

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

"Friendship One"

40840-267

Written
by
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Directed
by
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FINAL DRAFT

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VOYAGER: "Friendship One" - 1/31/01 CAST

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

"Friendship One"

CAST

JANEWAY	VERIN
CHAKOTAY	OTRIN
KIM	BRIN
PARIS	LIEUTENANT CAREY
DOCTOR	ADMIRAL HENDRICKS
TUVOK	YUN
TORRES	MAN'S VOICE
SEVEN OF NINE	TECHNICIAN ONE
NEELIX	TECHNICIAN TWO
	ALIEN CAPTOR
	ALIEN LIEUTENANT
	N.D. ALIEN

Non-Speaking

N.D. SUPERNUMERARIES

Non-Speaking

ALIEN BABY

VOYAGER: "Friendship One" - 1/31/01 SETS

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

"Friendship One"

SETS

INTERIORS

VOYAGER

ASTROMETRICS LAB
BRIDGE
BRIEFING ROOM
CAREY'S QUARTERS
CORRIDOR
DOCTOR'S OFFICE
ENGINEERING
MESS HALL
NEELIX' QUARTERS
READY ROOM
SICKBAY
TRANSPORTER ROOM

DELTA FLYER

COCKPIT
AFT SECTION

CAVES

CONTROL ROOM

ALIEN TRACKING STATION

EXTERIORS

SPACE/VOYAGER
PROBE

PLANET'S ATMOSPHERE
VOYAGER
DELTA FLYER

PLANET SURFACE
CAVE ENTRANCE
SILO FIELD
SILO FORTIFICATION
MISSILE SILO

STAR TREK: VOYAGER"Friendship One"PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

TONGO	TONG-go
AURELLIAN	oar-RELL-ee-an
ALIXIA	uh-LIX-ee-uh
HADROSAUR	HAA-droh-sore
VOTH	VAWTH
KOBALI	koh-BAH-lee
VAADWAUR	vahd-WAHR
DISULFIDE	die-SUL-fide
ISOREM	EYE-soh-rem
MAGNESITE	MAG-neh-sight
VERIN	VEH-rin
YUN	YUHN
METREON	MEH-tree-on
OTRIN	OH-trin
ISOLITIC	eye-soh-LIT-ik
TROPOSPHERE	TROH-puh-sphere
BRIN	BRIN

VOYAGER: "Friendship One" - 1/31/01

SCRIPT NOTE

PLEASE NOTE: THE CHARACTER NAME "UXAL" HAS BEEN CHANGED TO
"VERIN".

THE CHARACTER NAME "IBRIS" HAS BEEN CHANGED TO
"BRIN".

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

"Friendship One"

TEASER

FADE IN: *

1 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL) 1

A starfield. A small object approaches. As it comes closer, we see that it's a PROBE built with early Starfleet technology: a battered cylinder several meters long flanked by two slender nacelles. An early Starfleet emblem is emblazoned on its side, along with the words "Friendship One."

PRE-LAP a somewhat garbled and distorted voice from the past -- a radio signal that the probe is "broadcasting."

MAN'S VOICE

We, the people of Earth, greet you
in a spirit of peace and humility. *

The words degenerate into pure STATIC as we:

MATCH CUT TO:

2 A "RADAR BLIP" (VPB) 2

inching across an alien MONITOR, the static continuing.

TECHNICIAN ONE (O.C.)

Can you reduce the interference?

Reveal we're in:

3 INT. ALIEN TRACKING STATION (VPB) 3

A limited ONE or TWO-WALL SET that consists of radar-like MONITORS and controls. Two alien TECHNICIANS are seated in front of them. The technology level is equivalent to late-20th century Earth's. One of the technicians rotates a DIAL, zeroing in on a frequency, and the audio transmission becomes clearer:

MAN'S VOICE

(continuing)

...as we venture out of our solar
system and into the universe, we
hope to earn the trust and
friendship of other worlds. *

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

Another BURST OF STATIC, then the message segues to a piece of classical music: Vivaldi's "Spring" concerto from the "Four Seasons" cycle. (As we'll learn, the Starfleet probe is broadcasting fragments of a database intended for "First Contact" situations.) The technicians exchange baffled looks, re: the radar blip.

TECHNICIAN TWO

What is it?

TECHNICIAN ONE

I don't know...

TECHNICIAN TWO

Distance?

TECHNICIAN ONE

(beat)

It just entered the atmosphere.

OFF the technicians, as the music continues to play over the speaker...

4 EXT. SPACE - THE PROBE (OPTICAL)

4

falls toward an M-Class planet, rapidly becoming a speck against the blue-green sphere.

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

(NOTE: Episode credits fall over opening scenes.)

5 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL) 5

Voyager at impulse.

6 INT. MESS HALL 6

After hours. PARIS and TORRES are relaxing after their duty shifts, sipping mugs of coffee, while KIM works a PADD, frustrated.

KIM

This is impossible.

(off their looks)

I've got letters from a dozen relatives all asking to talk to me.

TORRES

The perils of popularity.

KIM

None of them seem to realize I only get three minutes of com time every six weeks.

As they talk, NEELIX approaches with a coffee pot and begins refilling their mugs.

PARIS

Don't complain. The only people who want to talk to me are my father and a Ferengi Tongo dealer who claims I still owe him three hundred strips of latinum.

Torres smiles, turns to Kim.

TORRES

I guess all your aunts and uncles will have to wait their turn. *

Kim nods. Neelix glances at him with a touch of concern as he fills his mug.

NEELIX

Whatever you do, don't forget your parents.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

KIM

How could I? My mother has the ability to transmit guilt across thousands of light-years.

NEELIX

A mother's prerogative.

(beat)

I've got some com time coming up. If it helps, you can have it.

KIM

You sure?

NEELIX

I wasn't planning on using it.

A beat. Torres feels bad about this.

TORRES

I'm sorry you don't have any family to talk to, Neelix.

Neelix shrugs cheerfully.

NEELIX

I talk to my family every day.

OFF the others' curious reactions as he walks away...

7 INT. NEELIX'S QUARTERS

7

Neelix is in his night clothes, trimming his whiskers with a Talaxian GROOMING INSTRUMENT in front of a mirror while he talks to someone O.C.

NEELIX

Then Ensign Tefler checked into Sickbay with another case of "food poisoning." The Doctor requisitioned my Aurellian beef stew... but he didn't find any pathogens... of course.

He sets the trimmer down, moves to his bed and turns down the covers.

NEELIX

All in all, not a bad day.

He gets under the covers and picks up a small framed PHOTOGRAPH of his sister Alixia (as seen in "Mortal Coil") from a nightstand.

NEELIX

Good night, Alixia. Pleasant dreams.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: 7

As he turns on his side and goes to sleep...

8 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (STOCK OPTICAL) 8

holding position, the deflector dish GLOWING brightly.
(As seen in "Author, Author").

9 INT. ASTROMETRICS LAB (OPTICAL) 9

JANEWAY's chatting with ADMIRAL HENDRICKS, an affable man in his fifties whose image is on the Domescreen, FRITZING intermittently. Mid-conversation as Hendricks eyes her, surprised.

ADMIRAL HENDRICKS
They evolved from dinosaurs?

JANEWAY
Hadrosaurs, to be precise. Their ancestors settled in the Delta Quadrant twenty million years ago.

Hendricks shakes his head, impressed.

ADMIRAL HENDRICKS
The Voth... the Kobali... the Vaadwaur. You've made First Contact with more species than any captain since James Kirk.

JANEWAY
It helps being the only Starfleet ship within thirty thousand light-years.

ADMIRAL HENDRICKS
You're being too humble.
(light)
From the first time you spoke up in my classroom, I knew you'd go far.

JANEWAY
A little farther than I expected, Professor.

ADMIRAL HENDRICKS
I've got my Admiral hat on today, Kathryn. I didn't call just to catch up.
(smiles)
Starfleet's got a mission for you.

OFF Janeway's surprise...

10 INT. BRIEFING ROOM (VPB) 10

Janeway, CHAKOTAY, TUVOK, Paris, Kim, Torres, SEVEN OF NINE and Neelix are seated around the table with PADDs as they listen to the RECORDING heard in the Teaser.

MAN'S VOICE

We, the people of Earth, greet you
in a spirit of peace and
humility... *

Janeway presses a button, stopping the recording. Kim reacts.

KIM

"Friendship One."
(beat)
I had to memorize that recording
in third grade.

PARIS

Me too. I even built a model of
the probe.

JANEWAY

Then this should look familiar.

She works a panel by the wall monitor, causing it to display a GRAPHIC of the probe seen earlier, along with scrolling data.

JANEWAY

It was launched in twenty sixty-
seven, just four years after Zefram
Cochrane tested his first warp
engine. *

NEELIX

What was it designed to do?

CHAKOTAY

Reach out to other species... pave
the way for all the manned
missions that would follow. *

Kim works a PADD, hands it to Neelix.

KIM

They packed it with information.
Translation matrices... scientific
and cultural databases...

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

10

TORRES

(off her PADD)

Computer chip designs... instructions
for building subspace transceivers...

(beat)

* It's practically a "how-to"
manual.

SEVEN OF NINE

(dry)

If the Borg had intercepted this
probe, humanity would've been
assimilated centuries ago.

NEELIX

* This must've been before your
Prime Directive.

TUVOK

* It was before Starfleet existed.

JANEWAY

* In any case, we lost contact with
the probe one hundred and thirty
years ago, but it's last known
coordinates...

TORRES

Let me guess -- we're in the
neighborhood.

Janeway works the monitor controls, causing the image to
switch to a STARCHART with a grid superimposed over it.

JANEWAY

Starfleet's mapped out a search grid.
It'll take us a little off course, but
if the probe's still intact, and we're
lucky enough to find it, we'll be
retrieving a little piece of history.

OFF the moment...

11 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL)

11

at impulse.

JANEWAY'S VOICE

* Captain's Log. Stardate 54775.4.
We've been searching for five days
without any sign of the probe.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

JANEWAY'S VOICE (cont'd)
But we're not about to disappoint
Starfleet on our first official
assignment in seven years.

12 INT. BRIDGE

12

Tuvok in command, Paris and Kim at stations. N.D.s as
needed. Kim looks up from his console.

KIM

Nothing in grid two-nine-five.

TUVOK

Mister Paris...

PARIS

(works)

Moving on.

KIM

We should try skipping ahead a
little... to grid three-one-zero.

(off their looks)

I stayed up all night re-
extrapolating the probe's trajectory.
I've compensated for solar winds,
ionic interference, and a few local
anomalies Starfleet wouldn't know
about.

*
*
*

Tuvok considers, then nods to Paris.

TUVOK

Alter course to grid three-one-
zero.

Paris works, glancing back at Kim.

PARIS

Trying to impress Starfleet brass?

KIM

(smiles)

Just doing my job.

*

Paris works a beat, then Kim's console BEEPS.

*

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: 12

KIM
I'm detecting a titanium signature
that matches the probe's
parameters.

TUVOK
Location?

KIM
A planet two light-years away.

Paris checks his own readings.

PARIS
Confirmed.
(turns to Kim)
Good job, Harry. *

OFF the moment...

13 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL) 13

Voyager enters orbit around a planet whose surface is
totally obscured by a greyish, roiling atmosphere.
(Note: This is the same blue-green planet seen in the
Teaser, but as we'll learn it's undergone a severe
environmental change.)

14 INT. ASTROMETRICS LAB (OPTICAL) 14

Seven, Janeway, Tuvok and Chakotay are studying the
planet on the Domescreen. Seven works, causing the
image to RATCHET IN on a portion of a continent.

SEVEN OF NINE
The readings are coming from the
northern subcontinent.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

JANEWAY

(to Seven)

Can you localize them?

SEVEN OF NINE

* There are high levels of antimatter radiation in the atmosphere. It's scattering the probe's signature.

CHAKOTAY

Any lifesigns?

SEVEN OF NINE

None.

JANEWAY

(to Chakotay)

Assemble an Away Team and take the Flyer down for a closer look.

15 INT. SICKBAY

15

The DOCTOR hums as he and Paris load hyposprays while Kim and Neelix sit on bio-beds in the b.g. He looks over his shoulder as Chakotay and LIEUTENANT CAREY (the engineer last seen in the episode "Fury") ENTER.

DOCTOR

Looks like "the gang's all here."
(indicates bio-beds)
Make yourselves comfortable, gentlemen. I'll be right with you.

Carey smiles as the Doctor continues to hum while he and Chakotay hop up on bio-beds.

CAREY

You seem to be in a good mood, Doctor.

DOCTOR

Just excited to be doing my part for our first official "mission," Mister Carey.

The Doctor moves to inject Neelix, as Paris moves to Chakotay with another hypospray.

PARIS

An inoculation a day keeps the radiation away.

(injecting him)

I took a look at those atmospheric readings. Thermal eddies... gravimetric sheer.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED:

15

PARIS (cont'd)
You're going to need your best
pilot.

CHAKOTAY
Are you volunteering?

PARIS
If the Doc can spare me.

DOCTOR
(dry)
I'll "muddle through."

Torres ENTERS. The Doctor turns, surprised to see her.

DOCTOR
If you're here for your fetal
resonance scan, you're a day
early.

TORRES
I'm here for my inoculation.

Paris reacts to this.

PARIS
You're not going on this mission.

TORRES
Chakotay said he needed an
engineer.

PARIS
(re: Carey)
He's already got one.

TORRES
(shrugs)
Now he's got two.

PARIS
(to others)
Excuse us.

Paris takes Torres by the arm and leads her into the
Doctor's Office as Chakotay, Carey and Neelix watch.

NEELIX
Any bets on this one?

CHAKOTAY
My money's on B'Elanna.

16 NEW ANGLE - DOCTOR'S OFFICE

16

as Torres and Paris square off.

(CONTINUED)

16

CONTINUED:

16

TORRES

It's been months since I've been on an Away Mission.

PARIS

Then try the Holodeck, the Flyer's full.

TORRES

You can make room.

She eyes Neelix through the window.

TORRES

Neelix doesn't need to go.

PARIS

He's not six months pregnant.

TORRES

Being pregnant doesn't make me an invalid.

Paris' tone softens.

PARIS

No, it doesn't.

(beat)

But there's a toxic atmosphere down there, and you're breathing for two.

Torres is somewhat mollified, maybe even secretly pleased that he's being so protective.

TORRES

All right, you win. But if we have another baby, you carry it and I'll go on the Away Missions.

PARIS

(smiles)

It's a deal.

OFF the warm moment...

17

OMITTED

17

*

18 INT. DELTA FLYER - COCKPIT (VPB) 18

CLOSE ON the HELM MONITOR, which shows a descent vector to the planet, with accompanying data. The monitor's SHAKING.

19 PARIS (VPB) 19

glances at the monitor as he works the joysticks. Chakotay, Neelix, Kim and Carey are behind him at stations. The cockpit SHAKES and TREMBLES.

PARIS

Sorry for the bumpy ride. We'll be clearing the stratosphere in about a minute.

A bigger JOLT. Neelix grips his console, looking a little queasy.

NEELIX

I had a cousin who used to transport disulfides from a gas giant. He claimed to love the turbulence.

(another JOLT)

Of course, disulfides are known to cause delusions.

The others smile. Paris works the joysticks, causing the Flyer to dive more steeply.

PARIS

Hang on.

20 OMITTED 20 *

21 NEW ANGLE - INCLUDING WINDOWS (OPTICAL) 21 *

The shaking subsides as the dense grey clouds seen through the windows clear enough to reveal a devastated landscape: a large city that's been razed to the ground. The crew reacts. *

CAREY

I thought it was uninhabited...

KIM

(off console)

There's nothing alive down there now. Radiation levels are at six thousand isorems.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

21

A grim beat, then Carey's console BEEPS.

CAREY

I've localized the signature to a three kilometer radius.

CHAKOTAY

Transfer the coordinates to the helm.

(beat)

When we find the probe we'll beam it to the cargo hold.

KIM

(off console)

That may not be easy with all this radiation.

CHAKOTAY

We'd better bring Transport enhancers.

(beat)

Set us down, Tom.

PARIS

Yes, sir.

NEELIX

Gently, please.

Paris smiles as he works and we HEAR the landing thrusters FIRE.

22 EXT. PLANET SURFACE - THROUGH ALIEN VISOR (OPTICAL)

22

A view of the Flyer, framed by ALIEN GRAPHICS, as it sets down on a rocky, rubble-strewn landscape, kicking up a cloud of icy dust and debris. The sky is dark with greyish clouds. We hear a WHIR from a tiny motor as the image is MAGNIFIED, then FRITZES to an INFRA-RED view that allows more clarity.

23 REVERSE ANGLE

23

to reveal the observer crouched behind a rock: a forbidding figure wearing a tattered, wind-whipped cloak, his face obscured by a BREATHING APPARATUS and a dark high-tech VISOR. OFF the mystery...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

A24 CLOSE ANGLE - A BOOTED FOOT A24

steps onto a brackish, frozen puddle. CRUNCH! The icy surface fractures. REVEAL we're on:

24 EXT. PLANET SURFACE 24

Paris leads Carey and Neelix, all wearing ENVIRONMENTAL SUITS, across the desolate landscape. They pass piles of icy rubble, scanning ahead with tricorders while a harsh wind whips around them. Paris turns to Carey, his com crackles:

PARIS

I should've brought a holo-camera... so I could show B'Elanna she's not missing anything.

(beat)

Can you believe she actually wanted to come on this mission?

CAREY

If it makes you feel better, my wife was the same way when she was carrying our first child. She hated being coddled.

PARIS

(wry)

And your wife's not even part Klingon.

Carey smiles.

PARIS

Maybe it's us.

(beat)

Something about fatherhood seems to regress the male psyche a few thousand years.

Carey smiles. Paris reacts to a reading on his tricorder, which leads him to a small object half buried in debris. He crouches and dusts it off, revealing a small METAL SPHERE. Neelix and Carey gather around as Paris examines it.

NEELIX

Careful...

Suddenly, the sphere LIGHTS UP and begins to play a snippet of MUSIC.

PARIS

It's a toy... like a music box.

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED: 24

The musical tones are alien but the melody is oddly familiar. Carey has a surprising moment of recognition.

CAREY

Vivaldi.

An eerie moment as the trio considers the implications... then Carey's tricorder BEEPS. He stands... trying to localize it.

CAREY

I'm getting something. Ninety meters... this way.

The sphere grows DARK and stops playing. Paris tosses it to Neelix.

PARIS

Souvenir.

Neelix studies the sphere a beat, then puts it in his pack. As he moves after the others...

25 EXT. PLANET SURFACE - CHAKOTAY AND KIM 25

also wearing environmental suits and scanning with tricorders, mount a low rise and react to:

26 THEIR POV - A SILO FIELD (OPTICAL) 26

A field of rectangular, evenly spaced metal platforms set into the ground, stretching for hundreds of meters.

27 RESUME 27

as Kim checks his tricorder.

PARIS' COM VOICE

Paris to Chakotay.

CHAKOTAY

Go ahead.

INTERCUT:

28 EXT. PLANET SURFACE - CAVE ENTRANCE 28

Paris, Neelix and Carey are standing outside the entrance to a cave. Carey and Neelix are scanning while Paris speaks to com.

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED: 28

PARIS
We've got a reading that could be
the probe... inside a cave.

CHAKOTAY
Keep us posted.

Paris, Carey and Neelix duck into the opening... while
Kim and Chakotay start down the other side of the ridge.

29 EXT. PLANET SURFACE - SILO FORTIFICATION 29

Chakotay and Kim approach one of the platforms, which
consists of two heavy metal plates mounted on tracks.
There's a gap between them. Kim and Chakotay kneel
down, activate WRIST BEACONS and shine them down through
the gap.

30 ANGLE FROM INSIDE A MISSILE SILO (OPTICAL) 30 *

Their beacons illuminate a massive ICBM-style missile
set in a deep silo-like shaft as they look down from
above. *

31 RESUME 31

Chakotay works his tricorder.

CHAKOTAY
The warhead's still active.

Kim stands, scanning.

KIM
It wouldn't have taken many of
these to trigger a "nuclear
winter."

OFF the disturbing revelation... *

32 OMITTED 32 *

33 INT. CAVES 33

Paris, Carey and Neelix move through a passageway. They
see some ragged blankets heaped against a wall, along
with some battered metal bowls and plates. Reactions.

NEELIX
People must've taken shelter
here...

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED: 33

Carey is scanning the cave walls.

CAREY

Makes sense.
(explains)

* The magnesite in these caves
would've provided partial
shielding from the radiation.

PARIS

Over here...

He's gesturing from another cave opening. Carey and
Neelix catch up to him, and they all EXIT INTO:

34 INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM 34

Paris, Neelix and Carey ENTER a large chamber that looks
like a makeshift laboratory and control room, with
several weathered consoles. They follow their tricorder
readings to a work table where several large chunks of
technology are hooked up to inactive alien monitors and
diagnostic equipment, all looking as though they've been
salvaged from a junk heap.

Paris sifts through some of the debris on the table...
picks up a burned piece of fuselage. He brushes off
some grime, revealing a portion of the name "Friendship
One," and turns to the others.

PARIS

This is what we came for.

Carey's scanning one of the pieces of probe technology,
as well as the alien diagnostic equipment.

CAREY

Whoever lived here must've been
studying it.

NEELIX

(off tricorder)
The datacore's still intact.

PARIS

Start setting up the Transport
enhancers.
(to com)
Paris to Chakotay.

INTERCUT:

35 EXT. PLANET SURFACE 35

where Kim and Chakotay are trudging back across the
desolate landscape.

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED: 35

CHAKOTAY
Go ahead.

PARIS
We've got the probe... or pieces
of it anyway. We're getting ready
to beam them to the Flyer.

CHAKOTAY
We'll meet you there.

Paris begins helping Neelix and Carey set up several
Transporter enhancer rods.

36 SUBJECTIVE P.O.V. - MOVING 36

of someone observing the three men from another opening
to the chamber.

37 RESUME 37

As they react to the SOUND OF MOVEMENT around them. A
tense beat.

NEELIX
Hello?

Silence.

PARIS
If anyone's there, there's no
reason be afraid.

NEELIX
(nervous)
Speak for yourself.

CAREY
My tricorder isn't reading any
lifesigns.

They react to the SOUND of a weapon being CHARGED (the
high-tech equivalent of a conventional rifle being
cocked). It's coming from above. They look up to see:

38 THREE CLOAKED ALIENS 38

standing on a ridge of the cave above them, pointing
phaser-type rifles at them. Their faces are obscured by
visors and breathing equipment.

Our people react... then turn to see more similarly
garbed aliens ENTERING from a passageway, also aiming
weapons at them. OFF the threat...

39 INT. DELTA FLYER - COCKPIT 39

Chakotay ENTERS pulling off his helmet. He reacts as he sees a partly dismantled console... moves to it...

40 INT. DELTA FLYER - AFT SECTION 40

Kim ENTERS with his helmet in his hand, starts to remove his environmental suit. He reacts to a SOUND and turns... just as a FIGURE backhands him hard in the stomach!

41 KIM 41

staggers back... the wind knocked out of him... he sees...

42 THE ALIEN (OPTICAL) 42

from the end of Act One, still wearing his visor and breathing apparatus, scrambling toward the door.

CHAKOTAY (O.C.)
Don't move.

The alien stops short as we REVEAL CHAKOTAY standing on the staircase holding a phaser. The alien hesitates... then pulls a weapon from his cloak! Chakotay FIRES and the alien drops, unconscious. Chakotay quickly crosses to Kim and helps him to his feet.

CHAKOTAY
You okay?

Kim nods, getting his wind back. Chakotay hits his combadge.

CHAKOTAY
Delta Flyer to Paris.
(no response)
Chakotay to Away Team. Respond.

Again, silence. Suddenly, the ship ROCKS from an EXPLOSION outside! They glance at each other and quickly EXIT into:

43 INT. DELTA FLYER - COCKPIT 43 *

Kim and Chakotay rush in... Kim moving to a console as Chakotay takes the helm. Another EXPLOSION!

(CONTINUED)

43 CONTINUED:

43

KIM
They're antimatter weapons!

Chakotay reacts. Another JOLT!

KIM
* Shields are off-line!

Chakotay works quickly. The ENGINES WHINE to life.

KIM
What are you doing?

CHAKOTAY
Getting us out of here.

KIM
What about the others?

Another EXPLOSION SHAKES the cockpit! Chakotay works.

CHAKOTAY
We can't do them any good if we're
dead. We'll come back for them. *

44 INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM

44

Two alien N.D.s force Carey to his knees next to Paris and Neelix. They've had their helmets removed, while the aliens are still wearing their visors and breathing gear. Carey tries reasoning with them.

CAREY
Look, you're making a mistake -- *

In response, one of the N.D.s SMASHES Carey in the head with the butt of his rifle, knocking him back! The alien raises his rifle for another blow, but Paris grabs it. A tense beat as several other aliens converge on him, aiming their rifles menacingly, until a voice calls out:

VERIN (O.C.)
Leave them alone. *

45 ANGLE TO REVEAL

45

a formidable alien man approaching. He strips off his visor and breathing equipment, revealing malformed features, the skin mottled and covered with lesions. (NOTE: These aliens are the same species seen in the Teaser, only they've been mutated from years of exposure to radiation.) But his expression nonetheless conveys a sense of gravity and strength. His name is VERIN and he's the leader of these people. He eyes Paris. *

(CONTINUED)

45 CONTINUED: 45

VERIN
Who are you? *

PARIS
Lieutenant Tom Paris... we're from
the Federation Starship Voyager.

Verin holds up one of the Transporter enhancers,
suspicious. *

VERIN
What are these? *

PARIS
"Transport enhancers."
(indicates probe)
We were going to use them to
retrieve our probe.

Verin reacts, glances at the probe. *

VERIN
Your probe? *

Paris nods, Verin and the other aliens exchange looks.
He steps closer to Paris. *

VERIN
Too bad you didn't come for it
sooner. You would've saved us a
lot of suffering. *

OFF the mysterious remark...

46 INT. VOYAGER ~ CORRIDOR 46

Janeway and Chakotay on the move, the mood tense.

CHAKOTAY
We still can't contact the
others... or get a fix on their
lifesigns.

JANEWAY
Why didn't we detect the aliens?

CHAKOTAY
I don't know.
(beat)
Whoever they are, they have
antimatter weapons.

Janeway reacts.

(CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED: 46

JANEWAY
Antimatter?

TUVOK'S COM VOICE
Bridge to Captain Janeway.

JANEWAY
Go ahead.

TUVOK'S COM VOICE
We're being hailed from the
surface.

JANEWAY
The Away Team?

TUVOK'S COM VOICE
No.

Janeway and Chakotay exchange a look as they EXIT into a
Turbolift.

47 INT. BRIDGE 47

Tuvok and N.D.s manning stations as Janeway and Chakotay
ENTER from the Turbolift. Janeway nods to Tuvok, who
works a control. She speaks to com.

JANEWAY
This is Captain Kathryn Janeway.
Who am I speaking with?

INTERCUT:

48 INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM 48

Where Verin is speaking into a console. Paris, Neelix *
and Carey are seated against a wall in the b.g., guarded *
by several aliens. *

VERIN *
My name is Verin. Your crewmen *
are my prisoners. *

JANEWAY
Why? We haven't done anything to
harm you.

VERIN *
(heated) *
You committed genocide! *

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTINUED:

48

Janeway and Chakotay exchange looks.

JANEWAY

I think there's been a
misunderstanding. We just arrived -- *

But Verin cuts her off. *

VERIN *

You're from Earth?

JANEWAY

Yes...

VERIN *

Then you're going to pay for what
your people did to us. *

JANEWAY

I'm sorry... I don't know what
you're talking about...

VERIN *

(not buying it)

We're not as naive as you seem to
think we are, Captain. Not
anymore.

A beat. Frustrated, Janeway sees she's not getting
anywhere, tries a different tack:

JANEWAY

What is it you want?

VERIN *

I want you to get us off this
planet... find us a new home. *

Reactions.

JANEWAY

Release my crewmen, and we can
talk about it. *

VERIN *

No more talking.

(beat)

Your people won't be safe until
mine are.

JANEWAY

I don't respond well to threats.

VERIN *

And I'd rather not kill anyone.
But if you don't cooperate, I will. *

Janeway and the Bridge crew react.

(CONTINUED)

VOYAGER: "Friendship One" - 1/31/01 ACT TWO 24A.

48

CONTINUED: (2)

48

VERIN

You have three hours to begin
evacuating us.

*

He clicks off. OFF the threat...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

49 INT. BRIDGE

49

A moment later. Janeway turns to Tuvok.

JANEWAY

Start scanning for the nearest M-Class planet.

TUVOK

You intend to meet his demands?

JANEWAY

I'm just keeping my options open.
(to Chakotay)
You're with me.

As they move to the Turbolift...

50 INT. SICKBAY - CHAKOTAY

50

The Doctor picks up an alien cloak that's laid out on a bio-bed next to a visor and breathing apparatus, while Janeway and Chakotay look on.

DOCTOR

It may not look like much, but
it's lined with magnesite.

Janeway eyes the cloak and the other equipment.

JANEWAY

A makeshift "environmental suit."

DOCTOR

Unfortunately, the protection it
offers is limited.

He leads them to the surgical bed, where OTRIN, the alien who attacked Kim earlier, lies unconscious, dressed in ragged clothes. His features are malformed, the skin on his arms and hands, where visible, is mottled and covered with lesions. If his appearance were normal, we'd recognize him as a man in his late thirties.

DOCTOR

His tissues are saturated with
antimatter radiation. It explains
why we couldn't detect his lifesigns.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

50 CONTINUED:

50

DOCTOR (cont'd)
They're virtually indistinguishable
from the environment.

CHAKOTAY

Now that we know more about their
physiology, maybe we can adjust
our sensors to detect them.

Janeway nods, turns back to the Doctor.

JANEWAY

Wake him.

The Doctor injects the alien with a hypospray. He
wakes, takes a beat to get his bearings, reacts
anxiously to his surroundings. Janeway doesn't waste
any time. She wants answers.

JANEWAY

What were you doing aboard our
shuttle?

Otrin's own tone is hostile and accusing.

OTRIN

Trying to undo the damage you
caused.

JANEWAY

If you're referring to what's
happened on your planet, we had
nothing to do with it.

But Otrin doesn't accept this.

OTRIN

Your people sent the probe, didn't
they?

CHAKOTAY

Our ancestors sent it... two
hundred years ago... to introduce
themselves to other species.

OTRIN

(wry)
They made quite an impression.

He glances suspiciously at the medical technology around
him.

OTRIN

What are you planning to do now?
Study my "alien" physiology?

(CONTINUED)

50 CONTINUED: (2)

50

DOCTOR
You're suffering from prolonged
radiation exposure. I can treat
you.

This takes Otrin aback. He reacts with surprise and
suspicion.

OTRIN
You can...?

DOCTOR
I believe so.

OTRIN
In exchange for what?

DOCTOR
Nothing.

Otrin's still skeptical, but he's beginning to see an
opportunity.

OTRIN
I have a wife... friends...

JANEWAY
We might be able to help them
too... but not when our crewmen
are being held hostage.

A beat as Otrin reacts to this.

JANEWAY
I'll ask you again: what were you
doing aboard our shuttle?

OTRIN
(beat)
Looking for technology that might
help us neutralize the radiation.

Reactions.

CHAKOTAY
You seem to blame us for that...
but we saw missiles... dozens of
them.

OTRIN
Those missiles were built for
defense. They were never
launched.

DOCTOR
Then... what caused the
devastation?

(CONTINUED)

50

CONTINUED: (3)

50

OTRIN

A containment failure in our power grid...

(beat)

Once the antimatter was released... it destroyed everything...

JANEWAY

I'm sorry. But I still don't see how we're responsible.

OTRIN

Before the probe, my people had never conceived of anything like antimatter...

A beat as they react. Otrin smiles ironically, quotes:

OTRIN

"We offer this information freely, with the hope that one day we will stand on your soil and extend a hand in friendship."

(beat)

I'm sure you recognize those words.

JANEWAY

The recording from the probe.

(beat)

Your people must've reverse-engineered it.

OTRIN

(nods)

Just as you intended all along.

JANEWAY

I don't understand.

OTRIN

We didn't either at first. But we've had decades to think about it. And now it seems obvious.

(beat)

You send us technology we don't understand... encourage us to use it... then, you wait for us to destroy ourselves.

CHAKOTAY

Why would we do that?

OTRIN

Because it's easier than invading us.

(CONTINUED)

50

CONTINUED: (4)

50

JANEWAY

Do you really believe we'd want to contaminate a world we intended to conquer?

Otrin eyes her for a moment.

OTRIN

I'm a scientist. I believe what I see.

(beat)

Today I saw your people "standing on our soil," just as you promised. And they were wearing equipment that protected them from the radiation... because they knew exactly what to expect.

(beat)

If you were in my position, what would you believe?

OFF the moment...

51

INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM

51

Paris is crouched beside Carey, dabbing at a CUT on his forehead with a wet rag. A pregnant alien woman named BRIN is crouched beside him, holding a bowl of water and some crude cloth bandages, while two armed aliens guard the hostages. Paris, Carey and Neelix, who's sitting against a wall near them, have all been stripped of their environmental suits and are wearing their "undersuits." Paris glances at Brin.

PARIS

He may have a concussion. I need the medkit in my pack.

BRIN

I've been told not to let you use your equipment.

Paris takes a beat. He eyes her belly, tries to make a connection.

PARIS

When's your baby due?

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED:

51

She's reticent... doesn't answer. Paris glances at her as he begins to bandage Carey's wound.

PARIS

My wife's pregnant, too. We're
expecting a little girl in a
couple of months.

BRIN

(beat)

How do you know it's a girl?

PARIS

We have technology that allows us
to examine the fetus.

(light)

She's got my eyes, and her
mother's cranial ridges.

Brin remains quiet.

PARIS

Is this your first?

BRIN

(reluctant)

No.

PARIS

(pressing a bit)

Boys? Girls?

BRIN

Two boys and a girl.

PARIS

What are their names?

BRIN

(beat)

They were all stillborn.

Paris reacts, embarrassed.

PARIS

I'm sorry.

Not knowing what else to say, he turns back to Carey,
neatly securing his bandage.

BRIN

You're a doctor?

PARIS

Just a medic. But we've got the
best Doctor in the quadrant back
on Voyager.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED: (2) 51

PARIS (cont'd)
(turns to her)
He might be able to...

But Brin cuts him off, not wanting to hear more. *

BRIN
* I shouldn't be talking to you. *

She moves away. OFF Paris, watching her go...

52 INT. ASTROMETRICS LAB (OPTICAL) 52

Janeway, Tuvok, Kim and B'Elanna are studying the Domescreen, which shows a large starchart. Kim works and a point of light on one side of the screen is highlighted.

KIM
Our current coordinates...

He works again and an arcing line is drawn to another star... at the opposite side of the screen.

KIM
...and the nearest M-Class planet,
one hundred and thirty-two light-
years away.

TORRES
At maximum warp, that's about two
months round trip.

JANEWAY
How many people are we talking
about?

KIM
(off console)
If these sensor modifications are
correct... about fifty-five
hundred.

Tuvok does a rapid mental calculation.

TUVOK
It would take at least seventeen
trips... almost three years... to
complete the relocation.

A beat as Janeway takes this in.

(CONTINUED)

52 CONTINUED:

52

KIM

We've made sacrifices to help people before.

TORRES

What about Tom and the others? Are they supposed to rot down there until this "relocation's" finished?

JANEWAY

(nods)

I don't think Verin's going to let go of his only "bargaining chips."

*

TUVOK

Then we'll have to retrieve the hostages by force.

JANEWAY

Maybe. But not until we've exhausted every option.

(beat)

These people believe that we're violent. I'm not going to do anything to encourage that belief... until it becomes absolutely necessary.

OFF Janeway, determined...

53 INT. SICKBAY

53

Seven ENTERS with a small CONTAINER and approaches the Doctor, who's working near Otrin's bio-bed.

SEVEN OF NINE

I've extracted the nanoprobes.

DOCTOR

I'll begin ~~reprogramming~~ them.

(CONTINUED)

53 CONTINUED:

53

He takes the container and EXITS to the Medlab. Otrin watches Seven as she moves to work a nearby console.

OTRIN
Nanoprobes?

SEVEN OF NINE
Microscopic machines. Hopefully they can help us repair your damaged tissues.

OTRIN
You said you "extracted" them.
(beat)
From where?

SEVEN OF NINE
My bloodstream. They maintain my cybernetic implants.

Despite Otrin's lingering distrust of our people, he can't help being intrigued.

OTRIN
Nanoprobes... cybernetic implants...
(beat)
Are there others on your crew like you?

SEVEN OF NINE
No, I'm... unique.

OTRIN
(impressed)
You certainly are.

A beat between them, then Janeway ENTERS, nods to Seven.

JANEWAY
I need a word with your patient.

Seven nods, as Otrin sits up, eyes her guardedly.

JANEWAY
You said you've been looking for ways to neutralize the radiation.

OTRIN
All my life.

JANEWAY
Tell be about your work.

OFF Otrin, surprised...

54 INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM

54

Paris, Carey and Neelix are sitting with their backs against a wall, guarded by alien N.D.s. Carey shifts uncomfortably, grips his stomach. Neelix reacts, concerned.

NEELIX
Lieutenant?

CAREY
I'm okay. Just a queasy stomach.

PARIS
Our inoculations must be wearing off.

NEELIX
I thought these caves were naturally shielded.

PARIS
They're no substitute for an environmental suit.

Carey eyes the other aliens as they go about their business.

CAREY
These people have lived here all their lives without environmental suits.

NEELIX
(grim)
It's not much of a life, though, is it?

Paris catches a glimpse of an alien GIRL watching them from a cave opening.

PARIS
Hello.

The girl tentatively ducks away.

PARIS
It's all right. We're not going to hurt you.

The girl peeks out again.

PARIS
What's your name?

YUN
Yun.

PARIS
Mine's Tom. This is Neelix... and Joe.

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED:

54

The girl takes a few cautious steps closer, eyes Neelix.

YUN
You're not like them.

NEELIX
We're different species.
(beat)
But they're my friends.

Yun nods toward Verin and some of the other adult aliens, who are working at a console. *

YUN
They say you're going to take us
on your ship... find us a new
home.

Neelix tries to be reassuring.

NEELIX
I'm sure our Captain is trying to
help you.

Paris has a thought, turns to Neelix.

PARIS
Where's our "souvenir?"

NEELIX
In my pack.

Paris calls out to Brin, who's repairing a visor nearby. *

PARIS
Excuse me...

When she turns, Paris indicates the girl.

PARIS
There's something we'd like to
give her. In that equipment case.

He points to Neelix' pack, which is sitting nearby with the rest of their equipment. Brin eyes him suspiciously. *

PARIS
It's a toy.

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED: (2) 54

Brin moves to his pack, rummages through it and pulls out the metal SPHERE seen earlier. Neelix nods, and she brings it back and hands it to the girl. As she examines it curiously, it LIGHTS UP and begins playing the Vivaldi melody. The girl's face lights up too. Suddenly: *

55 VERIN 55 *

approaches angrily. He takes the sphere away from the girl, then glares at Brin. *

VERIN
That could be a weapon! *

BRIN
It's harmless. *

But Verin tosses the sphere back toward Neelix' pack, then crouches in front of the girl, speaks gently but firmly. *

VERIN
These men are dangerous. I want you to stay away from them. Understood? *

The girl nods and runs off. Verin glances at the hostages, then guides Brin away, as well. *

PARIS
So much for making friends.

Neelix looks troubled. A beat, then he gets to his feet and calls out to Verin. *

NEELIX
Mister Verin? *

Verin turns. Paris glances at Neelix worriedly; sotto: *

PARIS
What are you doing?

NEELIX
(sotto back)
My job. I'm Voyager's ambassador, remember?
(to Verin)
Can I have a word with you? *

A beat. Verin nods to the guards, who allow Neelix to pass. *

56 NEW ANGLE 56

as he moves to Verin, indicates Carey and Paris, speaks in a low "confidential" voice: *

(CONTINUED)

56 CONTINUED:

56

NEELIX

Between us... I understand why you
don't trust humans.

Verin eyes him skeptically. *

VERIN *

Then why are you with them?

NEELIX

(shrugs)

They're not so bad once you get to
know them. But when I first met
them...?

Neelix shakes his head at the obvious...

NEELIX

...I thought they were...
arrogant... self-righteous...

VERIN *

I suppose you're going to tell me
you've changed your mind.

NEELIX

Well, not completely. They still
take themselves much too seriously
for my taste.

(beat)

But one thing they don't do, is
harm other people.

VERIN *

Maybe you haven't taken a good
look around you.

NEELIX

Yes, I have.

(beat)

And I think I can help you.

VERIN *

How?

NEELIX

The Captain listens to me. I
could speak to her on your
behalf... help her understand your
situation.

VERIN *

What do you know about our
"situation?"

NEELIX

I know what you've been through.

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

56

CONTINUED: (2)

56

NEELIX (cont'd)
My planet was destroyed by a weapon
called a Metreon Cascade. Hundreds
of thousands of people were
killed...

(beat)
...including my family.

VERIN
(beat)
How did you survive?

Neelix reacts, slightly flustered.

NEELIX
I was... on a neighboring planet
when the weapon was detonated.
(off his look)
I went back, with a rescue team...
but there was no one left...

Verin thinks about this a beat, then:

VERIN
And now you live on a comfortable
starship.
(hard)
Don't compare your life to mine.

(CONTINUED)

56 CONTINUED: (3) 56

Verin nods to a guard, who escorts Neelix back toward the other hostages. OFF Neelix... *

TIME CUT TO:

57 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL) 57

Voyager orbiting the planet.

58 INT. BRIDGE 58

Janeway is once again speaking to Verin over the com, while Chakotay, Tuvok, Kim and N.D.s work stations. Mid-conversation. *

JANEWAY

The nearest suitable planet is simply too far away.

INTERCUT:

59 INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM (OPTICAL) 59

where Verin is listening along with several other aliens, while Paris, Carey and Neelix are being guarded in the b.g. *

JANEWAY

So, I'd like to propose an alternative.

VERIN

There is no alternative. *

JANEWAY

Please, hear me out.

(beat)

We have one of your people aboard. A Mister Otrin. He has some interesting ideas about counteracting the radiation.

VERIN

Otrin has too many ideas. *

JANEWAY

I think his theories have merit. What he's lacked until now is the means to carry them out.

(beat)

If you release the hostages, we can work together. There's a good chance we could undo some of the damage to your environment.

(CONTINUED)

59 CONTINUED:

59

VERIN

This isn't a negotiation.

*

JANEWAY

You don't seem to understand. It
would take years to evacuate the
entire planet.

VERIN

(dry)

So instead, you once again offer
us the "benefits" of your
technology.

*

JANEWAY

What I'm offering is a realistic
alternative.

*

VERIN

If I release the hostages, what's
to prevent you from leaving us
behind... or attacking us again?

*

*

*

*

Janeway sighs, frustrated.

JANEWAY

Look, I know you've suffered...
and I know you don't trust us.

VERIN

You haven't given me any reason
to.

*

JANEWAY

(an idea)

Then why don't we start with a
small step? You return one of the
hostages, and I'll send you a
supply of food and medicine.

A long beat as Verin considers, eying the three
hostages, finally settling his gaze on Carey.

*

VERIN

You. What's your name?

*

CAREY

Joe Carey.

Verin seems to reflect on this a beat, then he picks up
a Transport enhancer rod from a console.

*

(CONTINUED)

59 CONTINUED: (2)

59

VERIN
Set up your... "Transport
enhancers."

*

Carey glances at Paris and Neelix, then tentatively gets to his feet. He takes the Transporter enhancer from Verin, picks up two more from the console, then plants the first in the sandy cave floor.

*

Two other guards approach, take up positions nearby, as Carey ACTIVATES the first rod, then sets up the other two in a small circle around him.

(CONTINUED)

59 CONTINUED: (3) 59

When the last one's activated, they emit a triangle of BEAMS that surround him. He turns to face Verin, waiting uncertainly. Verin eyes Carey with a regretful expression. *

VERIN *
I'm sorry, Mister Carey. *

CAREY *
(confused) *
Sorry? *

Verin charges his weapon, points it at Carey, speaks to com. *

VERIN *
Your crewman's ready, Captain. *

JANEWAY *
(to Kim) *
Transport him to Sickbay. *

Paris scrambles to his feet. *

PARIS *
Hey! *

60 ON THE BRIDGE 60 *

Paris' voice CRACKLES over the com. *

PARIS' COM VOICE *
Don't do it! *

Janeway reacts, concerned. *

JANEWAY *
Tom...? *

But now it's the Doctor's voice that comes over the com: *

DOCTOR'S COM VOICE *
Sickbay to Bridge. *

INTERCUT: *

61 INT. SICKBAY (OPTICAL) 61 *

The Doctor is kneeling over a fallen Carey, scanning a chest wound, grim. *

DOCTOR *
They've killed Lieutenant Carey. *

OFF Janeway and the crew reacting...

62 OMITTED 62 *

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

63 INT. BRIDGE/CAVES - CONTROL ROOM 63

As before,⁸ the Bridge crew still absorbing Carey's death. Janeway's furious, barely controlling her anger.

JANEWAY

If you think murdering one of my crewmen is going to make me more receptive to your demands, you're mistaken.

VERIN

(unwavering)

Don't force me to kill anyone else.

*
*

His tone says he isn't bluffing. Janeway reins in her anger, realizing at the very least she needs to buy more time.

JANEWAY

All right. I'll evacuate your people

(stalling)

But our Transporters aren't designed to accommodate large groups. We'll need time to modify them.

*
*

* ..

VERIN

We'll be ready within the hour. If you're not...

*
*

He lets the threat hang in the air.

JANEWAY

I understand.

Verin clicks off again. Janeway turns to Tuvok and Chakotay.

*

JANEWAY

My Ready Room.

OFF her resolve as she heads to the Ready Room, Tuvok and Chakotay following.

64 OMITTED 64 *

65 INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM 65

Brin crosses toward Paris and Neelix carrying two bowls of herbs. But as she passes Verin, he stops her. *

VERIN
Where are you going? *

BRIN
(re: hostages)
They've got radiation sickness. *

VERIN
Those herbs are for our people.
We don't have enough to give them. *

Brin thinks quickly, comes up with a more "pragmatic" justification. *

BRIN
If they die, we'll have nothing left to bargain with. *

A beat, then Verin reluctantly nods his permission. She crosses to Paris, sets a bowl in front of him. *

BRIN
This will make you feel better. *

PARIS
Thanks.

She hands the other bowl to Neelix, who accepts it with a grateful nod.

PARIS
I'm glad to see you don't all hate us.

BRIN
(defensive)
I'm not doing this for you. *

(CONTINUED)

65 CONTINUED:

65

PARIS
(confused)
Why then?

Brin shrugs. She is concerned for them, but she's hesitant to show it. *

BRIN
Your child's going to need a father. Isn't she? *

She moves away. OFF Paris...

66 INT. SICKBAY (VPB)

66

Seven works a control panel on the surgical bed, causing the clamshell to slide open to reveal Otrin, whose skin now appears less mottled.

SEVEN OF NINE
The first phase of your therapy is complete.
(helping him up)
How do you feel?

He sits up, inhales.

OTRIN
I can breathe more easily.

SEVEN OF NINE
Your lungs were damaged by the radiation. The nanoprobes repaired them.

Otrin examines the less mottled flesh on his arms.

OTRIN
And my skin...
(light)
...a few more treatments and it'll be as smooth as yours.

Seven reacts to this bit of humor and replies in kind, indicating one of her implants:

SEVEN OF NINE
I've never thought of my skin as particularly "smooth."

(CONTINUED)

66 CONTINUED:

66

Otrin smiles... moves to a console displaying a rotating GRAPHIC of a nanoprobe design.

OTRIN

If we can manufacture more of
* these, we might be able to treat
the rest of my people.

SEVEN OF NINE

(nods)

We may be able to do more than
that. Unfortunately, Mister Verin
rejected our offer. *

OTRIN

Did you expect him to cooperate?

SEVEN OF NINE

His behavior is irrational.

OTRIN

To you, perhaps. But you haven't
lived like we have.

Seven considers.

OTRIN

We have to forage for every scrap
of food... compete for shelter.

(beat)

Men like Verin stay alive by
fighting. *

SEVEN OF NINE

(pointed)

And a fighter needs an enemy.

Now it's Otrin who's puzzled.

OTRIN

What do you mean?

SEVEN OF NINE

Verin blames us for your
predicament. *

OTRIN

You can't deny that your people
sent the probe...

SEVEN OF NINE

Decades ago.

(beat)

Isn't it possible that the truth
about their intentions has been
distorted during that time?

A beat as Otrin considers.

(CONTINUED)

66 CONTINUED: (2)

66

OTRIN

You're not suggesting your
ancestors are blameless.

SEVEN OF NINE

Not entirely.

(beat)

They made an error in judgment...
failed to anticipate the
consequences of their actions.

(beat)

But they certainly never meant to
destroy your society.

Another long beat.

SEVEN OF NINE

Our culture has evolved... learned
from its mistakes. So can yours.

A beat as Verin takes this in, hesitant.

*

OTRIN

Even if I believed you, Verin
never will.

*

SEVEN OF NINE

Then your people may require a
change of leadership.

(pointed)

Someone more open to new ideas.

Otrin reacts to her implication.

OTRIN

I'm not a leader...

Seven indicates the nanoprobe graphic.

SEVEN OF NINE

You're a scientist -- someone who
can see a problem and envision a
solution.

(beat)

The same definition could apply to
a leader.

OFF Otrin, considering her words...

67 INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM - ON NEELIX

67

as he watches Yun and a small boy share a bowl of food.
Neelix is holding his own bowl.

PARIS (O.C.)

Doesn't seem fair, does it?

(CONTINUED)

67

CONTINUED:

67

Neelix turns to see Paris eyeing the children as well,
holding his own bowl.

PARIS

My daughter will have food...
* medical care... everything she
needs...

NEELIX

Including two healthy parents.

A beat, then Paris indicates Neelix' half-eaten meal.

(CONTINUED)

67 CONTINUED: (2)

67

PARIS
Done with that?

Neelix nods, hands him his bowl. Paris calls to Verin,
who's working nearby. *

PARIS
Excuse me.

Verin turns, and Paris indicates his and Neelix' bowls. *

PARIS
Give these to the children.

VERIN
Those rations were for you. *

PARIS
(shrugs)
I lost my appetite.

67A ON VERIN

67A *

unsure what to make of this overture. But before he can
respond, a commotion among a group of aliens across the
chamber attracts his attention. We hear a GROAN.

N.D ALIEN (O.C.)
What's wrong?

67B NEW ANGLE

67B

Verin moves to Brin who's being supported by two other
women as she clutches her swollen belly. *

BRIN
It's too soon. *

The other aliens look grim. Clearly, there's little
hope for the infant's survival. But Brin sits up a
little, looks across the room toward Paris. *

BRIN
Let him help. *

Another beat, then Verin turns to Paris, who's been
watching expectantly. *

VERIN
Can you? *

PARIS
I'll do my best, but I'll need my
medkit.

Another beat, then Verin nods. *

68 EXT. PLANET SURFACE - CAVE ENTRANCE 68

Two aliens in tattered cloaks, visors and breathing gear are standing guard when they react to a WHOOSHING SOUND above them. They look up, seeing:

69 THE DELTA FLYER (OPTICAL) 69

intermittently visible through the thick cloud cover as it arcs past and disappears over a ridge, as though coming in for a landing.

70 THE ALIENS 70

exchange a quick look, then one of them ducks back inside the caves.

71 INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM 71

Brin is lying on the cave floor, perspiring. Neelix is crouched behind her, supporting her shoulders, while Paris scans her. *

PARIS
I'm losing the heartbeat.

Brin groans, her expression falters. Paris thinks quickly, adjusting a hypospray. *

NEELIX
What are you doing?

PARIS
(injecting her)
Speeding up the contractions.

As Brin reacts to a contraction and bears down... *

72 NEW ANGLE - ON VERIN 72 *

watching with concern from a short distance away. The alien we just saw outside the caves approaches, whispers in his ear. Verin reacts, moves to a console. *

73 INCLUDING CONSOLE (VPB) 73

A "radar"-like monitor displays a stationary flashing blip. Verin turns to the guard. *

VERIN *
Send out patrols. Double the guard at the entrance.

The guard nods and rushes off. Verin glances at Paris and Brin, then turns back to the monitor and continues to track the blip... *

74 EXT. PLANET SURFACE (OPTICAL) 74

A half-dozen armed aliens, dressed in their "environmental gear," rush across the rough terrain toward a rock formation. Suddenly, a PHASER BLAST hits the ground just in front of them. They dive for cover, aiming their weapons at the rocks.

75 CHAKOTAY, KIM AND TUVOK (OPTICAL) 75

wearing environmental suits, are firing PHASER RIFLES from behind the rock formation. They duck as alien weapons fire strikes around them. Chakotay signals for Tuvok to take a new position. As Tuvok moves off...

76 INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM 76

As before. Paris crouches near Brin's feet, working under a blanket that's draped over her legs. *

PARIS
I've got him!

He pulls the motionless NEWBORN out from beneath the blanket, glances at Neelix.

PARIS
Cardio-stimulator.

Neelix places a small device on the infant's chest, as Paris opens a tricorder, works it... *

PARIS
Three millijoules... now! *

As Neelix works the cardio-stimulator... *

77 EXT. PLANET SURFACE 77

Tuvok moves to another position behind some rocks, taking aim with his rifle. But before he can fire, we see an armed alien ENTER FRAME behind him, raising his own weapon.

78 A GROUP OF ALIENS 78

rush up to the rocks, only to see Tuvok already being held prisoner by another alien, whom we'll call the ALIEN CAPTOR. His voice is somewhat MUFFLED by the visor.

ALIEN CAPTOR

The others are just past the ridge. I'll take this one.

One of the other aliens nods and the group moves off. As the Alien Captor shoves Tuvok forward...

79 INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM 79

Paris is scanning the baby with his ticorder. He glances at Neelix. *

PARIS

Increase the charge to five millijoules!

Neelix works the cardio-stimulator, which causes it to BLINK with an accompanying SOUND. Paris checks his readings, shakes his head. *

PARIS

Again.

Neelix works the cardio-stimulator and the device BLINKS again. Paris reacts to a reading. *

PARIS

I have a heartbeat. *

Paris quickly INJECTS the baby with a hypospray, and it begins to GURGLE and CRY. Brin stares incredulously at the squalling infant. Paris looks up at her. *

PARIS

You have a son.

79A VERIN 79A *

looks over at the scene from his console. A beat, then an ALIEN LIEUTENANT approaches.

(CONTINUED)

79A CONTINUED:

79A

ALIEN LIEUTENANT

One of our patrols has taken a
prisoner.

VERIN

* Have him brought here.
(eyes hostages)
He can join his friends.

*

80 INT. CAVES 80

Tuvok, his helmet off, is being conducted through a passageway by the Alien Captor while other armed aliens rush past going the opposite way.

81 INT. ASTROMETRICS LAB - ON MONITOR (VPB) 81

which shows an "infra-red" scan of the cave infrastructure from above. Two Starfleet "icons" are moving down a passageway while other blips move the opposite way. REVEAL Janeway and Seven watching.
(NOTE: camera should avoid the Dome.) *

SEVEN OF NINE
They're inside.

Janeway starts for the door.

JANEWAY
I'll be in Transporter Room One.

As she EXITS...

82 INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM 82

Paris scans the infant, as Verin approaches in the b.g. *

PARIS
There's an imbalance in his cardiac enzymes.

VERIN
Can you treat him? *

PARIS
We've got to get him to Voyager.

Brin glances expectantly at Verin, but this time he won't bend. *

VERIN
He stays here. *

A beat, then Paris wearily begins preparing another hypospray. Neelix reacts as he catches sight of Tuvok ENTERING, accompanied by the Alien Captor.

NEELIX
Mister Tuvok...

Verin stands, moving close to Tuvok as he speaks to Paris and Neelix. *

(CONTINUED)

82 CONTINUED: 82

VERIN

Your Captain was foolish enough to think she could rescue you.

(eyeing Tuvok)

Instead, she's given me another hostage.

*

83 NEW ANGLE 83

as the Alien Captor suddenly reaches under his cloak and pulls out two phasers, tossing one to Tuvok. Quick action as:

84 TUVOK (OPTICAL) 84

nerve pinches the surprised Verin, then FIRES his phaser at one of the guards, stunning him!

*

85 THE ALIEN CAPTOR (OPTICAL) 85

FIRES at two remaining guards in quick succession, stunning them both, then pulls off his visor and breathing gear, revealing that he's the Doctor, wearing Otrin's clothes and visor to disguise himself. Paris and Neelix react.

PARIS

Doc...?

DOCTOR

(wry)

When you're trying to infiltrate a toxic environment, it helps to be a hologram.

As Tuvok moves to guard the entrance...

TUVOK

Activate the Transport enhancers.

Paris hands the infant to Brin. He and Neelix rush toward the Transporter rods. Tuvok speaks to com:

*

TUVOK

Tuvok to Chakotay.

86 EXT. PLANET SURFACE (OPTICAL) 86

where Chakotay's continuing to FIRE at O.C. aliens.

TUVOK'S COM VOICE

We've secured the hostages.

CHAKOTAY

Good work.

(CONTINUED)

86 CONTINUED: 86

He turns to Kim, who we now see activating another ring of Transporter rods in the shelter of some rocks. Chakotay steps next to him as Kim activates the beams.

CHAKOTAY

Chakotay to Delta Flyer. Two to beam out.

87 INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM 87 *

Paris and Neelix set up the last Transporter rod in the cave floor. They start to grab their packs as: *

88 BRIN (OPTICAL) 88 *

holding her baby, crouches by the unconscious Verin, looks to Paris. *

BRIN

Is he dead? *

PARIS

He'll be fine in a few minutes.

Brin moves to Paris as he hands some equipment to Neelix, who's standing inside the triangle of beams. She indicates her baby. *

BRIN

Thank you. *

PARIS

Let me take him back to Voyager.

Brin reacts instinctively. *

BRIN

No. *

PARIS

We can treat him... stabilize his heartbeat. I promise you'll get him back.

Brin hesitates a beat, as Tuvok and the Doctor step inside the beams. Tuvok eyes Paris. *

TUVOK

Now, Mister Paris.

(CONTINUED)

88 CONTINUED:

88

But Paris keeps his eyes on Brin and the baby, presses her: *

PARIS
He won't survive without
treatment...

An emotional beat, then Brin gently hands him the infant. *

BRIN
Take good care of him. *

PARIS
(nods)
I will.

Paris steps inside the triangle of Transporter rods with the baby. Tuvok activates the beams, speaks to com: *

TUVOK
Tuvok to Voyager...
(glancing at infant)
Five to beam up.

89 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM (OPTICAL)

89

Janeway and Torres working the controls as Paris and the baby, Neelix, the Doctor and Tuvok MATERIALIZE. Janeway eyes them, relieved.

JANEWAY
Welcome back.

Torres moves to her husband as the others step off the pads. OFF the successful rescue...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

90 INT. SICKBAY - CLOSE ON THE ALIEN BABY 90

sleeping in an incubator. His skin looks healthier than it did just after birth.

DOCTOR (O.C.)
Cute little fellow, isn't he?

WIDER TO REVEAL:

the Doctor and Janeway standing over the incubator. Paris and Neelix rest on bio-beds in the b.g. Re: baby... *

DOCTOR
He's already responding to treatment.

JANEWAY
Once he's stabilized, we'll transport him to the surface with Mister Otrin.

She touches the infant's cheek, turns to Neelix.

JANEWAY
Send along some food and medical supplies.

Neelix reacts.

NEELIX
We're leaving?

Janeway's already heading for the door.

JANEWAY
As soon as I report to Starfleet.

She EXITS. Neelix and Paris exchange a look, then they both hop off their bio-beds, heading after Janeway.

91 INT. CORRIDOR 91

Neelix and Paris pursue Janeway.

PARIS
Captain...

She slows to let them catch up.

(CONTINUED)

91 CONTINUED:

91

PARIS

Once that baby's back in that environment, he's just going to get sick again.

JANEWAY

I'm sorry, but we can't keep the child from his mother.

PARIS

I'm not suggesting that.
(off her look)

You told those people we might be able to neutralize the radiation. Was that true?

JANEWAY

Yes, but they didn't want our help. I can't force it on them.

NEELIX

Maybe you should.

Janeway reacts.

JANEWAY

I beg your pardon?

NEELIX

If we give them help without asking anything in return, it'll prove they're wrong about us.

JANEWAY

I'm not sure we have anything to prove. But even if we did, you're forgetting something.

(beat)

They killed Mister Carey. I'm not about to risk any more lives to help murderers.

PARIS

Captain... it was one man who killed Carey. And if you saw how they're living... how desperate they are...

(beat)

I'm not saying we should ignore what happened, but Starfleet did at least play a part in their suffering.

NEELIX

Intentional or not, that probe had a terrible impact on these people...

A beat as Janeway considers.

(CONTINUED)

91 CONTINUED: (2)

91

NEELIX

If there's anything we can do to
make up for that now, we at least
have to try.

OFF Janeway...

91A CLOSE ON A DESKTOP MONITOR (OPTICAL)

91A

which shows Admiral Hendricks' image.

ADMIRAL HENDRICKS

Sounds like you've got quite a
dilemma.

REVEAL we're in:

92 INT. READY ROOM (OPTICAL)

92

Janeway's seated at her desk. She's just finished
laying out the situation to the Admiral.

JANEWAY

You can see why I wanted to "run
this one by you."

ADMIRAL HENDRICKS

(smiles)

It's been a long time since you
came to me for advice.

JANEWAY

(light)

It's not as though I've had the
opportunity to "give you a call"
every time I had a difficult
decision to make.

(shrugs)

But now that I do...

ADMIRAL HENDRICKS

(light)

Is this the same Kathryn Janeway
who challenged the thesis of every
lecture I gave?

JANEWAY

(smiles)

I suppose I was pretty arrogant
for a cadet.

ADMIRAL HENDRICKS

Maybe you realized something your
classmates didn't.

(CONTINUED)

92

CONTINUED:

92

JANEWAY

What's that?

ADMIRAL HENDRICKS

That I didn't have all the answers.

(beat)

I still don't.

He eyes her evenly.

ADMIRAL HENDRICKS

You've been out there on your own for seven years, Kathryn. You've gotten your crew out of enough scrapes to fill an Academy textbook... all without any help from Admirals.

(beat)

You're a damned good Captain... and you don't need me or anyone else to tell you what to do.

OFF Janeway...

93 INT. ENGINEERING - CLOSE ON A TRANSPARENT CYLINDER 93 *
filling with a CLOUDY GAS. *

93A OTRIN'S HAND 93A
attaches a small DEVICE to a PORT on the cylinder's side. We hear a HISS as the device releases something into the cylinder...

93B JANEWAY (OPTICAL/VPB) 93B *
peers into the cylinder as several small SPARKS ignite within the cloudy gas, causing a crackling CHAIN REACTION that consumes the gas, leaving the cylinder clear. Janeway turns to Seven and Otrin, impressed.

JANEWAY
An isolitic chain reaction.

OTRIN
(nods)
It recombines the (TECH) in the atmosphere, neutralizing the radiation.

SEVEN OF NINE
The key was finding an appropriate catalyst.
(re: cylinder)
As you can see, we've succeeded.

JANEWAY
Within a very limited environment.
(glancing at Otrin)
The question is, how do we apply your methods on a large scale?

SEVEN OF NINE
Atmospheric processors are one possibility.

JANEWAY
Too bad we don't have a corps of engineers to build them.

She considers for a beat, then she moves to a console, calling up a GRAPHIC of a photon torpedo.

JANEWAY
But if we encased the catalytic agent in our photon torpedoes... used the concussive force of the warheads to disperse it...

(CONTINUED)

93B CONTINUED:

93B

Onto the idea, Seven works the console, calling up some DATA alongside the graphic.

SEVEN OF NINE

It would require multiple detonations in low orbit. But I believe it could work.

Otrin's been studying the data with concern.

OTRIN

Captain... an isolitic reaction of this magnitude would expand exponentially. Your ship might be caught in the middle of it.

JANEWAY

(nods)

We'll have to modify our shields... reinforce structural integrity.

(determined)

Let's get started.

As the group starts to work...

TIME CUT TO:

94 OMITTED

94 *

95 INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM

95

Otrin hands Brin back her baby, while a group of aliens crowd around. Verin stands a bit apart, eyeing the scene suspiciously. Brin smiles, admires the baby's healthy color. *

BRIN

He's beautiful... *

OTRIN

(to the crowd)

They can give us enough medicine to treat everyone.

VERIN

Can they rebuild our cities? Bring back our dead? *

OTRIN

No... but we think we've found a way to neutralize the radiation.

(CONTINUED)

95 CONTINUED:

95

VERIN

"We?"
(derisive)
Are you "human" now?

Otrin ignores Verin, turns back to the others.

OTRIN

They're offering to help...
(eyes Verin)
...and this time they're not being
coerced.

Verin reacts to Otrin's challenging tone, growing
angrier and more threatened.

VERIN

You gave Janeway information...
helped her recapture the hostages!

OTRIN

That's not true.

VERIN

They tried to destroy us. Why would
they suddenly want to help us now?

Otrin looks to the other aliens gathered around.

OTRIN

They have a powerful starship. If
they really intended to destroy
us, they could've done it already.
(beat)
It's time we reconsidered our
suspicions.

The other aliens react supportively. Verin glares at
them.

VERIN

Are you going to listen to him?
(beat)
We can't trust these people! If we
drop our guard, they'll attack again.

Otrin echoes Seven's earlier observation:

OTRIN

You're being irrational.

VERIN

What's "irrational" is cooperating
with our executioners.

Now Brin steps forward, confronts Verin.

(CONTINUED)

95

CONTINUED: (2)

95

BRIN
Look at my child. They said
they'd treat him, and they kept
their word.

*
*

OFF Verin, momentarily silenced...

*

96

INT. BRIDGE

96

Janeway, Chakotay, Tuvok, Paris and Kim; Seven at an aft
station; N.D.s as needed. Red Alert.

SEVEN OF NINE
Torpedoes are ready.

*
*

JANEWAY
(to Tuvok)
Shield modifications?

*
*
*

TUVOK
On-line.

*
*

JANEWAY
(to Kim)
Hail them.

As Kim works...

INTERCUT:

97 INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM 97

As before. A tense standoff. We hear the com FRITZ.

JANEWAY'S COM VOICE
We're ready to begin.

A tense beat as Otrin and Verin lock eyes.

OTRIN
Understood.
(beat)
Good luck.

JANEWAY
Tom... take us down.

Paris works, and after a beat, the ship begins to SHAKE.

98 EXT. VOYAGER (OPTICAL) 98

as it dives through the turbulent atmosphere.

99 INT. BRIDGE 99

The BUFFETING increasing.

PARIS
We're at the right altitude.

JANEWAY
(to Tuvok)
Fire the first sequence.

Tuvok works, and:

100 EXT. PLANET'S ATMOSPHERE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL) 100

fires a volley of photon torpedoes that streak into the dark clouds and detonate, unleashing BURSTS of bright particles that sift into the clouds.

101-102 OMITTED

101-102

103 INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM (VPB)

103 *

The distant detonations rattle the caves like "sonic booms," causing dirt and debris to sift down from the ceiling. Verin reacts, alarmed.

VERIN

They're attacking us! Just as I said!

Concerned reactions. Otrin tries to reassure the others.

OTRIN

No, it's only the shockwave from the detonations.

Another series of BOOMS rattles the caves again. Verin turns to the others, re: Otrin.

VERIN

Are you going to stand by while he helps them kill us all?

He rushes to a console, quickly works some controls.

OTRIN

What are you doing?

Several small monitors flicker to life, displaying graphics of the ICBM-style missiles seen earlier.

VERIN

Fighting back.

OFF his determination as he works the console...

104 EXT. PLANET SURFACE - SILO FIELD (OPTICAL)

104

a silo SLIDES OPEN and an automated missile RAISES into launch position.

105 INT. BRIDGE 105

SHAKING hard. Janeway looks to Tuvok. *

JANEWAY
Shields? *

TUVOK
Holding at eighteen percent. *

Kim reacts to a reading on his console.

KIM
Captain, they're opening their
missile silos...
(beat)
...they're targeting us. *

Janeway and Chakotay exchange looks.

CHAKOTAY
At eighteen percent, our shields
won't withstand an antimatter
explosion. *

Janeway hesitates, mulling her options.

TUVOK
We should return to orbit. *

JANEWAY
Not yet. Fire the next sequence.

As Tuvok works...

106 INT. CAVES - CONTROL ROOM (VPB) 106

More "sonic booms" rattle the caves. Verin continues to
work his console. *

OTRIN
If you launch those missiles,
you'll only make our situation
worse! *

VERIN
We'll survive. *

Now Otrin tries to get at the controls, but Verin shoves
him aside, calls to a guard. *

(CONTINUED)

106 CONTINUED: 106

VERIN

Hold him!

The guard grabs Otrin. Verin reaches for a blinking CONTROL, but before he can hit it:

BRIN (O.C.)

Stop!

106A NEW ANGLE TO REVEAL 106A

Brin, no longer carrying her baby. Instead, she's brandishing a weapon.

VERIN

What are you doing?

BRIN

I won't let you ruin our only chance at survival.

VERIN

You'd kill me?

Brin eyes her baby, now being held by another female N.D.

BRIN

To save my child, yes.

Verin turns to a Lieutenant, re: Brin.

VERIN

Get that weapon away from her.

A tense beat, as the Lieutenant considers. Then:

ALIEN LIEUTENANT

No, sir. I won't do that.

Instead, he trains his weapon on Verin. A beat, and then the rest of the guards follow suit. Verin turns to them, outraged.

VERIN

I've kept you alive, all of you!

OTRIN

We're grateful for that. But survival isn't enough anymore.

VERIN

And who will lead us? You?

Seeing that the tide has turned, the guard holding Otrin releases him.

(CONTINUED)

106A CONTINUED: 106A

OTRIN
If necessary.

A beat. Suddenly, there are SHOUTS from O.C. Yun, the alien girl seen earlier, ducks through a cave opening and shouts to the others.

YUN
Come outside! Hurry!

OTRIN
(to N.D. Guards)
Bring him. *

The Guards motion for Verin to follow Otrin and the others as they move to EXIT. *

107 EXT. PLANET SURFACE - CAVE ENTRANCE 107

Otrin, Brin and Yun emerge from the caves, followed by Verin, who's still under guard, and a few more aliens. They join several others who are wearing their visors and makeshift environmental suits. *

They all look up at the sky.

108 THE DARK CLOUDS (OPTICAL) 108

are dissipating... lightening in color. SHAFTS OF LIGHT cut through them, shining down on the planet's surface.

109 RESUME - THE ALIENS 109

looking up, awestruck, as their sun shines down on them for the first time in decades. The aliens in their "environmental suits" remove their visors and breathing gear... blink in the sunlight. OFF the remarkable moment...

110 EXT. SPACE (STOCK - OPTICAL) 110 *

Voyager at warp. *

JANEWAY (V.O.)
Captain's Log, Supplemental.
We've retrieved Friendship One and resumed course to the Alpha Quadrant.

111 CLOSE ON A MINIATURE VOYAGER

111

a highly detailed but unfinished model -- the saucer section's incomplete and it's minus a nacelle -- but it's clearly recognizable as our ship. It's inside a glass container -- literally, a "ship in a bottle."

JANEWAY (V.O.)

(continuing)

But the success of our "mission"
had a price.

PULL BACK to REVEAL Janeway peering through the glass from the other side. We're in:

112 INT. CAREY'S QUARTERS

112

Janeway examines the model, which sits atop a desk, next to some slender modeling tools.

CHAKOTAY (O.C.)
Impressive, isn't it?

Janeway turns to see Chakotay standing in the open doorway. He steps inside, the door closing behind him.

JANEWAY
The detail's amazing.

CHAKOTAY
Carey spent hundreds of hours working on it. He used to joke that he'd be lucky to finish by the time we got back to Earth.

JANEWAY
He only had the saucer and one nacelle to go. Maybe we should take that as a good sign.

Chakotay smiles.

CHAKOTAY
We were able to download the probe's memory core. We'll transmit the telemetry in the next data stream.

JANEWAY
Admiral Hendricks will be pleased.

Janeway stares at the bottle for another beat.

JANEWAY
Imagine if we lived in our own self-contained world...

CHAKOTAY
(wry)
It'd get kind of lonely, wouldn't it?

Janeway nods, looks up.

JANEWAY
I think about our ancestors. Thousands of years, wondering if they were alone in the universe... finally discovering they weren't.
(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

112 CONTINUED:

112

JANEWAY (cont'd)
You can't blame them for wanting
to reach out... see how many other
species were out there... asking
the same questions.

CHAKOTAY

* I guess not.

JANEWAY

(beat)
But I'm not sure the data that
probe collected justifies the loss
of lives... whether it's
millions...

She takes a last look around the room, taking in the
evidence of Carey's life.

JANEWAY

(continuing)
...or just one.

Her eyes settle again on the ship in a bottle.

JANEWAY

Maybe I'll finish this for him.

Another beat, then she moves to EXIT, Chakotay
following. OFF the model Voyager...

113 OMITTED

113

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVETHE END