

The Infiltrator  
by  
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Based on, Star Trek:Enterprise

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STAR TREK: ENTERPRISE

## "The Infiltrator"

TEASER

FADE IN:

INT. CORRIDOR - DOCKING BAY'S DOOR

Enterprise's senior staff, represented by ARCHER, T'POL, TRIP, and MALCOLM, says goodbye to a Vulcan committee at the docking bay's door. P'SAT is the captain of the Vulcan starship P'lat and is accompanied by two N.D. CREWMEMBERS. They are all relaxed and seem to have surprisingly enjoyed the visit.

ARCHER

It's been a pleasure to have you on board. I wish you'd found the conversation with T'Pol useful for your mission.

P'SAT

It has certainly been most... enlightening.

(exchanges a look of complicity with T'Pol)

And we also enjoyed the visit. The banquet was extraordinary, as well as the company.

ARCHER

We can schedule another meeting... to celebrate the Vulcan Nak-Ya, for example.

P'SAT

Aha! If you celebrate the New Year with a Vulcan, you will never consider us as a boring race again.

ARCHER

I can hardly wait for it... but this time we put the wine.

Everybody smiles. Archer and P'sat shake their hands.

ARCHER

Goodbye P'Sat.

P'Sat turns to T'Pol and salutes her in the Vulcan style.

P'SAT

Live long and prosper.

T'Pol lifts her hand and returns the salute.

T'POL

Peace and long life P'Sat.

P'SAT  
 (to Malcolm)  
 Please, accompany me, and I will  
 show you the Pa-lohr trophy, the  
 traditional Vulcan fight I told  
 you about.

REED  
 With pleasure.  
 (to Trip, whispering)  
 I thought I'd never enjoy a  
 Vulcan visit.

T'Pol hears what Malcolm said and glances at him.  
 Malcolm smiles to T'Pol excusing himself. The Vulcan  
 party leaves the Enterprise. CAMERA ON Malcolm  
 following them.

INT. CORRIDOR

Archer, T'Pol, and Trip walk through the corridors to  
 the nearest Turbolift.

ARCHER  
 Well T'Pol... can you tell us  
 something about your secret  
 mission?

T'POL  
 As the word says, it is secret,  
 and it will not be secret as  
 soon as a human know anything.

ARCHER  
 And what about the Nak-Ya? If  
 Vulcans can be funny, I must say  
 you are really good hiding it.

T'POL  
 I do have fun celebrating the  
 Nak-Ya... as well as I do have  
 on cinema's nights.

TRIP  
 C'mon T'Pol! You barely moved  
 your face watching 'The  
 General'.

T'POL  
 Even so... I had fun.

TRIP  
 (ironically)  
 I'm eager to celebrate the Nak-  
 Ya.

Archer and Trip exchange a look. Archer takes the  
 Turbolift, while T'Pol and Trip stay.

CUT TO:

INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

Archer COMES IN. HOSHI and MAYWEATHER are in their working stations.

HOSHI  
A Vulcan ship is approaching,  
sir.

A Vulcan ship comes into visual range on the VIEWSCREEN.

HOSHI  
It is not the P'lat. They're  
hailing us.

ARCHER  
On screen.

The starfield with the Vulcan ship T'ELA on the viewscreen is replaced by the face of its captain, VELOR.

VELOR  
Greetings, Captain Archer. I am  
Velor, captain of the T'ela.

ARCHER  
Welcome Velor.

A couple of seconds of uncomfortable silence. Archer is surprised by this visit and is waiting for Velor to explain the reason of the meeting. Velor is waiting for Archer to take the initiative.

ARCHER  
May I ask what brings you here,  
Velor?

VELOR  
(as if Archer should  
have known)  
We come to transport T'Pol.

ARCHER  
Excuse me?

VELOR  
You were informed by the Vulcan  
High Command that a Vulcan  
vessel was going to need T'Pol  
for a secret mission.

ARCHER  
You're right, but we already  
received the visit of the P'lat.  
They gave T'Pol instructions for  
the mission and left minutes  
ago.

VELOR  
 (trying to cover his  
 indignation)  
 I do not know any Vulcan ship  
 named P'lat, and we are those  
 who need T'Pol for our mission.

ARCHER  
 I can assure you they were  
 Vulcans, and they did meet us  
 before you. Maybe, if we'd known  
 what ship was coming for T'Pol,  
 there wouldn't have been any  
 possible mistake.

VELOR  
 (raising slightly his  
 voice)  
 It is a secret mission. We  
 cannot announce our  
 identification in a subspace  
 transmission.

ARCHER  
 Well, it seems your mission  
 wasn't that secret.

VELOR  
 (nervous)  
 We demand to speak with T'Pol  
 immediately.

ARCHER  
 Alright. She can help to solve  
 the mystery.  
 (to com)  
 Archer to T'Pol. Report to  
 Bridge.

INTERCUT:

INT. T'POL'S QUARTERS

T'Pol lies down on the bed with her arms crossed over  
 her chest. No movement at all. DOLLY IN T'Pol.

ARCHER'S COM VOICE  
 Archer to T'Pol. Please report  
 to the Bridge.

INT. T'POL'S QUARTERS' DOOR

Malcolm sneaks out of T'Pol's quarters. He  
 suspiciously looks at both sides of the corridor  
 before leaving quickly.

BACK TO:

INT. BRIDGE

ARCHER  
(to computer)  
Computer, locate commander  
T'Pol.

COMPUTER VOICE  
Commander T'Pol is in her  
quarters.

INT. CORRIDOR

Trip is quietly walking and reading from a PADD.

ARCHER'S COM VOICE  
Archer to security. Send a team  
to T'Pol's quarters.

Trip throws the PADD and starts to run to T'Pol's  
quarters.

INT. T'POL'S QUARTERS

Trip enters T'Pol's quarters and finds her lying down  
on the bed.

TRIP  
T'Pol. T'Pol?  
(louder)  
T'Pol!

Trip approaches to T'Pol and shakes her.

TRIP  
T'Pol wake up!

T'Pol suddenly opens her eyes, wakes up agitated, and  
puts her right hand on Trip's face.

T'POL  
Remember!

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT 1

FADE IN:

(NOTE: Episode credits fall over opening scenes.)

INT. T'POL'S QUARTERS

T'Pol lies on her bed. Trip holds her torso and head.

TRIP

(to com, with urge)

Tucker to infirmary. Medical emergency in T'Pol's quarters.

(to T'Pol)

Come on! Breathe!

(to com)

Tucker to Bridge. I've found T'Pol unconscious in her quarters.

INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

Velor is still in communication with the Enterprise.

ARCHER

Hoshi, hail the P'lat.

Hoshi manipulates her console.

HOSHI

They're not responding, sir.

ARCHER

(to Hoshi)

Keep trying, ensign.

(to Mayweather)

Travis, try to find the possible course of the P'lat.

(to Velor)

I'm afraid those Vulcan impostors have something to do with T'Pol's state.

MAYWEATHER

Captain, the P'lat has a leak in their warp coil; it's leaving an ion trail. It'll be easy to follow them, even though we don't have their warp signature.

ARCHER

(to Velor)

Would you like to join us in the pursuit?

VELOR

We have a mission to accomplish...

SPAR, the first officer, STEPS IN and interrupts Velor.

SPAR  
Velor, may I speak with you...  
in private?

VELOR  
(to Archer)  
Give me a minute, Mister Archer.

ARCHER  
You have just a minute.

INT. VULCAN STARSHIP T'ELA - BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

The bridge of a Vulcan ship with its captain, Velor, Spar, and two N.D. CREWMEMBERS: a HELMSMAN, and the TACTICAL OFFICER.

SPAR  
If we don't bring T'Pol with us,  
T'Sor will be very  
disappointed... to say the  
least.

VELOR  
I know. But he will also be  
furious if we arrive late to the  
meeting.

SPAR  
We are almost a day ahead of  
schedule... and we can cease the  
search if it takes too long.

VELOR  
(to the communications  
officer)  
Put them through.

The bridge of the Enterprise appears on the VIEWSCREEN.

VELOR  
(to Archer)  
We will help you with the  
search, but make it fast, we are  
short in time.

ARCHER  
We're pleased with your help.  
(to Travis)  
Travis lay in an interception  
course, maximum warp.

MAYWEATHER  
Aye, sir.

Mayweather works his instruments.

EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL)

The Enterprise and the T'ela go to warp.

CUT TO:

INT. SICKBAY

T'Pol lies down on a bio-bed with a neural-stimulator on her head. PHLOX informs Archer and Trip about the medical state of T'Pol.

PHLOX

(quietly)

She is in a pseudo-coma state. All her vital signs are kind of frozen. I don't know how she fell into this state, nor I know how to cure her.

TRIP

Captain, I found her. She was like dead... didn't response to anything... then she woke up for a second... and vanished again. I didn't see anybody in or near her quarters.

PHLOX

There's no sign of violence. She's like hibernating.

ARCHER

For what we know, she could have been poisoned by a member of the P'lat.

PHLOX

There isn't any trace of known poisons in her blood, but we're waiting for several bacteria culture. A Vulcan doctor would certainly help, sir.

ARCHER

We can ask for a doctor to the T'ela, but not before I speak with the Vulcan High Command. I don't think we can trust neither ship until we receive an official report on them. In the meantime, do your best doctor.

PHLOX

Aye, sir.

CUT TO:

INT. CAPTAIN'S READY ROOM (OPTICAL)

Archer speaks to SOVAL through the COMPUTER.

SOVAL

It is true, the ship we sent on a secret mission is the T'ela. I don't even know the nature of their mission.

ARCHER

What do you know about the P'lat?

SOVAL

It is not a legal ship. It could be either a private non-declared vessel or a stolen one.

ARCHER

And what about its crew?

SOVAL

The names you gave me are not in our records. I will send you a file with known Vulcan criminals... but as you can imagine, it is a very short list.

ARCHER

I'll see if I can identify their faces and--

Soval interrupts Archer.

SOVAL

Be careful with the file, it is confidential, and I take quite a risk sending it to you. Archer, take good care of T'Pol. She is a strong link between our cultures.

ARCHER

She's also a member of my crew and a friend. She's in good hands, Soval. Thank you for your cooperation. Archer out.

Archer stands up and leaves the Ready Room.

INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

Reed, Mayweather, and Hoshi are on their working stations. Archer COMES IN.

ARCHER

How far is the P'lat, Travis?

MAYWEATHER

We're faster than them. At present speed, they'll be in range within five hours and forty seven minutes, sir.

ARCHER

Hoshi, hail the T'ela.

Hoshi manipulates her console.

HOSHI

On screen, Captain.

Archer speaks to Velor through the VIEWSCREEN.

ARCHER

Hello again, Velor.

Velor inclines his head slightly as a salute.

ARCHER

We'll intercept the P'lat in less than six hours. It's a cruiser ship; it's no match for us. We'll disable their engines and proceed an interrogation peacefully.

VELOR

The maneuver is all yours. We will only provide support in case you ask for it. You can speak with them first, but if they are found to be suspects of T'Pol's condition, their custody is on our side.

ARCHER

Agreed.

VELOR

By the way, how is T'Pol?

ARCHER

Our doctor is doing his best, but we could use some help from a Vulcan physician.

VELOR

With all due respect, I think T'Pol would be better treated on board the T'ela.

ARCHER

We have all we need on the Enterprise. She will not be transferred to your ship until she can do it on her own feet.

VELOR

Alright Archer. I will send you our doctor...

(MORE)

VELOR (cont'd)  
 but remember, we will leave soon. If T'Pol is not awake by then, and you care about her, you'd better leave her on our hands. Velor out.

Velor disappears from the viewscreen. Archer seems worried.

REED  
 Captain, I suggest a virtual meeting between Phlox and the Vulcan doctor. Otherwise we should drop out of warp for the transfer, and that would significantly delay us... we could even lose track of the P'lat.

ARCHER  
 (to Hoshi)  
 Ensign, inform the T'ela about the virtual meeting and schedule an appointment.

EXT. SPACE(OPTICAL)

The Enterprise and the T'Ela at high warp across a field of stars.

CUT TO:

INT. SICKBAY

Malcolm ENTERS sickbay. Phlox is feeding some of his pets.

REED  
 Hi doctor. How's T'Pol?

PHLOX  
 She's stable, but nothing I've done so far has been useful to awake her.

REED  
 Keep trying doctor, I know you'll make it.

Malcolm has a sudden headache and reacts with pain.

PHLOX  
 Are you alright, lieutenant?

REED  
 (in pain)  
 My head is too crowded, I...

PHLOX  
 Crowded sir?

Malcolm puts his hands on his head.

REED  
I feel a pressure inside...  
voices speaking...

Phlox reacts with a half smile and scans Malcolm's head with the medical tricorder.

PHLOX  
I don't detect anything unusual.  
Did you abuse of that blue ale  
the Vulcans brought in?

Malcolm falls over Phlox and puts his hands on Phlox's face.

REED  
Remember!

PHLOX  
What do you want me to remember,  
sir?

REED  
(applying more pressure)  
Remember!!!

Phlox pushes Malcolm off.

PHLOX  
I am a triple-married man.  
"Remember", lieutenant? So don't  
play sexual tricks on me.

REED  
I'm sorry doctor. It must be the  
blue ale... since I drank it, I  
think I lose control of myself  
every now and then.

PHLOX  
Try to sleep it off, lieutenant.  
Alone!

REED  
I said I'm sorry doc. It was...  
not me.

Malcolm leaves sickbay thoughtful.

PHLOX  
(to himself)  
Humans! So fragile.

Phlox turns around to continue his job. After a second, Trip ENTERS. Trip carries a HOLO-PROJECTOR. It is a vertical stick, of the height of a person, attached to a base with wheels. It has a small camera and a projector at the top.

TRIP

Hi Doc! I bring you the holo-projector.

PHLOX

Nice, Mister Tucker. You've been pretty fast.

(marks a spot)

You can leave it right there.

TRIP

This device will project an image of your colleague. He'll see and hear through this camera.

(points to it)

He can move himself as if he were here. And if he bothers you, here's the switch off button.

PHLOX

Thank you, commander.

Trip walks away while delivering his line.

TRIP

I leave the two of you alone.  
Good luck, Doc!

CUT TO:

INT. CORRIDOR

Malcolm waits for a Turbolift. He appears to be worried. The doors of the Turbolift open, and Hoshi is inside. Malcolm is gladly surprised. He smiles, raises an eyebrow, and enters the Turbolift. The doors close in front of the CAMERA. CAMERA ON Turbolift's closed doors for a couple of seconds. The Turbolift opens again. Hoshi is in front. She smiles and raises an eyebrow. Malcolm is at the back, holding himself to the walls and rubbing his face. Hoshi exits and walks away.

FADE TO:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. GYMNASIUM(OPTICAL)

Trip and Malcolm are in the gym. They are both riding on the exercise bikes in front of a big screen, where it is projected a VIRTUAL REALITY WORLD of their race. It is a primitive HOLODECK. They sprint to the finish line. Malcolm wins, but he doesn't celebrate the victory. They are both exhausted. When they are barely recovered from the effort...

REED

How do you feel?

TRIP

Exhausted... and beaten. But someday your luck will be over.

REED

Don't trust in luck, Trip. You need to eat lots of soups before you can beat me.

(takes air)

I meant, what's your frame of mind after T'Pol's coma.

TRIP

I'm calmed. It's as if somehow... I knew she's alright, and... she's gonna come out of the coma at any time.

REED

How's the situation between the two of you now?

TRIP

She's a married woman!

REED

Come on Trip! You care more about the warp engine than she does about her husband.

TRIP

Yesterday, I told her that I wanted us to be just friends. We both were in traumatic situations when all started. I had just lost my sister, and she was suffering from trelium-D dependence. We gave support to each other, helping to forget about troubles, and we may have confused that with love.

REED

I bet T'Pol is better than you hiding her sentiments.

TRIP

Damn it, Malcolm! It's not what I feel right now, but it's what I really think.

REED

You're a human Trip, not a Vulcan. Don't try to be one of them.

TRIP

I really welcome your help, but I already made up my mind in this matter.

They turn on again their machines and start exercising.

TRIP

Didn't that blue ale gave you a terrible headache?

CUT TO:

INT. VULCAN STARSHIP P'LAT - BRIDGE

The bridge of a Vulcan ship with its captain, P'sat, and: a N.D. HELMSMAN, a COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER, and a FIRST OFFICER.

P'LAT'S HELMSMAN

Captain, the Enterprise and the T'ela will reach us in less than forty-seven minutes.

P'SAT

Cut the ion trail and mask our warp signature. Hide us, but try not to lose them.

P'LAT'S HELMSMAN

Aye, sir.

FADE TO:

EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL)

The Enterprise navigating with the T'ela.

ARCHER (V.O.)

Captain's Log, June seventeen, twenty-one fifty-four. The Enterprise lost track of the P'lat an hour ago. We're following its last course in a hopeless attempt to recover its trace. Our Vulcan counterparts wish to depart to their mission and claim for T'Pol's custody.

(MORE)

ARCHER (V.O.) (cont'd)

Their doctor is studying the documentation and tests, that Phlox sent him, but since he was also puzzled during his first virtual checkup, we're not very optimistic. If the state of T'Pol doesn't change within the hour, or we don't recover the trace of the P'lat, I will have to cease the search and head for Vulcan.

INT. BRIDGE - TACTIC SCREEN(OPTICAL)

Archer, Trip, Malcolm, Travis, and Hoshi have a tactical meeting. The TACTIC SCREEN shows an interstellar map with: the last course of the P'lat, as a continuous line; an extrapolation of the course from the lost contact point, as a dashed line; a supernova remnant far from the other two lines; a star system close to the continuous line; and the position of the Enterprise on the dashed line.

MAYWEATHER

The last known course of the P'lat didn't cross any known star system. We lost the signal at that point.

(marks the point)

The nearest hiding places are the Genaris star system and the Kobol's type II supernova remnant.

REED

I suggest we start searching for the supernova remnant. If they had headed for the Genaris system they should have moved back, with the risk of bumping into us. Long range sensors didn't detect anything when we navigated the system. On the other hand, the extreme radiation in Kobol provides a natural hiding element.

ARCHER

(to Trip)

What are the physical conditions in the remnant?

TRIP

The hull should protect us from the radiation without problems, but all our sensors will be blind. The engines will also suffer; there is a rapidly rotating black hole in the center of the remnant.

(MORE)

TRIP (cont'd)

We will have to adjust the ship's clock with respect to those of the other ships and correct our position due to the space-dragging effect. I wouldn't recommend getting too close to the black hole.

ARCHER

The remnant is our best chance, then. Hoshi, inform the T'ela about our search maneuvers. Travis, program the navigational computer with the parameters of the space-time inside the remnant. Malcolm, use the phaser's manual targeting system. Photon torpedoes should be more affected by the black hole's spin, avoid them in case of confrontation.

(to all)

Remember, we need them alive. Let's move, we don't know how much longer T'Pol can hold.

FADE TO:

INT. SICKBAY

Phlox is feeding his pets, when Hoshi ENTERS.

PHLOX

Hi ensign. Is there anything I can do for you?

HOSHI

I just came to see how's T'Pol.

PHLOX

I wish I knew. I can only sit and wait until she regains consciousness by herself.

(desperately)

Not even the Vulcan doctor had seen anything similar.

HOSHI

Come on, Phlox! You need to cheer up.

PHLOX

I can't. As a doctor, you get used to deal with fatal illnesses... even death. But as a scientist, you never get used to the anxiety of facing the unknown.

HOSHI

As a scientist, you should know that when you're stalled on a problem, the best option is...

(MORE)

HOSHI (cont'd)  
to step aside, relax, have some  
fun... and then come back to  
face the unknown.

PHLOX  
That uses to be the best  
option... when you have the  
time... unfortunately this is  
not the case.

Hoshi steps back... thinks... doubts... and gets back  
to fight for taking Phlox out of sickbay.

HOSHI  
It's too hot in sickbay... don't  
you think?

Hoshi fans her face with the hand pretending to feel  
hot.

PHLOX  
I find the temperature adequate.  
Perhaps you're too close to the  
reptiles area.

Hoshi gets closer to Phlox and unzips her suit a bit.  
When she is just in front of Phlox...

HOSHI  
You've been working too much,  
doc...

Hoshi caresses Phlox's face...

HOSHI  
Why don't you take... a break?

PHLOX  
(embarrassed)  
Ensign! Are you under the effect  
of alcohol... or drugs?

HOSHI  
May be... I'd need a full  
checkup... in my quarters.

PHLOX  
Have you lost your mind?

HOSHI  
I'm only a young woman, looking  
for good company for my off duty  
time.

Hoshi walks out slowly and suggestively. While  
leaving, she delivers her line without turning to  
Phlox.

HOSHI  
And I can't think of anyone more  
experienced...

Phlox doubts nervously for a second.

PHLOX

Indeed! I'm a triple-married man, I can show you a couple of sexual tricks.

(euphoric)

Holly blue ale!

Phlox follows Hoshi soon after. We hear the door of sickbay closing. CAMERA ON empty sickbay and T'Pol lying on a bio-bed.

FADE TO:

INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

Archer, Hoshi, Mayweather, and Reed are on the Bridge.

MAYWEATHER

Captain, we're arriving to Kobol.

ARCHER

On screen.

CLOSE SHOT ON each face to get the reaction of fascination. Archer stands up quietly, and after a split second...

ARCHER

Wow!

The VIEWSCREEN shows an enormous, spherical, rough structure, made out of several tens of smaller spherical, rough bubbles. It is a green, yellow and red flowing plasma, pretty dense. One can hardly see a few thousand kilometers inside.

ARCHER

All stop, Travis. Malcolm, can you locate the P'lat?

Reed manipulates his console.

REED

Negative sir. Sensors can only penetrate two thousand kilometers inside the remnant.

(Reed frowns)

Sir, I detect an artificial turbulent pattern, bearing three-oh-one, mark two-one-five.

ARCHER

Magnify.

Mayweather manipulates his console. The viewscreen ZOOMS IN the external surface of the remnant.

REED

It could have been the entry point.

ARCHER  
Or the exit one. Scan for  
similar patterns around the  
remnant.

Reed manipulates his console.

ARCHER  
Travis, bring us to the other  
side.

Mayweather works his controls.

INTERCUT:

EXT. SPACE - THE SUPERNOVA REMNANT

The Enterprise and the T'ela circumnavigate the  
remnant.

BACK TO:

INT. BRIDGE

As before.

REED  
There are no more visible entry  
or exit points, sir.

ARCHER  
They must have entered not much  
long ago.  
(to Reed)  
Is it possible to follow the  
path of the turbulence?

REED  
We can make it, if it doesn't  
cross with itself. In this case  
we wouldn't know the route they  
took.

ARCHER  
(to himself)  
Let's cross our fingers.  
(to Hoshi)  
Ensign, hail the T'ela.

Hoshi works her controls.

HOSHI  
On screen, sir.

The bridge of the T'ela appears on the VIEWSCREEN.

ARCHER  
We're going inside to try to  
push them out. Be ready to stop  
them, Velor.

VELOR  
You are in command, Archer. We  
will not fail you.

The VIEWSCREEN shows the supernova remnant again.

MAYWEATHER  
They could have wished us good  
luck... at least.

HOSHI  
(cold)  
Vulcans don't believe in luck.

ARCHER  
(to Mayweather)  
Bring us inside, lieutenant.

The remnant gets bigger on the viewscreen.

HOSHI  
If we don't have sensors, how  
are we supposed to get out?

EXT. SPACE

The Enterprise ENTERS the remnant.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. BRIDGE

Archer, Hoshi, Mayweather, and Reed are busy on the Bridge. Mayweather navigates very carefully on manual mode.

ARCHER

Steady as she goes, Travis.

REED

The density is so high that the soundspeed is about one hundredth of the lightspeed.

ARCHER

Good, the medium makes us blind, but we recover the hearing. Hoshi, stay alert to possible noises.

EXT. KOBOL'S SUPERNOVA REMNANT

The Enterprise follows a turbulent path, along which there is a small two-meter-sided cube. The cube goes directly to the right nacelle... but it fails. A couple of seconds later, direct hit in the front part of main dish with another cube. A blinding flash of light.

INT. VULCAN STARSHIP T'ELA - BRIDGE - (OPTICAL)

Velor, Spar, a helmsman, and a tactic officer are on the Bridge. The Kobol remnant is on the VIEWSCREEN, and a very bright flash of light comes out of it.

TACTIC OFFICER

Captain, there has been an X-ray flash in the remnant. It could have been originated from a warp core breach.

VELOR

No. It was too faint, it has probably been a mine.

SPAR

Shall we enter?

VELOR

Hold your position helmsman. We will wait here until any of the ships comes out.

INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

The ship ROCKS slightly.

ARCHER

What happened?

REED

We collided with some kind of emitting device. It was inoffensive... but emitted a flash of X-rays that produced a fluorescence effect in the whole remnant.

ARCHER

It's a localizer! Move us four thousand kilometers above the track and stop the engines.

REED

Sir, we'll be an easy target. They could fire around the localizer.

ARCHER

If they'd wanted to destroy us, they would have set up mines instead of beacons.

EXT. KOBOL'S SUPERNOVA REMNANT (OPTICAL)

The Enterprise is seen from above in North-South alignment. The P'lat appears from the East and crosses the screen to the West, navigating below the Enterprise.

INT. BRIDGE

All silent.

HOSHI

(whispering)

Captain, I hear a buzz. I'm connecting the audio.

Hoshi manipulates her controls. A buzzing SOUND is heard.

ARCHER

It could be the engines of the P'lat. Malcolm, fire a low energy torpedo. Make it explode at a safety distance from the sound's source.

REED

Aye, sir.

Malcolm presses some buttons.

REED

Firing torpedo.

EXT. KOBOL'S SUPERNOVA REMNANT

The Enterprise fires a torpedo that moves towards the P'lat... but it explodes away from it.

INT. VULCAN STARSHIP P'LAT - BRIDGE

The ship ROCKS and the crew shakes.

N.D. HELMSMAN  
The explosion's location is ten kilometers away from us.

N.D. FIRST OFFICER  
It is dangerous to approach the Enterprise.

P'SAT  
They will not destroy us, they want information about T'Pol.

N.D. FIRST OFFICER  
And what about the Vulcan vessel? They could fire upon us.

P'SAT  
Helmsman, move us deeper into the remnant and cut down all unnecessary power.

INT. BRIDGE

Hoshi listens to her earpiece.

HOSHI  
Captain, they're moving away.

REED  
Doppler scanner indicates they're heading for the black hole.

ARCHER  
Try not to lose them, Travis.  
(to himself)  
Next time we won't be so merciful.

EXT. KOBOL'S SUPERNOVA REMNANT

The Enterprise gets deeper into the remnant. The plasma flows through a giant whirl, centered on the black hole. No trace of the P'lat.

INT. BRIDGE

The ship SHAKES. The hull produces metallic NOISE due to the pressure. Reactions of concern.

INTERCUT:

INT. MAIN ENGINEERING

The engines SOUND overloaded, some instruments throw SPARKS. Trip is near a com-link.

TRIP  
(to com)  
Trip to Bridge.

ARCHER'S COM VOICE  
Go ahead.

TRIP  
Sir, the gravity tides are pushing the engines up to their limits.

BACK TO:

INT. BRIDGE

REED  
I suggest we stop here. Hull integrity is at fifty percent.

HOSHI  
Sir, I've lost contact with the P'lat.

ARCHER  
Keep going for another two thousand kilometers.  
(to Reed)  
Fire phasers at will.

EXT. KOBOL'S SUPERNOVA REMNANT

The Enterprise FIRES the phasers all around.

INT. VULCAN STARSHIP P'LAT - BRIDGE

The ship ROCKS, and the crew SHAKES. SPARKS everywhere.

N.D. FIRST OFFICER  
To be hidden inside here is a suicide, Captain.

P'SAT  
They will detect us if we move.

N.D. FIRST OFFICER  
 If we do not, either the phasers  
 or the tides will tear us apart.

INT. BRIDGE

The ship is TREMBLING.

HOSHI  
 I detect movement again.

REED  
 Doppler sensor picks up a vessel  
 heading out the remnant.

ARCHER  
 (victorious)  
 It's them!  
 (to Mayweather)  
 Lieutenant, take us out of here.  
 Full impulse.

MAYWEATHER  
 With pleasure.

EXT. SPACE

The T'ela is out of the Kobol's supernova remnant. A probe, half the size of a shuttlepod, gets out. The Enterprise emerges in pursuit.

INT. BRIDGE

Archer speaks with Velor. Audio only.

ARCHER  
 Did you get them?

VELOR (O.S.)  
 It was only a probe. No ship  
 abandoned the remnant except  
 yours, Archer.

ARCHER  
 Shit! They fool us out!

INT. VULCAN STARSHIP P'LAT - BRIDGE

As before.

P'SAT  
 Lay in a course to the event  
 horizon. We will use the  
 slingshot effect to escape from  
 them.

N.D. HELMSMAN  
 Aye, sir.

EXT. SPACE

The Enterprise and the T'ela are outside the remnant, face to face. After a tense wait, the P'lat emerges from the remnant. We see only its trace going to warp.

FADE TO:

INT. CAPTAIN'S READY ROOM

Archer recites the log.

ARCHER

Captain's log, supplemental. The P'lat used the gravity and angular momentum of the black hole, to escape at warp eight. There's no way for us to know where they're gone, therefore we have to deal with T'Pol's illness without any clue of its nature.

Archer closes the log and...

REED'S COM VOICE

Captain, the Vulcan doctor has just arrived.

ARCHER

(to com)  
Acknowledge.

CUT TO:

INT. SICKBAY

Archer and SCOP, the Vulcan doctor, ENTER sickbay. Archer introduces Scop to Phlox.

ARCHER

Doctor Phlox, Doctor Scop is here.

PHLOX

Nice to meet you in person, Mister Scop.

Phlox extends his hand to Scop but he ignores it, instead, he inclines slightly his head.

SCOP

Our patient doesn't have time for formalities, gentlemen.

Phlox and Archer exchange a look.

PHLOX

If you please follow--

Phlox's sentence is interrupted by the alarms of T'Pol's bio-bed. All life signs go down immediately. Phlox runs to T'Pol.

PHLOX  
(very alarmed)  
We're loosing her, sir!  
(to Scop)  
Get me the hypospray!

Phlox manipulates the neuro-stimulator on T'Pol's head, gets the hypospray from Scop and, after selecting the dose, injects it to T'Pol.

PHLOX  
She's not responding, sir.  
(angry)  
Mister Scop, shouldn't you try something?

SCOP  
(quietly)  
With your inappropriate equipment, there is nothing else I can do to help.

An acute sound indicates T'Pol's death.

PHLOX  
She's dead, sir.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. VULCAN STARSHIP T'ELA - BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

Scop, the Vulcan physician, is on the Bridge, along with its captain, Velor, its first officer, Spar, and two N.D. CREWMEMBERS: a helmsman, and the tactical officer. The face of Archer appears on screen.

VELOR

(to Archer)

We must cease the search immediately. We have a mission, and there is nothing we can do for T'Pol now.

ARCHER

I understand.

VELOR

I must insist on taking T'Pol on board the T'ela.

ARCHER

I told you that's not a matter of discussion--

Velor interrupts Archer.

VELOR

She is a Vulcan citizen, and one with high honors. She deserves a funeral among her people.

ARCHER

She's also a member of the Enterprise, so we'll bring her to Vulcan ourselves.

VELOR

You are making a diplomatic mistake, and you might pay for it.

ARCHER

If we are allies your threat is of no concern to us. Moreover, since you're not a Vulcan ambassador and T'Pol has no official position in Vulcan, you have no legal support to take her with you.

VELOR

I did not mean to threaten you, Archer. I do consider humans as an ally, but we seem to disagree on this matter.

ARCHER

I don't want to delay anymore  
your mission. Good luck. Archer  
out.

A starfield with the Enterprise substitutes Archer's  
face on the screen.

VELOR

You will see we are really a  
threat, Archer.

SPAR

Damn it, Velor. We cannot go  
without T'Pol.

VELOR

T'Pol is dead... she is not  
useful anymore.

SPAR

It is not a matter of  
usefulness, can't you understand  
it?

Velor is worried and looking at infinity. He doesn't  
even seem to have heard Spar.

VELOR

Take us to the meeting  
coordinates. Warp five.

EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL)

The Enterprise and the T'ela are face to face. The  
T'ela turns around the Enterprise and goes to warp.

INT. BRIDGE

Reed, Mayweather, Hoshi, and Archer are on the Bridge.

ARCHER

Travis, set a course for Vulcan,  
warp two.

MAYWEATHER

Aye, sir.

Mayweather works his console.

EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL)

The Enterprise goes to warp.

FADE TO:

INT. BRIDGE

Mayweather is alone during the night shift and is reading from the PADD. He is disturbed when Hoshi ENTERS, but relaxes again when he recognizes her.

HOSHI

Hi Travis, sorry to disturb you.  
Having a calmed shift?

MAYWEATHER

As quiet as deep space. Having a  
bad night?

HOSHI

Yeah. It's hard to sleep after  
all we've gone through today.  
What are you reading?

While speaking with Mayweather, Hoshi is simultaneously working on her station.

MAYWEATHER

Tok Ba'mor. It's a Vulcan novel.  
T'Pol gave it to me the week  
after we met. Her mother forced  
her to read it when she was six.  
I still remember her words: 'My  
mother used to say that my heart  
beat faster than my brain  
thought. It will help you as it  
helped me'. She perceived I was  
too impulsive... even for a  
human.

HOSHI

Did it help you?

MAYWEATHER

I never read it... till tonight.  
Too late to comment on it... too  
late to learn from her. I  
suppose you knew her better than  
I do.

HOSHI

It's curious... although we were  
the only women in the senior  
staff, she wasn't the kind of  
confidante I expected at the  
beginning. It's only been lately  
that she often came to me to  
learn about... human love  
affairs.

MAYWEATHER

In the end, she adapted herself  
to the human behavior. When she  
arrived, she wanted to transform  
me into a Vulcan, and she's left  
us wanting to be more human.

(MORE)

MAYWEATHER (cont'd)

By the way... what have you been working on?

HOSHI

I've just sent a coded subspace signal to the P'lat, asking for their position.

MAYWEATHER

Really?  
(joking)  
And what have they answered?

HOSHI

They've scheduled a meeting in Tycho's nebula at thirteen hundred hours.

MAYWEATHER

(continuing the joke)  
Then we don't have time to lose. Give me the coordinates, Captain Sato.

Hoshi walks to Mayweather's back and puts her hand on his face, passing him P'Sat's katra. CLOSE ON Mayweather's face. He reacts with fear, opening his eyes widely. Hoshi approaches her mouth to his left ear.

HOSHI

(whispering)  
Here you have them... helmsman.

FADE TO:

EXT. SPACE

In deep space there is an irregular rotating asteroid. PUSH IN to discover that there are three ships behind it. A ROMULAN BIRD-OF-PREY, a ROMULAN BOMBER, and the Vulcan ship T'ela. PUSH IN to discover a bunker on the asteroid's surface.

INT. ASTEROID BUNKER

There is a big, low lighted room, partially built using the asteroid rock as walls. In the center, an elliptical metallic table is surrounded by six magnificent chairs. Velor wears Romulan Tal Shiar clothes and sits on one side of the table. Next to him sits Spar, dressed in a full Romulan senator tunic. In front of them sit two Romulan centurions. They are the pilots of the Romulan Bomber and wear distinctive clothes. The remaining two chairs are empty. All stuff has a Romulan made aspect. There is a discussion between Spar and Velor. The others are impassible.

CAMERA ON Spar and Velor. We start to hear what they are talking about...

SPAR  
 (to Velor, angered)  
 You were in charge of the  
 military operation, and you  
 failed to bring T'Pol here.

VELOR  
 I did what I had to do to  
 protect the military operation.  
 If I had pushed harder, Archer  
 would have probably discovered  
 us.

SPAR  
 I tell you T'Sor will not be  
 happy. He would have preferred  
 to have T'Pol here, even if this  
 had meant to postpone the  
 attack.

VELOR  
 I acted for the sake of the  
 Empire, not on an individual  
 desire.

SPAR  
 (outraged)  
 The Praetor is the Empire!

A TRANSPORTER'S SOUND suddenly stops the discussion.  
 PULL BACK to reveal that six Romulans are beamed onto  
 the room: PRAETOR T'SOR, PROCONSUL PEELAR, and four  
 CENTURIONS heavily armed. The face of Velor reflects  
 fear, while the other ones show respect and pride.

SPAR  
 (to Velor, whispering)  
 Don't count on me to protect  
 you.

The centurions proceed fast to situate themselves in a  
 triangular formation: two behind T'Sor, and the other  
 two on the other side of the table. T'Sor walks  
 elegantly towards his chair. Everybody stand up and  
 salute T'Sor rising their right palm.

ALL AT ONE  
 Ave Praetor!

T'Sor feels honored and inclines slightly his head.  
 Everybody take sit again, except T'Sor and Spar.

T'SOR  
 (joyful)  
 Aha!

T'Sor walks towards Spar.

T'SOR  
 There you are, my friend!

Spar smiles.

T'SOR  
You've really grown old.

SPAR  
It must be the hard times we  
live in.

T'SOR  
This is the Spar I remember,  
always complaining.

ANGLE ON T'SOR AND SPAR.

T'Sor embraces Spar.

T'SOR  
How long has it been?

SPAR  
You should know better than us.  
By mid-twenty ninety-nine I  
recognized your cadaver, and a  
year after I heard the news of  
your election as Praetor of the  
Empire.

T'SOR  
Ah my friend! You are still  
surprised by the trick. I had to  
leave Vulcan and the High  
Command with the maximum  
secrecy. My political ambition  
was to reach the top... and I  
paid for it... I left my family  
there... I cannot wait to see my  
daughter again.

SPAR  
(fearful)  
I am sorry, T'Sor.

T'Sor's face changes to show panic.

SPAR  
(timidly)  
T'Pol died.

T'SOR  
What do you mean?

SPAR  
T'Pol was in a coma when we  
reached the Enterprise. A Vulcan  
ship contacted the Enterprise  
before us. Archer thinks they  
could have poisoned her. We  
pursued them and engaged into  
battle, but they escaped. T'Pol  
died soon after.

T'SOR  
I demand to see her body.

SPAR  
I am afraid that is not possible.

T'SOR  
(to Velor)  
You didn't take T'Pol with you!

VELOR  
I tried to convince Archer by all means...

T'Sor walks towards Velor while speaking.

T'SOR  
(to Velor, enraged)  
And who do you think this human is, to hinder the Praetor from seeing his daughter! If Archer did not want to give you T'Pol, you should have taken her by force.

T'Sor stands in front of Velor.

VELOR  
(anxious)  
I would have endangered the mission.

A centurion puts himself behind Velor.

T'SOR  
That is no excuse!

T'Sor makes a signal to the centurion with his face. The centurion FIRES a disruptor and dematerializes Velor.

FADE TO:

INT. JEFFERIES TUBE - ANGLE ON TRIP

Trip is repairing damages from the battle. He hears a noise.

TRIP  
(amicably)  
Who's down there?

He obtains no answer and continues working.

INT. JEFFERIES TUBE - ANGLE ON MAYWEATHER - CONTINUOUS

Mayweather climbs up the Jefferies Tube. He goes discreetly and looking for somebody. He stops at a bifurcation and doubts which way to take. He hears metallic knocks coming all around.

He takes a second to think and chooses a random path, but soon after moving, starts to hear someone whistling and turns around.

INT. JEFFERIES TUBE - ANGLE ON TRIP

Trip whistles a song while working.

INT. JEFFERIES TUBE - ANGLE ON MAYWEATHER

Mayweather speeds up and he knocks his head on a tube making a resonant, metallic, low noise.

INT. JEFFERIES TUBE - ANGLE ON TRIP

Trip is troubled by the sound and stops what he is doing. He is afraid, but makes a joke to get rid of his fear.

TRIP

You hit yourself again, ensign Lafuente. It ain't always good to be that big. No need to answer boy, I'd also be embarrassed if I were you.

(smiles)

That's the third hit of today.

INT. JEFFERIES TUBE - CLOSE SHOT ON MAYWEATHER

Mayweather seems to have found whom he was looking for. You can see satisfaction in his face. He MOVES faster.

INT. JEFFERIES TUBE - ANGLE ON TRIP

Trip is working. Mayweather appears suddenly from his back. DOLLY IN Trip's face of panic.

INT. JEFFERIES TUBE - TRIP P.O.V.

EXTREME CLOSEUP on Mayweather's face.

INT. JEFFERIES TUBE - TWO-SHOT

Trip and Mayweather encounter on the Jefferies Tube.

TRIP

Damn it, Travis! You almost killed me! Why the hell you didn't answered?

MAYWEATHER

Eh?

TRIP  
You alright?

MAYWEATHER  
I was wandering around...  
looking for...  
(puzzled)  
I don't know who or what.

Trip behaves as if he were Vulcan.

TRIP  
It is not logic to go for a walk  
through the Jefferies tube.

MAYWEATHER  
Logic? Fascinating!

Trip raises an eyebrow, and Mayweather mimics him.

TRIP  
(feared)  
What?

MAYWEATHER  
(aggressive)  
I was looking for you!

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

INT. CAPTAIN'S READY ROOM

Archer is at his desk working with his computer. The door CHIMES.

ARCHER

Come in.

Mayweather ENTERS.

MAYWEATHER

Captain, I should inform you  
that I altered course at oh-five  
hundred hours.

Archer's reaction of astonishment.

MAYWEATHER

(cold)  
We are now heading for the Tycho  
nebula.

ARCHER

Who gave that order, lieutenant?

MAYWEATHER

Myself, sir.

Archer stands up and walks firmly towards Travis.

ARCHER

Why the hell...

Mayweather interrupts Archer.

MAYWEATHER

We acted to protect humans.

ARCHER

You make no sense, Travis.

MAYWEATHER

You will understand, if you  
allow me to mind-meld with you.

Archer is very confused.

ARCHER

What's this all about, Travis?

Mayweather, controlled by P'Sat's katra, grabs Archer's head and mind-melds with him.

MAYWEATHER

(deeply)  
My mind to your mind... your  
thoughts to my thoughts...

Archer perceives in his mind the history of P'sat and the carriers of his katra.

INT. T'POL'S QUARTERS - MIND MELD - P'SAT'S P.O.V.

P'SAT (O.S.)

As you might know, there is a belligerent faction within the High Command. What is not so evident is that most of the other members be conniving with them.

T'POL

I have come to know why, since I am an outside observer. The belligerent faction makes the dirty job. They control humans, andorians, and other species. First they try to slow down their evolution, and, afterwards, they engage an undercover war.

P'SAT (O.S.)

The consequence is that we control the potentially dangerous species and maintain a technological supremacy in the alpha quadrant, so forth living in what we call "peace".

T'POL

In essence, the non-belligerent part of the High Command is afraid to lose our well-being status.

T'Pol moves to her bedside table and grabs a pendant of her mother. She reacts with affection to it. P'Sat moves towards her, and we can see the reflection of both in a MIRROR.

NEW ANGLE - THROUGH THE MIRROR

T'POL

The belligerent faction has lost a lot of power since the irruption of the Syrannites. They are outnumbered in the High Command.

P'SAT

(with controlled  
passion)

But they have a new ally!

T'Pol rises an eyebrow.

P'SAT

Thanks to Syrrannite members into Vulcan intelligence, we have had access to classified files. Members of the High Command have been transferring information to an unknown ally. In two days now they are holding a secret meeting.

T'POL

Unknown ally?

P'SAT

Correct. All we know is that they are an extremely warlike race and, technologically, more advanced than klingons. They have lived confined to their twin home planets, although they have warp capability.

P'Sat moves towards T'Pol and faces her very close.

NEW ANGLE - P'SAT'S P.O.V.

P'SAT

"Your" secret mission is a furtive operation to kidnap you. This race is planning a massive attack against humans, and they want your knowledge about Earth.

T'Pol reacts with controlled emotions.

T'POL

What do you come to propose?

P'SAT

The only way to avoid you boarding their ship, without being suspicious, is to be physically disabled.

BACK TO:

INT. CAPTAIN'S READY ROOM

Mayweather is mind-melding with Archer. Archer seems disturbed by what he is seeing.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MIND MELD - VULCAN STARSHIP P'LAT - DOCKING BAY  
- P'SAT'S P.O.V.

P'Sat passes the katra to Malcolm.

P'SAT (O.S.)  
 (giving an order)  
 Help T'Pol, and find her katra  
 carrier.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MIND MELD - TURBOLIFT - REED P.O.V.

Malcolm passes P'Sat's katra to Hoshi.

REED (O.S.)  
 (giving an order)  
 Get Phlox out of sickbay. We  
 have to fake T'Pol's death to  
 make the T'ela abandon the  
 pursuit.

BACK TO:

INT. CAPTAIN'S READY ROOM

Mayweather is still mind-melding with Archer, but the  
 latter is trying to pull himself out. Finally, he  
 succeeds.

ARCHER  
 (exhausted but joyful)  
 Then, T'Pol isn't dead!

MAYWEATHER  
 No. At first, she used the  
 Kin'Pa, an ancient suspension  
 technique, to set herself in a  
 hibernation state. Then Trip  
 hacked some instruments at  
 sickbay to simulate T'Pol's  
 death.

ARCHER  
 You should have told us all this  
 before, when you first came to  
 visit us.

MAYWEATHER  
 In order to cheat the T'ela, it  
 was important to cheat you,  
 before.

ARCHER  
 You risked T'Pol's life and  
 endangered us all in the battle.

MAYWEATHER  
 The needs of the many outweigh  
 the needs of the few... or the  
 one. We knew you were not going  
 to destroy us. The show made the  
 masquerade more... believable.  
 Now they do not expect us!

The communication beep WHISTLES.

REED'S COM VOICE  
 Captain, we're receiving a  
 subspace transmission coming  
 from deep inside Tycho's nebula.

Archer exchanges a look of approval with Mayweather.

ARCHER  
 (to com)  
 Proceed to the emitting source.  
 (to Mayweather)  
 Let's deal with this.

FADE TO:

EXT. SPACE

The P'lat is outside the Tycho's nebula. The nebula has a blue sphere, surrounded by a red cloak, with mixing colors in the contact surface. In the center, there is a white region with neuron shape. The Enterprise arrives.

INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

Archer, Hoshi, Mayweather, and Reed are on their stations on the Bridge.

ARCHER  
 (to Hoshi)  
 Hail them.

Hoshi presses some buttons on her console.

HOSHI  
 On screen.

The bridge of the P'lat appears on the VIEWSCREEN, with P'sat accompanied by a N.D. helmsman, the communications officer, and the first officer.

P'SAT  
 I told you we'd see each other  
 again very soon, Archer.

ARCHER  
 It's been a tough chase... but  
 in the end we caught you.

P'SAT  
 I guess it's more appropriate to  
 say "we" caught you.

ARCHER  
 We have no time for puns, P'Sat.  
 What do you want from us?

P'SAT

We have to stop the collaboration of the High Command with a potentially dangerous alien race. We can't count on Vulcan military, they are afraid of being accused of treason. The pacific refunding of our homeworld needs a push forward. If you reveal this secret plot to our people, you may free us from these undesired associates, and at the same time, it could be the final hit for the belligerent Vulcans. Aborting the meeting, is also a way to prevent the possible attack on Earth.

ARCHER

You can count on us, of course... and I hope our governments see how important is to definitively settle an interstellar association. Would you have acted if there hadn't been for the Syrrannite revolution? Would we have helped if the menace had been against the Klingons, or the Andorians? The future of the Galaxy cannot depend on a few people's good will.

P'SAT

We agree on this, Archer... as well as many other planetary systems. Lots of them weaker and more needed of help than us, but this will not be arranged here nor now. I am transmitting you the coordinates of the meeting.

ARCHER

There's one thing we need to solve yet. T'Pol is recovering from hibernation in sickbay, but there's someone here,  
 (looks at Mayweather)  
 who wants you to leave his head before we start the action.

OFF Mayweather's anguished face.

CUT TO:

INT. ASTEROID BUNKER

T'Sor, Peelar, Spar, and the two Romulan pilots sit around the table, while the personal guards of Praetor T'Sor stand up.

SPAR

All our economical efforts are exclusively dedicated to build ships and armament, yet we don't have enough power to control this quadrant. I suggest we concentrate on adding nearby worlds to the Empire, before engaging in a war with the distant Earth.

PEELAR

We don't agree with you. Humans are making a very fast progress within the quadrant. They are making new allies and, certainly, winning other races affection. It is not what they are now, but their potential capabilities, and the fact that they could be a catalyst for a greater union of worlds. We have to act now to restrain their expansion.

SPAR

There is no way you can move closer to Earth with such a heavy weapon. The defensive perimeter of the Solar System has been extremely enhanced since the attack of the Xindi.

T'SOR

If my daughter were here, she could reveal the weaknesses on Earth defensive system, so we could drive not only one, but several nuclear attacks over key human facilities. That was the plan. But what I see now is that we are weaker than I thought within the High Command. You are not passionate servants of the Empire anymore.

A COMMUNICATOR SOUND interrupts T'Sor.

N.D. ROMULAN'S COM VOICE

Praetor, an Earth and a Vulcan vessel are approaching the system.

T'SOR

It seems like Vulcan is no more a trustworthy ally. I think our only chance now, is to destroy the Earth vessel and wait for better times to spread out our nuclear terror.

INT. BRIDGE

Archer, Hoshi, Mayweather, Reed, and T'Pol are on the Bridge.

MAYWEATHER  
We are out of warp, sir.

REED  
Captain, I'm detecting only one ship. It's the T'ela, sir.

ARCHER  
On screen.

The VIEWSCREEN reveals the T'ela close to the asteroid.

T'POL  
There is a bunker on the asteroid. It is probably where the meeting should take, or took place.

ARCHER  
Let's find out!  
(to Hoshi)  
Hail them.

Hoshi works on her controls.

HOSHI  
They're not responding.

ARCHER  
Try again.

INTERCUT:

INT. ROMULAN WARBIRD - BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

The bridge of a Romulan warbird with T'Sor, Peelar, a N.D. HELMSMAN, and a N.D. ARMOR OFFICER. The VIEWSCREEN shows the cockpit of the Romulan bomber with its two pilots.

T'SOR  
(to the Romulan pilots)  
Move closer to the Enterprise, slowly. Once you be at fifty meters, detonate the atomic bomb without decloaking the ship. You've served well to the Empire, your deed will be taught at schools, and your family will be treated with honors by the upcoming generations.

BACK TO:

INT. BRIDGE

As before.

ARCHER  
Hoshi, transmit this message on  
all frequencies.

Hoshi manipulates her console.

HOSHI  
Whenever you want, sir.

ARCHER  
(to com)  
As you can see, we've found our  
Vulcan enemies, and they say you  
are conspiring against humans  
with an unknown ally. Since you  
are here alone, I don't find any  
reason to believe them... except  
that they revived T'Pol!

INTERCUT:

INT. VULCAN STARSHIP T'ELA - BRIDGE

Spar is on the Bridge as well as a number of N.D.  
CREWMEMBERS.

SPAR  
T'Pol is alive?  
(in panic, to N.D.  
helmsman)  
Do not respond, if it is true,  
get ready to go to warp.

BACK TO:

INT. BRIDGE

ARCHER  
T'Pol, say something to our  
friends.

T'POL  
(to com)  
There is nowhere you can escape.  
It is not logic to remain in  
silence.

INT. ROMULAN WARBIRO - BRIDGE

T'SOR  
(with tears in his eyes)  
My daughter.  
(to com)  
Romulan bomber, head fast for  
the T'ela and blast them.  
(MORE)

T'SOR (cont'd)

I am sorry my friends, but we cannot afford you being interrogated.

(to N.D. helmsman)

Get us out here, maximum warp.

EXT. SPACE

The Enterprise and the P'lat are close one another. The T'ela is close to the asteroid and, suddenly, explodes.

INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

The ship rocks heavily. A console near Archer explodes, sparking him.

ARCHER

What's happened?

REED

The T'ela has been completely destroyed, sir.

On the VIESCREEN we see the wreckage of the T'ela.

FADE TO:

INT. SICKBAY

Archer is sitting on a bio-bed and Phlox is treating his burns. T'Pol and Reed are with them.

PHLOX

(to Reed)

Then, you don't remember anything that happened while P'Sat's katra was in control of your mind?

REED

I've told you twice, doctor. Nothing at all.

Phlox reacts with relief, since Hoshi will not remember anything that happened between them.

ARCHER

There's one thing that isn't yet clear to me.

(to Reed)

You were in T'Pol's quarters when she fell into stasis, yet there wasn't any trace in the room, or record in the computer, of you being there. How did you manage to do it?

REED

It would be inadequate for the head of security to reveal that information, sir.

ARCHER

But... I am the Captain... you could tell me...  
(looks at the others)  
in private.

REED

There are certain security protocols that no one should know... not even the Captain.

ARCHER

Well, it seems that the Captain's authority is in question.

Archer stands up and tries to walk out of sickbay, but Phlox holds him back.

PHLOX

Where do you think you're going? I do have more authority than you in the ship. I confine you to sickbay until you be fully recovered.

ARCHER

(humorously)  
This is a mutiny. I think I'm going to the Bridge... where I'm really the boss.

T'POL

(cold)  
Sir, since Phlox confined you to sickbay, and I am the highest rank officer... I must inform you that I take command of the ship.

T'Pol leaves sickbay immediately after. Archer, astonished, sits again on the bio-bed. They all exchange a look of wonder upon T'Pol's joke and start laughing at one. CLOSE SHOT ON the three laughing.  
FREEZE FRAME.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE

THE END