien.

The sword returns to its sheath. The Guard nods.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

KALI

This information is classified.  
Maintain your guard on the  
prisoner from a distance.

GUARD

Yes, Baro.

He walks to the far side of the room, out of earshot.

XON

Captain, the code name for the  
attack is Kitumbala. The signal  
has already been given. The  
battle fleets are moving.

Kirk looks quickly to Kali, who nods, confirming it.

KALI

But the Kitumba has not yet  
signed. He accepted the scroll  
from Malkthon, and left the  
audience chamber.

KIRK

Maybe he's decided to use his  
power after all, to make a stand.

KALI

It was an impulsive decision.  
Malkthon is determined. I  
believe his first action will  
be to kill you.

XON

Captain, I have my communicator.  
We can beam aboard the Enterprise  
to safety.

KIRK

Our safety depends on what  
happens here. If the Kitumba  
gives in to Malkthon, we're  
already dead.

KALI

He's very young to make such a  
decision.

KIRK

But if he does refuse, Malkthon  
must be a desperate man. Could  
he force the Kitumba -- or kill  
him?

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: (2)

14

Kali's face blanches.

KALI

That is sacrilege.

But after a stunned moment, he nods.

KALI

(continuing)

With Malkthon, almost anything  
is possible.

15 INT. COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE - CLOSE SHOT - MALKTHON

15

his face suffused with fury.

MALKTHON

What's happened to the Kitumba?

CAMREA PULLS BACK TO REVEAL him with Taru. We SEE  
guards beyond the glass doors of the control room.

MALKTHON

(continuing)

I left you in charge. He's  
worse now than when Ksia had  
him.

TARU

I know. It must be the influence  
of the alien.

MALKTHON

I told you to dispose of the  
alien.

TARU

(stunned)

Of course. But not while he's  
under the Kitumba's protection.  
That would be --

MALKTHON

That simply means we must be  
unusually careful. We need a  
plan that will put the alien in  
a compromising --

He breaks off. Something close to a smile flits over  
his face.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED:

15

MALKTHON

(continuing)

What ceremonial weapon did the  
alien carry?

TARU

A short, flimsy sword.

MALKTHON

Excellent!

TARU

It was a useless toy, it could  
do no damage.

MALKTHON

Perhaps it could do just enough.

Let me see it.

(barks)

Now!

Taru turns quickly to the desk computer; punches keys.  
On the monitor appears a shot of Kirk in the great  
Audience Chamber as he makes his speech to the Kitumba.

MALKTHON

(continuing;

orders)

The weapon. Let me see the  
weapon.

Taru punches keys and the scene on the monitor ZOOMS  
IN to a very CLOSE SHOT of the sword at Kirk's waist.

MALKTHON

(continuing;

orders)

Freeze. Lock in. Analyze.  
Duplicate.

In order, she presses the keys. There is a wild ripple  
of multi-colored light, a pulsating glow from the  
machine. On one monitor is the picture of Kirk's sword.  
On the monitor beside it appears a schematic drawing  
of it -- a single line graph. The machine is analyzing  
its structure. The drawing begins to rotate in sync  
with the picture. As it rotates through 360 degrees,  
it gradually takes on more detail, more appearance of  
reality until both monitors show identical pictures.  
Malkthon goes to the Replication Chamber.



16 CLOSE SHOT - REPLICATION CHAMBER - PAST MALKTHON  
AND TARU

16

as a brilliant glow fades from the chamber to reveal a perfect replica of Kirk's sword. Malkthon takes it out, studies it, pleased.

TARU

(puzzled)

What good is it? It's a toy.

MALKTHON

(smiles)

This toy will win the war for us.

Taru looks at him wonderingly.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

17 INT. BRIDGE - VIEWER PAST DECKER 17

Below is the huge curve of the Sacred Planet. A large Klingon battle cruiser is in orbit below the Enterprise. Suddenly a dot appears from the planet, picking up speed with an incredible rate, then passing them.

18 LOW ANGLE - DECKER 18

as he turns to Uhura.

DECKER  
Contact Lieutenant Xon.

19 INT. KITUMBA'S ANTECHAMBER - CLOSE SHOT - XON 19

as his COMMUNICATOR BUZZES. Xon turns away, concealing the action from the Klingon Guard.

XON  
(into communicator)  
Xon here.

20 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE SHOT - DECKER 20

DECKER  
Have you located the Captain?

XON'S VOICE  
Yes, I am with him now.

DECKER  
A small fast Klingon cruiser just left the planet in the direction of Ultar.

21 INT. ANTECHAMBER - KIRK, XON AND KALI 21

Kirk takes the communicator.

KIRK  
Kirk here. Could Malkthon have been aboard that ship?

(CONTINU\_D)

21 CONTINUED:

21

DECKER'S VOICE

I don't know, Sir, but the ship  
he arrived on is still in orbit.

KIRK

Keep us advised of all  
developments. Kirk out.

He hands the communicator back to Xon.

KIRK

(continuing; to  
Kali)

Well, we're definitely trapped  
here now.

KALI

(nods)

Malkthon would not have left  
without getting the Kitumba's  
approval of the war.

KIRK

We've got to talk to the Kitumba.  
If there's any chance to influence  
his decision, to make him rescind  
it, we've got to take it. Where  
are his private quarters?

KALI

Down the passageway, to the  
left. But it's heavily guarded.

KIRK

Mr. Xon will give us a further  
demonstration of his Vulcan  
powers.

KALI

(smiles, then calls)

Guard!

The Klingon comes to him.

KALI

(continuing)

Has the prisoner talked to  
anyone else since he was brought  
here?

GUARD

No, Baro.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED: (2)

21

Using the distraction of the Guard, Xon slips behind him, applies the Vulcan pinch, drops him.

KIRK

Well done, Mr. Xon. Now, the guard outside.

They go to the door.

22 INT. CORRIDOR - CLOSE SHOT - KLINGON GUARD

22

As the door opens, the Guard turns. Kali steps directly in front of him, distracting him, giving Xon a clear angle of attack.

KALI

Call your commander. I wish to move the prisoner for reasons of security --

Kali breaks off. Xon has made his pinch, and the Klingon is on the floor. Quickly they drag him back into the apartment, close the door behind them. Kali draws his sword.

KALI

(continuing)

You two walk ahead as my prisoners. I hope we can convince the guards.

23 MOVING SHOT - GROUP

23

as Kali pretends to drive Kirk and Xon ahead of him, the razor-sharp sword inches from their backs.

KIRK

(whispers)

I don't know about the guards but you've convinced me.

They turn a corner, and now come opposite a pair of huge metal doors, flanked by TWO KLINGON GUARDS and a GUARD OFFICER. The Officer comes forward, his hand on his sword hilt.

OFFICER

What is your business?

KALI

We are here to see the Kitumba.

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

23

OFFICER

On whose orders?

KALI

The Power sent for us. He wishes  
to question the aliens.

The Officer looks for a moment in Kali's eyes, then  
steps back.

OFFICER

Pass, Baro Kali.

24 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK AND XON

24

Kirk looks at Xon, tries to conceal his relief. They  
move.

25 INT. KITUMBA'S CHAMBERS

25

The Kitumba sits on a bench, looking troubled, as the  
huge metal doors are opened by the Guards. Kali shep-  
herds Kirk and Xon in. The Kitumba jumps to his feet.  
Quickly Kali kneels before him.

KALI

(pleads)

Please, Lord, let us speak to  
you. It is urgent.

The Kitumba hesitates, confused. Then he nods a dis-  
missal to the Guard Officer, who withdraws. The doors  
are closed behind him. Kali studies the Kitumba. He  
is clearly disturbed, agitated.

KALI

(continuing)

Lord, what is wrong?

KITUMBA

You were my father's Warlord,  
Kali. His advisor. Advise me  
now. I don't know who to trust,  
what to believe.

KIRK

What's happened?

KITUMBA

Malkthon has sent the Prince to  
Ultar.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

KIRK

Your brother?

XON

A six-year-old boy?

KITUMBA

(nods)

I was not asked for approval. I was not consulted. Why? Prince Klun is too young for his warrior training.

Kali's face is grim. Kirk studies him a moment.

KIRK

You're thinking the same thing I am. A six-year-old Kitumba would be more controllable.

There are tears of frustration in the old man's eyes. The Kitumba has been looking back and forth with growing astonishment.

KITUMBA

You think that Malkthon would proclaim Klun as Kitumba?

(as Kali nods)

He would act against the lawful Kitumba?

KIRK

(to Kali)

Is it possible to proclaim one Kitumba while the other one lives?

KALI

(grimly)

No.

(to Kitumba)

I can prove nothing, but Malkthon was determined to be Warlord. Your father's death was sudden, unexpected. I was deposed, and you proclaimed. Malkthon became Warlord.

The boy looks at him with growing horror.

KIRK

Malkthon is still on the planet.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED: (2)

25

KIRK (CONT'D)

We have to get the Kitumba to a place of safety.

KALI

Where?

KIRK

The Enterprise.

KITUMBA

But on an alien vessel?

KIRK

At least they won't look for you there. Not for a while. And when they do, we can put up a fight.

XON

Captain, the odds against success are --

KIRK

I said we could fight, not that we could win.

(to Kitumba)

Where is the communications room?

The Kitumba looks puzzled, doesn't know what he's talking about.

KALI

The location is secret. Only Malkthon or Taru would know.

KIRK

(wryly)

And they're not about to tell us.

KITUMBA

Why is it important we reach them?

KIRK

You have a hundred battle cruisers orbiting. If we could establish communication, and you took control of them, we could --

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED: (3)

25

XON

Your pardon, Captain, but logic would suggest that Malkthon has already taken action to block communications.

KIRK

Apparently the Kitumba's life is in as much danger as ours. So we'd better get to the Enterprise.

XON

There is considerably less than one chance in a hundred for the Enterprise to run the Klingon blockade.

KIRK

Considering the alternative, I'll take that risk.

There is a KNOCK at the door. Kirk waves Xon and Kali back, out of sight. He takes his position behind the door, ready to spring into action. Then he whispers to the Kitumba.

KIRK

(continuing)

Let them in.

KITUMBA

(calls)

Enter!

The door opens and the Klingon Guard Officer makes his obeisance. The Kitumba claps for him to rise.

OFFICER

Warlord Malkthon begs a private audience in the Sacred Hall.

The Kitumba hesitates an instant, his eyes flash to Kirk.

26 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK

26

as he nods.



27 GUARD PAST KITUMBA

27

KITUMBA

(nods)

Tell Malkthon I grant the  
audience.

The Guard makes a quick obeisance, withdraws. The  
door closes.

28 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK

28

CAMERA PANS him as he comes forward to the Kitumba.  
Xon and Kali also come up.

KIRK

What are you going to tell him?

KITUMBA

I don't know. I -- I will hear  
his petition.

KALI

He will say you must approve  
the war.

The Kitumba looks from Kali to Kirk.

KITUMBA

And you say I shouldn't.

Kali nods.

KIRK

It's what Xsia said. What he  
died for. It's what I say.

The boy looks panicked, uncertain.

KITUMBA

But it is not the custom to  
challenge the Warlord.

Kirk and Kali exchange a glance.

KIRK

(softly)

This interview will be a disaster.

Quickly he takes Xon's communicator, flips.

KIRK

(continuing)

Kirk to Enterprise.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED:

28

KIRK (CONT'D)

Scotty, stand by to beam the  
Kitumba aboard.

KITUMBA

Wait!

He moves forward. Kirk takes his arm.

KIRK

Please don't argue. Go for  
your own safety, and ours.  
We'll stay and try and find  
the control room.

He turns back to the communicator.

KIRK

(continuing)

All right, Scotty. Now.

Before the Kitumba can protest he shimmers out and is  
gone.

29 CLOSE SHOT - KALI AND XON PAST KIRK

29

Kirk hands the communicator back to Xon.

KIRK

What do we do now? When  
Malkthon finds the Kitumba  
gone, the search will start.

KALI

(uncomfortably)

You understand it is not that  
the Kitumba is lacking in  
Klingon honor, it is only that  
the weight of custom —

KIRK

(with sympathy)

He's seventeen, and he's suddenly  
forced to do a man's job.

Kali nods his gratitude.

KALI

We have only a few minutes.  
When the Kitumba fails to  
appear for the interview...

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED:

29

XON

Captain, I am the same size and build as the Kitumba. Because of my superior hearing and discernment, I should be able to force my vocal chords into a reasonable approximation of the Kitumba's speech. I believe the power of suggestion will do the rest.

KIRK

You're suggesting you give the audience?

XON

It would buy a little time while you find the communications room.

Kirk looks very doubtful, but Kali nods.

KALI

I have seen what he can do.  
It might work.

(after an instant)

Come into the vesting chamber.

He leads the way to a small door in the side of the room. A touch panel opens it.

30 INT. VESTING CHAMBER

30

as they enter. It is a small room, with an odd-shaped faceted window leaning out at a forty-five degree angle. They go up to the window.

31 CLOSE SHOT - GROUP AT WINDOW

31

The window looks down into the great Audience Chamber.

KALI

We are standing at the top of the great jewel itself. It is here that the Kitumba waits for the proper moment to appear to his people.

He turns away.

32 ANOTHER ANGLE - ROOM

32

as Kali comes up to a rack where a series of elaborate state robes hang. Behind the rack, a circular staircase leads down. Xon examines the robes, chooses the one with the cowl.

XON

This, I think, will be best.

They watch as he puts it on, pulls the cowl up, concealing his ears. He turns away for an instant, adjusting the robe. When he turns back, he is the Kitumba. He speaks with the Kitumba's voice, with just the right amount of hauteur.

XON

(continuing)

Tell Malkthon I grant the audience.

KIRK

(stunned)

How the devil did you do that?

Xon becomes Xon again.

XON

A Vulcan technique, Captain.  
Somewhat complicated to explain.

KALI

I think he's here.

The others follow him to the window.

33 HIGH SHOT - WINDOW PAST KIRK, XON AND KALI

33

Below them we SEE Malkthon enter between the sparkling fountains and approach the dais.

KIRK

(to Xon)

Stall him as long as you can.

Kali has already moved away.

34 CLOSE SHOT - KALI AT DESK COMPUTER

34

As Kirk and Xon leave the window, Kali is already punching up a series of diagrams on the monitor. As Xon descends the spiral staircase, Kirk bends over the monitor.

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED:

34

KALI

These are the plans of the Sacred Palace. The communication room will probably be on a subterranean guard level.

They watch the schematic diagrams change rapidly on the face of the viewer.

35 INT. AUDIENCE HALL - CLOSE SHOT - MALKTHON

35

as Xon/Kitumba appears from the jewel. Quickly Malkthon prostrates himself. Then, as the Kitumba claps his hands, he rises.

36 CLOSE SHOT - MALKTHON PAST XON/KITUMBA

36

Malkthon approaches the dais. As before he speaks humbly, but his eyes are hard, determined.

MALKTHON

Lord, I ask if you have studied the plan of battle, and are ready to seal it with your Sacred Seal.

XON/KITUMBA

The plan, Lord Malkthon, seems to pose many dangers.

MALKTHON

The danger is only to your enemies.

37 INT. VESTING CHAMBER - KIRK AND KALI AT COMPUTER

37

The drawings replace each other with rapid succession on the viewer. Finally, Kali slams his hand down.

KALI

The location of the communications room has not been included in the Kitumba's computer. They deliberately kept it secret from him.

KIRK

So what do we do?

Kali shrugs helplessly.

38 INT. AUDIENCE CHAMBER - MALKTHON

38

MALKTHON

Lord, I know you have had battle training, but you are not yet acquainted with the strategy of war. Permit me to explain the plan.

Reverently he mounts the dais, until he is only one step below Xon/Kitumba. He moves with incredible suddenness, pulling the facsimile of Kirk's sword from his cloak. He plunges it into the heart of his victim. The sword goes completely through Xon/Kitumba's body, coming out of his back.

39 LOW ANGLE - JEWEL

39

as the CAMERA ZOOMS IN to the very top to REVEAL Kirk and Kali staring down in horror.

40 CLOSE - MALKTHON PAST BODY

40

as he turns and runs out between the fountains toward the entrance.

41 ENTRANCE

41

as the doors open and Taru comes in to almost collide with Malkthon. She takes one look at his face, realizes something is very wrong.

MALKTHON

The alien Captain has murdered our Lord, the Kitumba. Give him what honors are due. I go to Ultar to proclaim the new Kitumba.

He rushes out. Taru looks after him, then looks back toward the dais in horror.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

42 INT. AUDIENCE CHAMBER - LOW ANGLE - XON/KITUMBA 42

He lies with the sword through his body as Kirk and Kali run from the base of the jewel. Kirk bends over the body as Taru runs up.

TARU

(to Kali)

You see where your plotting has led. The murder of the Kitumba.

(turns -- calls)

Guards!

Quickly Kali grabs her.

KALI

No. The Captain did not do it.

You must believe me. Look.

Watch the record.

He goes quickly to a set of controls at the base of the great jewel, turns several dials.

43 LOW ANGLE - VIEWSCREEN - PAST GROUP 43

as they watch the picture on the screen. Malkthon makes his obeisance to the Kitumba, rises, approaches and drives the sword through his body. Kali turns to Taru.

KALI

I told you it was not the alien.

TARU

(dazed)

But Malkthon? How could he dare?

To destroy the Sacred Power...

44 GROUP PAST TARU 44

as Kali takes her by the shoulder's, turns her.

KALI

You see where Malkthon's drive to power has lead him. He has committed the ultimate sacrilege. Every Klingon must now make the choice of honor.

Taru stands.

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED:

44

TARU

I no longer serve Malkthon.  
For this shame we must all  
Remove.

Kirk turns, rises, CAMERA PUSHING IN to a TIGHT THREE  
SHOT.

KIRK

No! Stop wasting lives.  
Malkthon's the only one who  
must be Removed.

(flips the  
communicator)

Captain to Enterprise. Scotty,  
Xon's been stabbed, probably  
killed.

SCOTTY'S VOICE

Killed! Captain, I knew there'd  
be trouble when --

KIRK

(cuts in)

Beam him aboard immediately. I  
don't think there's much chance,  
but tell Bones I want a miracle.

45 LONG SHOT - GROUP

45

as they watch Xon's body shimmer and disappear.

46 CLOSE SHOT - TARU, KALI AND KIRK

46

Taru looks puzzled.

TARU

Xon? That was not the Kitumba?

KIRK

No, the Kitumba is safe aboard  
the Enterprise.

KALI

But Malkthon thought he killed  
the Kitumba. The sacrilege is  
the same. He must be stopped.

TARU

It was the perfect plan.  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)



46 CONTINUED:

46

TARU (CONT'D)

The Kitumba killed with the  
alien's sword would have rallied  
all Klingons.

KALI

Even we who hate Malkthon.

Kirk's COMMUNICATOR BUZZES.

DECKER'S VOICE

Bridge to Captain.

KIRK

Kirk here. Go ahead, Will.

DECKER'S VOICE

A shuttle from the Sacred Palace  
just entered Malkthon's spaceship.  
It's leaving orbit.

KIRK

Shields up. Malkthon may try to  
destroy the Enterprise as he  
leaves. Kirk out.

(to Taru)

Now, where is the communications  
room?

TARU

This way.

They follow her across the room to a door of a small  
antechamber.

47 INT. ANTECHAMBER - TARU, KIRK AND KALI

47

Taru goes to a small door in the antechamber, presses  
a combination on the servo-plates. The door slides  
open.

TARU

It's a pressure lift. The  
communications room is a thousand  
meters below the Palace.

She steps in, vanishes. Kirk and Kali exchange an  
anxious look, then follow.

48 INT. CORRIDOR - OUTSIDE COMMUNICATION ROOM

48

Two Klingons guard the room.

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTINUED:

48

An OFFICER IN COMMAND turns as Taru and Kali come up.  
The Officer bows.

TAUR

Lord Malkthon is safely out of  
the Home System?

OFFICER

He is.

Then she notices the disrupters the Officer and guards  
wear.

TARU

(shocked)

Those arms are not permitted on  
the Sacred Planet!

OFFICER

Lord Malkthon's orders.

TARU

Go to my quarters. I forgot my  
battle code. Bring the book.

(as he shakes his  
head)

It is classified. That is why  
I chose an officer.

OFFICER

(respectfully but  
firmly)

My orders are to guard the  
communications room, Baro.

TARU

(snaps)

Malkthon is on his way to Ultar.  
I command here.

OFFICER

True, Baro. But if I disobey  
Malkthon's orders, I must Remove.

TARU

(pleasantly)

I understand you are doing your  
duty. But I have a communication  
for the Grand Fleet that must be  
sent in secret. So, if you will  
take your men out of earshot,  
while I --

The Officer draws his disrupter, turns to the Soldiers.

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTINUED: (2)

48

OFFICER

(snaps)

Take her!

The Soldiers surround Taru and Kali.

OFFICER

(continuing)

Malkthon ordered the arrest of  
anyone trying to contact the  
Fleet. The charge is treason.

49 INT. SMALL ALCOVE - GROUP PAST KIRK

49

He is flattened back against the wall, and can see the  
Armed Guards surround Taru and Kali. He flips the  
communicator.

KIRK

Kirk to Enterprise. Scotty.  
Emergency. Beam me a phaser.

50 CLOSE SHOT - TARU, KALI AND SOLDIERS

50

OFFICER

You will be locked up and are  
forbidden to Remove until we  
receive Lord Malkthon's orders.  
(to the Guards)  
Take them to the holding pens.

51 CLOSE SHOT - GROUP PAST KIRK

51

as the two Guards start forward with Taru and Kali.  
Kirk puts his phaser on "stun," drops the two Guards.  
The Officer dashes forward, grabs Taru, and, holding  
her in front of him as a shield, FIRES his DISRUPTER.

52 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK

52

The disrupter disintegrates a large chunk of the wall  
near his head as Kirk dives for the floor.

53 LOW ANGLE - KIRK

53

He rolls forward as the disrupter hits the spot he has  
just left.

54 CLOSE SHOT - TARU AND OFFICER

54

She struggles, trying to free herself.

55 CLOSE SHOT - KALI

55

as he picks up the disrupter of a fallen Guard, turns, and, seeing an opening, disintegrates the Officer, freeing Taru. She takes the Officer's disrupter and, at point blank range, disintegrates the Guards before Kirk can protest.

TARU

You only stunned them. They would have recovered and reported us.

KIRK

It wasn't nessary to kill. But at least we have the communications room. Let's --

TARU

(shakes her head)

Only the Guard Officer would know the code. Without that the vessels would not accept the transmission. With him gone, it is better to destroy the equipment.

She turns, FIRES the DISRUPTER into the complex maze of communications equipment. It shorts, sparks, burns. Then she holsters the disrupter.

KIRK

Well, we've certainly burned our bridges here.

(flips the  
communicator)

Mr. Scott. Three to beam up.

56 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE SHOT - ELEVATOR DOOR

56

as it slides open, Kirk strides quickly up, followed by Decker, Taru and Kali. He crosses to where Kitumba stands, staring at the main view screen.

Kirk bows, Taru and Kali prostrate themselves. Quickly the Kitumba gives the signal to rise.

(CONTINUED)

56 CONTINUED:

56

KITUMBA

Captain, I am sorry for your friend who was killed in my place.

KIRK

We destroyed the communications room. I hope Malkthon doesn't try to make contact before we figure out what to do.

TARU

He has no reason to call. He thinks he killed the Kitumba. His mind will be occupied with proclaiming the new Kitumba and launching the war.

KALI

That gives us a little breathing time.

TARU

To do what? We can't leave. We can't get the Kitumba to safety.

KIRK

If we could communicate to those guardships, the Kitumba could take command of them.

TARU

But we can't, without the code. You saw what happened in the communications room. Malkthon has ordered anyone attempting to communicate to be treated as a spy and destroyed.

KITUMBA

So this ship will be destroyed, sooner or later. Why don't we fight our way out?

KIRK

I admire your courage, but we haven't a chance.

(breaks off,  
thinking)

No, I was wrong. We do have a chance. A very slim one.

(calls)

Mr. Scott.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

56 CONTINUED: (2)

56

KIRK (CONT'D)

(to group)

We're going to beam the Kitumba  
aboard the Klingon flagship.

DECKER

They'd never let us close enough.  
We'd be blown to pieces before  
we got out of orbit.

Scotty comes quickly over.

SCOTTY

You want me, Captain?

KIRK

Yes, Scotty. I want more speed  
from those engines than they've  
ever given before. We've got  
to literally jump out of orbit,  
before the Klingons suspect  
what we're doing. Mr. Decker,  
have Baro Taru identify the  
flagship, get on the computer,  
plot a precise course. And I  
mean precise.

SCOTTY

Captain, you're asking for warp  
speed from a standing start.  
Now, we got away with that once --

KIRK

Let's push our luck. Scotty,  
we'll beam the Kitumba aboard at  
the exact millisecond we come in  
range. I want you to tie the  
transporter into the main  
computer.

SCOTTY

We'll be under attack the instant  
we leave orbit. It's impossible  
to --

KIRK

I know it's impossible, Mr. Scott.  
We'll do it.

SCOTT

I can't beam him through our  
shields.

(CONTINUED)

56 CONTINUED: (3)

56

KIRK

(nods)

We'll need them up until we reach the middle of the fleet. Once we penetrate, we'll have a few seconds when they can't fire for fear of hitting their own ships. In that split second, we drop our port shield, and beam the Kitumba aboard. Once he's away, raise the shield because, the instant we're through the Klingon formation, we're a fair target again.

(to Kitumba)

Order a cease-fire the second you're aboard or we'll have the concentrated fire of a hundred ships on us.

Scotty shakes his head again in grim disapproval.

SCOTTY

Lord help us!

KIRK

Yes, Mr. Scott. I would be most grateful for that assistance.

He turns to Decker and ILIA.

KIRK

Can you handle it?

DECKER

(nods)

Yes, Sir.

KIRK

I'll be in Sickbay.

He goes quickly to the elevator. Scotty grimly shakes his head again.

SCOTTY

The odds against it are --

DECKER

(snaps)

We don't need the odds against.  
Do all you can for us.

Scotty looks startled.

(CONTINUED)

56 CONTINUED: (4)

56

SCOTTY

You sound just like the Captain.

DECKER

Thank you, Mister Scott.

57 INT. SICKBAY - CLOSE SHOT - McCOY

57

as Kirk enters quickly.

KIRK

Bones, what about Xon? Does he  
have a chance?

McCOY

(solemnly)

Jim, you asked for a miracle.  
I'm only a doctor. There are  
some things we have no control  
over.

He gets up, leads the way to the intensive care ward.

58 INT. INTENSIVE CARE ROOM

58

Xon lies still, unmoving on the bed as Kirk and McCoy  
enter. Kirk goes forward, looks down into the still  
face. Suddenly, Xon's eyes open.

XON

Captain, you made it back  
aboard. I am most gratified.Kirk stares at him, stunned, then spins around to  
look into McCoy's grinning face.

McCOY

Klingons have their hearts on  
the same side we do. In the  
excitement, you forgot Xon is a  
Vulcan.

KIRK

(shakes his head)

And his heart is on the right.

McCOY

The puncture wound was clean.  
It hit nothing of consequence.

(CONTINUED)



58 CONTINUED:

58

XON

I shall be fine, Captain. Just  
give me a few minutes.

Kirk's face loses some of the elation it held.

KIRK

(grimly)

That may be all the time any of  
us have.

Xon and McCoy react as Kirk leaves.

59 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE SHOT - ELEVATOR

59

As the doors snap open, CAMERA MOVES WITH Kirk as he  
swiftly crosses to Decker at the computer station.  
The air of tension in the Control Room is almost a  
physical thing.

KIRK

Ready, Mister Decker?

DECKER

Ready as we'll ever be, sir.

KIRK

Mister Scott, we'll use maximum  
warp.

Scott turns from his panels.

SCOTTY

Ksia gave us a precise plot  
coming in, Captain. But, going  
out --

He shrugs. There is no use completing the sentence.

60 CLOSE SHOT - GROUP - PAST KIRK

60

KIRK

Then stand by in the Transporter  
Room with the Kitumba. All  
sequencing will be automatic  
through the main computer.

SCOTTY

Aye, aye, sir.

As he reaches the elevator, it opens and Xon, pale,  
moving slowly, comes out.

(CONTINUED)

60 CONTINUED:

60

KIRK

Mister Xon, get back to Sickbay.

XON

With your permission, Captain,  
I wish to see this fascinating  
maneuver.

KIRK

Then I suggest that you brace  
yourself.

(to Ilia)

Are you satisfied with the  
coordinates Lieutenant?

ILIA

Yes, sir.

KIRK

Course locked in, Mister Sulu?

SULU

Aye, sir.

Kirk leans to the chair communicator.

KIRK

Mister Scott, are you at your  
station?

61 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM - CLOSE SHOT - SCOTTY

61

The Kitumba stands on the Transporter Platform behind  
him.

SCOTT

Aye, sir. We're ready here.

62 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE SHOT - KIRK

62

as he turns back.

KIRK

Main view screen on.

Uhura works the controls.

63 VIEW SCREEN - PAST KIRK

63

as we SEE the planet moving by beneath us.

(CONTINUED)

63 CONTINUED:

63

KIRK

Very well, Mister Sulu. Take  
us out of orbit. Maximum warp.  
And go to automatic sequencing.

SULU

Leaving orbit. Sequencing to  
automatic.

There is a sudden sickening shock. The planet's face  
vanishes from the screen as the Enterprise leaps in-  
stantly to hyper-speed.

64 EXT. SPACE

64

as the Enterprise streaks by us, a blur, towards the  
cordon of orbiting space ships. One of the Klingon  
ships FIRES.

65 INT. BRIDGE

65

There is a jolt.

DECKER

Glancing blow on the forward  
shields. No damage.

KIRK

They're more alert than I  
thought.

Then there is a really tremendous BLOW, as a broadside  
catches them with stunning force.

KIRK

(continuing)

Damage? Mister Decker?

DECKER

Starboard main shield down to  
thirty percent. It won't take  
another direct hit.

KIRK

We're inside the Klingon ring.

66 EXT. SPACE

66

as the Enterprise penetrates the ring of Klingon ships.

67 INT. BRIDGE - GROUP - PAST DECKER 67

Decker turns to Kirk.

DECKER

Post forward shield lowered.

Transporter is sequencing.

68 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM - KITUMBA - PAST SCOTTY 68

As Scotty watches, the Kitumba shimmers OUT OF SIGHT.

SCOTTY

He's beamed away.

69 EXT. SPACE 69

The Enterprise is now through the ring of Klingon ships, out in clear space again.

70 INT. BRIDGE - GROUP - PAST KIRK 70

KIRK

(orders)

Port shield up.

(a prayer)

All right, Kitumba. It's all up to you now. Convince them.

There is a HIT.

DECKER

Stern shield. Direct hit.

71 EXT. SPACE 71

as several Klingon ships FIRE at the Enterprise.

72 INT. BRIDGE - GROUP - PAST KIRK 72

The POUNDING is incessant.

DECKER

Stern shields down to eighty percent.

Another JOLT.

(CONTINUED)

72 CONTINUED:

72

DECKER

(continuing)

Down to fifty -- No. Total  
power failure. Stern shields  
gone.

CAMERA PUSHES PAST the horrified expressions of the  
crew to a CLOSEUP of Kirk. The nerve in his jaw jumps  
as he rises, waiting.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

73 EXT. SPACE - KLINGON FLEET 73

as the massive Klingon battle cruisers FIRE a  
broadside.

74 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE - CREW - PAST KIRK 74

All eyes are on the viewscreens.

DECKER

Captain, stern screens are  
completely dead.

KIRK

Mister Sulu, hard aport!

Sulu moves with lightning speed.

SULU

Hard aport, aye, sir.

The helm responds. Then the ship takes a punishing  
BROADSIDE.

DECKER

Direct hit, port shield.

UHURA

Damage deck four.

DECKER

Port shield at half strength.

KIRK

Mister Scott, cut power all  
nonessential areas. See what  
you can do for that stern shield.

UHURA

(breaks in)

Captain! Main viewer.

75 MAIN VIEWER - PAST KIRK 75

As he looks, the star field is replaced by the face of  
the Kitumba on the Klingon bridge. With him is KALEM,  
captain of the Klingon ship.

(CONTINUED)

75 CONTINUED:

75

KITUMBA

Hostilities have ceased. The  
battle group is under my  
personal command.

He turns to the Klingon beside him, who is stern  
visaged with gray hair.

KITUMBA

(continuing)

Captain Kalem and I will beam  
aboard the Enterprise.

Kirk draws his first deep breath.

KIRK

We welcome you both. I'll  
assemble our staff in the  
Briefing Room.

(to helm)

Mister Sulu, take us alongside  
the flagship.

76 INT. BRIEFING ROOM - CLOSE - KALEM

76

KALEM

I command a hundred ships.  
There are at least a thousand  
held in reserve in the Ultar  
system.

CAMERA PULLS BACK to REVEAL him in the Briefing Room  
with Kirk, the Kitumba, Xon, Kali, Decker, Ilia.

KIRK

What about the defenses of Ultar?

KALEM

Impregnable.

XON

Is there any possible way to  
contact those vessels? A  
special code?

KALEM

All Klingon starships are  
authorized to listen only on  
Ultar's frequency.

SCOTT

Malkthon has covered every base,  
Captain.

(CONTINUED)

76 CONTINUED:

76

ILIA

If there is no way for the  
Kitumba to issue recall orders,  
war is inevitable.

KALEM

Every one of us will gladly  
sacrifice his life, but it will  
accomplish nothing.

Kirk turns to Kali.

KIRK

You said there was a Romulan  
delegation on Ultar.

KALI

That's right.

TARU

Malkthon has set up a non-  
aggression treaty with the  
Romulans.

KIRK

(to Kalem)

Commander, I suggest that while  
we try to work out a plan, we  
make all possible speed to  
Ultar.

Kalem turns to the Kitumba, awaiting his approval.  
The Kitumba nods.

KIRK

(continuing; to  
Ilia)

Take the Commander to the bridge,  
set up communications.

ILIA

Yes, Captain.

KIRK

Order Mister Sulu to lay in a  
course and...

(drops his voice)

... hold down our speed a bit,  
to keep pace with the Klingons.

ILIA

Understood, Captain.



77 EXT. SPACE

77

as the Enterprise and the hundred Klingon warships leave orbit, streaking at full speed for Utlar.

78 INT. BRIEFING ROOM - CLOSE SHOT - KIRK

78

KIRK

Our job is to get the Kitumba to Utlar.

CAMERA PULLS BACK to REVEAL him with the Kitumba, Decker, Xon, Kali and Taru.

KIRK

(continuing)

Only from there is it possible to communicate with the fleet and issue recall orders.

DECKER

Captain, the Transporter works only at close range. We barely managed to beam the Kitumba aboard the flagship when we had surprise working for us. How do we get through a fleet of a thousand ships, who'll be able to see us coming for a dozen parsecs?

TARU

True, Captain, we'll be in range of the Utlar sensors for too long to hope for anything but annihilation.

KIRK

How do the invisibility shields on the Klingon ghost ships work?

KALI

We cannot even discuss that.

KIRK

Then stopping this war, breaking the power of Malkthor and restoring the Kitumba is impossible.

Taru and Kali whisper among themselves, hurriedly.

TARU

What is the total output of the Enterprise's engines?

(CONTINUED)

78 CONTINUED:

78

SCOTTY  
(indignantly)  
That is our most important  
military secret.

KIRK  
Clearly, we must each give a  
little.

The two sides stare at each other, at an impasse. The  
COMMUNICATOR SOUNDS.

UHURA'S VOICE  
Bridge to Captain. Relay from  
the Klingon flagship. An  
announcement from Ulta.

KIRK  
Patch it through.

They all turn toward the viewer.

79 VIEWSCREEN - PAST GROUP

79

Malkthon's face is on the screen.

MALKTHON  
From the Klingon Supreme  
Command, I share with all  
fighting units of the Empire a  
great sorrow. Our Lord, the  
Kitumba, has been murdered by  
the treachery of the Federation  
Captain. The power has  
descended to Prince Klun.

The boy, PRINCE KLUN, appears on the screen beside  
Malkthon, looking frightened and confused.

MALKTHON  
(continuing)  
Long life to the Kitumba!

The monitor goes dark.

80 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK AND GROUP

80

as they turn from the screen.

(CONTINUED)

80 CONTINUED:

80

KIRK

(to Taru)

Well, that answers one question.  
He doesn't know what happened.

(to Kitumba)

The next decision, the most  
important one, is yours. Is it  
possible to adapt the ghost  
ship principle to the  
Enterprise? I have a plan.  
It's risky, but it's the only  
one that could save us. Scotty,  
we'll be on the Bridge. Discuss  
it with Taru and Kali.

He leaves. Xon follows him out.

81 INT. CORRIDOR - KIRK AND XON

81

KIRK

Mister Xon, there are Romulans  
on Utlar.

(as Xon nods)

Romulans are closely related to  
the Vulcans.

XON

Yes, Captain. That is correct.

CAMERA PUSHES IN to his thoughtful face.

82 INT. BRIEFING ROOM - CLOSE - COMPUTER READOUT

82

The SCREEN is FILLED with complex mathematical formulae. We HEAR the VOICES in heated discussion, then the SOUND of the DOOR hissing open. CAMERA PULLS BACK as Kirk enters. Scott, Kali and Taru turn from the computer.

KIRK

Have you worked it out?

TARU

Well, we have decided that it  
might be possible to modify the  
Enterprise.

SCOTTY

But it would take all the power  
of the matter-anti-matter  
reactors to run the shields.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

82 CONTINUED:

82

SCOTTY (CONT'D)

The Enterprise would have to  
maneuver on impulse engines.

KIRK

The important thing is, would  
it work, Scotty?

SCOTTY

Perhaps. But we'd wallow about  
like a garbage scow.

KIRK

(to Taru)

Have you agreed to make the  
conversion?

TARU

We must have part of the bridge  
to ourselves. Any prying, any  
effort to discover the secret,  
and I'll destroy the ship. Is  
that clear, Captain?

KIRK

Clear, and agreed.

SCOTT

They're likely to blow us all  
up with their meddling, anyhow.

83 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE SHOT - MAIN VIEWING SCREEN

83

It SHOWS the moving star field.

KIRK'S VOICE

Center on the Ultar system,  
maximum magnification.

We SEE the view jump forward in several swift leaps  
until we SEE a solar system, VISIBLE against the star  
background; a red dwarf sun and two circling planets.

84 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK AND GROUP

84

as they stare at the screen.

TARU

The Ultar system has a red  
dwarf sun. The inner and outer  
planets are ninety million  
kilometers apart.

(CONTINUED)

84 CONTINUED:

SCOTT

What's that between them?

DECKER

Looks like an asteroid belt.

KALEM

Those are the thousand  
starships of the Klingon reserve  
fleet.

SCOTT

And we're going to try to get  
through them?

KIRK

Why haven't they challenged us?  
We must be in range.

85 INT. ULTAR CONTROL CENTER

85

Heavily staffed. Masses of battle relay equipment.  
Malkthon strides in, accompanied by TWO GUARDS. The  
CONTROLLER rises from a chair similar to Kirk's own.

CONTROLLER

Lord, a Klingon battle force of  
a hundred ships is approaching  
without orders or notification.

MALKTHON

General alert. I want every  
disrupter trained on the  
incoming battle fleet.

The Controller rushes to issue the orders. Malkthon  
turns to the Communications Officers.

MALKTHON

(continuing)  
Open a hailing channel.

86 EXT. SPACE

86

The Klingon battle group, in a tightly-packed attack  
formation, has the Enterprise in the very center.

87 INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE SHOT - KIRK AT HELM

87

KIRK

Mister Sulu, hold this position  
and don't deviate a millimeter.  
The overlapping shields of the  
Klingon vessels hide us from  
Ultar's sensors.

SULU

(nervously)

Aye, sir.

88 INT. ULTAR COMMAND CENTER - VIEWER - PAST MALKTHON

88

Taru's face appears on the screen.

TARU

The Kitumba has been honored.  
His murderer, Captain Kirk,  
executed, his ship destroyed.  
With our new Kitumba proclaimed  
on Ultar, the hundred warships  
are no longer needed to protect  
the Home System. I ask  
permission for this battle  
group to join in the glorious  
war.

MALKTHON

The battle plans have long  
since been drawn, Baro.

89 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE - CLOSE - KIRK AND GROUP

89

as they listen to Malkthon's voice.

MALKTHON'S VOICE

Attack groups are on their way.  
There will be many diversionary  
raids to draw off Federation  
force. The main attack drives  
through the edge of Romulan  
territory... striking straight  
for the heart of the Federation  
... for Starfleet Command.

90 INT. ULTAR COMMAND CENTER

90

Malkthon speaks to Taru's image on the viewscreen.

(CONTINUED)

90 CONTINUED:

90

MALKTHON

You and your ships may join the reserve force at Ultar to be deployed wherever needed. The Controller will assign you an orbit beyond the outer planet.

TARU

We thank you for the chance to serve, Lord.

91 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE - CLOSE - KIRK, XON, DECKER  
AND SCOTTY

91

KIRK

Mister Decker, have them hurry the conversion. When we take up orbit, the Klingon ships won't be able to conceal the Enterprise.

(to Scotty)

Have you worked out the technicalities?

SCOTTY

I've given them what they asked -- which is impossible.

Glumly, he shakes his head as he looks to the curtained-off part of the bridge.

92 INT. ULTAR COMMAND CENTER

92

On the viewscreen we SEE Taru's battle group take up station beyond the outer planet. They maintain the clumped battle formation.

MALKTHON

(irritably)

Why don't they take a normal orbit?

CONTROLLER

Ultar to Flagship. Why have you not taken a standard orbit?

93 INT. BRIDGE OF ENTERPRISE

93

Quickly, Kirk goes to the curtained-off area, calls:

(CONTINUED)

93 CONTINUED:

93

KIRK

Taru, the fleet's going to  
standard orbit. The Enterprise  
will be revealed.

TARU'S VOICE

Five seconds more.

She comes from behind the curtain.

94 CLOSE SHOT - SCOTTY AT ENGINEERING PANEL

94

as Taru and Kirk come up. Scott's lips mutter a brief  
prayer.

SCOTTY

Those circuits weren't stressed  
for matter-anti-matter reactions.

KIRK

We have no choice, Scotty.

DECKER'S VOICE

Klingon battle group moving into  
standard orbit.

TARU

(calls)

Kali!

95 INT. CURTAINED AREA

95

Hastily improvised modules litter the place, makeshift  
connections. Kali throws a switch.

96 CLOSE SHOT - GROUP AT ENGINEERING PANEL

96

Scotty's panel lights up like a Christmas tree. The  
ship vibrates with a terrible surge of power.

97 EXT. SPACE - CLOSE SHOT - KLINGON FLEET

97

as the ships peel off into a standard circular orbit.  
The Enterprise is REVEALED for a split second, then  
she winks OUT OF SIGHT.



98

INT. ENTERPRISE - ENGINEERING PANEL

98

as Kali comes quickly up to the group.

KALI

(to Taru)

We did it!

SCOTTY

(warns)

I don't know how long we can  
take the overload, Captain.

KIRK

We'll find out.

CAMERA MOVES with him as he crosses quickly to the  
helm.

KIRK

(continuing)

Mister Sulu, lay in a course  
close enough to Ultar to use  
the Transporter.

TARU

Kalem's commanders will create  
as much confusion as possible  
finding their orbits... jamming  
communications with the  
Controller on Ultar. I hope the  
diversion will keep their  
attention away from the  
Enterprise as we ghost in.

99

INT. TRANSPORTER - KIRK, SCOTT AND XON

99

Xon wears a Romulan uniform.

KIRK

With our shields up, we'll have  
no way of communicating once  
you're beamed down.

XON

Correct, Captain. You'll have  
to trust I can convince the  
Romulans to throw their  
fortunes with the Federation.

KIRK

You have to create a diversion  
while we beam down with  
weapons.

(CONTINUED)

99 CONTINUED:

99

XON

I need time to convince the Romulans, but with too much time, the Klingons may notice an extra Romulan. I suggest three minutes.

DECKER'S VOICE

Captain to bridge. Transporter range in ten seconds.

Xon takes his place on the Transporter Platform. Scott stands by the controls.

KIRK

Good luck.

XON

I will not depend on luck, Captain. I shall reason with the Romulans.

SCOTTY

Five seconds.

KIRK

(represses a smile)

A wise decision, Mister Xon.

Scott throws the switch. Xon vanishes.

100 INT. ULTAR COMMAND CONTROL

100

Several Romulans stand watching the confusion with ill-disguised contempt.

MALKTHON

(angrily, to  
Controller)

Can't those idiots manage a simple standard orbit? Note the commander's name for disciplinary action.

Xon pops in, just behind the Romulans. CAMERA PUSHES IN as he comes up to the leader.

XON

Centurion, may I have a word with you?

The CENTURION turns, startled, as he stares at Xon.

(CONTINUED)

100 CONTINUED:

100

CENTURION

Who are you?

XON

(gestures for  
silence)

Please, Centurion. I am unarmed.

The Centurion follows him into the corridor. We SEE Xon talking rapidly, explaining, but we cannot hear him as the Controller shouts angrily into the communicator:

CONTROLLER

Firm up that orbit! If we weren't at war I'd ask every captain in your battle group to Remove.

101 INT. CORRIDOR - CLOSE SHOT - XON AND CENTURION

101

XON

Centurion, you must realize that if the Klingons destroy the Federation, they will then take on the Romulans. You are the only other threat in the galaxy.

CENTURION

We are enemies of the Federation. You are asking us to go to war on your side?

XON

There must be no war. We must stop it here. Malkthon is a rebel against his lawful ruler. His desire for power is insatiable.

CENTURION

(hesitantly)

Why should I trust you?

XON

I am a Vulcan. Vulcans cannot lie.

102 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM - GROUP

102

Kirk, Taru and Kali stand on the Transporter platform. The Kitumba and Decker are with them. Scott sits by the controls.

(CONTINUED)

102 CONTINUED:

102

SCOTTY

Eight seconds.

KITUMBA

Captain, it is my duty to lead the attack.

DECKER

I'd like to go, too, sir.

KIRK

The Kitumba cannot be involved in the fighting. If he's killed, Malkthon will have won. Mister Decker, you have the con. If we fail, have Mister Sulu revive the Kamikazi spirit of his ancestors and destroy the planet! The loss of Ultar won't stop the war, but it may slow things down, give our forces time to react.

Scott pushes the controls. They shimmer out.

103 INT. ULTAR CONTROL CENTER

103

The Controller turns to Malkthon.

CONTROLLER

I'm getting a strange reading. Very faint. It's almost as though a ghost ship were out there.

MALKTHON

(snaps)

We have no ghost ships in the area. Recheck your instruments.

Behind them, Kirk, Taru, Xon and Kali take a long time shimmering into existence. Malkthon is the first to notice.

MALKTHON

Intruders! Cut them down!

Before the words are out of his mouth the Romulans leap forward, their blasters slashing a path through the Klingons, creating havoc, until Kirk and the others are fully materialized.

104 LOW ANGLE - KIRK

104

He and Xon, blasters on "stun," make short work of the Klingons, but Malkthon has run out into the corridor.

KIRK

Xon, locate the communication channel!

Quickly he pursues Malkthon into the corridor. Taru, Kali and the Romulans are mopping up the remaining Klingons.

105 INT. CORRIDOR

105

Several Klingon soldeirs are startled at the sight of Malkthon running. Before they can turn to see what is pursuing him, Kirk's phaser drops them. The delay gives Malkthon time to get through a huge set of metal doors labelled "AUXILIARY CONTROL."

106 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK

106

as he uses his phaser on the door. It begins to glow.

107 INT. AUXILIARY CONTROL ROOM - MALKTHON

107

Malkthon flips the switches. His image comes on a monitor, faint, flickering.

MALKTHON

(shouts)

Klingons! Traitors have invaded  
Ultar! As your Warlord I order  
you now to train your disrupters  
on --

Glowing incandescently, the metal door finally gives way.

108 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK

108

CAMERA PANS him as he leaps through the molten opening. Malkthon swings, FIRING his disrupter. Kirk leaps aside as the blast chars the electronic equipment behind him, raising a shower of sparks. Kirk rolls OUT OF SIGHT.

109 CLOSE SHOT - MALKTHON

109

as he takes cover behind the main console, looking for a clear shot at Kirk.

110 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK

110

as he eases around the end of a control bank, gets off a shot. But the phaser sputters, does not fire. Kirk hurls it away, takes cover. Malkthon HEARS the CLATTER of the phaser, rises, aims the disrupter carefully. Suddenly, from off to the right, Kirk appears. He hurls a piece of equipment, knocks the disrupter from Malkthon's hand.

111 CLOSE SHOT - MALKTHON

111

He draws his dagger, starts around the console to Kirk. Kirk leaps over the top of the console, grabs Malkthon from behind. Malkthon twists, fighting to drive the dagger home.

112 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK AND MALKTHON

112

Sweating hard, Kirk keeps slamming Malkthon's arm against the side of the console, trying to make him drop the dagger. Suddenly, Malkthon goes limp, slumps. Kirk's grip relaxes for a split second. Malkthon drops, jumps to his feet again, then, dagger poised, takes a fighting stance.

113 CLOSE SHOT - CONSOLE

113

as Kirk backs off. Grabbing a piece of equipment, he hurls it at Malkthon. Malkthon wards it off with his arm, lunges.

114 CLOSE SHOT - KIRK - PAST MALKTHON

114

as the point of the dagger rips through Kirk's jacket. Kirk twists free, leaps back across the console. Malkthon, holding the dagger before him, comes around the end of the console to close with Kirk. As he lunges again, Kirk steps aside, gives a quick karate kick to the dagger arm, throwing Malkthon off balance. Then, pirouetting on one foot, Kirk completes his turn, chops Malkthon on the neck, drops him.

115 LOW ANGLE - KIRK - PAST MALKTHON

115

as Kirk, breathing heavily, looks down at him. It is almost the last look he ever takes. Malkthon hurls the dagger, impaling it in the console beside Kirk's neck. Then he collapses. The viewscreen CRACKLES, comes on with a great surge of power. The Kitumba appears. With him is the six-year-old Prince Klun.

(CONTINUED)

115 CONTINUED:

115

Behind them stand Taru and Kali. The Kitumba's youth shows, but also his resolution, a sense of confidence, of command.

KITUMBA

Klingons, traitors have invaded Ultar. But they were traitors led by Malkthon. As your Kitumba, I now remove him from office and declare him an outlaw. Plan Kitumbela is cancelled. I order the immediate recall of all Klingon battle fleets.

116 INT. ULTAR CONTROL - CLOSE SHOT - DOORWAY

116

As Kirk drags Malkthon into the control room, we HEAR the constant CHATTER from the RADIO as far flung battle fleets begin to report in.

VOICE ONE

Group 412, acknowledge.  
Returning to base.

VOICE TWO

Strike force seven, leaving  
Romulan frontier area for base.

CAMERA PANS Kirk to the Kitumba and his group. Malkthon, eyes glittering with hatred, kneels before the Kitumba.

MALKTHON

Lord, I ask permission to  
Remove.

KIRK

(snaps)

No! That's too easy. Have him  
tried for treason. Imprisoned.

Taru frowns. Kali looks at the Kitumba. The Kitumba debates an instant, then turns to Malkthon.

KITUMBA

Permission granted.

Quickly Malkthon presses the bracelet against his neck, disintegrates. Kirk looks at the Kitumba, startled, angry.

(CONTINUED)

116 CONTINUED:

116

KITUMBA

(continuing)

Your ways are not our ways,  
Captain.

(to Kali)

I wish to reinstate you as  
Warlord. You served my father.  
You know that job well.

KALI

(protests)

Lord, I am too old. You need  
someone younger.

He turns to Taru. The Kitumba nods.

KITUMBA

Baro Taru, you have the office  
of Warlord.

His eyes flick to Kirk. There is a faint smile on his  
lips.

KITUMBA

(continuing)

But I have the power.

KIRK

(grins)

In my first speech to you, I  
said I hoped our peoples could  
have peace, trade and friendship.  
Perhaps now that can come about.

The Kitumba considers a moment, shakes his head.

KITUMBA

Your ways, Captain, are not our  
ways. For the moment, it is  
enough that we have no war.  
The rest must wait.

Kirk nods thoughtfully.

TARU

Our borders are still sacred  
and inviolate. They will be  
defended.

KIRK

So will ours, Taru. I hope we  
never meet in battle.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)



116 CONTINUED: (2)

KIRK (CONT'D)

I guess we'll have to settle for that. But I don't like partial victories.

XON

May I point out, Captain, you were told to stop a war, not create an alliance.

Kirk nods. He bows to the Kitumba, starts out.

KITUMBA

Captain.

CAMERA PUSHES with him as he takes Kirk's arm, stops him.

KITUMBA

(continuing)

People and habits take a long while to change. But to you, personally, I shall always be grateful.

He looks at Kirk with the same look he gave Ksia, a look of love and admiration. There is no weakness in it. He stands proud and tall.

KIRK

(smiles)

You will use the Power well.

He bows again and leaves.

FADE OUT.

THE END