

SUPERIMPOSE: Stardate: 2290.251

Captain Thy'shaw sits in the captain's chair and Benovio sits at the helm.

Captain Thy'shaw is tapping on a PADD he holds, when something on the PADD makes his eyes widen.

Captain Thy'shaw taps hurriedly and watches as something occurs across his screen.

He then looks up towards the helm, unsure of what to do.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW
(unsurely)
Commander Ben-
(beat)
Jack, come see this.

Benovio pivots around in his chair to look at Captain Thy'shaw.

BENOVIO
Thy'shaw? Is something wrong?

OFFICERS on the bridge begin to look up from their stations, in curiosity.

Captain Thy'shaw shakes his head and smiles, quite plastic-like, at Benovio.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW
(clearing his throat and
looking around suspiciously)
Not at all, Commander. I merely
thought you would enjoy looking at
this.

Captain Thy'shaw points down at his PADD, and the OFFICERS on the bridge go back to work.

Benovio raises his eyebrows, and Captain Thy'shaw hurriedly gestures for Benovio to come to him.

Benovio looks around at the working OFFICERS and walks quickly over to the Captain.

BENOVIO
(beside Captain Thy'shaw,
lowering his voice)
Sir?

(CONTINUED)

Captain Thy'shaw hands Benovio his PADD, who COCKS an eyebrow.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

I found this video in my personal messages.

CLOSEUP - PADD

Benovio taps play on the screen and the video loads, and then begins to play-the volume very low.

2

INT. WURO BETA TWO - BASEMENT

2

A man sits huddled in a dark room, close to the camera.

The camera appears to be held in the man's hand, and SHAKES often-making the picture blur and fuzz.

He has a clean haircut, and wears a business suit.

He looks to his sides, to see if anyone is there, and then leans in even closer to the camera.

JACOB SMITH

(whispering desperately)

If anyone is hearing this-, my name is Jacob Smith, and I might sound totally crazy right now...

Footsteps are heard in the background, so JACOB SMITH (late 30's) looks away from the camera, investigating the intruder.

No one appears, so Jacob Smith reluctantly looks back to the camera.

JACOB SMITH

I don't have much time, they'll find out I'm down here and send someone down.

(beat)

I sent this video to numerous people, because I need help. I am living in a television show-if you know what that is-whoever you are. My life literally is a reality TV show, and...I want out. All of my life is a lie, and I don't have any proof-just suspicions. I stole this weird looking camera from one of my friend's backpack, and I don't even know if I'm using it right. I just

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JACOB SMITH (cont'd)
need someone to come here and help
me escape or explain everything to
me, please.

The footsteps are heard even closer to the camera and Jacob Smith grows restless.

He gives one last pleading look to the camera in his hand and uses his other hand to turn off the camera.

3

INT. U.S.S. PRIME - BRIDGE - DECK 1

3

CLOSEUP - PADD

Screen goes black.

ANGLE ON - BENOVIO AND CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

Benovio turns off Captain Thy'shaw's PADD and hands it back to him.

Captain Thy'shaw looks at Benovio, expectantly.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW
(hushed)
This video was only sent to me, I
asked Starfleet if anyone else
received it.

BENOVIO
(grimaces and folds his arms)
Look, as much as that guy seemed
sincere, I don't know whether it is
worth us going out of our way-even
if it is legit.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW
(standing from his chair)
Oh, come on, Jack! This is what
this ship is meant to do! We
investigate cultures and different
civilizations! If this is true-

BENOVIO
(interrupting)
Or if it isn't...

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW
(sighs)
-or if it isn't, we'll still get a
kick out of it. What else do we
have to do?

(CONTINUED)

Benovio ponders on it for a bit.

BENOVIO

With all due respect, Captain, I would recommend getting a second opinion.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

(smiling)

Done!

CUT IN:

4

INT. COUNSELOR HU'S OFFICE - DECK 12

4

Counselor Hu is seen handing Captain Thy'shaw his PADD back.

Counselor Hu sits at his desk, while Captain Thy'shaw and Benovio stand in front of him.

BENOVIO

Is he telling the truth, Bao-Zhi?

COUNSELOR HU

(tilts his head, unsure)

As he is a young white male, I would immediately assume he is a paranoid schizophrenic with Truman Syndrome.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

But...?

COUNSELOR HU

(sighs)

But, as Jack stated, he does seem sincere. Is there a date or location on the video?

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

No date, but I have coordinates that he released with the video.

COUNSELOR HU

And where do they lead us?

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

A small planet in the Alpha Quadrant, not too far from here. We would be able to reach orbit in about three days, at warp three.

(CONTINUED)

COUNSELOR HU
Well, at least it's not somewhere
deep in the Delta Quadrant.

Benovio and the Captain nod in agreement.

COUNSELOR HU
(standing from his desk)
I say: let's go. Hit warp eight if
possible, and let's make it there
much sooner.
(beat)
But, we investigate off surface
before sending in a landing party.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW
(nods his head and smiles)
Done.

THEME/TITLE CARD

COMMERCIAL BREAK

5 INT. AMANDA'S QUARTERS - DECK 5

5

AMANDA
See, that was not so bad!

BEGIN OPENING CREDITS

Amanda is busy straightening up her quarters, and Nalow
Zanthr sits on her bed.

Amanda wears traditional Vulcan robes, and Nalow Zanthr
wears a Betazoid jumpsuit.

NALOW ZANTHR
Gavino and Dr. Lawson repeatedly
brought up our sexual relationship.

AMANDA
It is not exactly like we have one,
Nalow.

Nalow Zanthr looks away awkwardly.

NALOW ZANTHR
Right.

AMANDA
Besides, Stanton really enjoyed
having you there tonight as
company.

(CONTINUED)

NALOW ZANTHR
Amanda, I can read her thoughts.
She wished you had shown up alone.

AMANDA
(shrugs it off)
I am sure you just heard it wrong.

Nalow Zanthr shoots Amanda a wary look.

AMANDA
(holds her hands up in
surrender)
Okay, I know you and Stanton may
not have the best relationship-

Nalow Zanthr NARROWS his eyes at Amanda.

AMANDA
(continuing, softer)
-but you have me now, and she
should not bother you. Because, we
are with who we are supposed to be
with, right?

Nalow Zanthr's face softens and he opens his mouth to speak.

AMANDA
(interrupting)
Okay, fine. No more triple dates
with the Lawsons and Stanton and
Gavino.

Nalow Zanthr tries to open his mouth to reply, again.

AMANDA
(interrupting)
Maybe you are right, Nalow.

NALOW ZANTHR
Wait, about what?

AMANDA
I think it is time we started being
more intimate with each other. It
has been a month, and we only act
as if good friends and-

NALOW ZANTHR
(interrupting)
Amanda, you have to understand, I
don't care about any of that stuff.

AMANDA

(shakes her head)

No, I realize that your race is intimate by nature, and I am doing a great disservice to you by refusing intimacy.

NALOW ZANTHR

Did what Gavino and Dr. Lawson say get to you? Because Jamila told you not to worry-

AMANDA

(interjecting)

No!

(beat)

Maybe...yes, it did.

END OPENING CREDITS

Nalow Zanthr sighs, and Amanda walks over and sits beside him.

AMANDA

Nalow, as you know, I have trouble with accepting myself as a human, and I believe that expressing my emotional thoughts to you, through physical actions such as coitus, will further myself.

NALOW ZANTHR

So, you are in a relationship with me as a sort of experiment?

AMANDA

No!

Amanda groans frustrated.

AMANDA

I was raised by people who thought intimacy to be private, and a weakness in the wake of intellect. I feel...

(beat)

-irresolute about the entirety of it all.

NALOW ZANTHR

You're unsure.

(CONTINUED)

AMANDA

(nods)

Counselor Hu has been trying to get me to open up to him about things like this, but I realized the reason I am so tight-lipped about it is because I was raised to be such a creature.

(beat)

I need someone like you, raised to embrace emotion and feeling, to help me with that. Relationships are a give and take, and I want that with us. I want to learn from you.

NALOW ZANTHR

And I from you. I've always been able to read everyone's mind, so I have a good impression about how other's view me, but you are different. I never know how you feel.

AMANDA

And?

NALOW ZANTHR

And, I think I like the uncertainty. In science, most of everything is definite. There are rules and regulations and laws.

(beat)

But with you, I never know what to expect, and it is very intriguing.

Amanda smiles softly at Nalow Zanthr. He reaches out to cup Amanda's face gently.

A loud BEEP is heard from the video screen on Amanda's desk.

Amanda and Nalow Zanthr look over at it, and then back at each other.

Nalow Zanthr leans in towards Amanda and gives her a kiss on her forehead.

Amanda gets up from the bed and walks over to her desk.

Another BEEP is heard from the video screen.

Amanda presses a button on the monitor.

ANGLE ON - VIDEO MONITOR

(CONTINUED)

Jamila Lawson's face appears on video screen.

REVERSE ANGLE - AMANDA

Amanda leans down to get into the view of the camera on the video screen.

REVERSE ANGLE - VIDEO MONITOR

JAMILA LAWSON

Sorry to interrupt you, Ambassador,
but you are needed in conference
lounge one for briefing. And, my
screen is telling me Lieutenant
Zanthr is in there as well?

AMANDA

(nodding while eyeing Nalow
Zanthr)
Aye, ma'am.

JAMILA LAWSON

(looking down at her
dashboard)
Well, we need him on the bridge for
readings.

ANGLE ON - NALOW ZANTHR

nods to Amanda.

REVERSE ANGLE - AMANDA

AMANDA

We will be there, Lieutenant.

ANGLE ON - VIDEO MONITOR

Jamila Lawson nods once to Amanda.

JAMILA LAWSON

Aye, Ambassador. Jamila out.

The video screen goes dark.

FROM BLACK:

6

INT. U.S.S. PRIME - CONFERENCE LOUNGE 1 - DECK 1

6

Amanda walks into the conference lounge still adjusting her diplomatic officer uniform.

Captain Thy'shaw, Benovio, Counselor Hu, Dr. Lawson, Stanton, Gavino, and Venix sit around the conference table.

The GROUP looks up at Amanda when she walks into the room.

AMANDA

(lets out an exhausted sigh)

You needed me?

Captain Thy'shaw smiles at Amanda and gestures for her to take a seat.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

Take a seat, Ambassador. I apologize for interrupting your off-duty.

Amanda takes a seat at the table and Stanton raises her eyebrows at Amanda.

Amanda notices and narrows her eyes at her while shaking her head.

Venix's attention is drawn to see the interaction between Stanton and Amanda.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

Okay, now that everyone is here...we are stopping at a merchant planet in the Alpha Quadrant for what seems to be an emergency rescue.

VENIX

So, this isn't a Federation planet?

BENOVIO

(shaking his head)

Unfortunately, no. This is why this is such a delicate situation. I need complete and utter cooperation with this.

GAVINO

Wait, what are we talking about here?

(CONTINUED)

AMANDA

Is this some sort of hostage situation?

Benovio's eye twitches.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

(shifts uncomfortably)

Not exactly.

Benovio GLARES at Captain Thy'shaw, who blatantly ignores it.

COUNSELOR HU

Maybe you should show them the video you received, Captain.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

(clearing his throat)

Ah, yes.

Dr. Lawson, Stanton, Gavino, Amanda, and Venix shoot each other WARY glances. The whole GROUP turns to the video screen at the end of the table.

SCENE BREAK

The video screen goes black and the GROUP turns back to their original positions.

Amanda, Gavino, Dr. Lawson, and Venix are left looking speechless, but Stanton angrily stands from the table.

Captain Thy'shaw, Benovio, and Counselor Hu look up at her expectantly.

STANTON

You have this goddamn ship going at warp eight for a man who thinks he's trapped in a TV show?!

COUNSELOR HU

(softly to Stanton)

Well, actually, the man believes his life is a TV show.

Stanton FURROWS her eyebrows at him and slowly sits back down.

VENIX

What the hell is the difference?!

(CONTINUED)

DR. LAWSON

Are we actually doing this? Going
and saving this man from himself?
He's obviously insane!
(to Counselor Hu)
Right?

COUNSELOR HU

(sighs)
I am not sure if he is or not. That
is why we need a landing party to
hopefully investigate further.

GAVINO

(crossing his arms)
There is no way any of us are
wasting our time for that.

BENOVIO

(to Gavino)
Well, actually, you'd be staying
here on the bridge.

GAVINO

(looking around incredulously)
Then what am I doing here?

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

(beaming at Gavino)
Moral support!

Gavino ROLLS his eyes and groans.

AMANDA

(suddenly)
I would like to go, Captain.

Dr. Lawson, Stanton, Gavino, and Venix turn to Amanda,
utterly shocked.

Captain Thy'shaw smiles graciously at Amanda.

AMANDA

I cannot say I do not find the
whole thing, well-
(beat)
-fascinating.

Stanton and Dr. Lawson GROAN loudly.

VENIX

(shaking his head, mumbling)
Damn, Vulcan.

(CONTINUED)

Amanda RAISES her eyebrows and turns to Venix.

AMANDA

I am surprised you would not like to prove all of us wrong by coming along, Lieutenant.

VENIX

(holding his head high)
I am higher than that.

AMANDA

Are you?

CUT IN:

7

INT. U.S.S. PRIME - TRANSPORTER ROOM 3 - DECK 6

7

SUPERIMPOSE: Stardate: 2290.252

ANGLE ON - VENIX

visibly grumpy, with his arms crossed.

Venix, Amanda, Captain Thy'shaw, Dr. Lawson, Counselor Hu, and Stanton stand in the transporter room.

Stanton is behind the controls, and Venix, Amanda, Captain Thy'shaw, Counselor Hu, and Dr. Lawson stand on the transporter pads.

STANTON

(looking down at her controls)
Captain, Lieutenant Jamila Lawson reports that a TV show on the planet entitled "The Jacob Smith Show" stars Jacob Smith himself. The show airs all day, every day. It documents his entire life, and reportedly it is in fact scripted. It is unknown if the video he sent you is genuine, or a way of endorsing the show.

AMANDA

Fascinating.

Venix and Stanton GLARE at Amanda.

DR. LAWSON

(warily looking down at his uniform)
Should we be beaming down in this?

(CONTINUED)

AMANDA

As Wuro Beta Two is, in fact, a merchant planet, we should be fine, as there is much diversity.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

I agree, but only Venix is to go armed. We do not want trouble from the merchants and traders.

Amanda and Captain Thy'shaw unhook their phasers from their belts and set them on the ground, off of the transporter pads.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

(to Stanton)

I believe we are ready, Lieutenant Commander, with Lieutenant Zanthr's word.

STANTON

(nods in acknowledgement)

Aye, Captain.

Stanton taps some of the controls on her dashboard and looks back up at Captain Thy'shaw.

STANTON

Dr. Zanthr reports all-clear to beam down.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

(nods in acknowledgement)

Beam us down, Stanton.

The PARTY's forms on the transporter pads swirl and shimmer, and then are swept away, leaving an empty transporter.

COMMERCIAL BREAK

8 EXT. WURO BETA TWO - MERCHANT'S SQUARE - DAY - ESTABLISHING 8

The landing PARTY shimmers and swirls into view.

The immediately begin to observe where they landed.

Around them are hundreds of grubby HUMANOIDs and ALIENS. Some have carts selling items, and others walk around with hostile faces. Huge buildings enclose the small space. No greenery can be seen anywhere and there is a smoky fog littering the air. A few of the MERCHANTS glance over at the OFFICERS, but none stop their activities.

(CONTINUED)

VENIX

(looking to Dr. Lawson)
I would refrain from taking
anything from this planet.

DR. LAWSON

(angrily)
Ya know, my sticky fingers do have
an off-switch.

AMANDA

(smirks)
Really? Since when?

Venix grins at Amanda, making Dr. Lawson SCOWL.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

So, Counselor, what exactly do we
do now? Just ask people what all
they know about this TV show or..?

COUNSELOR HU

(grins)
I thought this was your mission,
Captain.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

(narrowing his eyes)
Counselor...

COUNSELOR HU

Oh, come on, Thy'shaw. You used to
be so much fun back when you were a
morale officer.

AMANDA

(amused)
Captain, you were a morale officer?

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

(laughs)
Of course I was! What else?! I
served as a morale officer aboard
the U.S.S. Pegasus and the U.S.S.
Constellation for thirteen years.

Amanda's smile immediately drops and she grows stiff.

AMANDA

I will assume you served with
Captain Uhura aboard the
Constellation, then?

(CONTINUED)

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

(nods and smiles)

Yes, such a beautiful woman. I served as her first officer for four years. Remarkably strong woman; she talked her head off to anybody who would listen about you.

Captain Thy'shaw, Dr. Lawson, Counselor Hu, and even Venix smile at Amanda.

Amanda grimaces and looks away awkwardly.

AMANDA

(while still looking away from the group)

We could stand here all day reminiscing people who do not deserve it-

Captain Thy'shaw's face falls.

AMANDA

-or we could proceed with our duties.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

(coughs uncomfortably)

Of course, Ambassador. I apologize for my lack of...professionalism.

Amanda remains stoic, while Venix shoots her an upset look.

Captain Thy'shaw looks around for a second, and then points to a merchant and his cart in a more secluded corner.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

Jacob Smith's coordinates did not include coordinates for an on-planet location, so I propose we ask that merchant for information on his whereabouts.

Amanda looks down and plays with some of the gravel on the ground with her shoe.

Counselor Hu, Dr. Lawson, and Venix nod in agreement with Captain Thy'shaw.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

(gesturing for everyone to follow him)

Alright, then let's go.

(CONTINUED)

Captain Thy'shaw, Counselor Hu, and Dr. Lawson walk off towards the cart, leaving Venix and Amanda to trail behind them.

VENIX

(to Amanda)

You know, there was no need for you to be like that to Thy'shaw.

AMANDA

Venix, you do not know anything about me.

Venix grabs Amanda's arm and they both stop in the middle of the road.

VENIX

Thy'shaw is the reason my ass is even here right now. I came to Earth when I was seventeen, and my family and I lived in poverty. Thy'shaw paid for my education just because he had a gut feeling about me.

Amanda's face softens and she looks away.

VENIX

I owe him everything. My family eats because of him. He's family, Amanda. And no matter how much you want to deny it, you have family too.

AMANDA

Who? You?

VENIX

(shrugs)

All of us.

Venix gently lets go of Amanda's arm and he walks off.

SCENE BREAK

Amanda and Venix walk up to the rest of the GROUP, to find Counselor trying to calm down a Klingon merchant.

COUNSELOR HU

Sir, I understand your misconceptions about-

(CONTINUED)

KLINGON MERCHANT
Hugh SIj jIH vaj wej mej SoH!

SUPERIMPOSE: I will slit your throat if you do not leave!

Amanda loudly hisses at the Klingon merchant and jumps in front of Counselor Hu.

Venix's eyes widen, and he grips his phaser on his belt.

Dr. Lawson begins to WHISTLE softly, and slowly scooches away from the rest of the group.

AMANDA
(fiercely)
pagh vIq Doch SoHvaD!

SUPERIMPOSE: You will do no such thing!

The Klingon merchant seethes and GLARES at Captain Thy'shaw and Counselor Hu.

KLINGON MERCHANT
Hoch vo' DIvI'.

SUPERIMPOSE: You are all from the Federation.

Amanda shakes her head at the Klingon merchant.

AMANDA
pagh qoH yIqIm; 'IwlIj nuq vIjatlh
vIghaj. pagh, Seng vIneH; nuqDaq
jacob smith Sam Sov neH vIneH.

SUPERIMPOSE: Pay no attention to these fools; listen to what I have to say. I want no trouble; I just want to know where Jacob Smith is located.

The merchant looks warily at Amanda.

KLINGON MERCHANT
(barking)
pagh Seng?

SUPERIMPOSE: No trouble?

AMANDA
(shaking her head)
pagh Seng. nuqDaq mIllogh qonwI'
qoSta' chaH muja' "The Jacob Smith
Show".

SUPERIMPOSE: No trouble. Tell me where they film "The Jacob Smith Show".

KLINGON MERCHANT
 (smiling)
 majQa', Jacob Smith?

SUPERIMPOSE: Oh, Jacob Smith?

Amanda turns around and grins at Captain Thy'shaw and Counselor Hu, who grumble and glance away in response back to her.

Amanda turns back around to look at the Klingon.

AMANDA
 Hlja', Jacob Smith. nuqDaq laH ghaH
 vItu'?

SUPERIMPOSE: Yes, Jacob Smith. Where can we find him?

KLINGON MERCHANT
 dome qaStaHvIS jIHdaq tIn patlh in
 front of 'oH veng HeH tu'lu'.
 SoHvaD pagh 'el, HoSqu'mo' SoQ 'oH
 everyday mIllogh qonwI' qoSta'. vaj
 yIjatlh jacob smith ghaH DaneH'a',
 vay' yIjatlh nuvpu' 'Iv cha' get
 Daghaj. 'op tIn qach naDev lughaj.

SUPERIMPOSE: There is a dome at the edge of the city with a big screen standing in front of it. You cannot go in, because it is closed everyday for filming. If you want to talk to Jacob Smith himself, you have to go talk to the people who run the show. They have some big building here.

The Klingon looks at the LANDING PARTY and shoos at them.

KLINGON MERCHANT
 wej Ha', meb ghIj Ha' SoH! DIvI'
 rur pagh naDev, profits tlhappu'!

SUPERIMPOSE: Get away, you are scaring away guests! No one here likes the Federation, they take our profits!

AMANDA
 tlhIj jIH 'ach vay' wej wIlo'boGH
 SoH 'e' vIlay'.

SUPERIMPOSE: I apologize, but I promise we will not do anything to you.

The Klingon merchant SNARLS at Amanda and she SNARLS back.

Counselor Hu grabs Amanda's arms and roughly pulls her back.

Venix moves to pull out his phaser, but Captain Thy'shaw puts his arm out to stop him.

COUNSELOR HU
Amanda, find your control.

Amanda GRITS her teeth, and the Klingon merchant shoos at the LANDING PARTY again.

Amanda roughly breaks free from Counselor and stalks off, letting the rest of the LANDING PARTY follow her.

The Klingon merchant shakes his fist at the LANDING PARTY in the b.g.

AMANDA
(shaking her head)
I cannot believe none of you know Klingon.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW
(shrugs)
Learning Standard was enough trouble as it was.

VENIX
Yeah, you guys are lucky Amanda was here. Your asses would have been toast.

DR. LAWSON
Woah, wait a sec-since when do you take up for Amanda?

VENIX
(eyes Amanda)
Since us pointy-eared people have to stick together.

Amanda and Captain Thy'shaw smile at Venix.

9 INT. WURO BETA TWO - ENTERTAINMENT HEADQUARTERS - LOBBY - DAY - ESTABLISHING 9

Amanda, Captain Thy'shaw, Counselor Hu, Dr. Lawson, and Venix walk into a brightly lit lobby in a tall clean skyscraper sitting in the middle of a mass of shabby run-down buildings. Big windows surround them, and the floor is gleaming white granite that contrasts with the smoky outdoors.

The OFFICERS all look around amazed.

(CONTINUED)

DR. LAWSON
This is the building?

AMANDA
Yes, it would appear so, but it is
so...

VENIX
(shocked)
Nice!

The LANDING PARTY walks up to an elevated booth that is sitting in the middle of the lobby.

An Orion man sits at the booth, typing away at a computer.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW
Excuse me, sir?

The Orion secretary holds up his hand (gesturing for Captain Thy'shaw to wait) and the LANDING PARTY exchange glances.

The typing slows and the Orion secretary looks down at Captain Thy'shaw.

ORION SECRETARY
(blandly)
May I help you?

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW
I am Captain Thy'shaw from the
U.S.S. Prime, and these are some of
my senior officers. We are here on
account of Mr. Jacob Smith.

ORION SECRETARY
(warily)
Jacob Smith of "The Jacob Smith
Show" sent you here?

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW
Yes sir, I received a video message
from him two days ago, and he
claimed that he needed my help.

ORION SECRETARY
That's preposterous. Jacob Smith
doesn't even know he's in the
television show-that's what makes
it such good TV, the fact that he
doesn't know he is filmed.

(CONTINUED)

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

(shakes his head)

No, he made it quite clear in the message he was fully aware he was in it.

ORION SECRETARY

I don't believe you understand, as you are not from this planet. Jacob Smith has lived in that dome since he was born. He doesn't know anything else. "The Jacob Smith Show" has been running for nearly forty years, and big brother doesn't plan on shutting it down.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

Big brother?

AMANDA

Captain, I believe the term "big brother" here is defined as: the head of a totalitarian regime that keeps its citizens under close surveillance.

VENIX

Woah, totalitarian? This place has a working government?

ORION SECRETARY

This planet is controlled by the businesses...

(beat)

Look, you guys do realize that the Federation has no authority here, right?

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

Even if we don't, we have no business interfering due to the prime directive, unless he is a Federation member held captive on this planet.

ORION SECRETARY

I can assure you what my bosses are doing here is perfectly legal.

COUNSELOR HU

If so, it would be best if we could talk to whoever is in charge of this project.

(CONTINUED)

The Orion sighs and types for a few moments on his computer.
He then looks back at the LANDING PARTY.

ORION SECRETARY
Mr. Edwards, our Operations VP,
will be with you shortly. Please
feel free to wait.

The Orion gestures behind the LANDING PARTY.

ZOOM OUT - ENTIRE LOBBY

The only piece of furniture in the lobby is the booth right
in the middle that the Orion secretary sits at.

There are no other pieces of furniture.

DR. LAWSON
(dryly)
Gee, thanks.

COMMERCIAL BREAK

CUT IN:

10 INT. WURO BETA TWO - ENTERTAINMENT HEADQUARTERS - LOBBY -
DUSK 10

The LANDING PARTY sit sprawled on the ground.

DR. LAWSON
(groans impatiently)
You know, they make you wait so
long so that you finally just give
up and leave.

MR. EDWARDS (O.S.)
Are the Federation officers still
here?

ORION SECRETARY
(looking up from his computer)
Yes, sir.

The LANDING PARTY scrambles up from the floor.

ANGLE ON - MR. EDWARDS

walking towards the LANDING PARTY in a polished suit.

(CONTINUED)

MR. EDWARDS
Which one of you is Captain
Thigh-saw?

Venix SNICKERS.

Captain Thy'shaw smiles anyways, and shakes Mr. Edwards'
hand.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW
I am, nice to meet you, Mr.
Edwards.
(gestures towards the rest of
the CREW)
These are some of my senior
officers from the U.S.S. Prime.

MR. EDWARDS
(smiling)
Nice to meet you all.

COUNSELOR HU
We are here about a seemingly
pressing issue.

MR. EDWARDS
And you are?

COUNSELOR HU
(shaking Mr. Edwards' hand)
Sorry, I'm Commander Bao-Zhi Hu,
the U.S.S. Prime's counselor. We
are here about "The Jacob Smith
Show".

MR. EDWARDS
(nods)
Yes, one of our best programs here.
The travelers love it.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW
I received a video message from
Jacob Smith himself, claiming that
he was not aware he was in the
program. He believes himself to be
trapped.

MR. EDWARDS
I assure you, what we are doing
here is lawful.

(CONTINUED)

COUNSELOR HU

Which would be?

MR. EDWARDS

We adopted Jacob after his mother reported him as an unwanted pregnancy.

VENIX

(holding a hand up)

Wait a sec-who exactly is we?

MR. EDWARDS

We here at Wuro Beta Two Entertainment.

DR. LAWSON

Your company adopted him?!

MR. EDWARDS

We took good care of him. Hired him actors to play his parents; built a whole world just for him.

COUNSELOR HU

So this man believes actors to be his biological parents?

MR. EDWARDS

As far as we know, yes, he should.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

(to Counselor Hu)

And this is legal?

COUNSELOR HU

It depends.

(to Mr. Edwards)

Was he born on Wuro Beta Two?

MR. EDWARDS

No, he was born on Earth, but we brought him here for his television show. We found the Terrans to be too...conservative on matters like this.

DR. LAWSON

(muttering)

Gee, I wonder why.

(CONTINUED)

COUNSELOR HU

The bottom line is: he is a Federation citizen, and you are holding him captive.

MR. EDWARDS

We have documentation on his adoption.

COUNSELOR HU

That doesn't matter. He is an adult now, and adults cannot be held in legal custody unless you have separate legal documents stating that he Jacob Smith is not capable of taking care of himself.

MR. EDWARDS

(nods)

We have that as well.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW

You got a judge to sign off on that?!

MR. EDWARDS

Because Jacob has spent his entire life in our dome, the judge found him to be unfit for society, so he remains in our hands.

Venix whistles in amazement.

VENIX

And the cycle continues.

AMANDA

There must be some loophole here. He will never know reality of any sort! This company cannot just keep him here like this!

COUNSELOR HU

Unfortunately, Ambassador, legally they can.

AMANDA

Who would we have to go through to reverse the judge's order?

MR. EDWARDS

(coldly)

Our attorney. I think it would be best you leave now. File a

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MR. EDWARDS (cont'd)
 complaint if you must, but there is
 nothing you can do about it today.
 Jacob Smith will remain in that
 dome.

Amanda NARROWS her eyes at Mr. Edwards and opens her mouth
 to speak, but Captain Thy'shaw interrupts her.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW
 Thank you for your time, Mr.
 Edwards. We will take what you said
 into consideration when we proceed
 forward. We will show ourselves
 out.

The rest of the CREW look at Captain Thy'shaw, outraged that
 he would just give up so easily.

Mr. Edwards nods once, and walks back towards the way he
 came.

The LANDING PARTY walks out of the building, onto the front
 of the building.

11 EXT. WURO BETA TWO - OUTSIDE OF ENTERTAINMENT HEADQUARTERS-
 DUSK - CONTINUOUS ACTION 11

AMANDA
 Captain, we cannot leave without
 Jacob Smith.

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW
 (smirks)
 Who said we were?

DR. LAWSON
 (annoyed)
 You did!

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW
 I have two of the best security
 officers in the galaxy here with
 me. If we can't conduct a damn
 rescue mission, then we should just
 all turn in our uniforms and call
 it a day.

Amanda and Venix grin at each other.

COUNSELOR HU
 But sir, the prime directive-

(CONTINUED)

CAPTAIN THY'SHAW
 (interrupting)
 Has many exceptions, Counselor.

FADE OUT

COMMERCIAL BREAK

12 EXT. WURO BETA TWO - OUTSIDE OF DOME - NIGHT - ESTABLISHING
 12

The dome is enormous, with no glass or windows. The whole thing is a tan, cement colored, blob. In front of one side of the dome sits a giant screen.

CLOSEUP - SCREEN

showing JACOB SMITH currently brushing his teeth.

PAN TO - AMANDA AND VENIX

lean against the wall of dome, behind the giant screen.

As people pass by on the street, Amanda and Venix scooch further out of sight.

VENIX
 (whispering, irritated)
 Goddammit, we can't wait for the
 Yeoman this long.

AMANDA
 (softly)
 Captain Thy'shaw's plan will work,
 Venix, but only if you are patient.
 We need Xeali for this plan to
 succeed.

VENIX
 (groans, then fiercely
 whispers)
 Can you not be a Vulcan for just
 like two seconds?

Amanda opens her mouth to respond, but a loud SHIMMERING sound and bright SWIRLING beside them interrupts her.

VENIX
 (gasps)
 She's gonna give us away!

Venix instinctively grabs onto the phaser on his hip, just in case.

(CONTINUED)

The shimmering and swirling slows as Yeoman Xeali comes into view, wearing a cadet officer uniform instead of her usual yeoman's uniform.

She holds two phasers in her hands.

Yeoman Xeali looks around, disoriented.

VENIX

(to Yeoman Xeali)

Could that have been any more obvious?

YEOMAN XEALI

(narrowing her eyes)

I'm not entirely sure, Lieutenant, but I know your tattoos stand out quite brightly against your uniform.

Venix scoffs.

AMANDA

Cadet, what is the word from the Captain?

YEOMAN XEALI

(tosses Amanda a phaser)

Don't tell Starfleet about this.

(beat)

What do we do from here? The Captain was not too clear when he instructed me to beam down; he only told me I was needed.

VENIX

Trust me, you are. You'll finally get to use your Deltan charm for good instead of evil.

Amanda SCOWLS.

AMANDA

(to Yeoman Xeali)

We plan on going in through the actors' entrance.

YEOMAN XEALI

And we just waltz in?

FADE IN:

13

EXT. WURO BETA TWO - ACTORS' ENTRANCE OF DOME - NIGHT

13

VENIX (V.O.)

The runners of the show want everything to go smoothly, and they won't risk Jacob Smith seeing anything going on behind the scenes. The door will be somewhere away from the main town, so that the actors have time to get into place and can walk without being seen. There might even be hatches and tunnels underneath the dome, for quick exits and entrances.

Amanda, Nalow Zanthr, and Yeoman Xeali crouch in bushes beside a big metal door with ENTRANCE #3 printed on it.

A black VIDEO CAMERA is bolted over top of the door.

Venix holds up his PHASER and points it to the video camera.

A bright green light quickly ZAPS the video camera and it SPARKS and begins to let of smoke.

Venix lowers his phaser and nods to Amanda.

EXTREME CLOSEUP - KEYPAD

beside the door.

VENIX (V.O.)

If they're smart, they'll have cameras and key codes to prevent fans or thieves from trespassing. The cameras will be easy to take out, but tampering with the locks will alert their security. Sure, they'll notice the cameras are out, but not until we're long gone...hopefully.

Amanda touches the keypad and closes her eyes.

Sounds of WHIRRING and ELECTRONIC TAPPING are heard.

She stands perfectly still for a few moments, until a green light flashes on the keypad.

Venix BRUSHES past Amanda and then yanks open the door, revealing a dark hallway, only illuminated by a few lights on the walls.

14 INT. WURO BETA TWO - DOME HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS ACTION 14

Amanda, Venix, and Yeoman Xeali rush down the hallway (letting the door slam shut behind them).

A long ways down the hallway, there is a short flight of upward stairs and then a hatch above.

Amanda, Venix, and Yeoman Xeali dash up the few steps and quietly begin to open up the hatch door.

TO BLACK

15 INT. WURO BETA TWO - DOME - ALLEY-WAY - NIGHT 15

ANGLE ON - HATCH

opens from inside of the dome, and Venix sticks his head out to check where exactly they are.

ZOOM OUT - ALLEY-WAY

The hatch has led the GROUP to a back alley-way of a row of buildings.

Venix checks to make sure the coast is clear, and then slams the hatch door all the way back, exposing Amanda and Yeoman Xeali as well.

VENIX
(climbing out)
All clear.

Amanda and Yeoman Xeali follow him out.

Amanda shuts the door behind her.

YEOMAN XEALI
Now what? How are we supposed to know where Jacob Smith resides?

AMANDA
Simple, we look for the house that stands out, but yet does not. Jacob Smith subconsciously knows he is the center of this faux universe, so he will display that. But, the producers will not want him to stand out too much, in order for him to go about his life carelessly.

(CONTINUED)

VENIX

So, there is probably one or two neighborhoods in this entire town, and his house is gonna be at the epicenter of it all.

AMANDA

(nods)

Precisely.

Amanda heads out of the alley-way, and Venix and Yeoman Xeali follow.

16 INT. WURO BETA TWO - DOME - MAIN STREET - NIGHT - ESTABLISHING

16

Out of the alley, two rows of shops and businesses are seen, separated by a singular road. 50's stylized CARS are seen parked on the curbs of the road, but no one is seen walking around. All of the shops are dark, with closed signs on them.

Amanda, Venix, and Yeoman Xeali look at everything in awe as they walk down the center of the road.

VENIX

Could this get any creepier?

17 INT. WURO BETA TWO - DOME - NEIGHBORHOOD - NIGHT - ESTABLISHING

17

Amanda, Venix, and Yeoman Xeali walk down a sidewalk in a neighborhood.

All of the houses are plain, one story houses. Some are painted pastels, while others are whites and creams. They are all dark on the inside, but the outside lights and the streetlights are on. Cars sit in driveways and on the curbs of the street. Bikes and balls lay scattered.

YEOMAN XEALI

The fact that we haven't seen anyone is freaking me out.

VENIX

They might've sent the majority of the actors home for the night, which means Jacob Smith must be asleep.

AMANDA

That means we chose a good time to save him.

(CONTINUED)

Amanda stops in front of a house that doesn't seem to stand out from any of the others. The house is just as plain as the rest; it's painted a dull green. A car sits in the driveway, and a water hose lays limp on the front steps.

Amanda reaches out and grabs Yeoman Xeali and Venix, pulling them back.

AMANDA

According to my calculations, this is exactly the epicenter of the neighborhood.

YEOMAN XEALI

What if you're wrong and it isn't?

AMANDA

Then we keep trying.

SCENE BREAK

Amanda, Venix, and Yeoman Xeali sit underneath a window on the side of the house, with their backs pressed tightly against the wall of the house.

Amanda gets up quickly and quietly. She sprints up over to the front steps of the house, and leaps up them. She reaches and presses the doorbell.

A LOUD DING DONG is heard, and she dashes back to Venix and Yeoman Xeali.

The GROUP peeks around the side to see who will answer the door.

The door opens a few moments later, revealing Jacob Smith in plaid pajamas and a bathrobe.

Jacob Smith stands at the doorway, looking to see who it was who rung the doorbell.

VENIX

(whispering)

It's him.

Yeoman Xeali stands and walks from around the house.

Jacob Smith hears the rustling and looks over to see Yeoman Xeali walking towards him.

JACOB SMITH

(confused)

Hey, who are you?

(CONTINUED)

Yeoman Xeali stops at the bottom of the front steps of the house.

YEOMAN XEALI
I am Cadet Xeali from the
Federation starship Prime.

JACOB SMITH
Do you know you're bald?

YEOMAN XEALI
(smiling)
Yes, I am aware.

Jacob Smith closes the front door behind him and walks down the front steps, to stand closely in front of Yeoman Xeali.

YEOMAN XEALI
You are Mr. Jacob Smith, correct?

JACOB SMITH
(smiling)
Yes, fortunately, I am.

YEOMAN XEALI
This is very urgent, you must come
with me.

Yeoman Xeali holds out her hand to Jacob Smith, and he quickly grasps it with both of his hands.

JACOB SMITH
(absorbedly)
I'll go with you anywhere you'd
like.

YEOMAN XEALI
(smirking)
Of course you will.

JACOB SMITH
You're beautiful, even with your
bald head, you know that?

Yeoman Xeali begins to lead Jacob Smith towards where Amanda and Venix hide.

YEOMAN XEALI
(laughing)
Why thank you.

JACOB SMITH
You're too beautiful to be human.

YEOMAN XEALI
(awed)
I am not, I am a Deltan.

Yeoman Xeali looks at Jacob Smith confused.

Yeoman Xeali and Jacob Smith turn the corner of the house, and she immediately drops his hand and moves a couple feet away from him.

Jacob Smith stands confused for a moment, but then notices Amanda and Venix.

Jacob Smith's eyes grow wide, and he seems to snap out of the spell he was in.

JACOB SMITH
(pointing to Venix)
It's the devil!

Jacob Smith turns to run but Venix quickly tackles him, and wrestles him to the ground.

Jacob Smith kicks and squirms from under Venix.

JACOB SMITH
(screaming)
Let me go! Who sent you here?! Let me go!

VENIX
(gritting his teeth)
Amanda, a little help here! He's being too loud!

Amanda rushes over to Venix and Jacob Smith, sitting on the ground in front of Jacob Smith.

Amanda grabs his head and reverts Jacob Smith's attention to her.

AMANDA
(softly)
Calm.

JACOB SMITH
(jerking around)
I'll be calm once this demon gets off of me!

Venix GLARES down at Jacob Smith.

(CONTINUED)

AMANDA
Captain Thy'shaw sent us, Jacob.

JACOB SMITH
(screams, still kicking)
I don't even know who that is! Just
let me go!

AMANDA
(loudly)
He saw your video!

Jacob Smith's eyes widen and his movements slow.

JACOB SMITH
My video about-?

AMANDA
(interrupting)
Yes, your video about wanting to
escape.
(lets go of Jacob Smith's face
and stands)
Alright, Venix, you can get off of
him.

Venix groans and slowly gets off of Jacob Smith.

Jacob Smith stands from the ground and wipes dirt off of
himself.

JACOB SMITH
So, all of you are in the military
or something?

AMANDA
Yes. We come from the Federation, a
union of planets in your galaxy.

JACOB SMITH
You're from outer space?

AMANDA
(nods)
Correct. We are modern day
astronauts.

Jacob Smith looks at the GROUP in awe.

VENIX
What year do you think it is,
Jacob?

(CONTINUED)

JACOB SMITH
1955?

Amanda and Venix exchange wary looks.

AMANDA
They have all been lying to you.
The stardate is 2290.252.

JACOB SMITH
(taken aback, confused)
Stardate?

VENIX
The year is 2290.

Jacob Smith's eyes widen and he leans against the house, completely speechless.

AMANDA
As much as I would like to continue
this conversation, we must get you
out of here.

JACOB SMITH
(shakes his head)
There is no way out.

AMANDA
How do you believe we got in?

JACOB SMITH
There is no way they'll let us
escape.

AMANDA
As soon as we step foot out of this
dome, we'll beam you out. The
producers put some sort of
transporting shield on the dome,
that doesn't let us beam in or out
of here.

JACOB SMITH
A what?! Beam? Transporting? Where
are you gonna take me?

VENIX
(groans)
Ugh!

Venix grabs onto Jacob Smith's arm and drags him out from behind the house.

(CONTINUED)

AMANDA

Venix, let us go back the way we came!

The GROUP all dash to the road, only to find three MEN dressed in retro police officer uniforms walking down the street, talking to one another.

The GROUP halts in the middle of the road, and Amanda grabs onto Venix's arm, urgently.

AMANDA

(whispering)

That is the way we came!

One of the three MEN notices the GROUP.

POLICE OFFICER #1

Hey! Stop! What are you doing?!

The other two OFFICERS look at the group, and all three of the OFFICERS pull out their guns, pointing them at the GROUP.

POLICE OFFICER #2

Put your hands up!

Jacob Smith begins to raise his hands, but Venix grabs his collar and drags him along the GROUP begins to run away from the OFFICERS.

The OFFICERS look to one another, distressed.

POLICE OFFICER #1

Did they have Jacob with them?

POLICE OFFICER #3

Yeah, it looked like it! What are we supposed to do?!

POLICE OFFICER #2

We aren't even real police officers! These guns are props!

POLICE OFFICER #1

(smirking)

But they don't know that.

(pointing to Police Officer #2)

You go and alert of an intruder and capture.

(pointing to Policer Officer #3)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

POLICE OFFICER #1 (cont'd)
And you come with me.

Police Officer #2 nods and runs off in the direction the OFFICERS came.

Police Officer #1 and Police Officer #3 run after the GROUP.

18 INT. WURO BETA TWO - DOME - ROAD - NIGHT 18

Amanda, Venix, Yeoman Xeali, and Jacob Smith sprint down a street with large trees and shrubbery on both sides.

JACOB SMITH
(panting heavily)
Where do we plan to go?!

VENIX
Hopefully the hell out of here!

AMANDA
I really think that we should go
back to that hatch in the alley!

VENIX
And get caught, no way! We need to
find the edge of this goddamn dome!

The GROUP reaches the end of the street, which turns into a small wooden dock and a large body of water. A small motorboat sits in the water below the dock.

19 INT. WURO BETA TWO - DOME - DOCK - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS ACTION 19

The GROUP runs onto the dock, and halts at the edge.

YEOMAN XEALI
What do we do now?

VENIX
(urgently to Jacob Smith)
Where does the water stop?

JACOB SMITH
I don't know! Only fisherman and
tourists are allowed on the lake!
I'm just a Tupperware salesman!

VENIX
Well, I guess we'll have to see
where it ends then.

(CONTINUED)

Venix hops down into the motorboat and looks up to the rest of the GROUP expectantly.

VENIX

Well, are you coming or not?

AMANDA

Venix, if you are not sure where we will end up...

Amanda's voice trails off, and Venix scowls.

Venix opens his mouth to respond, but Jacob Smith points behind them.

JACOB SMITH

(frantically)

They've caught up!

Amanda and Yeoman Xeali turn to see Police Officer #1 and Police Officer #3 running down the street.

VENIX

(motioning for the GROUP to pile in)

Well, come on!

Amanda, Yeoman Xeali, and Jacob Smith hop into the motorboat.

The GROUP all sit down in the tiny seats, and Venix CRANKS the cord to the propeller, starting the boat.

VENIX

(shouting over the noise)

Hang on!

The GROUP's motorboat races off.

As soon as the boat leaves the dock, Police Officer #1 and Police Officer #3 reach the dock.

OVERHEAD - LAKE

as the GROUP speeds off and the OFFICERS are left on the dock.

SUPERIMPOSE: Stardate: 2290.253

Amanda, Venix, Yeoman Xeali, and Jacob Smith sit in the motorboat as it races through the huge body of water.

Venix sits at the port steering.

No other thing is seen in the water, except for the GROUP's small boat.

AMANDA

(shouting over the boat's HUM)

We have been out here for exactly five point three minutes, and we have yet to even seen the end of this lake!

JACOB SMITH

Just assume we'll be out here for at least ten more minutes! These people who made this goddamn place had apparently a lot of time on their hands!

Another, different, HUM is now faintly heard, and Amanda turns around to see where it is coming from.

PAN TO -

A fast motorboat identical to the GROUP's is seen coming up upon them from behind.

AMANDA

(pointing to the boat,
screaming)

Venix!

Venix, Yeoman Xeali, and Jacob Smith turn around to look at the other motorboat.

JACOB SMITH

(hysterical)

We'll never get out of here!

VENIX

Amanda, Xeali, your phasers!

While Venix concentrates on steering the boat, Amanda and Yeoman Xeali take out their PHASERS from their holsters.

Yeoman Xeali automatically put up her phaser to aim, but then hesitates and looks to AMANDA.

(CONTINUED)

YEOMAN XEALI
Where are we aiming to,
Ambassador?!

AMANDA
The motor!

Amanda and Yeoman Xeali aim towards the motor of the other motorboat.

Amanda and Yeoman Xeali fire at the same time.

A burst of GREEN LIGHT come out of both of their phasers and hits the port of the other boat.

The boat absorbs the GREEN LIGHT for a moment, but then EXPLODES from nowhere, sending fire and debris everywhere.

Jacob Smith looks at the scene in awe.

ZOOM OUT - GROUP'S BOAT

speeding away.

COMMERCIAL BREAK

SCENE BREAK

Amanda points ahead.

AMANDA
Those clouds are getting closer,
Venix!

The GROUP looks ahead of them.

PAN TO - DARK CLOUDS

getting larger and larger.

VENIX
Do you think it's a wall?

YEOMAN XEALI
A wall?

VENIX
Yeah, maybe they painted that to
make it look like it would end
nowhere.

(CONTINUED)

JACOB SMITH
(looks down glumly)
To keep me in here.

AMANDA
Well, slow down just in case,
Venix, so we do not accidentally
collide with it.

The boat slows.

A blurry figure emerges in the distance, and Amanda squints to make it out.

AMANDA'S POV -

The blurry figure comes into focus as a wooden staircase, leading to a painted door.

VENIX
(to Amanda)
Do you see that too?

AMANDA
Affirmative! That must be the way
out of here!

Venix steers the boat towards the staircase, and Yeoman Xeali and Jacob Smith look at it in awe.

JACOB SMITH
It was here, all this time, and I
never knew!

Their boat comes to a slow stop, in front of the staircase that leads into the water.

Right in front of them is the massive wall, painted blue with white clouds.

Venix rises from the boat.

VENIX
(looking to Amanda)
I'll go check it out; you stay here
and protect Xeali and Jacob Smith,
if things get hairy.

Amanda nods.

Venix takes out his phaser, and slowly makes it up the tall flight of stairs.

(CONTINUED)

At the top, Venix looks closely at the door to find it has a keypad next to it.

Venix turns to look back down at Amanda.

EXTREME CLOSEUP - AMANDA

M.O.S. talking with Yeoman Xeali and Jacob Smith.

Venix sighs and quickly shoots the keypad with his phaser, making it SPARK and FIZZ out.

Venix yanks open the door handle, and peeks out.

VENIX'S POV -

Outside the door is the darkness of the night, and another staircase, leading to the ground of the outside of the dome.

ANGLE ON - VENIX

turns to the GROUP back on the boat.

VENIX
Come on! Hurry!

Amanda, Yeoman Xeali, and Jacob Smith quickly rise from the boat and stumble up the staircase.

Once they all reach Venix, the GROUP flees out the door.

21

EXT. WURO BETA TWO - OUTSIDE OF DOME - NIGHT

21

The GROUP rushes down the stairs.

AMANDA
(while running down the
stairs; yelling at Venix)
You know did not have to shoot the
damn thing!

VENIX
(smirks)
Oh, you saw that?

The GROUP reaches the bottom of the stairs.

Tall bushes and a small pathway lay before them.

Amanda crosses her arms, and NARROWS her eyes at Venix.

(CONTINUED)

VENIX

Amanda, please, we have more things
to worry about.

Amanda SIGHS and takes out her communicator.

JACOB SMITH

(to Yeoman Xeali)

What will happen to me now?

YEOMAN XEALI

You'll stay with us awhile, then
we'll find you a new place to live.

JACOB SMITH

Somewhere not in a dome I hope?

Yeoman Xeali shakes her head and laughs.

AMANDA

Prime, this is Ambassador Amanda,
please respond, Prime. We are ready
for beam-up. Over.

A SHOUT is heard in the distance and Venix TENSES and begins
to look around (his phaser in grip).

VENIX

They'll find us soon enough,
Amanda. We need to get out of here.

AMANDA

(irritated)

I am quite aware of our situation,
Venix.

JAMILA LAWSON (V.O.)

Ambassador Amanda, this is
Lieutenant Lawson, Stanton is in
the transporter room ready to beam
you up in a few minutes.

Venix GROWLS and snatches the communicator away from Amanda.

VENIX

Jamila! We don't have a few
minutes! We are out in the open,
and if they find us, we're done!
Now, tell Stanton to get a move on!

JAMILA LAWSON (V.O.)

I'm patching you through to
Stanton.

(CONTINUED)

Venix HUFFS.

STANTON (V.O.)

Venix, we're doing all we can. We had to reboot our systems ten minutes ago, and they are still warming up.

VENIX

Warming up?! Lieutenant Commander, if we are caught, there is no hope. If you haven't noticed, this planet has no government! And then when Starfleet finds out, Thy'shaw will lose his job, do you want that?

STANTON (V.O.)

I'd appreciate it if you would stop yelling at me for things I cannot control.

More SHOUTS are heard and Venix GRITS his teeth.

VENIX

Stanton, they're coming, how much time until we can get beamed out?

STANTON (V.O.)

About two minutes until I can safely beam you guys out of there.

VENIX

We may not have two minutes to spare! If you can beam us out with risks, I suggest you take them!

Police Officer #2 appears from around the path, aiming his gun to the GROUP.

He GRINS.

POLICE OFFICER #2

(over his shoulder, shouting)

Hey guys, I found them!

Amanda whips her PHASER out and aims it at the police officer.

AMANDA

(to the officer)

I suggest that you do not move, as I am fully aware that that gun is not real.

(CONTINUED)

VENIX
(into the communicator)
Stanton, come on!

POLICE OFFICER #2
(to Amanda, smirking)
So? Backup is coming, with real
guns.

STANTON (V.O.)
What's happening?

VENIX
Amanda is in a gun standoff with an
officer on this planet, and backup
is coming.

STANTON (V.O.)
I give the transporter another
sixty seconds.

VENIX
I'm telling you, Stanton, we don't
have that kind of time!

SHOUTS are heard from close proximity.

VENIX
Stanton!

STANTON (V.O.)
It's almost done!

A GROUP of men with huge PHASER rifles come around the path
and immediately aim them at the GROUP.

The police officer backs away from the scene.

PHASER GUNMAN
Drop your weapons!

Amanda doesn't move.

VENIX
Goddammit, Stanton! They have
phaser rifles!

STANTON (V.O.)
Venix, what am I supposed to do?!
I'm doing all I can here!

PHASER GUNMAN
Sir, put down the communicator!

Venix doesn't move.

Yeoman Xeali reaches out and grabs Jacob Smith and points her phaser to his head.

YEOMAN XEALI
(to the PHASER GUNMEN)
If any one of you move or shoot, he
gets vaporized, and it'll all be
over.

The GUNMEN back up from Yeoman Xeali and Jacob Smith a few steps.

AMANDA
Venix, what is taking so long?!

VENIX
I don't know, goddammit!
(into the communicator)
Stant-!

Suddenly, the GROUP is whisked away by a BRIGHT white light and SWIRLS by the transporter. The action progresses in slow motion:

--A bullet leaves one of the GUNMAN's rifles

--It zooms across the air

--It hits the brick wall behind where Venix's figure still shimmers

CUT IN:

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Amanda, Venix, Jacob Smith, and Yeoman Xeali's figures come into focus on the transporter disks.

Yeoman Xeali blinks and slowly lowers her her phaser from Jacob Smith.

Stanton runs out from behind the controls up to the disks.

Stanton embraces Amanda in a hug.

STANTON
(muffled)
Are you okay? I'm so sorry, the
transporter was out-and I had to-

(CONTINUED)

AMANDA
(interrupting)
It is alright, Sirah, we are well.

Stanton lets go of Amanda and smiles.

STANTON
(sighing in relief)
Thank god.

VENIX
(flipping the communicator
shut)
Yeah, you were cutting it kind of
close there, Stanton.

Stanton and Amanda GLARE at Venix.

END OF EPISODE 7