

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

REVISED

"The Void"
(fka "Federation")

11/13/00 be
11/14/00 pk
11/15/00 yw
11/15/00 gn
11/16/00 gd
11/16/00 bf

40840-261

Story
by
Raf Green & Kenneth Biller

Teleplay
by
Raf Green & James Kahn

Directed
by
Mike Vejar

FINAL DRAFT

NOVEMBER 13, 2000

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

"The Void"

SETS

INTERIORS

VOYAGER

AIRPONICS BAY
ASTROMETRICS LAB
BRIDGE
BRIEFING ROOM
CARGO BAY
CORRIDOR
ENGINEERING
MESS HALL
READY ROOM
SICKBAY
TRANSPORTER ROOM

EXTERIORS

SPACE/VOYAGER
FUNNEL
VOID

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

"The Void"

CAST

JANEWAY

VALEN

CHAKOTAY

GARON

KIM

BOSAAL

PARIS

LOQUAR

DOCTOR

FANTOME

TUVOK

TORRES

SEVEN OF NINE

NEELIX

Non-Speaking

Non-Speaking

N.D. SUPERNUMERARIES

STAR TREK: VOYAGER"The Void"PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

LUHVIAN	LOO-ve-uhn
CHADRE KAB	CHAD-rah-kahb
LEOLA	lee-OH-luh
FETRAN	FET-rah
VAADWAUR	vahd-WAHR
DEUTERIUM	doo-TEER-ee-uhm
VALEN	VAY-lehn
TRICESIUM	try-SEES-ee-uhm
NYGEAN	ny-GEE-uhn
RIGOLETTO	rig-oh-LEHT-oh
FANTOME	fahn-TOH-may
OLIAN	OH-lee-uhn
GARON	GAH-run
BOSAAL	boh-SAHL
POLARON	POH-lar-ahn
JELINIAN	jeh-LIHN-ee-uhn
KINJAL	kin-JAHL
KRAYLOR	KRAY-lohr

STAR TREK: VOYAGER"The Void"TEASER

FADE IN:

1 INT. MESS HALL - CLOSE ON AN ELEGANT PLACE SETTING 1
as a plate topped with an exotic and perfectly garnished quail is served.

NEELIX (O.C.)
For our third course, Luhvian quail in truffle sauce...

2 NEELIX 2
is serving entrees to JANEWAY, CHAKOTAY, PARIS and TORRES who are seated around a table.

NEELIX
(continuing)
...served with roasted chadre kab.

The diners OOOH and AAAH. Janeway raises her glass and the others follow suit.

JANEWAY
My compliments to the chef.

CAMERA FOLLOWS her gaze to REVEAL that she's talking not to Neelix, but to...

3 SEVEN OF NINE 3
wearing a CHEF'S APRON over her suit.

SEVEN OF NINE
Thank you, Captain.

As everyone starts to dig in.

TORRES
Cream of leola soup, fetran risotto, Luhvian quail... it just keeps getting better.

JANEWAY
(to Seven, light)
I knew you'd been "expanding your palate," but I didn't realize you'd become a gourmet cook.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

SEVEN OF NINE

Preparing meals myself is the best way to ensure quality.

NEELIX

(smiles)

I suppose I should be insulted...

(re: meal)

...but everything's so delicious, I may just have to admit defeat and "hang up my apron."

PARIS

(dry)

That'd be a real tragedy, Neelix.

Neelix smiles, offers some red wine to Chakotay.

NEELIX

Pinot noir, Commander?

CHAKOTAY

I'll have another glass of the chardonnay.

Seven bristles when she overhears Chakotay's request.

SEVEN OF NINE

Each course has been paired with a specific wine. Substitutions are not recommended.

Neelix hesitates for a moment 'till Chakotay nods for him to go ahead and pour the red.

CHAKOTAY

Pinot noir sounds "perfect."

Neelix pours the red wine. Paris looks around the table.

PARIS

Is there any salt?

SEVEN OF NINE

(insulted)

Additional seasoning is not required.

PARIS

Sorry, I just --

SEVEN OF NINE

If the quail hasn't been prepared to your satisfaction, I could replicate something more to your liking...

(wry)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: (2)

3

SEVEN OF NINE (cont'd)
 ...a "peanut butter and jelly
 sandwich," perhaps.

Paris tries to smooth over his faux pas.

PARIS
 Actually, it's delicious just the
 way it is.

Suddenly the ship JOLTS and goes to RED ALERT. The
 diners react.

JANEWAY
 Captain to the Bridge. Report.

INTERCUT:

4 INT. BRIDGE

4

Red Alert. TUVOK is in command, KIM and N.D.s work at
 stations.

TUVOK
 We're being pulled off course.

The crew react.

JANEWAY
 How?

TUVOK
 (working)
 I'm not certain. It appears to be
 some kind of graviton surge.

JANEWAY
 On my way.

She gets up and heads for the door, followed by the
 other officers, leaving Neelix alone.

5 EXT. SPACE - VOYAGER (OPTICAL)

5

being pulled toward A SWIRLING funnel-shaped MASS OF
 ENERGY.

6 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

6

The ship is SHAKING hard. Janeway ENTERS, followed by
 Chakotay, Seven and Paris, immediately taking their
 stations.

KIM
 We've rerouted all available power
 to the thrusters, but we can't
 break free...

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

JANEWAY
 (to Tuvok)
 Try reversing the shield polarity.

TUVOK
 (working)
 No effect.

The ship is JOLTED VIOLENTLY again. On the VIEWSCREEN the TURBULENT ANOMALY GETS CLOSER as Voyager is PULLED INSIDE.

CUT TO:

7 INT. MESS HALL

7

SHAKING. Plates and dishes CRASH to the floor. Then, suddenly... the SHAKING STOPS.

8 CLOSE ON NEELIX

8

as he pulls himself to his feet. He stares out the (O.C.) window, stunned by what he sees. He looks to an N.D.

NEELIX
 What happened to the stars?

9 NEW ANGLE (OPTICAL)

9

include the VIEW out the Mess Hall WINDOW. There's NOTHING BUT BLACKNESS. Suddenly, a strange looking ship SWOOPS OUT OF THE DARKNESS. Covered in a jumble of outboard weapons, it immediately begins STRAFING Voyager with WEAPONS FIRE...

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

(NOTE: Episode credits fall over opening scenes.)

10 OMITTED 10

11 INT. BRIDGE 11

Red Alert. The ship is SHAKING from WEAPONS FIRE.

TUVOK

Shields at sixty-five percent.

JANEWAY

Hail them.

KIM

(beat)

They're not responding.

JANEWAY

Return fire.

The ship is ROCKED hard. Janeway turns to Chakotay.

JANEWAY

Can you identify them?

CHAKOTAY

(working his console)

Their weapons signature is
Vaadwaur... but the ship has
technology from several different
species.

Seven looks up from her console.

SEVEN OF NINE

There's another vessel
approaching... it's charging
weapons...

JANEWAY

Evasive pattern Beta Six!

12 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL) 12

Another alien ship, bigger than the first, FLIES IN and
FIRES... not at Voyager, but at the vessel that's been
attacking her.

13 INT. BRIDGE 13

As before.

PARIS
Maybe we've got an ally.

TUVOK
(off console)
The Vaadwaur ship is retreating.

The crew react with relief.

JANEWAY
Hail the second ship.

Kim works.

KIM
No response.

Suddenly, Voyager is JOLTED again HARD. LIGHTS FLASH.
CONSOLES SPARK.

PARIS
I stand corrected.

14 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL) 14

The second ship is now FIRING at Voyager.

15 INT. BRIDGE 15

The ship SHAKES again. Consoles SPARK.

TUVOK
They've penetrated our aft
shields...

JANEWAY
Re-route power to the auxiliary
emitters and return fire.

CUT TO:

16 INT. CARGO BAY (OPTICAL) 16

RED ALERT. Several cargo containers DISAPPEAR in an
ALIEN TRANSPORTER EFFECT.

CUT TO:

17 INT. AIRPONICS BAY (OPTICAL) 17
Rows of vegetables DISAPPEAR in an ALIEN EFFECT.

CUT TO:

18 INT. ENGINEERING (OPTICAL) 18
Red Alert. Several canisters and a free standing console are BEAMED AWAY in an ALIEN EFFECT.

19 INT. BRIDGE 19
Red Alert. As before. Chakotay works.

CHAKOTAY
They've transported material off Decks Five, Seven and Eight.

JANEWAY
Disable their engines.

As the crew works...

20 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL) 20
Voyager FIRES phasers at the second vessel. But they're deflected, and the alien ship GOES TO WARP.

21 INT. BRIDGE 21
as before.

JANEWAY
Follow them.

Paris works, shakes his head.

PARIS
Our navigational sensors are malfunctioning...
(re: the Void)
...something to do with this environment...

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

21

JANEWAY

(exasperated)

I want a full damage report and an inventory of everything that was taken off this ship...

(beat)

And I want to know where we are.

A beat as Chakotay works his console.

CHAKOTAY

They got more than ninety percent of our food stores... including almost everything in the Airponics Bay...

(beat)

They also got a computer console from Engineering...

(beat)

...and they emptied three of our deuterium tanks...

Reactions.

PARIS

Why would anyone steal deuterium? You can find it anywhere.

SEVEN OF NINE

Apparently not here.

As the crew reacts.

SEVEN OF NINE

I'm not detecting gasses, stellar bodies, or matter of any kind...

A beat as the crew absorb the information.

JANEWAY

Except for the ships that attacked us.

(beat)

Scan for other vessels. I want to know how many we're dealing with.

Tuvok works his console.

TUVOK

There are more than one hundred and fifty ships within scanning range...

(beat)

...but I'm only detecting lifesigns on twenty-nine of them...

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED: (2)

21

It's a troubling observation, but before they can speculate further, Kim interrupts.

KIM

Captain, there's another vessel approaching at high impulse.

PARIS

Quite a welcoming committee they've got here.

JANEWAY

(to Tuvok)

What's the status of our shields?

TUVOK

(works his console)

They're at twenty-eight percent.

JANEWAY

That'll have to do. Charge weapons.

A beat. Kim looks up from his console.

KIM

Captain, this one wants to talk.

Reactions.

JANEWAY

On screen.

22 NEW ANGLE (OPTICAL)

22

VALEN, a battle-weary ANNARIAN (PRODUCTION NOTE: this is a species seen in "Nightingale") APPEARS on the Viewscreen.

JANEWAY

I'm Captain Janeway of the Starship Voyager.

VALEN

General Valen.

(wry)

Welcome to the Void.

A beat. Voyager's crew exchange looks. Janeway is cautious but firm.

JANEWAY

You're the first ship we've seen here that hasn't fired on us. But in case you change your mind, we're prepared to defend ourselves.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

VALEN

I know. I've been observing you
on sensors.

A beat as Janeway eyes him, assessing his potential as a
threat.

VALEN

The way you fought those ships was
impressive.

(beat)

Most vessels don't survive the
first few minutes.

JANEWAY

(beat)

I'd appreciate any information you
could give us about where we are.

Valen nods, a glimmer of satisfaction in his eyes...

TIME CUT TO:

23 INT. BRIEFING ROOM (VPB)

23

Red Alert. Mid-scene. Valen is explaining Voyager's
situation to Janeway, Chakotay, Tuvok, and Seven. Two
security N.D.s stand guard. Valen indicates an alien
GRAPHIC on a MONITOR that shows the INNER TUBE SHAPE of
the anomaly.

VALEN

The anomaly's a closed structure,
encased by an inert layer of
subspace. Matter and energy can't
penetrate it.

JANEWAY

Our ships certainly penetrated it
when we were pulled in.

VALEN

(nods)

By the "funnels."

He hits a control, and on the GRAPHIC we SEE a swirling
FUNNEL form on the inner surface of the anomaly, then
"spin" upward and out of the anomaly into normal space.

VALEN

But they only pull matter in one
direction... into the Void.

A beat as they digest this.

TUVOK

Have you explored the entire
anomaly?

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

23

VALEN

There's nothing to explore. But it's big. We've calculated the outer circumference at approximately nine light years.

CHAKOTAY

How long have you been here?

VALEN

More than five years.

Reactions.

JANEWAY

There must be a way to escape.

VALEN

(smiles)

New arrivals are always thinking about escape.

JANEWAY

We have a sophisticated Starship. Maybe if we work together, we can find a way out.

VALEN

You're being naive. No one ever gets out.

SEVEN OF NINE

We may be able to devise a new approach.

VALEN

(shakes his head)

Many have tried. All they did was waste energy that could have kept them alive longer.

(beat)

Don't be foolish. I can help you.

CHAKOTAY

How?

VALEN

The only source of food and energy in the Void comes from new ships that are drawn in.

A beat as they all realize the implications of Valen's response.

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED: (2)

23

VALEN

If you want to survive here,
you'll have to compete for their
resources.

A beat. Janeway is troubled.

JANEWAY

And I suppose you can help us do
that.

VALEN

(nods)

I have tactical data about some of
the more dangerous predators.

JANEWAY

But you want something in return.

VALEN

My scans show you have photon
torpedoes.

JANEWAY

I'm sorry, we don't trade weapons.

VALEN

(surprised)

Why not?

JANEWAY

Because we have no way of knowing
what they'll be used for.
Plundering innocent ships, for
example...

VALEN

Wait a few weeks until your
resources start to run out.

(beat)

Morality won't keep your life
support systems running.

JANEWAY

I'm sorry, General, there are some
compromises I won't make.

VALEN

(smiles)

Not yet...

OFF his ominous prediction...

24 INT. ENGINEERING

24

Red Alert. Chakotay and Janeway ENTER to find a concerned Torres standing by the WARP CORE which is running at SLOW SPEED.

JANEWAY

Report.

TORRES

We're using power at almost ten times the usual rate.

CHAKOTAY

While we're standing still?

TORRES

The same graviton forces that pulled us into the anomaly seem to be draining the warp core.

(beat)

At this rate, our deuterium will be gone in about ten days.

Janeway and Chakotay absorb the bleak information. She looks to him.

JANEWAY

Shut down all non-essential systems.

She starts to leave...

CHAKOTAY

Where are you going?

JANEWAY

To find a way out of here.

OFF Janeway's determination...

25 INT. ASTROMETRICS LAB (OPTICAL)

25

The Dome DISPLAYS A GRAPHIC OF THE ANOMALY. Seven is reporting to Janeway, Tuvok and Paris. Mid-scene.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

SEVEN OF NINE

Using fractal algorithms with the Borg sensors, I believe I can predict where and when these... "funnels" will occur.

PARIS

That's impressive, but how does it help us?

Seven hits a control, and we see a GRAPHIC of the base of a funnel beginning to form.

SEVEN OF NINE

The funnels originate inside the anomaly, creating massive graviton forces before they erupt.

On the Dome, the funnel SHOOTS through the barrier separating the anomaly from normal space.

SEVEN OF NINE

If we were to enter one of the funnels just as that happens, we might be able to use those forces to propel us into normal space.

Janeway considers.

JANEWAY

Not without compromising structural integrity.

TUVOK

I might be able to reinforce the shields to compensate.

SEVEN OF NINE

There's another problem.

She hits another control, and on the Dome, we see the funnel suddenly COLLAPSE back in on itself, and shoot back into the anomaly.

SEVEN OF NINE

When the graviton forces reach critical levels, the polarity suddenly reverses... pulling everything near the funnel back into the anomaly.

PARIS

We'd have to jump to warp at exactly the right moment.

Seven nods.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED: (2)

25

SEVEN OF NINE

We'd need to achieve a velocity of
warp eight point two.

PARIS

The question is, will we have
enough power?

A beat as they all ponder this.

JANEWAY

At the rate we're losing it, we
may only get one shot at this.
(decisive)
The sooner we try, the better.

OFF that...

TIME CUT TO:

26 INT. BRIDGE

26

Red Alert. Janeway, Chakotay, Tuvok, Paris, Kim and
Seven of Nine at stations. The mood is tense.

SEVEN OF NINE

There's a funnel forming seventy
thousand meters off the port
bow... bearing one three zero mark
two four.

KIM

Graviton surge in thirty-four
seconds.

JANEWAY

(to Tuvok)
Full power to shields and
structural integrity.
(to Paris)
Take us in.

27 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL)

27

Voyager flies into the forming anomaly!

28 INT. BRIDGE 28
TREMBLING hard. Consoles SPARK. The crew brace themselves.
SEVEN OF NINE
Five seconds... four... three...

29 EXT. FUNNEL (OPTICAL) 29
Voyager hurtles through the anomaly as it erupts upwards!

30 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 30
The ship is SHAKING HARD. Consoles SPARK.
TUVOK
Structural integrity at twenty percent...
On the VIEWSCREEN we SEE the funnel SWIRLING as Voyager SHOOTS UP through its center.
TUVOK
Ten...
There's a momentary glimmer of STARS through the "eye" of the "funnel."
PARIS
Fifty thousand kilometers to "normal space"...
JANEWAY
Prepare to go to warp!
But, the "eye" suddenly CLOSES and the ship is ROCKED HARD!

31 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL) 31
The funnel shoots back INTO the anomaly, spewing a damaged Voyager back into the blackness...

32 INT. BRIDGE 32
SHAKING HARD, then... suddenly... everything is STILL. Some of the crew have been knocked to the deck. Everyone is quiet for a moment, profoundly disappointed, as they pull themselves to their feet.

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED:

32

On the VIEWSCREEN there is NOTHING BUT BLACKNESS. A com call comes through.

TORRES' COM VOICE
Engineering to the Bridge.

JANEWAY
Go ahead.

INTERCUT:

33 INT. ENGINEERING

33

The WARP CORE is DARK. B'Elanna is shaken.

TORRES
The warp core is off-line.

REACTIONS as the crew realize things have gotten worse.
OFF the moment...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

34 INT. BRIEFING ROOM

34

EMERGENCY LIGHTING. Janeway, Chakotay, Tuvok, Torres, Paris, Neelix and Seven are gathered. The mood is tense, but Janeway's trying to keep up morale.

JANEWAY

If nothing else, we learned some things that'll help us next time.

PARIS

With all due respect, Captain, we don't even have warp drive any more.

TORRES

I may be able to get it back on-line.

(beat)

But we still need deuterium to keep our basic systems running.

CHAKOTAY

How long will our reserves last?

TORRES

(working through it)

If we shut down life support on all but a few decks, deactivate Astrometrics, Turbolifts... ration replicator use...

(shrugs)

...maybe a week.

The officers react. It's worse than they realized.

NEELIX

I used to make a living scavenging for supplies. Let me take one of the shuttles. I might be able to find deuterium on one of those abandoned ships.

TUVOK

A shuttle would be too easy a target.

JANEWAY

(agreeing)

I appreciate the offer, Neelix. But we're safer if we stay together.

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED:

34

SEVEN OF NINE

The shuttles may be useful in another capacity.

Janeway nods.

JANEWAY

We could use their warp cores to augment power on Voyager.

CHAKOTAY

We're still going to need more deuterium.

A long beat as they contemplate this.

JANEWAY

Let's track down the ship that raided us and get back what they stole.

TUVOK

We should do it quickly. I've detected a number of vessels monitoring us.

PARIS

(grim)

"The vultures are circling."

JANEWAY

Vultures eat the dead, Mister Paris.

(beat)

We're not dead yet.

OFF her determination...

35 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL)

35

Voyager at impulse. Most of the LIGHTS usually illuminated are OFF. Energy saving measures have clearly been implemented.

36 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

36

Janeway, Chakotay, Tuvok, Kim, Paris and Seven of Nine at stations.

TUVOK

The vessel's in visual range.

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED:

36

JANEWAY

Shields.

(beat)

On screen.

On the VIEWSCREEN we SEE the VESSEL that stole Voyager's goods, badly damaged now, LISTING in the DARKNESS. The crew work their consoles.

KIM

Looks like somebody got to them before we did.

TUVOK

No lifesigns.

A beat of silence.

JANEWAY

Scan for ion trails. Whoever did this probably has our deuterium.

As the others work, Chakotay has an idea.

CHAKOTAY

Is there anything left aboard that ship worth salvaging?

KIM

(off console)

Their technology and supplies have been picked clean --

SEVEN OF NINE

(disagreeing)

Not everything of value was taken.

Reactions as Seven works her console, re: the damaged ship...

SEVEN OF NINE

Their warp core's been removed, but the casing that protected it is intact. It's composed of tricesium.

KIM

(onto the idea)

We can convert it into a power source.

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED: (2)

36

JANEWAY

Every little bit helps. Lock onto the core casing and beam it to the Cargo Bay.

37 INT. CORRIDOR

37

It's DARK. Seven and Torres are on the move, wearing WRIST BEACONS to LIGHT their way. They are trailed by an N.D. also wearing a wrist beacon.

SEVEN OF NINE

With the additional power, we could reactivate the Astrometrics Lab.

TORRES

I can think of some better uses.

SEVEN OF NINE

For example?

B'Elanna eyes Seven.

TORRES

Oh, I don't know...

(dry)

...making sure there's air to breathe?

Seven reacts as they arrive at the doors to the Cargo Bay and ENTER...

38 INT. CARGO BAY

38

EMERGENCY LIGHTING. Seven and Torres SHINE their WRIST BEACONS on a large, DAMAGED CYLINDRICAL CASING and, SCANNING with TRICORDERS, make their way around the casing until they get to a large JAGGED HOLE.

TORRES

This must be where they cut through the casing to remove the core.

SEVEN OF NINE

Crude, but effective.

They SHINE their LIGHTS INSIDE. As the LIGHTS PAN through the DARKNESS, they suddenly stop on a pair of ALIEN EYES staring back at them. They react, startled.

SEVEN OF NINE

Identify yourself.

(CONTINUED)

38 CONTINUED:

38

But instead of responding, the alien suddenly BOLTS through another opening in the casing. B'Elanna and Seven turn their WRIST BEACONS into the DIMLY LIT room, searching for the alien. Torres taps her combadge.

TORRES

Torres to Security. Intruder alert.

TUVOK'S COM VOICE

Acknowledged.

A beat as they continue to search... then a SOFT WHIMPERING SOUND can be HEARD.

SEVEN OF NINE

There.

Seven turns her LIGHT in the direction of the SOUND and ILLUMINATES a strange looking, small humanoid alien in RAGGED CLOTHING, clinging to the ladder with one hand.

TORRES

Stay where you are.

Seven moves her light down the alien's body, and we can SEE that he's clutching his leg with his other hand. A PHOSPHORESCENT SUBSTANCE is OOZING between his fingers -- some kind of ALIEN BODILY FLUID.

SEVEN OF NINE

He appears to be injured.

OFF the moment...

39 INT. SICKBAY

39

Emergency lighting. The alien is now behind an invisible forcefield in the clamshell area. He's small and dirty, crouching in a corner eating nutritional supplements from a BOWL, while keeping a wary eye on Seven and the DOCTOR. Janeway ENTERS.

JANEWAY

How is he?

DOCTOR

His injury doesn't seem serious, but he won't let me close enough to treat him.

Janeway approaches the alien, tries to engage him.

JANEWAY

My name's Captain Janeway. You're safe here.

(CONTINUED)

39 CONTINUED:

39

In response, the alien backs away further into the corner, continues eating.

DOCTOR

I've tried communicating with him... he doesn't appear to have any verbal skills.

Janeway considers.

JANEWAY

Do we know how he got on board?

SEVEN OF NINE

I believe he was transported along with the core casing.

JANEWAY

We should have picked up his lifesigns.

SEVEN OF NINE

(nods)

We're trying to determine why we didn't detect him.

Janeway's intrigued.

JANEWAY

That vessel he was on had no atmosphere. How did he survive?

DOCTOR

(nods)

My scans show he's able to conserve oxygen. He has unusually large lung capacity...

They look at the alien who's still eating from the bowl.

DOCTOR

...and a voracious appetite.

JANEWAY

Do you think that ship was his home?

DOCTOR

Maybe, but we can't send him back.

(beat)

He can't survive with no oxygen indefinitely.

Janeway considers.

(CONTINUED)

39 CONTINUED: (2)

39

JANEWAY

We'll scan for other members of his species. But until we find a safe place for him, let's make him as comfortable as possible.

They hear a SOUND and turn to see the alien standing at the forcefield holding out his bowl in a hopeful gesture. Seven responds instinctively, without hesitation.

SEVEN OF NINE

Computer. Replicate a portion of nutritional supplements from my daily allotment.

OFF the gesture...

40 OMITTED

40

40A INT. BRIEFING ROOM (VPB)

40A

Emergency lighting. Tuvok and Kim are working at the monitor. Janeway ENTERS.

JANEWAY

You found something?

Tuvok indicates a BLIP on the monitor, following a COURSE TRAJECTORY.

TUVOK

We think we know who has our deuterium.

KIM

It's someone we've already met.

CUT TO:

41 INT. BRIDGE - INCLUDING THE VIEWSCREEN (OPTICAL)

41

where AN IMAGE of Valen APPEARS. He's smiling. The Bridge crew and Seven are at stations. Emergency lighting.

VALEN

I knew I'd see you again, Captain. I expect you've reconsidered my proposal.

JANEWAY

We're not here to trade. We're here to take back what belongs to us.

VALEN

I don't know what you mean.

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED:

41

CHAKOTAY

Our scans indicate you've got some of our food, one of our consoles, and a large quantity of our deuterium.

VALEN

We didn't take any of that from you.

JANEWAY

No, apparently you killed the crew of another ship, and took it from them. We want it back.

VALEN

That's not the way things work here.

JANEWAY

Either you give it back, or we'll take it.

The Viewscreen changes to show an IMAGE of Valen's ship.

PARIS

He's powering his engines.

JANEWAY

Target his shields and fire.

42 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL)

42

Voyager FIRES. Valen's shields FRITZ OFF.

43 INT. BRIDGE

43

As before.

JANEWAY

Lock onto whatever belongs to us, and transport it to the Cargo Bay.

The crew works. The ship SHAKES as Valen returns fire.

SEVEN OF NINE

I'm detecting large quantities of food on his supply deck.

(CONTINUED)

43 CONTINUED:

43

PARIS

Maybe we should take it while we
have the chance.

A beat. Janeway considers.

JANEWAY

Is it ours?

SEVEN OF NINE

No. But our own reserves are
running out.

The ship SHAKES again.

PARIS

Valen wouldn't hesitate to take it
from us.

Janeway reacts.

JANEWAY

No, he wouldn't...

And that seems to make up her mind.

JANEWAY

We've got what's ours.

(beat)

Reverse course.

OFF the moment...

44 INT. READY ROOM

44

Janeway is working at her desk. The door CHIMES.

JANEWAY

Come in.

Chakotay and Tuvok ENTER. Chakotay carries a PADD which
he hands to Janeway.

CHAKOTAY

An updated inventory of our
supplies.

A beat as Janeway eyes the PADD. Chakotay sums up the
grim situation:

CHAKOTAY

We got back less than half of what
was stolen.

Janeway looks up from the PADD.

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED:

44

JANEWAY

It doesn't take two of you to
deliver a PADD.

(beat)

What's on your mind?

Another beat.

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED: (2)

44

CHAKOTAY

We want to be clear about what our policy's going to be while we're in the Void.

JANEWAY

(beat)

You think we should have taken Valen's food.

TUVOK

Logic suggests we may have to be more opportunistic if we intend to survive.

CHAKOTAY

We may not like Valen's tactics, but he and his crew are still alive after five years in here.

Janeway nods.

JANEWAY

I've been thinking about that myself.

She turns the monitor on her desk to face them.

45 CLOSE ON THE MONITOR

45

Large type at the top of the page indicates that it's the FEDERATION CHARTER.

46 RESUME JANEWAY

46

as she eyes them.

JANEWAY

I thought maybe I could get some guidance from the Federation Charter.

(beat)

I was hoping I'd find a "loop hole" that would... allow us to take actions we ordinarily wouldn't.

CHAKOTAY

Any luck?

JANEWAY

(shrugs)

The charter's a statement of principles, not a practical document.

(CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED:

46

CHAKOTAY

(wry)

No section on how to exist in a void?

JANEWAY

No.

Janeway rises.

JANEWAY

But I've become convinced that we've got to stick to our principles, not abandon them.

A beat as Tuvok and Chakotay absorb this. It's not the response they were expecting. Chakotay matter-of-factly asks a simple question:

CHAKOTAY

Should the crew be ready to die for those principles?

JANEWAY

If the alternative is becoming thieves and killers ourselves?
(beat)

Yes.

A beat as Chakotay and Tuvok react.

JANEWAY

But I'm betting that our principles are going to keep us alive.

TUVOK

Captain?

JANEWAY

The Federation is based on mutual cooperation... the idea that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

(beat)

Voyager can't survive here alone. But, if we form a temporary alliance with other ships, maybe we can pool our resources and escape.

TUVOK

As you've pointed out, the people we've encountered in this Void are thieves and killers. Such individuals are hardly ideal allies.

JANEWAY

I agree.

(CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED: (2)

46

CHAKOTAY

Then who are we going to form an alliance with?

JANEWAY

Anyone who agrees to play by our rules: No killing, no stealing...
(beat)
...and no giving up.

Tuvok and Chakotay are still skeptical.

TUVOK

Forgive me, Captain. But why would anyone who's survived by killing and stealing suddenly agree to those terms?

Janeway's clearly thought this through.

JANEWAY

We'll offer to share our food and medical supplies... and defend ships that are attacked by raiders.

Chakotay's taken aback. He gestures to the PADD now on her desk.

CHAKOTAY

Captain, maybe you'd better take another look at that inventory. Our food and power reserves will be gone within a week. If we start giving everything away --

She interrupts, finishing his thought.

JANEWAY

-- then maybe we'll only survive two days instead of seven.
(beat)

On the other hand, if we share what we have instead of hoarding it, we might find other people willing to do the same.

A beat, as she lets this sink in.

JANEWAY

If we combine our technology, we can find ways of improving our situation... and ultimately get the hell out of this place.

(CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED: (3)

46

Another beat as Janeway eyes them, not losing her sense of humor.

JANEWAY

We may lose a little weight,
gentlemen.

(beat)

But we won't lose who we are.

OFF her bold pronouncement...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

47 EXT. VOID - VOYAGER (OPTICAL) 47

Hanging beside an ALIEN VESSEL.

JANEWAY (V.O.)

Captain's Log, Stardate 54553.4.
For the past several days, we've
been making every effort to
recruit members into an alliance.
But it hasn't been easy.

48 INT. BRIEFING ROOM 48

Emergency lighting. Janeway, Chakotay, Tuvok, and
Neelix are sitting across the table from a Nygean
Captain - GARON - and two Nygean N.D. Crewmen. Garon -
a large, tough, battle-worn alien - listens skeptically
to Janeway's pitch.

JANEWAY

Whenever a new ship gets pulled
into the Void, they're immediately
attacked.

Garon nods. He knows what she's talking about.

JANEWAY

Instead of attacking it, you'd
have to help defend the new ship.

GARON

How is that in my interest?

JANEWAY

It would encourage them to join
our alliance.

GARON

(considers)

And if they refuse... then we raid
them?

Janeway tries to mask her frustration. Tuvok steps in.

TUVOK

Everyone in the alliance must
agree not to launch unprovoked
attacks.

GARON

(incredulous)

Then how are we supposed to get
supplies?

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTINUED:

48

CHAKOTAY

The idea is to recruit new members, share technology and resources.

JANEWAY

We almost escaped the Void on our own. If we work together, I believe we'll succeed.

Garon can't help but be intrigued by this.

GARON

How many ships do you have in this alliance?

Janeway takes a beat - both reluctant and hopeful.

JANEWAY

You'd be the first.

Garon reacts, ready to dismiss the whole idea -- but Neelix jumps in.

NEELIX

Technically, Captain, that's not correct.

(to Garon)

I consider myself the first member of the Captain's coalition. Six years ago, I offered her my services and the resources of my ship. And she's never failed to help me when I've needed her.

Garon takes a beat -- then shakes his head to Janeway.

GARON

It's a noble idea, Captain. But good intentions are like deuterium reserves...

(ironic smile)

They tend to get lost in the Void.

JANEWAY

All I ask is that you consider our proposal.

Garon takes a beat -- skeptical -- finally stands.

GARON

I will.

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTINUED: (2)

48

JANEWAY

In the meantime, we'd like to offer you food and medical supplies.

GARON

(suspicious)

What do you expect in return?

JANEWAY

Nothing.

Garon eyes her, trying to figure out what her angle is. She smiles.

JANEWAY

Compliments of the alliance.

Garon nods his thanks. Tuvok escorts the aliens out. Neelix gives Janeway a dwindling smile.

NEELIX

I tried.

OFF their discouragement...

49 INT. CORRIDOR

49

Emergency lighting. Some panels are open. Janeway is on the move, as Seven approaches, looking disgruntled.

SEVEN OF NINE

Captain...

Janeway turns, slows down so Seven can catch up to her.

SEVEN OF NINE

There's been a theft.

JANEWAY

(concerned)

What's missing?

SEVEN OF NINE

My phase compensator.

(beat)

No doubt it was stolen by one of your... "prospective members."

Janeway stops.

JANEWAY

It wasn't stolen.

(beat)

I gave it to the Nygeans. They needed it to repair their sensor array.

(CONTINUED)

49 CONTINUED:

49

SEVEN OF NINE

(bristling)

I presume you obtained something
equally valuable in return.

JANEWAY

I think I did.

(beat)

The goodwill of a potential ally.

SEVEN OF NINE

(a challenge)

Did they join?

JANEWAY

Not yet.

SEVEN OF NINE

Captain --

With a tired smile, Janeway cuts her off.

JANEWAY

I know - it's not exactly the most
"efficient" policy...

(beat)

But you don't always do what's
most efficient, either.

SEVEN OF NINE

(insulted)

What are you implying?

JANEWAY

You gave up your rations to our
guest in Sickbay.

SEVEN OF NINE

(beat)

He needed food.

JANEWAY

(rhetorical)

But you're a valuable member of
this crew. Your friend in Sickbay
is nothing but a drain on
resources.

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

49 CONTINUED: (2)

49

JANEWAY (cont'd)
What's "efficient" about wasting
food on him?

A beat as Seven eyes her. Janeway sighs.

JANEWAY
You think I'm being inefficient...
Tuvok thinks I'm being
illogical...
(shrugs)
...you both could be right.
(beat)
But maybe the best way to get help
is to give it.

Leaving Seven to contemplate her words, Janeway starts
to go. But then she turns back.

JANEWAY
Oh, and Seven...?

SEVEN OF NINE
Yes?

JANEWAY
(light)
I'm sorry I gave away your
favorite phase compensator.

OFF that...

50 INT. SICKBAY

50

The injured alien is more relaxed, his clothes are now
clean, and he's sitting on a bio-bed, his ear cocked
toward OPERATIC MUSIC playing in b.g. As the Doctor
scans him with a MEDICAL TRICORDER, Seven ENTERS.

SEVEN OF NINE
How is he?

DOCTOR
Much better. He seemed to relax
when he heard me humming an aria
from "Rigoletto" - so I had the
computer play the full orchestral
version...
(pleased)
"Fantome" seems to be a music
lover.

Seven looks skeptically at the Doctor.

SEVEN OF NINE
"Fantome?"

(CONTINUED)

50

CONTINUED:

50

DOCTOR

After "The Phantom of the Opera" -
a tormented character who was
soothed by music.

SEVEN OF NINE

(amused)

In six years you haven't chosen a
name for yourself - but you've
given "Fantome" one in a few days.

DOCTOR

(light)

Choosing the right name for myself
is extremely difficult. I'm a
complex individual.

SEVEN OF NINE

And Fantome isn't?

DOCTOR

On the contrary. I believe he's
quite intelligent, and his
physiology's very sophisticated.

(beat)

Did you know he has the ability to
refract his own lifesigns?

SEVEN OF NINE

(interested)

Perhaps that's why our sensors
didn't detect him.

The Doctor smiles at him.

DOCTOR

I wish we could find a way to
communicate with him. I suspect
he'd have a lot to tell us.

Fantome's head is still tilted toward the MUSIC - giving
Seven an idea. She works a console. The OPERA stops,
causing both Fantome and the Doctor some consternation.

DOCTOR

We were enjoying that.

SEVEN OF NINE

Exactly.

(off his look)

He may not be able to speak, but
he can hear.

She holds up a HYPOSPRAY in front of Fantome, who eyes it
intently. Then, she works the console, causing a LOW
MUSICAL TONE to be emitted from the computer. He reacts.
She puts down the HYPOSPRAY, picks up Fantome's FOOD
BOWL, and plays a HIGH MUSICAL TONE.

(CONTINUED)

50 CONTINUED: (2)

50

She puts the bowl down. A beat. Then she repeats the LOW TONE. Another long beat, then Fantome picks up the HYPOSPRAY. The Doctor reacts.

DOCTOR

He understands.

Seven now plays the HIGH TONE on the computer. Fantome puts down the HYPOSPRAY and picks up the BOWL.

SEVEN OF NINE

It would seem so.

Fantome grabs a SURGICAL DEVICE off a tray, and holds it up questioningly to Seven. She works the console - the computer emits a MEDIUM TONE. Fantome seems pleased. OFF the moment...

51 INT. MESS HALL

51

Emergency lighting. Paris and B'Elanna sit across from each other at a table, as Neelix spreads out decorative place settings before them.

PARIS

What's the occasion?

NEELIX

Seven's not the only one who knows how to set an elegant table.

TORRES

You have heard there's a food shortage?

NEELIX

That's no reason why you two can't enjoy a romantic dinner.

He sets out candles.

NEELIX

Unfortunately, I can't light these - it would be a waste of oxygen. Still, they are festive.

TORRES

We appreciate the effort.

He sets out two plates - with small portions of gray, nutritional supplements. Paris reacts, with a joke:

PARIS

I believe there's been a mistake, waiter. I didn't order this.

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED:

51

Neelix smiles.

NEELIX

If you close your eyes, you can pretend it's Seven's fetran risotto.

Paris closes his eyes, takes a bite, reacts dryly.

PARIS

Tastes more like chicken.

Neelix puts his coup de grace in front of Torres: a piece of dried fruit.

TORRES

What's this?

NEELIX

A preserved Olian guava. I have a few left.

TORRES

Neelix...

NEELIX

No arguments. You're eating for two.

She smiles thanks, but before she can reply, there's a COM announcement.

TUVOK'S COM VOICE

Senior Officers report to stations.

Tom and B'Elanna look at each other, and get up.

52 INT. BRIDGE

52

Emergency lighting. Chakotay, Tuvok, Kim, and N.D.s are working. Paris ENTERS, moving to his station as Janeway finishes issuing orders to the others.

JANEWAY

Charge weapons. Shields to full.

PARIS

What's going on?

(CONTINUED)

52 CONTINUED:

52

CHAKOTAY

A funnel just opened. It pulled
in a new vessel.

TUVOK

Two warships are approaching it.
(working)
One of them is Valen's.

OFF that...

53 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL)

53

Valen's ship and another ALIEN WARSHIP are both FIRING
on a small vessel that's not returning fire -- an
OVERLOOKER SURVEY SHIP. (PRODUCTION NOTE: This type of
ship appeared in Episode #224, "Tinker Tenor Doctor
Spy.")

54 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

54

As before.

JANEWAY

Target Valen's weapons and hail
him.

A beat, then Valen appears ON the VIEWSCREEN, looking
threatening.

VALEN

My fight's not with you, Captain.

JANEWAY

Then stand down.

VALEN

This new ship has impressive
technology. We can share it.

JANEWAY

I'm not here to "divide the
spoils."

VALEN

Then why are you here?

JANEWAY

To protect the ship you're firing
on.

VALEN

(confused)
What are they to you?

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED:

54

JANEWAY

Just some people in a bad
situation.

(beat)

Like the rest of us.

VALEN

Save your speeches. I've got a
crew to feed.

With that, he BLINKS OFF. The ship SHAKES.

CHAKOTAY

He's targeting our shields.

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED: (2)

54

JANEWAY
(to Tuvok)
Take his weapons out...
(then, to Kim)
...and hail the new ship.

A beat, and then LOQUAR - appears ON the VIEWSCREEN.
(PRODUCTION NOTE: He's a member of the hefty, nervous species known as "the Overlookers," as seen in Episode #224.) He looks scared, as his ship SHAKES from weapons fire.

LOQUAR
I surrender!

JANEWAY
We're here to help you. Can you target the smaller warship?

LOQUAR
We're a survey vessel! We're not equipped to fight --

The image FRITZES OUT, as Voyager is ROCKED again.

TUVOK
Shields at sixty percent.

They're JOLTED again. Consoles SPARK.

JANEWAY
Fire torpedoes.

As Tuvok works...

55 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL)

55

Voyager sends a volley of PHOTON TORPEDOES at Valen's ship -- his SHIELDS FRITZ but hold.

56 INT. BRIDGE

56

As before.

TUVOK
Shields on Valen's lead ship are holding at eighty percent. It appears he's upgraded them since we last met.

JANEWAY
Ours?

(CONTINUED)

56 CONTINUED: 56

TUVOK

Thirty.

56A EXT. VOID (OPTICAL) 56A

Valen's smaller companion warship swoops in and BLASTS Voyager's shields with a DISRUPTOR BEAM.

56B INT. BRIDGE 56B

As before. The ship SHAKES again. Paris works...

PARIS

The smaller ship is out-maneuvering us...

Voyager is ROCKED by a huge JOLT, consoles SPARKING.

KIM

We have hull breaches on Decks Five and Six...

JANEWAY

Seal them!

Another JOLT.

TUVOK

Shields at fifteen percent.

The com BEEPS.

TORRES' COM VOICE

Engineering to the Bridge...

JANEWAY

(to com)

Go ahead.

INTERCUT:

57 INT. ENGINEERING 57

It's chaos here. Consoles SPARK and SMOKE, N.D.s work furiously, the warp core is slowing down. Torres works at a console.

TORRES

We're losing containment...

(beat)

...at this rate, we'll be dead in the water in less than three minutes...

Reactions.

(CONTINUED)

57 CONTINUED:

57

TUVOK

We should retreat, Captain.

Another SHAKE.

JANEWAY

Not yet.

(CONTINUED)

57 CONTINUED: (2)

57

PARIS

(off console, grim)

We might want to reconsider.

There's another ship approaching.

CHAKOTAY

(to Janeway)

We can't defend ourselves against three ships...

TUVOK

We may not have to.

(off console)

The third vessel belongs to Mister Garon. He's firing at the other two.

58 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL)

58

Where Garon's ship is indeed swooping in and unleashing a BARRAGE of weapons fire at Valen and the smaller ship. (NOTE: Garon's ship was the one seen hanging with Voyager at the top of the act.)

59 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

59

As before.

TUVOK

Valen's shields are down...

(beat)

...the smaller ship is leaking plasma...

PARIS

(beat)

They're both retreating...

KIM

Garon's hailing...

A beat. Janeway's cautious.

JANEWAY

Get a weapons lock on him. We've been fooled by unexpected allies before.

(CONTINUED)

59 CONTINUED:

59

A beat, and then Garon appears ON the VIEWSCREEN, irritated.

GARON

Why are you targeting me?

JANEWAY

Because I don't know what your intentions are.

GARON

Haven't I just made them clear?

(beat)

I've decided to accept your offer.

A beat. Janeway smiles.

JANEWAY

In that case...

(beat)

...welcome to the alliance.

OFF the triumphant moment...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

60 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL) 60

Voyager is hanging with Garon's ship, the Overlooker survey vessel, and four other ships of varying species.

JANEWAY (V.O.)

Captain's Log, Stardate 54562.7.
Since Garon and the Survey Ship became our "charter members," finding new allies has gotten a little easier. My latest "prospect" is Commander Bosaal...

61 INT. CORRIDOR 61

Janeway walks and talks MOS with a formidable-looking new alien, COMMANDER BOSAAAL.

JANEWAY (V.O.)

...whose ship has technology that could help us escape.

They EXIT into...

62 INT. MESS HALL 62

Emergency lighting. Crowded with Starfleet and alien N.D.s of various species -- Overlookers, Nygeans, and a couple of others -- working on PADDs in small groups, sharing information. Janeway leads Bosaal and Garon to the Galley, where Neelix is working.

JANEWAY

Neelix, we have another guest for dinner.

NEELIX

(smiles)

Always room for one more, Captain.

He dishes stew out of a pot into a bowl, hands it to Bosaal. Bosaal smells it, impressed.

BOSAAL

Who did you raid to get fresh vegetables?

JANEWAY

They're replicated.
(off Bosaal's look)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

62 CONTINUED:

62

JANEWAY (cont'd)
One of the crews that joined us
had technology that tripled our
replicator efficiency.

NEELIX

(re: stew)
It may not be a gourmet feast, but
we can feed five hundred people a
day now... using half the power it
took us a few days ago.

Bosaal nods, impressed. Janeway gestures to a table.

JANEWAY

Why don't we sit down?

As they move to a table...

63 INT. CORRIDOR

63

The Doctor and a skittish Fantome EMERGE from the
Turbolift, both holding PADDs. Two Alien N.D.s pass
them -- react curiously -- and move on. Tuvok
approaches, nods.

TUVOK

Doctor.

DOCTOR

Hello, Commander.

The Doctor stops. Fantome looks like he might bolt.

TUVOK

How's your patient?

DOCTOR

Technically, he's not a patient
anymore. But it's taken me this
long to coax him out of Sickbay.
(confidential)
He's quite shy.

The Doctor works his PADD, producing a series of TONES
for Fantome.

DOCTOR

I'm telling him... not to worry...
(more tones)
...that you're the one... who
keeps us all safe...

A beat, and then Fantome works his PADD - producing a
short series of TONES. The Doctor translates for Tuvok.

DOCTOR

He says, "Thank you."

(CONTINUED)

63 CONTINUED:

63

TUVOK
(impressed)
An ingenious method of
communication.

DOCTOR
It began with a few simple words,
but now we're capable of
rudimentary conversation.

TUVOK
(re: Fantome)
Please tell him I'm glad he's
feeling better.

DOCTOR
(smiles)
I will.

Tuvok moves off as the Doctor, working his PADD, and
Fantome continue into...

64 INT. MESS HALL

64

A number of Aliens react to Fantome's entrance, as the
Doctor shows him around the Mess Hall. As they approach
the Galley...

BOSAAL (O.C.)
What's that parasite doing aboard
your ship?

The Doctor turns to see Bosaal, at the table with
Janeway, eyeing Fantome with distaste. Fantome, clearly
scared of Bosaal, cowers behind the Doctor. Janeway
speaks uncertainly to Bosaal.

JANEWAY
I beg your pardon?

Bosaal points to Fantome.

BOSAAL
They're vermin.

DOCTOR
(outraged)
I don't know who you are, sir.
But your choice of words is
offensive.

(CONTINUED)

64 CONTINUED:

64

BOSAAL

(re: Fantome)

What's offensive is the way they slip aboard during transports... hide in conduits... steal food, spread disease...

DOCTOR

(bristling)

Fantome is perfectly healthy. And unlike some people in this Void, he hasn't stolen anything.

BOSAAL

(to Janeway)

If my sensors could detect the ones hiding on my ship, I'd exterminate them. I suggest you do the same.

DOCTOR

Captain, this is outrageous --

Janeway puts up a hand, cutting him off, trying to defuse the tension.

JANEWAY

It's all right, Doctor.

She turns to Bosaal, trying to be diplomatic. She doesn't want to lose him as an ally.

JANEWAY

One of the principles of our alliance is that we don't discriminate. Everyone's welcome... as long as they follow the rules.

She has an idea, gestures toward Fantome.

JANEWAY

(continuing)

But if you're having a bad experience with the members of this species on your ship, I'd be happy to bring them to Voyager.

BOSAAL

(dubious)

If you could find them.

JANEWAY

Now that we've had a chance to analyze Fantome's physiology, I think we can get a Transporter lock on them.

(CONTINUED)

64 CONTINUED: (2)

64

BOSAAL

(wary)

Is this your way of enticing me to
join your... alliance?

JANEWAY

I'm simply trying to demonstrate
how cooperation and tolerance can
benefit everyone.

BOSAAL

(smiles)

Then we have an agreement.

OFF the moment...

65 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL)

65

Voyager and the six "Alliance" ships holding position as
before.

66 INT. ENGINEERING

66

B'Elanna and Garon focus intensely on connecting a
cobbled-together device -- a makeshift POLARON MODULATOR
-- to an open panel, as N.D.s work in b.g. Torres
finishes making an adjustment.

TORRES

Okay... now connect the primary
emitter relay...

Garon inserts a component into a connector port.
Components on the panel begin BLINKING.

GARON

On-line...

As they continue to work, Janeway, Bosaal and two N.D.
Captains ENTER.

JANEWAY

How's it coming?

TORRES

(focussed on work)

Pretty well. We just need to --

Suddenly the panel SPARKS, and the lights BLINK OUT. In
frustration, Torres drops a tool on the panel.

TORRES

I guess I was being a little
optimistic.

(CONTINUED)

66 CONTINUED:

66

JANEWAY

What's the problem, exactly?

GARON

We think we can establish a shield bubble large enough to encompass all our ships - but we have no way to compensate for the graviton stress.

Janeway the scientist has an idea.

JANEWAY

Wouldn't a polaron modulator be able to do that?

TORRES

(nods)

Unfortunately, nobody in the alliance has one.

Torres gestures to the device.

TORRES

We've been trying to build our own, but so far...

She shrugs. Janeway considers.

JANEWAY

Maybe we can trade for one...

MATCH CUT TO:

67 THE ASTROMETRICS DOME (OPTICAL)

67

where we SEE a badly FRITZING, BLACK AND WHITE IMAGE of the meeting we've been watching -- just blurry humanoid shapes against a dark background -- as Janeway continues her speech, also badly FRITZED.

JANEWAY

...or find a new ally who has one.

TUVOK (O.C.)

You're not authorized to be here.

REVEAL we are in...

68 INT. ASTROMETRICS LAB (OPTICAL)

68

where Tuvok is ENTERING to confront two of the Overlooker aliens (the ones from the survey ship Voyager rescued) -- an N.D. and Loquar, who's a bit priggish and defensive. He hits a control MUTING Janeway's speech. (SEE Addendum for additional MOS dialogue to play over scene.)

LOQUAR

We're making a valuable contribution to the alliance.

TUVOK

(re: Dome)

By spying on restricted meetings?

LOQUAR

We've devised a new surveillance technique.

Tuvok, dubious, works a console, raises an eyebrow.

TUVOK

You've bypassed my security measures.

LOQUAR

(pleased)

We can observe activity on any ship in the Void... without being detected.

To demonstrate, Loquar works a console. The IMAGE on the DOME changes to another badly FRITZING, BLACK AND WHITE IMAGE -- this one an N.D. Alien swigging from a bottle. Loquar gestures to the screen.

(CONTINUED)

68 CONTINUED:

68

LOQUAR (O.C.)

This is the Cargo Hold of the
Jelinian freighter.

(smug)

If I'm not mistaken, the Jelinians
are a member of our alliance.

TUVOK

Which is why you shouldn't be
spying on them.

LOQUAR

(re: Dome)

And why they shouldn't be hoarding
their ale.

OFF Tuvok, raising an eyebrow...

69 INT. SICKBAY

69

Seven and the Doctor watch in fascination as Fantome and
three N.D. Aliens of his species work PADDs - creating a
strange harmony of TONES. Janeway ENTERS - stops short,
charmed by the music. In a moment it stops - and
Janeway applauds. The Doctor turns, realizing she's
come in.

JANEWAY

A lovely piece. Did they compose
it, or did you?

DOCTOR

They did.

(beat)

Though strictly speaking, it's not
a composition. It's more of a
conversation.

Fantome and the others go back to exchanging PADD TONES
in b.g.

JANEWAY

I'm impressed.

DOCTOR

I wish I could take credit. But
it was Fantome who taught the
others - in a fraction of the time
it took him to learn.

(admiring)

They're a highly intelligent
species.

SEVEN OF NINE

The language is already developing
its own grammar and syntax.

(CONTINUED)

69 CONTINUED:

69

JANEWAY

That suggests they have a language
of their own.

DOCTOR

(nods)

It could be telepathic.

(re: PADDs)

But they seem just as comfortable
communicating with music now.

JANEWAY

Could their species be native to
the Void?

DOCTOR

It's certainly possible. They
told us they were born here.

Janeway shakes her head, marvelling and respectful.

JANEWAY

Just when you think nothing in the
galaxy can surprise you anymore...

The com BEEPS.

TORRES' COM VOICE

Captain Janeway. Please report to
Engineering.

OFF Janeway's curiosity...

CUT TO:

70 A POLARON MODULATOR

70

A complicated looking piece of technology, sitting on a
table.

TORRES (O.C.)

Just what we needed, Captain...

REVEAL we are in:

71 INT. ENGINEERING

71

Where Torres is showing Janeway the device as Garon
connects it to components in a wall panel. Bosaal looks
on.

(CONTINUED)

71 CONTINUED:

71

TORRES

...a fully compatible polaron
modulator.

Pleased, Janeway looks to Bosaal.

JANEWAY

Where did you get it?

BOSAAL

A Kinjal frigate.

(CONTINUED)

71 CONTINUED: (2)

71

JANEWAY
(gratified)
Do they want to join our alliance?

Bosaal takes a beat - not quite certain how to play it.

BOSAAL
They're not interested.

Janeway eyes him, growing a little suspicious, indicates the modulator.

JANEWAY
How did you get this?

BOSAAL
I traded for it.

Janeway's skepticism is growing.

JANEWAY
What did you give them?

BOSAAL
(losing patience)
I don't answer to you.

Janeway's becoming convinced now.

JANEWAY
Did you steal it?

Bosaal doesn't answer. Janeway makes a decision, turns to B'Elanna.

JANEWAY
Disconnect the modulator.

TORRES
(uncertain)
Captain?

JANEWAY
We're returning it to the people
it belongs to.

BOSAAL
They have no more use for it.

JANEWAY
You don't know that.

(CONTINUED)

71 CONTINUED: (3)

71

BOSAAL

Yes... I do.

A long beat as Janeway eyes him, the realization dawning.

JANEWAY

You killed them...

Again, Bosaal doesn't answer. Torres begins unhooking the component. Everyone else is getting nervous at the confrontation. Garon takes Janeway aside.

GARON

Captain. I don't like his tactics any more than you do - but why waste this technology when we're so close to escaping?

JANEWAY

Because it's a violation of everything this alliance stands for.

Silence, as Bosaal stares at her. Garon speaks softly.

GARON

Refusing the modulator won't bring back the people he killed.

JANEWAY

No, but using it would make us accessories to murder.

Decisive, Janeway turns back to Bosaal. Her voice is low and even, as she gestures to the modulator.

JANEWAY

Take it and get out.

OFF the moment...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

72 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL) 72

Voyager hangs with three other ships - three fewer than before.

73 INT. CORRIDOR 73

Chakotay joins Janeway on the move.

CHAKOTAY

The Jelinians and the Kraylor left with Bosaal.

Janeway reacts. Chakotay tries to be delicate.

CHAKOTAY

(continuing)

They felt you were being...

JANEWAY

(wry)

Impulsive and self-righteous?

Chakotay smiles, doesn't respond. But Janeway's clearly troubled.

JANEWAY

Is that what you think?

CHAKOTAY

You did what you had to do.

JANEWAY

(beat)

Still, I made a mistake.

CHAKOTAY

(confused)

By telling Bosaal to leave?

JANEWAY

(shakes her head)

Allowing him to join in the first place.

CHAKOTAY

You couldn't have known what he was going to do.

JANEWAY

Oh, I had a pretty good idea what kind of person he was...

(off Chakotay's look)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

73 CONTINUED:

73

JANEWAY (cont'd)
That bigoted reaction he had to
the Doctor's friend... It told me
all I needed to know. But I
ignored my instincts.

CHAKOTAY

Why?

JANEWAY

Because I thought his ship could
help us escape.

CHAKOTAY

You weren't the only one who
wanted him in the alliance.

JANEWAY

Maybe not. But if I'd listened to my
doubts in the first place, we wouldn't
have lost the other two ships.

A beat.

CHAKOTAY

We'll find a way out of here
without them.

JANEWAY

Where do we stand with the
modulator?

CHAKOTAY

B'Elanna and the other Engineers
are working around the clock to
build one. She thinks they'll be
ready to test it in a couple of
days.

Janeway's pleased.

JANEWAY

So everyone's pulling together to
make up for my mistake.

Chakotay shrugs - with a wry smile.

CHAKOTAY

They have to. It says so in the
Federation charter.

She smiles acknowledgement...

74 INT. ASTROMETRICS LAB (OPTICAL)

74

Tuvok and the Overlookers are working consoles as
Janeway and Chakotay ENTER.

(CONTINUED)

74 CONTINUED:

74

JANEWAY

Good news, I hope.

TUVOK

I'm afraid not.

(beat)

It appears that Commander Bosaal
is attempting to form an alliance
of his own...

(beat)

...with one of our adversaries.

Janeway reacts.

LOQUAR

We recorded a tactical meeting
that took place between them just
a few minutes ago.He works the console and a badly FRITZING, BLACK AND
WHITE IMAGE appears -- Bosaal and Valen conferring
aboard Valen's ship.

VALEN

Don't underestimate Janeway. I've
been in battle with her twice.

BOSAAL

Then you know her tactics. I have
two other ships. We can take
Voyager's food and weapons...

(beat)

...if we work together.

Tuvok works the console and the image FREEZES. Re: the
conversation:

TUVOK

The rest of their conversation
suggests they'll attack within the
next forty-eight hours.

(CONTINUED)

74 CONTINUED: (2)

74

JANEWAY

(ironic)

I'm so glad we taught them the value of cooperation.

TUVOK

Our power reserves will be severely depleted if we're forced to defend ourselves.

Janeway thinks about it a moment, then, to Chakotay:

JANEWAY

Tell B'Elanna we don't have time to test her modulator. We've got to try to escape now.

OFF her resolve...

75 INT. SICKBAY

75

The Doctor is playing MUSICAL TONES on his PADD - along with Fantome and the others. Janeway ENTERS.

JANEWAY

Sorry to interrupt, but we have a situation developing.

He issues a few PADD TONES to his friends, and they stop what they're doing. Janeway continues to the Doctor.

JANEWAY

We're going to try to break free of the anomaly. Your friends are welcome to join us... but they should be aware of the dangers.

The Doctor nods, makes a series of TONES on his PADD. The aliens listen carefully - then make a flurry of PADD TONES amongst themselves, and to the Doctor - who nods, and turns back to Janeway.

DOCTOR

The Void's their home. They want to stay.

(CONTINUED)

75 CONTINUED:

75

JANEWAY

Where would they like us to transport them?

DOCTOR

They're nomads. Any ship will do.

As Janeway considers. Another flurry of PADD TONES. The Doctor listens, translating to Janeway.

DOCTOR

They're grateful... for our help...

(listening)

They want to help us now.

OFF that tantalizing thought, PRELAP more PADD TONES as we begin a brief MONTAGE:

76 INT. ENGINEERING

76

The MUSIC CONTINUES as B'Elanna, Garon, and N.D.s work on the improvised version of the polaron modulator, installing BLINKING COMPONENTS in an open panel. They stand back and watch uncertainly as it FLICKERS to life... then FLICKERS OUT again. B'Elanna sighs, goes back to work.

76A INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

76A

MUSIC CONTINUES. On a MONITOR, there's a GRAPHIC of the four alliance ships. Seven works the console and a SHIELD BUBBLE APPEARS, SURROUNDING all four ships. As Seven points out some specifics on the monitor to Janeway and Kim, MOS...

DISSOLVE TO:

77 INT. ASTROMETRICS LAB (OPTICAL)

77

The MUSIC CONTINUES as Tuvok and the Overlookers work consoles, bringing up GRAPHICS on the DOME -- representing the ships in the enemy alliance. Loquar gestures to one of them, works a control, and the image is then OVERLAID with tactical data. As he reports on this to Tuvok MOS, Tuvok nods...

DISSOLVE TO:

78 INT. SICKBAY (VPB)

78

Where Fantome, the Doctor, and his people are playing the music we've been hearing on their PADDs, having some sort of tactical briefing with Chakotay who's indicating a SCHEMATIC of an ALIEN SHIP on a console monitor. The graphic changes to a DETAILED ENLARGEMENT of the ENGINE ROOM, full of alien warp core GRAPHICS. As Chakotay reports MOS, the Doctor TRANSLATES on his PADD to Fantome and the others.

DISSOLVE TO:

79 INT. BRIDGE

79

as the MUSIC ENDS. EMERGENCY LIGHTING. RED ALERT. Janeway, Kim, Tuvok, Paris, Chakotay and various N.D.s are now at stations. The mood is tense.

KIM

There's a funnel forming in Grid
Four...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED:

79

KIM (cont'd)

(beat)

Graviton surge in ninety eight seconds.

JANEWAY

Alert the other ships.

(beat)

Take us in, Tom.

PARIS

Aye, Captain.

TUVOK

Bosaal and his fleet are approaching.
They're charging weapons.

JANEWAY

Janeway to Engineering. Status.

TORRES' COM VOICE

I need two more minutes.

JANEWAY

You've got one.

80 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL)

80

In attack formation, Bosaal's armada swoops down on the four alliance ships, flying in single file, and begins FIRING.

81 INT. BRIDGE

81

As before. RED ALERT. SHAKING hard, consoles SPARKING from weapons fire.

KIM

Surge in fifty seconds.

JANEWAY

(to com)

Voyager to all alliance ships - begin firing at your designated targets.

82 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL)

82

Voyager and another alliance vessel concentrate FIRE on a specific spot on Valen's ship, while the other two alliance ships concentrate a similar attack on Bosaal's vessel.

83 INT. BRIDGE

83

As before.

(CONTINUED)

83 CONTINUED:

83

TUVOK

We've penetrated shields on both vessels.

JANEWAY

Janeway to the Doctor.

INTERCUT:

84 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM (OPTICAL)

84

where Fantome and the others are on the Transporter Pad. The Doctor and Seven are at the controls.

JANEWAY (V.O.)

Initiate transport.

DOCTOR

Acknowledged.

He looks to Fantome and the others, makes a HARMONIC TONE on his PADD.

DOCTOR

Good-bye and good luck.

(to Seven)

Energize.

Seven works the console. Fantome and the others DEMATERIALIZE in a TRANSPORTER EFFECT. A beat, then to com:

SEVEN OF NINE

Transport complete, Captain. They're in the engine rooms of both ships.

JANEWAY

Acknowledged.

KIM

Thirty seconds...

The ship SHAKES HARD from weapons fire.

JANEWAY

Janeway to Engineering. We need that modulator.

TORRES' COM VOICE

Just a few more seconds.

85 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL)

85

As they fly toward the forming funnel, Janeway and her ships continue to exchange FIRE with the enemy fleet.

(CONTINUED)

85 CONTINUED: 85

Suddenly, Valen's ship STOPS FIRING and its lights begin to BLINK OUT.

86 INT. BRIDGE 86

Kim looks up from his console.

KIM

We're receiving a hail from Valen's ship... audio only.

JANEWAY

Let's hear it.

A beat. Then a series of MUSICAL TONES. Janeway speaks to com:

JANEWAY

What's he saying, Doctor?

INTERCUT:

87 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM 87

The TONES are also audible here. The Doctor smiles, translates.

DOCTOR

Mission accomplished... Fantome's shut down main power on Valen's ship...

Reactions. Tuvok looks up from his console.

TUVOK

Confirmed.

(beat)

Bosaal's ship has lost power as well.

PARIS

(smiles)

Who says "gremlins" in the engine are a myth?

KIM

Surge in five seconds... four...

JANEWAY

Now, B'Elanna!

88 EXT. VOID (OPTICAL) 88

As Voyager and her three sister ships approach the CHURNING FUNNEL, a SHIELD BUBBLE FRITZES ON around ALL of them. As they ENTER the funnel...

89 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

89

The ship SHAKES and consoles SPARK from the gravitational stresses.

CHAKOTAY

All ships are in formation --

TUVOK

Structural integrity at thirty percent...

PARIS

Forty thousand meters to "normal space" --

ON THE VIEWSCREEN the "eye" of the swirling funnel appears - revealing STARS.

TUVOK

Twenty percent...

A tense beat. The ship continues to SHAKE.

TUVOK

Ten percent.

On the Viewscreen a FULL STARFIELD is coming into view.

JANEWAY

Do it, Tom!

90 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL)

90

Voyager and the three other ships BURST out of the funnel, into normal space and simultaneously JUMP TO WARP. OFF the startling visual...

TIME CUT TO:

91 INT. CORRIDOR

91

Back to NORMAL LIGHTING. Janeway and Chakotay on the move.

DOCTOR (O.C.)

Captain.

Janeway and Chakotay slow down so the Doctor can catch up to them.

(CONTINUED)

91 CONTINUED:

91

DOCTOR

I've been thinking. Maybe I could stage a concert of Fantome's "conversations"...

(beat)

...in honor of what he and his friends did for us.

JANEWAY

(smiles)

Save me a front row seat.

DOCTOR

Ironic, isn't it?

Off their looks...

DOCTOR

We expected nothing from them - but they risked their lives to help us.

The Doctor smiles, peels off, as Janeway and Chakotay EXIT into...

92 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM (OPTICAL)

92

Normal Lighting. They ENTER to find Garon, Loquar, and an N.D. Captain waiting for them. A Starfleet N.D. mans the console.

JANEWAY

Gentlemen. It's been a privilege to have you as allies.

GARON

I never believed we'd escape.

Reactions.

LOQUAR

Then why did you join?

(CONTINUED)

92 CONTINUED:

92

GARON
Captain Janeway's very
persuasive...
(shrugs)
...and the food was good.

JANEWAY
(smiles)
You're welcome to have a meal with
us anytime.

GARON
Unfortunately, we're headed in the
opposite direction.

He and the others step onto the platform.

GARON
Safe journey to you and your crew,
Captain.

Janeway nods to Garon and the others.

JANEWAY
And to all of yours as well.

Janeway signals to the N.D., who works the console.
Garon and the others DEMATERIALIZE in a TRANSPORTER
EFFECT. Janeway watches them go, a little wistful.

JANEWAY
It was almost like being part of a
Federation again.

CHAKOTAY
(light)
The real one's only thirty
thousand light years away.

JANEWAY
(smiles)
Then what are we standing around
for?

Chakotay smiles as they EXIT into the corridor...

93 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL)

93

The three other ships peel off at warp, in different
directions, leaving Voyager hanging there alone a moment
-- and then it jumps to warp in a fourth direction.
Toward home.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVETHE END

ADDENDUM

68A INT. ASTROMETRICS LAB - ON THE DOME

68A

A continuation of the conversation in Scene #68, to follow the speech:

JANEWAY

Maybe we can trade for one... or
find a new ally who has one.

NOTE: the following dialogue would be almost all MOS, from the point where the Domescreen is MUTED.

GARON

It's not a common piece of
technology... and it's valuable.
It may be difficult to convince
anyone to part with it.

JANEWAY

You never know unless you ask.

A beat.

BOSAAL

I'll start contacting other
vessels.

Janeway turns to Torres.

JANEWAY

In the meantime, let's see if we
can get this one working.

TORRES

The problem is getting our
components to interface with the
technology from Garon's ship.

Janeway looks at the device.

JANEWAY

Ask Harry to give you a hand.

TORRES

Yes, ma'am.