



“Zero Hour”

FINAL DRAFT

May 26, 2004

ENTERPRISE

REVISED

03/02/04 be
03/03/04 pk
03/04/04 yw
03/05/04 gn
03/05/04 gd
03/05/04 bf

"Zero Hour"

40358-076

Written
by
Rick Berman & Brannon Braga

Directed
by
Allan Kroeker

THE WRITING CREDITS MAY NOT BE FINAL AND SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR
PUBLICITY OR ADVERTISING PURPOSES WITHOUT FIRST CHECKING WITH THE
TELEVISION LEGAL DEPARTMENT.

Copyright 2004 Paramount Pictures Corporation. All Rights
Reserved.

This script is sole property of Paramount Pictures. It is not for
publication, reproduction or sale. No one is authorized to
dispose of same. If lost, destroyed or stolen, please notify the
Script Department.

Return to Script Department
PARAMOUNT PICTURES CORPORATION
5555 Melrose Ave., Hart 105
Los Angeles, CA 90038

FINAL DRAFT

MAY 26, 2004

ENTERPRISE: "Zero Hour" - 5/26/04 SETS

ENTERPRISE

"Zero Hour"

SETS

INTERIORS

ENTERPRISE
ACCESS SHAFT
BRIDGE
COMMAND CENTER
CORRIDOR
AIRLOCK
ENGINEERING
READY ROOM
SICKBAY

SHUTTLEPOD

DEGRA'S SHIP
BRIDGE
QUARTERS

REPTILIAN VESSEL
BRIDGE
DINING CHAMBER

ANDORIAN SHIP
BRIDGE

WEAPON
CONTROL PLATFORM

FEDERATION COUNCIL HALL

EXTERIORS

SPACE/ENTERPRISE
ANDORIAN SHIP
DEGRA'S SHIP
EARTH
ORBITAL STATION
REPTILIAN VESSEL
PRIMARY WEAPON

TRANS-DIMENSIONAL REALM

ENTERPRISE: "Zero Hour" - 5/26/04 CAST

ENTERPRISE

"Zero Hour"

CAST

ARCHER

T'POL

TRIP

PHLOX

REED

MAYWEATHER

HOSHI

REPTILIAN COMMANDER

XINDI-HUMANOID

ARBOREAL

SHRAN

DANIELS

REPTILIAN SOLDIER

REPTILIAN LIEUTENANT

SPHERE-BUILDER PRESAGE

SPHERE-BUILDER PRIMARY

SPHERE-BUILDER WOMAN

ANDORIAN N.D.

Non-Speaking

N.D. SUPERNUMERARIES

Non-Speaking

XINDI-REPTILIANS

XINDI-HUMANOIDS

ANDORIANS

FEDERATION DELEGATES

TRANS-DIMENSIONAL ALIENS

ENTERPRISE

"Zero Hour"

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

XINDI	ZIN-dee
DEGRA	DEG-ruh
NEUROLEPTIC	ner-oh-LEP-tik
ANDORIANS	an-DOOR-ee-ans
TELLARITES	TELL-er-ites
SATO	SAH-toe
GROZNIK	GROZ-nik
ALDEBARAN	al-DEB-uh-ron
INDAURA	in-DOUR-ah
DOLIM	DOLL-im
THERMOBARIC	ther-moe-BEAR-ik
TESACYCLES	TESS-uh-cycles

ENTERPRISE

"Zero Hour"

TEASER

FADE IN:

(NOTE: A 60-second recap will be seen before the Teaser)

1 EXT. SPACE - THE PRIMARY WEAPON (OPTICAL) 1

is racing through a subspace VORTEX, a roiling channel of turbulent energy. The Reptilian VESSEL seen earlier is flanking it.

2 CLOSE ON A RODENT'S TAIL 2

hanging out of the REPTILIAN COMMANDER'S mouth, being held by two fingers. He releases his fingers and slurps the rodent down his throat. REVEAL we're in --

3 INT. REPTILIAN VESSEL - DINING CHAMBER 3

Dark, cramped. The Reptilian Commander and two of his REPTILIAN LIEUTENANTS are sitting at a table. A CAGE filled with tiny, live RODENTS sits in front of them. One of the Lieutenants reaches into the cage, plucks out a rodent and pops it into his mouth. Over this:

REPTILIAN COMMANDER

If they'd made us dominant over the other species before the wars, our homeworld would still exist...

REPTILIAN LIEUTENANT

And our Avian brothers would still fill the skies.

They continue to eat the rodents, washing them down with a white liquid.

REPTILIAN COMMANDER

We should be grateful that the Guardians have finally come to their senses.

(celebratory)

Once Earth is destroyed, the Reptilians will take their rightful place at the head of a new Xindi Empire!

(CONTINUED)

ENTERPRISE: "Zero Hour" - 5/26/04 TEASER 2.

3 CONTINUED:

3

As he CHOMPS down another rodent...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

(NOTE: Episode credits fall over opening scenes.)

4 EXT. SPACE - DEGRA'S SHIP (OPTICAL) 4
racing through a subspace VORTEX.

5 INT. DEGRA'S SHIP - BRIDGE (VPB) 5
The mood is urgent. The XINDI-HUMANOID is working a station; ARCHER and REED look on.

XINDI-HUMANOID
They're nearly three hours ahead of us... but this vessel is faster... we're closing the gap.

REED
It may be faster, but it's not well-armed... how many ships are escorting the weapon?

XINDI-HUMANOID
(working)
I can't tell.

ARCHER
The only way we're going to be able to destroy this thing is from the inside.

Archer moves to the ARBOREAL, who's desperately working at a monitor that continues to respond with a harsh series of encryption bars and loud, forbidding beeps. He's obviously being denied the information he's trying to access.

ARCHER
Any luck?

ARBOREAL
(shakes head, frustrated)
All of Degra's schematics are encrypted...

Archer eyes the monitor.

ARCHER
We're going to need Hoshi to help us.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

REED

She's in no condition to come up here.

ARCHER

I wish I had a choice, Malcolm.

REED

(protesting)

Sir, she's barely conscious...

ARCHER

(ignoring him, to Arboreal)

Can you transfer that to a PADD... something portable?

The Arboreal nods and begins working...

CUT TO:

6 EXT. TRANS-DIMENSIONAL REALM (OPTICAL)

6

The three SPHERE-BUILDER ALIENS are standing on the otherworldly landscape.

SPHERE-BUILDER PRESAGE

The favorable timelines continue to diminish.

SPHERE-BUILDER WOMAN

They should be increasing... the Weapon has almost reached its target.

SPHERE-BUILDER PRIMARY

But the Earth ship is on course for a Primary Sphere.

She considers...

SPHERE-BUILDER PRIMARY

Accelerate the transformation around that Sphere... they mustn't be allowed to intervene.

CUT TO:

7 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 7
racing by at warp.

8 INT. ENGINEERING 8
Bustling with activity. TRIP and a dozen or so N.D.s
hard at work. T'POL is there, getting an update:

T'POL
Report.

TRIP
We've realigned the main power
grid, it should increase the
deflector pulse threefold, maybe
four. But it's gonna fry just
about every system on board...

T'POL
Be prepared to initiate the pulse
within two hours.

TRIP
I don't think you heard what I
just said... we try this, and the
ship's gonna come apart at the
seams.

T'POL
Two hours, Mister Tucker.

TRIP
(heating up)
The Captain told the Xindi we'd
try to knock out these Spheres...
he didn't say anything about
demolishing Enterprise in the
process!

T'POL
(back at him)
Has it occurred to you what's
going to happen if Captain Archer
is unsuccessful... if Earth is
destroyed?

TRIP
Every day!

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

T' POL

Then you obviously realize that without humanity, there will be no one to combat the Sphere-Builders... their Expanse will continue to grow... encompassing one system after another... including Vulcan. Your world isn't the only one in jeopardy, Commander!
(then)
Two hours.

She turns to go...

CUT TO:

9 INT. BRIDGE

9

MAYWEATHER, N.D.s at stations. As T'Pol ENTERS...

MAYWEATHER

(to T'Pol, concerned)
I think we've got a problem.

T' POL

What is it?

MAYWEATHER

Sphere Forty-one.

She studies his console.

T' POL

Are you certain these are the coordinates?

MAYWEATHER

Yep.

(beat)

There shouldn't be anything on sensors... not with the cloaking barrier... but there it is... and it's getting bigger.

T' POL

Have you analyzed it?

MAYWEATHER

(nods)

Could be spatial anomalies... but they're clustered much tighter than we've ever seen them.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: 9

As she eyes the console...

CUT TO:

10 INT. SICKBAY (VPB) 10

A short time later. T'Pol and PHLOX are studying the main monitor, which shows a schematic representation of strange, bubbling "terraformed space," as seen in "Harbinger."

PHLOX

They're transforming the space surrounding that Sphere... not unlike the disturbance where we found the trans-dimensional being.

(beat)

They're obviously expecting us.

T'POL

If we're going to disable the network, we'll need to get within a kilometer of the surface.

PHLOX

If the ship were to enter that disturbance, the entire crew would be dead within minutes.

He taps a couple of buttons, brings up some medical data.

PHLOX

I could synthesize a neuroleptic compound that would keep us conscious for approximately...

(checks a read-out)

...twelve minutes. I'm afraid there's nothing I can do to prevent epidermal decay.

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

10

T'POL

Twelve minutes won't be enough.

PHLOX

Perhaps I could extend it, but not by much. I encourage you and Mister Tucker to consider alternatives... there must be something you can do to abbreviate your plan.

OFF T'Pol...

CUT TO:

11 INT. DEGRA'S SHIP - QUARTERS

11

A small, windowless room with a bed, simple desk, and chair; a single lamp lights the scene. HOSHI is sitting at the desk, working with two Xindi PADDs. The bed is unmade. She looks extremely ill, haggard, exhausted; she's fighting to stay focused. There's bruising and swelling on both her temples where she was injected by the Reptilians. Archer ENTERS.

ARCHER

Any luck?

She's silent, continues to stare at one of the PADDs.

ARCHER

Ensign?

HOSHI

(very ragged)

I'm not feeling very well, Captain... do you think you could get Phlox down here?

ARCHER

We're on Degra's ship, Hoshi...
Phlox isn't here.

Hoshi nods, remembering...

HOSHI

(re: PADDs)

I'm not sure what I'm supposed to be doing...

ARCHER

(calmly)

The schematics for the Weapon...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

ARCHER (cont'd)

Degra encrypted them before he was killed. You've been trying to decipher them.

HOSHI

(shaky)

I gave them the third code... they wouldn't have armed the weapon if I hadn't given them the third code...

ARCHER

You were drugged, Hoshi, you had no choice.

HOSHI

I did... I should've fought harder...

ARCHER

(pressing her)

You need to finish what you're doing, you're almost there.

(beat)

We're going to board the Weapon... try to overload the power systems... but we can't do that until we can read these schematics.

HOSHI

(still unfocused)

I tried to jump... I wasn't fast enough...

ARCHER

(forceful)

I need you to finish this!

HOSHI

(losing it, thinking he's a Reptilian)

You've got the three codes... so why don't you just kill me? Didn't you say you were going to kill me?

Archer takes her by the shoulders and turns her to him.

ARCHER

You've got to pull yourself together... just for a little while longer.

(beat)

You need to complete the decryption. Everything hinges on it. Do you understand?

Hoshi looks at him blankly... it looks as though she doesn't have a clue what he's saying... finally:

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: (2) 11

HOSHI
Yes... I understand.

OFF the tension...

CUT TO:

12 EXT. SPACE - THE PRIMARY WEAPON (OPTICAL) 12

racing through the vortex with the Reptilian ship.

13 INT. WEAPON - CONTROL PLATFORM 13

The large, gyroscope-like reactor continues to SPIN.
The Reptilian Commander is speaking with one of his
Lieutenants.

REPTILIAN COMMANDER
When we exit the vortex, how close
will we be?

REPTILIAN LIEUTENANT
Approximately two million
kilometers from Earth.

REPTILIAN COMMANDER
(surprised)
Two million?!

REPTILIAN LIEUTENANT
If we had all five codes, we could
begin the firing sequence
immediately. But with three,
we'll need additional time... we'd
be vulnerable if we dropped into
normal space any closer to the
target.

REPTILIAN COMMANDER
Do whatever it takes to fire the
Weapon as quickly as possible!

14-15 OMITTED 14-15

15A INT. ENGINEERING (VPB) 15A

Trip and various crewmen vigorously working. Mayweather
walks in.

MAYWEATHER
(to Trip)
You wanted to see me, sir?

(CONTINUED)

15A CONTINUED:

15A

TRIP

I think I've found a way to boost the deflector pulse without tearing the ship apart... but it's gonna mean transferring all impulse power to the array.

MAYWEATHER

When?

TRIP

As soon as we reach the Sphere.

MAYWEATHER

(protesting)

Sir...

TRIP

Sorry, Travis. You're gonna have to get us to the manifold on thrusters only.

MAYWEATHER

That's tying my hands, Commander... especially with a ticking clock.

TRIP

You can do it.

He points to a monitor showing graphics of Sphere 41.

TRIP

Sit down and look over these schematics... familiarize yourself with the surface features of the Sphere.

Seeing that Trip isn't going to back down, Mayweather sits and eyes the graphics. Trip keeps working various engine controls nearby. A beat, then Mayweather looks up at him...

MAYWEATHER

How do you think the Captain's doing?

TRIP

Don't worry about the Captain.

MAYWEATHER

He does have a knack for getting us out of trouble, doesn't he?

(CONTINUED)

15A CONTINUED: (2)

15A

TRIP

Always has.

As they keep working...

TRIP

When I first taught him to dive, he'd come down to the Keys at least once a month. Took him on a night dive once... into some caves I'd been to a hundred times before. For some reason, I got lost. And what does Archer do? He swims ahead of me and finds the way out!

(beat)

Pissed me off.

MAYWEATHER

Why's that?

TRIP

I was the instructor! I'd been diving all my life! Then big Mister Starfleet comes down and does everything faster and better than I could!

(beat)

That's when I decided to introduce him to old Waldo.

MAYWEATHER

Who was that?

TRIP

A green moray... they said he was thirty years old... must've been two and a half meters long.

(beat)

I took the Captain down to Waldo's hole... told him there were some beautiful starfish inside. He reached in... damned if Waldo didn't take a hold of his forearm.

MAYWEATHER

A moray eel?!

TRIP

Captain was wearing a tritanium wetsuit... I figured the worst thing would be that Waldo would scare him a little.

MAYWEATHER

What happened?

(CONTINUED)

15A CONTINUED: (3)

15A

TRIP

He pulled Waldo clear out of the hole. Don't think I'd ever seen that eel's tail before. He found some pressure point under its lower jaw, right about here...

(points to his jaw)

And Waldo just let go, swam back down to his hole.

Mayweather smiles at the story. Trip is trying to convince himself despite his worries...

(CONTINUED)

15A CONTINUED: (4)

15A

TRIP

So don't worry, Travis. When
Captain Archer sets his mind to
something...

(after a long beat)

He's gonna do just fine.

16 INT. DEGRA'S SHIP - BRIDGE (VPB)

16

Archer, Reed, the Xindi-Humanoid and Arboreal gathered
around a monitor showing a schematic of the Weapon's
interior.

ARBOREAL

She needs to give you more than
the structural schematics.

ARCHER

(to Humanoid)

How much longer?

XINDI-HUMANOID

Less than two hours.

ARCHER

Give her time... she'll do it.

REED

(pointing to schematic)

We won't be able to transport onto
the control platform... it's too
heavily shielded...

He indicates a point near the periphery of the weapon.

REED

We'll have to beam in and out no
deeper than this peripheral
framework.

XINDI-HUMANOID

What if you need to board the
Weapon before your crewman
completes her decryptions?

ARCHER

I'm taking her with me.

REED

Sir, she's hardly in any shape to --

ARCHER

She's been there, Malcolm! It's
where she deciphered the third
launch code.

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

16

REED

She was drugged. There's no reason to believe she'll remember anything that --

ARCHER

She's coming with me.

(beat)

I want you and your men to beam in right before we do... secure the closest route to the platform.

ARBOREAL

If you succeed in creating the overload, what makes you think you'll be able to get out in time?

ARCHER

Don't worry. I'll give everyone a chance to get to the outer-framework.

(to Reed)

You'll be in charge of helping Hoshi.

REED

And you, sir?

ARCHER

I have no plans of dying on that Weapon, Malcolm.

He turns for a door...

ARCHER

I'm going to see what else she's come up with. Get yourselves ready.

He EXITS through the door, and suddenly finds himself in --

17 INT. FEDERATION COUNCIL HALL - DAY (OPTICAL)

17

Archer is standing in a small VIEWING BOX in a vast AUDITORIUM filled with hundreds of delegates from different alien species. Several tiny figures can be seen standing on a dais around a table far below. Archer turns back to the door he just entered, which is gone; instead, he finds DANIELS.

DANIELS

This is a very important day, Jonathan.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

17

ARCHER

I don't have time for this...

DANIELS

It'll only take a minute.

(pointing)

See the fellow in the blue jacket,
near the left end of the dais?

That's you... a little more than
seven years from now... you and
the others are about to make
history.

OFF Archer...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

18 INT. FEDERATION COUNCIL HALL - DAY (OPTICAL) 18

As before.

DANIELS

Do you remember I told you about a
"Federation"?

ARCHER

What about it?

DANIELS

I work with some people who are
going to be pretty angry at me for
telling you this... but you're
going to be an integral part of
forming that Federation.

(points)

You're down there right now with
Vulcans, Andorians and
Tellarites... getting ready to
sign the Charter. The membership
is going to grow... dozens,
eventually hundreds of species. A
United Federation of Planets.

ARCHER

I have a team preparing to board
the Weapon. I've got other things
to think about right now...

DANIELS

Let Reed or one of the others go
to the control platform.

ARCHER

What're you talking about?

DANIELS

It's too great a risk. If you're
killed...

(re: hall)

...none of this will happen, at
least not the way it's supposed to
happen.

ARCHER

Then it'll happen another way.
Who's to say whether that'll be
better or worse?

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

18

DANIELS
(firm)
It's essential you be part of
this!

ARCHER
Where are we... what planet?

DANIELS
Earth...

ARCHER
Seems to me it's just as
"essential" that Earth be around
for this, too...

DANIELS
(insistent)
Lieutenant Reed can work with
Sato!

APPLAUSE fills the hall.

DANIELS
They're not crucial to the future
of mankind -- you are!

ARCHER
My mission is to save Earth, not
your Federation!

DANIELS
You can't ignore your place in
history!

ARCHER
My place is on that control
platform! Now, get me the hell
back to Degra's ship!

OFF Daniels' frustration...

CUT TO:

19 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 19
at warp.

20 INT. SICKBAY 20
Phlox is feeding his animals while recording a letter;
mid-scene:

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED:

20

PHLOX

(to com)

And if it's not too much of an inconvenience, I'd appreciate it if you'd contact my first wife's third husband... his name is Groznik... tell him that he's welcome to keep the Aldebaran drum set I loaned him. They have a child named Indaura... a sweet little girl... she must be eight or nine by now...

T'Pol ENTERS.

PHLOX

I'd like to leave her my botanical library... she always had a flair for plants.

(seeing T'Pol, to com)

Computer, pause recording.

He turns to her.

PHLOX

Everything's ready here.

T'POL

Commander Tucker's completed his modifications to the deflector.

(beat)

I apologize if I interrupted...

PHLOX

Oh, don't be silly, I was simply dictating a letter to my colleague Doctor Lucas. He offered to make sure my affairs were in order in the event that... well, you know.

T'POL

I've always found it distracting to think about death... especially when entering a dangerous situation.

PHLOX

(cheerfully)

Hope for the best, prepare for the worst.

(beat)

I don't know about Vulcans, but Denobulans take great pleasure in bequeathing their belongings to far-flung relatives.

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED: (2) 20

T'POL
We're not dead yet, Doctor.
(pointed)
Hope for the best.

Suddenly:

MAYWEATHER'S COM VOICE
Bridge to T'Pol.

T'Pol taps a com button:

T'POL
Go ahead.

MAYWEATHER'S COM VOICE
We're approaching the coordinates.

T'POL
Take us out of warp.

CUT TO:

21 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 21

dropping out of warp. In the distance, we can see a COLOSSAL TRANS-DIMENSIONAL DISTURBANCE -- reddish-orange, with weird, blister-like formations.

22 INT. BRIDGE 22

T'Pol in command, Phlox at an environmental station, Mayweather at the helm. Trip is at the science station, where we see the alien computer core they retrieved from the Sphere connected to a console by high-tech optical wires. DATA regarding the Spheres can be seen on various monitors. Throughout the following sequence, Trip will use T'Pol's viewer, monitors filled with data, and myriad controls to maintain the deflector; it will be difficult work.

MAYWEATHER
(off station)
It's grown...
(works)
It's a hundred thousand kilometers deeper than when we first detected it.

PHLOX
I've enhanced the neuroleptic compound as much as I can. I strongly advise we remain in the disturbance no longer than fifteen minutes.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED: 22

T' POL
(to Phlox)
Are you ready to release the
compound?

Phlox nods.

T' POL
Then proceed.

As Phlox begins to work a console...

T' POL
(to Trip)
Stand by to charge the deflector.
(to Mayweather)
Set a course.

OFF the tension...

CUT TO:

22A EXT. SPACE - DEGRA'S SHIP (OPTICAL) 22A

racing through the subspace vortex (RE-USE of Scene 4).

ARCHER (V.O.)
Captain's Starlog, Supplemental.
We've begun to formulate a plan,
thanks to Hoshi, who's made some
progress in decrypting the
schematics.

23 INT. DEGRA'S SHIP - QUARTERS 23

Hoshi now has five PADDs on the desk in front of her;
she been working for hours and looks deathly ill.
Archer is sitting on the bed with two PADDs of his own.

HOSHI
(ragged)
What've you guys figured out?

ARCHER
We've got to disable the reactor
at a specific point during the
inversion sequence... but we don't
know the sequence.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

23

ARCHER (cont'd)
If it's not done in the right
order, the internal safeguards
will kick in... it'll be
impossible to create an overload.

HOSHI
(working)
I found the sequence, but
decrypting it's another story...
your friend Degra didn't make this
easy.

ARCHER
I wish I could tell you to take
your time.

Hoshi keeps working, tries to stay focused...

HOSHI
The first time you came to visit
me in Brazil...

ARCHER
It didn't stop raining for a
week...

She hands him a PADD.

HOSHI
I had a bug then, too...
(wry)
Some kind of tropical bacteria...
not a Reptilian parasite.

Archer studies the PADD. Hoshi works...

HOSHI
I was sick as a dog, but I wanted
to make a good impression... you
didn't have a clue, did you?

ARCHER
(wry)
Not in the least. Most linguists
I knew back then threw up every
five minutes.

Hoshi manages a small smile... hands him another PADD.
He looks it over.

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED: (2)

23

ARCHER
When we get back home, I'll see to it you get some R & R in Norway or Canada... someplace where there's not a tropical bug in sight.

HOSHI
Or reptiles.

ARCHER
Or reptiles.

Archer stands, holding the PADDs she just gave him.

ARCHER
Keep it up. I'll get this to the Bridge.

As he EXITS...

CUT TO:

24 INT. DEGRA'S SHIP - BRIDGE

24

A short time later, urgent: Archer, Reed, the Humanoid and Arboreal gathered around a station.

ARBOREAL
(off monitor)
We've gotten close enough to isolate their signatures.

XINDI-HUMANOID
The Insectoid ship is no longer with them.

ARCHER
Why would they leave the vortex?

The two Xindi exchange a look.

ARBOREAL
We have no idea... all we know is that the Weapon is being escorted by a single Reptilian vessel... Dolim's.

REED
At least we'll only have one ship to contend with.

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED: 24

OFF the tension...

CUT TO:

25-26 OMITTED 25-26

27 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 27

crossing into the strange REALM...

28 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 28

T'Pol and the others, as before. Tactical Alert, very tense:

MAYWEATHER

Here we go...

T'Pol turns to Phlox.

T'POL

Doctor...

PHLOX

(off station)

Fifteen minutes and counting...

The ship begins to TREMBLE slightly... and a REDDISH HUE begins to fill the Bridge (as seen in "Harbinger").

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED: 28

T' POL
(to Mayweather)
Any sign of the Sphere?

MAYWEATHER
(working)
It's too soon.

T' POL
Hold your course.

CUT TO:

29 INT. REPTILIAN VESSEL - BRIDGE 29

The Commander and his men at stations.

REPTILIAN SOLDIER
(off a station)
Degra's vessel is less than twenty
minutes behind us.

REPTILIAN COMMANDER
(taps a control, to com)
We're about to drop into normal
space. Stand by to initiate the
firing sequence.

30 INT. WEAPON - CONTROL PLATFORM 30

Where the Reptilian Lieutenant and two others are
working.

REPTILIAN LIEUTENANT
(to com)
We're ready.

31 INT. REPTILIAN VESSEL - BRIDGE 31

As before.

REPTILIAN COMMANDER
(to crewman)
Are you detecting any Earth
vessels near the coordinates?

He works.

REPTILIAN CREWMAN
No vessels.
(beat)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED: 31

REPTILIAN CREWMAN (cont'd)
But there's one small orbital
station... unarmed.

OFF the Commander, considering this...

32 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL) 32

An empty starfield... then suddenly, the WEAPON and the
REPTILIAN SHIP BLAST OUT of a VORTEX.

33 INT. REPTILIAN VESSEL - BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 33

As before.

REPTILIAN COMMANDER
(to crewman, with a morbid
fascination)
Let me see it.

He works, and the Viewscreen shows a distant image of
EARTH.

REPTILIAN COMMANDER
Enlarge.

The crewman works, and the images MAGNIFIES. The
Commander stares at it for a moment.

REPTILIAN COMMANDER
(sardonic)
It's a shame... all that water.
The Aquatics would feel at home
here.

CUT TO:

34 INT. ENTERPRISE - BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 34

Slight trembling, the reddish HUE fills the Bridge.

MAYWEATHER
(working)
I've got it...

T'POL
How far?

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED: 34

MAYWEATHER
Twenty thousand kilometers.

PHLOX
(concerned)
Thirteen minutes left...

T'POL
(to Mayweather)
As soon as we make visual contact,
go to thrusters and set a heading
to latitude fifteen degrees North.

She turns to Trip.

T'POL
Deflector?

TRIP
Standing by.

Trip hits a few controls, and suddenly notices something
on his right hand.

35 CLOSE ON HIS HAND 35

The skin has begun to CRACKLE... a subtle version of the
deteriorating alien from "Harbinger."

36 TRIP 36

reacts...

CUT TO:

37 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL) 37

An empty starfield... and then DEGRA'S SHIP comes
blasting out of a VORTEX.

38 INT. DEGRA'S SHIP - BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 38

Archer, Reed, Xindi-Humanoid and Arboreal.

ARBOREAL
They're eight hundred thousand
kilometers ahead.

(CONTINUED)

38 CONTINUED:

38

ARCHER
(to Reed)
Get your team ready to go.

Reed heads for the door...

XINDI-HUMANOID
(off console, puzzled)
Dolim's changing course.

Archer and the Arboreal move to him.

XINDI-HUMANOID
They're heading toward a space
station...

ARCHER
Are we in visual range?

The Arboreal works a few controls, then turns to the
Viewscreen, which shows a STARFLEET SPACE STATION in a
very high orbit of Earth.

ARCHER
Yosemite Three...

ARBOREAL
A military installation?

ARCHER
A research post... usually thirty
to forty civilians aboard.

Archer urgently begins to type something into a console.

ARCHER
Hail them on this frequency.

The Humanoid works, frustrated.

XINDI-HUMANOID
The Weapon's emitting disruption
waves... I can't get anything
through.

OFF Archer...

CUT TO:

39 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 39

In the trans-dimensional space. We can now see SPHERE
41 in the near distance.

40 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 40

Trembling, red-hued.

MAYWEATHER
Fifteen degrees North.

T'Pol checks the armchair console...

T'POL
Drop to two thousand meters and
track starboard to eighty-two mark
zero.

MAYWEATHER
(working)
Aye.

T'Pol activates the armchair console and studies it.
Trip is eyeing his hands, which have gotten worse.

TRIP
Doc... there's something weird
happening to my skin!

MAYWEATHER
(without taking his eyes
off the helm)
Me, too!

PHLOX
It was expected... try not to
scratch it.
(to T'Pol)
Eleven minutes remaining...

As T'Pol continues to work, tension rising...

CUT TO:

41 INT. REPTILIAN VESSEL - BRIDGE 41

As before.

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED: 41

REPTILIAN COMMANDER

The Guardians said that once Earth is gone, we're to destroy all human colonies.

(beat)

I see no reason not to begin here.

CUT TO:

42 EXT. SPACE - ORBITAL STATION (OPTICAL) 42

The Reptilian ship flies into view, FIRING a salvo of powerful weapons. The station is ripped apart and starts to EXPLODE!

43 INT. DEGRA'S SHIP - BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 43

Archer and the others watching the Viewscreen, which shows the exploding station. After a long, terrible beat:

ARBOREAL

(off station)

They're heading back toward the Weapon.

OFF Archer...

CUT TO:

44 INT. ENTERPRISE - BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 44

Trembling and red-hued, as before; everyone on the crew (except for Phlox) is showing signs of CRACKLING SKIN on their faces and hands.

T'POL

(off console)

Ten degrees port, slow to thirty KPH!

Mayweather works... then T'Pol starts urgently hitting controls:

T'POL

(to Trip)

I'm transferring the target-point to the deflector array...

TRIP

(working)

Got 'em.

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED: 44

T'POL
Begin.

Trip works... we HEAR a loud, rising surge of distant
POWER... the lights start to flicker from the drain...

TRIP
(satisfied)
Fish in a barrel!

PHLOX
Less than ten minutes to go...

45 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 45

emitting a powerful DEFLECTOR PULSE at a specific point
on SPHERE 41.

CUT TO:

46 INT. ENTERPRISE - ENGINEERING (OPTICAL) 46

Various crewmen at work in the trembling, red-hued room.
The sound heard in the previous scene is even louder
here. Suddenly, THREE TRANS-DIMENSIONAL ALIENS APPEAR
in a bizarre effect. They approach the crewman working
at the reactor controls...

Sensing something, the crewman turns and sees the three
ciphers. With a subtle gesture of her hand, one of them
unleashes a turbulent DISTORTION that BLASTS the crewman
backward and RUPTURES and bulkhead in a fiery EXPLOSION!
OFF this threatening twist...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

47 INT. ENTERRISE - BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 47

T'Pol eyeing the armchair console; Trip intently working his station (and occasionally peering into T'Pol's viewer); trembling and red-hued, light levels down and flickering from the power drain of the deflector, which we hear thrumming in the distance. Everyone's skin is crackling, as seen before (except for Phlox).

TRIP
(working)
What the hell's going on? Power just fell ten percent!

MAYWEATHER
(off station)
I'm picking up explosions on E-Deck!

T'POL
(to com)
Bridge to Engineering, report!

No response.

TRIP
I'm losing the beam!

Phlox is busy at a monitor, checking read-outs.

PHLOX
There are nine alien life signs aboard... they appear to be trans-dimensional beings!

MAYWEATHER
How's that possible?!

PHLOX
This disturbance we're in... it's obviously been altered enough to sustain them.

CUT TO:

48 INT. REPTILIAN VESSEL - BRIDGE 48

The Commander and his crew.

REPTILIAN CREWMAN
(off console, re: Degra's
ship)
Eight Primates, three Arboreals...
and seven humans.

REPTILIAN COMMANDER
Have their weapons been upgraded?

REPTILIAN CREWMAN
(works)
No, sir.

REPTILIAN COMMANDER
Pathetic.
(then)
Prepare to intercept.

49 INT. DEGRA'S SHIP - BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 49

Archer, Humanoid, Arboreal. Reed is there with a rifle slung over his shoulder; he's handing Archer a phase-pistol.

ARBOREAL
(off a station)
They're arming their torpedoes...

ARCHER
(to Reed)
How's Hoshi doing?

REED
She's holding up, sir... she and
the MACOs are at the transporter
device.

Archer turns to the Humanoid.

ARCHER
(to Humanoid)
Remember, no heroics. Get us in
there, and then keep them off your
ass.

A sudden beeping sound. The Arboreal checks a read-out.

(CONTINUED)

49 CONTINUED: 49

ARBOREAL

There's another vessel approaching
at high warp...
(works, to Archer)
They're asking for you.

Reactions. Archer nods, the Arboreal works, and on the Viewscreen we see COMMANDER SHRAN on the Bridge of his Andorian ship.

SHRAN

You're not using your head,
pinkskin. That ship you're on is
no match for the Reptilian.

ARCHER

I'm busy, Shran. What are you
doing here?

SHRAN

You should be impressed that we
managed to track you through the
vortex.

(beat)

I anticipated that you'd need some
help.

OFF Archer...

CUT TO:

50 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 50

still firing the deflector PULSE at Sphere 41; the pulse
is now intermittent.

51 INT. ENTERPRISE - CORRIDOR (OPTICAL) 51

Red-hued and trembling. Three MACOs are FIRING at a
trans-dimensional alien, who is calmly and methodically
walking toward them. The weapons fire passes harmlessly
THROUGH her body. The alien subtly lifts a hand,
sending out a massive DISTORTION that BLASTS all three
MACOs off their feet!

52 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

52

Trembling, red-hued; the sound of the deflector can still be heard. Trip is frantically working.

MACO COM VOICE
Corporal Kelly to the Bridge!

T'POL
(taps companel)
Go ahead.

MACO COM VOICE
Our weapons are passing right through them!

TRIP
(off panel, to T'Pol)
You gotta stop this! If I don't get full power back, this is gonna take three, four minutes longer than we thought!

PHLOX
We can't afford three or four minutes.
(working fast, to com)
Corporal Kelly, listen to me very carefully... modulate your weapons to a rotating frequency of thirty-two point six teracycles.

T'Pol turns to Phlox.

T'POL
Doctor?

PHLOX
(quickly)
Our trans-dimensional friend... the one we found in the pod... I had quite a few hours to study his physiology. I hope my memory serves me well.

CUT TO:

53 INT. ANDORIAN SHIP - BRIDGE

53

Shran in command, two Andorian crewmen at stations. The ship is at high alert and the lighting is LOW.

(CONTINUED)

53 CONTINUED: 53

SHRAN
(to com)
I'll be right in front of you,
gentlemen. Keep a low profile.

54 INT. DEGRA'S SHIP - BRIDGE 54

Humanoid, Arboreal, Xindi N.D.s.

XINDI-HUMANOID
(to com)
We're matching speed.

CUT TO:

55 OMITTED 55

56 INT. REPTILIAN VESSEL - BRIDGE 56

As before.

REPTILIAN COMMANDER
You said there were no human
vessels in the vicinity!

REPTILIAN CREWMAN
They're not human!

REPTILIAN COMMANDER
Destroy them both!

57 EXT. SPACE - REPTILIAN SHIP (OPTICAL) 57

approaching the two vessels at high speed. It OPENS
FIRE with a volley of TORPEDOES, all of which STRIKE the
Andorian ship! Degra's ship remains protected beneath
it.

58 INT. ANDORIAN SHIP - BRIDGE 58

Heavy JOLTS from the attack!

SHRAN
(to com)
That third torpedo almost got
you... be careful.

59 INT. DEGRA'S SHIP - BRIDGE 59

As before.

SHRAN'S COM VOICE
(continuing)
Prepare to come about to port.
Stay below me.

XINDI-HUMANOID
(to com)
We'll need to get within a
kilometer of the weapon.

SHRAN'S COM VOICE
Just stay below me!

60 INT. ANDORIAN SHIP - BRIDGE 60

Shran turns to his Tactical Officer.

SHRAN
Let's fight back this time, shall
we?
(beat)
Bring the forward cannons on-line.

61 EXT. SPACE - ANDORIAN SHIP (OPTICAL) 61

The Andorians make a wide LEFT TURN and head toward the oncoming Reptilian. As they approach, the Reptilian again begins to FIRE its torpedoes!

But this time, Shran makes a daring move: keeping himself continually between the Reptilian and Degra's ship, he CUTS UPWARD toward the enemy, FIRING as he comes dangerously close!

The Reptilian ship is forced to BANK AWAY! As it does, it takes HEAVY STRIKES to its starboard engine from Shran's ship.

62 INT. ANDORIAN SHIP - BRIDGE 62

Smoke hangs in the air; a couple of fires are burning.

SHRAN
(to com, urgent)
Go! And tell Archer we're not
even anymore -- he owes me!

63 EXT. SPACE - DEGRA'S SHIP (OPTICAL) 63

comes swooping by CAMERA, racing toward the massive
Weapon!

64 INT. WEAPON - CONTROL PLATFORM 64

The Reptilian Lieutenant and his two men are hard at
work. After a beat, they hear a series of distant
clanking sounds -- footsteps? Puzzled, they turn...

65 ARCHER AND HOSHI (OPTICAL) 65

are standing on the platform only meters away (Hoshi
holds a Xindi PADD). Before the Reptilians can react, a
quick salvo of PHASER BLASTS takes the three of them
down! REVEAL --

66 REED AND THE MACOS 66

on a CATWALK ABOVE, having just fired the shots. They
quickly move to take cover as...

67 ARCHER 67

helps the still unwieldy Hoshi step over the fallen
Reptiles and moves to a specific control station...

CUT TO:

68 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 68

firing the intermittent pulse at Sphere 41. Suddenly,
the pulse becomes somewhat more stable.

69 INT. ENTERPRISE - BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 69

Trembling and reddish; the faces of the crew (minus
Phlox) are now a little more CRACKLED.

TRIP

(working)

It's coming back! Tell them to
keep doing whatever they're doing!

70 INT. ENTERPRISE - CORRIDOR (OPTICAL) 70

Dark, filled with smoke from the alien attack; red-hued from the disturbance. Three MACOs are FIRING at two Trans-dimensional Aliens, who are slowly backing away from the onslaught. The beams continue to pass through them, but the aliens appear to be in pain. They slowly back into and THROUGH a bulkhead, vanishing from view.

71 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 71

As before.

MACO #2 COM VOICE
Walker to the Bridge!

T'POL
Go ahead.

MACO #2 COM VOICE
We've secured Engineering, but I don't think we've seen the last of them!

PHLOX
(to Trip)
It's time to work your magic, Mister Tucker... within five minutes, everyone on this ship is going to start dying.

TRIP
No pressure!

CUT TO:

72 INT. WEAPON - CONTROL PLATFORM (OPTICAL) 72

Archer and Hoshi are kneeling next to the control station, where they've removed a large PANEL to reveal a series of seven glowing RODS disappearing up inside the panel. Hoshi is still at death's door and is barely hanging in there.

(CONTINUED)

72 CONTINUED:

72

ARCHER
Okay... bring up the inversion
sequence.

Hoshi works the PADD.

HOSHI
Start with the third one from the
left.

Archer crawls into the panel on his back and reaches for
one of the rods... It's a tight, difficult space. He
grabs hold of the rod, and very carefully extracts the
long rod from its housing... and replaces it upside-
down. Its color CHANGES.

ARCHER
Got it!

Hoshi glances at the PADD.

HOSHI
Second from the right...

Archer reaches for another rod, pulls it out and inverts
it, puts it back in and it changes color. Suddenly,
alien WEAPONS FIRE strikes dangerously close to Hoshi!
She moves for cover.

ARCHER
(can't see her)
Hoshi?

Another BLAST, but it misses Hoshi, who's hiding behind
a panel.

(CONTINUED)

72 CONTINUED: (2) 72

HOSHI
I'm all right!
(checking PADD)
The first one on the left is next!

Archer strains and maneuvers his body to reach the rod... pulls it out and inverts it... shoves it back in, where it changes color. Another volley of weapons FIRE hits nearby!

73 NEW ANGLE (OPTICAL) 73

TWO REPTILIAN SOLDIERS are standing on a CATWALK ABOVE, firing their rifles down at Archer and Hoshi. Suddenly, one of them is HIT by a round of MACO PULSE FIRE and FALLS into the ABYSS below!

74 ON THE MACO (OPTICAL) 74

who just fired the shots; he's standing on a CATWALK above. He keeps firing --

75 THE SECOND REPTILIAN (OPTICAL) 75

is HIT.

76 THE MACO (OPTICAL) 76

is GRABBED from behind by a Reptilian Soldier! The MACO whirls and starts to fight back with a series of rapid-fire martial arts moves... then he stops, realizing something... looks down to see that a DAGGER has been jabbed into his stomach. He falls to his knees and collapses on the catwalk. The Reptilian aims his rifle down and starts FIRING relentlessly at --

77 HOSHI (OPTICAL) 77

One of the shots CLIPS the panel she's hiding behind, knocking her to the ground! The PADD she's holding slides across the platform and FALLS DOWN into the abyss! SHOTS hit all around her, and she's forced to crawl to a safer position out of earshot of Archer.

78 ON ARCHER 78

in the crawlspace, where he's just inverted the fifth rod (he inverted the fourth one during the above action)

(CONTINUED)

78 CONTINUED: 78

ARCHER
(calls out)
Got it! Two to go!

No response.

ARCHER
Hoshi!

Only the distant sound of weapons fire...

CUT TO:

79 EXT. SPACE - THE REPTILIAN VESSEL (OPTICAL) 79

is chasing the Andorians and Degra's ship, firing as it goes!

80 INT. REPTILIAN VESSEL - BRIDGE 80

As before.

REPTILIAN COM VOICE
Commander... sensors show the
humans are no longer aboard
Degra's vessel.

REPTILIAN COMMANDER
(realizing)
These ships are drawing us away
from the Weapon...
(then, to crewman)
Get us back!

CUT TO:

81 INT. ENTERPRISE - ACCESS SHAFT (OPTICAL) 81

Trembling and red-hued, filled with throbbing equipment. Suddenly, two trans-dimensional aliens walk THROUGH the bulkhead and into the shaft. They immediately move to a piece of equipment and start to THRUST their hands INTO the conduits...

82 INT. ENTERPRISE - BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 82

As before, but now the crew's faces and hands have crackled even further. Trip is focused on generating the deflector pulse. The power in the room starts to flicker and ebb.

TRIP
What's going on!

PHLOX
Ignore it, Commander, you've got less than two minutes!

Trip redoubles his focus and keeps working...

CUT TO:

83 INT. WEAPON - CONTROL PLATFORM (OPTICAL) 83

Archer has drawn his phase-pistol and is peering out of the crawlspace, FIRING up at the attacking Reptilian on the catwalk.

84 ON THE REPTILIAN 84

who briefly ducks back for cover, moving to an opening where he has a clear shot at Archer. As he's about to fire, Reed JUMPS down from a catwalk above and KNOCKS him off his feet! The Reptilian brings up his weapon, but Reed KICKS him, and the Reptilian goes FLYING off the ledge and into the (off-camera) abyss!

REED
(flipping open his
communicator)
Reed to Archer.

ARCHER'S COM VOICE
Go ahead.

REED
I'm pretty certain that was the last of them, sir.

ARCHER'S COM VOICE
Good work. Now get your ass down here.

CUT TO:

85 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 85

firing the pulse at Sphere 41; the point of impact has begun to DISTORT in a weird effect.

86 INT. ENTERPRISE - BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 86

Tension rising.

PHLOX
(urgent)
T'Pol!

T'POL
(realizing they've failed)
All right.
(to Mayweather)
Go to full impulse, Ensign! Get us out of here!

TRIP
(intent)
Wait a minute... I'm almost there!

PHLOX
You don't have a minute, Commander!

TRIP
Then give me ten seconds, I'm telling you, I've got it!

The lights and consoles start to GO OUT!

87 INT. ENTERPRISE - ACCESS SHAFT 87

The two trans-dimensional aliens are continuing to MOVE their hands (off-camera) through vital conduits, which are now SPARKING and EXPLODING!

88 INT. ENTERPRISE - BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 88

PHLOX
That's it, time's up!

TRIP
(triumphant)
It sure is!

89 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 89

firing the pulse. Sphere 41 begins to IMplode IN A BIZARRE EFFECT, COLLAPSING IN ON ITSELF!

90 INT. ENTERPRISE - BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 90

T'POL
(off armchair console)
Now, Mister Mayweather!

91 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 91

turning and flying away from the imploding Sphere! We HOLD ON the Sphere for a moment as a thin TENDRIL of DISTORTION SHOOTS OUT from the Sphere into space.

We FOLLOW the DISTORTION at IMPOSSIBLY HIGH-SPEED until it intersects with the CLOAKING BARRIER surrounding another Sphere. The barrier quickly DISSIPATES and we see the SPHERE COLLAPSING WITHIN!

As another DISTORTION TENDRIL disappears into the distance...

92 INT. ENTERPRISE - BRIDGE (OPTICAL) 92

As before. The reddish HUE is starting to fade away.

T'POL
(off console)
The network's being destroyed.

MAYWEATHER
(off station, excited)
We're getting out of this soup faster than we thought.

PHLOX
(realizing)
Without the Sphere, their transformed space must be collapsing in on itself.

93 INT. ENTERPRISE - ACCESS SHAFT (OPTICAL) 93

As the reddish hue continues to FADE, the two trans-dimensional aliens are beginning to DISINTEGRATE in a horrific EFFECT! They silently scream as they DECOMPOSE!

CUT TO:

94 INT. WEAPON - CONTROL PLATFORM

94

Archer's inside the crawlspace; Reed, two MACOs and Hoshi are standing outside.

ARCHER
(re: the two rods,
impatient)
Which one, Hoshi?

HOSHI
(hesitant)
I wish I hadn't dropped that
PADD...

ARCHER
Which one?

HOSHI
(thinking hard)
Number four... fourth from the
left...

REED
Are you sure?

HOSHI
Yes! Number five is the last
one...
(to Archer)
...after you disable the reactor.

Archer turns to the rods, pulls out and inverts the second to last one, which changes color. Over this:

REED
(to Archer)
If you knock the reactor out,
won't that be enough?

ARCHER
(intent)
We're not here to disable this
weapon, we're here to destroy it.

As he climbs out of the crawlspace...

ARCHER
(to Reed)
Give me the charges.

REED
I'll take care of it, sir.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER

I want the four of you to get to
the outer-framework... beam back
to Degra's ship.

REED

Sir, as Chief Tactical Officer --

ARCHER

This isn't open for debate,
Lieutenant.

(beat)

(MORE)

94 CONTINUED: (2) 94

ARCHER (cont'd)
Don't worry, I'll be right behind
you.

Reed hands him FOUR high-tech explosive CHARGES (about three inches in diameter), then moves to escort Hoshi to the catwalk. Hoshi hesitates, locking eyes with Archer as if to say "good luck", then turns to go with the others...

CUT TO:

95 EXT. SPACE - EARTH (OPTICAL) 95

in the distance. Suddenly, the WEAPON races past, followed by the Reptilian ship...

96 INT. WEAPON - CONTROL PLATFORM 96

Archer has just planted three of the explosive charges on the framework of the gyrating reactor. He hits detonation controls on each one, and the charges begin to whine with power. Archer takes cover behind a large station across the platform, and then --

97 THE REACTOR 97

Three minor EXPLOSIONS at the base of the gyrating reactor, which GRINDS to a HALT!

98 ARCHER 98

quickly rushes to the crawlspace, climbs inside and inverts the final rod, which changes color. A distant KLAXON begins to sound. Archer swings out of the crawlspace and heads toward the adjoining catwalk, but finds himself face to face with --

99 THE REPTILIAN COMMANDER 99

who's just beamed aboard!

REPTILIAN COMMANDER
(enraged)
What have you done!?

He SHOVES Archer aside with tremendous strength, and moves for the crawlspace, determined to stop the overload. Archer quickly gets up and DIVES, cutting him at the knees from behind! The Reptilian tries to draw a pistol from his belt, but Archer knocks it aside and it goes falling over the edge of the platform.

(CONTINUED)

99 CONTINUED: 99

A BRUTAL FIGHT BEGINS.

CUT TO:

100 INT. ANDORIAN SHIP - BRIDGE 100

Shran and the others, as before.

ANDORIAN N.D.

(to Shran)

One Reptilian transported to the
Weapon.

SHRAN

Let's make sure he has nowhere to
go back to.

(then)

They have no shielding on their
starboard engine -- target all
weapons!

101 EXT. SPACE - ANDORIAN SHIP (OPTICAL) 101

FIRES a blistering salvo at the Reptilian ship, striking
its engine, which sets off a rapid series of EXPLOSIONS
that DESTROY the ship!

CUT TO:

102 INT. WEAPON - CONTROL PLATFORM (OPTICAL) 102

Archer and the Reptilian Commander. THE BRUTAL FIGHT
CONTINUES.

CUT TO:

103 INT. DEGRA'S SHIP - BRIDGE 103

Humanoid and Arboreal, N.D.s. Reed urgently ENTERS (he
was just beamed aboard).

REED

Can you get a lock on him?

XINDI-HUMANOID

Not yet.

ARBOREAL

(working)

Your Captain is too deep within
the weapon.

(CONTINUED) /

103 CONTINUED: 103

OFF the tension...

CUT TO:

104 INT. WEAPON - WIDE ANGLE (OPTICAL) 104

The klaxon continues to sound. The OVERLOAD HAS BEGUN: small explosions are going off on the interior walls and framework. Far below, we can see Archer and the Reptilian locked in combat.

105 CLOSER - THE PLATFORM (OPTICAL) 105

Trembling with each distant explosion! The Reptilian is clearly stronger than Archer, but Archer manages to keep him from the crawlspace. The Reptilian savagely THROWS Archer down... and Archer slowly gets to his feet, apparently shaken... he starts to back away from his enemy as though he's had enough. The Reptilian glowers at him with contempt as he turns for the crawlspace...

...and stops when he hears a distinctive whining noise. He glances over to see that Archer has planted the last explosive charge in his shoulder cage!

He reaches to grab it when --

BOOOM!! The Reptilian EXPLODES!

As the explosion subsides, Archer comes out from behind a pillar...

106 WIDE, HIGH ANGLE (OPTICAL) 106

of Archer far below, running from the platform to the catwalk. The overload is escalating, explosions are going off all around him now -- the place is starting to blow apart!

107 ON ARCHER 107

RUNNING for his life down the CATWALK, explosions and debris raining down! Will he make it out in time?

CUT TO:

108 EXT. SPACE - THE PRIMARY WEAPON (OPTICAL) 108

heading toward Earth... a long moment goes by...

...and the weapon DETONATES in a CATAclysmic FIREBALL.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

109 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 109

holding position in a normal part of space (no sign of the trans-dimensional disturbance). The ship is heavily BATTERED from its recent ordeal.

T'POL (V.O.)

Acting Captain's Starlog, XXXXXX.
We're holding position at the coordinates where we were told to meet Degra's vessel. So far, there's been no word from them.

110 INT. COMMAND CENTER (VPB) 110

T'Pol and Trip (both nearly back to normal, a few crackles visible on their faces and hands) are surrounded by IMAGES of the EXPANSE and rapidly changing telemetry; information is pouring in. One of the graphics indicates the network of Spheres seen before, which is also quickly changing.

T'POL

Long-range scanners are detecting no evidence of the Spheres...

TRIP

(amazed)
None of them?

T'POL

None.
(works another station)
And all the spatial anomalies within our scanning range have vanished.

TRIP

What about the thermobaric cloud barrier?

T'POL

(works)
I can only detect a small section from our present location... but it appears to be dissipating.

TRIP

Looks like we kept our end of the bargain...

(CONTINUED)

110 CONTINUED:

110

T' POL
(agreeing)
It would appear that the Expanse
is returning to normal space.

A beat.

TRIP
(anxious)
We should've heard something by
now.

T' POL
Be patient.

TRIP
(losing it)
What if they failed?
(beat)
Earth could be...

She takes his hand, trying to comfort him. Her hands
and face show a bit more residual crackling than Trip's.
After a beat:

TRIP
(eyes her hand, trying to
shake his fears)
My skin's healing faster than
yours. Guess you Vulcans aren't
so tough, after all.

She releases his hand.

T' POL
Phlox says we should all be back
to normal within two or three
days.

TRIP
(taking back her hand)
I was only kidding. Anyway, you
look nice like this... kinda like
an old oil painting.

T' POL
I'm not old... I'll only be sixty-
six on my next birthday.

TRIP
(reacts)
I can't believe you told me that.

T' POL
You accused me of looking old.

(CONTINUED)

110 CONTINUED: (2)

110

TRIP

That's not what I mean... I've
been trying to get you to tell me
your age ever since we left
spacedock.

(beat)

Why now?

T'Pol hesitates.

(CONTINUED)

110 CONTINUED: (3)

110

T'POL
To Vulcans, certain... information
is considered intimate.

Trip smiles a little, flattered.

TRIP
Intimate, eh?

And then:

MAYWEATHER'S COM VOICE
Bridge to T'Pol.

T'POL
(taps companel)
Go ahead.

MAYWEATHER'S COM VOICE
A vortex just opened... it's
Degra's ship!

CUT TO:

111 INT. BRIDGE

111

Minutes later. T'Pol and Trip are there, standing by
Mayweather. The Bridge has taken heavy damage. Mid-
scene:

COM VOICE
(heavily fritzed,
unintelligible)
zzzzzzzk-gggggguzzzzzzt

T'POL
(to com)
This is Enterprise... please
repeat.

COM VOICE
zzzzzzzk-gggggguzzzzzzt

TRIP
(chiming in)
Captain, did you stop the Weapon?

COM VOICE
gzzzzzzt-zzzzzzk

TRIP
(frustrated)
Captain?

(CONTINUED)

111 CONTINUED: 111

Nothing but static now.

T'POL
(to Mayweather)
Set an intercept course.

CUT TO:

112 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 112

in the final stages of docking with Degra's ship, which is also battered.

113 INT. CORRIDOR/AIRLOCK 113

Damaged and dimly-lit. T'Pol and Trip are just arriving at the airlock hatch, which is in the process of compressing. A long, suspenseful beat as the light turns green and the inner and outer doors hiss open.

A figure emerges... it's Reed, looking ragged. He's followed by Hoshi and the three MACOs.

REED
It's done.

T'POL
Done?

REED
Captain Archer destroyed the
Weapon.

Relief. Trip glances into the airlock.

TRIP
Where is he? Is he okay?

REED
The Captain didn't make it, Trip.

T'Pol reacts, somber, understanding.

TRIP
What do you mean, didn't make it?
The sonofabitch go back to Earth
already? He could've waited for
us.

REED
The weapon exploded before the
Captain could transport to Degra's
ship.

(CONTINUED)

113 CONTINUED: 113

Exhausted, Reed moves off. The MACOs follow. Seeing that Trip is having trouble grasping this, Hoshi moves to him and gives him a hug. OFF T'Pol, devastated by Archer's death, but trying to remain stoic...

DISSOLVE TO:

114 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 114

slowly rising into the belly of a gigantic AQUATIC SHIP.

115 INT. READY ROOM (OPTICAL) 115

T'Pol, pensive, is staring out the window, where we see the Aquatic dry bay. The door CHIMES.

T'POL

Come in.

The Xindi-Humanoid ENTERS with a Starfleet crewman.

T'POL

(to crewman)

Thank you.

As the crewman EXITS...

XINDI-HUMANOID

The Aquatic vessel should have you home in less than a day.

T'POL

I was pleased to hear that the Council has agreed to reconvene.

XINDI-HUMANOID

It was hard for the Insectoids to ignore recent events.

T'POL

And the Reptilians?

XINDI-HUMANOID

They'll join us eventually. They have no choice but to accept that the Guardians' promises were... empty.

(quiet)

Your Captain's sacrifice will not be forgotten.

A beat.

(CONTINUED)

115 CONTINUED: 115

XINDI-HUMANOID
Safe journey.

T'POL
Thank you.

He EXITS. OFF T'Pol as she turns back to the window...

CUT TO:

115A INT. SICKBAY 115A

Phlox is busy feeding his animals, which are a lot noisier than usual.

PHLOX
(to creatures)
It's all right, it's all right...
it won't be much longer, I
promise.

T'Pol ENTERS and reacts to the cacophony of the creatures.

T'POL
Is something wrong?

PHLOX
I think they sense that we're
travelling in an unusual manner...
in the belly of a beast, so to
speak.

T'POL
There are no windows here. How
would they know we're inside the
Aquatic vessel?

PHLOX
I don't have the slightest idea,
but I doubt I'll get any peace and
quiet around here until we're
flying under our own power.

T'POL
It'll only be a few more hours.

Phlox finishes feeding the final cage.

PHLOX
Is there something I can do for
you?

T'POL
My skin hasn't fully healed yet.

(CONTINUED)

115A CONTINUED:

115A

She pulls back her sleeve to reveal a patch of crackled skin on her wrist. Phlox takes a look.

PHLOX
You're doing fine.
(wry)
Vulcans are obviously more sensitive to the effects of mysterious realms.

T'POL
(recalling Trip's words)
I guess we're not so tough, after all.

PHLOX
Excuse me?

T'POL
(re: her wrist)
Is there anything I'll need to treat this?

PHLOX
Only time.

She nods and rolls down her sleeve.

PHLOX
How's morale?

T'POL
It's not easy for a crew to lose its Captain.

PHLOX
(quietly, almost to himself)
I suppose we'll all need time to heal.

A somber beat, then T'Pol walks across the room and kneels down next to PORTHOS, who we now see for the first time. He's lying on his bed seen previously in Archer's quarters. Porthos sits up and the two stare at each other for a long moment.

T'POL
(without looking up)
Is he going to be all right?

PHLOX
Not for a while. He lost his best friend.
(beat)
But it's just a matter of time... he'll be fine again.

(CONTINUED)

115A CONTINUED: (2)

115A

T'POL
(to Porthos, but in a
sense, to herself, as
well)
Did you hear that? The Doctor
said you'll be all right... just a
matter of time.

She reaches out and gently pets him, struggling to
control her grief. As Phlox quietly looks on...

DISSOLVE TO:

116 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL)

116

An empty starfield. After a beat, the Aquatic ship
BLASTS out of a VORTEX. We PAN with the ship as
Enterprise DROPS out of the dry bay. The Aquatic ship
makes a sweeping turn and heads off-camera...

117 OMITTED

117

118 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

118

Damaged and dimly-lit from their recent ordeal. T'Pol
in command, Trip, Reed, Mayweather, N.D.s at stations.
(The crackling on their faces is gone.)

TRIP
(working)
Impulse engines are coming on-
line.

T'POL
(to Mayweather)
Distance?

MAYWEATHER
Eight hundred thousand kilometers.

T'POL
Prepare to set a course.

Over this last exchange, Hoshi ENTERS from the
Turbolift; she still looks haggard, but her cranial
scarring has diminished somewhat.

T'POL
(to Hoshi)
You should be in your quarters,
Ensign.

(CONTINUED)

118 CONTINUED:

118

HOSHI

With all due respect to Phlox, I
wouldn't miss this for the world.

T'Pol lets it go and Hoshi takes her station.

TRIP

(to T'Pol)

Mind if we take a look?

T'Pol turns to Hoshi and nods. Hoshi works, and on the
Viewscreen, we see the distant image of EARTH.
Reactions all around -- it's an emotional moment.

TRIP

Prettiest sight I ever saw... and
it's all in one piece.

REED

The Captain would be proud.

Another beat, then:

T'POL

(to Hoshi)

Open a channel to Starfleet
Headquarters.

Hoshi works... looks puzzled...

HOSHI

Strange...

TRIP

What?

HOSHI

They're not responding...

REED

You'd think they'd be waiting with
baited breath.

T'POL

(to Hoshi, concerned)

Try another frequency.

As Hoshi works...

MAYWEATHER

(off station, puzzled)

I'm not picking up the orbital
platforms...

(CONTINUED)

118 CONTINUED: (2)

118

REED

The Reptilians destroyed Yosemite station.

MAYWEATHER

It's not just Yosemite... there's nothing coming from any of them.

Hoshi turns to T'Pol, shaking her head.

HOSHI

I've rotated through all the frequencies.

T'POL

Contact the Lunar One colony.

HOSHI

I've already tried.

A troubling moment as T'Pol considers, then:

T'POL

(to Trip)

Prepare a shuttlepod. I want you and Ensign Mayweather to get down to San Francisco... find out what's wrong.

CUT TO:

119 EXT. SHUTTLEPOD ONE - DAY (OPTICAL)

119

descending through Earth's atmosphere. They break through some high clouds and we can see the San Francisco Bay Area ten miles below us.

120 INT. SHUTTLEPOD ONE

120

Mayweather at the helm, Trip nearby, tense.

MAYWEATHER

(glancing out window)

Looks pretty normal to me.

TRIP

Then why the hell doesn't anyone want to talk to us?

(beat)

Land at the pad behind the Command Center.

Beep-beep-beep! An alarm sounds.

(CONTINUED)

120 CONTINUED: 120

MAYWEATHER
(off console, relieved)
Finally... we've got three vessels
approaching.

TRIP
It's about time.

Trips works a companel.

TRIP
(to com)
This is Commander Charles Tucker
of the Starship Enterprise. You
guys gave us quite a --

Suddenly, a HAIL of BULLETS can be heard harmlessly
pummeling the hull!

TRIP
What the hell?!

MAYWEATHER
(seeing something out the
window, in disbelief)
Sir!

As Trip leans to follow his gaze...

121 EXT. SHUTTLEPOD ONE (OPTICAL) 121 *

THREE World War Two American MUSTANGS are CLIMBING
toward the Pod, firing as they go!

CUT TO BLACK.

We hear the sound of driving RAIN and distant GUNFIRE
and EXPLOSIONS -- we're not far from a battlefield.

FADE IN:

122 INT. GERMAN HOSPITAL TENT - NIGHT 122

Circa 1942. Dark, lights flickering, rain pounding the
canvas. It's a nightmarish scene: a dozen beds filled
with wounded German soldiers, bloodied and moaning.
Doctors and nurses are frantically tending to them. A
Nazi medical banner hangs near the entrance. Everyone's
speaking in German. The flap to the tent opens, and
through the pouring RAIN, two field medics rush in
carrying a wounded man on a stretcher.

(CONTINUED)

122 CONTINUED:

122

FIELD MEDIC
(in German, SUBTITLED)
This one's badly burned!

DOCTOR
(in German, SUBTITLED)
Over here!

As they set the stretcher down on one of the beds, the DOCTOR and a nurse move to examine the wounded man.

DOCTOR
(to Nurse, in German,
SUBTITLED)
Bring me some morphine!

As the nurse moves off, the doctor starts to work on the wounded man.

DOCTOR
(puzzled, to medic, in
German, SUBTITLED)
What is this uniform?

The medic shakes his head, he doesn't have a clue.

DOCTOR
(in German, SUBTITLED)
I need more light.

The medic grabs a nearby kerosene lamp and swings it toward the wounded man... whose face we can now see for the first time...

It's Captain Jonathan Archer, unconscious, badly burned, Starfleet uniform scorched... but still alive.

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT FOUR

THE END