

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

"The 37's"

#40840-120

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FIRST DRAFT

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STAR TREK: VOYAGER

"The 37's"

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL) 1
at impulse.

2 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 2

KIM is working at his station, JANEWAY looking on.
CHAKOTAY, TUVOK, PARIS, N.D.s at their stations. Mid-
scene.

JANEWAY

Rust?

KIM

It's almost out of sensor range,
but it's definitely there. I'm
picking up high levels of ferrous
oxide -- corroded iron particles.

JANEWAY

Would you mind telling me how iron
could rust in space... without
oxygen?

KIM

I would... if I had an
explanation.

JANEWAY

See if you can extrapolate the
trail of rust particles... find
out where it goes.

Kim works a moment.

KIM

Locking onto the trail...

JANEWAY

Mister Paris, take ship's heading
from Ensign Kim's console. Ahead
one quarter impulse.

PARIS

Aye, Captain.

Paris works his console.

3 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL) 3

The ship TURNS at impulse.

4 INT. BRIDGE 4

A few moments later. Kim reacts to his console, surprised.

KIM

Captain... look at this. I'm
picking up traces of complex
hydrocarbons in the rust...
benzine, ethylene, octane...

Paris turns -- he recognizes the chain of compounds.

PARIS

That sounds like gasoline.

CHAKOTAY

"Gasoline?"

PARIS

It's a liquid fuel that was used
centuries ago on Earth. They
burned it to generate power... for
heat or light, even to drive
simple mechanical motors.

Reactions.

JANEWAY

How did it get out here?

TUVOK

I think I may have the answer to
that question. I am detecting a
small object along the trail of
rust and hydrocarbons. It appears
to be the source.

JANEWAY

Put it onscreen.

Tuvok works.

5 INCLUDE VIEWSCREEN (OPTICAL) 5

It shows a 1930's ERA PICKUP TRUCK. An old, beat-up
heap floating in the void of space.

OFF their shocked reactions...

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

(NOTE: Episode credits fall over opening scenes.)

6 INT. CARGO BAY

6

The PICKUP TRUCK is sitting in the middle of the room. In the vacuum of space, the truck has been perfectly preserved, but it is definitely a truck that's been worked hard -- mud, dirt, dents, grime. This is a farmer's truck. Janeway, Paris, Kim and TORRES are examining it with tricorders and other scanning gear. Tuvok and TWO SECURITY GUARDS are standing nearby.

TUVOK

It appears to be a ground transportation vehicle from the mid-20th century.

PARIS

It's a '36 Ford, actually.

JANEWAY

Mister Paris?

PARIS

That's the manufacturing date -- 1936. "Ford" was the name of the company that built it.

(explains)

Antique vehicles are a hobby of mine.

Paris eyes the truck with an expert eye.

PARIS

(continuing)

Internal combustion engine... a reciprocating piston-cylinder design... fuel source was refined petroleum. Gasoline.

He runs a hand under the front grill, releases a latch and pops open the HOOD. He whistles as he looks over the engine.

PARIS

Look at this V-12 engine. Simple... elegant... four point three liters of pure power.

KIM

So is this an early hover car?

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

PARIS

No... you're about a century too early for that. This is about one step ahead of a horse-drawn carriage.

7 ANGLE - TORRES

7

Who is scanning the open bed of the truck, which is layered with dirt and grime.

TORRES

(off tricorder)

Traces of potassium nitrate... ammonium and methane back here...

Janeway looks into the flatbed, wrinkles her nose at the smell.

JANEWAY

I think you'll find that's manure... horse manure, if I'm not mistaken.

KIM

Captain...

Kim walks up to her holding an old leather WALLET.

KIM

(re: wallet)

I found this in the cockpit of the truck... there's an identification card inside it...

He pulls out a 1930's style driver's license out of the wallet.

KIM

(reads)

It looks like the vehicle belonged to a man named Jack P. Hayes... from a city called Canton, in a region known as Ohio.

Janeway takes this in and moves around the truck, eyeing the details -- trying to put together a picture.

JANEWAY

Judging from the mud on the wheels...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

JANEWAY (Cont'd)

...and the alfalfa seedlings stuck in the metal frame, I'd say this vehicle belonged to a farmer... or at least someone who lived in a rural area.

(beat)

The question is... how did it get here? I doubt there are many 20th century farmers driving around the Delta Quadrant.

KIM

Especially in the vacuum of space.

TUVOK

There were no signs of any wormholes or temporal anomalies in this region of space.

Torres closes her tricorder.

TORRES

And I'm not picking up any subspace emanations from the vehicle itself...

JANEWAY

Let's run a metallurgical analysis of the vehicle.

Janeway and Torres move off to a free-standing console and begin tapping in readings off their tricorders. Tuvok moves back to his security guards. Meanwhile, Paris is poking around the truck's engine, unscrewing caps, checking hoses, etc.

PARIS

(amazed)

There's still oil in the crankcase... water in the radiator... I wonder if the batteries are still charged?

He gets an idea, slams shut the hood, and climbs into the cab behind the wheel.

8 NEW ANGLE - INSIDE TRUCK CAB

8

Paris sits there for a moment... looks across the dashboard... tries to find the controls to start this thing.

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

PARIS

Now let's see... this is before
voice-command activation... so
there should be something
called... keys. Keys...

He looks around the dash. Kim pokes his head through
the passenger-side window.

KIM

What are you doing?

PARIS

Trying to bring this beauty back
to life. Now where are the
keys...?

(sees them)

Ah. Here they are.

We now see that the keys are in the ignition. He grabs
hold of the keys and reaches a hand under the dash.

PARIS

Okay... choke out...

He pulls out the choke... looks down at the floorboard.

PARIS

Clutch in...

He presses his foot on the clutch.

PARIS

Give her a little gas... and turn
the key...

9 WIDER

9

Suddenly, the mighty engine of the truck ROARS TO LIFE
and BACKFIRES TWICE. BAM! BAM! Tuvok and the
Security Guards crouch behind cargo containers, pull
out their phasers. Kim is so startled he stumbles
backwards. Janeway and Torres take cover, as well.

10 ANGLE ON PARIS

10

He guns the engine a few times... then eases off the
gas and lets the engine idle. He smiles and looks
outside the cab... but the smile fades from his face as
he sees everyone else crouched for cover.

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

10

PARIS
(calls out)
Sorry!

Everyone exchanges a look and stands. Janeway and Torres walk toward the truck.

JANEWAY
Next time, you might give us a little warning, Mister Paris.

PARIS
Aye, Captain.

Tuvok is standing behind the vehicle as a CLOUD OF WHITE EXHAUST begins to fill the Cargo Bay. Tuvok looks repelled.

TUVOK
I suggest we increase the air flow in the Cargo Bay before we are asphyxiated.

PARIS
This truck was built before they realized how toxic internal combustion engines were.

KIM
You mean, they all smelled like this?

PARIS
Yeah. There were millions of them on the road. In some urban areas, the exhaust fumes got so bad it actually created a thick layer of pollutants in the air that would blanket entire cities.

JANEWAY
I believe the term was "smog."

Kim leans into the cab, points to something on the dashboard.

KIM
What's that?

PARIS
That is an amplitude modulation receiving device.
(beat)
"AM radio."

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (2)

10

Paris leans over and turns on an old AM RADIO.

PARIS

Not sure we'll pick up much out here.

We hear STATIC on the radio. He quickly turns the tuning knob and the indicator moves across the dial. Nothing but static. But then for a moment, we hear a BEEPING noise... then static again as Paris passes it on the dial.

PARIS

Whoa... what was that?

He fiddles the knob and tries to find where he heard the beep... and finally the static is replaced by a distinct beeping -- three long beeps, three short beeps, and then three long beeps. The unmistakable sound of a MORSE CODE SOS. But none of our 24th century people are familiar with this code. They listen a moment.

TORRES

What is that?

KIM

It's too regular to be random interference...

(thinks)

The ship's internal power grid emits multi-spectral frequencies. The receiver might be picking up a stray power signal.

PARIS

No... these AM receivers picked up signals down on the low end of the radio spectrum... way below anything the power grid generates.

Tuvok starts scanning the area around the truck.

TUVOK

(off tricorder)

Indeed. This signal is not originating from aboard Voyager. It appears to be coming from outside the ship.

As they exchange a surprised look...

CUT TO:

11 INT. BRIDGE

11

A short time later. Kim working his console, Janeway looking on. Chakotay at a rear console. Tuvok and Paris at their stations.

KIM

(off console)

I've located the source of the AM signal. It's coming from a planet in a star system bearing three-one-zero mark two-one-five.

JANEWAY

Mister Paris, lay in a course for that star system.

PARIS

Aye, Captain.

JANEWAY

(to Kim)

Why didn't we pick up this signal earlier?

KIM

This isn't one of the standard frequencies we monitor for broadcast. Messages on this channel travel at the speed of light. No one uses this part of the EM spectrum for interstellar communications.

Janeway nods. Chakotay turns to her.

CHAKOTAY

I've run the signal through the ship's computer database. It's an ancient Earth distress call known as an "SOS."

JANEWAY

Distress call? What era was it used?

CHAKOTAY

Its most common usage was from 1851 to 2047.

JANEWAY

That fits the time period of our... "Ford."

PARIS

Course laid in, Captain.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: 11

JANEWAY
Warp six. Engage.

12 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL) 12
as the ship goes into warp.

13 INT BRIDGE 13
A short time later. Everyone at their stations.

PARIS
We're approaching the star system,
Captain.

JANEWAY
Bring us out of warp.
(beat)
Full scan, Mister Kim.

Kim works.

KIM
(off console)
The SOS signal is coming from the
third planet. It's Class-L...
oxygen-methane atmosphere.

JANEWAY
Any life signs?

KIM
(works)
There's a great deal of nimbic
interference in the upper-
atmosphere. I can't get a clear
reading of the surface.

CHAKOTAY
Can you pinpoint the coordinates
of the distress call?

KIM
I think so... by triangulating the
readings from our previous
position...
(works)
Yes. Here it is. It's coming
from a continent in the Northern
hemisphere of the planet.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED:

13

CHAKOTAY

(to Janeway)

We won't be able to transport
through this kind of interference.
I might be able to take a
Shuttlecraft and an Away Team.

TUVOK

That would not be wise, Commander.
The atmosphere of this planet is
charged with nimbic turbulence.
A Shuttlecraft could not safely
navigate the currents.

Janeway takes a beat.

JANEWAY

We could land the ship.

CHAKOTAY

(surprised)

Are you sure that's necessary?

JANEWAY

Let's go over what we know so far.
Someone on this planet is sending
out a distress call... that
certainly implies someone needs
our help.

CHAKOTAY

If that someone is as old as that
truck in the Cargo Bay, they're
probably dead by now. This might
be an automated distress call.

JANEWAY

Possibly. But something brought
that truck across half the galaxy
to this point... and that
something might be down on that
planet.

CHAKOTAY

(onto the idea)

And whatever it is that brought
the truck here... might be able to
take us home.

JANEWAY

I'd say it's worth a look.

She looks at Chakotay, who nods. Janeway stands.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED: (2)

13

JANEWAY

Mister Paris, prepare the ship for landing.

Paris hesitates.

PARIS

Captain... I think I should tell you I've never actually landed a starship before.

JANEWAY

That's all right, Lieutenant. Neither have I.

A few glances go around the Bridge. But Janeway seems utterly confident.

JANEWAY

(to com)

Bridge to Engineering. We're going to land the ship, Ms. Torres. Take the warp core off line... vent all plasma from the nacelles... and stand by to engage atmospheric thrusters.

TORRES' COM VOICE

Aye, Captain.

Tuvok hits his combadge.

TUVOK

(to com)

This is Lieutenant Tuvok to all decks. We are preparing to land the ship. Go to Blue Alert and report to Code Blue stations.

The Bridge lights up with a distinctive FLASHING BLUE ALERT -- exactly like Red Alert, but blue. Paris is working.

PARIS

I've plotted a descent course. How close do you want to land to the distress coordinates?

JANEWAY

No closer than two kilometers.

PARIS

Okay...

He takes a deep breath, works the helm.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED: (3)

13

PARIS
Atmospheric controls at stand-by.
Landing mechanisms on-line.
Inertial dampeners at maximum.

Janeway looks to Tuvok.

TUVOK
All decks report Condition Blue,
Captain.

A beat. This is a big moment.

JANEWAY
Put her down, Mister Paris.

As Paris works...

14 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL)

14

Voyager in orbit of the PLANET. As the ship HEADS DOWN
toward the atmosphere...

15 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

15

As before. Everyone braced for landing. On the
Viewscreen, we see CLOUDS and GAS swirling past the
ship. The ship JUMPS and VIBRATES randomly throughout
the scene.

JANEWAY
Status.

PARIS
We're on the glide path...
altitude, one hundred
kilometers... speed, two thousand
KPH.

(beat)
Encountering some nimbic
turbulence. Compensating...

16 EXT. PLANET'S ATMOSPHERE (OPTICAL)

16

VOYAGER moving through the clouds, heading downwards...

17 INT. BRIDGE

17

The ship SHAKES HARD. A CONSOLE EXPLODES in the back.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

17

KIM
(off console)
We have an EM discharge in the
lateral relays! I'm re-routing
the ODN conduit!

A HARD SHAKE.

KIM
Another EM discharge. I think
we're all right, though...

PARIS
Three kilometers from the landing
site. We should be able to see it
now.

They look at the screen...

18 INCLUDE VIEWSCREEN (OPTICAL)

18

Through the clouds, we begin to see the SURFACE of the
planet directly ahead. Mountains and hills are visible --
a rocky, cavernous terrain.

JANEWAY
Extend landing struts. Prepare to
release inertial dampers and
adjust environmental controls to
match the planet's natural
gravity.

Everyone working. A team effort.

19 EXT. VOYAGER - ANGLE OF BOTTOM OF SHIP (OPTICAL)

19

As FOUR LANDING STRUTS EXTEND from the bottom of the
ship. Landing gear.

20 INT. BRIDGE

20

As before.

PARIS
Landing struts down and locked.

KIM
Standing by environmental
controls.

PARIS
Here we go.

21 EXT. PLANET'S SURFACE - DAY (OPTICAL) 21

As VOYAGER SETS DOWN on the landing struts. Dust and debris BLOW furiously from the EXHAUST of the THRUSTERS. It's a spectacular sight.

22 INT. BRIDGE 22

There is a JOLT as the ship SETS DOWN.

PARIS
Disengaging engines... securing
thruster exhaust.

We hear the ENGINES WHINE DOWN. The ship VIBRATES for a moment... then is quiet.

PARIS
We're down.

Janeway and Paris exchange a look.

JANEWAY
Not bad for a beginner.

He smiles. OFF the moment...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

23 EXT. PLANET'S SURFACE - DAY (OPTICAL) 23

Voyager sitting on the ground.

24 EXT. PLANET'S SURFACE - DAY - NEW ANGLE 24

From this angle, we can see TWO MASSIVE LANDING STRUTS -- the rest of the ship stretches up high offscreen. Janeway, Tuvok and Kim walk into view and step into the sunlight. They look around for a moment.

JANEWAY

Nice day.

Chakotay and an N.D. join them. Everyone starts scanning with tricorders.

KIM

I've locked on to the distress signal. It's one point five kilometers on a bearing of two-four-six.

Chakotay steps in a different direction.

CHAKOTAY

(off tricorder)

Wait a second... I've got something else. There's a high concentration of trianium particles bearing two-two-five... a little over a kilometer away.

(beat)

Looks like some kind of power source.

JANEWAY

Two teams. Chakotay, your team investigate the power source. Tuvok, Kim, you're with me.

The two teams set off...

25 EXT. PLANET'S SURFACE - ANOTHER LOCATION - DAY 25

Trees, vegetation, rocks, underbrush. Janeway, Tuvok and Kim following their readings. They come to a stop under the tree. They peer into the underbrush for a moment, then see a flash of metal.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

JANEWAY

There's something under here.

They holster their tricorders... then start pulling aside the branches and brush to reveal the front half of a FUSELAGE of an old twin engine AIRPLANE (NOTE: This is the wreckage of Amelia Earhart's airplane -- same color, markings, etc.) We can see the COCKPIT. The plane looks crumpled and damaged and very old. They react.

TUVOK

(off tricorder)

The metal is an aluminum (TECH) composite alloy. It appears to be the wreckage of an aircraft.

Janeway pushes some more brush aside and sees an American flag decal on the fuselage.

JANEWAY

It's American.

Tuvok works his tricorder.

TUVOK

I've linked my tricorder to the Voyager computer database. This aircraft is the remnants of a twin-engine, propeller-driven, single-pilot aircraft. Circa 1937.

KIM

(off tricorder, re:
cockpit)

The SOS call is coming from inside this control area...

They peer inside the cockpit... and sure enough the RADIO TRANSMITTER is ACTIVE. The dial is glowing slightly.

KIM

Here's the EM transmitter. From what I can tell, it's sending out an automated SOS.

JANEWAY

What about the power source? Somehow, I find it difficult to believe the battery on this aircraft has been running for four hundred years.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED: (2)

25

KIM
(off tricorder)
I don't recognize the power
signature... but it's coming from
behind this control panel.

They pull at the cockpit control panel... it comes
loose pretty easily... they remove the panel...

26 ANGLE ON INSTRUMENT BAY

26

Nestled in among the corroded and rusted remains of the
1937 technology is an ALIEN-LOOKING POWER BOX with two
wires leading to the ancient radio.

JANEWAY
(re: alien power box)
Now I know they didn't have that
in 1937.

TUVOK
It appears to be an alien fusion-
based power generator.

JANEWAY
Why would it be hooked up to this
ancient AM transmitter?

A puzzling beat, then:

CHAKOTAY'S COM VOICE
Chakotay to Janeway.

JANEWAY
(taps combadge)
Go ahead, Commander.

CHAKOTAY'S COM VOICE
We've located the source of the
tranium readings. It appears to
be some sort of mine shaft. I'd
like to bring out another security
detachment before we go inside.

JANEWAY
Good idea. I'll join you.
Janeway out.
(to Kim and Tuvok)
I want the two of you to analyze
this device. See what you can
find out about this... SOS call.

They nod as Janeway heads off...

27 NEW ANGLE

27

A fair distance away, from behind a rock outcropping, we can see an ALIEN is watching Janeway, Tuvok and Kim. We do not have a clear view of the alien -- its back is to us and it wears an exotic-looking headdressing that obscures its face. OFF the creepy moment...

CUT TO:

28 INT. ALIEN MINE SHAFT

28

A short time later. Janeway, Chakotay, Torres and the N.D. seen earlier and TWO SECURITY N.D.S are walking through the dark cavern. They wear Sims Beacons to cut through the murk and are scanning with tricorders. The cave is lined with TIMBERS which support the ceiling, emphasizing that this is not a natural cave, but a man-made cave.

CHAKOTAY

(off tricorder)

There are large deposits of trianium scattered all along the shaft. I'd say this was some kind of mining operation.

JANEWAY

Trianium is highly unstable. Are we in any danger?

CHAKOTAY

Not yet. There's not a sufficient concentration of it to reach volatile levels. But we need to keep a close eye on the readings.

They walk a moment... then Torres reacts to her tricorder.

TORRES

I'm picking up something directly ahead... some kind of power signature... fusion-based.

JANEWAY

Are there any life signs?

TORRES

Possibly... the readings are inconclusive.

JANEWAY

Let's find out.

They head off down the mine shaft...

29 INT. CRYO-STASIS CHAMBER

29

Janeway and the others step out of the mine shaft into the chamber. They are astonished by what they see --

30 WIDE ON ROOM

30

They have just stepped into a MASSIVE CHAMBER that is lined with Plexiglass walls. The glass is layered with ICE and CONDENSATION, preventing us from seeing exactly what's inside. But the walls are lit from within -- and the SILHOUETTES of EIGHT HUMANOID BODIES can be seen behind the glass. Alien technology is apparent -- hoses, conduits, consoles, etc.

The Away Team steps into the chamber, scanning.

TORRES

This looks like some kind of...
cryo-stasis chamber.

JANEWAY

How many bodies are there?

TORRES

Eight. And it looks like the
equipment's still functioning.

Janeway walks over to a glass wall. She takes her hand and carefully wipes away the condensation on the glass to reveal the face of a JAPANESE OFFICER, circa 1937. He appears to be in a deep sleep. Janeway scans him.

JANEWAY

He's human. And from the clothes,
I'd say he's from the same era as
the vehicles we found.

TORRES

His life sign readings are
minimal... but he's still alive.

Chakotay is scanning the room at large.

CHAKOTAY

Captain... according to these
readings, there are five other
cryo-stasis chambers nearby...

(beat)

No life signs in any of them.
This appears to be the only one
with people inside.

They look to the other lit shadowy figures behind the glass. Torres moves to one, scrapes away the ice... there is an AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN in denim coveralls.

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED:

30

TORRES
Another male over here... from
these clothes, I'd say he could be
a farmer.

31 ON JANEWAY

31

who's gone to another part of the wall. She wipes the
condensation to reveal the face of a WOMAN.

JANEWAY
This one's a female...

Janeway wipes away more... and we can now see the
sleeping face of a woman in her mid-thirties with short
dark hair. She's wearing a leather flight jacket with
a pair of metal "wings" pinned to the lapel.

JANEWAY
She's wearing some kind of leather
jacket... and a pair of gold
wings.
(beat)
Wait... there's a name tag here...

She looks closer, scrapes away more ice to read the
name through the frosted glass.

JANEWAY
(reading)
I think it's... A... E.. A...
(beat)
No wait. It's A... period. Then
E... A... R... H... A... R... T...
(beat)
Earhart. A... Earhart.

She takes a step back, realizing.

JANEWAY
Amelia Earhart.

OFF Janeway's stunned reaction...

CUT TO:

32 INT. BRIEFING ROOM - DAY

32

Sunlight streaming in through the windows. Outside we
can see BLUE SKY (a painted BACKDROP). Janeway,
Chakotay, Tuvok, Kim, Torres and Paris around the
table. Everyone is a little stunned and mystified by
their discovery of the human beings. Mid-conversation.

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED:

32

TORRES

Who's Amelia Earhart?

JANEWAY

She was one of the first female pilots in Earth history. In the mid-20th century she became quite famous for flying across the Atlantic Ocean.

(beat)

In 1937 she was flying across the Pacific Ocean in attempt to be the first woman to fly around the world.

She picks up a PADD on the table, glances it over.

JANEWAY

According to the records of the time, on July 2nd, 1937, Earhart and her navigator Fred Noonan took off from New Guinea... and were headed East around the Equator...

(beat)

But somewhere in the South Seas, they simply... vanished. And the disappearance of Amelia Earhart became one of the most celebrated mysteries of the 20th century.

PARIS

Why didn't they think she just crashed?

JANEWAY

That was the most commonly held theory. However, numerous searches of the area failed to produce a body or the wreckage of an aircraft.

(beat)

So people began to speculate. Some thought she'd been shot down and captured by the Japanese Navy. Others thought that she and Noonan had flown off together on some sort of romantic adventure.

(beat)

Of course, the most ridiculed notion was she had been... abducted by aliens.

Looks around the table at the irony.

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED: (2)

32

CHAKOTAY

Well, it certainly looks like that's what happened. From what we can tell, all eight of the people in that stasis chamber tubes were taken from Earth in the 1930's and brought here.

KIM

The question is, why? And where are the aliens who did this?

TUVOK

Scans of the region show no alien life signs.

JANEWAY

Continue scans. They may not be here now... but once they detect our presence, they might return.

They consider.

JANEWAY

In the meantime, we'll have to get some answers on our own.

(to Tuvok)

Have you had any luck tapping into the alien computer system in the cryo-chamber?

TUVOK

Not yet. We are having difficulty decoding the computer operating system.

PARIS

There's one way we could find out what really happened. We could wake those people up and ask them.

Janeway looks at him.

JANEWAY

I've had the same thought myself...

TORRES

Is that wise? We don't know how these people are going to react when they wake up and find themselves on an alien world in the 24th century.

Janeway frowns -- this is a delicate situation.

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED: (3)

32

JANEWAY

True... but I'm not willing to just leave them in that stasis chamber for another four hundred years.

(beat)

We'll have to be very careful how we handle this. It will come as something of a shock to them... but we'll have to help them adjust.

CHAKOTAY

I agree. But to be on the safe side, I suggest that there be no non-human crewmembers present when we revive them.

JANEWAY

Agreed.

(to Kim)

Mister Kim, I want a complete analysis of those cryo-stasis tubes. Find a way to deactivate them safely.

KIM

Aye, Captain.

JANEWAY

(to Chakotay)

Commander, apprise the doctor of the situation... tell him to train Kes in the proper procedure for reviving someone from cryo-stasis. She can be made to look human easily enough.

He nods.

JANEWAY

In the meantime, I suggest we all brush up on our ancient Earth history.

(beat)

We're about to meet a bit of our past.

CUT TO:

33 INT. CRYO-STASIS CHAMBER

33

Later. Kim and Paris are working an alien control panel.

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED:

33

They've set up a lot of Starfleet gear -- optical cables are connected to the alien technology. KES is busy preparing several hyposprays (her hair has been styled to cover her ears). Janeway walks up to them.

PARIS

We're ready, Captain.

KIM

We found out that all of the cryo-tubes are linked by a common power source. Once we cut power in one of the tubes, we'll be cutting power to all of them. So we've decided to revive all of the people simultaneously.

JANEWAY

Proceed.

Kim steps to a free-standing control console that's been set up in the middle of the room. It's Starfleet -- the same console usually in the Cargo Bay. He works it.

KIM

I'm cutting the alien power system now...

We HEAR the power draining down. Some of the lights on the alien technology GO OUT.

KIM

Okay, the power's off-line.
(to Paris)
Tom, deactivate the locking mechanisms.

Paris bends down, works another Starfleet gadget with a conduit running out of it. As he works, we hear the sounds of LOCKS OPENING. A loud HISS as NITROGEN GAS billows out of vents along the glass walls.

The glass walls SLIDE OPEN, revealing the occupants within. EIGHT HUMAN BEINGS are visible inside the shallow chamber, all sleeping. Kes passes out hyposprays to Paris and Kim, keeping one for herself. They walk up and begin to apply the hyposprays to the necks of the eight humans...

34 ANGLE ON AMELIA EARHART

34

as Kim gives her the injection. After a moment, she begins to stir. Her eyes flutter open.

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED:

34

She steps out of the chamber and looks around. Janeway walks up to her and smiles.

OFF Earhart's confused expression...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

35 INT. CHAMBER

35

Our people and the group of just-wakened humans stare at each other. The humans are clearly disoriented and fearful: in their minds, they were abducted by unknown assailants just moments ago; now they are in a strange room with uniformed "captors." Earhart hangs back and assesses the situation; the farmer (who wears a baseball cap), is an African American in his 50's or 60's named JACK HAYES; he waits to see what develops. The JAPANESE OFFICER comes immediately to the front; and FRED NOONAN, suspicious and antagonistic, follows him. The others include an Indian woman in a sari, a Scandinavian fisherman in turtleneck and watch cap, and a young (20's) couple whose red hair and freckles might suggest that they're Irish. All of these are N.D.s and they stay shyly in the background. Very unobtrusively, Kes begins scanning them. Janeway tries to put everyone at ease.

JANEWAY

I know this must be very strange
for you --

NOONAN

Who are you? What's going on
here?

JAPANESE OFFICER

I demand that you release us
immediately.

JANEWAY

Please, if you'll just listen for
a moment, I'll try to explain
everything.

But the Japanese officer has made a startling
realization.

JAPANESE OFFICER

You... you are all speaking
perfect Japanese...

HAYES

(to the Officer)
Sounds to me like you're speakin'
perfect English...

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED:

35

JANEWAY

It's because of a device we have... a universal translator. It's part of our communication system... it allows us to talk with each other even though our languages aren't the same...

EARHART

Who are you people?

HAYES

Please -- just let us go home. We won't tell anybody...

NOONAN

The hell we won't. I'm gonna make sure the world knows what you people've done.

(gestures to Earhart)

Do you know who that is you've kidnapped? Amelia Earhart! And I'm her navigator. This is gonna be headline news -- you people are in trouble.

EARHART

(dryly)

Fred, shut up and let her talk.

Noonan glances at her with irritation, but subsides.

JANEWAY

What I have to tell you will sound hard to believe... even preposterous.

(deep breath)

We think you were abducted from Earth... in the 1930's... and brought millions and millions of miles through space... to a planet on the other side of the galaxy.

The group stares at her, unable to absorb this staggering hypothesis.

JANEWAY

You were put into a... a kind of deep sleep... for a very long time.

(beat)

It's not the 1930's any more... the year is 2371 -- over four hundred years from the time you were abducted.

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED: (2)

35

There is silence... and then Noonan snorts in indignation.

NOONAN

What do you take us for? You think we're a bunch of rubes?

He suddenly withdraws a gun from his jacket and advances on them. Paris and Kim move for their phasers, but Janeway puts up a hand, not wanting to escalate the situation.

NOONAN

I want some real answers -- now.

JANEWAY

I assure you, I'm telling the truth...

But Noonan shoves the gun at her. The Japanese officer withdraws his pistol from a holster and trains it on Paris and Kim. Gesturing to Kim --

JAPANESE OFFICER

He's behind this. It's part of the effort to undermine the Japanese occupation of China.

KIM

I've got news for you. That's all over. And Japan lost.

NOONAN

(to Kes)

You -- get over there with the others.

Kes moves to do what he says, and as she passes him, Noonan grabs her tricorder.

NOONAN

What's this thing? What are you doing to us?

KES

It's a medical device. I'm just trying to make sure everyone is all right.

Noonan grunts, hangs onto the tricorder. Then, to the group:

NOONAN

Now, what's the way out of here?

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED: (3)

35

But before anyone can answer:

CHAKOTAY'S COM VOICE
Chakotay to Away Team.

JANEWAY
Janeway here.

INTERCUT:

36 INT. BRIDGE

36

CHAKOTAY
Captain, I'm picking up some
energy displacements nearby. I
think it may be alien humanoids --
it looks like they're using some
kind of deflection system to fool
our sensors. I think you'd better
get up here now.

Noonan has reacted to this com voice with some
interest.

NOONAN
Who's that talking?

JANEWAY
That is Commander Chakotay -- on
our ship.

NOONAN
Commander, eh?
(into the air)
Okay, now hear this, Commander.
There's a gun pointed at the
little lady's head right now. You
call Washington and tell 'em we're
holding your people prisoner and
they aren't going anywhere till I
personally talk to J. Edgar
Hoover. Got that?

CHAKOTAY
(puzzled)
Captain, who's that -- ?

JANEWAY
It seems we're being held hostage,
Commander. I would suggest you
pay attention to what the
gentleman says.

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED:

36

CHAKOTAY

I understand. Chakotay out.

He rises and looks at Tuvok, who is already moving toward the Turbolift.

TUVOK

All security personnel report to the Cargo Bay immediately.

The Turbolift doors close behind them.

37 INT. CHAMBER

37

Earhart has produced a compass and is reading it. Noonan keeps the gun trained on our people.

EARHART

The compass isn't working. I can't get our bearings at all.
(beat)

Maybe we're south of the Equator.

PARIS

Quite a bit south, actually...

NOONAN

Where are we? South America?

Paris glances at Janeway. She tries again.

JANEWAY

I've been trying to tell you -- you're not on Earth any longer. You're on a planet that's almost seventy-thousand light-years away.

HAYES

(shaking head)
You sure got some crazy ideas, lady...

JANEWAY

Tell me... what's the last thing you remember before waking up here?

HAYES

(trying to remember)
I was in my truck... headin' into town... just got onto the blacktop when this big... light came down from the sky.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED:

37

HAYES (Cont'd)
Just about blinded me... next
thing I knew, the whole truck was
liftin' off the ground...

He looks around, still bewildered.

HAYES
That's all I remember.

EARHART
That's the way it was for us,
too... we were over the
Pacific... running low on gas...
looking for an atoll where we
could set down... we tried to send
out an SOS... and suddenly there
was this huge light in back of us.

She looks at Noonan, as though for verification of the
strange story.

EARHART
And suddenly... the plane stopped.
Dead. And we started to move
backwards... toward the light.
I must've blacked out...
(beat)
And I woke up here. Just now.

JANEWAY
I believe you're recounting
stories of your abduction by
aliens.

EARHART
(skeptical)
You're saying... we were taken by
creatures from outer space?

NOONAN
Don't pay any attention to her.
She's just trying to confuse us.

JANEWAY
We're part of an organization
called Starfleet... dedicated to
exploration and research...
(to Earhart)
Much like yourself. We found you
here... and because so many of us
are human we felt obligated to do
what we could to help you.

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED: (2)

37

JAPANESE OFFICER

"So many of us are human?" What
are the others?

PARIS

Lots of things. Klingon. Vulcan.
Bolian.

JANEWAY

In fact, Kes here --
(gestures)
-- is Ocampa.

She reaches out and pulls Kes' hair from her ears.
Noonan isn't impressed.

NOONAN

I've been on lots of
expeditions... all over the
world. I've seen people do all
kinds of strange things to their
bodies.

(loudly)

Nobody talk to these people. Next
thing you know they'll have you
believin' little green people from
Mars have invaded Earth.

KIM

Actually it was the other way
around. Mars was colonized by
people from Earth in 2103.

NOONAN

(waving gun)

That's enough. All of you go over
there and sit down. And keep
quiet.

JANEWAY

Wait -- if you saw our starship...
would you believe what we're
saying?

HAYES

Starship? What's a starship?

PARIS

It's... like a huge airplane. It
travels through space... we've
landed it on the surface... we can
take you to it...

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED: (3)

37

JAPANESE OFFICER
Don't listen to them. It's a
trick... they'll have other
troops waiting to attack us.

NOONAN
He's right. We aren't goin'
anywhere. Now sit down and shut
up.

He shoves Kim roughly to the ground; Janeway, Kes and
Paris join him.

38 INT. CARGO BAY

38

Tuvok and Chakotay are handing out weapons to the
Security teams. There is a sense of urgency and
purpose to the scene -- a "Swat Team" readying for
action. (NOTE: The truck is still visible in the
background.) The troops are briefed:

CHAKOTAY
The nimbic interference has
affected the Transporter's
targeting scanners... we can't
beam into the chamber, so we'll
have to go on foot.

TUVOK
We will deploy throughout the
caves, sealing off any exit from
the chamber.

CHAKOTAY
The Captain will be trying to
negotiate their release... but a
little backup can only make her
position stronger.

TUVOK
Let's go.

And he and Chakotay EXIT on the run, followed by the
others.

39 INT. CHAMBER

39

Noonan keeps his gun trained on our people. He's
pulled a flask from his jacket and takes a pull.
Earhart eyes him suspiciously.

(CONTINUED)

39 CONTINUED:

39

EARHART

Now's not the best time for that,
Fred.

NOONAN

Just a little pick-me-up.

He begins walking around the room, inspecting the cryo-
stasis devices.

40 ANGLE ON KIM, KES AND HAYES

40

Kim and Kes are sitting near Hayes, who doesn't seem
eager to align himself with Noonan. Harry tries to
bond with Hayes. He's been studying his ancient Earth
history.

KIM

(re: baseball cap)
You a baseball fan?

HAYES

Yep.

KIM

I don't think I recognize that
team.

HAYES

That's probably because the (TECH
TEAM) is part of the Negro League.

But Kim is on top of that one.

KIM

That's right... isn't that the
team Buck O'Neil plays on?

Hayes turns and looks at him, impressed with his
knowledge.

HAYES

That's right... I saw Buck play a
couple weeks ago... had three hits
and two RBI's...

41 ANGLE ON JANEWAY AND PARIS

41

as they sit on the floor, speaking sotto about Noonan,
who is still sipping.

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED:

41

PARIS

He's had a few nips from that flask, Captain. We could probably rush him, get his gun.

JANEWAY

It's too risky for now. They still outnumber us... if they panic and think we're dangerous, they could overpower us.

PARIS

Chakotay should be on his way... once we get some reinforcements, this will be over in short order.

JANEWAY

I'd rather earn their trust first. We have to remember how overwhelming this must be for them...

PARIS

Captain, with all due respect... it seems to me all these people understand is force. I'm not sure you can bank on earning their trust.

JANEWAY

They're humans. I think they can be reasoned with.

PARIS

I've met Klingons that were more reasonable.

JANEWAY

They're a product of their time. The 20th century was a turbulent era in Earth's history... full of conflict and suffering. These people lived through a great Depression... there was world-wide hunger... constant warfare...

PARIS

That's my point. They're a lot different from us.

JANEWAY

But they're our forbears, Tom. We evolved from those people.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED: (2)

41

JANEWAY (Cont'd)
They must contain the seeds of
enlightenment... or Earth would
never have survived.

She ponders for a second, then --

JANEWAY
Ms. Earhart...

Earhart turns at the sound of her name.

JANEWAY
I want you to know... you've
always been a special heroine to
me. In fact, you've inspired
generations of women to take to
the skies.

Earhart can't help but be pleased to hear this. She
moves closer to Janeway.

EARHART
That's one reason I want to fly
around the world. I want little
girls to grow up realizing they can
chase their dreams the same as
boys do.
(beat)
I want to get out of here and back
to my plane. I'm wasting time.

Janeway looks for a gentle way to break the news.

JANEWAY
I'm afraid... that's not possible.
(beat)
That time has passed. As far as
the world knows, you died during
that flight. Nothing was ever
found of you or your plane.

Earhart stares at her, trying to absorb this
information. Then, from across the room:

NOONAN'S VOICE
Hey. I got an idea.

All heads turn toward him. He gestures to the now-
empty stasis devices.

NOONAN
We stick them in these things...
put 'em to sleep just like we
were... no fuss, no trouble.

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED: (3)

41

He looks at the four on the floor.

NOONAN

Which one of you got us out of the
big sleep?

Nobody answers. This seems to infuriate Noonan, who is getting drunk and quarrelsome. He kicks at Janeway's leg.

NOONAN

You. Stand up.

Janeway rises, gauging him carefully. He gestures with his gun.

NOONAN

Okay. Show me how to work them.

JANEWAY

Mister Noonan, that will
accomplish nothing. Please -- let
us take you to our ship. You'll
see that everything we've told you
is true.

But Noonan snaps, reaches out and grabs Janeway by the arm, jerks her violently with him and drags her to one of the devices.

NOONAN

You're gonna see that everything I
said was true. I'm gonna put a
bullet in your skull unless you
show me how to operate this thing.

But suddenly a hand REACHES into frame and seizes the gun.

EARHART

No, you're not.

He looks at her belligerently.

EARHART

Last time I looked, you were
working for me. And I think we
should listen to these people.
They just might be telling the
truth.

And off the power struggle between Earhart and Noonan --

42 INT. CAVES

42

Tuvok, Chakotay, and the Security Team are moving cautiously but with purpose through the caves. They are using tricorders and carry phasers.

CHAKOTAY

I'm showing human life signs...

TUVOK

The cryo-chamber is approximately half a kilometer ahead.

He looks around the cave passageways, checking with his tricorder.

TUVOK

I've mapped a second entrance approaching the chamber from the opposite side.

(to teams)

We will deploy teams on each flank. When we're into position, wait until my signal before taking action.

CHAKOTAY

Hunt, Powell, Hargrove -- you're with me.

And Chakotay and three of the N.D.s move off to one passageway.

TUVOK

The rest of you will follow me.

And they do.

43 INT. CHAMBER

43

Noonan and Earhart are standing practically toe-to-toe, facing off.

EARHART

What harm will it do to see if maybe they do have this "starship?" It's better than staying cooped up in this room trying to guess what happened.

NOONAN

It's some kind of trap. We don't know what we'll be walkin' into --

(CONTINUED)

43 CONTINUED:

43

EARHART

That's the problem with you, Fred --
you've got a closed mind. You can
stay here and try to muddle
through if you want, but I want
some answers. And I'm willing to
take a chance to get them.

She looks around at the rest of the group.

EARHART

How about it? Anybody else want
to come along?

There is a hesitation, then Hayes steps forward.

HAYES

I wouldn't mind takin' a look...

Noonan looks disgusted. In the background, Paris and
Kim exchange a look. Clearly they've come up with a
plan. Kim steps forward. To Hayes --

KIM

Good for you. Anybody else?

Noonan doesn't like Kim being so bold, and he steps
toward him. Meanwhile, Paris has taken advantage of
his being distracted to circle around behind Noonan.

NOONAN

Hey. Who said you could get up?

KIM

(ignoring him; to
Officer)

How about you? You're an
officer... you'd get a kick out
of this ship, believe me.

JAPANESE OFFICER

I will decide for myself --

But before he can finish, Paris has taken a flying run
at Noonan's back, crashing into him and taking him
down. Kim whirls and cracks his arm across the
officer's, knocking his gun away; then suddenly all
three of the Starfleet Officers have phasers trained on
Noonan and the officer. Janeway tries to soothe the
others, who are understandably alarmed.

JANEWAY

Don't be afraid -- we aren't going
to hurt you.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

43 CONTINUED: (2)

43

JANEWAY (Cont'd)

We had to take control of the situation.

(beat)

Now, who wants to come with us?

There is a brief hesitation, and Earhart and Janeway lock eyes. Then --

EARHART

I do.

JANEWAY

Fine. Let's go.

PARIS

I'll stay and watch these two, Captain.

EARHART

Anyone else who wants to can come with us.

A couple of the N.D.s exchange glances, then several of them step forward. Janeway and Kim head for the door.

JANEWAY

We're in a cave several meters underground. It'll take about ten minutes to get to the surface. Stay close to us and we'll lead you out.

And the strange band EXITS.

44 INT. CAVES

44

The group moves along a passageway, Janeway and Kim lighting the way with Sims Beacons. It's dark and a bit frightening.

HAYES

Maybe this wasn't such a good idea...

EARHART

All I gotta say is there better be a great big airplane up there.

JANEWAY

I don't think you'll be disappointed.

Suddenly, from the darkness ahead.

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED:

44

CHAKOTAY'S VOICE
Stop where you are! We have
phasers trained on you.

Earhart and Hayes stop uneasily.

HAYES
I knew it...

JANEWAY
It's all right, Commander. The
situation is under control.

Chakotay and his squad move in from one side; Tuvok and
his from the other. Janeway notices approvingly.

JANEWAY
But it's good to know you were
standing by.
(indicating the
"guests")
We have some people here who are
interested in seeing Voyager.

Janeway proceeds, followed by the others.

45 EXT. CAVES - SURFACE - DUSK

45

The band emerges into the open.

EARHART
Where is it?

JANEWAY
This way.

And she leads them toward the clearing.

46 NEW ANGLE - FROM BEHIND AN ALIEN

46

From a high vantage point, someone watches the small
band of people. The strange figure with the alien
headpiece is following the progress of the people who
have come from the cave. The figure turns and looks at
another masked figure. The second one nods as though
in response.

47 BACK ON JANEWAY'S GROUP

47

as they round the bend. Janeway stops and gestures
toward the ship.

48 ON EARTHART

48

as her eyes travel slowly upward, widening in surprise
as she looks up, up, up...

49 ON VOYAGER - MATTE (OPTICAL)

49

Seen from below, the magnificent ship juts upward into
the alien sky, imposing and awe-inspiring.

50 ON THE GROUP

50

as Earhart and Hayes look up, overwhelmed by the sight,
and the others look on, gratified by the response.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

51 EXT. SURFACE - NIGHT

51

It's a little while later. Now Paris and all the 37's have gathered to see the starship.

NOONAN

Holy jeosaphat...

He's inspired to take another swig from his flask.

JAPANESE OFFICER

How many of these planes do you have? Where are they deployed? Do you intend to launch an invasion?

KIM

Don't you get it? There's no more war.

Earhart is with Janeway, trying to sort through the amazing circumstances.

EARHART

Could it be true...? Is it really four hundred years in the future... is everyone I know... everything that's important to me... gone?

JANEWAY

I'm afraid so...

EARHART

What... what's to become of us?

JANEWAY

You'll come with us. We're a long way from Earth... but that's home to us, too. And we're going to get back.

Earhart struggles to accept what Janeway says, mind working to accommodate this bizarre situation. Suddenly, WEAPONS FIRE breaks out -- no beam is visible, but there's an unearthly WHINE and nasty little explosions erupt at the point of impact. One Starfleet N.D. is wounded and falls to the ground.

JANEWAY

Take cover!

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED:

51

The Voyager crew pull their phasers and move to rush the 37's to cover behind rocks, trees, declivities, etc. Janeway and Earhart have taken cover together; Tuvok has Noonan and the wounded N.D., Chakotay has Hayes, Kim has the pilot, and Paris the N.D. 37's. Janeway hits her Combadge. INTERCUT the following as needed:

JANEWAY

This is the Captain. Can anyone see who's firing on us?

TUVOK

The weapons fire appears to be coming from the top of the embankment directly ahead.

CHAKOTAY

They're dug in pretty well, Captain. They have the high ground and good cover.

JANEWAY

Janeway to Torres.

INTERCUT:

52 INT. BRIDGE

52

Torres at a station. The ship JOLTS periodically with the impact of weapons fire.

TORRES

Torres here, Captain.

JANEWAY

We're pinned down. Can you give us any help?

TORRES

I don't think so. The targeting scanners are still useless. I can't risk laying down weapons fire if I can't be sure of where it's going.

JANEWAY

Keep trying to get them on line. Is the ship taking hits?

TORRES

Yes. Shields are at seventy-one percent and falling.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

52 CONTINUED:

52

TORRES (Cont'd)
Whatever they're shooting at us --
it's potent.

There is a BLAST near Janeway, which she observes.

JANEWAY
It doesn't look like any kind of
weapons fire I've ever seen...

KIM
It's not an energy weapon... I'm
guessing it's a photonic
displacement device. We could be
up against the aliens that
abducted these people.

JANEWAY
But what do they want? To put
them back in stasis? Why? Why
keep them like that for four
hundred years...?

Another EXPLOSION.

TUVOK
Captain, I suggest that now is not
the time for questions. We must
neutralize the weapons fire.

JANEWAY
I'm open to ideas.

TUVOK
If the rest of you will provide
cover fire, I will attack the
embankment and attempt to stun the
aliens who are keeping us pinned
down.

JANEWAY
Acknowledged. Do you want anyone
with you?

TUVOK
Negative. I will make better time
alone.

JANEWAY
Whenever you're ready.

Tuvok looks toward the embankment, then offers a final
admonition to Noonan.

(CONTINUED)

52 CONTINUED: (2)

52

TUVOK
Whatever happens -- stay here.

Noonan just stares at him. Tuvok goes over the top.

53 ANGLE ON TUVOK

53

as he sprints up the hill toward the embankment. Phaser fire from the others provides some cover... small EXPLOSIONS rip around him as the aliens try to knock him out. He's making good progress up the embankment, though -- when suddenly one of the EXPLOSIONS knocks him flat.

54 ON JANEWAY AND EARHART

54

JANEWAY
He's hit...

She starts after him, but WEAPONS FIRE drives her back. One of the explosions has wounded Earhart; she slumps on the ground.

55 ON NOONAN

55

seeing Earhart hurt. He is crazed by this, shakes a fist and yells toward the hill:

NOONAN
I'm gonna get you for that!

But what can he do? He's frustrated and impotent.

56 ON JANEWAY AND EARHART

56

who are pinned in. Janeway hits her combadge.

JANEWAY
Janeway to Chakotay. Let's lay down a line of phaser fire directly in front of the embankment. That might provide enough cover for me to get Tuvok.

CHAKOTAY
Acknowledged, Captain. Except that I'm the one who's going to get him.

57 ON NOONAN

57

looking around for something... anything... to help him. Then he spots the phaser on the wounded N.D. He grabs it, inspects it briefly.

NOONAN

Doesn't look too complicated...

And, taking another swig from the flask to fortify himself, he stands up and starts sprinting up the hill... to the side, away from Tuvok.

NOONAN

Hey! Hey, you up there! You ever seen a chicken with its neck wrung? Know what it does? It goes like this --

And he begins a bizarre flopping dance, cackling like a hen.

58 ON JANEWAY, CHAKOTAY

58

concerned.

JANEWAY

What is he doing?

CHAKOTAY

Getting himself killed. He's crazy...

JANEWAY

Maybe not...

(watching)

They've stopped firing. Maybe they're as surprised as we are.

CHAKOTAY

I don't think that'll last long.

JANEWAY

Let's take advantage... Paris and Kim, start laying down fire. Chakotay, you try to get Tuvok to cover. I'm going for the aliens. Ready -- fire.

59 WIDE ANGLE

59

as Paris and Kim start firing... Chakotay heads for Tuvok, and Janeway circles around to the side. In the meantime, Noonan continues his bizarre dance.

(CONTINUED)

59 CONTINUED:

59

NOONAN

It flops and it flops... just like
it was still alive... and it makes
all kinds of noise --

And he makes the cackling sound. But the period of
doomed grace is over, and an EXPLOSION rips the ground
near him.

NOONAN

Missed me! Couldn't hit the side
of a barn, ya four-eyed twerps!
Wawk! Wawk! Wawk!

60 CHAKOTAY AND JANEWAY

60

Chakotay has managed to get to Tuvok and is dragging
him toward cover. Janeway is near the top of the hill,
coming in from the side.

61 NOONAN

61

NOONAN

And that's what I'm gonna do to
you when I get there -- wring your
necks!

But suddenly he's hit by an EXPLOSION and falls over,
mortally wounded.

62 JANEWAY

62

comes up from behind the aliens, phaser right on them.

JANEWAY

Hold your fire... drop your
weapons.

Stunned, the aliens comply.

JANEWAY

Turn around... slowly.

The alien figures turn, hands outstretched in the
universal sign of surrender. They seem puzzled to see
Janeway. One of them, a leader, we will come to know
as JOHN MINNEAPOLIS.

MINNEAPOLIS

You don't look like the Briori...

(CONTINUED)

62 CONTINUED:

62

JANEWAY

I'm not... I'm human.

Slowly, the man removes his headpiece... revealing a face that is not at all alien.

MINNEAPOLIS

We're human, too. All of us.

And on Janeway's astonishment --

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

63 EXT. SURFACE - NIGHT

63

Janeway and John Minneapolis stare at each other in mutual surprise. Minneapolis is skeptical and suspicious.

JANEWAY

Humans...

MINNEAPOLIS

You're in league with the Briori --
they have ships like yours...

Janeway realizes there are many questions to be answered, but must tend to more pressing matters.

JANEWAY

I'll answer any questions you
have... but first we have to take
care of our wounded. Can we agree
to a cease fire while we both get
medical attention for our people?

Minneapolis hesitates, looks at his colleague, and then turns back. He's clearly edgy and distrustful.

MINNEAPOLIS

A temporary one...

JANEWAY

I'm Kathryn Janeway... of the
Federation Starship Voyager.

MINNEAPOLIS

(terse)

John Minneapolis.

And Janeway can't help but smile at the sound of that familiar city spoken here in the Delta Quadrant.

64 INT. SICKBAY

64

Noonan is on the clamshell, in very bad shape. Earhart is with him, as is ZIMMERMAN. Kes is working on Tuvok at another bed.

ZIMMERMAN

He's undergone severe trauma to
the abdominal region. Internal
hemorrhaging is extensive...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

64 CONTINUED:

64

ZIMMERMAN (Cont'd)
...massive damage to a number of
organs... (MED TECH NEEDED)...

EARHART
He can't survive that...

ZIMMERMAN
I wouldn't be so sure. The
alcohol content of his blood is so
high it might be cauterizing the
wounds.

The Doctor moves off. Noonan holds up a hand and
Earhart takes it.

EARHART
Hang on, Fred. The Doctor's doing
everything he can.

NOONAN
(hoarse, raspy voice)
It's no use, babe. I figure this
is the end of the line for me.

EARHART
You were so brave... everyone else
was saved because of you.

NOONAN
I just wanted to make sure they
didn't hurt you...

Zimmerman has procured a (TECH) tool and is prepared to
go to work. Earhart is in his way.

ZIMMERMAN
If you'll give me access to the
patient, I can proceed.

NOONAN
Don't bother, Doc... let me die in
peace. And the last sight I
want... is this beautiful lady's
face.

The Doctor ignores him and circles to the other side
and begins aiming the device at his abdomen.

NOONAN
(to Earhart)
There's just one thing I gotta say
to you first... even though it's
four hundred years late...
(beat)
Amelia... I love you.

(CONTINUED)

64 CONTINUED: (2)

64

EARHART

(touched)

Fred... you never let on...

NOONAN

You're married. Or you were -- I guess he's dead now. I never would've told you if I wasn't gonna die. But I don't want to meet my maker without you knowin'... you're about the greatest dame that ever lived.

ZIMMERMAN

There. That should do it.

He snaps the device shut.

NOONAN

Do what?

ZIMMERMAN

You may consider yourself healed.

NOONAN

You mean -- I'm not gonna die?

ZIMMERMAN

Some day you will, of course. But not today.

Noonan stares at him, and then turns to Earhart. He's profoundly embarrassed at his "death bed" revelation.

NOONAN

Amelia -- you gotta forget what I just told you. Promise me!

EARHART

I don't know... sounded pretty good to me.

He grins weakly and she takes his hand.

65 INT. BRIEFING ROOM

65

Janeway, Chakotay and John Minneapolis. There are two security N.D.s present. Minneapolis is on his feet, on-edge. Mid-conversation.

JANEWAY

I'm sure we can find a way to settle our differences peacefully. What is it that you want?

(CONTINUED)

65 CONTINUED:

65

MINNEAPOLIS

You've taken the 37's. We want them back.

JANEWAY

I'm afraid I don't understand.

MINNEAPOLIS

You went into the shrine... stole the 37's from their sacred altars.

(beat)

And you disturbed the radio signal we have been so careful to preserve... the final message the 37's sent out.

Janeway and Chakotay exchange a look.

CHAKOTAY

Captain, I think he's talking about Earhart and the others...

MINNEAPOLIS

(reacts, angry)

Earhart. You are not permitted to speak her name.

JANEWAY

Why not?

MINNEAPOLIS

You are probably working for the Briori.

CHAKOTAY

Who are the Briori?

Minneapolis takes a few steps around the room, restless.

MINNEAPOLIS

They're an alien race... they abducted the original 37's from Earth and brought them here fifteen generations ago... turned them into slaves to work in the mines.

(beat)

But the slaves revolted... killed the Briori... took their weapons and technology...

(beat)

There were only two hundred 37's then... but they survived...

(CONTINUED)

65 CONTINUED: (2)

65

CHAKOTAY

And you're their descendants...

MINNEAPOLIS

That's right. There are over ten thousand of us now... we've grown strong. The Briori have not come back to this place for over four hundred years.

(beat)

Until today.

JANEWAY

We are not the Briori. We are human. This is a human ship... it was built on Earth.

MINNEAPOLIS

That's impossible. Earth has nothing like this. I know... I've read the history that our ancestors left us. We know what Earth is. We've kept the traditions alive.

Janeway takes a long beat.

JANEWAY

Mister Minneapolis... you have to realize that a great deal of time has passed since the people from 1937 were taken from Earth. Humanity has changed... our technology has changed. We now explore the universe in spacecraft, like many other races. But we're human... just like you.

Minneapolis looks at them suspiciously.

MINNEAPOLIS

You... look human. You even sound human. Let's say for a moment you are who you say you are. Why would you take the 37's from us?

CHAKOTAY

We didn't take them from you. We simply revived them.

MINNEAPOLIS

What do you mean "revived?" They're dead. They've been dead for centuries.

(CONTINUED)

65 CONTINUED: (3)

65

JANEWAY

No... they were simply in a state of what we call cryo-stasis... a form of deep sleep that appears very much like death.

Minneapolis sits down... taking this in.

MINNEAPOLIS

You expect me to believe that?

Janeway and Chakotay exchange a glance. Finally, Janeway makes a decision and taps her Combadge.

JANEWAY

(to com)

Mister Tuvok, will you please bring Ms. Earhart to the Briefing Room?

TUVOK'S COM VOICE

Aye, Captain.

Minneapolis reacts.

MINNEAPOLIS

You're giving Earhart back to me?

JANEWAY

We're not giving her to anyone... we're simply going to introduce you.

At that moment, the doors open and Tuvok ENTERS with Earhart. Minneapolis jumps out of his chair, startled and a little frightened at the sight of her.

MINNEAPOLIS

This is some kind of trick.

Earhart looks mystified.

EARHART

What's going on?

JANEWAY

John Minneapolis... I'd like you to meet Amelia Earhart.

EARHART

How do you do?

She holds out a hand. Minneapolis stares at it for a long beat, not sure what to do... then finally, slowly reaches out and takes her hand...

(CONTINUED)

65 CONTINUED: (4)

65

Looks at her with awe.

MINNEAPOLIS

You're... alive.

EARHART

By all accounts.

He bows his head to her in a reverent gesture.

MINNEAPOLIS

All that we are we owe to you.

Earhart looks a little baffled.

EARHART

Um... okay...

She looks at Janeway -- what's going on here? Janeway steps in.

JANEWAY

(to Minneapolis)

John... Earhart and the other 37's are just people, no different from you or me. The Briori put them into a deep sleep... that's all.

He tries to take this in... but hundreds of years of sanctimonious belief are hard to shake. Earhart looks at him curiously.

EARHART

(to Minneapolis)

Who are you people? You look human...

Janeway smiles.

JANEWAY

They're descendants of some friends of yours. I think you two have a lot of catching up to do.

OFF the moment -- Minneapolis and Earhart staring at each other with a mixture of curiosity and disbelief...

66 EXT. SURFACE - VOYAGER - MATTE (OPTICAL)

66

JANEWAY (V.O.)
Captain's Log, Stardate xxxxx.x.
We have just returned from a visit
to several of the cities on this
planet -- all of which were
protected by an elaborate
deflection system. John
Minneapolis has made a generous
offer.

67 INT. MESS HALL

67

The 37's are gathered at several tables; Janeway is
there, as are NEELIX and Minneapolis. Noonan and Hayes
are at one table, Earhart and the Japanese Officer at
another.

JANEWAY
The human colony here has invited
all of us to stay... to become
permanent residents of this
planet.

There is a beat as they all absorb this.

JANEWAY
I think you'd all agree that
they've created an extraordinary
way of life... a world without
war... without poverty or crime.
Ironically, a world very much like
present day Earth...

NOONAN
But a lot different from the Earth
we left...

HAYES
And a lot better, if you ask me.

JAPANESE OFFICER
I agree.

JANEWAY
The crew of Voyager has been given
this offer, too. Right now
they're making their own
decisions. It may well be that
some of them will choose to stay
behind and start a new life here.

(CONTINUED)

67 CONTINUED:

67

EARHART

Captain Janeway has also invited us to join them on their journey back to Earth. It's important that each one of you search your hearts... and make the decision that's right for you.

MINNEAPOLIS

I want to make it clear that we would be honored... honored... to have you stay with us.

JANEWAY

But whatever decision you make, it will be respected.

(beat)

I think everyone needs some time to think this over. The choice isn't an easy one.

She nods toward Earhart.

JANEWAY

Please let Ms. Earhart know your decisions by fourteen hundred hours.

She nods and leaves. Neelix immediately approaches Noonan's table carrying a tray. A couple of Starfleet N.D.s tend to the other tables.

NEELIX

And to give you the energy you'll need to make this weighty decision... a little comfort food.

He begins putting down dishes in front of Hayes and Noonan.

NEELIX

My research on 20th Century Earth is a little thin... but I've done what I can.

(gesturing to his tray)

For you... pot roast... green beans... and something called... jello?

He regards the quivery substance with some distaste. But Noonan grabs the dish.

(CONTINUED)

67 CONTINUED: (2)

67

NOONAN

Jello... with fruit cocktail...
that's my favorite dessert!

NEELIX

Then I'll go get seconds right
now.

And he bustles off as the 37's dig in.

68 INT. READY ROOM

68

Janeway stands by the window, looking out (we see only
the sky). The chime rings.

JANEWAY

Come in.

Earhart ENTERS.

EARHART

I've talked with all of our group.
(beat)

We appreciate your offer,
Captain... but we've thought
about it and we realize... we have
nothing to go back to on Earth.
On the other hand, the people
here... on this planet... are part
of us. We're their ancestors, in
a way. It makes us feel close to
them.

JANEWAY

I understand.

EARHART

They've built a world here that
we'd be proud to be part of. And
that's what we've decided to do.

JANEWAY

I think it's a good choice.

EARHART

What about your crew? Will any of
them be staying?

JANEWAY

No. Frankly I'm a little
surprised... but not one person
opted to stay behind.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

68 CONTINUED:

68

JANEWAY (Cont'd)

(beat)

I'm relieved... we've been through so much together... it just wouldn't seem right. To break up the family...

EARHART

I know what you mean. Our little group is more united here than we ever would have been on Earth in 1937. I wouldn't want to see us split up.

Janeway looks at Earhart, feeling an affinity for this early aviatrix.

JANEWAY

I think we have a lot in common. Frankly... I'd looked forward to getting to know you better.

EARHART

I'd have enjoyed that. But I think... we're both the kind to follow our own hearts.

Janeway smiles the acknowledgement.

EARHART

We owe you a great deal, Captain. I'd like to give you something that's meant a lot to me over the years...

She stands and removes her flight jacket, hands it to Janeway.

EARHART

To remember the 37's.

Touched, Janeway takes it, then removes her Combadge, gives it to Earhart.

JANEWAY

To remember Starfleet.

And off their mutual admiration...

69 INT. BRIDGE

69

Janeway and the usual complement. Tuvok ENTERS from the Turbolift.

(CONTINUED)

69 CONTINUED:

69

TUVOK

Captain, all the 37's have left
the ship and are at a safe
distance.

JANEWAY

Prepare to lift off, Mister Paris.

PARIS

Aye, Captain.

He works his controls.

70 EXT. SURFACE (OPTICAL)

70

The group of 37's, and Minneapolis and his colleague,
watch as Voyager blasts from the surface and lifts into
the sky. Their new life has begun; there, deep in the
Delta Quadrant, humanity has made a toe-hold.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE

THE END