

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)

