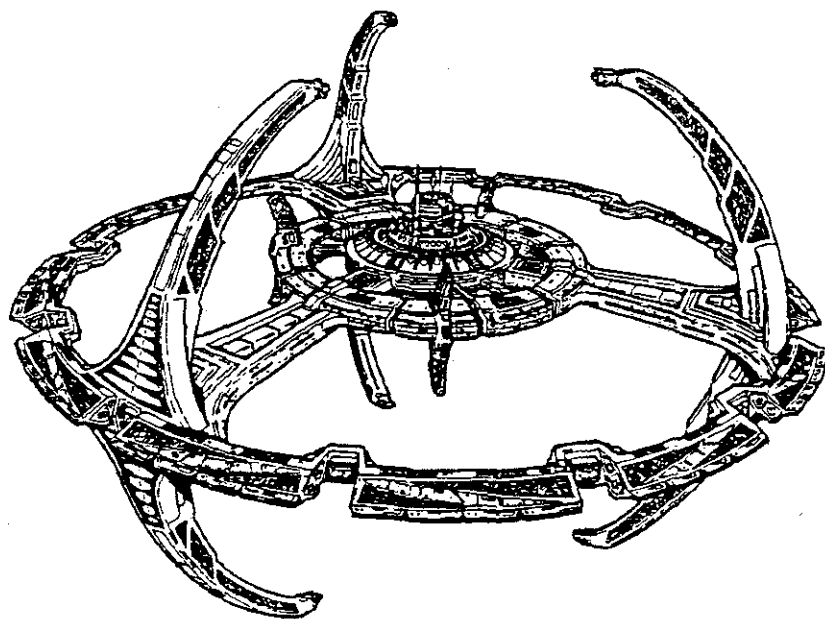


STAR TREK

DEEP SPACE NINE



STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

REVISED

08/21/95 be

08/23/95 pk

"Indiscretion"

#40510-477

Story
by
Toni Marberry & Jack Trevino

Teleplay
by
Nick Corea

Directed
by
LeVar Burton

FINAL DRAFT

August 18, 1995

STAR TREK: DS9 - "Indiscretion" - 08/18/95 - CAST

STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

"Indiscretion"

CAST

SISK0

KASIDY YATES

KIRA

DUKAT

ODO

RAZKA

BASHIR

ZIYAL

DAX

QUARK

WORF

COMPUTER VOICE

Non-Speaking

Non-Speaking

N.D. SUPERNUMERARIES

STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

"INDISCRETION"

SETS

INTERIORS

DEEP SPACE NINE
SISKI'S QUARTERS/BEDROOM
LIVING ROOM
OPS
KIRA'S QUARTERS
SECURITY OFFICE
CARGO BAY
DOCKING RING CORRIDOR
WARDROOM
QUARK'S/SECOND LEVEL
REPLIMAT
PROMENADE/SECOND LEVEL

RUNABOUT

DILITHIUM MINE
PASSAGEWAY
CHAMBER
WELL ROOM

EXTERIORS

DEEP SPACE NINE
DOZARIA
CRASH SITE
CAMPSITE
DESERT
MOUNTAINS
RAVINOK HULL
BADLANDS

STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

"Indiscretion"

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

AZIN	ah-ZIN
BREEN	BREEN
DOZARIA	doe-zar-EE-uh
HELER	HELL-er
HITAL	hih-TAL
JARADA	juh-RAH-da
LISSEPIA	lih-SEP-ee-uh
TORA NAPREM	TOR-uh nuh-PREM
RABOL	ruh-BOWL
RAVINOK	RAV-ih-nok
RAZKA KARN	RAZZ-kuh KARN
LORIT AKREM	LOR-it AH-krem
TORA ZIYAL	TOR-uh zee-ALL
TRELOS VREN	TREL-oes VREN
URIDIUM	yur-ID-ee-um

STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

"Indiscretion"

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 INT. SISKI'S QUARTERS - BEDROOM

1

It's dark. We don't really know where we are.
Suddenly we hear the com-line CHIRP.

COMPUTER VOICE

Captain Sisko. The time is oh-six-hundred.

We see a shadowy figure move in the quarters and hear Sisko's groggy voice.

SISKI

Acknowledged.

(a beat)

Lights.

The lights come up, revealing SISKI in his quarters, in bed with KASIDY YATES. Kasidy is much less awake. She looks very comfortable.

KASIDY

Do you always get up at oh-six-hundred?

SISKI

I like to get an early start. But you can sleep in if you want.

KASIDY

Sleep in? I usually get up at five.

(smiles)

When you're a freighter captain, you don't have the luxury of lying around in bed all day.

Sisko doesn't believe her.

SISKI

If you usually get up that early, why do you look so sleepy?

KASIDY

I don't usually stay up until one a.m.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

SISKO
(smiles)
Sorry about that.

He kisses her.

*

KASIDY
(returns kiss)
I'm not.

*

SISKO
I'd better get going. You free
tonight?

*

KASIDY
I think I can fit you into my
schedule.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: (2) 1

They kiss again. *

SISKO
I'm counting on it.

And as Sisko gets up...

2 thru 3 OMITTED 2 thru 3 *

3A INT. KIRA'S QUARTERS 3A

KIRA is doing her morning meditations when her com-line
CHIRPS.

WORF'S COM VOICE
Worf to Major Kira. *

KIRA
(to com)
This is Kira.

4 OMITTED 4

5 INT. OPS 5

WORF is at his station. Intercut as necessary with the
proceeding scene.

WORF
Major, you've got an incoming
transmission from a Razka Karn.
(suspicious)
He claims to be an old friend.

6 INT. KIRA'S QUARTERS 6

From Kira's expression, this is anything but a welcome
call from an old friend. Still, she knows she'd better
take it.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

KIRA
(to com)
Put him through.

*

7 NEW ANGLE (OPTICAL)

7

*

As Kira activates her monitor which displays a lean and weathered looking Bajoran. This is RAZKA. He's wearing a Klingon Disruptor, a Romulan belt, and other bits of mismatched equipment. In other words, he looks like what he is... a scavenger.

*

*

KIRA
Razka. It's been a while. How's business?

RAZKA
(on monitor)
Let's just say I miss the old days on Bajor. Smuggling may not've been the safest line of work, but it was a lot more exciting than selling scrap metal.

KIRA
I think you're the only Bajoran I know who actually misses the occupation.

RAZKA
(on monitor)
Don't get me wrong. I'm glad the Cardassians are gone.
(smiles)
I just wish I'd put away a little more latinum before they left.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

KIRA
(smiles back)
I'm sure you did your best.
(a beat)
What's on your mind, Razka?

RAZKA
(on monitor, simply)
I've picked up a lead on the
Ravinok.

Though the mention of the Ravinok obviously strikes a
cord, Kira tries to remain skeptical.

KIRA
Like the last time?

RAZKA
(on monitor)
Last time it was just a rumor.
This time I have evidence. A
fragment of metal. It looks like
part of the forward sensor array.

Kira lets herself feel a spark of hope.

KIRA
Can you bring it to Deep Space
Nine for analysis?

RAZKA
(on monitor)
Sorry, but I'm afraid I can't
leave the Badlands right now...
(an explanation)
Important business. You
understand.

KIRA
The Tholians after you again?

RAZKA
(on monitor)
Let's just say it'd be better if
you came to me.

KIRA
(not sure she wants to
do this)
It's been six years. Even if you
have found a piece of the Ravinok,
that doesn't mean there are any
survivors.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (2)

7

RAZKA

(on monitor)

There's only one way for you to
find out.

(a beat)

I'll be waiting.

★
★

And as Kira considers what to do...

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

(NOTE: Episode credits fall over opening scenes)

8 INT. SECURITY OFFICE

8

ODO and Kira are going over the criminal activity reports.

ODO

Item seventeen... Trelos Vren was arrested on the Promenade outside the Klingon Restaurant and is being held on four counts of petty theft.

KIRA

Trelos Vren? Where have I heard that name?

ODO

We arrested him once for attempting to break into the assay office.

*

KIRA

And now he's taken up pickpocketing?

ODO

Without much success.
(joking)
Though I suppose you have to admire his persistence.

Odo expects at least a smile from Kira, but she doesn't react at all.

ODO

That was a joke.

She shakes her head. She knows she wasn't really paying attention.

KIRA

I'm sorry, Odo. It's just... I might have a lead on the Ravinok.

Off Odo's reaction.

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

KIRA
(a little defensive)
I know what you're going to say.
It's been six years since the
Ravinok disappeared. The odds are
that everyone aboard is dead.

ODO
That all may be true, but it's not
what I was going to say.
(off her reaction)
I was going to say... good luck.

KIRA
Good luck?

ODO
You had a friend on board,
correct?

Kira looks a little sad. This is an old wound.

KIRA
Lorit Akrem.

ODO
Which means it doesn't matter
whether I think there are any
survivors, or even whether you
think there are any survivors.
You're going to go looking for
that ship.
(a beat)
So all I can say is... good luck.
I hope you find them.

Kira nods. And off a warm moment between them...

9 EXT. DEEP SPACE NINE (OPTICAL)

9

Establishing shot.

10 INT. KIRA'S QUARTERS

10

Kira is packing her gear into a duffel bag when the
door CHIMES. *

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

10

KIRA

Come in.

Sisko ENTERS. He clearly has something on his mind.

KIRA

Captain. Here to see me off?

Sisko wishes that were the case, but it's not.

SISKO

I'm afraid not.

(a beat)

I'd like you to postpone your trip. At least for a day or two.

KIRA

What's wrong?

SISKO

Somehow the Cardassian government got wind of your plan to search for the Ravinok. They've asked permission to send someone with you.

KIRA

And you said yes?

Sisko may be sympathetic to what Kira's feeling, but he still has to look at the bigger picture.

SISKO

I said I'd talk to you about it.

(a beat)

The Ravinok was a Cardassian ship.

KIRA

Carrying Bajoran prisoners.

(a beat)

I'm not stopping anyone from looking. I just don't know why they have to come with me.

SISKO

The request came directly from the leader of the new civilian government.

(trying to give it a positive spin)

Nerys, I know this isn't what you had in mind...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (2)

10 *

SISKO (Cont'd)
...but Bajor and Cardassia have to
learn to work together... and
that means cooperating on missions
like this.

*
*
*
*
*

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (3)

10

Kira looks at Sisko for a beat. She knows accepting the representative is the right thing to do, as much as she doesn't want to do it.

KIRA

All right.

(qualifying herself)

Just tell them I'm not going to wait forever. If their representative isn't here in fifty-two hours, I'm going alone.

Sisko knows Kira's only agreeing to this for his sake, and he appreciates it.

SISKO

(smiles)

I'll be sure they get the message.

Sisko EXITS, leaving Kira alone with her thoughts.

11 OMITTED

11 *

12 INT. DOCKING RING CORRIDOR

12

Sisko and Dax are walking and talking.

DAX

So did you and Kasidy have a nice
time last night?

*
*

SISKO

(nods)

I just wish she wasn't leaving
tomorrow.

*

DAX

It sounds like you two are getting
serious.

SISKO

I don't know about that. I don't
think Kasidy's looking to get
serious.

Just then...

KASIDY (O.C.)

Ben?

13 NEW ANGLE

13

Sisko and Dax turn to see Kasidy catching up to them.

SISKO

Kasidy.

DAX

(mischievous)

We were just talking about you.

Sisko shoots her a look.

KASIDY

I don't mean to interrupt, but I
wanted you to know, I won't be
leaving tomorrow after all.

Sisko smiles. That's good news.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED:

13

SISKO

That's great. How long are you going to be here?

Kasidy has even better news.

KASIDY

That depends on whether I get this new job or not.

(off reactions)

I've applied for a position with the Bajoran Ministry of Commerce... to captain one of their freighters.

Sisko's surprised. This is the first he's heard of it.

SISKO

You're going to work for the Bajorans?

KASIDY

If we can hammer out an agreement. It's a terrific opportunity. I get to use my own ship, pick my own crew, and the best part is, I never have to leave this sector.

DAX

Where're you going to live?

KASIDY

On my ship, I suppose.

DAX

Why don't you stay here? I'm sure Benjamin could arrange some quarters.

Sisko looks over at Dax. This is going a little faster than he expected.

KASIDY

That's not a bad idea.

*

She looks to Sisko for a reaction. He doesn't want to give a definite answer, so he settles for...

SISKO

Yeah...

Kasidy frowns a little. She was hoping for more enthusiasm.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED: (2)

13

KASIDY

Well, I've got a meeting on Bajor
and the shuttle leaves in a few
minutes.

She gives Sisko a quick kiss.

KASIDY

I'll see you tonight.

Kasidy EXITS. Sisko watches her go.

DAX

That answers that.
(off Sisko's reaction)
She's serious.

Sisko nods. But there's something in Sisko's face that
tells us he's not as happy about the news as he thought
he might be. This is all a little sudden for him.

14 INT. OPS

14

Sisko ENTERS Ops and finds Kira and Worf at their
stations. *

WORF

Captain, the Cardassian transport
Rabot is approaching the station.
They're requesting permission to
beam their representative directly
to Ops. *

KIRA

Someone's in a big hurry. *

SISKO

(to Worf)
Permission granted.

WORF

Aye, sir.

Worf hits some buttons, and...

15 NEW ANGLE (OPTICAL)

15

To include the Transporter pad as a single uniformed Cardassian beams aboard. When the Cardassian fully MATERIALIZES, we see it's...

DUKAT, carrying a travel bag, and looking pleased with himself. He's now a LEGATE, and his uniform has changed to reflect his promotion. He looks around, gets his bearings, and spots Kira.

DUKAT

Ah, Major Kira.

(a beat)

I'm ready to leave whenever you are.

16 CLOSE ON KIRA

16

As she realizes she'll be stuck in a Runabout with one of her least favorite people in the galaxy.

17 OMITTED

17

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

18 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL) (STOCK) 18

A Runabout at warp.

19 INT. RUNABOUT 19

Kira is in the pilot's seat. Dukat is seated beside her. Kira checks her console.

KIRA

We'll be crossing into the
Badlands in approximately six
hours.

DUKAT

Very good, Major.

There's something condescending in Dukat's tone, like she's a subordinate giving him a status report. Kira notices it and isn't about to let it slide.

KIRA

Dukat, let's get one thing
straight. This is my mission.
The only reason you're here is
because I agreed to let you come
along. When I give an order, I
expect you to follow it... no
questions asked.

Dukat smiles, covering any discomfort he may have with Kira's conditions.

DUKAT

Believe me, Major, I want nothing
more than for this mission to be
concluded as quickly and
efficiently as possible. I leave
the details in your capable hands.

KIRA

Good, then we shouldn't have any
problems.

(a beat)

There's one thing I still don't
understand. Why did the
Cardassian government send you?

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

19

DUKAT

The Ravinok was under my general command. Those were my troops and it's my duty to try to find them.

(a beat)

The question is... what are you doing here?

Kira hesitates a beat, but then figures that Dukat answered her question, and she owes him an answer to his.

KIRA

I knew someone aboard the Ravinok.

DUKAT

One of the prisoners, I assume?

KIRA

(nods)

Lorit Akrem.

DUKAT

I see. So you're on this mission for personal reasons.

KIRA

Something wrong with that?

DUKAT

Not at all. I've found when one is trying to do a difficult job, personal reasons can be quite an incentive.

(a beat)

So who was he? A family member, a compatriot... a lover?

KIRA

Lorit recruited me into the Shakaar Resistance Cell.

Dukat smiles.

DUKAT

(musing)

Ah... the infamous Shakaar Resistance. We never could eliminate that little group of yours. And it wasn't from lack of trying I assure you.

Dukat looks at Kira for a beat, and then...

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED: (2)

19

DUKAT

I hope you won't take this the
wrong way, Major, but I've always
admired you.

Kira can't believe her ears.

KIRA

If you're waiting for me to return
the compliment, you've got a long
wait.

*
*

Dukat doesn't let her faze him.

DUKAT

That's exactly what I mean.
You're so determined, so
competent. You're the embodiment
of the new Bajor. A Bajoran born
out of the ashes of the
Occupation, a Bajoran tempered
with Cardassian steel.

KIRA

Captain Sisko's right. You are in
love with the sound of your own
voice.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED: (3)

19

DUKAT

I know it's hard for you to accept, but I think that, in some ways, the Occupation actually helped Bajor.

*

KIRA

Which part? The massacres or the strip mining?

Dukat smiles. He refuses to be drawn into an argument.

DUKAT

I have no wish to debate the merits of the Occupation. I'm even willing to admit that perhaps we were a little too harsh in our methods. But the fact is, the Bajoran people are stronger than they have been in centuries. When we arrived, you were a weak, contemplative race, choking on your isolation. And now you have a new confidence, a renewed sense of purpose, not to mention a key role in the future of this entire quadrant.

*

KIRA

All of which Bajor achieved in spite of the Cardassians, not because of them.

*

DUKAT

Think what you must. But I believe the time will come when Cardassia and Bajor will grow to be not only allies, but also...

*

(leans toward her)

Close friends.

But Kira has no interest in accepting Dukat's olive branch, or his veiled romantic insinuations.

KIRA

Cardassia and Bajor... maybe. You and me... I doubt it.

*

DUKAT

All I ask, Major, is that you keep an open...

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED: (4)

19

KIRA
(cuts him off)
All right, Dukat, that's enough.
If you don't mind, I'd like to
spend the next six hours in silent
meditation.

DUKAT
Is that a request, or an order?

KIRA
Whatever it takes.

DUKAT
In that case, as much as it pains
me...

Dukat sits back in his chair and stares out the window.
Kira looks at him for a beat, then smiles.

KIRA
We both might survive this trip
after all.

20 INT. SISCO'S QUARTERS

20

Sisko and Kasidy are eating dinner. Kasidy is animated
and excited. She's just gotten good news and is eager
to share it with Sisko.

KASIDY
They didn't even wait for the
interview to be over. After
twenty minutes, Minister Azin said
she'd heard enough, and if I
wanted the job, it was mine. *

SISKO
(trying to be casual)
So what did you tell them? *

KASIDY
What do you think I told them? I
said yes.

SISKO
Congratulations.

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED:

20

There's a beat, as Kasidy waits for more. But she sees Sisko's said all he has to say on the subject.

KASIDY

That's it?

SISKO

Oh.

Sisko leans over and kisses her. Kasidy smiles, but that clearly isn't what she expected.

KASIDY

That's not what I meant. I want to know how you feel about it. *

SISKO

I think it's... great. We'll get to see a lot more of each other.

KASIDY

You know, I was thinking about what Dax said. Maybe I should get quarters on the station. *

Sisko picks up his glass, takes a sip of water.

SISKO

That's a big step.

KASIDY

What does that mean?

Sisko's not really sure that he meant. He was thinking out loud.

SISKO

I just meant... it's a big step.

KASIDY

A bad big step, or a good big step?

SISKO

(almost a question)

A good one.

KASIDY

(starting to get angry)

Could you muster a little more enthusiasm?

SISKO

I am enthusiastic. I'm really proud of you. This job...

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED: (2)

20

KASIDY

Forget about the job. What about us? I tell you I'm thinking about living on the station, and all you can say is, "It's a big step?"

*

It's been a long time since Sisko had an argument with a woman, so this whole thing's got him a little off-balance.

SISKO

I don't think you took that the way I meant it.

KASIDY

I don't think you know what you meant. But I do.

(definitively)

You're afraid of commitment.

SISKO

Who said anything about commitment?

KASIDY

Obviously not you.

(fed up)

You know what... forget the whole thing. I'm not going to take the job. If you don't want me to stay here, that's fine with me.

*

Kasidy gets up, throws down her napkin, and storms out of Sisko's quarters.

21 CLOSE ON SISKO

21

Who isn't quite sure how everything got away from him.

22 OMITTED

22

- 23 OMITTED 23 *
- 24 EXT. SPACE - BADLANDS (OPTICAL) 24
- The Rio Grande has rendezvoused with Razka's ship, a beat up salvage job that barely looks spaceworthy. *
- 25 INT. RUNABOUT 25
- Close on a piece of metal as it clanks down onto a console. Pull back to reveal...
- 26 RAZKA 26
- Glaring suspiciously at Dukat.

(CONTINUED)

26 CONTINUED:

26

KIRA
How'd you get a hold of this,
Razka?

RAZKA
I bought it from a Ferengi scrap-
metal merchant.

Dukat picks up the piece of metal.

DUKAT
It appears to be composed of
uridium alloy. Definitely
Cardassian.

KIRA
Can you tell if it's from the
Ravinok?

Dukat takes out a Cardassian tricorder and something
that looks like a high-tech jeweler's loop. He scans
the fragment, then begins examining it through the
loop.

27 CLOSE ON RAZKA AND KIRA

27

As they watch Dukat go to work.

RAZKA
Why didn't you tell me you were
bringing him?

KIRA
When we talked, I didn't know I
would be.

RAZKA
Too bad. The Maquis would've paid
handsomely to get their hands on
him.

Dukat continues with his work, but he's not about to
ignore Razka's remark.

DUKAT
And my government would be very
happy to get their hands on you.
(MORE)

*

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED:

27

DUKAT (Cont'd)

Razka Karn, if I'm not mistaken.
Smuggler, thief, black marketeer.
There are at least twelve
outstanding warrants for your
arrest on Cardassia. But I
suggest we ignore all that and try
to cooperate with one another.

*

RAZKA

The voice of the new Cardassia.
So compassionate, so
understanding. It almost makes
you forget that five years ago, he
was working Bajorans to death in
forced labor camps and shooting
anyone who tried to stop him.
(with an edge)
Almost makes you forget.

*

Dukat looks up from his work, completely ignoring
Razka's little rant.

DUKAT

(to Kira)

It's from the Ravinok, no doubt
about it.

KIRA

(to Razka)

Did the Ferengi tell you where he
got this?

RAZKA

No. But I was curious. So I
bribed one of his crewmembers.
Turns out his last trip was to the
Dozaria system.

DUKAT

Dozaria. I believe there's a
Class-M planet in that system.

*

RAZKA

Barely Class-M. He found that..
(meaning the piece of
metal)
In orbit.

Kira studies the metal for a beat, then gives a grim
smile.

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED: (2)

27

KIRA
(to herself)
Dozaria it is then.
(to Razka)
Thanks, Razka. I owe you one.

RAZKA
(shrugs it off)
Just let me know what you find
out. Lorit was my friend too.

28 EXT. SPACE - BADLANDS (OPTICAL)

28

The Runabout continues on it's way.

29 INT. RUNABOUT

29

Kira and Dukat are now alone in the ship.

KIRA
The one thing I don't understand
is how the Ravinok could've gotten
so far off course. Dozaria is
light years from where they
should've been. *

DUKAT
The Central Command always
believed the ship was destroyed in
some kind of escape attempt by the
Bajoran prisoners.

KIRA
Maybe. Or they could've had a
problem with their navigational
array... or run into some kind of
subspace anomaly. *

DUKAT
Hopefully we'll learn the truth.

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED:

29

Kira nods, she looks down at the controls. *

KIRA
We're entering orbit.

Dukat turns back to the controls. He's all business.

DUKAT
I'm reading severe ionic
interference in the planet's
atmosphere. Sensors will be
limited, to say the least. *

KIRA
I'm picking up a faint magneton
signature. It could be residual
radiation from a damaged warp
nacelle. *

DUKAT
Shall we beam down?

KIRA
I wouldn't advise it. The ionic
interference would scatter our
molecules half-way around the
planet. We're going to have to do
this the old fashioned way. *

DUKAT
It's going to be a difficult
landing. If you'd like me to take
the controls...

KIRA
That'll be the day.
(punching in commands)
Going in.

30 OMITTED 30 *

31 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL) 31 *

The Runabout heading for a planet. *

32 EXT. DESERT (LOCATION) - DAY 32

Kira and Dukat, carrying packs and phaser rifles, struggle to reach the crest of a hill, fighting the intense heat and scorching wind.

DUKAT

Invigorating, isn't it. A bit "sunny" perhaps, but this heat feels wonderful.

KIRA

Only a Cardassian could call this hellhole invigorating.

DUKAT

Oh, that's right. I forgot. Compared to us, you Bajorans are a bit... fragile.
(qualifying)

Physiologically speaking, of course.

KIRA

Don't worry about me.

She quickens her pace, and walks right past him. Dukat smiles in appreciation of her gutsiness.

33 NEW ANGLE 33

As they crest the hill and we realize it's not a hill at all. It's a long mound created by the deep scar cut into the desert by the crashing ship.

34 ANGLE ON THE RAVINOK (OPTICAL) 34

Sitting at the end of a long furrow, looking completely abandoned. Only a few large sections of fuselage are visible through six years of shifting sands.

35 CLOSE ON KIRA AND DUKAT

35

As they react to the wreckage.

KIRA
The Ravinok.

*

And as they look down at the crash site.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

36 INT. QUARK'S - SECOND LEVEL

36

Sisko, Dax, and BASHIR as seated at a table on the second level. Sisko's been doing a post-game analysis with the guys. *

DAX

"It's a big step." That's all you said? *

SISKO

That's all. *

From his attitude, it's easy to see that Sisko thinks he's more sinned-against than sinner.

BASHIR

You're sure?

SISKO

Positive.

The two experts confer.

DAX

What do you think, Julian? *

Bashir shakes his head. In his mind, Sisko definitely made a mistake.

BASHIR

It's ambiguous. Definitely open to interpretation.

(trying to put things in a positive light)

But it could've been worse. He could've said, "It's a very big step."

DAX

(to Sisko, concerned) *

You didn't say that, did you?

Now Sisko's beginning to realize that he may have had some culpability after all.

SISKO

I don't think so.

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED:

36

BASHIR
(relieved)
That's good, anyway.
(to Dax)
So what does he do now?

Dax thinks about it for a beat, then...

DAX
It's simple. He goes to Kasidy,
admits that everything was his
fault, and pledges his undying
love.

BASHIR
(skeptical)
I don't know. Sounds a little
extreme to me.
(thinks about it
himself)
What if he just tells Kasidy he
made a mistake... that it was all
a misunderstanding. And he really
does want her to live on the
station.

DAX
(thoughtful)
That could work.
(to Sisko)
Assuming that's what you want.

Both Dax and Bashir look at Sisko expectantly.
Suddenly...

37 NEW ANGLE

37

QUARK appears behind them with a tray of drinks.

QUARK
Captain, I would think long and
hard before answering.

SISKO
I don't recall asking your
opinion, Quark.

QUARK
Maybe you should. I mean, who
knows more about women than me?

BASHIR
(a throwaway)
Everyone.

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED:

37

QUARK

Fah. You humans, all you want to do is please your women. You want them to be your friends. But we Ferengi know better. Women are the enemy. And we treat them accordingly. The key is to never let them get the upper hand. If she says she doesn't see you enough, threaten to see her even less. If she wants more gifts, take back the ones you've already given her. It's all about control.

DAX

And what if your woman leaves you?

QUARK

That's what Holosuites are for.

Having given Sisko the key to a woman's heart, Quark walks away.

BASHIR

(re: Ferengis)

It's a wonder they manage to reproduce at all.

DAX

(to Sisko)

So, you never answered the question. Do you want her to stay, or not?

Sisko thinks it over for a beat, then decides to duck the issue entirely.

SISKO

I appreciate all the advice. I'll let you know how things turn out.

Sisko EXITS.

38 CLOSE ON DAX AND BASHIR

38 *

Still mulling over Sisko's situation.

BASHIR

So, just between you and me, what do you really think about Kasidy moving onto the station?

Dax thinks it over.

(CONTINUED)

38 CONTINUED:

38

DAX
(sympathetic)
It's a big step.

*

BASHIR
(worried)
A very big step.

*

They exchange a look.

39 EXT. CRASH SITE (LOCATION) - DAY

39

Kira and Dukat examine the half-buried wreckage of the Ravinok. Kira clears away some of the sand to reveal phaser scars down the side of the hull.

KIRA
They didn't just crash. These are
phaser hits.

*

DUKAT
Looks like she put up quite a
fight.

Something catches Kira's eye. She looks off screen at something beyond the wreckage.

KIRA
And paid for it.

Dukat follows her look and sees...

40 NEW ANGLE - THEIR P.O.V.

40

A number of graves, marked by small cairns of rock.

41 CLOSE ON KIRA AND DUKAT

41

As they approach the makeshift gravesite.

KIRA
Twelve graves.

DUKAT
There were eighteen crewmembers
and thirty-two prisoners on the
Ravinok.

KIRA
Then what happened to everyone
else?

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED:

41

Dukat puts down his pack.

DUKAT
First things first.

Dukat opens the pack and takes out a folding trench shovel.

KIRA
What are you doing?

DUKAT
We need to identify these bodies.

Kira takes off her pack.

KIRA
I'll help.

DUKAT
(strong)
No.
(eases up)
Our funeral rites are very strict.
It would dishonor the dead if a
non-Cardassian were to view the
remains.

KIRA
There could be Bajorans buried
here too.

DUKAT
No doubt. But if I remember
correctly, Bajorans are much more
concerned about the souls of the
dead than about their physical
remains. How did Kai Meressa put
it, "What remains after death is
but a shell... a sign that the
pagh has begun its final journey
to the Prophets."

*
*
*
*

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED: (2)

41

Dukat sees he's scored a point there. He softens,
making a final appeal.

*

DUKAT
(continues)

*

Please, Major... Don't make this
any harder for me than it already
is.

There's something in Dukat's voice that makes Kira give
in.

*

KIRA

I have a list of the missing
Bajorans. I should be able to
identify them by the family
imprints on their earrings.

*

*

*

*

Dukat nods.

KIRA

I'll work on the Ravinok. Maybe
I can get something from the
ship's computers.

DUKAT

You'll need the command codes.

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED: (3)

41

KIRA
Standard Cardassian military codes
from six years ago, right?

Dukat nods.

KIRA
(without malice)
I got them from Bajoran
intelligence before we left.

Dukat gives a slightly amused smile then turns to his grim work. Kira moves towards the largest section of hull. Dukat drops to one knee and begins unpiling stones from a cairn.

42 EXT. RAVINOK HULL

42

Part of the interior is exposed. Sand covers the floor and coats the delicate computer systems and controls. Kira is covered with grit and dust and has several panels open. From the look of things, she's been at this for a while.

Suddenly as she re-attaches a cable to the system, lights come on in the panels and the computer reactivates.

43 EXT. CRASH SITE (LOCATION) - BY THE GRAVES - DAY

43

Dukat is at the gravesite. He's disinterred several graves and is continuing his grim work. He takes a final rock off the top of a grave, reaches inside, and takes out a Bajoran earring. He looks at the earring then reacts as if he's been kicked in the chest. He reaches back into the cairn and slowly brings into the light...

44 A BAJORAN BRACELET

44

Similar to the one we saw in "Fascination," made of precious metal and glittering blue stones.

45 CLOSE ON DUKAT

45

Holding the bracelet. Suddenly all his strength goes out of him. He sits down, with his back to the cairn, looks at the bracelet, and lowers his head.

46 NEW ANGLE

46

Kira EXITS the Ravinok, looking at a PADD. She looks around for Dukat.

KIRA

Dukat, I was able to reactivate
the --

*

She turns toward the gravesite, sees Dukat, and trails off.

47 CLOSE ON DUKAT

47

His head down, buried between his shoulders, which shake with emotion. When he hears her, he looks up startled, and tries to hide his feelings. But there are tears in his eyes.

KIRA

Dukat...

DUKAT

(regaining his dignity)
It's nothing. Nothing at all.

Kira reaches down and takes the bracelet from his hand. She examines it, recognizes it for what it is, and a suspicion begins to grow in her mind.

KIRA

(gently)
What was her name?

Dukat just looks at her, like he doesn't know what she's talking about.

KIRA

I recognize a Bajoran pledge
bracelet when I see one.

*

DUKAT

Her name was Tora Naprem.
(a beat)

So you see, Major, you're not the
only one who had a friend on board
that ship.

(CONTINUED)

47 CONTINUED:

47

KIRA

Friend? Is that all she was?

Dukat says nothing, which is answer enough for Kira.

KIRA

I see.

(a beat)

Don't worry, Dukat. You weren't the only Cardassian officer who kept a Bajoran mistress.

DUKAT

It wasn't like that. Naprem and I... loved each other.

KIRA

(skeptical)

The head of the Occupation in love with a Bajoran?

DUKAT

Irony, isn't it?

KIRA

Did your wife know?

DUKAT

No. And she's never going to find out.

(a beat)

If it's all the same to you, Major, I'd rather not talk about this right now.

Dukat takes back the bracelet, then hands Kira seven earrings.

DUKAT

Here. The earrings you wanted.

Kira examines them, and gives a grim smile.

KIRA

If Lorit's dead, he wasn't buried here.

(thinks a beat)

According to the computer logs, the Ravinok was attacked by two unidentified warships. It looks like the attackers chased the Ravinok here, then forced it to crash-land.

(CONTINUED)

47 CONTINUED: (2)

47

DUKAT

So the survivors could've been
captured and taken away.

*

KIRA

Or they could still be here..
Somewhere on this planet.

Dukat thinks, weighs their options.

DUKAT

We should go back up in the
Runabout... scan for them from
orbit.

(CONTINUED)

47 CONTINUED: (3)

47

Kira shakes her head. She's already thought about that.

KIRA

There's too much ionic interference. Our sensors would never be able to pick up their lifesigns.

(a beat)

But there may be another way.

Kira takes her tricorder and starts scanning the area.

KIRA

In these conditions tricorder range will only be about a dozen meters. But that should be enough.

*

DUKAT

Enough for what?

KIRA

During the occupation, Bajoran resistance fighters carried subdermal implants of tritonium isotopes. The idea was, if they were captured, they could activate the implant so they could be tracked and rescued.

Kira studies the tricorder, then gives a smile.

KIRA

I think I've got something.
(points in a direction)
That way.

*

Dukat stands up, and picks up his pack. He puts the bracelet inside and shoulders the pack.

DUKAT

Let's go.

(CONTINUED)

47 CONTINUED: (4)

47

Dukat faces the direction of the isotope trail and starts walking. After a beat, Kira follows.

*

48 EXT. DOZARIA DESERT (LOCATION) - DAY

48

Dukat in the lead, setting the pace. Kira following behind. Kira glances at Dukat, then, still walking, takes her PADD out of her pack and glances at it.

DUKAT

Major, please try to keep up.

KIRA

I'm right behind you.

She puts the PADD back in her pack, and follows after him.

49 EXT. DOZARIA DESERT (LOCATION) - DAY

49

The sun goes down over the desert.

50 EXT. DOZARIA - CAMPSITE - NIGHT _

50

Kira is setting up a portable lighting unit while Dukat paces restlessly. *

DUKAT

I don't know why we have to stop.

KIRA

For one thing, I can't see two meters ahead of us, and besides, we could both use the rest.

(turns on the heating unit)

Now stop pacing and sit down.

Dukat reluctantly sits down in the sand. No sooner has he touched the ground, than he lets loose a surprised yelp of pain and rolls over, grabbing his buttocks.

KIRA

What is it?

DUKAT

(in pain)

I don't know. I sat on something.

KIRA

(trying not to smile)

Let me see.

Kira kneels down over him and tries to examine the injury.

DUKAT

(hurting bad)

Get it out.

KIRA

Hold still and I'll see what I can do.

51 NEW ANGLE

51

Close on Kira as she bends over Dukat and checks out his unseen wound.

KIRA

This is going to hurt.

DUKAT

It already hurts. Just take it out.

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED:

51

KIRA
(grins)
If you say so.

Kira grabs something, strains, and then gives a twisting violent yank. Dukat groans in agony and Kira sits back and holds up a vicious looking plant spine.

KIRA
(in sympathy)
Ow.

Dukat takes the spine and sneers at it, then flings it away into the darkness. Kira goes into her pack and takes out a dermal regenerator. *

KIRA
Here. Run this dermal regenerator over the wound.

Dukat takes the regenerator and applies it to his backside. Kira can't help herself, she grins, then starts to laugh.

DUKAT
It's not funny.

KIRA
It is from this angle.

Kira continues to crack up. After a beat, even Dukat has to see the humor in this and he starts laughing.

DUKAT
You know what's even funnier...
It's not working.

This only makes them both laugh even more.

KIRA
You have to activate it first.

Dukat examines the regenerator and switches it on. He sticks it back against his derriere.

DUKAT
Ahh, much better.

And as Dukat begins fixing his injury, the laughter subsides. Kira stops smiling. This is a bonding moment.

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED: (2)

51

And though it's probable that neither of them would ever discuss it, after this, their relationship will never be quite the same again. They've started to see each other as people.

52 NEW ANGLE

52

As Kira takes out two packs of field rations. She tosses one at Dukat's feet.

KIRA

When you're done, you should probably eat one of these.

Kira begins eating her own RATIONS. Dukat finishes using the regenerator and picks up the fields rations.

DUKAT

It's been a long time since I've had field rations. I'm sure they haven't improved a bit.

KIRA

They've actually gotten a little worse.

*
*

They eat for a second, then...

KIRA

Tell me something... Who's Tora Ziyal?

Dukat stops eating. He says nothing.

KIRA

When I reactivated the Ravinok's computer, I downloaded the manifest. There were two civilians on board, in addition to the prisoners and the crew. Your... friend Tora Naprem and a Tora Ziyal, a thirteen year-old girl.

*

DUKAT

I suppose you wouldn't believe me if I told you she was Naprem's sister?

KIRA

(agreeing)

Ziyal is a Cardassian name. The way I see it, there's only one explanation. Ziyal was Naprem's daughter, and...

(CONTINUED)

52 CONTINUED:

52

DUKAT
(simply)
And I was her father.

KIRA
Now I know why you're in such a
hurry to find the survivors.
You're hoping she's still alive,
so you can rescue her.

DUKAT
Not quite. You see... if my
daughter is still alive, I'll have
no choice, but to kill her.

With that, Dukat rolls over, turning his back on Kira
as if ready to go to sleep.

53 CLOSE ON KIRA

53

As she reacts to this disturbing news, and we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

54 EXT. DOZARIA DESERT (LOCATION) - DAY

54

Dukat and Kira march through the barren desert. Dukat is no longer in front. They're walking side-by-side, and Kira keeps glancing over at Dukat.

KIRA

You know I'm not going to let you do it.

*
*

Dukat just keeps walking.

KIRA

I mean it, Dukat. You're not going to kill that girl.

DUKAT

Major, you worry about the other survivors, and let me worry about Ziyal. After all, she's my daughter.

KIRA

That's right, she is your daughter. And there's nothing more important to Cardassians than family. At least that's what your people are always saying.

DUKAT

I have a wife and seven children. They're my family. And they're the ones I have to protect.

KIRA

You should've thought of that before you got involved with Naprem.

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED:

54

DUKAT

You're right. I should have. But I made a mistake. A mistake I intend to correct.

KIRA

You don't have to bring her back to Cardassia with you. Let me take her to Bajor. No one has to know you're her father. *

Dukat stops walking.

DUKAT

And what kind of life would that be for her? Your people have never exactly welcomed half-Cardassian children into your society.

(a beat)

That's why I sent her and her mother away in the first place. I knew the Occupation was ending, and that there'd be no place for them on Bajor... or Cardassia.

KIRA

So you sent them to a prison camp.

DUKAT

(angry)

They weren't headed for a prison camp. The Ravinok was supposed to rendezvous with a freighter which was to take Naprem and Ziyal to Lissepia, where they could live out their lives in peace.

KIRA

I don't understand. If you cared enough to help Ziyal then, how could you be thinking about killing her now? Why not send her away again?

DUKAT

Because times have changed. My position isn't nearly as stable as it once was. By aligning myself with the new civilian government, I've made many enemies, enemies who wouldn't hesitate to use Ziyal against me.

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED: (2)

54

KIRA

Listen to yourself. It's not your wife or your seven children you're trying to protect. It's you. *

DUKAT

By protecting myself, I protect them.

Which ends the conversation as far as Dukat is concerned. He begins walking again.

KIRA

And the only one who'll suffer is Ziyal. You'd kill your own daughter to save your career.

Dukat doesn't answer.

KIRA

I don't understand you, Dukat. I saw you crying over Naprem's grave. You said you loved her.

DUKAT

I did love her. And when I bury Ziyal, I'll weep over her grave just as I wept over her mother's. But that won't stop me from doing what needs to be done.

(with an edge)

And when the time comes, I suggest you stay out of my way.

Dukat picks up the pace, walking away into the desert. Kira follows him, more determined than ever.

55 INT. SISCO'S QUARTERS

55

Sisko ENTERS to join Jake, who's eating his breakfast.

(CONTINUED)

55 CONTINUED:

55

SISKO

What's new? *

JAKE

(nonchalant)

Nog and I ran into Kasidy last night, over at the Vulcan restaurant. I guess she's not taking that job after all.

SISKO

She told you? Did she say why?

JAKE

She said you didn't want her to take it. *

And from Jake's expression, he blames Sisko too. For Sisko, the whole situation seems to be snowballing.

SISKO

Look, Jake, sometimes things between men and women can get a little... complicated. *

JAKE

(doesn't buy it)

Maybe. But I don't think this is one of those times.

(a beat)

It's pretty simple, Dad. *

(simply)

You're scared.

SISKO

What do I have to be afraid of?

JAKE

A lot. Kasidy's willing to make a major change in her life just to be close to you. If things don't work out, you're going to feel responsible. And that's scary.

Sisko can't argue with him.

SISKO

You figured all this out by yourself?

JAKE

Actually, I talked with Nog about it. *

(CONTINUED)

55 CONTINUED: (2)

55

SISKU

You talked to Nog about my
relationship with Kasidy?

JAKE

And we think you have nothing to
worry about. If Kasidy wants to
change jobs, that's her decision,
not yours. Same thing if she
wants to live on the station. If
things don't work out, they don't
work out.

SISKU

Have you told any of this to
Kasidy?

JAKE

Nog and I thought about it. But
we decided it would be better if
you told her yourself.

Jake looks at his father, having said all he has to say
on the subject.

JAKE

(after a beat)

So, what's new with you?

Jake looks up at his father expectantly. And as Sisko
looks thoughtfully at his son...

56 EXT. DOZARIA MOUNTAINS - DAY

56

Kira and Dukat scramble up to the top of a rocky cliff.
Kira reaches the top first, takes cover, and gestures
for Dukat to follow.

57 CLOSE ON DUKAT

57

As he hides behind an outcropping of rock. Kira
unlimbers a twenty-fourth century pair of binoculars,
and looks at something beyond the rocks. After a beat,
she hands the binoculars to Dukat.

KIRA

Take a look.

Dukat takes the binoculars and looks over the ridge.

58 DUKAT'S P.O.V. - THROUGH THE BINOCULARS (OPTICAL) 58

As Dukat looks down at a mineshaft entrance into a cliffside, guarded by two tall, well-armed humanoids in dark, armored pressure suits which protect them from Dozaria's harsh atmosphere. These are THE BREEN.

As Dukat watches, a third Breen escorts four prisoners, one Cardassian and three Bajorans, into the mineshaft entrance.

*
*

59 CLOSE ON DUKAT AND KIRA 59

As they react to what they've seen.

(CONTINUED)

59 CONTINUED:

59

DUKAT

The Breen? What are they doing here?

KIRA

My tricorder's picking up a large concentration of dilithium in this area. They must be using the survivors from the Ravinok to mine the ore. *

DUKAT

It makes perfect sense. The Breen homeworld is a frozen wasteland. This place is about fifty degrees too hot for them. *

KIRA

Are you saying you approve of what they're doing?

DUKAT

Not at all. But I admire their ingenuity.

Dukat continues scanning the area with the binoculars. Suddenly, his whole body stiffens. Kira notices.

KIRA

What is it?

But Dukat doesn't answer, so Kira reaches out and pulls the binoculars out of his hand. She looks through them.

60 KIRA'S P.O.V. - THROUGH THE BINOCULARS (OPTICAL)

60

As Kira watches, a teenage girl with mixed Cardassian/Bajoran features walks toward the mineshaft. She's carrying a water jug of some kind. She stops and allows a Bajoran worker to get some water from the container. It's TORA ZIYAL.

KIRA (O.C.)

It's her.

61 NEW ANGLE

61

On Kira, as she looks over at Dukat, who's eyes are fixed on the girl.

DUKAT

(grim)

My daughter.

(CONTINUED)

61 CONTINUED:

61

Hold on Kira and Dukat for a beat, then...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

A62 EXT. DOZARIA MOUNTAINS LOCATION - DAY

A62

Kira and Dukat look down at Ziyal and the Breen. Dukat stares at the girl for a beat through the binoculars.

KIRA

We're going to need some help.
I'll stay here and keep an eye on
things while you go back to D.S.
Nine and get reinforcements.

DUKAT

(still looking at Ziyal)
I have a better idea. You go back
to the station and I'll stay here.

Kira knows why Dukat wants to stay and isn't about to leave him here alone.

KIRA

I'm sending you back, Dukat.
That's an order.

(CONTINUED)

A62 CONTINUED:

A62

DUKAT

And I hate to refuse it. But I'm afraid I have to. You're welcome to file an official protest with the Cardassian military when we get back.

KIRA

There's no way I'm leaving you alone here.

DUKAT

Then I suggest we devise a plan to rescue the prisoners. Together. You need me, Major.

There's a beat as Kira weighs her options. Finally she decides she has no choice but to attempt the rescue now, with Dukat's help.

KIRA

Maybe I do. But if you hurt that girl... I promise, I'll kill you.

And as Dukat reacts to this pronouncement...

CUT TO:

62 INT. DILITHIUM MINE - CHAMBER

62

Two Breen in pressure suits march down a corridor in the mine. Nearby, a Bajoran and two Cardassians work at hauling dilithium ore. They look tired and beaten down.

The two Breen pass a third Breen who is standing watch. They nod to the sentry, but as they move past him, they spin and attack. After a short struggle, the surprised sentry is overpowered.

One of the victorious Breen removes her helmet. It's Kira.

KIRA

(to the Bajoran)

Don't make any noise. We're here to help.

The Bajoran, whose name is HELER, looks shocked.

HELER

You're Bajoran.

(CONTINUED)

62 CONTINUED:

62

Dukat hands his Breen sidearm to one of the two
Cardassians. *

DUKAT

Gather as many prisoners as you
can. Have them meet us here.

The two Cardassians nod and EXIT. Kira turns to Heler.

KIRA

How many Breen guards are there?

HELER

I'm not sure. There are always at
least eight in the mines.

Kira tosses the fallen guard's weapon to Heler.

KIRA

How many prisoners?

(CONTINUED)

62 CONTINUED: (2)

62

HELER

There're only thirty-one of us
left.

KIRA

What about Lorit Akrem? Did he
make it?

*

Heler shakes his head.

HELER

He died in a cave-in. Two years
ago.

63 CLOSE ON KIRA

63

As she reacts to the news of Lorit's death.

HELER

You knew him?

KIRA

He was a friend.

64 NEW ANGLE

64

As Dukat gets tired of waiting and throws off his
helmet.

DUKAT

My condolences, Major. But we
don't have time for this.

(to Heler)

Tell me where I can find Tora
Ziyal.

But before Heler can answer, Kira cuts in.

*

KIRA

Don't tell him anything.

*

*

HELER

(re: Dukat)

A Cardassian.

(to Kira)

I don't understand.

*

KIRA

There's a peace treaty.

HELER

You mean the Occupation is over?

(CONTINUED)

64 CONTINUED:

64

DUKAT

I need to find the girl. Tell me
where she is.

*

Just then...

*

65 NEW ANGLE (OPTICAL)

65

Breen weapon fire rakes the mineshaft. Kira, Dukat, and Heler turn and see two Breen firing on their position. Kira and Heler open fire on the Breen. As they do, Dukat runs off to find his daughter.

KIRA

Dukat.

But Dukat isn't listening. He's on a mission and he won't be deterred.

66 CLOSE ON KIRA AND HELER

66

As they turn their attention back to the Breen.

67 INT. DILITHIUM MINE - PASSAGEWAY

67

Dukat runs down the corridor, comes upon a Breen soldier, and takes him out with a rifle butt to the head. He shoves his phaser rifle against the downed guard's faceplate and shakes him conscious.

DUKAT

Tora Ziyal. Where is she?

68 INT. DILITHIUM MINE - CHAMBER (OPTICAL)

68 *

The stand-off between Kira and Heler and the Breen guards is broken when the two Cardassians return with several Bajoran prisoners. The two Breen are caught in a crossfire and shot down.

KIRA

(to Heler)

Go get the rest of the prisoners.
I'll meet you at the entrance to
the mine.

Heler nods. Kira EXITS, leaving through the same passageway as Dukat.

69 INT. DILITHIUM MINE - ANOTHER PASSAGEWAY 69

As Dukat runs through the mine.

70 INT. DILITHIUM MINE - PASSAGEWAY (OPTICAL) 70

As Kira finds the body of the Breen attacked by Dukat. But before she can pursue Dukat, a phaser bolt narrowly misses her. She's forced to take cover as another Breen guard fires at her from down the passageway.

71 INT. DILITHIUM MINE - WELL ROOM 71

This is a small chamber with a waterwell surrounded by a low wall (we can't see into the well.) Tora Ziyal is in the room, refilling her water container.

Suddenly a shadow looms over her. She turns and sees...

72 DUKAT 72

Standing behind her, holding the rifle. He's not aiming it at her, but it's at the ready. His eyes widen. After all this time, they're finally face to face.

DUKAT

Ziyal.

He starts to raise his phaser rifle.

73 CLOSE ON ZIYAL 73

As a look of recognition spreads across her face. She smiles in surprise and excitement.

ZIYAL

Father?

Dukat continues to bring the rifle up to face his daughter, but she doesn't even notice the threat.

ZIYAL

It's really you. Mother said
you'd come.

*
*

74 CLOSE ON DUKAT 74

As he looks at his little girl, trying to keep his resolve...

(CONTINUED)

74 CONTINUED:

74

KIRA (O.C.)
Dukat, no.

75 NEW ANGLE

75

To reveal Kira standing behind Dukat, also holding her rifle at the ready.

76 ANGLE ON ZIYAL

76

Who looks from Kira to Dukat, trying to understand what's going on here. Dukat raises his gun and points it at Ziyal.

ZIYAL
Father, what's wrong?

Kira raises her rifle and points it at Dukat.

KIRA
I'm warning you, Dukat. Don't do it.

DUKAT
I have no choice.

KIRA
There's always a choice. You don't want to do this. If you did, you never would've told me about Ziyal.

(a beat)
Now put the rifle down.

77
thru 78 OMITTED

77
thru 78

79 NEW ANGLE

79

Dukat hesitates. He knows there's some truth to what Kira is saying, but he can't put the rifle down.

DUKAT
No.

Ziyal now understands the situation. She looks crushed.

ZIYAL
The Cardassian prisoners... they told me this would happen.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED:

79

ZIYAL (Cont'd)
That you'd never let me go home.
But I didn't believe them.

Kira keeps steady aim at Dukat.

KIRA
Ziyal, run.

But Ziyal makes no motion to leave.

ZIYAL
(to Dukat)
I used to dream about you coming
to save me. It's what kept me
alive.

DUKAT
(anguished)
Ziyal...

ZIYAL
If I can't be with you, I'd rather
die.

Dukat's aim waivers a little. There's a long beat,
then Dukat slowly lowers his rifle. Ziyal slowly
approaches her father and gently embraces him.

79A CLOSE ON DUKAT

79A

As he looks down at his daughter, suddenly grabs her by
the arms and pushes her away to arms length. He looks
at her for a long beat, then his face relaxes, his eyes
soften, and he almost smiles.

DUKAT
(gently)
Let's go home.

Dukat draws Ziyal in and holds her close.

80 ANGLE ON KIRA

80

Who finally relaxes. And off this moment...

CUT TO:

81 EXT. DEEP SPACE NINE (OPTICAL) 81
Re-establishing.

82 INT. CARGO BAY 82
Kasidy is checking her cargo. Sisko ENTERS.

SISKO
Kasidy.

Kasidy barely reacts to Sisko's entrance.

KASIDY
Hello, Ben. Hold this a second.

She hands him a cargo box and begins inventorying the one underneath it.

SISKO
Listen, about that job with the
Bajoran Commerce Ministry...

KASIDY
(still doing inventory)
You know someone who's qualified
for it?

SISKO
I know someone who's perfect for
it... You.
(a beat)
Kasidy, I think you should take
the job. I want you to take it.

Kasidy smiles slightly.

KASIDY
You've been talking to Jake.

SISKO
How'd you know?

KASIDY
He's a smart boy.
(dry)
Must take after his mother.

SISKO
Look, I owe you an apology. You
told me all this great news, and
all I could say was, "It's a big
step." I don't know what I was
thinking.

Kasidy smiles.

(CONTINUED)

82 CONTINUED:

82

KASIDY
(without venom)
Take a guess.

Sisko thinks about it for a beat.

SISKO
I wanted to tell you how happy I
was for you... and for us. But it
didn't come out that way.
(a beat)
I was uncomfortable, and a little
nervous.

KASIDY
(skeptical)
A little nervous?

Sisko smiles. He knows Kasidy's got him dead to
rights.

SISKO
Okay. A lot nervous. I haven't
been in a serious relationship for
a long time, and I didn't expect
to be in one anytime soon. Until
I met you. *

Kasidy gives a genuine smile.

SISKO
But the life I lead, the job I
do... that's what got Jennifer
killed. If anything were to
happen to you...

KASIDY
Why not let me worry about that?

SISKO
That's what Jake said.

KASIDY
You see... smart boy.
(a beat)
Look, I could listen to you
apologize all day, but I've got to
get to Bajor.

SISKO
(surprised)
Bajor? I thought...

(CONTINUED)

82 CONTINUED: (2)

82

KASIDY

I know what you thought, but I
took the job.

(off his reaction)

You think I'd give up a great
opportunity just because you got
cold feet?

She cups Sisko's face in her hand and looks into his
eyes.

KASIDY

You're a good man, Benjamin Sisko.
But you've got a lot to learn
about women... especially this
one.

*

They kiss.

KASIDY

I'll see you when I get back. You
can help me pick out quarters.

*

SISKO

I'll be there.

She EXITS.

83 INT. PROMENADE - SECOND LEVEL

83

Kira and Dax walk and talk by the viewports.

DAX

So what was it like... all that
time alone with Dukat?

*

KIRA

I've had better weeks.

(smiles)

But I'll never forget the look on
his face when he sat on that sand-
spine.

DAX

I wish I'd been there.

DUKAT (O.C.)

Major...

Kira and Dax turn to find Dukat approaching them across
one of the bridges.

KIRA

Dukat. Where's Ziyal?

(CONTINUED)

83 CONTINUED:

83

DUKAT
Waiting for me aboard my ship.
We'll be leaving for Cardassia
shortly.

Dukat looks pointedly at Dax. She smiles.

DAX
I think I'll leave you two alone.

Dax EXITS.

84 CLOSE ON KIRA AND DUKAT

84

Once Dax leaves, Dukat turns his attention back to Kira.

DUKAT
I just wanted to say... thank you,
Major. For a most interesting
journey.

KIRA
You're taking Ziyal back to
Cardassia with you.

DUKAT
After six years, she deserves a
home... And a father.

Kira is gratified to learn Dukat is doing the right
thing, but she knows there'll be consequences. *

KIRA
(concerned) *

Won't that make things difficult
for you?

DUKAT
I wouldn't be surprised.
(casual)
If I had to guess, I'd say my wife
will leave me, my family will
disown me, and I'll be stripped of
my rank and transferred to some
hellish backwater post.

KIRA
(with conviction)
But it'll be worth it.

Dukat thinks about this for a long beat.

(CONTINUED)

84 CONTINUED:

84

DUKAT
I'll let you know.

And with that, Dukat turns and walks away down the Promenade.

85 CLOSE ON KIRA

85

As she watches him go, then...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE

THE END