

STAR TREK II: THE WRATH OF KHAN

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MAIN TITLE SEQUENCE (TO BE DESIGNED)

FADE IN:

1 BLACK

1

Absolute quiet. SOUND bleeds in. Low level b.g. NOISES of Enterprise bridge, clicking of relays, minor electronic effects. We HEAR A FEMALE VOICE.

SAAVIK'S VOICE

Captain's log. Stardate 8130.3, Starship Enterprise on training mission to Gamma Hydra. Section 14, coordinates 22/87/4. Approaching Neutral Zone, all systems functioning.

INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

As the ANGLE WIDENS, we see the crew at stations; (screens and visual displays are in use): COMMANDER SULU at the helm, COMMANDER UHURA at the Comm Console, DR. BONES McCOY and SPOCK at his post. The Captain is new -- and unexpected. LT. SAAVIK is young and beautiful. She is half Vulcan and half Romulan. In appearance she is Vulcan with pointed ears, but her skin is fair and she has none of the expressionless facial immobility of a Vulcan.

SULU

Leaving Section Fourteen for Section Fifteen.

SAAVIK

Project parabolic course to avoid entering Neutral Zone.

SULU

Aye, Captain.

UHURA

(suddenly)

Captain... I'm getting something on the distress channel. Minimal signal... But something...

SAAVIK

Can you amplify?

UHURA

I'm trying...

SULU

Course change projected.

UHURA

It's an emergency distress call!

SAAVIK

On speakers!

VOICE

(filtered, breaking up)

Imperative! Imperative! This is the Kobayashi Maru -- nineteen periods out of Altair Six. We have struck a gravitic mine and have lost all power... Our hull is...

(breaks up, static)

... and many casualties.

UHURA

This is the Starship Enterprise. Your message is breaking up. Give your coordinates. Repeat --

VOICE

Enterprise, our position is Gamma Hydra, Section Ten...

SAAVIK

In the neutral zone.

VOICE

Hull penetrated, life support systems failing. Can you assist us, Enterprise? Can you...

Breaks up.

SAAVIK

Data on Kobayashi Maru! Tactical!

Tactical on big screen.

COMPUTER VOICE

Subject vessel is third class
neutronic fuel carrier, crew of
eighty-one, three hundred passengers.

SAAVIK

Damn.

(then)

Mr. Sulu, plot an intercept course.

SULU

May I remind the Captain that if a
Starship enters the zone --

SAAVIK

I'm aware of my responsibilities,
Mister.

SULU

(with a nod)

... Now entering the Neutral
Zone...

2 **OMITTED**

2

3 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE - ANOTHER ANGLE**

3

COMPUTER VOICE

Warning. We have entered the
Neutral Zone... Warning...

SULU

Estimating two minutes to intercept.

On screen: Enterprise approaches the stricken vessel.

SAAVIK

Stand by transporter room, ready
to beam survivors, aboard.

UHURA

Captain, I've lost their signal!

COMPUTER VOICE

Alert. Sensors indicate three
Klingon Cruisers, bearing 316,
mark 4, closing fast.

SAAVIK

Visual!

On screen we see the approach of the Klingon vessels,

they are dark and sinister.

SAAVIK

(continuing)

Battle stations! Activate shields!

The ALARM SOUNDS.

SULU

Shields activated!

SAAVIK

Inform the Klingons we are on a
rescue mission...

UHURA

They're jamming all frequencies,
Captain --

COMPUTER VOICE

Klingons on attack course and closing.

Screen verifies this. Saavik makes an agonized choice.

SAAVIK

We're over our heads. Mr. Sulu,
get us out of here.

SULU

I'll try, Captain.

COMPUTER VOICE

Klingon cruisers approaching,
bearing 090, mark 20.

SAAVIK

Visual!

The image flops: more Klingons approach. They FIRE
photon torpedoes.

SAAVIK

(continuing)

Evasive action!

Sulu does his best, but Enterprise is hit; Sulu is
hurled from his station, and Bones hurries to him.

SAAVIK

(continuing)

Engineering! damage report!

SCOTTY'S VOICE

(INTERCOM)

Main energizer hit, Captain!

SAAVIK

Engage auxiliary power. Prepare
to return fire!

The bridge takes another hit -- a big one. In its wake
there is a second electrical EXPLOSION along the communi-
cations panel. Uhura falls from her station. Bones
rushes to her side amid the smoke and alarms.

A CADET

Shields collapsing, Captain!

SCOTTY'S VOICE

(FILTERED)

Captain, we're losing auxiliary
power!

SAAVIK

Fire all phasers...!

SPOCK

No power to the weapons system,
sir.

Another hit: reverberating flashes of spark and flame
on the bridge. Spock dies. Bones comes to him, but
even as he coughs his way through the smoke, a final
hit and Bones falls. The room is smoke filled and a
shambles. Saavik looks about in shock.

SCOTTY'S VOICE

(FILTERED)

Captain, it's no use. We're
dead in space.

Saavik digests this for a painful moment. Then, touch-
ing a comm button:

SAAVIK

Activate escape pods. Send out the
Log Buoy... All hands abandon ship.
Repeat -- all hands --

KIRK'S VOICE

(FILTERED)

All right, open her up.

There is a loud CLANGING and --

4 FULL SHOT - ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

4

The side walls of the "bridge" slide apart, revealing
a lighted room beyond. Through the opening strides
KIRK. He stops, surveys the shambles, and shakes his
head.

SAAVIK

Any suggestions, Admiral?

KIRK

Prayer, Mr. Saavik. The Klingons do not take prisoners.

(to Spock)

Captain.

SPOCK

Trainees to the briefing room.

Sulu awakens with a grin. Uhura straightens herself demurely. The Trainees head toward the distant room, Spock rises and leaves. Bones remains on the floor, head propped in his hand, whimsically.

KIRK

Physician, heal thyself.

BONES

That's all you have to say?

KIRK

I'm not a drama critic.

Bones rolls his eyes and rises. Kirk sees Saavik who has not moved.

KIRK

(continuing)

Well, Mr. Saavik, are you going to stay with the sinking ship?

SAAVIK

Permission to speak candidly, sir?

KIRK

Very well.

SAAVIK

(fights emotion)

I don't believe this was a fair test of my command capabilities.

KIRK

And why not?

SAAVIK

Because... there was no way to win.

KIRK

A no-win situation is a possibility every commander may face. Has that never occurred to you?

SAAVIK

... No, sir. It has not.

KIRK

How we deal with death is at least as important as how we deal with life, wouldn't you say?

SAAVIK

(falters)

As I indicated, Admiral, that thought had not occurred to me.

KIRK

Then you have something new to think about. Carry on.

She stays at attention.

BONES

Wouldn't it be easier to put an experienced crew back on the ship?

KIRK

They'll learn. Galloping about the cosmos is a game for the young, doctor.

He leaves. They look at each other.

UHURA

(offended)

What is that supposed to mean?

HOLD ON Saavik.

5 INT. CORRIDOR OUTSIDE THE SIMULATOR ROOM - DAY

5

Kirk rounds the corner and sees Spock, leaning against the wall.

KIRK

(dry)

Aren't you dead?

Spock almost smiles.

KIRK

(continuing)

I assume you are loitering here to learn what efficiency rating I plan to give your cadets.

SPOCK

I am understandably curious.

They walk together.

KIRK

They destroyed the simulator room
and you with it.

SPOCK

The Kobayshi Maru scenario
frequently wreaks havoc with
students and equipment.

(dry)

As I recall you took the test
three times yourself. Your final
solution was, shall we say, unique?

KIRK

(solemn)

It had the virtue of never having
been tried.

SPOCK

Yours was not a solution which
would have occurred to a Vulcan
mentality.

KIRK

So you said at the time. Speaking
of which, your prot,g,'s first
rare -- a trifle emotional --

SPOCK

She's half Romulan, Jim. The
admixture makes her more volatile
than -- me, for example.

KIRK

Than you. Yes, I see that. By
the way, thank you for this.

He lifts the book.

SPOCK

I know of your fondness for antiques.

KIRK

(reads)

'It was the best of times, it was
the worst of times...' Message,
Spock?

SPOCK

None of which I am consciously
aware -- except, of course, happy
birthday -- surely the best of times.

Kirk looks around uncomfortably, overlaps:

KIRK

Hrummm... and where are you off to, now?

SPOCK

The Enterprise. I must check in before your inspection. And you?

KIRK

(shortly)

Home.

Spock studies him --

SPOCK

Something oppresses you.

They are old friends --

KIRK

Something.

He steps into a turbo elevator. The doors close as Spock watches, wiping the scene.

6 EXT. DEEP SPACE - NEAR CETI ALPHA V

6

In f.g. is the U.S.S. RELIANT, an older, somewhat battered starship of the ENTERPRISE class, with a slightly different configuration. Reliant approaches an inhospitable-looking yellow planet: CETI ALPHA V

CHEKOV'S VOICE

Starship log, Stardate 8130.4.
This report classified MOST SECRET.
Log Entry by Commander Pavel Chekov,
Duty Officer. Starship USS Reliant
on orbital approach with Ceti Alpha
VI in connection with project code
name GENESIS. We are continuing
our search for a lifeless planet
which will serve as a suitable test
site for the Genesis Experiments.
This is the 16th planet we have
visited, so far, no success.

7 INT. BRIDGE OF RELIANT

7

Well-aged and distinctive. The usual compliment of officers and crew. CAPTAIN CLARK TERRELL, about 45, soft spoken and in good shape, but somewhat laconic.

Behind Terrell, surveying the data screen is COMMANDER CHEKOV, aged some, but still boyish.

TERRELL

Standard orbit, Mr. Beach.

BEACH

Standard orbit, sir.

TERRELL

Any change in surface scan?

BEACH

Negative. Limited atmosphere, dominated by craylon gas, sand and high velocity winds. Incapable of supporting life forms.

Forward screen: Ceti Alpha.

CHEKOV

Does it have to be completely lifeless?

Terrell rises and crosses to Chekov.

TERRELL

Don't tell me you've got something.

CHEKOV

(points)

We've picked up a minor energy flux reading on one dyno scanner.

TERRELL

Damn! Are you sure? Maybe the scanner's out of adjustment --

CHEKOV

I suppose it could be a particle of preanimate matter caught in the matrix...

TERRELL

All right, let's get on the Comm-pic to Doctor Marcus. Maybe it's something we can transplant.

CHEKOV

You know what she'll say...

8 EXT. DEEP SPACE - REGULA I SPACE STATION

8

A functional cluster of modules serve as a scientific complex, a futuristic White Sands, orbiting a small barren plantoid in b.g.: Regula.

CAROL MARCUS'S VOICE

(FILTERED)

Something you can transplant? I

don't know --

9

9 INT. SPACE STATION - CAROL'S LAB

Big but deserted except for Carol, in contact with Reliant. Surrounded by equipment clearly meant for many workers, CAROL MARCUS is in her early forties, attractive and intelligent. Static mars the transmissions.

On the monitor: Terrell and Chekov, looking hopeful.

TERRELL

It might only be a particle of preanimate matter...

CAROL

Then again it might not. You boys have to be clear on this: there can't be so much as a microbe or the show's off.

(she thinks)

Why don't you have a look? If it IS something that can be moved...

TERRELL

(eager)

You bet, doctor. We're on our way!

Carol sighs as the image fades, not happy.

10

10 INT. CORRIDOR, SPACE STATION REGULA I

Carol walks through the labyrinthine complex with DAVID, her son, a bright young scientist of twenty. He is good looking and humorous.

DAVID

How can you let them pull that stuff on you? They're just lazy.

CAROL

And bored. I know. But maybe it IS something they can...

DAVID

Come on, Mother, that's just the military mentality. Never put off tomorrow what you can put off today. If there's one atom of life...

CAROL

I know, I know...

Silence.

DAVID

Well, don't have kittens.
Genesis is going to work. They'll
remember you in a wreath with
Newton, Einstein, Surak...

CAROL

(mock outrage)
Thanks a lot. No respect from my
offspring --

DAVID

Par for the course... you teaming
up with me for bridge after dinner?

CAROL

Maybe...

DAVID

Every time we have dealings with
Starfleet, I get nervous.

(shrugs)

We're dealing with something
that COULD be perverted into
a dreadful weapon. Remember that
overgrown boy scout you used to
hang out with? That's exactly
the --

They walk past the CAMERA, their VOICES FADING.

CAROL

Listen, kiddo, Jim Kirk was many
things, but he was never a Boy
Scout...

HOLD ON the empty corridor.

11 INT. KIRK'S APARTMENT, TERRA - NIGHT

11

Kirk reads the novel, trying to focus. His flat befits
an Admiral and a loner with few possessions, except
a collection of antiques.

WE HEAR A SOFT BONG.

Startled, Kirk lowers the book and pushes a button.

KIRK

Come.

The door slides open and Bones enters. He carries two
packages, one of them wrapped in brown paper.

KIRK

(continuing)
Bless me, doctor; and what beams
you into this neck of the woods?

BONES

'Beware Romulans bearing gifts.'
Happy Birthday...

With a flourish, he pulls out a bottle of blue
liquid.

KIRK

Romulan Ale! Bones, you know
this stuff is illegal --

BONES

(broad)
I only use it for medicinal
purposes. Don't be a pring...

KIRK

(reading the label
with difficulty)
Twenty-two, eighty-three...

BONES

Takes the stuff a while to
ferment. Gimme.

He takes the bottle and pours; continues talking.

BONES

(continuing)
Now open the other one.

Kirk starts to obey.

KIRK

I'm almost afraid to. What did
you bring me, contraband Klingon --

BONES

More antiques for your collection
-- Cheers!

They drink. The package is opened: a pair of gold
"Ben Franklin" half-glasses. (N.B.: Romulan Ale is
an INSTANT DRUNK: both men react.)

KIRK

Cheers. Bones, these are... charming.

BONES

Four hundred years old. You don't
find many with the lens still
intact.

KIRK

Uh -- what are they?

BONES

For your eyes. For most patients of your age, I generally administer Retlax Five to restore flexibility of the lens.

KIRK

But I'm allergic to Retlax.

BONES

Exactly. Happy birthday.

He toasts. Kirk is unsure how they work.

BONES

(continuing)

Slide them down your nose. Now look at me over the top. And you read printed matter through the bottom.

KIRK

(reacts)

Amazing! I don't know what to say --

BONES

Say thank you.

KIRK

Thank you.

An awkward silence.

BONES

Damn it, Jim, what the hell's the matter? Other people have birthdays. Why're we treating yours like a funeral?

KIRK

Bones, I don't want to be lectured.

BONES

What DO you want? Damn it, why isn't there a girl here? You know this has nothing to do with age. This is about you flying a goddamn computer console when you wanna be out hopping Galaxies.

KIRK

Spare me your notions of poetry, please. We all have our assigned duties and...

BONES

Bull. You're hiding -- hiding
behind the rules and regulations --

KIRK

And who am I hiding from?

BONES

From yourself, Admiral.

Pause. Kirk pours another drink.

KIRK

Don't mince words, Bones; tell
me what you really think.

BONES

(mild take)

I'm your doctor and I'm your friend,
Jim. Get back your command. Get it
back before you really do grow old.
Before you turn into part of this
collection.

They look at each other.

12 **12 EXT. RELIANT - DEEP SPACE**

orbiting Ceti Alpha V.

VOICES OVER indicate the transporter room is ready.

13 **13 OMITTED**

14 **14 EXT. SURFACE CETI ALPHA V**

A YELLOW PLANET, in constant SWIRLING HURRICANE WINDS
OF SAND. Terrell and Chekov materialize. Their VOICES,
filtered, are hard to make out.

With the TRICORDER to guide them, they set out...

TERRELL

Are you sure these are the
coordinates?

CHEKOV

Captain, this is the garden spot
of Ceti Alpha VI --

TERRELL

I can hardly see --

15 **15 SEVERAL ANGLES**

The difficult search, the men leaning into the wind --

16 **TERRELL**

is ahead of Chekov on a slight rise --

CHEKOV

There's nothing, let's go --

17 **ANGLE**

Terrell waves him frantically forward. As Chekov moves up, we rise with him to the top of the ridge and look down.

18 **ANGLE - THEIR POV**

A RUINED SERIES OF MAN-MADE STRUCTURES, half buried in sand. They look at each other in consternation. Chekov is worried; something about all this is familiar.

They descend towards the structures, now seen to be the wreckage of some sort of space craft.

They pass but do not notice the FEDERATION LOGO, half buried next to their feet.

TERRELL

They look like cargo carriers...

As Chekov looks at the porthole, a face suddenly looks back! It is the face of a CHILD! The Apparition scares the daylights out of Chekov -- and us. He screams.

TERRELL

(continuing)

What is it?

He comes clumsily over --

CHEKOV

A face! I saw -- it was like a child --

He points. The porthole is empty.

TERRELL

You're crazy -- !

CHEKOV

I saw it -- !

TERRELL

There's an air-lock.

He points and they go into the airlock.

19

19 INT. CARGO HOLD

Terrell and Chekov enter, dumbfounded. THEIR POV.
Someone lives here -- there are beds, food, all jury-rigged -- but no people. Terrell checks a monitor.

TERRELL

There's breathable atmosphere in here.

He takes off his helmet; Chekov likewise.

TERRELL

(continuing)

What the hell is this? Did they
crash? Where's the rest of the
ship?

They wander as they talk, picking up objects that bespeak a fairly sophisticated ad hoc environment: a laboratory in one hold; a kitchen; A LARGE SAND TANK filled with disgusting CETI EELS.

ABRUPTLY A SOUND -- They start: CHILD'S GURGLE.

CHEKOV

(terrified)

I told you! I told you I saw a --

TERRELL

Ssssh!

They start looking. They enter a new chamber --

20

20 KHAN'S QUARTERS

On its side in the sand: the walls are now the floor, etc. All in crookedness -- like its owner. On the floor, smiling at them (i.e., the wall) is a BABY.

Tentatively they come over to it, looking around --

21

21 ANGLE - CHEKOV'S POV

Lethal-looking odd swords on one wall, a bookshelf; CAMERA PANS by 20th Century volumes; MOBY DICK, KING LEAR, THE HOLY BIBLE -- and a seat belt dangling with the name on it -- Botany Bay.

Chekov mouths the words, softly at first, then aloud --

CHEKOV

Botany Bay -- oh no!

TERRELL

(examines the child)

What's the matter -- ?

Chekov runs, tries to get his helmet on, tries to drag Terrell --

CHEKOV

Captain, we've got to get out of here -- now! Damn! Hurry!

Terrell catches his urgency --

TERRELL

But the child --

CHEKOV

Never mind! Hurry!

22

22 EXT. CARGO HOLD AIRBAY

Terrell and Chekov emerge, helmeted, then stop dead.

23

23 ANGLE - THEIR POV

A RING OF SUITED FIGURES has them surrounded.

24

24 INT. RELIANT - THE BRIDGE

Mr. Beach, the duty officer, stands looking at Ceti Alpha V on the forward screen.

BEACH

Try again.

KYLE

Starship Reliant to Captain Terrell
... This is Lieutenant Kyle. Will
you please respond, Captain...
Captain Terrell, respond please.

Nothing.

BEACH

(thinks)

Let's give them a little more
time.

25

25 INT. CARGO HOLD - CETI ALPHA V

Terrell and Chekov are held by FOUR STRONG MEN.

They seem to be waiting. One of the men is JOACHIM.

Out of the airlock steps a tall masked figure. A moment of suspense as Terrell and Chekov watch, terrified. The mask is peeled back.

CHEKOV

(aloud despite himself)

Khan!

KHAN is startled by the recognition; comes over and examines Chekov and Terrell.

KHAN

(finally)

I don't know you. But you. I never forget a face. Mister Chekov, isn't it?

(wonderingly)

I never thought to see your face again.

TERRELL

Chekov, who is this man?

CHEKOV

A criminal, Captain -- a product of the late 20th Century genetic engineering --

TERRELL

What do you want with us? I demand --

KHAN

(mild)

You are in a position to demand nothing, sir. I, on the other hand, am in a position to grant nothing. What you see is all that remains of the ship's company and the crew of the Botany Bay, marooned here fifteen years ago by Captain James T. Kirk.

TERRELL

Listen to me -- you men and women --

KHAN

Save your strength, Captain, these people have sworn to live and die at my command two hundred years before you were born. Do you mean he...

(i.e. Chekov)

... never told you the tale?

To amuse you, Captain? Never told

you how the Enterprise picked up the Botany Bay, lost in space from the year 1996, myself and the ship's company in cryogenic freeze?

TERRELL

I've never even met Admiral Kirk --

KHAN

Admiral? He didn't tell you how Admiral Kirk sent seventy of us into exile on this barren sand heap with only the contents of these cargo bays to sustain us?

CHEKOV

You lie! On Ceti Alpha V there was life, a fair chance to --

KHAN

This is Ceti Alpha V! Ceti Alpha VI exploded six months after we were left here. The shock shifted the orbit of this planet and everything was laid waste. Admiral Kirk never bothered to check on our progress. It was only the fact of my genetically engineered intellect that enabled us to survive! On earth, two hundred years ago, I was a prince, with power over millions -- now, like Prometheus I have been left by Admiral Kirk to digest my own entrails.

CHEKOV

Captain Kirk was your host! You repaid his hospitality by trying to steal his ship and murder him.

KHAN

(moves closer)

And I'll wager he never told you about his shipmate, the beautiful and courageous Lieutenant McGiver, who gave up everything to join me in exile. OUT OF LOVE. And see how Admiral Kirk requited her devotion -- She's dead as earth!

The wind howls in the silence. When Khan turns, his eyes are filled with tears.

KHAN

(continuing)

A plague upon you all.

He recovers his poise and returns to them --

KHAN

(continuing)

You didn't expect to find me.
You thought this was Ceti Alpha VI.
Why are you here?

They don't answer. Khan goes over to Terrell and, WITH
ONE HAND, LIFTS HIM INTO THE AIR --

KHAN

(continuing)

Why?

Terrell gasps, stays silent --

KHAN

(continuing)

No matter.

He lets go; Terrell falls with a thud --

KHAN

(continuing)

You will soon tell me willingly
enough.

He goes over to the tank and dips a kind of strainer in,
pulling out TWO CETI EELS -- wriggling items --

KHAN

(continuing)

Let me introduce you to Ceti Alpha V's
only remaining indigenous life form;
what do you think? They've killed
twenty of my people, including my
beloved wife. Oh, not all at once
and not instantly, to be sure. Their
young enter through the ears and wrap
themselves around the cerebral cortex.
This has the effect of rendering the
victim extremely susceptible to
suggestion. Later, as they grow,
follows madness, paralysis -- and
death. These are pets, of course --
not quite domesticated.

As he speaks, Khan dumps an eel in each of their helmets;
he swirls the helmets around as though he were mixing
martinis --

CHEKOV

Khan, listen to me! Captain Kirk
was only doing his duty! You --

KHAN

There is some pain at first, I am told, and then the effects are quite benign -- until the end. That was what I learned from watching my wife.

At a sign, the helmets are slammed down. As the muffled shrieks are heard from within, the eels crawl across the faces of Chekov and Terrell; with unerring instincts they head for the ears of the two hapless men. There is some atrocious pain as they enter -- then dazed calm.

KHAN

(continuing)

That's better! Now: tell me why you are here -- and tell me where I may find James Kirk.

27 **INT. RELIANT BRIDGE**

27

KYLE

Captain Terrell. Captain Terrell... This is Reliant; please respond.

No answer -- Beach makes up his mind --

BEACH

Mr. Kyle, muster a landing party with full arms. Alert the transporter room. We're beaming down.

He heads for the door but is stopped by:

TERRELL'S VOICE

(filtered)

Reliant, this is Terrell. Respond please.

BEACH

This is Reliant. Clark, are you all right?

Fractional pause.

TERRELL'S VOICE

(filtered)

Everything's fine, commander. I'll explain when I see you. Oh, by the way, we're bringing several guests aboard. Prepare to beam up on my next signal. Terrell out.

Beach and Kyle look at each other.

KYLE

Guests?

BEACH

Maybe we ARE transplanting something.

28 **EXT. ORBITING SPACE DOCK AREA - TERRA (FEATURE STOCK)**

A SPACE SHUTTLE moving toward us.

29 **INT. SPACE SHUTTLE**

A new composite. Bones, Sulu, Uhura and Kirk -- who sits, reading. Through the windows we can see the approach to the starship ENTERPRISE. Kirk looks up, nods. Sulu activates a comm button.

SULU

Enterprise, this is Admiral Kirk's party on final approach.

ENTERPRISE VOICE

(filtered)

Enterprise welcomes you. Prepare for docking.

Kirk looks up from his book as Sulu sits next to him.

KIRK

I really must thank you.

SULU

(embarrassed)

I am delighted; any chance to go aboard Enterprise, however briefly, is always an excuse for nostalgia.

KIRK

I cut your new orders personally. By the end of the month, you'll have your first command: USS EXCELSIOR.

SULU

Thank you, sir. I've looked forward to this for a long time.

KIRK

You've earned it. But I'm still grateful to have you at the helm for three weeks. I don't believe these kids can steer.

Sulu laughs.

30

30 **EXT. SPOCE DOCK - TERRA (FEATURE STOCK)**

The shuttle approaches the mammoth airstrip. As we near the ship, a few WORK CREWS IN SPACE flit about her hull, working.

31

31 **EXT. ENTERPRISE (FEATURE STOCK)**

The shuttle makes its way to the Docking Lock of the mother ship and settles in place.

32

32 **INT. ENTERPRISE DOCKING BAY**

A reception group awaits, led by Captain Spock. Saavik stands at his side, in company of the Trainee crew. Also present: CHIEF ENGINEER MR. SCOTT and members of his staff in their distinctive uniforms.

INTERCOM VOICE

Docking procedure complete.

SPOCK

Prepare for Admiral's inspection.

The group comes to attention.

SPOCK

(continuing)

Open the Air Lock.

The doors open. Kirk and his staff are piped aboard by an electronic version of the boatswain's traditional whistle. Kirk salutes the Federation symbol and steps forward to exchange salutes with Spock.

KIRK

Permission to come aboard, Captain?

SPOCK

Welcome aboard, Admiral. I believe you know my trainee crew. Certainly they have come to know you.

KIRK

(dryly to Saavik)

Yes, we've been through death and life together.

Saavik stiffens slightly -- humor is not her forte.

KIRK

(continuing to Scotty)

Mr. Scott, you old space dog. You're well?

SCOTTY

I had me a wee bout -- but Dr. McCoy pulled me through.

KIRK

Oh? A wee bout of what, Mr. Scott?

Uncomfortable, Scotty exchanges a glance with Bones --

BONES

Shore leave, Admiral.

KIRK

Ah.

He stops before a BRIGHT-FACED FOURTEEN-YEAR OLD, standing so stiff he looks like he'll break -- in an engineer's uniform.

KIRK

(continuing)

And who is this?

PRESTON

(breathless)

Midshipman First Class Peter Preston, engineers mate, SIR.

A big salute. Kirk is amused, returns the salute.

KIRK

Your first training voyage, Mr. Preston?

PRESTON

Yes, SIR.

KIRK

I see. Well, shall we start with the engine room?

He moves, followed by his staff.

SCOTTY

(eyeing his prot,g,)

I believe you'll find all in order --

SPOCK

We'll see you on the bridge, Admiral.

KIRK

Very good, Mr. Spock.

Kirk and party leave. CAMERA PUSHES IN ON SPOCK AND **SAAVIK**.

SAAVIK

He's not what I expected, Sir.

SPOCK

What did you expect, Lieutenant?

SAAVIK

(uncertain)

He's very human.

SPOCK

We can't all be perfect, Saavik. You must control your prejudices and remember that as a Vulcan as well as a Romulan you are forever a stranger in an alien land. Around you are humans, and as a member of the Starfleet you are unlikely ever to escape their presence or their influence. You must learn to tolerance in addition to all else I have taught you. Tolerance is logical.

Saavik is humbled.

SAAVIK

As always, my mentor. Company dismiss.

33

33 INT. ENTERPRISE ENGINE ROOM - LOOKING DOWN

The inspection party dwarfed by the size. Silence as Kirk looks around, runs a finger for dust, etc. Scotty, his team and Preston, stand at attention.

34

34 ANGLE - FLOOR OF ENGINE ROOM

FEATURING power room separated by glass from the rest of the facilities. Bones, Sulu, Uhura, and some trainees watch as Kirk inspects one console, clearly the responsibility of the bursting Midshipman Preston.

PRESTON

(blurting)

I believe you'll find everything shipshape, Admiral.

KIRK

(sternly puts him on)

Oh do you? Have you any idea, Midshipman Preston, how many times I've had to listen to Mr. Scott on the Comm, telling me his troubles? Have you any idea the ribbing I've

had to endure in the officers' mess
to the effect that the Enterprise
is a flying death trap?

PRESTON

(scandalized)

Oh, no, sir! This is the finest
engine room in the whole Star --

The repressed grins of the others, and a smile on Scotty's
face tell Preston he's being had. He stops, confused.

PRESTON

(continuing)

If the Admiral can't see the facts
for himself, then, with all due
respect, he's as blind as a Tiberion
bat. SIR.

Approving laughter. Kirk looks amused.

KIRK

Midshipman, you're a tiger.

SCOTTY

My sister's youngest, Admiral.
Crazy to get to space.

KIRK

Every young boy's fancy. I seem
to remember it myself.

(brisk)

Very well. Mr. Scott, are your
engines capable of handling a minor
training cruise?

SCOTTY

Give the word, Admiral.

KIRK

Mr. Scott, the word is given.

SCOTTY

Aye, sir.

He moves off, followed by Preston, who gives one last
salute as Kirk leaves, followed by Bones.

BONES

(dry)

What about the rest of the
inspection, Admiral?

KIRK

The inspection will continue once
we're underway, Doctor.

They step into the Turbo Lifts.

35

35 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

The real one, no doubt! CAMERA REVEALS the maze detail: winking and blinking displays, all HANDS at station, a hum of activity, Uhura and Sulu in familiar chairs, Spock is in the Captain's chair, Saavik in the First Officer's position. Kirk and Bones stand towards the rear.

INTERCOM VOICE

This is Starfleet operations.
Enterprise is cleared for departure.

SULU

Admiral on the bridge!

SPOCK

Very well, Mr. Saavik, clear all moorings.

SAAVIK

Aye, sir.

Saavik punches data into her console.

36

36 EXT. SPACE DOCK AND ENTERPRISE (FEATURE STOCK)

The dock slowly folds away from the ship.

37

37 INT. BRIDGE, ENTERPRISE

Saavik watches instruments, punches data in response.

SAAVIK

All moorings are clear, Captain.

SPOCK

Thank you, Mr. Saavik.

Spock casts a glance at Kirk, then, to Saavik:

SPOCK

(continuing)

Lieutenant, how many times have you piloted a Starship out of Spacedock?

SAAVIK

Never, sir.

Kirk tries to conceal his reaction. Spock enjoys it.

SPOCK

Take her out, Mr. Saavik.

SAAVIK

Aye, sir.

Saavik settles herself in the chair, looks again at the console -- Spock looks at Kirk.

SPOCK

There's a first time for everything, Admiral.

KIRK

(casual)

To be sure, Captain.

They all stifle their responses. Kirk is like a father watching his kid drive the family car for the first time.

SAAVIK

Aft thrusters, Mr. Sulu.

SULU

Aft thrusters, sir.

38 **OMITTED**

38

39 **EXT. ENTERPRISE (FEATURE STOCK)**

39

as the ship slowly and majestically leaves the dock.

40 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

40

Activity hums.

SAAVIK

Ahead one quarter impulse power.

Kirk starts to say something, but doesn't. Bones looks at him.

BONES

(sotto voice)

Would you like a tranquilizer?

Kirk shakes his head, takes a breath --

SULU

Ahead one quarter impulse power.

41 **EXT. SPACE DOCK ENTERPRISE (FEATURE STOCK)**

41

The ship clears the dock and begins heading into space.

Project 'Genesis' ?

CHEKOV

Beyond what I told you, sir, it is classified information.

KHAN

Umm. And would Admiral Kirk have access to such information?

CHEKOV

I would think so, sir. He's on the Fleet General Staff.

KHAN

Then to whom do you report directly regarding Genesis?

CHEKOV

To Doctor Marcus, the civilian director of the experiments on Space Laboratory Regula I.

KHAN

(thinks)

I see. Helmsman?

HELMSMAN

Aye, sir.

JOACHIM

May I speak? We're all with you, sir, but consider: we are free, we have a ship and the means to go where we will. We have escaped permanent exile on Ceti Alpha V. You have proved your superior intellect and defeated the plans of Admiral Kirk. You do not need to defeat him again.

KHAN

He tasks me -- and I'll have him. I'll chase him round the moons of Nibia and round the Antares maelstrom and round perdition's flames before I give him up.

(as no one speaks)

Prepare to alter course -- for Space Station Regula I.

46

46 EXT. SPACE - SPACE STATION REGULA I

47

47 INT. CAROL'S LAB

Huge and busy. Among the scientists going about their tasks are JEDDA, a Deltan; MARCH, thin intense; MADISON, black, easy going. They are all young and earnest. Carol and David huddle over a computer console.

DAVID

Does that about do it?

CAROL

I don't think there's another piece of information we could squeeze into the memory banks. Next time, we'll design a bigger one.

DAVID

Who --

Jedda at the Comm Console overlaps.

JEDDA

Comm-Pic coming in on hyperchannel ... It's Reliant.

Carol moves forward as the others close in.

CAROL

On the screen, please, Jedda.

Buttons punched; the screen ebbs, flows and crackles on. ON SCREEN is CHEKOV.

CHEKOV

... come in, please. This is Reliant calling Regula I. Repeat. This is USS Reliant --

CAROL

Commander, we are receiving. This is Regula I. Go ahead.

CHEKOV

Dr. Marcus... good. We're en route to you and should be there in three days.

CAROL

En route? Why? We weren't expecting you for another three months. Has something happened?

(pause)

Has something happened? Do you read us?

CHEKOV

(fractional pause)
All went well. Nothing has happened.
Ceti Alpha VI has checked out.

Pleased reaction from the scientists.

CAROL

I still don't under --

CHEKOV

We have received new orders. Upon our arrival at Regula I, all materials of Project Genesis will be transferred to this ship for immediate testing at Ceti Alpha VI.

Consternation in the lab. David is livid -- the words "Bullshit" are overlapped by his mother.

CAROL

Will you please be quiet!

(back to console)

Commander Chekov, this is completely irregular. Who gave the order you are quoting? Who gave the order?

CHEKOV

(still smiling)

The order comes from Starfleet command, Dr. Marcus, direct from the General Staff.

CAROL

But Genesis is a civilian project, under my control --

CHEKOV

I have my orders.

DAVID

Pin him down, mother! Who gave the orders!?

Chekov hesitates, seems to be listening to someone off the monitor.

CHEKOV

The orders come from Admiral James T. Kirk.

Sensation in the lab.

DAVID

I knew it! I knew it! All along the military has wanted to get their hands on this --

He starts to press a button; Carol pushes his hand away and communicates herself.

CAROL

This is completely improper, Commander Chekov. I have no intention of allowing Reliant or any other unauthorized personnel access to our work or materials.

CHEKOV

(pauses; listens)

I'm sorry you feel that way, Doctor. Admiral Kirk's orders are confirmed. Please prepare to deliver Genesis to us upon arrival. Reliant out.

The image fades.

CAROL

Commander Chekov -- !

48

48 INT. BRIDGE OF RELIANT

Chekov, in a matched cut, turns away as CAMERA WIDENS TO REVEAL KHAN by his side. He is charming.

KHAN

Well done, Commander.

CHEKOV

You realize, sir, that they will attempt to contact Admiral Kirk and confirm the order.

Khan smiles, more charming than ever as we move in.

49

49 INT. REGULA I LAB

Everyone is talking at once.

CAROL

Will you please be quiet! We must have order here.

(as they subside)

This has to be some sort of mistake.

DAVID

Mistake? We're all alone here. They waited until everyone was on shift-leave to do this. Reliant is supposed to be at our disposal, not vice-versa.

MADISON

It seems clear that Starfleet never intended that --

CAROL

I know, but --

DAVID

I've tried to warn you. Scientists are always pawns of the military --

CAROL

(angry)

Starfleet has kept the peace for a hundred years, I cannot and will not subscribe to your interpretation of this event.

Silence.

JEDDA

(Deltan cool)

You may be right, Doctor, but what about Reliant? She's on her way.

Carol reacts: this is certainly true.

CAROL

Get your gear together where it's handy.

MARCH

Where are we going?

CAROL

That's for us to know and Reliant to find out. We have only three days. Let's not waste time.

They split off in different directions as ordered.

50 **OMITTED**

51 **EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (FEATURE STOCK)**

In no particular hurry.

52 **INT. ENTERPRISE CORRIDOR**

Kirk waits for the Turbo Lift, which opens at last. As he gets in --

SAAVIK'S VOICE

Hold please -- !

Kirk holds and Saavik dashes in. She is surprised to see him.

SAAVIK

(continuing)

Thank you, sir.

Kirk nods, the doors close. There is an uneasy forced intimacy between them.

KIRK

Lieutenant, are you wearing your hair differently?

SAAVIK

It is still regulation, Admiral.

She reaches out and touches a button. The lift stops.

SAAVIK

(continuing)

May I speak, sir?

KIRK

Lieutenant, self-expression does not seem to be one of your problems.

SAAVIK

I wish to thank you for the high efficiency rating.

KIRK

You earned it.

SAAVIK

I did not think so.

KIRK

You're bothered by your performance on the Kobayashi Maru.

SAAVIK

I failed to resolve the situation.

KIRK

There is no correct resolution. It is a test of character.

SAAVIK

May I ask how you dealt with the test?

KIRK

(amused)

You may ask, Lieutenant.

She stares.

KIRK

(continuing)

That was a little joke.

SAAVIK

Humor... that is a difficult concept
... it is not logical...

KIRK

We learn by doing, Lieutenant.

She's a laugh a minute. Kirk pushes the button; the elevator starts.

KIRK

(continuing)

You want my advice?

She studies him, considering. No doubt about it, the attraction is mutual and she has no idea how to handle it.

SAAVIK

Yes.

KIRK

Take the test again.

The lift stops and the doors open.

BONES

Who's been holding up the damn elevator?

He reacts to them. Saavik exits demurely.

SAAVIK

Thank you, sir.

Bones enters and the doors close. Kirk studies the ceiling.

BONES

Has she changed her hairstyle?

Kirk says nothing.

BONES

(finally)

Wonderful stuff, that Romulan ale --

UHURA'S VOICE

Admiral Kirk --

KIRK

Kirk here.

UHURA'S VOICE

I have an urgent CommPic from Space
Lab Regula I for the Admiral. Dr.
Carol Marcus.

KIRK

In my quarters, Uhura.

UHURA'S VOICE

Yes, sir.

Awkward silence.

BONES

It never rains but when it pours --

KIRK

As a physician you of all people
should appreciate the danger of
re-opening old wounds.

The elevator stops. Kirk leaves. The doors close.

BONES

(annoyed with
himself)

Sorry.

53

53 INT. KIRK'S QUARTERS

Featuring VIEW SCREEN: A scramble of interference and
noise. A piece of Carol's VOICE breaks through now
and again as we PULL BACK revealing a frustrated Kirk.

KIRK

Uhura. Can't you augment?

UHURA

I'm trying, sir. Stand by...

Carol's face appears. The image will never be stable
for long; sometimes the sound will be covered.

CAROL

Jim... read me? Can you read me?

KIRK

Message breaking up, Carol. What's
wrong? What's wrong?

CAROL

... Can't read you... repeat...

KIRK

Repeat... what's wrong? What's wrong?

CAROL

... taking Genesis away from us...

KIRK

Taking Genesis? Who? Who is taking Genesis?

CAROL

... see you but can't hear. Did you... order...?

KIRK

What order? Who's taking Genesis?

CAROL

... Please help us, Jim... won't let them have... without proper... repeat... on whose authority...

KIRK

Carol!

CAROL

Jim please --

But the picture is irrevocably scrambled now. Kirk pounds the Comm in frustration.

KIRK

Uhura! What's happening? Damn it...

UHURA'S VOICE

Transmission jammed at the source, sir.

KIRK

Damn. Alert Starfleet Headquarters. I want to talk with Starfleet Command.

54 **OMITTED**

55 **EXT. ENTERPRISE (FEATURE STOCK)**

cruising.

56 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

The activity is normal. The Turbo-Lift opens and Kirk strides in. Bones and Saavik react to the following:

KIRK

Stop engines.

SULU

Stop engines.

They look wonderingly. Kirk takes a breath --

KIRK

An emergency situation has arisen. By order of Starfleet Command, as of now, 1800 hours, I am assuming command of this vessel. Duty officer so note in the ship's log. Plot a new course: for Space Laboratory Regula I.

(pushes a button)

Mr. Scott?

SCOTTY'S VOICE

Aye, sir.

KIRK

We'll be going to warp speed --

SCOTTY'S VOICE

Aye, sir --

SULU

(overlapping)

Course plotted for Regula I, Admiral...

KIRK

Engage warp engines --

SAAVIK

(comes out of being
stunned)

Prepare for warp speed.

SULU

Ready, sir.

KIRK

Mr. Sulu, go to Warp 5.

Sulu does, and with a great thrust of energy --

57 **EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (FEATURE STOCK)**

57

The ship accelerates, and then, with an eye-filled burst, whips ahead to warp speed, disappearing.

57A **INT. SPOCK'S QUARTERS**

57A

Spock is at meditation as Kirk enters quietly. Spock looks up.

KIRK

We've got a problem.

Spock raises an eyebrow --

KIRK

(continuing)

Something may be wrong at Regula I. We've been ordered to investigate.

SPOCK

Regula I is a scientific research laboratory, if memory serves...

KIRK

I told Starfleet all we had was a boatload of children but we're the only ship in the quadrant. Spock: those cadets of yours -- how good are they? How will they respond under real pressure?

SPOCK

Like all living beings, Admiral each according to his gifts. The ship is yours.

KIRK

That won't be necessary: just take me to Regula I.

SPOCK

Excuse my presumption, but I do not agree. As a teacher on a training mission, I am content to command a Starship. If we are to go on actual duty, it is clear that the senior officer aboard must assume command.

KIRK

But it may be nothing; garbled communications. Why don't you...

SPOCK

You proceed from a false assumption. I am a Vulcan. I have no ego to bruise.

Kirk smiles in bemused wonderment.

KIRK

You are going to remind me that logic alone dictates your actions.

SPOCK

I was going to remind you of nothing,
least of all that which you know well.

(pause)

Your mistake, if I may be so bold,
was promotion. Commanding a Starship
is your first best destiny. Anything
else is a waste of material.

KIRK

I would not presume to debate you.

SPOCK

That is wise. In any case, were I
to invoke logic, logic clearly dictates
that the needs of the many outweigh
the needs of the few.

KIRK

Or the one.

Spock inclines his head.

SPOCK

You are my superior officer. You
are also my friend. I have been
and always shall be yours.

Kirk is moved. He starts to speak, can't -- finally:

KIRK

Will you accompany me to the bridge?

SPOCK

I'd best talk with Mr. Scott, first
so that he may, in his own words,
explain the situation to his cadets.

Kirk's face tells us the wisdom of Spock's choice.

58

58 EXT. SPACE STATION REGULA I

Floating quietly around the planet below. Tranquil
as we PUSH SLOWLY IN.

OVER we can hear, FILTERED, UHURA'S VOICE:

UHURA'S VOICE

Regula I, this is Enterprise. This
is Enterprise calling. Do you
receive... I say...

59

59 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

Featuring Spock and Uhura, as she keeps trying --

UHURA

... Again, this is Enterprise calling Space Lab Regula I. Come in, please. Dr. Marcus. Please respond, please -- it's no use; no response from Regula I.

SPOCK

But no longer jammed?

UHURA

No, sir. No nothing.

Spock considers, moves to Kirk.

SPOCK

There are two possibilities, sir they are unwilling to respond, they are unable to respond.

KIRK

How far?

SPOCK

Twelve hours and forty-three minutes, present speed.

KIRK

Give up Genesis, she said. What in God's name does that mean? Give it up to whom?

SPOCK

It might help my analysis if I knew what Genesis was.

Kirk looks at him, nods; rising now.

KIRK

Uhura, ask Dr. McCoy to join us in my quarters. Mr. Saavik, take the con.

They start for the Turbo Lifts as Saavik reacts --

60 INT. KIRK'S QUARTERS

60

BONES

I've got the sick bay ready. Will someone please tell me what is going on?

KIRK

(dims lights)

Computer. Request security procedure

and access to Project Genesis
Summary.

COMPUTER VOICE

Identify for retina scan.

KIRK

Kirk, Admiral James T., Starfleet
General Staff. Security Class 1.

The screen is suddenly busy with coded read-outs and
then computer graphics of retina patterns. Then it
glows green. SECURITY CLEARANCE, CLASS 1 GRANTED.

KIRK

(continuing)

Summary, please.

More coded read-outs, a red line SECURITY SCAN, then
over it APPROVED, in green. Replaced by:

61 61 **ON SCREEN INT. CAROL MARCUS' LAB, REGULA I**

Carol appears, FACING CAMERA, not used to it. To one
side stands David and behind them, the lab.

62 62 **ANGLE - KIRK, SPOCK, BONES**

SPOCK

Carol Marcus --

KIRK

Yes.

63 63 **ON SCREEN (AND INTERCUT)**

CAROL

I'm Dr. Carol Marcus, and I am
the director of the Project
Genesis team at Regula I. What
exactly IS Genesis? Put simply,
Genesis is a procedure whereby
the molecular structure of any
given matter can be restructured
-- changed -- into anything else
of identical mass.

(DNA ILM TAPE ACCOMPANIES, AD LIB)

SPOCK

Fascinating.

KIRK

Wait --

CAROL

Stage One of our experiments was conducted in the laboratory. Stage Two of the series will be attempted in a lifeless underground; Stage Three will involve the process on a planetary scale. What follows is a computer projected simulation of Stage Three. Please watch closely.

64 **ILM MONITOR SEQUENCE**

&
&

65 **CAROL**

It is our intention to introduce what we call the Genesis device or "torpedo" into the targeted area of a lifeless space body, a moon or other inert form -- the device is fired --

66 **ON BONES, SPOCK AND KIRK**

react with wonder.

67 **BACK TO MONITOR**

CAROL

-- Unleashing, almost instantaneously, what we call the Genesis effect. Particulate matter is reorganized and electrified -- with life introduced results. Instead of a dead moon, a living breathing planet, capable of sustaining whatever life forms we see fit to deposit on it... The reformed object you see represents the merest fraction of the Genesis potential, should the Federation wish to pursue these experiments to their logical conclusion.

67A **BACK TO CAROL IN LAB**

CAROL

When we consider the problems of population and food supply, the

usefulness of this process begins to become clear. This concludes this demonstration tape. Thank you for your attention. The Genesis team eagerly awaits the decision of the Federation regarding the next phase of our work.

The tape becomes snowy and blinks off.

Kirk looks at Bones and Spock -- they are stunned.

SPOCK

It literally is Genesis...

KIRK

The power of creation --

SPOCK

Have they proceeded with their experiments?

KIRK

The tape was made a year ago. I can only assume they've reached Phase Two by now --

BONES

But dear Lord, are we intelligent enough to -- Suppose, this thing were used where life already exists?

SPOCK

It would destroy such life in favor of its new matrix --

BONES

It's new -- have you any idea what you're saying?

SPOCK

I was not attempting to evaluate its moral implications, Doctor. As a matter of cosmic history, it has always been easier to destroy than to create --

BONES

Not anymore! Now you can do both at the same time! According to myth, the earth was created in six days. Watch out: here comes Genesis; we'll do it for you in six minutes --

SPOCK

I don't dispute that in the wrong

hands --

BONES

Would you like to tell me whose are the right hands, my cold-blooded friend? Are you in favor of these experiments?

KIRK

Gentlemen, this isn't --

SPOCK

Really, Dr. McCoy; you cannot ban the acquisition of knowledge because you distrust the moral implications of what you learn. Logic suggests --

BONES

Logic?? We're talking about universal Armageddon, you inhuman bloodless...

SAAVIK'S VOICE

(intercom)

Admiral, sensors indicate a vessel in our area, closing fast.

KIRK

What do you make of her?

SAAVIK'S VOICE

It's one of ours, Admiral... It's Reliant.

SPOCK

What's she doing here?

KIRK

Chekov's on Reliant, isn't he?

68 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

The whoosh of the turbo doors and Kirk, Bones and Spock assume their posts. Saavik stands next to Kirk's chair.

UHURA

She's not responding...

KIRK

Try the emergency channels...

UHURA

Enterprise to Reliant. Come in, Reliant.

KIRK

Picture, Mr. Saavik.

69

69 ANGLE INCLUDING THE FORWARD SCREEN

Space; a tiny dot in the distance, growing larger.

SPOCK

Attempt visual communication.

UHURA

Yes, sir.

KIRK

Is it possible their COMM system
has failed -- ?

SPOCK

It would explain a great many things --

70

70 EXT. SPACE - THE RELIANT

Boring forward ominously.

71

71 INT. BRIDGE - THE RELIANT

Khan and his crew; no sign of Chekov and Terrell. On
Khan's screen, the Enterprise grows larger --

KHAN

(almost sing-song
with joy)

Slow to one-half impulse power.
Let's be friends...

HELMSMAN

Slowing to one-half impulse.

JOACHIM

They're requesting visual
communications, sir.

KHAN

Let them eat static.

JOACHIM

They're still running with shields down.

KHAN

Of course. We're one big happy fleet.
Ah, Kirk, my old friend, do you know
the Klingon proverb that tells us
revenge is a dish that is best

served cold?
(pause)
It is very cold in space.

72

72 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

SULU

Reliant in our section this quadrant,
sir, and slowing --

KIRK

Visual.

Visual of Reliant appears.

SAAVIK

Sir, may I quote General Order 12:
'On the approach of any vessel, when
communications have not been est --

SPOCK

Lieutenant, the Admiral is aware
of the Regulations.

SAAVIK

Aye, sir.

KIRK

(watches the
screen)

This is damned peculiar.

(beat)

Yellow alert.

SAAVIK

Energize defense fields.

ALARMS SOUND. The lights on the bridge dim into the
soft reddish glow of battle illumination. ADDITIONAL
CREW troop in to man vacant consoles.

UHURA

I'm getting a voice message... wait
... short range band. They say their
Chambers coil is shorting their COMM
system.

KIRK

Spock?

SPOCK

Scanning...

He steps to his station.

73

73 **EXT. SPACE**

The two ships are very close, barely moving as they inch toward each other.

74

74 **INT. RELIANT BRIDGE**

JOACHIM

They still haven't raised their shields.

Khan is half out of his seat, sweating with anticipation.

KHAN

Careful: Not all at once. The engine room. Lock on target and prepare to fire.

JOACHIM

Locking phasers on target.

Computer graphics monitor: Cross-hairs on Enterprise.
BIG SCREEN (?)

75

75 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE - FAVORING SPOCK**

He reacts to his blue-lit scope --

SPOCK

Their coil emissions are normal...
Wait: their shields are going up.
They're locking phasers -- !

KIRK

Raise shields! Energize phasers,
stand by to --

But the ENTIRE BRIDGE is ROCKED by a shock impact, some of the crew sent flying.

76

76 **EXT. SPACE**

Reliant firing phasers at Enterprise. A hit in the rear of the engine room area, debris flying into the void.

77

77 **INT. ENTERPRISE ENGINE ROOM**

An explosion rips through the facility, sending yellowish green GAS hurtling down the long facility towards us. Crewmen are hurled through the air, screaming.

78

78 ANGLE - THE GREAT AUTO DOORS

roll closed, sealing off the damaged tail section,
SIRENS SHRIEKING!

79

79 ANGLE - THE TRAINEES

terrified, scramble to get out amid the deadly yellowish green smoke, the cries.

80

80 ANGLE - SCOTTY

trying to rally them --

SCOTTY

Respirators! Get back! Use your
respirators!

And he puts his own respirator on, as do some of the veterans. Preston dons his respirator -- and stays.

81

81 HIGH ANGLE - ENGINE ROOM

The angle we saw during inspection. The trainees, in panic amid the gas crawl over each other trying to get out. They scramble over each other's shoulders in the efforts to escape, screaming and shouting.

82

82 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

The bridge is slowly righting. Crew members getting back to their stations. On speaker, we hear the CRIES AND SHOUTS of the Engine Room.

KIRK

Mr. Sulu... The shields!

SULU

Trying, sir!

INTERCOM VOICE

Medical Alert: Engine Room.

Bones dashes out.

SULU

I can't get power, sir!

KIRK

Scotty!

Scotty's voice is faint, drowned by the screams and

cries from a dozen intercom stations.

KIRK

(continuing)

Uhura, turn off those damn channels!!

Uhura does. There is a dead silence. Then:

UHURA

Mr. Scott on discrete.

KIRK

Scotty, let's have it.

83

83 INT. ENGINE ROOM - FAVORING SCOTTY

Behind, the crew chief and a few others work feverishly in respirators. Scotty, in respirator, with a throat mike which filters his voice.

SCOTTY

Just hanging on, sir. Main energizers out.

84

84 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

ON SCREEN computer graphics, red flashing lights indicate damaged areas. Spock steps up to Kirk evaluating the display.

SPOCK

They knew just where to hit us.

KIRK

WHO? Who knew just where to hit us? And why?

SPOCK

(shakes head)

One thing is certain; we cannot escape on auxiliary power.

KIRK

Visual!

(sees visual)

Mr. Sulu, divert everything to the phasers --

SPOCK

(re screen)

Too late --

On VISUAL SCREEN, Photon torpedoes approach...

KIRK

Hang on!

The bridge is shaken badly, screens go dark, fires spark and erupt. ALARMS and SOUND full. Crew personnel try to put out electrical fires, help the fallen --

85

85 EXT. SPACE - RELIANT

circling Enterprise.

86

86 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE - FAVORING KHAN AT DASH

The glow of the O.S. screens and battle illumination highlighting the passion in his eyes.

87

87 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

The firefighting continues.

KIRK

Scotty -- what's left?

SCOTTY'S VOICE

Just the batteries, sir. I can have auxiliary power in a few minutes --

KIRK

We don't have minutes. Can you give me phaser power?

SCOTTY'S VOICE

A few shots, sir.

SPOCK

Not enough against their shields.

KIRK

Who the hell are they?

UHURA

Admiral... Commander Reliant is signaling.

(a pause)

He wishes to discuss terms of our surrender.

There is a moment. Kirk looks around the battered bridge, and his eyes meet Spock's, and Saavik's.

KIRK

On screen.

UHURA

(hesitating)
Admiral --

KIRK
Do it, while we have time.

All eyes go to the SCREEN. After momentary visual confusion, Khan's face appears, smiling --

KIRK
(continuing; dumbfounded)
Khan!

SAAVIK
Who?

KHAN
You still remember, Admiral. I cannot help but be touched. Of course, I remember you.

KIRK
What is the meaning of this attack?
Where is the crew of the Reliant?

KHAN
Surely I have made my meaning plain. I mean to avenge myself upon you, Admiral. I've deprived your ship of power and when I swing round I mean to deprive you of your life --

88 **EXT. SPACE**

We can see Reliant making a large arc as she prepares to come back for another round.

89 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

KHAN
(on screen)
-- But I wanted you to know first who it was who had beaten you: I, Khan Noonian Singh, the eagle you attempted to cage forever.

KIRK
Khan, listen to me -- if its me you want, I'll have myself beamed aboard. All I ask is that you spare my crew.

KHAN
That is a most intriguing offer. Typical, I must say of your sterling character. Let me think.

90 **90 EXT. SPACE**

Reliant continues her slow arc.

91 **91 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

KHAN

(on screen)

I make you a counter-proposal, I will agree to your terms, if in addition to yourself, you turn over to me all data and material regarding the project called Genesis.

Reactions from Spock and Kirk.

KIRK

Genesis, what's that?

KHAN

Don't play with me, Kirk, my hand is on the phaser control --

KIRK

Give me some time to recall the data on our computers --

KHAN

I give you sixty seconds, Admiral.

Kirk turns from the screen --

SPOCK

Admiral, you can't give him Genesis...

KIRK

At least we know he hasn't got it. Just keep nodding as though I'm giving orders. Saavik, punch up the data charts of Reliant's command console -- hurry...

SAAVIK

Reliant's command...

KIRK

HURRY.

SPOCK

The prefix code?

KIRK

It's all we've got.

SAAVIK

On screen...

KIRK

(to Khan)

We're finding it.

(urging)

Please, please -- you've got to give us time -- the bridge is smashed, computers inoperative...

KHAN

Time is a luxury you do not have, Admiral: forty-five seconds...

92 **EXT. SPACE**

92

Reliant, her arc completed, is coming back.

93 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

93

SAAVIK

I don't understand --

Kirk puts on his spectacles --

KIRK

You've got to learn WHY things work on a Starship.

(to Khan)

It's coming through now, Khan...

SPOCK

(descends)

The prefix code is 16309. All commands from each Starship bridge are relayed electronically; each ship has its own prefix combination code...

KHAN

Thirty seconds...

KIRK

... to prevent an enemy from doing just what we're attempting; using our console to tap in a message, an order to lower Reliant's damn shields...

SPOCK

(at the weapons console)

Let's hope he hasn't changed the combination. He's quite intelligent...

KIRK

(grim)

Wait for my signal, Spock -- too soon and he'll have time to figure it out and raise them again.

Spock nods; Kirk turns to the screen --

KIRK

(continuing)

Khan, how do I know you'll keep your word?

KHAN

(on screen)

I've given you no word to keep, Admiral. In my judgment, you simply have no alternative.

KIRK

I take your point. Stand by to receive our transmission.

He turns from the screen again, softly:

KIRK

(continuing)

Mr. Sulu, lock phasers on target and await my command...

SULU

(quietly)

Phasers locked...

They're all sweating.

KHAN

Time's up, Admiral...

KIRK

(dry)

Here it comes. Now, Spock.

94 **CLOSE UP SPOCK'S HANDS PUNCHING IN THE PREFIX CODE**

followed by other signals.

95 **INT. RELIANT BRIDGE**

JOACHIM

(stares at his console)

Sir -- our shields are dropping!

KHAN

Raise them --

Joachim punches frantically --

JOACHIM

They won't --

KHAN

Where's the over-ride??

All monitors are haywire now that Enterprise is tapped in. They search wildly for the right switch, but...

96 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

97 **CLOSE UP - KIRK**

KIRK

FIRE!

98 **CLOSE UP - SULU'S HANDS**

punching.

99 **EXT. SPACE**

Enterprise fires at Reliant inflicting heavy damage.

100 **INT. RELIANT BRIDGE**

A shambles -- debris flying; Khan knocked to the deck. He struggles to his feet through wiring --

KHAN

(enraged)

At them! At them! FIRE! FIRE!
Why can't you?

JOACHIM

We can't fire, sir; they've damaged the photon controls and the warp drive. We must withdraw!

KHAN

No!

JOACHIM

Sir, we must!

(desperate urging)

We must repair the damage. Enterprise will wait; she's not going anywhere.

Khan calms as the other holds him; he breathes deeper.

101 101 **EXT. SPACE**

Reliant turns away.

102 102 **ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

They watch on screen as Reliant hauls off.

SULU

(breathless)

Sir, you did it.

KIRK

(enraged)

I did nothing -- except get caught
with my britches down. I must be
senile. Mr. Saavik, you just keep
right on quoting regulations.
Meantime, let's find out what the
hell is going on and see how bad
we've been --

The turbo doors whoosh open as Kirk reaches them.
Scotty stands there, tears streaming down his face;
he holds the body of Midshipman Preston. Both of them
are covered in blood. He sways into Kirk's arms as
the others rush forward.

103 103 **EXT. SPACE**

The Enterprise, motionless, scars of battle showing.

104 104 **INT. ENGINE ROOM**

The CREW, wearing respirators amid the motionless ball
of gas, work frantically at a dozen jobs, trying to put
things aright, splicing wires, etc. Some TRAINEES who
panicked are back.

105 105 **FEATURE THE CREW CHIEF**

making a final adjustment.

CREW CHIEF

Hit your blowers!

A TURBO WHINES and a great wind of suction pulls the
gas towards appropriate vents. The Crew Chief watches,
then yanks off his respirator; wipes his brow.

MANY CASUALTIES IN EVIDENCE. Kirk enters and LEADS CAMERA THROUGH them; he has a word or two for men he doesn't know by name. Kirk leads us to the operating theatre, where Bones works over Preston. Scotty stands by, his lips trembling. Preston opens his eyes, sees Scotty and Kirk.

PRESTON

(faint)

Is the word given?

KIRK

(soft)

The word is given: warp speed.

PRESTON

(almost smiles)

Aye...

He dies. Pause. Scotty looks across the body at Kirk.

SCOTTY

WHY?

KIRK

(looks at Preston)

He wants to kill me for passing sentence on him 14 years ago -- and he doesn't care who stands between him and his vengeance.

BONES

Scotty, I'm sorry...

SCOTTY

He stayed at his post. When the trainees ran, he stayed.

KIRK

If he hadn't, we'd be space by now.

SPOCK'S VOICE

Admiral, this is Spock.

Kirk hits a wall intercom --

KIRK

Yes, Spock.

SPOCK'S VOICE

Engine room reports auxiliary power restored. We can proceed at impulse power.

KIRK

(thinks)

Best speed to Regula I. Kirk
out. Scotty, I've got to ask: Any
chance of getting the mains back on
the line?

SCOTTY

I dinna think so, sir, but you'll
have my best --

With an effort, he gets to his feet --

SCOTTY

(continuing)

Thanks -- I know you tried, Doctor...

Squeezes his shoulder and limps off -- We NOW HEAR
the sound of impulse power taking effect.

KIRK

Are you all right?

Bones shrugs unhappily, looks at Preston.

BONES

Doctors lose patients sometimes.
Damn. I'm still in the dark: How'd
he know about Genesis?

KIRK

At the moment that question takes
a back seat to preventing him from
laying his hands on it. You said it
yourself; we're talking about a bang
that would re-arrange the universe...

BONES

There may still be time... you gave
as good as you got.

KIRK

(looks him in the eye)

I got beat. We're only alive because
I knew something about these ships
that he didn't.

He turns and leaves as Bones watches, looks again at
Preston.

107 **EXT. SPACE - REGULA I SPACE STATION**

107

Regula, the dead planet beyond.

108 **EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE**

108

Approaching. As she moves slowly PAST CAMERA, WE PAN WITH her TO SEE that she is approaching the space lab.

109 **INT. BRIDGE - ENTERPRISE**

Battle damage, some repaired, some not. The bridge is filled with tension, all hands at station.

SULU (V.O.)

Approaching Regula and Space Lab
Regula I.

KIRK

Try again.

UHURA

Space Station Regular I, this is
Starship Enterprise. Come in, please...

110 **INT. SPACE STATION REGULAR I - CAROL'S LAB - ON SCREEN**

As before, Uhura's image, imploring a response.

UHURA

I say again. Space Station Regular.
This is Starship Enterprise. Please
respond. Please respond.

During this, CAMERA HAS PANNED CLOSE AMONG the technical clutter. Then suddenly. SOUND -- eerie, frightening. Our ears cannot place it... and before we can, it is gone a warning.

111 **BACK TO BRIDGE**

UHURA

... No response, sir.

KIRK

Sensors, Captain?

SPOCK

Scanners and sensors still inoperative.
There's no way to tell what's inside
the station.

KIRK

And no way of knowing if Reliant
is still in the area...

SPOCK

Affirmative, Admiral.

KIRK

(with irony)

... Blind as a Tiberian Bat.
What do you make of the plantoid
beyond?

SPOCK

Regula is class "D". It consists of
various remarkable ores. Essentially,
a great rock in space.

KIRK

Reliant could be hiding behind that rock.

SPOCK

A distinct possibility.

KIRK

Engine room... Scotty, do we have
enough power for the transporters?

SCOTTY'S VOICE

Just barely, sir.

KIRK

(the decision)

I'm going down to the station.

He starts out. Bones stops him.

BONES

Khan could be down there!

KIRK

He's BEEN there and hasn't found
what he wants. Can you spare
someone? There may be people
hurt.

BONES

I can spare me...

SAAVIK

Begging the Admiral's pardon:
General Order 15: 'No flag officer
shall beam into a hazardous area
without armed escort.'

KIRK

There is no such regulation.

Saavik's gaze falters --

KIRK

(continuing)

All right, join the party.
Mr. Spock, the ship is yours.

SPOCK

Aye sir --

KIRK

Establish a parking orbit around the station and send me a complete damage report when you've talked with Mr. Scott.

SPOCK

Be careful, Jim...

Kirk, Bones and Saavik head for the turbo doors.

112 **EXT. SPACE - SPACE STATION REGULAR I**

CLOSER ANGLE now. The silence is ominous.

113 **INT. SPACE STATION REGULAR I - CAROL'S LAB**

empty, except for the hums and crackles of abandoned equipment. With a FAMILIAR SOUND, BONES, KIRK and SAAVIK MATERIALIZE. All have phasers, communicators and tricorders.

For a moment they look around, seeing emptiness. Like being in a haunted house.

KIRK

Hello...! Anybody here?

A WEIRD ECHO reverberates his cries.

SAAVIK

(raises tricorder)

Indeterminate life signs.

KIRK

Phasers on stun. Move out.

They separate. Each begins to search.

114 **ANGLE WITH SAAVIK**

She moves to the electronic and data area, examines the consoles, the equipment, then settles for the data bank. She starts keying sequences with the computer.

115 **INT. SPACE STATION - BONES**

He shows signs of fear as he walks through the deserted place, like a scuba diver exploring a cave. We want

him to go back.

A NOISE. Bones reacts with brave apprehension.

Rounding a corner, he starts: A RAT scuttles right in front of him.

Bones sighs with relief and moves forward. We think he's safe.

SUDDENLY SOMETHING FALLS RIGHT ON HIS FACE: an upside down human ARM.

116 **SAME LOCALE - LATER**

Kirk helps Bones cut down the last of the five BODIES from where they were hanged, upside down.

Having recovered his composure, Bones examines the corpses. We RECOGNIZE Madison, March, among others.

One is clearly the COOK.

KIRK

(stunned)

They even killed the galley chief.

BONES

This one looks like a Steward.
They're not warm, but rigor hasn't set in. This didn't happen all that long ago, Jim.

Kirk looks around, despairingly --

KIRK

Carol...

117 **INT. SPACE LAB DATA BANK**

WITH SAAVIK working with console. Something puzzles her. She frowns, but a NEW SOUND distracts her. She looks up and moves off.

118 **FULL SHOT - IN THE LAB**

A moan is heard. All three now converge on the area. As they near it, Saavik's tricorder hums furiously. Be this a room, a locker of some other place, this time they -- "open the door." The limp bodies of Chekov and Terrell fall out.

UHURA'S VOICE

(on screen)

Admiral Kirk, Enterprise. Come in,
please. Come in please.

She will continue sporadically.

KIRK

My God!

Chekov emits a live, reassuring moan.

BONES

That's Clark Terrell, Jim, I've
served with him.

Bones is passing his medical tricorder over Chekov.

BONES

(continuing)

Brain disturbance. Appears to be
drug induced.

He reaches into his kit. He shoots Chekov moves off
to Terrell. Uhura, voice continues in the b.g.

KIRK

Saavik, for God's sake, tell her
we're all right.

119

119 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE - FAVORING UHURA

UHURA

I say again. This is Enterprise.
Please acknowledge signal. Please --

Saavik's face appears on her screen.

SAAVIK

(on screen, hurried)

Commander Uhura, this is Lt. Saavik.
We're all right. Please stand by.
Out.

UHURA

(baffled)

Aye, aye.

120

120 INT. SPACE STATION - TIGHT GROUP

Chekov opens his eyes, and stares into Kirk's.

CHEKOV

Oh, God, Admiral...!

He weeps like a child, and Kirk holds him. Meanwhile,
Terrell opens his eyes and stares at Bones.

BONES

It's Dr. McCoy, Captain. Do you remember me?

TERRELL

McCoy? Yes. Oh, yes.

121

121 ANGLE FAVORING CHEKOV AND KIRK

Chekov breaks the embrace in high relief and anxiety.

CHEKOV

Oh, sir. It was Khan! We found him on Ceti Alpha V.

KIRK

Easy, Pavel... Tell me what you can...

CHEKOV

No life signs -- but he was there. Captured us. He -- he put creatures in our bodies. To control our minds.

Bones takes over Chekov --

BONES

It's all right, you're safe...

CHEKOV

... Made us say -- lies... Do... things... But we beat him... The Captain and me. -- He thought he controlled us, but he didn't ... The Captain was strong.

Chekov breaks into tears. Kirk looks at Terrell, who is more composed.

KIRK

Captain. Where is Dr. Marcus? Where are the Genesis materials?

TERRELL

He couldn't find them. Some of the scientists were still here, but everything else, even the data banks -- were empty.

SAAVIK

That's true, Admiral. All the memory cells have been emptied.

KIRK

(ponders)

Erased...

TERRELL

He tortured those people. None of them would tell him anything. He went wild, strung them up and slit their throats. He wanted to tear the place apart, but he was late: he had to get back to Reliant in time to blow you to bits.

KIRK

He came damn close...

CHEKOV

He left us.

(with irony)

We were no longer of use.

SAAVIK

Where is the Reliant crew? Dead?

TERRELL

Marooned on Ceti Alpha V. He's completely mad, Admiral. He blames you for the death of his wife...

KIRK

I know what he blames me for.

(thinks)

The escape pods are all in place.

(looks around)

Where's the transporter room?

122 INT. SPACE STATION TRANSPORTER ROOM

122

Kirk, wearing his spectacles, studies the transporter consoles. ANGLE WIDENS TO REVEAL the transporter pods, and the others, b.g.

KIRK

Did he make it down here?

Chekov and Terrell look at each other; they seem a bit stronger.

CHEKOV

It was not my impression. He spent most of his time trying to wring the information out of the people.

Saavik approaches Kirk:

SAAVIK

Anything?

Kirk looks at her over the rims of the glasses:

KIRK

Somebody left the unit on. If everyone else was dead, it implies that no one remained to turn it off. Those people back there bought escape time for Genesis with their lives.

Saavik studies the console.

SAAVIK

It doesn't make sense. These coordinates are well within Regula -- a plantoid we know to be lifeless and airless.

KIRK

(wheels turn)

If Stage Two was completed, it was underground -- she said it was going to be underground.

SAAVIK

Stage Two of what?

Kirk gets it.

KIRK

(on communicator)

Kirk to Enterprise. Damage report, Spock?

SPOCK'S VOICE

Admiral, if we go by the book, like Lieutenant Saavik, hours could seem like days.

KIRK

(beat)

I read you, Captain. Let's have it.

Fractional pause.

SPOCK'S VOICE

The situation is grave, Admiral. We won't have main power for six days at least. Auxiliary power has temporarily failed, but maybe we can restore that in two days. By the book, Admiral.

Kirk frowns.

KIRK

Meaning you can't even beam us back?

SPOCK'S VOICE

Not at present.

Kirk looks at Saavik and Bones, decides --

KIRK

Captain Spock, if you do not hear from us within one hour your orders are to restore what power you can, take the Enterprise to the nearest Star Base and alert Starfleet command when you are out of jamming range.

UHURA'S VOICE

Sir -- we won't leave you behind...!

KIRK

Uhura, if you don't hear from us, there won't be anybody behind. Kirk out.

(to Terrell and Chekov)

You gentleman can remain here, or...

TERRELL

If it's all the same, Admiral, we'd like to share the risk.

KIRK

(hesitates)

Very well. Let's go.

BONES

Go? Where are we going?

KIRK

(points to console)

Where they went. Saavik.

Kirk walks onto the pods as Saavik works the console, rolling in electronic coding. The others join Kirk.

BONES

But what if they went -- nowhere?

KIRK

Then this will be your big chance to get away from it all.

SAAVIK

Ready.

She presses a button, joins them on the pods. Slowly they VANISH.

123 **EXT. SPACE - THE PLANTOID REGULA**

CAMERA MOVES TOWARD it as the BEAM SOUND continues, with irregularity. The plantoid is ugly and dead. The sound frightens us, and climaxes with:

124 **INT. ROCKY CAVERN - REGULA**

The BEAM SOUND screeches, then settles into its comfortable mode as the FIVE FIGURES FLUCTUATE, FADE, then APPEAR. They look around in wonder and relief.

SAAVIK

Admiral --

She indicates something O.S. They cross as CAMERA reveals a cave wall stacked with technical materials and crowned by a LARGE PROJECTILE, a giant version of the model we saw earlier. They stare. (N.B. FEATURE **GENESIS ARMING CONTROL BOX.**)

BONES

Genesis, I presume.

They walk by a group of crates. It all happens very fast: David leaps out and tackles Kirk, throwing him to the ground and landing atop him, a knife at his throat.

At the same time, Bones and Saavik reach for their phasers, but Jedda, already armed, steps out. He has them covered and helpless.

125 **ANGLE FAVORING DAVID**

DAVID

You're the sonavabitch who committed mass murder up there.

He raises the knife --

KIRK

I'm Admiral Kirk...

DAVID

We were still there, you dumb bastard! We could hear the screams all the way to the transporter room --

Again he raises the knife --

KIRK

Where's Dr. Marcus --

DAVID

I'm Doctor Marcus!

Carol reaches the tunnel entrance to the cave --

CAROL

David --

DAVID

Mother, go back!

Carol sees Kirk --

CAROL

Jim --

DAVID

Go back. I'm going to kill him.

CAROL

(takes a breath)

You do that and you'll have murdered
your father.

All react. David and Kirk, facing each other, are turned to stone. Bones, Jedda and Chekov turn to look at Carol, wondering. Terrell very casually takes the phaser from Jedda.

126 NEW ANGLE (FORMERLY SCENE 134)

126

TERRELL

(cool)

I'll hold onto this.

But Kirk and Carol ignore them and walk towards each other. There are tears in Carol's eyes. She reaches up, trying to smile and touches his hair --

CAROL

You've got a little grey --

She can't. Kirk takes her and holds her tightly, looking at David, over her shoulder. He stands there, stunned, looking back.

KIRK

Carol. Is that true?

She nods --

KIRK

(continuing)

Why didn't you tell me?

DAVID

She's making it up! My father was
Professor --

CAROL

David, you're just making this
harder --

TERRELL

I'm afraid it's even harder than you
think, Doctor.

He and Chekov have their phasers trained on them.

TERRELL

(continuing)
Please don't move --

KIRK

Chekov -- !

CHEKOV

I'm sorry, Admiral.

Terrell speaks into his wrist recorder.

TERRELL

Your excellency, have you been
listening?

KHAN'S VOICE

(filtered)
I have indeed, Captain. You have
done well...

DAVID

I knew it -- !

David makes a reckless break for Terrell; Saavik
instantly throws herself on him bringing him down as
Terrell fires, hitting Jedda, who was behind David --
a killing ray. Jedda dematerializes. Carol SCREAMS
and David reacts with horror and guilt.

Most importantly, Chekov begins to tremble. Terrell
himself is shaken by his reflexive action. He's in
semi-panic.

TERRELL

Don't move -- any of you!

127
127
thru
134
134
135
135

EXT. SPACE - THE DARK SIDE OF REGULA

Reliant, motionless in a parking orbit.

136 136 **INT. RELIANT BRIDGE - FAVORING KHAN**

Joachim over his shoulder. Others in evidence. Khan speaks into his console.

KHAN

Captain... We're waiting. What's the delay?

137 137 **INT. ROCKY CAVERN (INTERCUT AS DESIRED)**

TERRELL

All is well, sir. You have the coordinates to beam up Genesis...

KHAN

First things first, Captain. Kill Admiral Kirk.

Reactions by all -- only Kirk and Bones are unsurprised. David and Saavik, dazed, fight the urge to do something. Chekov is close to a seizure. Terrell fights conflicting mental signals.

TERRELL

Excellency... it is difficult. I try to obey, but --

KHAN'S VOICE

Kill him.

As though tearing off a leach, Terrell grabs at the wrist recorder and flings it to the ground. A shock-wave of pain hits Terrell. He recovers, trembling and tries to obey. Chekov is shaking badly. Terrell aims his phaser at Kirk. Chekov slowly raises his phaser and aims at Terrell, though his hands are like lead. We THINK Chekov is going to do the right thing. Then, shockingly: Terrell turns his phaser on himself.

KHAN'S VOICE

(still emanates from wrist recorder)

Kill him, Terrell. Now.

Terrell does, blowing himself into oblivion.

138 138 **ANGLE - FAVORING CHEKOV**

He SCREAMS, horribly, drops his phaser, clutching his head.

Bones leaps to his side, pulls an injection device from

his belt pack, jabs it into Chekov's arm. Chekov,
almost with a sigh of relief, drops.

KHAN'S VOICE

Terrell? Chekov -- !

BONES

Jim -- for God's sake!

They rush to his side, as do Carol and David.

139 **ANGLE - FAVORING CHEKOV**

From the fallen man's ear, something begins to emerge.

140 **VERY CLOSE - CHEKOV'S EAR**

The Ceti eel crawls out. It has grown quite large.

141 **SCENE**

Horror from all. Kirk picks up a phaser. As the eel
clears Chekov, he fires and destroys it. He shudders,
then sees the wrist recorder and grabs it.

KIRK

Khan, you bloodsucker, they're
finished! You'll have to do your
own dirty work now. Do you hear me?
Do you?

142 **INT. RELIANT BRIDGE**

Khan reacts to Kirk's VOICE: electronic shock. He
clutches the communicator, his eye-whites rolling.

KHAN

Kirk! Kirk, you are still alive --
my old friend...

INTERCUT AS DESIRED WITH

143 **ROCKY CAVERN - FAVORING KIRK**

KIRK

Still, 'old friend.' You've
managed to kill just about everyone
else, but like a poor marksman, you
keep missing the target.

KHAN

(ironic)

Perhaps I no longer need to try.

He punches several buttons.

In the Rocky Cavern the transporter beam locks on to the Genesis torpedo and its arming control box.

As Kirk and the others watch, horrified, Khan beams up the materials. David tries to reach the torpedo, but Saavik holds him fast --

DAVID

Let go -- he can't -- !

SAAVIK

Only half of you would get there.

The beam disappears and Genesis with it, leaving them alone.

KIRK

(desperate)

Khan, you have Genesis, but you don't have me! You were going to kill me, Khan, it was your sole purpose. You'll have to come down here to do it! You'll have to come down!

KHAN'S VOICE

I've done far worse than kill you, Admiral. I've hurt you. And I wish to go on hurting you. I shall leave you, as you left me -- where no one will ever find you: poetic justice; marooned for eternity in the center of a dead planet -- buried alive.

KIRK

Khan -- !

KHAN

Goodbye, Admiral. Oh, and don't count on Enterprise. She can't move. My next act will be to blow her out of the heavens.

KIRK

KHAN!

144 **144 OMITTED**

145 **145 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE**

Khan closes his eyes in voluptuous satisfaction.
Joachim enters and Khan looks at him.

KHAN

Well?

JOACHIM

Warp drive still inoperative. All
other systems should be restored
shortly.

Khan sighs, contentedly.

KHAN

Excellent. We have all the time
in the world.

146 **INT. ROCKY CAVERN**

As before, Saavik is on the communicator.

SAAVIK

This is Lt. Saavik, calling Enterprise...

She keeps trying. Chekov stirs --

BONES

He's alive!

Bones goes and tends Chekov who moans, tries to sit up.

KIRK

Pavel?

Chekov tries to smile; Kirk takes his hand --

SAAVIK

No use, Admiral, they're still
jamming all channels.

BONES

(looks across Chekov)
It wouldn't make any difference.
If Enterprise obeyed orders she's
long since gone. And if she couldn't
obey, she's finished.

DAVID

So are we, it looks like.

CAROL

I don't understand.
Who's responsible for all this?
Who is Khan?

KIRK

It's a long story.

DAVID

We appear to have plenty of time.

BONES

(dry)

You and your father can catch up on things.

DAVID

(bitter)

My father. I hope you realize another man has just been killed because of...

BONES

Because of you, son. You shouldn't have tried to rush someone holding a primed phaser. Anyway it isn't one man dead, it's two, in case you've lost count.

David has been effectively spiked. Long silence.

KIRK

Do you have anything to eat? I don't know about anyone else, but I'm starved.

BONES

How can you think of food at a time like this?

KIRK

Our first order of business is survival.

CAROL

There's food in the Genesis cave, enough to last a lifetime -- should that be necessary.

BONES

We thought this was Genesis.

Carol laughs -- there's an edge of hysteria to it.

CAROL

This? It took the Starfleet corps of engineers ten months in space suits to tunnel out all this. What we did in there -- we did in a day. David, why don't you show Dr. McCoy and the Lieutenant our idea of food.

DAVID

But we can't just sit here -- !

KIRK

(unruffled)

Oh, yes we can. Is there really something to eat?

David looks at his father, who checks his watch, putting on his spectacles.

CAROL

David. Please.

DAVID

(to Kirk)

This is just to give us something to do, isn't it?

(he shrugs)

Come on.

Saavik and Bones make to follow. Saavik turns to Kirk --

SAAVIK

Admiral?

KIRK

As your teacher Mr. Spock is fond of saying: I like to think there always are possibilities.

147 **OMITTED**

147

thru

thru

149

149

150 **EXT. SPACE**

150

Dark side of Gamma. Reliant sits idle.

150A **INT. ROCKY CAVERN**

150A

Carol sits on the ground, Chekov's head in her lap, looking at Kirk.

CAROL

David was right, wasn't he? It's just to keep them busy.

KIRK

Why? Why didn't you tell me?

CAROL

How can you ask me that? Were we together? Where we going to be?

You had your world and I had mine.
I wanted him in mine, not chasing
through the universe with his father.

Kirk turns away, overcome. She watches him.

CAROL

(continuing)

He's a lot like you in many ways.
Nothing I could do about it. He's
smarter, of course; that goes without
saying. Most of Genesis is really
his.

Her joke doesn't take effect. He doesn't turn.

CAROL

(continuing)

This is it, isn't it? We're never
going to get out of here.

Kirk says nothing.

CAROL

(continuing)

Please. Tell me what you're feeling.

Kirk hesitates, comes back and sits next to Chekov; he
changes Bones' compress on the ear as he finally speaks.

KIRK

There's a man I haven't seen in
fifteen years who thinks he's killed
me. You show me a son who'd almost be
happy to help him. My son. My life
that could have been and wasn't. What
am I feeling? I'm feeling old --
worn out.

Carol studies him; gently she sets Chekov's head down
on a sweater, then stands.

CAROL

Let me show you something that will
make you feel young -- young as when
the world was new.

She offers her hand. Kirk looks at Chekov, who smiles,
faint assurance.

CAROL

(continuing)

He'll be all right. Come.

After a moment's hesitation, Kirk takes her hand and
she leads him to the tunnel.

150B **150B INT. TUNNEL**

TRUCKING BEFORE Carol and Kirk. A rising light falls on their faces as they walk, then run with excitement toward the source. Kirk races ahead...

150C **150C KIRK'S POV - MOVING THROUGH THE TUNNEL**

toward an iridescent light at its end, blindingly beautiful with color.

INTERCUT: THESE TWO ANGLES until WE CAN HARDLY WAIT for Kirk to reach the end of the tunnel, and then, when it does:

150D **150D INT. GENESIS CAVE - PROMONTORY LEVEL**

where the rock tunnel ends. Kirk comes out of the tunnel, and his mouth drops open.

150E **150E FULL SHOT - THE GENESIS CAVE (MATTE AND FX) (FORMERLY SCENE 130)**

A huge cavern. Kirk is actually standing at the middle of it. Space extends vastly above and below his point of view. Like Eden, lush growth everywhere, waterfalls, and a cobalt blue sky high, high above where a round orb glows sending light and warmth downward. There is a path from where Kirk stands down to the lower level where Bones, and the others are waiting and calling to him. Mist and haze waft gently across the cavern.

150F **150F BACK TO KIRK**

as Carol comes up beside him.

KIRK
You did this -- in a day?!

CAROL
The matrix formed in a day. The life forms grew later -- at a wildly accelerated rate. Can I cook or can't I?

151 **151 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE**

The turbo doors open and Joachim stands there.

JOACHIM
Impulse power restored.

Khan smiles.

KHAN

More than a match for poor
Enterprise.

He punches at his console.

152 **OMITTED**

thru

153

154 **EXT. SPACE - REGULA**

Reliant ominously pokes her nose into the lit side of
the planet, heading for Enterprise.

155 **INT. RELIANT BRIDGE**

JOACHIM

Departing dark side, Regula.

KHAN

Visual --

156 **ON SCREEN**

The Regula I Space Station -- but where is Enterprise?

157 **ON KHAN**

frowning with puzzlement.

KHAN

Where IS she?

158 **ON SCREEN**

not a trace!

159 **INT. GENESIS CAVE PLATFORM**

Kirk and the others eat fruit from the huge (matte)
forest beyond. Chekov has been moved to join them.

159A **ANGLE FAVORING DAVID AND SAAVIK**

who watches him.

DAVID

What are you looking at?

SAAVIK

The Admiral's son.

DAVID

Don't you believe it.

SAAVIK

Oh, I believe it.

She almost smiles. David returns her stare and it throws her.

SAAVIK

(continuing)

What are you looking at?

DAVID

(confused)

I don't know.

159B

159B INT. GENESIS CAVE - WIDER ANGLE

Saavik rises, paces. Kirk puts down his food.

KIRK

Now that's what I call a meal.

BONES

It's like the Garden of Eden...

CAROL

Only here, every apple comes from the Tree of Knowledge.

Kirk watches Saavik.

KIRK

What's on your mind, Lieutenant?

SAAVIK

The Kobayashi Maru, sir.

DAVID

The what?

BONES

The no-win scenario -- and with what philosophy a commander faces defeat.

KIRK

Are you asking me if we are playing out that scenario now, Lieutenant?

SAAVIK

On the test, sir, will you tell me what you did? I'd really like to know.

Kirk looks at Bones, who smiles --

BONES

Lieutenant, you are looking at the only Starfleet cadet who ever beat the no-win scenario --

KIRK

And almost got tossed out of the Academy...

He looks at his watch again, using his glasses --

SAAVIK

How?

KIRK

I reprogrammed the simulation so it was possible to rescue the ship.

SAAVIK

WHAT?

KIRK

I changed the conditions of the test. I received a commendation for original thinking.

(pause)

I don't like to lose.

SAAVIK

Then -- you never faced that situation -- faced death...

BONES

Until now.

KIRK

We each face death every day we're alive, Saavik.

He picks up the communicator.

KIRK

(continuing)

Spock, this is Kirk. It's two hours. Are you about ready?

SPOCK'S VOICE

Right on schedule, Admiral. Just give us your coordinates and we'll beam you aboard.

The others are on their feet, stunned with amazement --

KIRK

Right. I don't like to lose.

He clicks off.

David gapes at his father.

160 **OMITTED**

161 **EXT. SPACE DARK SIDE OF REGULA**

WE CAN SEE NOW where Enterprise is: she has slipped behind the plantoid, clockwise, even as Reliant was rounding into the lighted side.

162 **INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM - ENTERPRISE**

Kirk, David, Saavik, Carol and Bones, holding the semi-conscious Chekov MATERIALIZE. Spock is there to greet them.

SAAVIK

But the damage report -- we were immobilized...

KIRK

Come, come, Lieutenant, you of all people go by the book. Hello, Spock. You remember Dr. Marcus...

They are moving through the room as they talk --

SPOCK

Certainly...

SAAVIK

(overlapping)

By the book...

KIRK

Regulation 46-A: 'If transmissions are being monitored during battle...'

SAAVIK

'... no uncoded messages on an open channel...'

Saavik steps in front of Spock.

SAAVIK

(continuing)

You lied.

SPOCK

I exaggerated.

KIRK

Hours instead of days, Saavik; now we have minutes instead of hours --

BONES

(behind)

I'm taking this bunch to sick bay.

CAMERA STAYS WITH THEM, HOLDS ON DAVID, awed.

163

163 INT. CORRIDOR ENTERPRISE

Saavik and Kirk follow Spock. They stop at a Turbo Lift --

SPOCK

They're inoperative below C-deck.

164

164 INT. ANOTHER ENTERPRISE CORRIDOR

They race down corridors as they speak --

KIRK

What IS working around here?

SPOCK

Not much, Admiral. We have partial main power...

KIRK

That's it?

SPOCK

Best we could do in two hours.

165

165 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

Full crew in place as doors whoosh open --

SULU

(overjoyed)

Admiral on the bridge --

KIRK

Battle stations.

ALARMS, SIRENS, ETC. CREW RUSH INTO PLACE AS Kirk, Spock and Saavik approach the big screen.

KIRK

(continuing)

Tactical.

We see the Enterprise emerging from the dark side of Gamma Regula, where Reliant is now a moving blip.

KIRK

(continuing)

Uh oh.

SPOCK

She can out-run us and out-gun us.
But there is the Mutara Nebula at
153 mark four.

KIRK

(studies his console)

Scotty, can we make it inside?

SCOTTY

The energizer's bypassed like a
Christmas tree -- so don't give me
too many bumps.

KIRK

No promises, Mr. Scott. On your way.

SAAVIK

Trouble with the nebula, sir, is all
that static discharge and gas clouds
our tactical display. Visuals won't
function and shields will be useless.

Kirk looks over the rims of his glasses at Spock; they smile with faint amusement.

SPOCK

What's sauce for the goose, Mr.
Saavik. The odds will be even.

166 **VARIOUS CORRIDORS, ENTERPRISE**

As the lights change, the CREW runs to their stations.

166A **EXT. SPACE**

ENTERPRISE STARTS MOVING.

167 **INT. HOSPITAL**

Carol, David and Bones react to the light change and the sirens -- Bones works on Chekov...

DAVID

I'm going up there.

BONES

You'll be in the way, Dr. Marcus...
best stay here.

Carol and David are civilians on a battleship.

168 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

Reacting. Saavik approaches Kirk and Spock.

SAAVIK

Admiral... what happens if Reliant
fails to follow us into the nebula?

Kirk and Spock exchange looks --

SPOCK

I think we can guarantee she'll
follow us, Mr. Saavik. Remind me
to explain to you the concept of
human ego.

KIRK

Best speed, Scotty...

169 **EXT. SPACE**

The Enterprise whooshes by CAMERA leaving Regula
behind. Reliant now appears in far b.g. and CAMERA
BEGINS A MOVE to her.

170 **INT. RELIANT BRIDGE**

KHAN

There! Full impulse power! Not
so wounded as we were led to believe
-- so much the better...

171 **EXT. SPACE**

Reliant moves to and past CAMERA in hot pursuit.

172 **EXT. SPACE - SERIES OF SHOTS**

Call them SPACE-BYS. Enterprise rushes TOWARD US,

flashes BY and CONTINUES towards the swirling nebula.

THEN Reliant does the same, closer in pursuit. At this moment, half the distance between Regula and the nebula has been covered.

173 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

SPOCK

Estimating nebula penetration
in two minutes. Reliant is
closing.

KIRK

Steady as you go...

174 **EXT. SPACE**

Orientation, SHOT. Reliant can clearly see where
Enterprise is headed --

175 **INT. RELIANT BRIDGE**

JOACHIM

We'll lose them if they go in there.

KHAN

Rake her.

176 **SOMEONE PUNCHES A BUTTON**

177 **EXT. SPACE**

Reliant's shot crosses Enterprise's bow --

178 **INT. ENTERPRISE HOSPITAL**

The ship reverberates with the near miss. Chekov wakes
up, looks wildly about --

BONES

Take it easy --

CHEKOV

But I must --

BONES

Listen to me, Pavel; you haven't
the strength or the equilibrium --

CHEKOV

But --

As they talk, David, unnoticed, leaves the area. The Enterprise is buffeted again --

CAROL

Dr. McCoy, I can't just sit here.
Tell me what I can do.

BONES

(grim)
You can help get my surgery squared
away. I'm expecting customers.

She whitens in fear. ANOTHER SHOT reverberates.

179

179 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

SAAVIK

That was close --

KIRK

(unfazed)
They just don't want us going in there.

SPOCK

One minute to nebula perimeter.

The bridge door slides open and David enters. He stares in wonder. Saavik reacts to David.

SPOCK

(continuing)
Admiral, they're reducing speed.

KIRK

Uhura, patch me in --

UHURA

Aye, sir.

180

180 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE

KHAN

Why are we slowing?

JOACHIM

We daren't follow them into the
nebula, sir -- our shields will be
useless...

KIRK'S VOICE

This is Admiral Kirk.

Khan's eyes bulge --

KIRK'S VOICE

(continuing)

We tried it once your way, Khan.
Are you game for a rematch?

Khan's eyes bulge --

KIRK'S VOICE

(continuing)

Khan -- ! I'm laughing at the
"superior" intellect.

KHAN

Full impulse power!

JOACHIM

No sir! We have Genesis -- Whatever
you want --

KHAN

Full power damn you!

And he reaches across and executes it himself.

181 **181 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

They react to Reliant's speed-up. The nebula approach
is ON SCREEN.

KIRK

(dry)

I'll say this for him: he's
consistent.

182 **182 EXT. SPACE - THE MUTARA NEBULA**

WE'RE VERY CLOSE NOW, and SEE CLEARLY the swirling,
slowly moving gases, magenta, purple, etc. There are
veils of luminescent materials and through all an
interlace of unpredictable electrical charges.

Like lightning, these intermittent great flashes
illumine whole sections of the nebula. OUR VIEW is
moving slowly forward...

183 **183 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

SPOCK

(timing)

And we're... in.

184 **184 EXT. SPACE - THE NEBULA**

As Enterprise whooshes into the PICTURE headed into the purplish gas -- and disappears into a cloud bank of the stuff.

A moment then Reliant APPEARS, pursues Enterprise into the gloom, also disappears.

185 **INT. RELIANT BRIDGE**

ON SCREEN the picture is squirrely purple, breaking up. Blindness. Panic.

KHAN

Tactical!

JOACHIM

(tries)

Inoperative.

KHAN

Raise the shields...

Electrical forces raging without are also reflected on the circuits within. It's bumpy, on top of everything else. Electronic WHINING.

JOACHIM

As I feared, sir. Not functional.
I'm reducing speed.

Khan does not argue.

186 **EXT. SPACE - PURPLE - SERIES OF SHOTS**

Cautiously Reliant emerges from a massive "cloudbank." Electrical discharges abound. Barely moving, she feels her way forward. Alone.

187 **AS THE ANGLE WIDENS**

A treat: Enterprise is above and behind Reliant.

188 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE - ON SCREEN**

Reliant's image is breaking up.

SULU

Phaser lock inoperative, sir.

KIRK

Best guess, Mr. Sulu. Fire when ready.

Sulu strains, then fires -- just as an electrical disturbance bounces the bridge --

189 **EXT. SPACE NEBULA**

The bounce causes Sulu's phaser shot to go wide of Reliant, amid CRACKLING discharges --

190 **INT. RELIANT BRIDGE**

Rolls from the near-miss concussion --

KHAN

Aft-torpedoes -- fire -- !

191 **EXT. SPACE NEBULA**

Reliant is wide of the mark with a Photon torpedo. A BLINDING ELECTRICAL DISCHARGE. When it clears, Enterprise appears to be alone.

192 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

ON SCREEN, nothing but magenta amid picture breakup --

KIRK

(sweating)

Hold your course. Look sharp...

SAAVIK

At what.

193 **EXT. NEBULA (INTERCUT WITH BRIDGE)**

Enterprise feeling its way...

194 **ON BRIDGE - POV ON SCREEN**

All peer into the lousy picture. Occasional electrical flashes.

195 **EXT. SPACE NEBULA**

Still Enterprise moves forward... A LARGE FLASH... a SUDDEN GLIMPSE: Reliant boring in on collision course!

196 **INT. ENTERPRISIE BRIDGE**

A sudden clearing ON SCREEN: Reliant!

KIRK

Evasive starboard!

Hard over, but not fast enough. Reliant fires a phaser.

197 **SERIES OF SHOTS**

Reliant's phaser shot hits the Enterprise torpedo room in Dorsal Fin area of ship.

198 **INT. ENTERPRISE TORPEDO ROOM**

An EXPLOSION rocks the room and...

199 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

The Bridge rattles from the explosion below; Sulu is thrown from his chair. Saavik leaps to her post --

KIRK

Phaser bank one, fire!

200 **EXT. SPACE NEBULA** 200

The Enterprise fires a phaser and delivers a raking shot -- which rips along the side of Reliant's primary hull.

200A **INT. RELIANT BRIDGE (FORMERLY SCENE 205)**

The bridge is damaged; Joachim and others are wounded...

KHAN

Joachim!

For the first time, his friend wounded, Khan hesitates, holds him --

JOACHIM

Yours... is... the superior...

KHAN

I shall avenge you --

200B **NEW ANGLE**

She veers to one side with the impact and disappears into a deep purple mass.

201 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

Sulu is being helped by David --

KIRK

Damage, Scotty?

202

202 INT. ENGINE ROOM

Bones is there, helping some crewmen. The Reactor Room flashes a red warning light and glows with a blue light. The air is heavy with smoke but the doors, damaged earlier, still hold.

SCOTTY

Admiral, I've got to take the mains off the line. The energizer's shaken loose and I can't get in there to fix her -- radiation --

203

203 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

KIRK

All right, we'll do the job with auxiliary power.

The bridge door opens and closes; Chekov, faint, stands there.

CHEKOV

Could you use another hand, Admiral?

KIRK

Man the weapons console, Mr. Chekov.

ANGLE FAVORING David as the others react to Chekov taking his place. Quiet.

KIRK

(continuing)

Spock?

Spock is bent over the scanner --

SPOCK

Sporadic energy readings port side, aft. Could be an impulse turn.

KIRK

He won't break off now. If he followed me this far he'll be back. But from where...?

SPOCK

He's intelligent, but not experienced. His pattern indicates two dimensional

thinking...

Kirk looks at him, smiles.

KIRK

Mr. Saavik, all stop.

SAAVIK

All stop, sir.

KIRK

Descend ten thousand meters. Stand
by photon torpedoes.

204 **EXT. SPACE NEBULA**

Reliant in purplish mass, banking slightly, completing
a long turn, then boring ahead.

205 **OMITTED**

206 **EXT. SPACE NEBULA**

As Reliant emerges from the dark blue mass into a clear
almost tranquil place. Reliant, moving slowly, stops,
as if looking around.

207 **INT. RELIANT BRIDGE**

The screens are empty.

KHAN

Where is he? Where in God's name
is he?

208 **EXT. SPACE NEBULA**

Reliant motionless in the f.g. amid occasional flashes.
Now, behind Reliant and from below, like a great whale
rising from the depths, Enterprise rises vertically,
slowly passing the unsuspecting enemy. When Enterprise
is above, behind and quite close:

209 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

Reliant ON SCREEN, intermittent but clear.

CHEKOV

Torpedoes ready, sir.

KIRK

Fire.

210

210 **SERIES OF SHOTS**

A) EXT. ENTERPRISE

fires torpedo; one which hits, destroying Reliant's weapons pod on top.

B) INT. RELIANT

C) EXPLOSIONS rock the interior of Reliant.

D) EXT. ENTERPRISE

fires two more times. The first causes general damage. The second, close behind blasts Reliant's port engine off into space, debris scattering.

E) INT. RELIANT BRIDGE

is devastated. Khan is blown from his chair and WE'RE UNCERTAIN of his fate.

211 **EXT. SPACE NEBULA** 211

Reliant, now a scarred, battered hulk, her main hull still intact, but dead in space.

212

212 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

No cheers, just deadly professionalism.

KIRK

Cease fire. Look sharp.

SAAVIK

Power levels quite low, sir.

KIRK

(to intercom)

Mr. Scott, can you get the mains back on line?

SCOTTY'S VOICE

(breaking up slightly)

I'll need ten minutes, sir, 'til the radiation dissipates.

KIRK

Uhura, send to Commander, Reliant: prepare to be boarded.

UHURA

Aye, sir.

213 **213 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE**

Amid the smoke and ruins, WE SEE no signs of life.

UHURA'S VOICE

Commander, Reliant, this is
Enterprise. Surrender and prepare
to be boarded. Repeat...

In f.g., chillingly, Khan rises INTO SHOT by the main
console. He is horribly burned, and it is clear that
he is clinging to life by his will.

KHAN

No... Kirk. The game's not over.

As Uhura's voice continues O.S., Khan pulls himself
into a chair at the console, one of his hands useless
at his side.

KHAN

(continuing)

To the last I will grapple with thee!

Painfully, with one good arm, he starts arming the
Genesis console.

213A **213A INT. RELIANT TRANSPORTER ROOM**

There sits the Genesis torpedo: lights start blinking
in response. As we watch, the CHILD we met on Ceti Alpha
walks to the torpedo and smiles at the lights.

214 **214 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

UHURA

Enterprise to Reliant: you are
ordered to surrender your vessel.
Respond!

(to Kirk)

Nothing, sir.

KIRK

We'll beam aboard. Alert
transporter room --

SPOCK

Admiral. Scanning an energy source
on Reliant. A pattern I've never
seen.

David peers closer over Spock's shoulder, reacts.

DAVID

It's the Genesis Wave!

KIRK

What?

DAVID

He's on a build up to detonation!

KIRK

How soon --

DAVID

We encoded four minutes --

KIRK

We'll beam aboard and stop it --

DAVID

You can't!

The briefest stunned moment. Kirk hits intercom:

KIRK

Scotty, I need warp speed in three minutes or we're all dead!

STATIC.

KIRK

(continuing)

Scotty!

Spock leaps from his place and disappears through the bridge doors.

KIRK

(continuing)

Saavik, get us out, best speed!

SAAVIK

Aye, sir.

215 **EXT. SPACE NEBULA**

Enterprise backs away from Reliant. Her speed is painfully slow.

216 **INT. RELIANT BRIDGE**

ON SCREEN, Enterprise, intermittent image, backs away. Khan smiles triumphantly through his pain. An electronic power SOUND has been building.

KHAN

No... You can't get away... From
hell's heart I stab at thee...
(amid the pain)
For hate's sake... I spit my last
breath at thee!

Khan topples forward, dead. The WHINE continues to
build chillingly.

217 **INT. ENTERPRISE ENGINE ROOM**

Spock rushes in. Bones ministers to Scotty, b.g.

Spock sizes up the situation, starts for the radiation
room, Bones intercepts him.

BONES

Are you out of your Vulcan mind?
No human can tolerate the radiation
loose in there!

SPOCK

But, as you are so fond of observing,
Doctor, I'm not human.

BONES

You're not going in there -- !

SPOCK

I'm afraid I can't stop to discuss
this logically --

He gives Bones the Vulcan nerve pinch. Bones goes
down.

Spock presses the access button and enters the Reactor
Room, a separated area behind radiation-proof glass
and metal, RED FLASHING LIGHTS and an iridescent blue
glow within.

218 **ANGLE - SCOTTY AND BONES**

SCOTTY

(in horror)
Spock -- get out of there!

219 **INT. ENTERPRISE REACTOR ROOM**

Bathed in blue light, arcing energy around him, Spock
is a silhouetted figure as he goes to work, door clos-
ing behind him.

220 **EXT. SPACE - RELIANT**

The WHINE increasing, the dead ship Reliant alive with danger...

221 **EXT. SPACE NEBULA - ENTERPRISE**

A snail's pace compared to the escape speed needed.

222 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

KIRK

Time from my mark...

SAAVIK

Two minutes, ten seconds.

KIRK

(intercom)

Engine room! What's happening?!

223 **INT. ENTERPRISE REACTOR ROOM (INTERCUT AS
REQUIRED)**

Outside the glass, Scotty and Bones screaming:

SCOTTY

Captain, please!

BONES

Get out! Get out, man! Oh, dear
God...!

224 **WITHIN**

WE CAN SEE the silent urging of Bones and Scotty. Spock is oblivious. Amid the fire-blue arcs, he moves to the control panel. Between his hands and the controls, power arcs insanely. Spock is in an inferno, a radiation hell, fighting now with all his strength to control it. Slowly, the damping rods move out. Spock moves to a manual control, begins to turn it.

225 **CLOSE - SPOCK'S HANDS**

on the manual control, slowly turning black.

226 **HIS FACE**

His face, using all the self discipline he is capable of to control the pain, continuing to work --

227

227 **WITHOUT**

Bones and Scotty react in helpless horror.

228

228 **EXT. SPACE NEBULA**

Enterprise still well within the nebula, Reliant a figure still visible in b.g. She's crawling still.

229

229 **INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE**

Reliant, now symbol of death, ON SCREEN.

KIRK

Time!

SAAVIK

Three minutes, thirty seconds.

KIRK

Distance from Reliant...

CHEKOV

Four hundred kilometers.

Kirk looks at David, but David shakes his head: No way. Then:

CADET

Sir! The mains are back on line -- !

KIRK

Bless you, Scotty. Go, Saavik!

She increases power and --

230

230 **EXT. SPACE NEBULA - SERIES OF SHOTS**

A) With a burst of warp speed, Enterprise accelerates out of the lazy pace and whooshes PUT OF SCENE, leaving Reliant behind.

B) POV RELIANT

disappearing in the swirls of:

C) POV MUTARA NEBULA

which clears the flame and --

D) ENTERPRISE

roaring through space -- and:

E) RELIANT

The WHINE increases to fever pitch, then: she goes!

F) EXT. MUTARA NEBULA - MASTER EFFECT

As Reliant goes, so goes the nebula. The "Genesis Effect" WE SAW in its earliest experiments, now seems familiar on a gigantic, cosmic scale.

The blinding flash at first, followed by the same tumbling turbulence of the miniature test. It is awesome.

231

231 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

The bridge doors open and Carol appears. Instinctively she draws near her son.

Finally, Kirk turns, sees Carol --

KIRK

Reduce speed. My God, Carl. Look at it.

ON SCREEN and INTERCUT -- GENESIS TUMBLES and starts evolving. A moment in history.

KIRK

(continuing, on intercom)
Engine Room. Well done. Scotty?

BONES' VOICE

(after a beat)
Jim, you'd better get down here. Hurry.

The tone frightens Kirk.

KIRK

Saavik, take the con.

He moves through the doors quickly, leaving the rest staring at the new world evolving.

232

232 INT. STAIRWAY TO ENGINE ROOM

It is endless. Kirk runs forever, feet pounding down, down, down --

233

233 EXT. SPACE AND ON SCREEN

The clouds tumble and move, new things lie beyond --

234 234 **INT. STAIRS**

Kirk races --

235 235 **INT. ENTERPRISE ENGINE ROOM**

Kirk emerges to encounter Scotty and Bones. Their looks tell him. He sees the flashing light over the Reactor Room. He dashes for the control panel. Bones grabs him.

SCOTTY

No, sir! You'll flood the whole compartment...!

KIRK

He'll die -- !

BONES

(also holds him)

He's dead already, Jim.

Kirk's eyes bulge.

KIRK

Oh, God.

236 236 **ANGLE AT REACTOR ROOM GLASS DOOR**

With stunned understanding, Kirk stumbles to the door, sees Spock on his knees, hands blackened, face cracked with radiation lines and scars.

Spock shakes his head. With a feeble hand he reaches the intercom button: filtered communication.

KIRK

Spock!

SPOCK

The ship -- out of danger?

KIRK

Yes --

Spock is satisfied; he fights for breath --

SPOCK

Don't grieve, Admiral -- it's logical: the good of the many outweighs --

He almost keels over. Kirk has tears streaming down

his face.

KIRK

... the good of the few...

SPOCK

Or the one.

He props a hand on the glass to support himself. Kirk's hand reflexively goes to match Spock's on the other side of the glass --

SPOCK

(continuing)

I never took the Kobayashi Maru test -- until now. What do you think of my solution?

KIRK

Spock...!

SPOCK

I have been -- and always will be -- your friend... Live. Long. And. Prosper.

Spock falls. Bones and Scotty react.

KIRK

No...!

SAAVIK'S VOICE

(intercom)

Admiral, you've got to see this!
There's new life -- a whole new world, a Genesis world -- !

But Kirk is past hearing or caring. He is huddled up against the glass, destroyed. Bones looks on, helpless.

DISSOLVE TO:

237 **EXT. SPACE**

A spectacular look at Carol's planet being born!

238 **OMITTED**

239 **CAMERA PULLS BACK TO REVEAL**

the Ship's Company in full dress uniforms assembled for ship's burial service. Over the PULLBACK, we HEAR:

KIRK

In accordance with the traditions of Starfleet and of Article 184 Starfleet Regulations, we are assembled here today to pay final respects to our honored dead.

Carol and David are PROMINENTLY FEATURED. David watching Kirk attentively. So are Sulu, Uhura, Chekov, and Saavik. Bones stands next to Kirk. Scotty carries his bagpipes. Saavik wears her hair down.

KIRK

(continuing)

And yet, in the midst of our sorrow it should be noted that this death takes place in the shadow of new life, the sunrise of a new world, a world that our beloved comrade gave his own life to protect and nourish. He did not feel that sacrifice a vain or empty one -- and we will not debate his profound wisdom, in these proceedings. Of my friend, I can only say this, that of all the souls I have encountered in my travels, his was the most --

(he falters)

-- human.

He tries to go on, but catches Bones' face: Bones is streaming tears. Kirk can't go on.

KIRK

(continuing)

Lieutenant Saavik.

240 **OMITTED**

240

241 **ANGLE - THE GROUP**

241

Saavik steps forward.

SAAVIK

We commend the soul of our brother departed. We love we commit his body to the depths of space.

SULU

Honors -- hup!

All Starfleet personnel salute. Scotty begins to PIPE, an odd blare which mellows into Amazing Grace. Kirk nods a signal.

242 **242 THE CAPSULE**

A gleaming black projectile is carried by pallbearers into the launching chamber, which locks behind it. At a hand signal from a TORPEDOMAN, the projectile is fired.
NOISE.

243 **243 EXT. SPACE**

Spock's remains seen on their way to the new world. The capsule grows too small to SEE. The bagpipes STOP.

244 **244 INT. TORPEDO ROOM**

SULU

Return -- hup!

The salute drop.

KIRK

Lieutenant.

She steps to him and they exchange salutes --

KIRK

(continuing; very quietly)

After you dismiss the company, you will take the watch. Set course for Ceti Alpha V and we'll pick up survivors.

SAAVIK

Aye, sir.

KIRK

I'll be in my quarters if needed, but I would prefer...

SAAVIK

Understood, sir.

KIRK

(aloud)

Dismiss the company.

They salute. She about-faces as Kirk walks towards the Turbo Lift. Saavik issues dismissal and posting orders, but WE TRUCK with Kirk until CAMERA STOPS and he leaves FRAME and WE HOLD on David. He finally understands.

245 **245 INT. KIRK'S QUARTERS**

After a long moment, the CAMERA DISCOVERS Kirk. He pours a drink, then decides not to have it.

He sits wearily, not knowing how to shake the ghosts. Then he sees the book.

Kirk picks up the battered volume, the gift from his friend, and closes his eyes a moment. Almost idly he starts turning pages, looking for a clue. But he can't see the writing -- he rummages through his pockets and pulls out the half-glasses --

One of the lenses is broken. It has a deep impact on Kirk. He puts down the book and glasses and covers his eyes.

A SOFT BONG. Kirk clears his throat.

KIRK

Yes... come.

The door whooshes open and closes to admit David. The last person Kirk expected to see.

DAVID

I don't mean to intrude.

KIRK

Uh, no...

(rises)

I should be on the bridge.

DAVID

Are you running away from me?

David's strength is turning a corner with Kirk --

KIRK

I suppose I was.

(pause)

I poured a drink. Would you like it?

DAVID

No. I -- I guess I'm not what you expected.

KIRK

(rueful)

I didn't expect anything.

DAVID

That makes two of us.

(he studies his

father)

Lieutenant Saavik was right: you

never have faced death --

KIRK

(hoarse)

Not like this -- no. I haven't faced death, I cheated death. I tricked my way out of death and patted myself on the back for my ingenuity. I know nothing.

DAVID

You knew enough to tell Saavik that how we face death is at least as important as how we face life --

KIRK

It was just words.

DAVID

But good words. That's where ideas begin. Maybe you should listen to them.

KIRK

I'm trying, David.

DAVID

So am I. My friends were killed, too.

KIRK

I am truly sorry.

Pause. They study each other.

DAVID

I was wrong about you. And I'm sorry.

KIRK

Is that what you came here to say?

DAVID

Mainly.

(he starts out,
then turns --)

And also that I'm proud -- very proud -- to be your son.

A stunned moment, then Kirk lets it all hang out: for David, for Carol and for Spock. He hugs his son, holding onto him as if to life itself.

246 EXT. SPACE

246

The Enterprise passes the new planet in all its beauty.

247 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

The door whooshes. Kirk strides on the bridge, David with him. Carol is there with Bones; they are glad at what they see.

SAAVIK

Admiral on the bridge!

KIRK

As you were, Mr. Saavik.

SAAVIK

Aye, sir. On course to Ceti Alpha.
All is well.

KIRK

Good, I believe you already know
my, uh, son --

Saavik comes close to blushing --

KIRK

(continuing)

Yes, well, why don't you show him
around and...

SAAVIK

Aye, sir --

She takes him off, deadpan amusement --

SAAVIK

(continuing)

So you turn out to be the dumb
bastard.

They stare at her.

SAAVIK

(continuing)

That is a little joke.

Kirk has a smile. He joins Bones and Carol facing the screen.

BONES

She's changed her hair again.

(pause)

Will you look at that? Think
they'll name it for you, Doctor?

CAROL

Not if I can help it. We'll name
it for our friend.

KIRK

(quietly)

It is a far far better thing I do
than I have ever done before... a
far better resting place I go to
than I have ever known...

CAROL

(soft)

Is that a poem?

KIRK

Something Spock was trying to
tell me. On my birthday.

He shakes his head, remembering --

BONES

You okay, Jim? How do you feel?

KIRK

(considers; smiles)

Young. I feel young, Doctor.

He turns to Saavik and David --

KIRK

(continuing)

Lieutenant, new course: 'Second
star to the right and straight on
till morning.'

The bridge crackles with lights and CHATTER as we...

CUT

TO:

247A **THE VIEWSCREEN**

247A

AND GO THROUGH TO:

248 **EXT. SPACE FINALE (BOARDED)**

248

SPOCK'S VOICE

Space, the final frontier... These
are the continuing voyages of the
Starship Enterprise... Her ongoing
mission: to explore strange new
worlds... to seek out new life and
new civilizations... To boldly go
where no man has gone before...

She is moving out now, passing CAMERA and heading
toward the distant stars. She is beautiful and they

are beautiful. And as she slowly disappears from
VIEW...

MUSIC RISES. CREDITS ROLL.

THE END