

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

REVISED
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"Repentance"

40840-259

Story
by
Michael Sussman
and
Robert Doherty

Teleplay
by
Robert Doherty

Directed
by
Mike Vejar

FINAL DRAFT

OCTOBER 24, 2000

VOYAGER: "Repentance" - 1/17/01 SETS

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

"Repentance"

SETS

INTERIORS

VOYAGER

ASTROMETRICS LAB
BRIDGE
BRIEFING ROOM
CARGO BAY
CORRIDOR
MEDLAB
MESS HALL
READY ROOM
SICKBAY

EXTERIORS

SPACE/VOYAGER
SPACE/ALIEN SHIP

VOYAGER: "Repentance" - 1/17/01 CAST

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

"Repentance"

CAST

JANEWAY

IKO

CHAKOTAY

YEDIQ

KIM

JOLEG

PARIS

VGR. SECURITY OFFICER

DOCTOR

TUVOK

TORRES

SEVEN OF NINE

NEELIX

Non-Speaking

Non-Speaking

N.D. SUPERNUMERARIES

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

"Repentance"

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

YEDIQ	YED-ik
NYGEAN	nie-JEE-in
EGRID	EGG-rid
IKO	EYE-ko
BOCHE	BOH-chay
LEDARA	led-AH-ruh
EDEMA	ed-EE-ma
BENKARAN	ben-KAH-ren
JOLEG	JOE-lig
PAEDOS	PAY-dose
GEZID	GEZ-id
ONELLA	oh-NELL-uh
VEKTO VALEK K'VADIM	VEK-toh VAL-ik kuh-VAD-im
PINEAL	pie-NEE-uhl

STAR TREK: VOYAGER"Repentance"TEASER

FADE IN:

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

2 INT. SICKBAY 2

An unhappy SEVEN OF NINE sits on the clamshell as THE DOCTOR scans her face with a MEDICAL TRICORDER. On her cheek is a nasty-looking RASH.

SEVEN OF NINE
This is your fault.

DOCTOR
You can't blame me for an allergic reaction...

Seven disagrees:

SEVEN OF NINE
You encouraged me to "indulge my appetites."

DOCTOR
There's a difference between indulgence and gluttony.

SEVEN OF NINE
(defensive)
I enjoy the taste of strawberries --

DOCTOR
That doesn't mean you should eat them at every meal. It's no wonder you've developed an allergy.

A beat as he checks a few readings.

DOCTOR
If anything, you should be thanking me.

Seven looks up at him, incredulous.

DOCTOR
If it weren't for me, you'd still be drinking "nutritional supplement thirteen alpha."

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

SEVEN OF NINE
My nutritional supplements never
caused rashes.

DOCTOR
True... but how did they taste?

When Seven doesn't answer, the Doctor smiles, pleased
with himself. He picks up a DERMAL REGENERATOR, begins
to run it over Seven's rash.

DOCTOR
As I said... you should be
thanking me.

OFF Seven...

3 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

3

The Viewscreen shows a listing ALIEN VESSEL. It's
obviously damaged, spewing smoke and vapors. JANEWAY
addresses the com as CHAKOTAY, TUVOK, PARIS, and KIM
work stations.

JANEWAY
This is Captain Kathryn Janeway of
the Starship Voyager. We're
responding to your distress call.

A beat, and then a staticky reply...

YEDIQ'S VOICE
...ruptured conduit... flooding my
ship with plasma radiation...
request immediate transport...

The voice is obscured by STATIC. Kim checks a reading.

KIM
I'm detecting eleven lifesigns.
Two are weak.

JANEWAY
Transport the injured to Sickbay
and the rest to Cargo Bay One.
(to Tuvok)
I want security teams at both locations.

Tuvok nods his understanding and EXITS to the Turbolift.

4 INT. CARGO BAY

4

Tuvok and TWO SECURITY N.D.s ENTER armed with PHASERS.
They take position by the door as...

5 NINE ALIEN FORMS (OPTICAL)

5

begin to MATERIALIZE at the center of the room. The aliens are in a "formation" of sorts: three UNIFORMED men (all members of the Nygean race) are flanking the other six (a mixture of Nygeans and members of a race we'll come to know as Benkarans). All nine have sustained minor PLASMA BURNS on their faces and arms. The uniformed aliens' arms are positioned as though they were holding phasers on the other men just prior to transport. As they realize their hands are now empty, one of the uniformed aliens -- a man we'll come to know as YEDIQ -- addresses Tuvok authoritatively.

YEDIQ

Our weapons?

TUVOK

They'll be returned to you when you leave.

Unhappy, Yediq indicates the six prisoners.

YEDIQ

These are dangerous criminals. They have to be secured.

TUVOK

We'll do our best to accomodate you --

But Yediq is looking around, concerned. He cuts Tuvok off:

YEDIQ

I had eight men in custody -- where are the other two?

OFF the question...

6 OMITTED

6

7 INT. SICKBAY

7

where a massive, wild-eyed Nygean prisoner named IKO has his arm locked firmly around Seven's neck. The PLASMA BURNS marking his face and arms are quite serious, as are the burns on the unconscious N.D. PRISONER at his feet. (NOTE: Seven's rash is no longer visible.)

Iko presses a SHARP SURGICAL INSTRUMENT against Seven's chin, holding a horrified Doctor and TWO VOYAGER SECURITY N.D.s at bay.

(CONTINUED)

VOYAGER: "Repentance" - 1/17/01

TEASER

3A.

7

CONTINUED:

7

IKO

Stay away, or I'll kill her.

OFF the ferocious looking alien...

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

(NOTE: Episode credits fall over opening scenes.)

8 INT. SICKBAY

8

A moment later. Iko and the two N.D.s remain in a tense standoff. The Doctor, who is positioned between them, tries his best to mediate, addressing everyone:

DOCTOR
I'm sure we can resolve this
without resorting to violence.
(to Iko)
What is it you want?

IKO
A ship... some food...

DOCTOR
(stalling)
I might be able to arrange that...
but you'll have to release her
first.

Iko only tightens his grip on Seven.

IKO
I'm not a fool.

Before the Doctor can answer, Tuvok and an unarmed Yediq ENTER from the corridor. Iko pushes the surgical instrument harder against Seven's skin, looks to Yediq, threatening.

IKO
You know I'll do it. Tell them.

YEDIQ
You're not getting off this ship.

TUVOK
If you release her... I promise
you won't be harmed.

IKO
Not until I get a ship.

YEDIQ
(firm, to Tuvok)
We don't negotiate with criminals.

(CONTINUED)

8

CONTINUED:

8

Annoyed by Yediq's interference, the Doctor turns on him:

DOCTOR

Who are you?

YEDIQ

Warden Yediq of the Nygean
Detention Force.

(re: Iko)

This man is my prisoner.

DOCTOR

If that were true, he wouldn't be
holding my friend hostage!

9

SEVEN OF NINE

9

realizes Iko has been distracted by the disagreement.
She suddenly buries her elbow DEEP in his stomach and
breaks free of his grasp!

10

IKO (OPTICAL)

10

recovers quickly, GRABBING a surprised Doctor to replace
her, shouts to the advancing N.D.s.

IKO

Get back.

The Doctor struggles to explain to Iko the tactical
error he's made...

DOCTOR

I'm a hologram -- I can't be
harmed --

But before he can finish, Tuvok simply raises his weapon
and FIRES, shooting a blast THROUGH the Doctor's matrix
to stun Iko. The EMH FRITZES as Iko crumples to the
floor. The Doctor shoots Tuvok a wry look.

DOCTOR

I think you proved my point.

OFF the moment...

11

INT. READY ROOM

11

Mid-scene as Yediq addresses Janeway, Chakotay, and
Tuvok.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

YEDIQ

We're lucky you came along, Captain.
Ten more minutes, and none of us
would've survived the plasma leak.

JANEWAY

Your vessel was equipped with
escape pods. Why didn't you use
them?

YEDIQ

I couldn't risk letting any of the
prisoners get away.
(beat)
As you've seen, they're extremely
dangerous.

CHAKOTAY

Where are you taking them?

YEDIQ

Back to our homeworld.
(explaining)
They're due to be executed.

Janeway and her two officers exchange uncomfortable
looks at this news.

CHAKOTAY

What were their crimes?

YEDIQ

All eight are murderers... three
are multiple offenders.

A heavy beat as everyone absorbs this. Yediq appeals to
the Captain:

YEDIQ

We're just thirteen light years
from our system.
(beat)
I'd appreciate it if you'd take us
there.

JANEWAY

Actually, we were headed in the
opposite direction.

Yediq nods, understanding.

YEDIQ

I can arrange for one of our ships
to rendezvous with Voyager... but
it'll take several days.
(beat)
My prisoners will have to be
strictly monitored.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: (2)

11

JANEWAY

Commander Tuvok will help you make
arrangements.

Yediq nods his thanks and then EXITS with Tuvok.
Chakotay seems a little troubled by the Captain's
decision.

CHAKOTAY

Some of the crew may not be
comfortable helping to deliver
eight men to their deaths.

JANEWAY

I can't say I like it either. But
we have a Prime Directive to
follow.

A beat, and then Chakotay nods his understanding. OFF a
troubled Janeway as he EXITS...

12 INT. SICKBAY (OPTICAL)

12

Iko and the second prisoner have been revived and treated for the plasma burns they sustained during the accident on Yedig's ship. They stand behind a forcefield in the surgical area, watched by TWO ARMED VOYAGER SECURITY N.D.s. In the foreground, the Doctor runs the dermal regenerator over Seven's neck, irritated by her reckless escape from Iko...

DOCTOR

Thirty more seconds, and I could've resolved the situation peacefully. Instead, you and "Tuvok the Kid" had to take matters into your own hands...

Suddenly, the Doctor's matrix begins to FRITZ.

SEVEN OF NINE

You're damaged.

The FRITZING Doctor looks himself up and down, annoyed.

DOCTOR

Commander Tuvok's "friendly fire" must've caused a feedback surge in my emitters.

SEVEN OF NINE

I'll help you repair it.

Just then, Janeway ENTERS, addresses Seven.

JANEWAY

How are you?

SEVEN OF NINE

Fine, Captain.

Before they can continue, they're interrupted by a voice from off-camera.

IKO (O.C.)

You.

All eyes turn to...

13 IKO (OPTICAL)

13

who is glaring at the Captain from behind the forcefield.

IKO

This is your ship?

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED:

13

JANEWAY

Yes.

IKO

Then let me out.

JANEWAY

I'm afraid I can't do that.

A beat as Iko simmers, frustrated. He touches the forcefield, as though to test its strength. As it SHIMMERS, he issues a low threat:

IKO

If you don't, I'll kill you all..

The Captain has heard enough. She taps her combadge:

JANEWAY

Janeway to Tuvok... are the prisoners' "accommodations" ready?

TUVOK'S VOICE

Affirmative, Captain.

JANEWAY

Then by all means, initiate transport.

As we HEAR the familiar sound of a transport...

CUT TO:

14 INT. CARGO BAY - CLOSE ON IKO (OPTICAL)

14

as he REMATERIALIZES in a makeshift "cell." A beat as he gets his bearings...

YEDIQ (O.C.)

You're sure this will hold him?

Iko turns to find...

15 YEDIQ AND TUVOK

15

standing just outside the cell.

TUVOK

The forcefields are impenetrable,
as are the tritanium bulkheads.

Yediq considers this, impressed. As he and Tuvok step
away from Iko's cell...

16 WIDE ANGLE

16

to reveal the entire Cargo Bay has been transformed into
a high-tech "lockup." BULKHEADS have been positioned
perpendicular to the Cargo Bay walls, dividing the space
into a series of cells. There are four cells to the
right of the Cargo Bay, and four to the left. At the
center is a "prisoners' row" -- a wide corridor to be
patrolled by security. (NOTE: This is the Cargo Bay
that does not contain the Borg alcoves.) As Tuvok and
Yediq walk down the row...

TUVOK

In addition to your staff, two
Voyager security officers will
remain here at all times. Two
more will be posted at the
entrance to the Cargo Bay.

YEDIQ

What about weapons?

TUVOK

You'll be allowed to carry them in
this area only.

(beat)

If you leave the Cargo Bay, you'll
be asked to surrender them.

As they arrive at the front of the Cargo Bay, NEELIX
ENTERS from the corridor, pushing a CART that supports
TWO LARGE POTS, and a stack of BOWLS.

YEDIQ

What's this?

NEELIX

Dinner.

(cheerful)

Since you can't bring the
prisoners to the Mess Hall, I
brought the Mess Hall to them.

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

16

Yediq lifts the lid of the pot to inspect its contents.

YEDIQ

What is it?

NEELIX

Talaxian Spice-Stew...

(re: the other pot)

...served over leola rice pilaf.

It's an old family recipe --

YEDIQ

Take it back.

Confused, Neelix lifts the lid to sniff the stew himself.

NEELIX

Too spicy?

YEDIQ

These men don't deserve such an elaborate meal.

(beat)

Take it back.

A beat as Neelix looks to Tuvok, then back to Yediq.

NEELIX

Federation guidelines are quite clear about the treatment of prisoners.

TUVOK

He's correct.

NEELIX

I can quote the protocols if you'd like --

Yediq cuts Neelix off, realizing there's no point in arguing.

YEDIQ

My men will assist you.

Neelix nods his thanks, pushes his cart to the first cell.

16A NEW ANGLE (OPTICAL)

16A

A Nygean guard moves to Neelix' side and works a panel on the bulkhead. The forcefield SHIMMERS as a small "slot" opens at its center. Neelix fills a bowl with STEW and hands it THROUGH the slot to the prisoner inside, a man named JOLEG. Joleg regards him warmly as the forcefield SHIMMERS a second time, causing the slot to CLOSE.

(CONTINUED)

16A CONTINUED:

16A

JOLEG

Thanks for standing up to Yediq.

Neelix shrugs, a little uncomfortable to be talking to a killer.

NEELIX

Just doing my job.

JOLEG

Still, it was kind.

OFF Joleg as Neelix moves on to the next cell...

17 INT. MEDLAB (OPTICAL)

17

While Seven works a console, the Doctor paces.

SEVEN OF NINE

This would be easier if you would remain stationary.

The Doctor stops, faces her. Seven taps a few keys and he ZIMMERS momentarily. A beat, and then:

DOCTOR

It doesn't feel right.

SEVEN OF NINE

You may experience unusual sensations as your matrix realigns --

DOCTOR

I was referring to the "arrangement" the Captain's made with the Nygeans.

(beat)

No matter how terrible the crimes these men committed... it seems wrong to hand them over to be executed. This is a Federation Starship... not "The Barge of the Dead."

SEVEN OF NINE

Would you have preferred the Captain release them?

DOCTOR

Of course not. They're dangerous men.

SEVEN OF NINE

Executing them ensures that they'll never pose a danger again.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

17

DOCTOR

So would life-sentences...

(wry)

... the operative word being
"life."

SEVEN OF NINE

Confining them for "life" requires
significant resources. The
Nygeans may not think it
worthwhile.

The Doctor is determined to prove his point.

DOCTOR

What about rehabilitation?

(beat)

Given the chance, some of these
men might become productive
members of society one day --

SEVEN OF NINE

Their victims won't have the same
opportunity.

Seven's casualness aggravates the Doctor even further.

DOCTOR

And that justifies taking their
lives? "An eye for an eye?"

(beat)

It's not justice, it's revenge.

(beat)

Quite frankly, I'm surprised
you're not troubled by such a
barbaric system.

SEVEN OF NINE

I'm merely being objective.

(beat)

You often encourage me to see
"both sides" of an argument.

The Doctor's chastened... but only slightly.

DOCTOR

Well... this is one occasion when
my programming won't allow me to
be objective.

(beat)

Killing is wrong -- no matter
who's doing it.

OFF Seven as the Doctor steps away...

TIME CUT TO:

18 INT. CARGO BAY - IKO'S CELL 18

Iko sits on the floor, eating messily from a BOWL OF FOOD. When he's through he drops the bowl to the floor.

JOLEG (O.C.)
Still hungry?

Iko looks up to see...

19 JOLEG (OPTICAL) 19

in an opposite cell.

JOLEG
I can hear your stomach from here.

Iko glares at Joleg, but Joleg is unfazed:

JOLEG
This must be the first time in a
month you couldn't steal poor
Egrid's meal...

He indicates EGRID, a meek-looking prisoner in a nearby cell who's eating ravenously from his own BOWL. He addresses Egrid:

JOLEG
Good, isn't it?

As we hear a few LAUGHS from the prisoners, Iko stands, furious. He THROWS his bowl against his forcefield, causing it to FRITZ violently.

20 YEDIQ (OPTICAL) 20

approaches, accompanied by both of his men.

YEDIQ
Is there a problem?

Iko says nothing, continues to glare at Joleg.

JOLEG
Iko was just telling me he didn't
get enough to eat.

YEDIQ
I see.

A beat, and then Yediq moves closer to Iko's cell, looks him square in the eye:

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED:

20

YEDIQ
Cause another disturbance... and
I'll see to it you're not fed for
the rest of the journey.

(beat)

Do you understand?

A beat as Iko matches Yediq's stare, and then gives an incongruous response:

IKO
"Boche and Ledara."

A beat as Yediq's expression turns dark.

YEDIQ
What did you say?

IKO
Your children.

A beat. Yediq is deeply disturbed to hear Iko utter his children's names.

YEDIQ
How do you know that?

The prisoner issues a veiled threat:

IKO
Are you sure they're safe?

A long beat, and then Yediq shakes his head at Iko, as if in pity.

YEDIQ
Some people don't understand why we
deal so harshly with men like you.

He steps closer to Iko's forcefield, speaking in a low voice:

YEDIQ
It's because you never learn.

Yediq looks to his men, gives a silent command. One of the Nygeans deactivates the forcefield in front of Iko's cell, and it SHIMMERS from view.

21 THE SECOND NYGEAN

21

SMASHES Iko in the face with the butt of his rifle, and Iko crumples to the floor. As his fellow officer KICKS Iko, now (O.C.).

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED: 21

VOYAGER SECURITY OFFICER (O.C.)
Stand down!
Yediq turns to see...

22 TWO VOYAGER SECURITY N.D.S 22

have come up behind them, training their PHASERS on the Nygeans. The Nygeans freeze, realizing they're in danger of being fired upon. Yediq is incredulous:

YEDIQ
He needs to be disciplined --

VOYAGER SECURITY OFFICER
(firm)
Lower your weapons and step away.

One of the Nygeans takes one last "cheap shot," driving his rifle into Iko's (O.C.) body as he steps away. He and the other Nygean reluctantly exit Iko's cell to reveal...

23 IKO 23

lying on the floor of his cell, battered and unconscious. OFF his crumpled form...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

24

INT. READY ROOM

24

Mid-scene. Tuvok looks on as Janeway and Yediq engage in a heated discussion regarding the Nygeans' assault on Iko.

YEDIQ

Our response was justified.

JANEWAY

How do you "justify" beating a defenseless man?

YEDIQ

Violence is the only thing he understands.

JANEWAY

You seem to have a pretty good grasp of it yourself.

Yediq doesn't appreciate the Captain's tone.

YEDIQ

Don't presume to tell me how to handle my prisoners, Captain. You don't know Iko like I do.

(beat)

He killed a young father for no reason. Before that, he committed dozens of violent crimes. He's spent his entire life hurting people.

JANEWAY

That doesn't excuse what you did to him.

A beat as Janeway comes to a decision.

JANEWAY

Until your transport vessel gets here, you and your men won't be allowed in the Cargo Bay.

(to Tuvok)

You're in charge of the prisoners.

YEDIQ

They're my responsibility --

JANEWAY

Not as long as you're aboard my ship. I won't risk any more violence.

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED:

24

YEDIQ

(anger rising)

The only risk will be to your
crew. Commander Tuvok isn't
qualified to guard prisoners this
dangerous.

JANEWAY

(sharp)

Tuvok's been a Starfleet Security
Officer for the last sixty-seven
years -- I'd say he's "qualified."

A long beat as Yediq realizes the Captain's made up her
mind.

YEDIQ

I hope you're right.

He moves to the door and EXITS, followed by Tuvok. OFF
Janeway...

25 INT. SICKBAY (VPB)

25

An unconscious Iko lies on the clamshell in the surgical
area. The Doctor works over him with a MEDICAL
TRICORDER, while an ARMED VOYAGER SECURITY N.D. stands
by the door. The Doctor looks up as Seven ENTERS from
outside, indicates Iko wryly...

DOCTOR

You remember Mister Iko.

SEVEN OF NINE

Vividly.

DOCTOR

The Nygeans decided to make an
"example" of him.

A beat as Seven takes in Iko's grave condition.

SEVEN OF NINE

Did you call me here to make a
point about Nygean "barbarity?"

DOCTOR

I called you here because I need
your help to save his life.

Seven reacts. The Doctor gestures to a MONITOR that
displays a GRAPHIC of Iko's BRAIN.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

The Doctor taps a key, and the image ZOOMS IN to a dark, ominous-looking SPOT on his upper lobe. The Doctor gestures to it.

DOCTOR

He sustained a severe blow to the head which caused an edema in his parietal lobe -- it's blocking vital neurotransmitters.

(beat)

I'd like to program some of your nanoprobes to bypass the edema.

A long beat as Seven considers. Finally:

SEVEN OF NINE

I'll comply...

DOCTOR

I sense a "but" coming.

A beat.

SEVEN OF NINE

It seems inefficient to save the life of someone who's about to be executed.

The Doctor straightens at this, a little disappointed in Seven.

DOCTOR

If the Nygeans insist on killing him, there isn't much I can do about it. But I won't let them do it on Voyager.

OFF his determination...

26 INT. CARGO BAY (OPTICAL)

26

where Neelix has parked his cart just outside Joleg's cell. An ARMED STARFLEET SECURITY N.D. works a panel on the bulkhead as Neelix scoops the contents of his POT into a BOWL. Joleg regards him warmly.

(CONTINUED)

26 CONTINUED:

26

JOLEG

I didn't expect to see you back so soon.

(explaining)

Ordinarily, we're lucky to get one meal a day.

The forcefield SHIMMERS as the "slot" appears, and Neelix passes the bowl through it.

NEELIX

That's terrible.

JOLEG

Yediq likes to keep us hungry.

As Neelix withdraws his hand, the slot SHIMMERS closed. A beat as Neelix observes Joleg, struck by his friendly demeanor. Joleg smiles, a little amused by Neelix' interest.

JOLEG

You're wondering why I'm here.

NEELIX

(embarrassed)

Excuse me?

JOLEG

You're wondering what I did...

(sotto voce)

...to end up with men like them.

He indicates the other prisoners. An uncomfortable beat.

NEELIX

You killed someone.

(CONTINUED)

26 CONTINUED: (2)

26

JOLEG
That's right.

A beat. Neelix can't help being curious.

NEELIX
Why?

JOLEG
(shrugs)
Because I'm Benkaran.

Neelix doesn't understand.

NEELIX
What does that have to do with it?

JOLEG
(sarcastic)
It's common knowledge that all
Benkarans are criminals... so when
I was found in the vicinity of a
murder, I was immediately
arrested.

A beat as Neelix catches Joleg's meaning.

NEELIX
Are you saying you didn't do it?

Joleg just smiles wryly...

JOLEG
I told you... I'm Benkaran. What
I say doesn't matter.

OFF Neelix, clearly curious to hear more of Joleg's
tale...

27 OMITTED

27

28 INT. SICKBAY (OPTICAL)

28

The Doctor applies a HYPOSPRAY to Iko, who lies
unconscious on the clamshell. Seven looks on from just
outside the surgical area. A beat as Iko gradually
begins to stir. He takes in his new surroundings,
disoriented.

(CONTINUED)

28

CONTINUED:

28

DOCTOR

You suffered severe neurological trauma... but I believe we've repaired the damage.

IKO

(beat)

Thank you.

The Doctor reacts, a little surprised to hear any sort of gratitude from Iko.

DOCTOR

Don't thank me -- thank Seven of Nine. She donated the nanoprobes that saved your life.

Iko looks at Seven, gingerly touches a hand to his brow...

IKO

My head...

DOCTOR

The pain is normal. I'll prepare an analgesic.

He steps THROUGH a forcefield, causing it to SHIMMER momentarily. He steps past Seven, who begins to work at a console. A long beat as Iko studies her. He makes an observation:

IKO

You're not afraid of me.

Seven continues working.

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED: (2)

28

SEVEN OF NINE

There's no reason to fear someone
in your condition.

Another beat as he watches her work.

IKO

You were never afraid of me... not
even when I tried to kill you.

Seven looks up at this. Iko studies her face, manages a
small smile.

IKO

It's nice to look into someone's
eyes... and not see fear.

A beat, and then Seven EXITS, disquieted. OFF Iko, who
watches her...

29 INT. MESS HALL

29

Neelix stirs a pot absentmindedly in the kitchen area,
focusing most of his attention on a PADD.

PARIS (O.C.)

Do you have to be a criminal to
get something to eat around here?

Neelix turns to find...

30 PARIS AND TORRES

30

standing behind him at the counter.

NEELIX

Sorry. Dinner will be ready in
fifteen minutes.

TORRES

You said that fifteen minutes ago.

A beat, and then Neelix poses a question:

NEELIX

Did you know the Nygeans govern a
sector of space occupied by
several different humanoid
species?

(CONTINUED)

30

CONTINUED:

30

PARIS

If we say "yes," will you feed us?

Neelix ignores Tom's joke, continuing:

NEELIX

One of those species is the
Benkarans.

(beat)

They occupy just ten percent of
Nygean space, but they take up
nearly eighty percent of the space
in Nygean prisons.

PARIS

(shrugs)

Maybe they commit more crimes.

NEELIX

Not according to Joleg.

The name obviously doesn't mean anything to them.
Neelix explains:

NEELIX

One of the prisoners.

Torres is finally starting to catch on...

TORRES

You think he was given a harsher
sentence because of his species?

Neelix responds by showing them a reading on his PADD...

NEELIX

According to this, Benkarans are
ten times more likely to be
executed for their crimes than
Nygeans!

A beat as B'Elanna peruses the PADD...

TORRES

Where'd you get this?

NEELIX

I contacted the Nygean government
and told them I was interested in
a "cultural exchange." Among
other things, they let me access
data on their criminal justice
system.

(beat)

It all supports what Joleg told
me.

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED: (2)

30

Paris looks up from the PADD, studying Neelix' face for a moment...

PARIS
Neelix...

NEELIX
I know what you're thinking --

PARIS
That you're the softest touch in the Delta Quadrant?

He produces a second PADD...

NEELIX
These are the transcripts from Joleg's trial. He was convicted on circumstantial evidence --

PARIS
Let me guess: he was in the "wrong place at the wrong time."

NEELIX
Apparently.

Paris shakes his head at Neelix, sympathetic.

PARIS
When I was in the Federation Penal Colony, everyone had a story.
(beat)
I never put much stock in them. Neither should you.

NEELIX
How many of those people were sentenced to die?

A beat as Neelix lets his point sink in.

NEELIX
Joleg isn't claiming to be an upstanding citizen -- he admits that he's committed less serious crimes.
(beat)
But if there's any chance he's innocent of this crime...

Neelix can't bring himself to finish the thought. Tom and B'Elanna exchange looks, a little worried for their friend. Torres addresses him gently.

TORRES
You always want to help people, Neelix.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

30

CONTINUED: (3)

30

TORRES (cont'd)

It's one of the things we all love
about you...

(beat)

...but someone in Joleg's position
might take advantage of that.

NEELIX

You're probably right.

(beat)

I shouldn't get involved.

B'Elanna nods, puts the PADD on the counter. But as she
and Tom move to sit, Neelix can't help himself. He
picks up the PADD and starts to read it again...

31 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL) 31
at impulse.

32 INT. SICKBAY 32
In the surgical area, the Doctor uses a MEDICAL
TRICORDER to scan Iko, who is still on the clamshell.
They're mid-conversation -- Iko is straining to wrap his
mind around something:

IKO
I still don't understand... why
weren't you hurt?

DOCTOR
Because my matrix is photonic.
(simpler)
I'm made of light.

32A SEVEN OF NINE 32A
ENTERS from the corridor, carrying a PADD. She moves
past an ARMED SECURITY N.D., addresses the Doctor.

SEVEN OF NINE
You wanted to see me?

DOCTOR
I'll be with you in just a moment.

He turns back to complete his scan of Iko, who has a new
question for him:

IKO
You don't feel pain?

DOCTOR
(light)
Well, I suppose my pride can be
wounded on occasion.

A long beat as Iko mulls this. Finally...

IKO
I wish I was made of light.

The Doctor is touched. A beat as he finishes up.

(CONTINUED)

32A CONTINUED: 32A

DOCTOR
Try to rest.
Iko nods at this.

32B THE DOCTOR (OPTICAL) 32B

steps out of the surgical area, causing a FORCEFIELD to SHIMMER. He approaches Seven, explains why he called her here.

DOCTOR
Iko responded so well to the first dose of nanoprobes, I thought a second might improve his condition further.
(beat)
It'll only take a moment to extract them.

A beat before Seven reluctantly rests her PADD on a console and follows the Doctor into...

32C INT. MEDLAB 32C

As the Doctor prepares a HYPOSPRAY, Seven considers the unexpectedly friendly exchange she just witnessed.

SEVEN OF NINE
You and Mister Iko seem to be getting along well.

(CONTINUED)

32C CONTINUED:

32C

DOCTOR

It's the strangest thing... when
he first arrived, he was crude,
abusive...

(beat)

Now he's a model patient.
Grateful, considerate...

SEVEN OF NINE

He's obviously an unstable
individual -- inconsistent
behavior is hardly surprising.

DOCTOR

Still, if it weren't for the
security detail, I'd forget he was
a criminal.

Seven is still suspicious.

SEVEN OF NINE

It's possible he's trying to
manipulate you.

Suddenly, we HEAR Iko's voice calling loudly from the
other room...

IKO (O.C.)

Doctor...

The Doctor quickly EXITS to...

32D INT. SICKBAY (OPTICAL)

32D

The EMH moves to the surgical area, followed by Seven.
They arrive to find Iko sweating, breathing a bit
raggedly.

DOCTOR

What's the matter?

IKO

My stomach.

(CONTINUED)

32D CONTINUED:

32D

The Doctor steps THROUGH the FORCEFIELD again, starts scanning Iko with his tricorder.

DOCTOR
I'm not detecting anything...

Iko struggles to communicate something:

IKO
I... I can't...

DOCTOR
(prompting)
What's wrong?

A beat before he makes a difficult admission:

IKO
I can't stop thinking about the
man I killed.

SEVEN OF NINE
That's not surprising. You're
experiencing guilt.

A long beat as Iko tries to wrap his mind around this.

IKO
Is that what it is?
(beat)
Is that why I'm feeling sick?

The Doctor considers.

DOCTOR
Nausea could be a symptom of
guilt.

(CONTINUED)

32D CONTINUED: (2)

32D

IKO
(confused)
I've never felt guilty before.

Seven finds this difficult to believe.

SEVEN OF NINE
You've committed many crimes --

IKO
None of them made me feel like
this.

A long beat as Iko struggles to accept the reality of his "condition," closing his eyes. When he opens them again, he speaks to Seven and the Doctor through tears:

IKO
Why did you do this to me?

SEVEN OF NINE
We're not responsible for your
guilt --

IKO
It didn't happen until you put
those... nanoprobes in me.

A beat as Seven and the Doctor react. Iko's tone turns accusatory:

IKO
You knew this would happen, didn't
you? This is some kind of
punishment.

A beat, and then Iko addresses the Doctor, angry:

IKO
Take the nanoprobes out!

The hologram is puzzled by the request:

DOCTOR
You could die --

IKO
Take them out!

Seven and the Doctor are momentarily silenced by Iko's outburst. A beat as Iko struggles to compose himself, nearly overcome with emotion...

(CONTINUED)

VOYAGER: "Repentance" ~ 1/17/01

ACT TWO

26D.

32D CONTINUED: (3)

32D

IKO
Please... I don't want to feel
this way anymore.

OFF his desperate appeal...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

A33 INT. MEDLAB (VPB)

A33

A moment later. The Doctor ENTERS from his office, deeply troubled. Seven is right behind him.

SEVEN OF NINE
You don't honestly believe we're
responsible for his condition --

The Doctor moves to a console, starts working.

DOCTOR
We applied the Borg technology.
It's possible there were some
unforeseen side-effects.

SEVEN OF NINE
(dubious)
"Guilt," for example.

The Doctor ignores her comment and hits a control, calling up a three-dimensional GRAPHIC of IKO'S BRAIN on the monitor. It's the same graphic as earlier, but various neurological components are now FLASHING intermittently, as though new electrical reactions are occurring. The Doctor seems surprised by this.

DOCTOR
Look at this...

SEVEN OF NINE
What?

The Doctor indicates the "flashes" on the graphic.

DOCTOR
It's my most recent scan. The
neurotransmitters have established
new pathways throughout his
cortex.

SEVEN OF NINE
Wasn't that your intention?

DOCTOR
No.
(intrigued)
I was simply trying to bypass the
edema...

A beat as Seven considers the graphic.

SEVEN OF NINE
Then how did this happen?

(CONTINUED)

A33 CONTINUED:

A33

DOCTOR

I don't know. It's possible this
is normal Nygean brain activity...
but I have no basis for
comparison.

Seven can't help but be a little intrigued now herself.

SEVEN OF NINE

You should ask Mister Yedig to
contact a Nygean medical official.
Maybe they could provide some
relevant information.

A beat as the Doctor realizes he's put a dent in Seven's
skepticism. He nods, and then Seven turns to leave.

33 INT. SICKBAY

33

She ENTERS from the Doctor's office, moves to the
console where she left her PADD. As she picks it up and
heads for the door...

IKO (O.C.)

Seven of Nine...

Seven stops, looks back to the surgical area where Iko
still lies in the clamshell.

IKO

Stay... talk to me.

SEVEN OF NINE

I'm extremely busy.

She starts to go, but he calls after her.

IKO

Please...

(beat)

I'm scared.

This stops her. She turns, looks at him. She's still
somewhat dubious, but her curiosity has been piqued.
She steps closer to the surgical area.

(CONTINUED)

33

CONTINUED:

33

SEVEN OF NINE

What would you like to discuss?

A long beat. Iko can't seem to think of anything to say. Seven's impatient.

SEVEN OF NINE

I'm due in Astrometrics, so if you --

Iko seizes on this.

IKO

"Astrometrics." What's that?

SEVEN OF NINE

A laboratory... where we observe stellar phenomena.

IKO

Stars?

SEVEN OF NINE

Yes.

Iko seems pleased to hear this...

IKO

When I was a child, I'd lie under the stars for hours...

(beat)

I'd stare at them until I could see the shapes.

SEVEN OF NINE

"Shapes?"

IKO

Faces... and animals... made out of stars.

A beat as Seven processes this, realizing:

SEVEN OF NINE

You're referring to constellations.

(CONTINUED)

33

CONTINUED: (2)

33

Iko

I named them.

(remembering)

There was Paedos, "The Warrior"...

Gezid, "The Beast"...

(beat)

No matter how hard he tried,

Paedos could never catch Gezid --

Seven can guess why:

SEVEN OF NINE

Because the distance between them
always remained the same.

Iko nods, surprised:

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED: (3)

33

IKO
You've seen them?

Obviously, Seven hasn't, but she's willing to play along.

SEVEN OF NINE
Possibly -- I've catalogued
approximately six billion stars.

IKO
Then you must've seen Onella too --
"The Mother."

Seven pulls up a stool, intrigued in spite of herself.

SEVEN OF NINE
Describe her.

IKO
She was surrounded by sixteen
smaller stars...
(smiles)
...her "daughters."

A beat as Iko rests his head back on the clamshell,
nostalgic...

Iko
If I try... I think I can remember
all their names...

OFF Seven, getting drawn in by this enigmatic man...

34 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL)

34

at impulse.

35 INT. CARGO BAY

35

CAMERA FOLLOWS one of the Voyager Security N.D.s as he
slowly moves down the "prisoners row," patrolling the
cells. Suddenly, we HEAR Joleg's voice:

JOLEG (O.C.)
Green. Grid Eleven-Six.
(beat, excited)
Kot-Kot!

As the N.D. continues OUT OF FRAME, we STAY ON...

36

NEELIX

36

who sits on a CARGO CRATE at the edge of Joleg's cell, just beyond the forcefield. In front of him is his cart, but instead of food, it now supports a KADIS-KOT BOARD. Joleg has pulled his cot to the very edge of the forcefield to play.

NEELIX

That's Kadis-Kot.
Congratulations.

As Neelix begins to clear the gameboard, he brings up something that's been on his mind.

NEELIX

I've been doing some research on the Nygean legal system.

(beat)

You were right about Benkarans receiving harsher sentences. I saw the statistics.

JOLEG

"Statistics" won't save me.

Neelix shakes his head sadly. A beat as they sit together in silence, and then something occurs to Neelix:

NEELIX

I noticed that some people convicted of murder -- even terrible, premeditated murders -- weren't executed. Some weren't punished at all.

(beat)

But you were sentenced to death.

(CONTINUED)

36

CONTINUED:

36

JOLEG

(shrugs)

That's what the family wants.

Neelix reacts, confused. Joleg tries to explain.

JOLEG

After you're convicted, the family
of the "victim" sentences you.

NEELIX

Shouldn't you be sentenced by
someone less partial? Like a
judge?

Joleg smiles.

JOLEG

"Vekto Valek K'Vadim."

Neelix responds with a blank look. Joleg explains:

JOLEG

It's ancient Nygean. It means
"favor the victims."

Joleg nods to the Kadis-Kot board.

JOLEG

What if I stole your gameboard?

(beat)

What right would a "judge" have to
assign a value to your loss? To
him it's just a gameboard... but
to you, it might be a priceless
family possession.

A beat. Neelix is gradually coming to understand.

JOLEG

And what if I murdered your
child...

NEELIX

(disturbed)

I think I get the point.

JOLEG

"Vekto Valek K'Vadim."

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

36

CONTINUED: (2)

36

JOLEG (cont'd)
It's the basis for the Nygean
legal system.

NEELIX
What about the criminals who
didn't serve a sentence at all?

JOLEG
Some people prefer "restitution"
to "revenge." If a defendant is
wealthy enough, he can negotiate a
settlement with the victims'
family.

NEELIX
That doesn't seem fair.

JOLEG
It's perfectly fair...
(wry)
...unless you're destitute.

A long beat as Neelix considers everything he's heard.

NEELIX
Maybe I could talk to the Captain
about finding a way to compensate
your victims --

JOLEG
I'm grateful... but that would
imply I'm guilty.
(beat)
I wouldn't want that.

Neelix is impressed.

NEELIX
There must be something I can
do...

A beat as Joleg considers this.

JOLEG
You could transmit a letter to my
brother.
(explaining)
I'd like to let him know what's
happened to me.

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED: (3)

36

Neelix smiles.

NEELIX

Let me get a PADD.

OFF a grateful Joleg...

37 OMITTED

37

38 INT. SICKBAY - CLOSE ON IKO

38

who still lies on the clamshell in the surgical area. A beat as he stares at the ceiling, a troubled look on his face. He turns when he HEARS a door OPEN (O.C.).

39 SEVEN OF NINE (OPTICAL)

39

approaches his forcefield, accompanied by the armed Voyager Security N.D. assigned to Sickbay. The N.D. works a panel, and Iko's forcefield SHIMMERS from view. Seven hands Iko her PADD.

SEVEN OF NINE

I thought you might find this interesting.

Iko inspects it as Seven takes a step back, allowing the N.D. to REACTIVATE the forcefield. Iko looks at the PADD.

IKO

What is it?

SEVEN OF NINE

An astrometric log.

(beat)

It contains data about various star formations.

Iko looks the PADD over, doesn't seem to know what to make of it. He taps a few buttons...

39A CLOSE ON THE PADD (OPTICAL)

39A

as DATA rapidly scrolls across it. Iko looks up to Seven, confused...

(CONTINUED)

39A CONTINUED:

39A

IKO
These are just words... and
numbers...
(beat)
I'd rather look at the stars.

An awkward beat as Seven realizes the information she brought Iko is too advanced for him.

SEVEN OF NINE
I'll bring you a stargate after
my next shift.

Another awkward beat, and then Iko breaks the silence.

IKO
What's that metal above your eye?

Seven raises a hand to the implant just above her eye.

SEVEN OF NINE
A cybernetic implant.

IKO
Where did you get it?

SEVEN OF NINE
It was installed by the Borg.

IKO
It must have hurt.

Seven's uncomfortable with this line of questioning.

SEVEN OF NINE
I don't recall.

Iko turns inward for a moment, becomes contemplative.

IKO
I hurt people...

Iko looks away. A long beat before he turns back to Seven.

IKO
I deserve to die.

This takes Seven completely by surprise. A beat as she struggles to formulate a response, and then...

(CONTINUED)

39A CONTINUED: (2)

39A

DOCTOR (O.C.)

Seven...

She turns to see...

40 THE DOCTOR

40

is standing in the doorway of his office.

DOCTOR

I've found something.

CUT TO:

40A A MONITOR (VPB)

40A

displaying a three-dimensional GRAPHIC of an ALIEN
BRAIN.

DOCTOR (O.C.)

This is a scan depicting a healthy
Nygean brain...

We WIDEN TO REVEAL we're in...

41-42 OMITTED

41-42

42A INT. MEDLAB (VPB)

42A

where the Doctor and Seven are mid-scene with Janeway.
The Doctor taps a key and the image ZOOMS IN to a small
spider-like GLAND at the center of the brain. Dozens of
NEURAL PATHWAYS extend from it like "roots," connecting
to various other parts of the brain.

DOCTOR

This node is analogous to a human
pineal gland -- in addition to
controlling behavioral impulses,
it regulates decision making.

(beat)

You might say it's the
physiological equivalent of a
"conscience."

Seven indicates the neural pathways.

SEVEN OF NINE

Normally, the node connects to the
rest of the brain through a series
of neural pathways.

(CONTINUED)

42A CONTINUED:

42A

DOCTOR

Now look at the scan of Iko's node
before we applied the
nanoprobes...

The Doctor taps a few keys and the image changes to depict IKO'S NODE. It's noticeably SMALLER than the previous node; a bit atrophied. We'll notice immediately that there are no neural pathways sprouting from the node -- it obviously doesn't connect to any other part of Iko's neurology.

DOCTOR

It's detatched.

A beat as the Captain considers the graphic...

JANEWAY

Did that happen when he was
assaulted?

The Doctor shakes his head, "no."

DOCTOR

I believe it's a congenital birth
defect.

SEVEN OF NINE

Without the node, Iko would've
been prone to violence and
sociopathic behavior all his life.

Janeway reacts.

DOCTOR

When I used Seven's nanoprobes to
treat the injuries from the
assault...

(re: graphic)

...it seems they inadvertently
repaired the defect as well.

The Captain puts it in starker terms:

JANEWAY

You've... activated his
conscience.

(beat)

That would explain why he's
suddenly experiencing guilt...

(CONTINUED)

42A CONTINUED: (2)

42A

DOCTOR

There's more to it than that.

(beat)

I believe he's become capable of
controlling his violent impulses.

JANEWAY

"Capable," maybe... but how do you
know he will?

DOCTOR

Even the thought of violence makes
him ill now.

(beat)

In my opinion, he's no longer a
threat to anyone.

SEVEN OF NINE

By some definitions, Captain...
he's not the same man who
committed that murder.

OFF this radical pronouncement...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

43

INT. BRIEFING ROOM

43

Mid-scene as Janeway, Tuvok, Seven of Nine, Yediq, and the Doctor confer regarding Iko's condition. Yediq looks up from a PADD, incredulous:

YEDIQ

Are you suggesting we release him?

DOCTOR

Of course not. But at the very least, his case should be reexamined.

YEDIQ

(wry)

Because he's "sorry."

SEVEN OF NINE

There's new medical evidence to be considered --

YEDIQ

(re: PADD)

None of it changes the fact that he killed a man.

SEVEN OF NINE

He was suffering from a neurological defect -- he couldn't control his behavior.

The Doctor takes this argument even farther:

DOCTOR

If Iko had been diagnosed and treated, he never would've committed that crime.

(beat)

In a manner of speaking, he's a victim of his own biology.

YEDIQ

So Iko is the victim now.

JANEWAY

No one's denying that he committed a terrible crime. But as a result of the Doctor's treatments, he's undergone a fundamental change.

(beat)

Killing him won't accomplish anything.

(CONTINUED)

43

CONTINUED:

43

YEDIQ

That's not your decision to make.

SEVEN OF NINE

(sharp)

Nor is it yours.

A beat, and then Yediq turns back to Janeway.

YEDIQ

He's obviously deceiving you
somehow --

Janeway cuts him off, tired of arguing.

JANEWAY

We could debate this all day...
but the fact is, our personal
opinions are irrelevant.

(beat)

All that matters is Nygean law.

TUVOK

(to the point)

Does Iko have a legal means of
appeal at his disposal?A long beat, and then Iko gives a reluctant, "by the
books" response.

YEDIQ

In accordance with the Nygean
Penal Code... a capital defendant
has the right to appeal his
sentence to the family of his
victims.

A beat as Janeway formulates a plan.

JANEWAY

I'd like you to help Commander
Tuvok draft an appeal and submit
it to the proper authorities.Yediq isn't happy, but nods his compliance. He heads
for the door, followed by Tuvok. As they EXIT, Seven
nods her thanks to Janeway. *OFF the moment...

TIME CUT TO:

44

INT. SICKBAY

44

Mid-scene. Seven has just informed Iko of her plan to
appeal his case. His response takes her by surprise:

(CONTINUED)

44

CONTINUED:

44

IKO
Take back the appeal.

A long beat as Seven looks eyes with Iko.

SEVEN OF NINE
You'd rather die because you think
it'll relieve your pain.

IKO
(angry)
Death is what I deserve.
(beat)
You say I've changed...

He shows his hands to Seven.

IKO
...but I look at these hands every
day... and I see them squeezing
that man's throat... I hear the
sounds he made...

He can't bring himself to finish the thought.

IKO
I'm disgusting...

A beat as Seven considers this.

SEVEN OF NINE
Do you think I'm disgusting?

Iko is a bit puzzled by the question...

IKO
You've been nothing but kind to
me.

(CONTINUED)

44

CONTINUED: (2)

44

SEVEN OF NINE

You asked me earlier if it "hurt" when
my occipital implant was installed.

(beat)

I told you I didn't remember...

Iko nods, recalling. Seven continues haltingly. This
is difficult for her.

SEVEN OF NINE

...but the truth is... it was one
of the most painful experiences of
my life.

IKO

(confused)

Why did you lie?

A beat before Seven explains, uncomfortable...

SEVEN OF NINE

It's difficult for me to talk
about...

(beat)

...because I forced others to
undergo the same procedure.

Iko is completely taken aback by this admission.

IKO

Why?

SEVEN OF NINE

I was compelled to do so by the
Borg Collective.

(beat)

I wasn't in control of my
actions... just as you weren't in
control when you took a life.

A beat as she lets this sink in.

SEVEN OF NINE

My nanoprobes have given you
control. You're a different
person now.

(beat)

You don't deserve to be executed.

A long beat as Iko wrestles with this. Clearly, Seven's
arguments still haven't convinced him his life is worth
saving.

IKO

I want to go back to my cell.

SEVEN OF NINE

You're free to remain here.

(CONTINUED)

44

CONTINUED: (3)

44

IKO
Am I still sick?

SEVEN OF NINE
No, but --

IKO
Then I don't want special
treatment.

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED: (4) 44

OFF Seven...

45 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL) 45
at impulse.

46 INT. CARGO BAY - ANGLE JOLEG'S CELL 46
where Joleg has just been handed a BOWL OF FOOD by
Neelix. Neelix is once again accompanied by an armed
Security N.D.

JOLEG
Still no word from my brother?

NEELIX
Not yet.

Joleg tries to cover his disappointment with a joke:

JOLEG
He never was good at
corresponding.

NEELIX
(sympathetic)
I'll check the transmission logs
as soon as I'm through here.

Joleg nods his appreciation, and Neelix steps away.

47 NEW ANGLE 47

as Neelix moves on to another cell, which contains Iko.
Iko sits on his cot, deep in thought. The Security N.D.
looks on as Neelix starts scooping FOOD into a BOWL.

NEELIX
I'm glad to see you're feeling
better...

Iko doesn't respond. He's looking past Neelix, into an
opposite cell. Neelix continues, unfazed:

NEELIX
You must be hungry.

Iko still doesn't respond. Curious, Neelix follows
Iko's gaze to the cell containing Egrid, the prisoner
that Iko once routinely abused. Egrid is watching Iko
nervously from his cell.

(CONTINUED)

47 CONTINUED:

47

Neelix doesn't make much of this, turns back to Iko with his food.

NEELIX
Here you go.

(CONTINUED)

47 CONTINUED: (2)

47

Neelix starts to work the controls to open the forcefield. But before he finishes, Iko comes to a decision... points to Egrid.

IKO
Give it to him.

NEELIX
(confused)
He's already had his dinner --

IKO
Please.

NEELIX
(beat)
All right...

Iko watches as Neelix moves to the opposite side of the CARGO BAY...

48-49 OMITTED

48-49

50 NEW ANGLE (OPTICAL)

50

The Security N.D. works a panel, causing a SLOT to OPEN in Egrid's forcefield. Neelix hands him Iko's dinner. A beat, and then Egrid nods a strained "thank you" to Iko. OFF the other prisoners exchanging looks at Iko's curious good will...

51 INT. READY ROOM

51

Seven ENTERS from outside to find Janeway and Yediq waiting for her.

SEVEN OF NINE
You wanted to see me?

JANEWAY
We just received a response from the Nygeans.

A beat before Janeway breaks the news to Seven:

JANEWAY
The family has refused to consider the appeal.

(CONTINUED)

51

CONTINUED:

51

Seven reacts, stunned. A beat as she tries to figure out what went wrong.

SEVEN OF NINE
But the medical evidence --

JANEWAY
They won't look at it.

YEDIQ
(explaining)
The family found the request
"insulting."

SEVEN OF NINE
Your government could insist that
they review it --

Yediq shakes his head, "no."

YEDIQ
We have laws that protect victims
from emotional distress.

A beat, and then Seven tries a desperate gambit:

SEVEN OF NINE
In that case, we should grant Iko
asylum aboard Voyager.

Yediq reacts to this suggestion, angry...

YEDIQ
You agreed to work within the
confines of our legal system --

SEVEN OF NINE
Your system is flawed.

JANEWAY
(firm)
That's enough, Seven.

Janeway turns to Yediq.

JANEWAY
I assure you, we'll abide by the
family's decision.

A beat, and then Yediq nods, satisfied.

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED: (2)

51

JANEWAY

Now... I need a moment alone with
Seven.

Yediq moves to the door and EXITS. Janeway looks to
Seven.

JANEWAY

We did everything we could to help
him.

SEVEN OF NINE

We have to do more.

A beat as the Captain studies Seven, not sure what to
make of her determination.

JANEWAY

You barely know this man. Why are
you so passionate about helping
him?

SEVEN OF NINE

I want to give him the same
opportunity you gave me.

Janeway reacts, surprised. Seven continues.

SEVEN OF NINE

When you severed my link to the
Collective, you changed who I was.
You made it possible for me to
reclaim my humanity.

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED: (3)

51

SEVEN OF NINE (cont'd)
Because of my nanoprobes, Iko has
undergone a similar change.

(ardent)
He should be given a chance to
atone for his crimes.

A long beat as Janeway considers this, a little
confused.

JANEWAY
"Atonement?" Is that what this is
about?

SEVEN OF NINE
Yes.

Janeway makes an observation.

JANEWAY
For him or you?

This takes Seven aback.

SEVEN OF NINE
I don't know what you mean...

JANEWAY
I think part of you still feels
responsible for the violent acts
you committed when you were a
Borg.

SEVEN OF NINE
You're mistaken.

JANEWAY
Am I?
(beat)
Maybe you believe that if Iko is
found "not guilty..."
(beat)
...somehow you won't be guilty
either.

Seven doesn't respond. We'll sense Janeway has her dead
to rights.

JANEWAY
You said it yourself. You've
reclaimed your humanity.
(beat)
It's time you stopped blaming
yourself for the crimes of the
Collective.

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED: (4) 51

A long, quiet moment as Seven eyes her. Suddenly, the ship JOLTS! As Voyager goes to RED ALERT, Janeway and Seven hurry out to...

52 INT. BRIDGE 52

at Red Alert. Chakotay, Paris, Kim, and Tuvok man their stations. As Seven and the Captain arrive, the ship JOLTS violently once more.

JANEWAY

Report.

CHAKOTAY

An alien vessel just dropped out of warp and opened fire.

53 EXT. SPACE - THE ALIEN SHIP (OPTICAL) 53

flies in low and close, STRAFING Voyager's hull with PHASER FIRE.

54 INT. CARGO BAY 54

The room shakes VIOLENTLY, lights begin to FLICKER. One of the forcefield panels SPARKS! Most of the prisoners are on their feet in their cells, alarmed. The four Voyager Security N.D.s stand warily at the center of the room, struggling to maintain a back-to-back formation as the ship SHAKES.

55 ANGLE - IKO'S CELL 55

as a massive JOLT nearly sends him to the floor. He regains his balance, and a CRACKLING sound draws his eyes to...

56 HIS FORCEFIELD (OPTICAL) 56

which has begun to FRITZ on and off.

57 INT. BRIDGE 57

as the ship is ROCKED by more phaser-fire. A console SPARKS!

(CONTINUED)

57 CONTINUED: 57

KIM
(off console)
We've lost power on Decks Eight
through Ten!

The Captain reacts:

JANEWAY
The Cargo Bays.

58 INT. CARGO BAY 58

The prisoners BURST from their cells and CHARGE the four
Security N.D.s in the darkened Cargo Bay!

59 THE N.D.S (OPTICAL) 59

OPEN FIRE, STUNNING a few prisoners, but they're quickly
locked in hand-to-hand combat by the remaining convicts.
As Joleg delivers a particularly vicious blow to an
N.D., wresting away his PHASER in the process...

60 IKO 60

observes the violence from the edge of his cell, frozen.
OFF the sounds of the melee...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

61 INT. BRIDGE

61

As before, except that Tuvok is gone and Chakotay has taken his place at the tactical station. The ship continues to SHAKE.

CHAKOTAY
Shields down to sixty percent!

KIM
Still no response to hails.

JANEWAY
Evasive maneuvers.
(to Chakotay)
Target their weapons.

As the Captain buckles down for a fight...

62 INT. CORRIDOR

62

One of the Benkaran prisoners is on the move, armed with a STARFLEET PHASER. He rounds a corner, moving into...

63 INT. NEW CORRIDOR (OPTICAL)

63

where he's quickly BLASTED by PHASER FIRE! As he drops to the floor, unconscious...

64 REVERSE ANGLE TO REVEAL

64

Tuvok lowering his PHASER. Behind him are Yediq, a VOYAGER SECURITY N.D., and one of the Nygean subordinates. (NOTE: The Nygeans have been armed with Starfleet PHASERS.) As Tuvok moves closer to retrieve the fallen Benkaran's weapon...

65 YEDIQ

65

turns to his officer, uses simple hand signals to convey silent orders. As the Nygeans separate, taking off down different corridors...

66 THE BENKARAN (OPTICAL)

66

begins to SHIMMER in an ALIEN TRANSPORTER EFFECT. Tuvok scans him with a TRICORDER, hits his combadge...

(CONTINUED)

66 CONTINUED: 66

TUVOK
Tuvok to the Bridge...

67 INT. BRIDGE 67
As before.

TUVOK'S COM VOICE
The attacking ship is attempting to
transport one of the prisoners --

KIM
(confirming this)
They're trying to lock on to all
five Benkaran lifesigns.

The ship is ROCKED once more by phaser fire. Another
console SPARKS! Janeway looks to Chakotay.

JANEWAY
Target their Transporter array!

68 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL) 68
as Voyager FIRES on the smaller ship.

69 INT. BRIDGE 69
as Chakotay looks up.

CHAKOTAY
Direct hit. They're retreating.

PARIS
Pursuit course?

JANEWAY
No. We have more immediate
problems.
(to com)
Bridge to Tuvok, what's your
status?

CUT TO:

70 INT. CORRIDOR - LOW ANGLE 70
The SOUND of phaser fire as another PRISONER crumples to
the DECK.

71 TUVOK

71

reaches down to strip the prisoner of his PHASER, handing it to the Security N.D.. Tuvok hits his combadge...

TUVOK

We've neutralized two of the prisoners.

72 INT. BRIDGE

72

as an ALARM sounds at Harry's station...

KIM

Someone's trying to get into the Shuttlebay.

JANEWAY

Lock them out.

73 INT. CORRIDOR (OPTICAL)

73

Joleg looks on as a prisoner fires a blast from a PHASER RIFLE at the Shuttlebay door, causing SPARKS to fly!

74 ANGLE - THE DOOR

74

to reveal it's slightly CHARRED, but still standing.

JOLEG

Again.

75 THE ARMED PRISONER (OPTICAL)

75

raises his rifle, but before he can fire, he's HIT with a PHASER BLAST! As he SLUMPS to the ground, Joleg wheels to find...

76 YEDIQ

76

approaching him cautiously from the opposite end of the corridor, his phaser raised. He indicates the phaser in Joleg's hand.

YEDIQ

Surrender your weapon.

Before Joleg can comply, a phaser is suddenly pressed to the back of Yediq's head. We WIDEN TO REVEAL it's an N.D. Prisoner behind him. Yediq freezes.

77

NEW ANGLE

77

as Tuvok and the Security N.D. round a corner, arriving on the scene. Joleg backs away from Tuvok, moving closer to Yediq and the Prisoner.

JOLEG

You have five minutes to get us a shuttle.

As he and the other Prisoner back away with Yediq, disappearing around a corner, Tuvok hits his combadge.

TUVOK

Tuvok to the Bridge... lock onto Yediq's signature and beam him to --

JANEWAY'S COM VOICE

Transporters are off-line. We need at least ten minutes to get them up and running.

OFF Tuvok, knowing that's five minutes more than he has...

78 INT. CARGO BAY (OPTICAL)

78

as Joleg and the other Prisoner ENTER with Yediq in tow. Joleg angrily pushes Yediq to the ground, indicates the Cargo Bay door to the Prisoner.

JOLEG

Seal it.

The Prisoner aims his phaser at the door and begins to WELD it shut with a CONTINUOUS BEAM. Yediq looks up to Joleg, defiant...

YEDIQ

You're not getting off this ship.

Angry, Joleg straightens his arm, preparing to fire...

JOLEG

Then I suppose I should kill you
right now --

IKO (O.C.)

Don't.

Joleg wheels to find...

79 IKO (OPTICAL)

79

who has finally emerged from his cell. A beat. We don't know what his motives are and neither does a suspicious Joleg. Finally, Iko nods, indicating Yediq:

IKO

He's mine.

Joleg is reluctant to comply. Obviously, he wants to Kill Yediq. Iko presses his case, reminding Joleg:

IKO

You saw how they beat me.

A beat as Joleg considers... and then he tosses his phaser to Iko. Iko moves closer, raising the phaser at Yediq's head. Yediq looks Iko in the eyes, fearless:

YEDIQ

I knew it was a trick. I knew you
hadn't changed.

Joleg reacts, confused -- he obviously isn't aware of the transformation Iko has undergone.

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED:

79

JOLEG

What's he talking about?

Iko doesn't answer. A long beat as he locks eyes with the warden... and then he hands the phaser to Yediq. Before Joleg can grasp what's happened, Yediq quickly lifts the phaser and BLASTS him and the other Prisoner backwards with two quick shots. He swings the phaser around to train it on Iko, who hasn't moved an inch. OFF Yediq, shocked by Iko's unexpected assistance...

80 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL)

80

at impulse.

JANEWAY'S VOICE

Captain's Log, Stardate 54474.6.
Warden Yediq has used his
influence to convince the Nygean
family to hear Iko's appeal for
leniency.

81 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

81

ON THE VIEWSCREEN are the family of Iko's victim. Seated behind a TABLE, the family consists of the victims' ELDERLY PARENTS, his WIDOW, and his TEENAGE DAUGHTER.

IKO (O.C.)

I won't beg for my life.

(beat)

It belongs to you.

82 REVERSE ANGLE TO REVEAL (OPTICAL)

82

Janeway, Chakotay, Tuvok, Yediq, Seven, and the Doctor looking on as Iko makes his halting, emotional appeal to the family.

IKO

I only wanted you... to
understand... what's happened to
me.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

82

CONTINUED:

82

IKO (cont'd)
I'm a different person now... a
better person.
(beat)
This crew has helped me see that.

Iko pauses, looking to Seven. She offers a supportive
nod.

IKO
If my death helps you find
peace... I can accept it...
(beat)
But if you let me live... I'll
never hurt anyone again...
(beat)
Whatever you decide... please know
how sorry I am... for what I took
from you.

OFF his heartfelt words...

83

INT. CARGO BAY - CLOSE ON JOLEG

83

as he accepts a BOWL of FOOD from someone (O.C.) we HEAR
the sound of his forcefield slot closing.

JOLEG
Are we playing Kadis-Kot later?
We WIDEN TO INCLUDE...

83A

NEELIX

83A

is standing just outside the cell with his cart, a
troubled look on his face.

NEELIX
Sorry.

JOLEG
(tweaking)
Afraid I'll beat you again?

(CONTINUED)

83A CONTINUED:

83A

A long beat...

NEELIX

I tried to help you, and you took
advantage of me.

JOLEG

What do you mean?

NEELIX

The "note" we sent your brother.

(beat)

He traced the transmission to
Voyager. He's the one who
attacked us.

JOLEG

(incredulous)

Neelix, I swear... I had no idea
he would do that.

Neelix gives him a skeptical look.

JOLEG

You have to believe me.

Obviously, Neelix doesn't.

NEELIX

I read Yediq's security report.
You threatened to kill him.

Joleg doesn't have a ready response. A long beat, and
then he switches gears, looks at the bowl of food he's
holding.

JOLEG

I can't eat this.

NEELIX

Why not?

JOLEG

I'm sick.

NEELIX

(skeptical)

You look fine to me.

(CONTINUED)

83A CONTINUED: (2)

83A

JOLEG

No... I must have the same
condition that Iko had.

(beat)

If your Doctor cures me, then I
can make an appeal for my life
too.

A beat as Neelix looks Joleg in the eye, a little
sickened by the depths to which Joleg is willing to
sink. Finally, he shakes his head in disgust and moves
to the door. OFF Joleg...

CUT TO:

84 A STARFIELD (OPTICAL)

84

replete with twinkling STARS. A number of the stars
STAND OUT, BRIGHTER than the others, forming a vaguely
GEOMETRIC PATTERN.

IKO (O.C.)

She's beautiful, isn't she?

We REVEAL we're in...

85 INT. ASTROMETRICS LAB (OPTICAL)

85

Seven of Nine and Iko are standing near the main
console, studying the starfield on the DOMESCREEN.
Standing guard in the b.g. are TWO VOYAGER SECURITY
N.D.s. A beat as Seven studies the astral
configuration, trying to place its name. Finally:

SEVEN OF NINE

"Onella, The Mother."

Iko nods, pleased. A beat, and then he points to a
corner of the Dome, indicates another cluster of
STARS...

IKO

And there's Paedos, still watching
over her...

A long beat as Iko takes in the starfield, nostalgic.

IKO

It was kind of Captain Janeway to
let you bring me here.

(CONTINUED)

85

CONTINUED:

85

SEVEN OF NINE

If your appeal is successful,
you'll be able to go wherever you
want.

Iko manages a small smile at Seven's optimism... but he
obviously doesn't share her positive outlook.

IKO

I hope you're right.

He looks back to the Dome. A beat as Seven considers
him.

SEVEN OF NINE

If I am... where will you go?

A long beat.

IKO

I don't know.

Another beat.

SEVEN OF NINE

If you'd like... I can ask the
Captain to consider letting you
stay here.

IKO

I'm not a scientist.

(beat)

I don't think I'd be much help to
anyone.

SEVEN OF NINE

There are other ways to be useful.
I'm sure we can think of
something.

(CONTINUED)

85 CONTINUED: (2) 85

A long beat... and then Iko smiles, touched by Seven's offer.

IKO
I'd like that.

The warm moment is interrupted by the SOUND of the lab door OPENING...

86 NEW ANGLE 86

as Janeway, Yediq, and one Nygean N.D. ENTER from outside. The Captain doesn't say a word, but her grim expression tells Seven everything she needs to know.

JANEWAY
I'm sorry.
(to Iko, gentle)
The family has denied your appeal.

Yediq confirms this:

YEDIQ
We're due to rendezvous with a
transport ship in a few hours.
(apologetic)
I need to return you to your cell.

A difficult moment. Overcome with emotion, Seven looks away. Iko doesn't want things to end this way.

IKO
You were the first person who
wasn't afraid to look me in the
eye.
(beat)
That's how I'd like to remember you.

(CONTINUED)

86 CONTINUED: 86

A long beat. Seven takes a steadying breath, turns to face Iko. A beat as he looks at Seven's face for the last time. It's filled with emotion. Finally, Iko nods to Yediq. As he's led away by the Nygeans, OFF a devastated Seven...

87 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL) 87
at warp.

88 OMITTED 88

88A INT. ASTROMETRICS LAB 88A

A tired looking Seven works intently at a console. Janeway ENTERS from outside, holding a PADD. Seven turns. A beat as they eye each other.

JANEWAY
I just finished looking over your
warp core analysis.

SEVEN OF NINE
And?

JANEWAY
(re: PADD)
I'm impressed. It usually takes a
few days to finish one of these.
(beat)
B'Elanna tells me you did it in
twenty-two hours.

Seven explains, a little uncomfortable:

SEVEN OF NINE
I haven't felt the need to
regenerate.

Janeway nods, understanding.

JANEWAY
Everyone grieves in their own way.

A beat. Seven doesn't want to acknowledge that that's what she's been doing. She moves past Janeway, starts working at another console. A beat, and then the Captain moves to Seven's side, rests a comforting hand on her shoulder.

JANEWAY
If you want to talk... you know
where to find me.

(CONTINUED)

88A CONTINUED:

88A

A beat, and then the Captain heads for the door. Seven finally speaks up:

SEVEN OF NINE
It's unfair.

The Captain stops, looks back at Seven, addresses her gently.

JANEWAY
I think so too. But we have to
try not to judge their system --

SEVEN OF NINE
That's not what I meant.

A beat. Then Seven elaborates.

SEVEN OF NINE
Iko was executed for taking a
single life.
(beat)
As a Drone, I took thousands...
(beat)
...but I was never punished.

A long beat as Janeway considers this, realizing how much pain Seven is in. Finally...

JANEWAY
You lost twenty years of your life
to the Borg.
(beat)
I'd say that's punishment enough.

A beat, and then the Captain EXITS. OFF Seven considering her mentor's words, perhaps a little closer to forgiving herself...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE

THE END