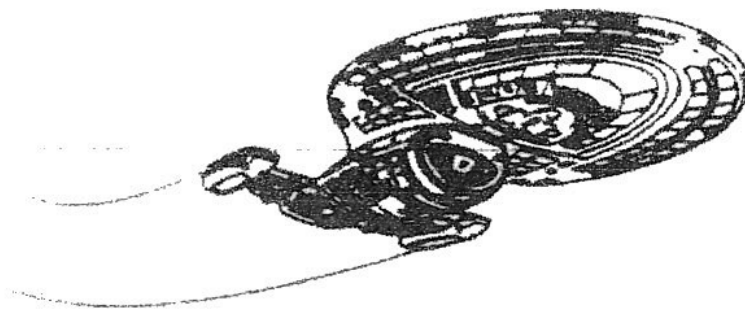


STAR TREK VOYAGER



“The Omega Directive”

Rev. FINAL DRAFT

January 15, 1998

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

"The Omega Directive"

40840-189

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REV. FINAL DRAFT

Jan 15 1998

STAR TREK: VOYAGER"The Omega Directive"TEASER

FADE IN:

1 INT. CARGO BAY

1

The lights are dim in the Cargo Bay, and SEVEN OF NINE is regenerating in her alcove, eyes closed. It's somehow unsettling to see her here, surrounded by Borg hardware - we're reminded that she's still far from human.

There's a series of Borg beeps and mechanical sounds ... and the lights come up... Seven of Nine's eyes open.

COMPUTER VOICE

Oh-six-hundred hours.

Regeneration cycle complete.

Seven of Nine moves out of the alcove, instantly awake. She goes to the Borg console and briefly checks over some readings. She speaks to the com, recording a log entry - this is her daily routine.

SEVEN OF NINE

Daily log, Seven of Nine, Stardate 51781.2. Today, Ensign Kim and I will conduct a comprehensive diagnostic of the aft sensor array. I'm allocating three hours twenty minutes for the task, and an additional seventeen minutes for Ensign Kim's usual conversational digressions.

(beat)

I'm scheduled to take a nutritional, Supplement at fifteen hundred hours, engage in one hour of cardiovascular activity, then I intend, to review a text the Doctor recommended, entitled "A Christmas Carol." He believes it will have educational value.

(beat)

End log.

She heads out the door.

2 INT. MESS HALL (OPTICAL)

2

TUVOK and HARRY KIM sit at an isolated table, with a Kal-toh game between them. Kim holds one of the thin rods, trying to decide where to place it. He studies the chaotic haystack from one angle, then switches to another.

KIM

I'll get this ... don't give me any hints.

TUVOK

I had no intention of doing so.

Seven of Nine ENTERS the Mess Hall and approaches Kim.

SEVEN OF NINE

Ensign.

KIM

Hi, Seven.

SEVEN OF NINE

Are you ready to begirt our sensor diagnostic?

Kim looks up, surprised.

KIM

Is it oh-six-hundred already?
We've been playing all night.

Seven of Nine glances at the game.

SEVEN OF NINE

Vulcan Kal-toh.

KIM

For a game of logic, you'd be surprised how addictive it is. Give me a few more minutes to figure this out ...

He turns his concentration back to the game.

TUVOK

You should attend to your duties, Ensign. I'll accept your forfeit.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

KIM

No way. This is the closest I've
ever come to beating you, and I'm
not giving up now.

He continues to study the Kal-toh, from one angle, then
another. Seven of Nine waits for a few seconds, then
loses patience. She takes the rod from his hand, and
places it, almost absently.

The Kal-toh SHIMMERS, and forms a perfectly symmetrical
shape. Kim stares at it, amazed. Tuvok nods.

TUVOK

Impressive.

SEVEN OF NINE

Elementary spatial harmonics. (to Kim)
Are you ready now?

Kim acknowledges, still stunned.

KIM

Yeah ... sure.

As they leave, he glances back at the game.

KIM

(to Tuvok)

I would've gotten that ...

Off Tuvok, less than convinced ...

3 INT. CORRIDOR

3

Kim and Seven of Nine head down the hallway.

KIM

Is there anything you don't know?

SEVEN OF NINE

I was Borg.

KIM

(overlapping)

"I was Borg. " That's what you
always say -- but what does it
mean? You've got the knowledge of
ten thousand species in your head?

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

SEVEN OF NINE

Not exactly. Each Drone's
experiences are processed by the
Collective. Only useful
information is retained.

KIM

Still, that probably makes you the
most intelligent human being
alive.

SEVEN OF NINE

Probably.

KIM

(lightly)

So what do you need the rest of us
for?

Silence from Seven of Nine.

KIM

Forget I asked.

The ship TREMBLES mildly, and they both look around,
curious.

KIM

What was that?

4 INT. BRIDGE (VPB)

4

CHAKOTAY's in command, PARIS and N.D.s are at stations.
Tom's checking a console.

PARIS

We just dropped out of warp.

CHAKOTAY

What's the problem?

PARIS

We were hit by some kind of
shockwave.

CHAKOTAY

Source?

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

4

PARIS
(as he works)
Checking ...

Suddenly, the monitor on his console goes blank, and an OMEGA symbol appears. Paris tries to work the console, but nothing happens.

PARIS
Hold on ... I just lost all my
sensor readings. The computer's
bringing up some kind of message,
but I can't access it. You'd
better take a look at this.

On the monitor by his chair, Chakotay sees the same mysterious symbol. He looks around at other monitors on the Bridge - it's on all of them.

CHAKOTAY
I see it.

PARIS
What is it?

CHAKOTAY
I have no idea.

He works his console for a moment, then reacts with some surprise at the results.

CHAKOTAY
My command codes aren't working.
The computer says I have
insufficient clearance to access
the message.

He looks around at the frozen Bridge monitors.

CHAKOTAY
We can't function like this. I'm
going to get Harry up here to
trace the source ...

But before he can make the com call, the Turbolift doors OPEN and Janeway strides onto the Bridge, purposeful.

JANEWAY
Don't do anything. I'll take care
of this.

She stops at an aft console, and enters a few commands. The Omega symbol disappears.

(CONTINUED)

4

CONTINUED: (2)

4

JANEWAY

Send all sensor data about the
particle wave to my Ready Room.
Tom, disengage engines and hold
position here.

CHAKOTAY

Captain ... what's going on?

JANEWAY

I can't explain right now. Don't
discuss any of this with the rest
of the crew. I'll have further
instructions for you soon.

She EXITS into the Ready Room, leaving the Bridge crew
to exchange curious looks -- what's going on?

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

(NOTE: Episode credits fall over opening scenes.)

5 INT. READY ROOM (OPTICAL)

5

Janeway ENTERS, and goes to her desk.

JANEWAY

(to com)

Computer, seal the doors to this
room. No entry without my
authorization.

COMPUTER VOICE

Doors are sealed.

Janeway sits, and activates her desktop monitor. The
Omega symbol appears.

JANEWAY

(to com)

Access secured datafile Omega One.

COMPUTER VOICE

Voiceprint confirmed. State
clearance code.

JANEWAY

(to com)

Janeway-one-one-five-three-red.
Clearance level ten.

COMPUTER VOICE

Confirmed.

The image on the monitor changes to a graphic of a
small starchart. There's a DOT in the center,
representing Voyager, and a line tracing a course from
it.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

COMPUTER VOICE

Sensors have detected the Omega phenomenon within one point two light years of this vessel. Implement the Omega Directive immediately. All other priorities have been rescinded.

Janeway takes this in for a moment - grim.

JANEWAY

(to com)

Display sensor data.

As she settles in to study the information ...

6 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL)

6

holding position in space.

7 INT. ENGINEERING

7

Chakotay is giving out PADDs to Paris, Seven and TORRES.

CHAKOTAY

(to all)

I've been informed that this is a highly classified mission. Information will be provided on a need-to-know basis. Captain's orders.

TORRES

Classified ... by who? We're sixty thousand light years from Starfleet ...

CHAKOTAY

Like I said -- need-to-know.

They start looking over the PADDs.

CHAKOTAY

(to Torres)

B'Elanna ... she wants you to install multiphasic shielding around the warp core.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

TORRES

(off PADD)

I've never seen this shield configuration. I'd like to run a few computer simulations to make sure it's stable.

CHAKOTAY

No time. She needs this done by eleven hundred hours.

TORRES

Eleven hundred? I'm not sure that's possible ...

CHAKOTAY

Make it possible. Seven of Nine will give you a hand.

SEVEN OF NINE

Are we attempting to protect the core from some form of subspace radiation?

CHAKOTAY

I don't know any more than you do.

SEVEN OF NINE

It will be difficult to complete the task without more data.

CHAKOTAY

The data you've got will have to do.

(to Paris)

Torn -- start modifying a Shuttlecraft to withstand extreme thermal stress. Twelve thousand Kelvins, at least.

PARIS

Aye, sir.

Paris nods. Torres can't resist asking ...

TORRES

Does all this have something to do with that secret message the Captain received?

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (2)

7

Chakotay shoots her a glance.

CHAKOTAY

What have you heard?

TORRES

Rumors, mainly. Janeway's been locked in her Ready Room for the past sixteen hours ... and something about an "Omega Directive" ...

Seven of Nine reacts to this.

SEVEN OF NINE

Omega ...

PARIS

Ring a bell?

CHAKOTAY

Look -- the speculation ends right here. Now, I expect you to carry out your assignments with a minimum of gossip. Understood?

Everyone acknowledges.

CHAKOTAY

(lightly)

I know it's hard not to wonder ... frankly, I'm curious myself. But the Captain was very adamant about this.

(beat)

Get going.

Everyone starts working. Chakotay pulls Seven of Nine aside, speaks quietly.

CHAKOTAY

(to Seven)

The Captain wants to see you.

SEVEN OF NINE

I thought she might.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (3)

7

Chakotay gives her a puzzled look. But Seven EXITS without another word ...

CUT TO:

8 INT. READY ROOM

8

Janeway is at her desk, immersed in her work. She's surrounded by PADDs, two desktop monitors, and a cup of coffee. The rumors are true -- she's been locked up in here for a while. The door CHIMES.

JANEWAY

Come in.

Seven of Nine ENTERS. Janeway eyes her.

JANEWAY

What do you know about the Omega Directive?

SEVEN OF NINE

Everything you do. Most likely.

A tense beat -- even though we don't fully understand what's going on here, or what they're talking about, there's a sense of gravity to the situation.

JANEWAY

I thought as much. The Borg assimilated Starfleet Captains. You'd possess all of their knowledge.

SEVEN OF NINE

That's correct.

(beat)

Do you intend to carry out the Directive?

JANEWAY

Yes.

SEVEN OF NINE

Then sensors have detected the molecule.

JANEWAY

So it appears. But we have to confirm it.

SEVEN OF NINE

We?

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

JANEWAY

You're going to help me carry out the Directive. Protocol forbids me from discussing this mission with any of my crew. But since you already know about it ... my choice is to either work with you, or confine you to quarters.

SEVEN OF NINE

Perhaps you should do the latter.
(off her look)
I will not help you destroy Omega.
It should be harnessed.

JANEWAY

That's impossible.

SEVEN OF NINE

The Borg believe otherwise.

Janeway looks surprised.

JANEWAY

Explain.

SEVEN OF NINE

On one occasion, we were able to create a single Omega molecule. We kept it stable for one trillionth of a nanosecond before it destabilized.

(beat)

We didn't have enough boronite ore left to synthesize more. But the knowledge we gained allowed us to refine our theories.

JANEWAY

And the Borg have been waiting for the chance to test them out ...

SEVEN OF NINE

Yes. But we never found another source of the ore. Until now.

JANEWAY

Sorry ... if someone out there is experimenting with Omega, I'm under orders to stop them. Otherwise, this entire Quadrant would be at risk.

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED: (2)

8

SEVEN OF NINE

Those orders were issued as a result of Starfleet's ignorance and fear.

(pointed)

I can alleviate your ignorance. As for your fear...

JANEWAY

Sometimes fear should be respected.

(back at her)

Tell me ... how many Borg were sacrificed during this experiment?

SEVEN OF NINE

Twenty-nine vessels... six hundred thousand Drones. But that's irrelevant.

JANEWAY

Not to me... not to my crew... and not to the people who live in this quadrant. I'm going to neutralize this threat... with or without your help.

A long, tense beat. Then:

SEVEN OF NINE

I will assist you.

JANEWAY

(taken aback)

You will?

SEVEN OF NINE

I've waited many years to observe this molecule first-hand. I won't deny myself the experience.

JANEWAY

All right. Go to your Cargo Bay ... assemble all the data you have about Omega. I'll expect a report within the hour.

Seven acknowledges. But Janeway's still puzzled about something ...

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED: (3)

8

JANEWAY

I didn't realize you had such a
strong scientific curiosity.

Seven hesitates... there is a deeper purpose in her
words... almost a sense of awe.

SEVEN OF NINE

Not "curiosity" ... desire. Omega
is infinitely complex ... yet
harmonious. To the Borg, it
represents ... perfection.

(beat)

I wish to understand that
perfection.

Janeway looks at her.

JANEWAY

(lightly)

The Borg's Holy Grail.

SEVEN OF NINE

Captain?

JANEWAY

Never mind.

(beat)

I'll see you in an hour.

Seven turns and EXITS. Janeway sits at her desk, looks
at one of the desktop monitors ...

8A INCLUDE THE MONITOR (OPTICAL)

8A

It shows a graphic of an OMEGA MOLECULE -- a
crystalline, jewel-like sphere, slowly spinning,
glowing with energy, almost alive. As Janeway studies
it, troubled ...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

9 INT. SICKBAY

9

The DOCTOR is facing Janeway, mid-conversation.

DOCTOR
(alarmed)
Arithrazine? What for?

JANEWAY
I'm going on an Away Mission.

DOCTOR
What are you planning to do
stroll through a supernova?

JANEWAY
Something like that.
(beat)
Twenty milligrams. When can you
have it ready?

DOCTOR
Captain... arithrazine is used for
the most extreme cases of theta-
radiation poisoning. A physician
must be present to monitor the
treatment.

JANEWAY
That won't be possible.

DOCTOR
Then I'm afraid I can't
accommodate you. I'd be in
violation of Starfleet Medical
Protocols.

JANEWAY
Well, I'm overriding those
protocols ...

DOCTOR
Don't tell me -- "The Omega
Directive." Whatever that might
be ...

JANEWAY
The arithrazine, Doctor?

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED:

9

DOCTOR

It'll be ready in the morning.

JANEWAY

Have it sent to the Shuttlebay.

Janeway turns to go.

DOCTOR

Captain... I don't know what's going on here... but I'd hate this to be the last time I ever see you.

(beat)

Please be careful.

Janeway is touched by his sentiment, but she's resolved to see this mission through. She nods, then turns to go ...

CUT TO:

10 INT. CARGO BAY (OPTICAL)

10

Seven of Nine is standing at the row of alcoves, working a control panel. A CONSOLE there displays a graphic of the OMEGA MOLECULE seen earlier, this time surrounded by Borg alphanumeric. Janeway is looking on.

SEVEN OF NINE

I've analyzed the sensor logs using Borg algorithms. The shockwave we detected indicates not one ... but possibly hundreds of Omega molecules.

JANEWAY

(reacts)

Location?

SEVEN OF NINE

Within ten light years. I'm having difficulty isolating the exact star system.

JANEWAY

Transfer your data to the Astrometrics Lab. I'll work on it there.

(thinks)

Hundreds of molecules ... that changes everything.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

10

JANEWAY (Cont'd)

We're going to need more
firepower... more protection...

SEVEN OF NINE

A shuttle mission may be
insufficient. We require the
resources of this entire crew.

Janeway considers... we get the sense this is something
She's been struggling with all along.

JANEWAY

I've already considered that
possibility... it's too
dangerous. If something goes
wrong, I want Voyager a safe
distance away... so Chakotay can
get this crew out of here.

Janeway looks at her.

JANEWAY

(continuing)

Unless you think the risk is now
too high ... in which case, you can
stay behind.

SEVEN OF NINE

I have no intention of staying
behind.

As they work ...

CUT TO:

11 INT. SCIENCE LAB

11

Tuvok and Kim are working on a PHOTON TORPEDO, which
has a panel open on it. This is a delicate operation,
and they're quiet and focused.

TUVOK

Phase modulator.

Kim gives him an instrument, and Tuvok uses it on the
internal circuitry of the torpedo.

TUVOK

Detonator circuits?

Kim checks a console reading.

KIM

On stand by.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

TUVOK

We're ready to load the
gravimetric charge.

Kim very carefully hands Tuvok a narrow CYLINDER -- the
actual CHARGE.

KIM

This looks like enough for a fifty
isoton explosion.

Tuvok places the cylinder into the torpedo casing.

TUVOK

Fifty-four, to be exact.

KIM

What are we planning to do, blow
up a small planet?

TUVOK

I don't know.

KIM

This warhead isn't standard
issue... who designed it, the
Captain?

JANEWAY'S VOICE

(lightly)

Mister Kim ... you ask too many
questions.

REVEAL Janeway, who has just ENTERED the room. She
moves to them.

JANEWAY

(continuing)

Change of plans, Gentlemen.
Increase the charge to eighty
isotons.

A beat. Tuvok raises a brow.

TUVOK

Aye, Captain.

JANEWAY

Harry, when you're done here, give
B'Elanna a hand with the
shuttlecraft. She's reinforcing the hull.

KIM

Right.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: (2)

11

Janeway EXITS. A beat as they work. Kim is intrigued
by the mystery of what's happening.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: (3)

11

KIM

Ensign Hickman thinks it's Species
Eight Four Seven Two.

TUVOK

Pardon me?

KIM

That's his theory: there's an
opening in fluidic space, and
Captain Janeway has to shut it
down.

Tuvok doesn't respond.

KIM

Wanna hear what I think?

TUVOK

No.

KIM

I think there's a type-six
protostar out there... and the
Captain's planning to detonate it
and open a wormhole to the Alpha
Quadrant. In theory, it's possible.
And because she doesn't want to
get our hopes up, she's not
telling anybody.

TUVOK

Don't get your hopes up.

KIM

Then what do you think it is?

TUVOK

I don't engage in idle
speculation.

KIM

Come on, Tuvok, aren't you
curious?

TUVOK

Yes... but we have a task at hand.
(an order)
The phase modulator.

Kim hands him an instrument. As they work...

CUT TO:

12 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL) 12
hanging in space.

13 INT. ASTROMETRICS LAB 13
Janeway is working at a console.

JANEWAY
Come in.

Chakotay ENTERS, having been called.

JANEWAY
Status report?

CHAKOTAY
Everything's going according to
schedule.

JANEWAY
Good. The Omega Directive doesn't
allow me to say much... but I want
you to know what to expect.
(beat)
At oh six hundred hours, I'll be
leaving in a shuttle with Seven of
Nine.

CHAKOTAY
Would it be out of line to ask
where you're going?

Janeway pauses she'd like to tell him but she can't.

JANEWAY
I can tell you this: One of two
things is going to happen ...
either Seven and I will succeed on
our mission, and return within a
few days ... or your long range
sensors will detect a large
explosion in subspace. If that
occurs, you'll have less than ten
seconds to jump to warp, and get
the hell out of here.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED:

13

JANEWAY (Cont'd)

Head for the Alpha Quadrant and
don't look back.

(beat)

Understood?

Chakotay doesn't like the sound of this ... and this
entire situation is starting to get under his skin.

CHAKOTAY

I always thought Starfleet was run
by duty-crazed bureaucrats... but
I find it hard to believe that
even they would order a Captain to
go on a suicide mission.

(beat)

This shuttle excursion is your
Idea, isn't it?

JANEWAY

Let's just say I've had to...
amend the Directive, given the
circumstances.

(beat)

You have your orders... I expect
you to follow them.

CHAKOTAY

That's expecting a lot. You're
asking me to abandon my Captain 1
and closest friend 1 without even
telling me why.

JANEWAY

If it were a simple matter of
trust, I wouldn't hesitate to tell
you. But we've encountered
situations where information was
taken from us by force. I can't
allow knowledge of Omega to go
beyond Voyager.

CHAKOTAY

That's a reasonable argument...
but you're not always a reasonable
woman.

(off her look)

You're determined to protect this
crew ... and this time you've taken
it too far. A dangerous mission?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED: (2)

13

CHAKOTAY (Cont'd)

Fine, I'll acknowledge that ... but isn't it more likely to succeed with everyone behind you, working together?

His words have an impact -- they strike to the heart of Janeway's dilemma.

JANEWAY

Ordinarily, I'd agree. But this Directive was issued many years ago, and Starfleet didn't exactly have our predicament in mind ... lost in the Delta Quadrant, with no back-up. I can't ignore the orders... but I won't ask the crew to risk their lives because of my obligation.

CHAKOTAY

"My obligation." That's where you're wrong. Voyager may be alone out here, but you're not.
(emphatic)

Let us help you. We'll keep classified information limited to the Senior Staff... we'll take every security precaution... just don't try to do this alone.

Janeway stares at him for along beat... then:

JANEWAY

Assemble the troops.

Chakotay nods. There's a warm beat between them, then he turns to go ...

CUT TO:

14 INT. BRIEFING ROOM (OPTICAL)

14

Janeway is on her feet, facing Chakotay, Tuvok, Torres, Kim, Paris, the Doctor and Seven of Nine. The mood is tense, filled with anticipation.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

JANEWAY

If we were in the Alpha Quadrant right now, we wouldn't be having this conversation. I'd be in contact with Starfleet Command, and they'd send in a specialized team to deal with the crisis. In their absence, we'll have to make do with the training I received, and the knowledge Seven of Nine has retained from the Borg.

Janeway moves to the wall MONITOR, taps a control. The OMEGA SYMBOL seen earlier appears.

JANEWAY

(continuing)

You've all seen this symbol. Omega. The last letter of the Greek alphabet ... chosen by Starfleet to represent a threat not only to the Federation, but to the entire galaxy. Only Starship Captains and Federation Flag Officers have been briefed on the nature of this threat.

(beat)

What you're about to hear doesn't go beyond these bulkheads... is that clear?

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: (2)

14

Nods all around. Janeway taps a few controls and the monitor CHANGES to show a GRAPHIC of the OMEGA MOLECULE, spinning and pulsating.

JANEWAY
(re: graphic)
This is Omega.

PARIS
A molecule?

JANEWAY
Not just any molecule... the most powerful substance known to exist. A single Omega molecule contains as much energy as a warp core. In theory, a small chain of them could sustain a civilization.

The crew takes this in.

JANEWAY
(continuing)
The molecule was first synthesized over a hundred years ago, by a Starfleet physicist named Ketteract. He was hoping to develop an inexhaustible power source.

SEVEN OF NINE
Or a weapon.

Janeway throws her a look, but doesn't argue the point.

JANEWAY
Ketteract managed to synthesize a single molecule particle of Omega... but it only existed for a fraction of a second before it destabilized.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: (3)

14

She works a control, and the monitor CHANGES to show a SPACE STATION viewed from a distance which has EXPLODED from within. The structure is barely holding together and is charred and smoking. TENDRILS of CRACKLING ENERGY emanate from the station. As Janeway speaks, the monitor shows three different views of the station ...

JANEWAY

This was a classified research station in the Lantaru Sector. Ketteract and one hundred twenty-six of the Federation's leading scientists were lost in the accident.

(beat)

Rescue teams who tried to reach the site discovered an unexpected, secondary effect. There were subspace ruptures extending out several light years.

PARIS

(recalling)

The Lantaru Sector... it's impossible to form a stable warp field there. You can only fly through it at sublight speeds.

(beat)

But I was always told that was a natural phenomenon. You're saying it was caused by a single molecule of this stuff?

JANEWAY

(acknowledges)

Omega destroys subspace. A chain reaction involving a handful of molecules could devastate subspace throughout an entire Quadrant. If that were to happen, warp travel would become impossible. Space-faring civilization as we know it would cease to exist.

(beat)

Once Starfleet realized Omega's power, they suppressed all knowledge of it.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: (4)

14

DOCTOR

Have you detected Omega here ... in
the Delta Quadrant?

JANEWAY

I'm afraid so.

(beat)

I'm authorized to use any means
necessary to destroy it.

A beat as everyone absorbs this.

JANEWAY

(to Paris)

Tom... I've calculated the
location of the molecules. I'll
transfer the coordinates to the
helm. Take us there at full impulse.

PARIS

Aye, Captain.

She surveys her officers for a moment.

JANEWAY

I don't have to tell you what's at
stake. If a large-scale Omega
explosion occurs... we'll lose the
ability to go to warp... forever.

(beat)

We've got our work cut out for us.

Everyone EXITS. Off Janeway's face...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

15 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL) 15
at impulse.

JANEWAY (V.0 .)
Computer -- encrypt log entry.
(a beep)
Captain's Log, Supplemental.
We're approaching the star system
where we believe we'll find Omega.
I have to admit, I've never been
this apprehensive about a
mission ...

15A INT. CORRIDOR 15A

Janeway is walking along, carrying a PADD, lost in
thought. FOUR STARFLEET N.D.S are moving about,
carrying equipment, etc.

JANEWAY (V.0.)
(continuing)
I know how Einstein must've felt
about the atom bomb ... or Marcus
when she developed the genesis
device. They watched helplessly
as science took a destructive course ...

CUT TO:

16 INT. CARGO BAY (VPB) 16

Janeway ENTERS, carrying the PADD, glances around,
looking for someone.

JANEWAY (V.0.)
(continuing)
But I have the chance to prevent
that from happening. I just hope
it's not too late.

As the log ends, Janeway walks up to Seven of Nine, who
is working at a portable console.

JANEWAY
Status report?

Seven indicates a monitor ...

16A INCLUDE THE MONITOR (VPB)

16A

which shows a GRAPHIC of a large STEEL CHAMBER --
cylindrical, high-tech, with two Plexiglass WINDOWS.

SEVEN OF NINE

This is a harmonic resonance
chamber. The Borg designed it to
contain and stabilize Omega.

JANEWAY

I thought I asked you to work on
the photon torpedo ...

SEVEN OF NINE

The torpedo may be insufficient ...

(re: graphic)

I can modify this chamber to emit
an inverse frequency. It will be
enough to dissolve Omega's
interatomic bonds.

JANEWAY

Here's to Borg ingenuity.

(beat)

Excellent work, Seven. We may
need this.

SEVEN OF NINE

The modification requires several
complex calculations. Assist me.

JANEWAY

(lightly)

I guess I will.

They start working the console. Janeway glances at her ...

JANEWAY

I'm curious ... when did the Borg
discover Omega?

SEVEN OF NINE

Two hundred, twenty-nine years
ago.

JANEWAY

Assimilation?

SEVEN OF NINE

Yes ... of thirteen different
species.

(CONTINUED)

16A CONTINUED:

16A

JANEWAY

Thirteen?

SEVEN OF NINE

It began with Species Two-Six-Two.
They were primitive, but their
oral history referred to a powerful
substance which could "burn the sky."

(beat)

The Borg were intrigued... which
led them to Species Two-Six-Three.
They, too, were primitive... and
believed it was a drop of blood
from their Creator.

JANEWAY

Fascinating ...

SEVEN OF NINE

Irrelevant. We followed this
trail of myth for many years ...
until finally assimilating a
species with useful scientific
data. We then created the
molecule ourselves.

Janeway takes this in, working ...

JANEWAY

Omega caused quite a stir among
our own "species." Federation
cosmologists had a theory... that
the molecule once existed in
nature... for an infinitesimal
amount of time... at the moment of
the Big Bang. Some claimed Omega
was the primal source of energy
for the explosion that began our
universe.

Seven isn't impressed.

SEVEN OF NINE

A creation myth, like any other.
Your culture attempts to explain
what it doesn't understand in the
context of its own belief system...
as all limited species do.

Janeway raises a brow.

(CONTINUED)

16A CONTINUED: (2)

16A

JANEWAY

Perhaps.

(pointed)

What is it the Borg say... that
Omega is 11 perfect?"

SEVEN OF NINE

Yes.

JANEWAY

Is that a theory... or a belief?

Seven pauses for a moment -- she never thought of it
that way. Before she can respond ...

CHAKOTAY'S COM VOICE

Bridge to Captain.

JANEWAY

(to com)

Go ahead.

CHAKOTAY'S COM VOICE

We're approaching the coordinates.

Janeway and Seven exchange a look.

JANEWAY

(to com)

On my way.

She turns to Seven, indicates the monitor.

JANEWAY

I'm leaving this project in your
hands. Use whatever resources and
personnel you need.

SEVEN OF NINE

Understood.

Janeway heads for the door. As Seven turns back to the
monitor, thoughtful ...

CUT TO:

17 INT. BRIDGE

17

Janeway ENTERS from the Turbolift. Chakotay, Tuvok,
Paris and Kim, N.D.s at their stations.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

17

CHAKOTAY
(to Janeway)
We've entered a planetary system.

JANEWAY
Inhabited?

CHAKOTAY
There's a pre-warp civilization on
the outermost planet. The source
of Omega seems to be further in.

PARIS
The damage to subspace in this
region is extreme. We won't be
able to go to warp.

The ship TREMBLES.

TUVOK
(off console)
We're encountering distortions ...

JANEWAY
Track their origin.

Tuvok works.

TUVOK
An M-class moon ... we're in visual
range.

JANEWAY
On screen.

18 INCLUDE THE VIEWSCREEN (OPTICAL)

18

It shows a craggy MOON. Immense TENDRILS of CRACKLING ENERGY obscure part of the lunar surface -- the same energy seen in the Lantaru disaster on the Briefing Room monitor.

TUVOK

(off console)

There's a subnucleonic reaction occurring in the upper atmosphere. It looks like it's emanating from a structure on the moon's surface.

JANEWAY

(to Kim)

Can your sensors penetrate the atmosphere?

KIM

Stand by ...

Kim works for a moment. The image on the Viewscreen CHANGES to show the burned-out WRECKAGE of an ALIEN OUTPOST on the lunar surface. It's reminiscent of the charred space station we saw before, but this disaster is clearly on a much larger scale.

JANEWAY

My God.

KIM

(off console)

Over three hundred thousand square kilometers ... destroyed.

JANEWAY

Scan the structure. Are there any Omega molecules remaining?

TUVOK

(works)

I can't tell. Several sections of the outpost are still shielded.

Kim reacts to a console reading, surprised.

KIM

I'm detecting lifesigns.

CHAKOTAY

How many?

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

18

KIM

A few dozen maybe ... it's hard to
get a clear reading.

JANEWAY

Can we transport to the surface?

KIM

I can get you there ... but
conditions in the structure aren't
good. There are high levels of
radiation.

Janeway turns to Tuvok.

JANEWAY

Assemble a rescue team and have
them report to Sickbay for
arithrazine inoculations. Tell
the Doctor to prepare for
casualties.

Tuvok nods and EXITS. Janeway turns to Paris.

JANEWAY

Move Voyager into a high orbit,
then join the Away Team. We'll
need a field medic.

PARIS

Yes, Ma'am.

He works the helm. Chakotay turns to Janeway,
concerned.

CHAKOTAY

You're going with them?

JANEWAY

If Omega's still down there, I
have to find it. I'll keep an
open comlink with the ship.

(beat)

You have the Bridge.

As Janeway EXITS to the Turbolift ...

CUT TO:

19 INT. ALIEN OUTPOST (OPTICAL)

19

Janeway, Tuvok, and TWO STARFLEET N.D.s MATERIALIZE
in the ruins of an alien research facility.

*

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

19

The WALLS and remains of the lab equipment are
BLACKENED and TWISTED from extreme heat. There are
three ALIEN BODIES visible among the wreckage. The *
N.D.'s scan quickly, and find an ALIEN (ALLOS) who is *
still alive. A second ALIEN SURVIVOR lies next to him. *

The N.D.s move to the wounded man, and begin treating *
him. Tuvok and Janeway use their own tricorders to *
scan the room.

JANEWAY

(off tricorder)

I'm picking up Omega's resonance
frequency. It's here ... but I
can't pinpoint a location.

Janeway moves to Allos, who is being treated by the *
N.D.s.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED: (2)

19

JANEWAY

I need to ask you about the
experiments you've been conducting
here.

Allos looks up at her 1 groggy/ badly burned.

ALLOS

There was ... an accident. We lost
containment ...

JANEWAY

(nods)

The substance you were trying to
create ... did any of it survive
the explosion?

ALLOS

Yes ...

JANEWAY

Where?

He turns his head, painfully/ indicating a direction.
Janeway looks up to see --

20 A BLAST DOOR

20

Heavy steel, with alien markings resembling bio-hazard
symbols. She nods to Tuvok, who moves to examine the
door.

ALLOS

(re: blast door)

Inside the primary test chamber.

(beat)

Who are you ...?

JANEWAY

Captain Janeway of the Starship
Voyager. We're here to help.

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED:

20

She stands.

*

JANEWAY

*

(taps combadge)

*

Away Team to Voyager ... two to
beam directly to Sickbay.

Janeway moves to join Tuvok at the blast door ... as we
HEAR the two wounded aliens DEMATERIALIZE.

*

TUVOK

This door is solid duritanium,
thirty centimeters thick.

JANEWAY

Can we get it open?

TUVOK

The duritanium has melted into the
door frame. We'll need to cut
through the metal with phasers.

JANEWAY

Do it.

Tuvok nods, but he's curious about something.

TUVOK

Captain ... I would be negligent if
I didn't point out that we are
about to violate the Prime
Directive.

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED: (2)

20

JANEWAY

For the duration of this mission,
the Prime Directive has been
rescinded.

(grim)

Let's get this over with.

Tuvok moves off. Janeway contemplates the steel door,
still unsettled about what she might find behind it ...

CUT TO:

21 INT. CARGO BAY

21

The room is bustling with activity, but it's very
organized, each person performing a single task. Seven
of Nine supervises Kim, NEELIX and SIX N.D.s as they
work around the nearly completed HARMONIC CHAMBER, a
tall, cylindrical tank with transparent sides, sitting
in the middle of the room.

Kim is methodically plugging isolinear chips into a
series of small slots, part of the chamber. He gets
them all arranged properly, and sets the processor
aside.

Just as he does, Neelix approaches, with another load
of isolinear chips, and sets them down beside Kim.

Seven of Nine stops a passing N.D.

SEVEN OF NINE (to N.D.)

Crewman Dell.

The N.D stops.

SEVEN OF NINE

I'm assigning you a task more
suited to your abilities.
Calibrate the ionic-pressure seals
on the observation ports.

(beat)

Your new designation is Three of
Ten.

The N.D. nods and walks off.

21A ON KIM

21A

who is methodically plugging isolinear chips into a small series of slots, part of the chamber. After a beat, Neelix walks up holding another tray of isolinear chips.

NEELIX

I've got more isolinear processors for you to install.

KIM

Thanks, but I need to get the power relays on-line first.

Kim stands.

NEELIX

Urn ... are you sure that's a good idea? Ensign Wildman was assigned to that.

KIM

This is ridiculous. I'm not going to waste time just because Seven wants to turn this team into her own, private Collective.

NEELIX

She says it's more efficient ...

KIM

Maybe for a bunch of Drones.

Kim moves to a nearby console, starts working it. Seven of Nine walks up to him.

SEVEN OF NINE

(to Kim)

Six of Ten ... that's not your assignment.

KIM

Please stop calling me that.

SEVEN OF NINE

You're compromising our productivity.

(CONTINUED)

21A CONTINUED:

21A

Kim ignores her, keeps working. Seven takes a firm hand.

SEVEN OF NINE

I'm reassigning you to chamber
maintenance. Your new designation
is Two of Ten.

KIM

Wait a minute ... you're demoting
me? Since when do the Borg pull
rank?

SEVEN OF NINE

A Starfleet protocol I adapted.
It's most useful.

Kim looks at her ... can't help but smile at this.

KIM

(lightly)

I'm glad you're not the. Captain.

(CONTINUED)

21A CONTINUED: (2)

21A

Chakotay is just ENTERING the Cargo Bay, looking around at the work in progress. He approaches Seven.

CHAKOTAY

How's it coming?

SEVEN OF NINE

The crew can be efficient when properly organized. The harmonic chamber will be completed within the hour.

CHAKOTAY

Good. I'll let the Captain know.

SEVEN OF NINE

Has she retrieved any data from the surface?

CHAKOTAY

Not yet. They're still trying to access the primary test chamber ..

SEVEN OF NINE

Are there survivors?

CHAKOTAY

(acknowledges)

A few. The Doctor's treating them in Sickbay.

Seven of Nine reacts to this piece of news. Chakotay heads toward the door. Kim catches up to him.

KIM

Commander ...

(off his look)

Seven's taking this "hive mentality" just a little too far. Designated functions, numbered Drones ... I wouldn't be surprised if she started plugging us into alcoves.

But Chakotay looks more amused than anything.

CHAKOTAY

When in the Collective, Harry ... adapt.

(CONTINUED)

21A CONTINUED: (3) 21A

He EXITS, leaving Harry far from reassured ...

22 INT. SICKBAY CUT TO: 22

Seven of Nine ENTERS, glances around the room -- all four bio-beds are occupied by wounded aliens. The Doctor glances over from where he is preparing a hypospray.

SEVEN OF NINE
(re: aliens)
Which of them is the senior
researcher?

The Doctor indicates Allos, who is groggy but recovering.

DOCTOR
This gentleman. Why do you ask?

SEVEN OF NINE
He has knowledge I require.

DOCTOR
He also happens to be barely
conscious. Come back in an hour.

SEVEN OF NINE
Unacceptable.

DOCTOR
Unavoidable. This is my Sickbay.
The man needs to recover.

SEVEN OF NINE
The Captain left me in charge of
our efforts on Voyager. I would
be negligent to ignore a source of
new information.

She moves for the bio-bed, but the Doctor steps in her way. A brief face-off between them ... then the Doctor frowns, sees she won't take no for an answer. He turns to Allos.

DOCTOR
How are you feeling, Sir?

ALLOS
(halting)
Better ... thank you ...

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

DOCTOR

Are you comfortable enough to
speak to this ... individual?

Allos glances at Seven ... nods.

DOCTOR

(to Seven)

Keep it brief.

He heads back to where he was working. Seven of Nine
considers the alien scientist.

SEVEN OF NINE

How many of the molecules were you
able to synthesize?

ALLOS

Two hundred million ...? I'm not
certain ...

SEVEN OF NINE

What is the iso-frequency of your
containment field?

ALLOS

One point six eight terrahertz.
We used the molecules' own
resonance to calculate the field.

Seven reacts, intrigued.

SEVEN OF NINE

That should've been enough to
stabilize them.

ALLOS

Obviously, it wasn't.

SEVEN OF NINE

Obviously. But your approach is
innovative... perhaps I can adapt
your technique, and improve upon
it.

(beat)

You will assist me.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED: (2)

22

Allos nods, struggles to sit up.

ALLOS

Our equipment was destroyed. If
you can transfer the molecules to
your ship ... maybe they can be
saved.

SEVEN OF NINE

I have no intention of "saving" them.

Allos reacts.

ALLOS

What?

SEVEN OF NINE

My orders are to destroy the Omega
molecules.

Allos is aghast.

ALLOS

This ... this is my life's work ...
the salvation of my people!

SEVEN OF NINE

Will you assist me, or not?

Allos' voice rises with desperation and anger.

ALLOS

Our resources are nearly gone ...
the future of my people depends on
this discovery!

SEVEN OF NINE

Then your answer is no.

ALLOS

Small-minded creatures! You
destroy whatever you don't
understand!

Seven reacts to this -- the scientist has echoed the Borg's own
philosophy about this situation.

ALLOS

(continuing, pointed)
Rescue ships are on the way. They
won't let you do it!

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED: (3)

22

The Doctor arrives -- having heard the shouting.

DOCTOR

Please ... try to be calm. Seven!
you'll have to leave.

Seven turns to go -- but Allos grabs her arm, staring
into her eyes.

ALLOS

You don't realize what you're
doing... you don't know what this
is... what this means...

The Doctor eases the man's hand away from Seven.

SEVEN OF NINE

On the contrary. I understand,
perfectly.

She turns and leaves. FOLLOW and stay on her face
clearly disturbed by this confrontation ...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

23

thru OMITTED

24

23

thru

24

24A EXT. LUNAR SURFACE - ALIEN OUTPOST (OPTICAL)

24A

The wreckage of the outpost, as seen earlier. Tendrils of energy crackle around -- a scene of destruction. (NOTE: This shot is a recycle of the Viewscreen shot used in Scene 18.)

25 INT. ALIEN OUTPOST (OPTICAL)

25

Tuvok and a Starfleet N:D. are standing at the steel blast doors, carefully CUTTING through the metal with THIN PHASER BEAMS -- intricate work. After a beat, we hear a series of electro-mechanical CLACKS. Tuvok nods to the N.D. and they stop firing.

TUVOK

(to Janeway)

We've disabled the locking mechanism.

Janeway moves to him. We can now see that the damaged room has been cleared of wounded and dead aliens.

JANEWAY

Narrow your phaser beams to cut through the inner seal ...

TUVOK

Inadvisable. We'd risk penetrating the containment field.

JANEWAY

Then we'll have to use some elbow grease. Give me a hand.

Janeway moves to the blast doors and grabs hold of an outcropping. Tuvok and the N.D. holster their phasers and grab onto the doors. A beat, then Janeway nods and they all PULL. The doors resist... scraping... metal groaning ... then finally they OPEN all the way. A deep blue, FLUORESCENT GLOW spills out from beyond. Otherworldly.

25A NEW ANGLE - THE CONTAINMENT CHAMBER (OPTICAL)

25A

Beyond a thick pane of GLASS, we get our first look at OMEGA.

(CONTINUED)

25A CONTINUED:

25A

Deep blue ENERGY with tiny particles streaming about, small pockets of light that burst and then vanish. And there's a SOUND -- a deep, electromagnetic HUMMING that is weirdly reminiscent of human voices. Omega seems almost alive.

They stare at it for a moment, then Janeway scans it with her tricorder.

JANEWAY

(re: Omega)

There's enough here to wipe out subspace across half the Quadrant.

TUVOK

I'll order the Away Teams back to Voyager ... and target this facility with the gravimetric charge.

JANEWAY

It won't be enough. We'll have to go with our Borg option.

(turns to N.D.)

Return to the ship ... tell Chakotay to help Seven complete the harmonic chamber.

The N.D moves off.

JANEWAY

(thinks)

We'll have to transport Omega directly to the ship. That means finding a way to shut down this containment field.

She nods toward a control panel by the doors. The two of them move to the panel and start working at it. As the blue glow plays on their faces ...

TUVOK

It's unfortunate we can't study this phenomenon in more detail. We may not have the opportunity again.

(CONTINUED)

25A CONTINUED: (2)

25A

JANEWAY

Let's hope we never do.

TUVOK

A curious statement ... from a
woman of science.

JANEWAY

I'm also a woman who occasionally
knows when to quit.

She glances into the glowing portal ...

JANEWAY

Take another look at your
tricorder ... Omega's too
dangerous. I won't risk half the
Quadrant to satisfy our curiosity.
It's arrogant, and it's
irresponsible.

As she stares into Omega ...

JANEWAY

(continuing)

The "Final Frontier" has some
boundaries that shouldn't be
crossed ... and we're looking at
one.

CUT TO:

25B ANGLE - SEVEN OF NINE

25B

SEVEN OF NINE

We don't need to destroy the
molecules. I believe I've found
a way to stabilize them.

REVEAL we are in --

25C INT. CARGO BAY

25C

Seven is talking to Chakotay. They're standing by the large harmonic chamber seen earlier.

SEVEN OF NINE

(explains)

The alien in Sickbay calibrated his containment field using Omega's own resonance ... an approach unknown to the Borg. I've modified the chamber to --

Chakotay cuts her off, disturbed.

CHAKOTAY

Those weren't your orders. The Captain wants Omega eliminated.

SEVEN OF NINE

That's still an option -- if she insists on yielding to her fear.

Chakotay eyes her for a beat ...

CHAKOTAY

Show me what you've done.

Seven moves to a console, keys in a command ...

25D INCLUDE THE MONITOR (OPTICAL)

25D

which displays several OMEGA MOLECULES in graphic form, moving chaotically.

SEVEN OF NINE

This simulation shows the molecules in their free state highly unstable.

(re: harmonic chamber)

I've modified the chamber to emit a harmonic waveform that will dampen the molecules.

She keys in a command -- the OMEGA MOLECULES gradually start to SLOW DOWN... finally reaching a point where they are all VIBRATING in SYNCH.

(CONTINUED)

25D CONTINUED:

25D

CHAKOTAY

Looks great in theory ... but this
is only a simulation ... how are
you going to test it?

SEVEN OF NINE

On Omega.

CHAKOTAY

Bad idea. One mistake, and none
of us will be around for a second
try.

SEVEN OF NINE

It will work.

He looks at her, sees how adamant she is.

CHAKOTAY

Someday, maybe. Hang on to your
research ...

(beat)

For now, we stick to the plan.
Stand by to transport the
molecules into this chamber ... and
neutralize them, as ordered.

But Seven won't let this go -- her quest for Omega
borders on obsession.

SEVEN OF NINE

I've been a member of this crew
for nine months ... in all of that
time, I've never made a personal
request. I'm making one now.
Allow me to proceed.

(beat)

Please.

Chakotay is taken aback by the emotional appeal.

CHAKOTAY

Why is this so important to you?

Seven struggles with this ... not quite sure how to
convey her thoughts.

SEVEN OF NINE

Particle zero-one-zero. The Borg
designation for what you call
Omega. Every Drone is aware of
its existence ...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

25D CONTINUED: (2)

25D

SEVEN OF NINE (Cont'd)

...we were instructed to
assimilate it at all costs.

Seven stares at the display of Omega molecules.

SEVEN OF NINE

(continuing)

It is ... perfection. The
molecules exist in a flawless
state ... infinite parts
functioning as one.

CHAKOTAY

Like the Borg...

SEVEN OF NINE

Precisely.

(beat)

I am no longer Borg ... but I
Still need to understand that
perfection. Without it, my
existence will never be complete.

Chakotay looks doubtful. She moves to him, tries to
make him understand.

SEVEN OF NINE

(pointed)

Commander ... you are a spiritual
man.

CHAKOTAY

That's right.

SEVEN OF NINE

If you had the chance to see your
God ... your "Great Spirit" ... what
would you do?

Chakotay is surprised by her analogy -- and moved by it.

CHAKOTAY

I'd pursue it ... with all my
heart ...

SEVEN OF NINE

Then you understand.

CHAKOTAY

I think I do.

(beat)

I'll inform the Captain of your ...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

25D

25D CONTINUED: (3)

CHAKOTAY (Cont'd)
...discovery. For now, her orders
stand.

SEVEN OF NINE
(beat)
Thank you.

Chakotay nods ... heads for the door. OFF Seven's
face ...

CUT TO:

25E EXT. LUNAR SURFACE - ALIEN OUTPOST (OPTICAL)

25E

As seen before (same shot) .

25F INT. ALIEN OUTPOST

25F

A short time later. Janeway and Tuvok are setting
TRANSPORT PATTERN ENHANCER RODS in place around the
steel blast doors. Two N.D.s work in the b.g. Omega
is off camera, but GLOWS into the room from beyond
the blast doors.

Suddenly:

JANEWAY
(re : enhancers)
Set the confinement beam to its
narrowest dispersion.

TUVOK
Understood.

JANEWAY
We'll target this facility with
the gravimetric torpedo ... if
anything goes wrong during
transport, that'll be our only
hope.

CHAKOTAY'S COM VOICE
Bridge to Janeway. We've detected
two ships on an intercept course.

INTERCUT WITH:

26 INT. BRIDGE

26

Chakotay in command. Paris, Kim and N.D.s at stations.

CHAKOTAY

(continuing)

They're not responding to hails.

JANEWAY

How long until they get here?

Chakotay looks to Paris.

PARIS

Less than four minutes, Captain.

(CONTINUED)

26 CONTINUED: (2)

26

JANEWAY

Standby to transport the molecules
directly to the harmonic chamber.

CHAKOTAY

Understood.

Everything starts to happen fast as the different teams
move into action.

CHAKOTAY

(to com)

Bridge to Cargo Bay.

INTERCUT WITH:

27 INT. CARGO BAY

27

Seven is checking the harmonic chamber.

SEVEN OF NINE

(to com)

Yes, Commander.

CHAKOTAY

Get ready, Seven. We'll have to
do this quickly.

SEVEN OF NINE

That's not advisable.

CHAKOTAY

We don't have a choice. The alien
ships are on their way.

She moves to the console and starts working quickly.

SEVEN OF NINE

Then I recommend moving the ship
within five thousand kilometers of
the surface.

28 ON THE BRIDGE

28

PARIS

That'll take us right into the
atmosphere. With our shields
down, we won't withstand the
thermal reaction for more than a
few seconds.

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED:

28

CHAKOTAY

Then we'll only get one shot at
this. Take us in.

Paris acknowledges, and works the helm.

PARIS

Aye, sir.

CHAKOTAY

(to Kim)

Transporter status.

KIM

(off console)

Targeting scanners are locked.

CHAKOTAY

(to com)

Captain? Are you ready?

29 IN THE ALIEN OUTPOST

29

We see that Tuvok and the N.D. have set up pattern
enhancers near the containment vessel. Janeway looks
to Tuvok.

TUVOK

Pattern enhancers are active.

JANEWAY

(to com)

Do it.

30 ON THE BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

30

The Viewscreen is now filled with the crackling energy
tendrils in the atmosphere.

PARIS

We're eleven thousand kilometers
from the surface ... if we get much
closer, we'll incinerate.

31 IN THE ALIEN OUTPOST 31

Janeway is listening to this, concerned.

KIM'S COM VOICE
We're losing structural integrity.

PARIS' COM VOICE
Nine thousand kilometers ...

JANEWAY
(to com)
We're close enough. Energize.

32 IN THE CARGO BAY (OPTICAL) 32

As Seven of Nine reacts.

CHAKOTAY'S COM VOICE
Initiating transport.

The harmonic chamber LIGHTS UP with power -- the windows GLOW from within the DEEP BLUE color. Omega is inside the chamber! Seven of Nine moves to the chamber, checks a read-out.

SEVEN OF NINE
(off console/ to com)
The Omega molecules are stable.

She looks into one of the portals ... a blue glow on her face.

SEVEN OF NINE
(to com)
Transport was successful.

33 ON THE BRIDGE 33

KIM
(as he works)
I've got the Away Team in
Transporter Room Two.

CHAKOTAY
(to Paris)
Get us out of here, maximum
impulse.

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED:

33

PARIS
(as he works)
Already on it.

CHAKOTAY
How far away are those ships?

PARIS
(off console)
Right on our tail.

34 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER AND ALIEN VESSELS (OPTICAL)

34

Voyager speeds away from the alien moon at high
impulse, with two ALIEN VESSELS in pursuit.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

35 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER AND TWO ALIEN VESSELS (OPTICAL) 35

Voyager flies through open space at maximum impulse,
the two alien ships speeding after it.

36 INT. BRIDGE (VPB) 36

Tuvok and Kim are at stations. Janeway and Chakotay
are with Paris at the Conn, looking at a starchart.

CHAKOTAY

We're heading into an area of open
space ... no indications of life or
any kind of technology. We can
carry out the procedure with no
risk to anyone else.

PARIS

Except those two ships behind us.

JANEWAY

Can we stay ahead of them?

PARIS

Not for long.

CHAKOTAY

How soon can we clear the subspace
ruptures and go to warp?

PARIS

Ten, .maybe fifteen minutes... But
those ships will catch up to us
before then.

Janeway acknowledges, considering the situation.

JANEWAY

We have one advantage. We've got
Omega. They won't risk firing at
us... at least not until they run
out of options. That should give
us a chance to neutralize the
molecules.

CHAKOTAY

Captain... we might have another
problem.

She gives him a look.

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED:

36

JANEWAY

Seven of Nine?

CHAKOTAY

(nods)

She's convinced she can stabilize
Omega.

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED: (2)

36

JANEWAY

I thought we'd settled that question.

CHAKOTAY

While you were on the surface, she showed me a pretty convincing simulation of how it could be done.

JANEWAY

I should have known she wouldn't just let this go.

(beat)

I'll be in Cargo Bay Two.

She EXITS to the Turbolift.

37 INT. CARGO BAY (OPTICAL)

37

Seven of Nine is working at the harmonic chamber. OMEGA is GLOWING within the chamber, deep blue, crackling, with an otherworldly HUM. Janeway ENTERS, her voice urgent.

JANEWAY

Seven ... the procedure?

SEVEN OF NINE

It's working. Eleven percent of the molecules have already been neutralized.

Janeway looks relieved.

JANEWAY

Let's see if we can speed up the process a little.

SEVEN OF NINE

Did Chakotay tell you about my idea?

JANEWAY

Yes.

SEVEN OF NINE

Then you will allow me to stabilize the remaining molecules.

JANEWAY

You know I can't do that ...

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED:

37

Janeway steps toward the chamber, but Seven stands in front of the controls. This is a subtle gesture, not threatening, but protective. She doesn't want to let Omega go.

SEVEN OF NINE

Your Starfleet Directive is no longer relevant. I've found a way to control Omega.

JANEWAY

I don't care if you can make it sing and dance... we're getting rid of it.

SEVEN OF NINE

A foolish decision.

JANEWAY

But it's mine to make. Now, step aside.

Seven hesitates -- the tension rises.

SEVEN OF NINE

I could have done this without your permission... but I chose to follow your command structure. I should've made the attempt... I still can.

JANEWAY

But you won't ... you know I'm not trying to stop you from finding "perfection."

This strikes a chord with Seven.

JANEWAY

(pressing)

I can't risk the safety of this Quadrant. Omega must end here ... we both know that.

Seven considers, torn ... and finally, she steps aside. Janeway moves to the chamber controls. As they start to work ...

JANEWAY

Status?

SEVEN OF NINE

Eighteen percent.

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED: (2)

37

JANEWAY

This could take hours.

(beat)

Can you increase the harmonic resonance?

SEVEN OF NINE

Yes ... but it would rupture the chamber.

JANEWAY

(thinks)

How many molecules would we neutralize?

SEVEN OF NINE

Forty ... fifty percent at best.

JANEWAY

That's good enough. Our torpedo can take care of the rest.

(taps combadge)

Janeway to Bridge.

CHAKOTAY'S COM VOICE

Chakotay here.

JANEWAY

(to com)

I want you to clear Deck Four, and put emergency forcefields around this section. Prepare to decompress Cargo Bay Two on my command.

CHAKOTAY'S COM VOICE

Understood.

JANEWAY

(to com)

Tuvok, load the gravimetric torpedo. Once we've jettisoned the chamber... fire.

TUVOK'S COM VOICE

Aye, Captain.

Janeway turns to Seven.

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED: (3)

37

JANEWAY

Harmonic resonance to maximum.

They work. The chamber emits a high-pitched whine...
blue LIGHT plays on their faces ...

37A EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL)

37A

As before. Voyager at high impulse, the two ALIEN
SHIPS hot on our tail.

38 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

38

As before.

(CONTINUED)

38 CONTINUED:

38

PARIS

(off console)

Commander ... they're closing on
us ...

TUVOK

(off console)

They're attempting to stop us with
a tractor beam.

CHAKOTAY

Adjust shields to compensate.

Tuvok works.

KIM

They're hailing us.

CHAKOTAY

On screen.

On the Viewscreen, we see an ALIEN CAPTAIN of the same
race as the scientists in the research facility.

ALIEN CAPTAIN

Disengage your engines and prepare
to be boarded.

CHAKOTAY

I can't do that.

ALIEN CAPTAIN

You've stolen our technology ...
abducted our people.

CHAKOTAY

Your people are safe. They're
receiving medical care. I'll be
glad to get them back to you when
this is over. But we're keeping
the molecules.

ALIEN CAPTAIN

I won't allow this substance to
fall into enemy hands. I'll
destroy it first.

TUVOK

(off console)

They're charging weapons.

(CONTINUED)

38 CONTINUED: (2)

38

CHAKOTAY

(to Captain, urgent)

You'll destabilize the molecules
we'll both be destroyed!

ALIEN CAPTAIN

Return our technology. Now.

CHAKOTAY

I'm sorry. That's not possible.

A beat, then the Viewscreen goes back to a starfield.

39 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER AND ALIEN VESSELS (OPTICAL)

39

The alien vessels are a short distance behind Voyager.
One of them FIRES an energy beam. It HITS Voyager.

40 INT. BRIDGE

40

The ship SHAKES slightly.

TUVOK

Direct hit. Shields down ten
percent.

CHAKOTAY

Evasive maneuvers, try to shake
them off!

Another HIT! Off the tension ...

41 INT. CARGO BAY (OPTICAL)

41

Janeway and Seven of Nine working at the harmonic chamber... which is now sending out a loud whine of energy, unnerving. The BLUE LIGHT beyond the chamber window is GLOWING BRIGHTER, HOTTER.

SEVEN OF NINE
(over the noise)
Harmonic resonance is at maximum,
Captain!

JANEWAY
The molecules?

SEVEN OF NINE
Eighty percent remaining.

JANEWAY
We need to get that down to sixty.

The ship SHAKES hard from alien phaser fire. They both hang on.

SEVEN OF NINE
Any damage to our power grid could
overload the chamber! Omega would
chain react!

JANEWAY
The same thought crossed my mind!

Another SHAKE !

JANEWAY
Where are we now?

SEVEN OF NINE
Seventy-two percent.

JANEWAY
Close enough!
(taps combadge)
Bridge -- start the decompression
sequence!

CHAKOTAY'S COM VOICE
Acknowledged.

There's a sudden metallic wrenching SOUND from within the chamber. A BRIGHT BURST of BLUE LIGHT RADIATES from behind the portals. Seven checks a reading ... reacts.

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED:

41

JANEWAY

What's wrong? What's happening?

SEVEN OF NINE

The molecules are stabilizing ...

JANEWAY

What?

SEVEN OF NINE

I've done nothing. It's occurring spontaneously ...

JANEWAY

That's impossible.

Seven moves to the portal, looks inside ... light crackling on her face ...

COMPUTER VOICE

Decompression in fifteen seconds.

41A ON SEVEN OF NINE

41A

CAMERA PUSHING IN on her face ... she's staring into the chamber ...

41B THE PORTAL (OPTICAL)

41B

CAMERA PUSHING IN on the window. Inside the chamber, we can see the deep blue ENERGY and MATTER of OMEGA swirling chaotically ...but it's starting to COALESCE ...

COMPUTER VOICE

Decompression in ten seconds.

41C ON SEVEN OF NINE

41C

watching with a look of wonder ...

41D THE PORTAL (OPTICAL)

41D

CAMERA PUSHES BEYOND THE WINDOW, AND INTO OMEGA ITSELF. We are now IMMERSED in the deep blue ... which suddenly CRYSTALIZES into a beautifully complex MATRIX. Multi-colored, sparkling, kaleidoscopic -- a cross between a fractal pattern and a stained-glass window. Electrifying ... and somehow perfect.

41E SEVEN OF NINE

41E

is transfixed.

JANEWAY

Seven -- let's move!

Seven hesitates -- she can barely tear herself away from the sight. But Janeway grabs her by the arm and they RUSH toward the doors.

COMPUTER VOICE

Decompression in five seconds.

42 INT. BRIDGE

42

As before.

CHAKOTAY

(to Paris)

Tom, are we clear of the subspace ruptures?

PARIS

Almost.

(CONTINUED)

42 CONTINUED:

42

CHAKOTAY

I need maximum warp in the next
ten seconds or we'll be stuck at
ground zero.

Paris turns quickly back to the helm, hands flying over
the controls.

PARIS

Yes, sir.

TUVOK

(working)

Decompression is complete ...
targeting the harmonic chamber ...

CHAKOTAY

Fire.

43

Thru OMITTED

44

43

thru

44

45 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER AND ALIEN VESSELS (OPTICAL)

45

The small harmonic chamber has been jettisoned from
Voyager. A photon torpedo HITS, and the chamber
EXPLODES in a spectacular display, sending energy
tendrils in all directions, nearly lashing Voyager as
it speeds away at warp.

46 INT. BRIDGE

46

Paris leans back in his chair, relieved.

PARIS

We made it. We're at warp one.

Janeway and Seven ENTER from the Turbolift.

JANEWAY

The alien ships?

PARIS

Out of range.

(CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED:

46

JANEWAY

Tuvok?

TUVOK

(as he works)

Sensors show no traces of Omega molecules.

Janeway acknowledges, relieved and weary from the efforts of the past few days.

JANEWAY

(quiet)

Mission accomplished.

She moves to take her place in the Captain's chair. Seven remains standing near the back of the Bridge, pensive, not sharing the same feeling of accomplishment.

47 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL)

47

as the ship flies along at impulse.

JANEWAY (V.O.)

Captain's Log, Stardate 51793.4.
We've arranged for our guests in Sickbay to be taken back to their homeworld, and we can finally put this mission behind us. This will be my last encrypted log concerning the Omega Directive. The classified datafiles will now be destroyed.

48 OMITTED

48

49 ANGLE - A PLAIN, WOODEN CROSS

49

hanging on a wall. Lit by candlelight. REVEAL we are in --

50 INT. HOLODECK - DA VINCI'S WORKSHOP - NIGHT

50

Seven of Nine is staring at the cross, lost in thought, contemplating all that's happened. After a beat:

JANEWAY'S VOICE

I wondered who was running my program.

(CONTINUED)

50 CONTINUED:

50

Seven turns to see Janeway, who's just entered.

JANEWAY

(lightly)

Master da Vinci doesn't like
visitors after midnight.

SEVEN OF NINE

He protested ... I deactivated him.

Janeway smiles a little ...

JANEWAY

What are you doing here, Seven?

SEVEN OF NINE

This simulation contains many
religious components. I am
studying them... to help me
understand what I saw in Cargo
Bay Two.

JANEWAY

The data isn't clear why Omega
stabilized in those last few
seconds ... but chances are it was
simply a chaotic anomaly ...
nothing more.

Seven tries to put her adventure into words ...

SEVEN OF NINE

For three point two seconds, I saw
perfection.

(beat)

When Omega stabilized, I felt a
curious sensation. As I watched
it ... it seemed to be watching me.

Seven glances up at the cross.

(CONTINUED)

50 CONTINUED: (2)

50

SEVEN OF NINE

(continuing)

The Borg have assimilated many cultures with mythologies that would explain such moments of clarity. I've always dismissed them as trivial.

(beat)

Perhaps I was wrong.

Janeway takes this in, intrigued.

JANEWAY

If I didn't know you better...I'd say you just had your first spiritual experience.

51 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (STOCK - OPTICAL)

51

at impulse.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE
THE END