

STAR TREK II  
THE WRATH OF KHAN

by  
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PARTICIPATING WRITERS  
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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 communications 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, touching a comm button:



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 INT. SPACE STATION - CAROL'S LAB 9

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 INT. CORRIDOR, SPACE STATION REGULA I 10

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 EXT. RELIANT - DEEP SPACE 12

orbiting Ceti Alpha V.

VOICES OVER indicate the transporter room is ready.

13 OMITTED 13

14 EXT. SURFACE CETI ALPHA V 14

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 SEVERAL ANGLES 15

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

16 TERRELL 16

is ahead of Chekov on a slight rise --

CHEKOV  
There's nothing, let's go --

17 ANGLE

17

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

18

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 INT. CARGO HOLD

19

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 be-  
speak 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 KHAN'S QUARTERS

20

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 ANGLE - CHEKOV'S POV

21

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 EXT. CARGO HOLD AIRBAY 22

Terrell and Chekov emerge, helmeted, then stop dead.

23 ANGLE - THEIR POV 23

A RING OF SUITED FIGURES has them surrounded.

24 INT. RELIANT - THE BRIDGE 24

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 INT. CARGO HOLD - CETI ALPHA V

25

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 --

26 CLOSE UP - KHAN - CAMERA IN

26

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 in-  
stincts 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)

28

A SPACE SHUTTLE moving toward us.

29 INT. SPACE SHUTTLE

29

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 EXT. SPOCE DOCK - TERRA (FEATURE STOCK)

30

The shuttle approaches the mammoth airstrip. As we

near the ship, a few WORK CREWS IN SPACE flit about her hull, working.

31 EXT. ENTERPRISE (FEATURE STOCK) 31

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

32 INT. ENTERPRISE DOCKING BAY 32

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 INT. ENTERPRISE ENGINE ROOM - LOOKING DOWN 33

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 ANGLE - FLOOR OF ENGINE ROOM 34

FEATURING power room separated by glass from the rest of the facilities. Bones, Sulu, Uhura, and some train-

ees 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 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

35

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.



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.

42 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE 42

Kirk quietly lets his breath out.

SULU  
We are clear and free to navigate.

SAAVIK  
Course heading, Captain?

Spock turns inquiringly to Kirk.

KIRK  
Captain's discretion.

Spock digests this with a slight smile.

SPOCK

Mr. Sulu, you may follow your nose.

43 EXT. THE ENTERPRISE (STOCK FROM FEATURE) 43

She gathers speed into the vastness of space.

44 EXT. SPACE, FEATURING THE RELIANT 44

moving towards us, in opposition to the previous shot, close enough for us to read her markings.

45 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE 45

Khan occupies the Captain's chair. We PULL BACK: the crew of the RELIANT has been replaced by Khan's followers in their odd-looking clothes.

At the helm is Joachim, Khan's lieutenant. He is in the largest and brightest of Khan's group. Terrell sits in the First Officer's chair, Chekov at the Comm Console. Their behavior is normal, save for subtle hesitation, symptoms of their mind-controlled state.

JOACHIM

Steady on course. All systems normal.

KHAN

It's not much different from Enterprise.

(beat)

When I was a guest aboard her some years ago, Captain Kirk kindly allowed me to memorize her technical manuals. And now, Mr. Chekov, let us review: You say you have no details of 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 EXT. SPACE - SPACE STATION REGULA I

46

47 INT. CAROL'S LAB

47

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 our arrival. Reliant out.

The image fades.

CAROL  
Commander Chekov -- !

48 INT. BRIDGE OF RELIANT

48

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 INT. REGULA I LAB

49

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 50

51 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (FEATURE STOCK) 51

In no particular hurry.

52 INT. ENTERPRISE CORRIDOR 52

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 INT. KIRK'S QUARTERS

53

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	54
55	EXT. ENTERPRISE (FEATURE STOCK) cruising.	55
56	INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE The activity is normal. The Turbo-Lift opens and Kirk	56

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 EXT. SPACE STATION REGULA I

58

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 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

59

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

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

62 ANGLE - KIRK, SPOCK, BONES 62

SPOCK  
Carol Marcus --

KIRK  
Yes.

63 ON SCREEN (AND INTERCUT) 63

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 64  
& &

65 CAROL 65  
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 66  
react with wonder.

67 BACK TO MONITOR 67

CAROL  
-- Unleashing, almost instantan-  
eously, 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 sus-  
taining 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 67A

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

68

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 ANGLE INCLUDING THE FORWARD SCREEN

69

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 EXT. SPACE - THE RELIANT

70

Boring forward ominously.

71 INT. BRIDGE - THE RELIANT

71

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 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

72

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



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

76 EXT.SPACE 76

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

77 INT. ENTERPRISE ENGINE ROOM 77

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 ANGLE - THE GREAT AUTO DOORS 78

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

79 ANGLE - THE TRAINEES 79

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

80 ANGLE - SCOTTY 80

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 HIGH ANGLE - ENGINE ROOM 81

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 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE 82

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 INT. ENGINE ROOM - FAVORING SCOTTY

83

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 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

84

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 EXT. SPACE - RELIANT 85

circling Enterprise.

86 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE - FAVORING KHAN AT DASH 86

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

87 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE 87

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

88

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

89 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

89

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 EXT. SPACE

90

Reliant continues her slow arc.

91 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

91

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 94  
followed by other signals.

95 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE 95

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 96

97 CLOSE UP - KIRK 97

KIRK  
FIRE!

98 CLOSE UP - SULU'S HANDS 98

punching.

99 EXT. SPACE 99

Enterprise fires at Reliant inflicting heavy damage.

100 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE 100

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 EXT. SPACE 101

Reliant turns away.

102 ENTERPRISE BRIDGE 102

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 EXT. SPACE 103

The Enterprise, motionless, scars of battle showing.

104 INT. ENGINE ROOM 104

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 FEATURE THE CREW CHIEF 105

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.

106 INT. SICK BAY

106

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 109

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 110

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

111

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 112  
CLOSER ANGLE now. The silence is ominous.

113 INT. SPACE STATION REGULAR I - CAROL'S LAB 113  
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 114  
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 115  
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

116

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

117

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

118

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 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE - FAVORING UHURA

119

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 INT. SPACE STATION - TIGHT GROUP

120

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 ANGLE FAVORING CHEKOV AND KIRK

121

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.



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 123

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 124

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

125

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  
thru  
134

127  
thru  
134

135 EXT. SPACE - THE DARK SIDE OF REGULA  
Reliant, motionless in a parking orbit.

135

136 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE - FAVORING KHAN

136

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

KHAN

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

137 INT. ROCKY CAVERN (INTERCUT AS DESIRED)

137

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 ANGLE - FAVORING CHEKOV

138

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 139

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

140 VERY CLOSE - CHEKOV'S EAR 140

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

141 SCENE 141

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 142

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 143

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 OMITTED 144

145 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE 145

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 146

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  
thru  
149

147  
thru  
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 INT. TUNNEL 150B

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 KIRK'S POV - MOVING THROUGH THE TUNNEL 150C

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 INT. GENESIS CAVE - PROMONTORY LEVEL 150D

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

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

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, water-  
falls, 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 BACK TO KIRK 150F

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 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE 151

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 152

thru		thru
153		153
154	EXT. SPACE - REGULA	154
	Reliant ominously pokes her nose into the lit side of the planet, heading for Enterprise.	
155	INT. RELIANT BRIDGE	155
	JOACHIM	
	Departing dark side, Regula.	
	KHAN	
	Visual --	
156	ON SCREEN	156
	The Regula I Space Station -- but where is Enterprise?	
157	ON KHAN	157
	frowning with puzzlement.	
	KHAN	
	Where IS she?	
158	ON SCREEN	158
	not a trace!	
159	INT. GENESIS CAVE PLATFORM	159
	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	159A
	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 INT. GENESIS CAVE - WIDER ANGLE

159B

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 160

161 EXT. SPACE DARK SIDE OF REGULA 161

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 162

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 INT. CORRIDOR ENTERPRISE 163

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

SPOCK  
They're inoperative below C-deck.

164 INT. ANOTHER ENTERPRISE CORRIDOR 164

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 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

165

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 166

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

166A EXT. SPACE 166A

ENTERPRISE STARTS MOVING.

167 INT. HOSPITAL 167

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 168

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 169

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 170

KHAN

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

171 EXT. SPACE 171

Reliant moves to and past CAMERA in hot pursuit.

172 EXT. SPACE - SERIES OF SHOTS 172

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 173

SPOCK

Estimating nebula penetration in two minutes. Reliant is closing.

KIRK

Steady as you go...

174 EXT. SPACE 174

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

175 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE 175

JOACHIM

We'll lose them if they go in there.

KHAN

Rake her.

176 SOMEONE PUNCHES A BUTTON 176

177 EXT. SPACE 177

Reliant's shot crosses Enterprise's bow --

178 INT. ENTERPRISE HOSPITAL 178

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 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE 179

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 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE

180

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 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE 181

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 EXT. SPACE - THE MUTARA NEBULA 182

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 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE 183

SPOCK  
(timing)  
And we're... in.

184 EXT. SPACE - THE NEBULA 184

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 185

ON SCREEN the picture is squirrelly 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 186

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

187 AS THE ANGLE WIDENS 187

A treat: Enterprise is above and behind Reliant.

188 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE - ON SCREEN 188

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 189

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

190 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE 190

Rolls from the near-miss concussion --

KHAN  
Aft-torpedoes -- fire -- !

191 EXT. SPACE NEBULA 191

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 192

ON SCREEN, nothing but magenta amid picture breakup --

KIRK  
(sweating)  
Hold your course. Look sharp...

SAAVIK  
At what.

193 EXT. NEBULA (INTERCUT WITH BRIDGE) 193

Enterprise feeling its way...

194 ON BRIDGE - POV ON SCREEN 194

All peer into the lousy picture. Occasional electrical  
flashes.

195 EXT. SPACE NEBULA 195

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

196 INT. ENTERPRISIE BRIDGE 196

A sudden clearing ON SCREEN: Reliant!

KIRK  
Evasive starboard!

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

197 SERIES OF SHOTS 197

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

198 INT. ENTERPRISE TORPEDO ROOM 198  
An EXPLOSION rocks the room and...

199 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE 199  
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) 200A  
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 200B  
She veers to one side with the impact and disappears into a deep purple mass.

201 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE 201  
Sulu is being helped by David --

KIRK  
Damage, Scotty?

202 INT. ENGINE ROOM 202  
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 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

203

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 204

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

205 OMITTED 205

206 EXT. SPACE NEBULA 206

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 207

The screens are empty.

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

208 EXT. SPACE NEBULA 208

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 209

Reliant ON SCREEN, intermittent but clear.

CHEKOV  
Torpedoes ready, sir.

KIRK  
Fire.

210 SERIES OF SHOTS

210

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 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

212

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 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE

213

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 INT. RELIANT TRANSPORTER ROOM

213A

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 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

214

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 215

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

216 INT. RELIANT BRIDGE 216

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 217

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 218

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

219 INT. ENTERPRISE REACTOR ROOM 219

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

220 EXT. SPACE - RELIANT 220

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

221 EXT. SPACE NEBULA - ENTERPRISE 221

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

222 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE 222

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) 223

Outside the glass, Scotty and Bones screaming:

SCOTTY  
Captain, please!

BONES  
Get out! Get out, man! Oh, dear

God...!

224 WITHIN 224

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 225

on the manual control, slowly turning black.

226 HIS FACE 226

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

227 WITHOUT 227

Bones and Scotty react in helpless horror.

228 EXT. SPACE NEBULA 228

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

229 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE 229

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 EXT. SPACE NEBULA - SERIES OF SHOTS 230

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 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE 231

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 INT. STAIRWAY TO ENGINE ROOM 232

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

233 EXT. SPACE AND ON SCREEN 233

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

234 INT. STAIRS 234

Kirk races --

235 INT. ENTERPRISE ENGINE ROOM 235

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 ANGLE AT REACTOR ROOM GLASS DOOR

236

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 237

A spectacular look at Carol's planet being born!

238 OMITTED 238

239 CAMERA PULLS BACK TO REVEAL 239

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 THE CAPSULE

242

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 EXT. SPACE 243

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

244 INT. TORPEDO ROOM 244

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 INT. KIRK'S QUARTERS 245

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

247

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