

Star Trek Spec Script

By

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Star Trek: Discovery

TEASER

INT. USS PROMETHEUS BRIDGE - DAY

CAPTAIN PIERSALL walks into the bridge. The crew, sitting at their stations, turn towards him. They look prepared for battle. Outside the warp can be seen,

PIERSALL

I'm sure I don't need to remind of you
of our orders.

The crew all nod. Piersall sits forward in his chair.

PIERSALL

I do want to say something before we
go. You are the bravest crew I've ever
served with.

The crew all smile at each other.

PIERSALL

You make me proud to call myself a
member of Star Fleet. Lets go teach
our Klingon friends what Star Fleet is
made of.

The crew cheer, and begin to hit buttons on their consoles.

PIERSALL

All power to phasers.

CREWMEMBER #1

Aye captain.

CREWMEMBER #2

We're dropping out of warp in 3...

The crew all tense.

CREWMEMBER #2

2...

PIERSALL

Get ready to fire on my command.

CREWMEMBER #2

1...

EXT. BENZAR ORBIT - DAY

VFX: The USS PROMETHEUS drops out of warp. In front of them is around 15 Klingon warships.

INT. USS PROMETHEUS BRIDGE - DAY

Piersall slowly stands up. The crew all stare out the view port in terror.

PIERSALL
Impossible, there shouldn't be this many.

CREWMEMBER #3
Sure, their weapons are fully charged.

CREWMEMBER #1
They're about to fire.

PIERSALL
Raise shields.

CREWMEMBER #1
Raising shields.

EXT. BENZAR ORBIT - DAY

The Klingon ships begin to fire on the USS PROMETHEUS. The bolts of fire penetrate the ships hull, causing fires to spread throughout the ship. The USS PROMETHEUS attempts to bank left, but the rain of fire continues.

INT. BENZAR OUTPOST - DAY

The screams of the crew can be heard coming from a radio like device. T'LUKMA, SON OF KOR, and VOL, SON OF KOR, stand next to it.

T'LUKMA
(Klingon)
Those fools, another has been caught in our web.

VOL turns to a large metallic white device behind him. It is in the shape of a half disk, and looks Vulcan in origin.

VOL
(Klingon)
The device has proven effective again.
I am glad you convinced them to use it,
even if it is a filthy Vulcan
creation.

T'LUKMA
It does not matter who made it, it
will guarantee our victory.

VOL/T'LUKMA
REMAIN KLINGON.

The screams of the crew can be heard, before immediately
cutting out.

EXT. BENZAR ORBIT - DAY

The debris of the USS PROMETHEUS floats slowly through the
void. Just behind it, several of the Klingon ships can be
seen warping away.

(OPENING CREDITS PLAY)

ACT I

INT. LORCA'S OFFICE - DAY

LORCA sits behind his desk, his bowl of fortune cookies next to him. He grabs one from the bowl. He breaks it in half, and leaves the fortune on his desk.

VFX: ADMIRAL CORNWELL appears in front of him, a hologram.

CORNWELL

Captain Lorca.

Lorca holds up a finger, and finishes the cookie. Cornwell looks suprised and slightly offended.

CORNWELL

I have new orders for the Discovery,
if you're ready... Captain.

LORCA

Ready Admiral.

CORNWELL

We've recently discovered a Klingon
supply line at Benzar.

LORCA

So you want the Discovery to break it
up. Sounds a bit too easy.

CORNWELL

Does it? We've already lost 3 ships in
the Benzite system.

Lorca looks surprised.

CORNWELL

They've somehow been able to shoot
down our ships the moment they leave
warp.

LORCA

So you want us to find out why.

CORNWELL

Yes, exactly.

Cornwell's hologram disappears. Lorca turns and stares out

the window, into the void of space.

INT. USS DISCOVERY BRIDGE - DAY

Lorca enters the bridge. The crew all turn to face him. Lorca lays back in his captain's chair.

LORCA

We have new orders.

The crew all look nervously at each other.

LORCA

They've recently discovered that the Klingon's have a supply line directly over the surface of Benezar. And apparently any ship that leaves warp in that system is immediately shot down.

The crew begin to murmur to themselves.

LORCA

So its our job to shut it down, and figure out exactly what the Klingon's are doing. Saru, tell me about Benezar

VFX: SARU hits a few buttons on his console. A large hologram appears in front of Lorca, a large planetoid.

SARU

Benezar is comprised of around 60 percent mercury seas. The atmosphere is 78 percent chlorine, making it difficult for most speices to survive on the planets surface.

LORCA

So why would the Klingon's chose it?

SARU

Well, the planet isn't truly a part of the Federation. We do have positive relations with the Benzites, though are ships rarely come out this far.

LORCA

So with no Federation ships knocking about, its easy for their operation to go unnoticed.

SARU
Precisely sir.

Lorca contemplates for a brief second.

LORCA
So how are they able to shoot down our ships the instant they leave warp.

SARU
Well sir it shouldn't be possible. It should take them several minutes to charge their phasers. Unless of course, they had an informant on the inside.

LORCA
Or the ability to scan our ships in warp.

SARU
Sir that isn't possible, no technology like that exists.

LORCA
The alternative is impossible. I've spent my entire life in Star Fleet.

Lorca looks over the crew.

LORCA
I know that no one here would ever betray us to the Klingon's, that no one in Star Fleet would.

Lorca turns back to Saru.

LORCA
So I want you to find out exactly how their scanning us in warp.

Lorca gets up, and leaves back into his office. Saru looks out over the crew, who are all staring at him

SARU
You heard the captain.

Everyone turns back to their stations. Saru gazes over the crew, and then starts to hit buttons on his console.

INT. LORCA'S OFFICE - DAY

Saru enters. He stands at attention, though appears nervous.

LORCA
Find anything?

Saru looks quickly behind him.

SARU
The others are, working on it.

LORCA
So why are you here?

SARU
I have some reservations about
Specialist Burnham.

Lorca appears surprised.

SARU
Given my experience with her, I just
feel that keeping her on
this vessel is...

Lorca holds up his hand.

LORCA
Are you doubting my abilities?

SARU
No, I was just expressing my feelings
on the matter.

LORCA
Burnham is an important part of this
team, we need her.

Saru appears agitated

SARU
Pardon me sir, keeping someone like
her around is dangerous. How important
could she possibly be?

LORCA
You're dismissed Saru. Report back to
me when you have what I'm looking for.

Saru leaves the office. Lorca watches him leave.

INT. LONG DARK HALLWAY - UNKNOWN

BURNHAM stands alone in a long dark hallway. She hears various noises all around her.

BURNHAM

Hello?

She starts to creep along the corridor. Voices can be heard coming from further down the hallway.

BURNHAM

Who's there?

Burnham starts to run towards the voices.

BURNHAM

This is special officer Burnham of
Star Fleet.

The voices continue to get louder.

BURNHAM

I seem to be lost, can you please help
me?

The voices stop. Burnham stops running.

VFX: A bolt flies out of the darkness, hitting her square in the chest. She is sent flying backwards. More bolts fly out of the darkness.

BURNHAM

Stop firing, please.

She rolls over, and comes face to face with a dead Klingon.

BURNHAM

The klingons...

She looks up at her attackers. They are still covered in darkness, though a familiar symbol can be seen on their chest.

Star Fleet.

INT. BURNHAM'S BEDROOM - DAY

Burnham jolts up in bed, breathing heavily.

She's alone in her room, Tilly appears to have left. Burnham

pulls herself up, and sits on the edge of the bed. She appears visibly shaken.

INTERCOM (V.O)
Specialist Burnham, you are being
called to Captain Lorca's office.

Burnham stares at the wall. She stands up.

INT. LORCA'S OFFICE - DAY

Lorca stands behind his desk, continuing to stare out his view port. Burnham walks in, and stands at attention.

BURNHAM
You wanted to see me sir?

LORCA
Yes, I did.

Lorca hits a button on his desk. A hologram appears of Benezar.

BURNHAM
Benezar.

LORCA
Good, you know it. Apparently the
Klignon's are using it as a point on
their supply line.

Burnham studies the hologram.

BURNHAM
So if we know about it, why hasn't
Star Fleet stopped it.

LORCA
Our ships have lasted 12 seconds in
orbit once leaving warp.

Burnham stares at him in shock.

BURNHAM
How is that possible?

LORCA
We aren't sure.

Burnham starts to study the hologram again.

LORCA

I was hoping you'd know something about it.

BURNHAM

Sir, I need to return to engineering.

Lorca moves closer to her.

LORCA

I'm sure I don't need to remind you why you're here.

BURNHAM

No sir, you don't. If the Klingon's had the ability to scan ships in warp.

LORCA

That shouldn't be possible. There's no technology that can do that.

BURNHAM

It is possible to scan a ship's warp trail.

LORCA

But the warp trail can only be scanned from where they warp.

Burnham pauses. She contemplates what he said.

BURNHAM

There is the G'Rau.

Lorca seems confused.

BURNHAM

It was a device created by Vulcans long ago. It was able to scan ships in warp.

LORCA

What happened to it?

BURNHAM

Unknown sir, it disappeared soon after its creation.

Lorca and Burnham turn back to the hologram of Benzar.

BURNHAM

Do you need anything else sir?

LORCA

No Burnham, that will be all.

Burnham leaves. Lorca continues to stare at the hologram

INT. USS DISCOVERY BRIDGE - DAY

Lorca enters the Bridge.

LORCA

You called me Saru?

SARU

Yes sir, we've trying to find the source of the Klingon's ability to shoot us down.

LORCA

And?

SARU

Well, we haven't been able to find anything.

LORCA

So why did you call me?

SARU

Well sir, I beleieve that if we were able to scan the planet, we may be able to see if the Klingon's have technology that is capable of scanning the warp.

LORCA

To see if there's anything on the surface using a large amount of energy.

SARU

Precisely sir.

Lorca sits down in the captain's chair.

LORCA

Let's get to it then.

INT. ENGINEERING - DAY

Stamments enters the room, and moves to his console. Tilly watches him from across the room. Stamments looks up.

STAMMENTS

Yes Tilly?

Tilly nervously moves over to him

TILLY

I was just running some numbers.

STAMMENTS

And?

TILLY

Well, it seems that our jumps aren't instantaneous.

STAMMENTS

Is that so?

TILLY

It seems that they're off by around 5 nanoseconds.

STAMMENTS

So?

TILLY

Well its just that, you know, it could be a problem later.

STAMMENTS

It won't be.

Tilly stands awkwardly.

STAMMENTS

Anything else?

Tilly shakes her head, and quickly moves back to her post. Stamments hits a few buttons on his console. Burnham enters the room. She stands next to Tilly at her station.

STAMMENTS

Ready to activate the spore drive.

INT. USS DISCOVERY BRIDGE - DAY

Lorca sits in his chair. The crew sit at their posts. They all looked ready.

LORCA
Black alert.

EXT. USS DISCOVERY - DAY

VFX: The USS Discovery sits in the void. It then begins to spin, and quickly disappears.

EXT. BENZAR ORBIT - EVENING

The USS Discovery appears in Benzar's orbit. There are around 3 Klingon warships in the planet's orbit.

INT. USS DISCOVERY BRIDGE - EVENING

The crew are all at their stations.

SARU
Beginning scan now.

KEYLA
Sir, Klingon weapons are charging.

LORCA
Hurry up Saru.

SARU
Working on it sir.

KEYLA
Sir, their weapons are fully charged.

LORCA
All power to forwards shields.

EXT. BENZAR ORBIT - EVENING

VFX: The Klingon warships begin to fire on the USS Discovery. Several of the shots hit the ships hull.

INT. USS DISCOVERY BRIDGE - EVENING

Saru continues to hit buttons on his console.

SARU
Scan complete sir.

LORCA
Alright, let's get out of here.

EXT. BENZAR ORBIT - EVENING

The USS Discovery begins to spin. As it does, another shot hits it directly in the hull. The ship then disappears

INT. ENGINEERING - EVENING

Stammments stands at his station. The ships begins to shake. Stammments is thrown into the wall, and lands on the ground. Tilly and Burnham rush over to him.

Blood is beginning to pool around Stammments head.

BURNHAM
Call medical.

She gets up and runs out of the room. Tilly continues to kneel over him.

TILLY
Stammments, can you hear me?

Stammments eyes are glassy as the pool of blood grows larger.

ACT II

INT. MEDICAL - DAY

Stammments wakes up in bed. DR. CULBER stands over him, typing something in his pad.

STAMMENTS
How long was I out?

CULBER
Not long.

Stammments begins to pull himself out of bed.

CULBER
Lieutenant, you need rest.

STAMMENTS
I need to get back to my station.

CULBER
No you don't, Tilly is manning it
right now.

Stammments looks at Culber, bewildered. Culber looks away.

CULBER
Right now, you just need some rest.

STAMMENTS
Ok, fine.

Culber looks over Stammments, and then walks away. Stammments stares at the ceiling.

INT. USS DISCOVERY BRIDGE - DAY

Lorca sits in his chair as the crew hit buttons on their consoles.

LORCA
How're we looking?

KEYLA
We've sustained minor damage. It
shouldn't take more than a day to fix.

LORCA
Excellent. Saru?

Saru hits several buttons on his control panel.

LORCA
What did you find?

Saru hits another button, and the hologram of Benzar appears.

SARU
Well sir, it appears that a large
amount of energy is being used at the
planets northern pole.

The hologram zooms in on the North Pole.

LORCA
And that's interesting?

SARU
Well yes. While the Benzites are warp
capable, for the most part the planet
consumes a very small amount of
energy. The energy being consumed is
equal to the amount used by the
Discovery.

Lorca whistles.

LORCA
So what is it?

SARU
It is... uncertain at this point.

LORCA
Well, I'll leave you to it then.

Lorca exits. Saru watches him leave, and then returns to his console.

INT. ENGINEERING - DAY

Burnham stands at her station, as Tilly confusedly stares at the spore drive console. Burnham then looks surprised.

BURNHAM
Tilly, I need to return back to my
room.

Tilly continues to look down at the console.

BURNHAM

Tilly.

TILLY

Huh, what? Oh yeah, that's fine.

Burnham leaves. Tilly continues to carefully look over the control panel. She hits a button, which causes red lights to begin to flash on the panel.

TILLY

Oh dear.

INT. BURNHAM'S BEDROOM - DAY

Burnham stands in her room. In front of her, Sarek stands with a mildly suprised look on his face.

SAREK

Burnham.

BURNHAM

Hello Sarek.

SAREK

I am... surprised to hear from you.
I'm sure you have an important reason
for calling me.

BURNHAM

What do you know about the G'Rau?

SAREK

Why do you ask?

Burnham pauses. She appears to be uncomfortable.

BURNHAM

I believe that the Klingon's may be
using it.

SAREK

Oh?

BURNHAM

Our ships are being shot down the
moment they leave warp. That's in line
with the G'Rau's ability to scan a
ships bio and techno signatures while
in warp.

SAREK

I believe it does, yes. Still, many species have experimented with such technology in the past. That does not mean that...

Burnham stares angrily at Sarek. Sarek stares back at her.

SAREK

The G'Rau was lost to our species some time ago. The ship that was carrying it disappeared some years ago.

BURNHAM

Near the Benzite system.

SAREK

Yes, how did you know?

BURNHAM

The Klingon's are using it to defend their supply lines there. That's where our ships have been shot down.

SAREK

Now that is interesting. Using another species technology doesn't seem to fit in with the Klingon's beliefs. Its possible that...

BURNHAM

Sarek I have to go, the captain needs to hear this.

Sarek stares again at her. This time however, there is a bit of sadness in his face. Burnham does not appear to notice.

SAREK

Good luck to you, specialist Burnham.

The call ends, the hologram disappears.

INT. USS DISCOVERY BRIDGE - DAY

Lorca re-enters the bridge. Saru looks nervous.

LORCA

Saru, have you figured it out or not.

SARU

Not yet sir, I need more time to scan...

LORCA

We don't have that kind of time Saru, I need an answer now.

Burnham busts into the room. Saru and Lorca turn to her in surprise, and Saru's ganglia flare up.

BURNHAM

Its the G'Rau.

SARU

The what?

LORCA

That's what we talked about before right?

Saru appears surprised.

BURNHAM

Yes sir, it disappeared a century ago in the Benzite system.

LORCA

So the Klingon's found it, and have been using it?

BURNHAM

Yes sir, that seems likely.

SARU

Sir, if you had this information why didn't you tell me. It would have been useful to know what the look for.

Lorca appears to not care for what Saru is saying.

LORCA

I didn't know if it was true or not.

SARU

And you got that information from her?

Saru points at Burnham. Burnham doesn't flinch, instead she stares at Lorca.

LORCA
Are you questioning my decisions
number one.

Saru realizes that he's made a mistake.

SARU
No sir.

LORCA
So then what's the problem.

SARU
Well sir, you see sir. I just...

Lorca glares at Saru, and then looks softly at Burnham.

LORCA
First Officer Saru, Specialist
Burnham, follow me.

Lorca walks towards his office. Saru and Burnham look at each other, and follow him.

INT. LORCA'S OFFICE - DAY

Lorca moves behind his desk. Saru and Burnham stand at attention, trying not to look at each other.

LORCA
There's a problem.

BURNHAM
Sir?

LORCA
I can't have my crew second guessing
each other like that.

SARU
Sir with all due respect, I don't feel
that this is a productive use of our
time.

A silence fills the room, with Lorca appearing annoyed.

LORCA
I need the two of you to trust each
other, despite what happened before.

BURNHAM

Sir, I'm not a member of the bridge. I don't think that it is necessary for First Officer Saru to trust me.

LORCA

I need all of my crew, regardless of rank or history, to trust each other.

Lorca looks expectantly at the two. Saru appears to not want to consider what Lorca is saying, while Burnham simply looks ahead.

LORCA

Right, ok. I think I have a solution. I need the two of you to warp down to the surface to disable the device.

BURNHAM

The G'Rau.

LORCA

Right, that. With your knowledge of Vulcan culture, and Saru's knowledge of Benzar make you two the most ideal candidates .

BURNHAM

Sir I don't think that's wise.

LORCA

Oh?

BURNHAM

I think Saru is more important here. If I may, I think sending me down on my own is a better use of resources.

LORCA

And you Saru?

Saru looks uncomfortable.

SARU

I agree with Specialist Burnham's analysis.

Lorca considers this.

LORCA

That's good, that will give the two of

you something to talk over on the surface.

BURNHAM

But...

LORCA

Those are my orders, Specialist Burnham.

Burnham looks surprised. Lorca makes a motion to signal that the two of them need to leave. Saru leaves quickly, though Burnham stays a second longer. She appears confused, almost as if she's looking at Lorca for the first time.

LORCA

Do you need something

BURNHAM

Sir, its just... no sir.

Her face shows that she clearly has something else to say. She slowly moves out of the office.

INT. ENGINEERING - DAY

Tilly stands behind the spore drive control panel. The tardigrade sits in its case.

ENGINEERING CREW MEMBER

Tilly?

Tilly continues to stare at the console.

ENGINEERING CREW MEMBER

Tilly.

TILLY

Hmmm?

ENGINEERING CREW MEMBER

The captain's been trying to contact you.

TILLY

Oh, uh sorry. Do you know how I answer that?

The crew member looks over the console.

ENGINEERING CREW MEMBER
Its probably that right there.

The crew member points to a red flashing light on the console.

TILLY
Oh, thank you.

Tilly hits a button on the console. She reads something, and appears scared.

TILLY
Uh, Alright everyone, get ready to jump to these coordinates.

The crew stare at her, horrified.

TILLY
What, was it something I said? The captain said we have to go back to Benzar.

The crew continue to stare at him.

TILLY
So we need to... do that.

The crew start to hit buttons on their consoles. Tilly tries to look confident, but ends up looking more scared.

INT. WARP ROOM - DAY

Burnham and Saru stand on the warp platforms. The two are wearing suits that will allow them to breathe while on the surface.

The two try to not look at each other.

INT. MEDICAL - DAY

Stammments lays in bed. The lights all go off, and he sits up in bed.

INTERCOM (V.O)
Black Alert.

Stammments tries to pull himself out of bed. Culber storms into the room.

CULBER
You need rest.

He reaches Stamments side, and tries to push him down into the bed.

STAMMENTS
They need me.

CULBER
I need you, they'll be fine.

Stamments looks at Culber, and realizes that there's no use arguing with him.

CULBER
They'll be fine without you, just this once.

STAMMENTS
Right.

EXT. USS DISCOVERY - DAY

VFX: The U.S.S Discovery spins, and disappears.

EXT. BENZAR ORBIT - EVENING

VFX: The USS Discovery appears directly in front of the Klingon war ships, much closer than before. There are around 20 Klingon ships. The Klingons begin to charge their weapons.

INT. USS DISCOVERY BRIDGE - EVENING

Lights begin to flash inside the bridge.

LORCA
All power to forward shields. Prepare to jump on my mark.

INT. WARP ROOM - EVENING

VFX: Saru and Burnham begin to glow a bright light. They disappear from the room.

EXT. BENZAR SURFACE - EVENING

Saru and Burnham appear on the surface. They both look up, and watch as the Discovery, while on fire, uses the warp

drive to warp away.

BURNHAM

I guess we're on our own now.

Saru begins walking. Burnham watches him go, and then runs to catch up with him.

SARU

The source of the energy consumption
is 50 kilometers in this direction.

BURNHAM

50? Why so far?

SARU

Well, it's likely that the battle
forced them to beam us out as fast as
possible. We're lucky that we ended up
anywhere close.

BURNHAM

I guess we better start walking then.

The two head off, with Burnham lagging far behind Saru,
intentionally.

EXT. BENZAR SURFACE - DAY

Burnham follows behind Saru, but keeps her distance. Saru
barely notices her.

SARU

There is a small town ahead, we can
stay there for the night. If all goes
well, we should be able to reach it
tomorrow.

Saru starts to move faster, while Burnham struggles to keep
up.

BURNHAM

Saru, slow down.

SARU

Sorry specialist Burnham, I have to
make sure we arrive before the sun
falls. Many hostile creatures come out
at night.

BURNHAM

But if you keep moving that fast, I'll
be left behind.

Saru slows down, allowing Burnham to catch up.

SARU

I forget how slow your species can be.
I apologize, my instincts tell me
that...

Saru's ganglia begin to flare up.

SARU

Something is near by.

VFX: Saru and Burnham pull out their blasters. A large spider
like creature bursts out of the rocks, and begins to charge
towards the two. They fire their blasters at it, but the
bolts fail to hurt it.

The two turn and run, with the spider creature following
closely behind them. A long metal rod flies past Burnham and
Saru, striking the the creature in the face.

Burnham and Saru look up. Standing on a cliff with the sun
setting behind them is a Benzite.

ACT III

INT. ENGINEERING - DAY

Lights are flash throughout the room. The tardigrade screams in pain. Crewmembers are putting out small fires throughout the room.

TILLY

Well, that could have gone worse.

There's a small explosion behind her. Tilly ducks.

INT. USS DISCOVERY BRIDGE - DAY

Red lights flash throughout the room. Various lights flash on the consoles.

LORCA

Status?

CREWMEMBER

We lost a lot of critical function.
Our shields are down, and the spore
drive appears non functional. We can't
do anything for a while.

Lorca leans back in his chair, thinking. The rest of the crew stare at him, hoping for something from him.

LORCA

Well, I'll leave you all to it.

The crew all look at each other, and then back at Lorca. They did not hear what they needed to hear.

INT. BENZITE HOUSE - NIGHT

Saru and Burnham sit behind a table, while the Benzite from before appears to be cooking something. The interior is mostly made up of copper metal, with most of the furniture being black or a dark blue.

BURNHAM

Thank you. How did you find us?

BENZITE

You appeared on our scanners. Our
leaders didn't want to help you.

SARU

Why?

BENZITE

They do not want to get involved with your war with the Klingons.

BURNHAM

The Klingon's have forced you into it. You've seen their ships. They brought the war to your front door.

BENZITE

We tried to fight them off, but our ships are not capable of fighting them.

BURNHAM

The Federation would be able to help, we're on a mission that will cripple the Klingon's control.

SARU

We are heading towards the planet's north pole. We've found a large amount of energy is being consumed there.

The benzite appears to consider this.

BENZITE

I cannot help you, as it would go against the will of the council. I only saved you as the alternative was far worse. Allowing you to die would indirectly make us a part of this war. I will not stop you for the same reason.

BURNHAM

Thank you.

BENZITE

You can stay the night, but no longer than that.

Saru and Burnham nod.

INT. ENGINEERING - DAY

Tilly frantically hits various buttons on the spore drive control console.

LORCA (V.O)

Tilly, I need an update. How is the spore drive.

TILLY

Well sir, it seems that the uh... thingy is broken.

LORCA (V.O)

Thingy.

TILLY

Yes, the thingy that allows the tardigrade to control the spores.

LORCA (V.O)

Its broken.

TILLY

Yes, it seems that uh, it doesn't work. Like we can't control the tardigrade.

LORCA (V.O)

Do you know how long it will take to fix?

TILLY

A few days maybe? I don't really know.

LORCA (V.O)

I expect it to be fixed in 3 days. Is that understood.

Tilly looks visibly nervous.

TILLY

Yes sir.

INT. MEDICAL - DAY

Stamments lays in bed, still upset about being forced to stay here. Culber sits on the edge of his bed, reading from his tablet.

CULBER

And you should be completely cleared by tomorrow.

STAMMENTS

Great.

CULBER

And with that you'll be able to return
to your project.

There is a hint of jealousy in his voice.

STAMMENTS

Yeah, I hope Tilly hasn't ruined my
life's work.

CULBER

Tilly will have done fine, you don't
need to worry.

STAMMENTS

You wouldn't understand.

CULBER

No I understand clearly. But I have a
question for you.

STAMMENTS

What?

Culber looks up from his tablet. While his has little emotion
in it, there is a clear amount of sadness in his voice.

CULBER

Is this what you wanted?

STAMMENTS

What do you mean?

CULBER

You know what I mean. I know you. The
Stamments I know wouldn't be ok with
his life's work being used for war.

This appears to make Stamments uncomfortable.

STAMMENTS

I'm fine with it.

Culber clearly doesn't believe him. Stamments notices this.

STAMMENTS

Honestly, I am.

CULBER

Right.

Culber stands up, and puts his tablet in his pocket. He starts to leave.

STAMMENTS

Wait, where are you going?

Culber stops in the doorway.

CULBER

You clearly need some rest.

He leaves.

INT. BENZAR OUTPOST - NIGHT

T'Lukma enters the room. Vol looks up at him. He has his hand on the G'Rau, and removes it when he sees T'Lukma.

T'LUKMA

(Klingon)

Anything?

VOL

The ship has not returned yet.

T'LUKMA

Good, we have scared off the vermon.

VOL

I worry that the Federation are planning something. This new technology of theirs makes them difficult to predict.

T'LUKMA

As long as we have this, nothing the Federation do will matter. They will fall before us.

VOL

Even still, we must remain vigilant. We cannot lose this. We must not allow it fall into Federation hands.

T'Lukma grunts, and leaves. Vol watches him leave, and places his hand back on the G'Rau. His eyes change colors.

INT. BENZITE HOUSE - MORNING

Burnham wakes up, and slowly sits up. She pulls herself off the floor. Saru is already awake, talking to the Benzite from

before.

SARU

Ah, Specialist Burnham. Murdock was just telling me about a route we could take. It should take us much less to reach the source that way.

TEROCK

Yes, there is a narrow path along one of the mountains. Not only will it take less time, but few creatures can even reach that area. You should be safe.

BURNHAM

I see. Thank you.

MURDOCK

I reccomend you leave soon.

SARU

Yes, of course.

Saru starts to head towards the door.

TEROCK

No, not that way.

Murdock points to the window.

TEROCK

You are less likely to bee seen.

SARU

Ah yes, of course.

He moves towards the window, with Burnham following quickly behind him.

MURDLOCK

Good luck to you.

Burnham and Saru nod. They head out the window.

EXT. BENZAR SURFACE - MORNING

Burnham and Saru climb up a rocky hill. In the background the Benzite town can be seen. The town is most dark grey, with smoke rising from various buildings. It almost seems to blend into its surroundings.

SARU
Using the new path, it should only
take us a few more hours.

BURNHAM
Lead the way.

Saru feels pride, hearing Burnham refer to him like that. He starts to move faster. Burnham has to run to keep up with him.

BURNHAM
Saru please, slow down.

SARU
Ah yes, my apologies again Specialist
Burnham.

Saru slows down. The two walk in silence.

INT. ENGINEERING - DAY

Lorca enters engineering. The room appears to have been fixed, though there are still clearly problems. Wires hanging from the ceiling.

LORCA
Officer Tilly.

Tilly pops up from behind the spore drive control console.

LORCA
I have been attempting to contact you,
why haven't you answered.

TILLY
Well sir, its just been very busy down
here and...

LORCA
I heard there was something wrong with
the Tardigrade.

TILLY
Yes sir, it seems that we no longer
have control over it.

LORCA
Why not?

TILLY

Well it uh, doesn't seem to want to listen to us.

LORCA

And why would that be?

TILLY

Well sir, I uh... I don't know.

Lorca walks up to the tardigrade's container. It sits on the floor, not moving. It almost seems sad.

LORCA

Any idea why?

TILLY

I think it was scared after the last attack.

LORCA

So then how do we make it "not scared"

TILLY

Well sir, a familiar face may help with that.

LORCA

Stammments.

TILLY

Yes sir, Lieutenant Stammments has spent the most amount of time with it. It would only make sense that it may fear him as a comforting figure.

LORCA

I see, well then I suggest we return him to his post as soon as possible.

Lorca starts to stride out of the room.

TILLY

Sir?

Lorca ignore her.

INT. MEDICAL - DAY

Lorca storms into the room. Stammments jolts up in bed.

LORCA

We need you back at your station.

STAMMENTS

Gladly sir.

Stamments climbs out of bed, and stretches. Culber enters the room, surprised to see Lorca.

CULBER

What are you doing.

LORCA

Stamments is needed back at his station.

CULBER

He needs to get some rest.

LORCA

I feel that he's had enough rest. What do you think Lieutenant Stamments?

CULBER

He can't leave until a clear him.

LORCA

What's keeping him here then?

CULBER

Well sir he has a concussion, and he needed stitches around his corona capitis.

Lorca looks at him with one eyebrow raised.

CULBER

The crown of his head.

LORCA

Are any of those things life threatening?

CULBER

No sir, but I...

LORCA

Great.

(to Stamments)

I expect to see you at your station in 5 minutes.

Lorca leaves. Culbert stares at Stammers. Stammers leaves quickly, trying hard not to look at Culber.

EXT. BENZAR SURFACE - DAY

Saru and Burnham edge along the edge of a cliff. Below them them gas escapes through large holes in the ground.

BURNHAM

I thought he said this was the safe way.

SARU

Perhaps it was relative, or his speices has a different defenition of safe.

They continue to inch along. Solid ground is only a few feet from from them.

BURNHAM

Saru, there's something I need to say.

Saru looks down.

SARU

Is now the best time?

BURNHAM

When I said the G'Rau scans ships in warp, that's not all it does.

SARU

What do you mean?

BURNHAM

It can scan anything. When it scans the ship, it actually scans their biosingature.

SARU

Oh.

BURNHAM

So if they were able to scan the Discovery...

Saru reaches the solid ground.

SARU

They'll know we're coming.

He turns quickly to Burnham, who is still inching her way along.

SARU
Why didn't you mention this before.

BURNHAM
I was going to, but I never had time.
Lorca kicked us out too fast.

SARU
And why didn't you mention it to me?

Burnham goes silent.

SARU
Ah, right. That's only natural.

Burnham slips, and has to grab onto the ledge. Saru reaches over, and grabs her hand. He pulls her up.

SARU
Even though I think that you are a danger that has no place on our ship, I cannot deny your intelligence. If you had mentoined this, I would have listen.

BURNHAM
Thank you Saru.

SARU
We must hurry, we are almost there.

Burnham takes a second to catch her breath. She watches as large avian creatures fly around the area. The often use the gas being expelled to launch themselves into the air.

BURNHAM
Amazing.

She quickly catches up to Saru.

BURNHAM
How much further?

SARU
Approximetally another 1 kilometer.

The two crest a hill. In front of them is a large Klingon building.

SARU
Well that is... larger than I
expected.

ACT IIII

INT. USS DISCOVERY BRIDGE - DAY

Lorca sits back down in his chair. He looks smugly over the room.

CREWMEMBER

Sir, Admiral Cornwell is attempting to contact us.

LORCA

Put her on screen.

Admiral Cornwell appears on screen. She looks upset.

CORNWELL

Captain, how are things progressing.

LORCA

Pretty well, I'd say. We've found the problem, and are actively taking care of it.

CORNWELL

How's that?

LORCA

I've sent two of my best down there to take out the G'Rau.

CORNWELL

The what?

LORCA

This vulcan device that they're using to scan us before we even arrive there.

CORNWELL

I see. Who did you send?

LORCA

Well...

CORNWELL

Where's Saru?

Lorca coughs nervously. Cornwell appears shocked.

CORNWELL

You sent your number one by himself.

LORCA

Well he was the most qualified for the job.

CORNWELL

Who did you send with him?

LORCA

Well, you see.

CORNWELL

Burnham?

LORCA

Yes.

Cornwell takes a couple of seconds to process this information.

CORNWELL

So not only did you send your Number One, you sent him with the only mutineer in Federation history.

LORCA

Katrina, I...

The looks from his crew and Cornwell tell him that he said the wrong thing.

CORNWELL

Well, I hope they're successful. If not, you'll be hearing from me.

She disappears from the screen. The crew all look look at Lorca.

LORCA

What? Get back to work, we need to have this ship completely ready.

The crew slowly get back to work.

EXT. BENZAR SURFACE - DAY

Burnham and Saru move slowly towards the large structure. They hide behind a rock near the structure.

SARU
What do we do?

BURNHAM
We likely have to sneak in, past the
guards, and find the G'Rau.

SARU
(sarcastic)
Oh is that all.

Burnham peeks her head back up.

BURNHAM
I don't see any guards.

Burnham starts to move towards the structure. Saru watches
her go, and then slowly follows her.

INT. BENZAR OUTPOST - DAY

Burnham slowly pushes the door open. There is a loud hissing
sound as she does so. She slips through the door, and Saru
follows quickly behind her. The door closes with a loud hiss.

In front of them is a long dark hallway. Its almost
impossible to see past a couple of feet. Burnham turns on her
flashlight.

BURNHAM
Anyone here?

Saru looks down at his tablet.

SARU
I don't see any movement. Its possible
that they only have a Skeleton crew.

BURNHAM
Maybe.

They start to sneak down the hallway. Saru stares at his
tablet as he does so.

SARU
Still no movement.

They reach a fork in the hallway. They can either turn left,
or continue straight. Burnham looks at Saru, expectantly.

SARU

Left.

Burnham and Saru head left.

SARU

I'm getting some movement, directly in front of us.

They both pull out their blasters, and aim them down the hallway. A single Klingon rounds the corner, and notices their flashlights. He stops dead in his tracks.

BURNHAM

Just lay down on the ground. We won't hurt you if you just surrender.

The Klingon stares at them, and then looks back.

KLINGON

(inn klingon)

Remain klingon.

He charges at them. Burnham fires three shots. The first two miss, and the third one hits the klingon directly in the chest. He drops to the ground.

Alarms begin to blare throughout the facility. Red lights begin to flash overhead.

INT. G'RAU ROOM - DAY

Vol's eyes remain the same color they were before, and his hand is still on the G'Rau. Red lights begin to flash, as the alarm sound. G'Rau's eyes flash multiple different colors.

VOL

There are two intruders. Hallway.

INT. BENZAR OUTPOST - DAY

Indescribable klingon is heard blaring throughout the facility.

BURNHAM

We need to move.

The two begin to sprint down the hallway. They reach a second hallway. A large number of Klingon's appear, coming towards them.

BURNHAM

Saru?

SARU

We need to go this way.

The two begin to run, as the klingon's fire shots at them. They turn another corner.

SARU

Just a few more meters.

They keep running. As they do so, more and more Klingon's appear out of various hallways. More shots barely miss the two.

SARU

We're here.

They stand in front of a large metal door.

BURNHAM

Any idea how to get inside?

Saru points to a control panel on the wall.

SARU

I can attempt to get us inside.

BURNHAM

Alright, I'll cover you.

Saru starts to hit buttons on the panel. Burnham at the corner of the hallway, and points her blaster down the hallway.

BURNHAM

How long?

SARU

It is... uncertain.

A klingon appears from down the hallway. Burnham fires several shots, and hits them in the chest. The Klingon voice overhead appears to become more and more anxious

SARU

What are they saying?

BURNHAM

It seems that they are able to see exactly where we are. It's likely the G'Rau.

Another Klingon turns the corner. This time it takes Burnham two shots to take them down.

BURNHAM

You done?

SARU

Almost.

There is a loud clicking noise. The door begins to open.

SARU

Its open, hurry.

Burnham starts to run towards the door. A bolt flies through the hallway, and hits her directly in the leg. She falls to the ground.

SARU

Burnham.

He runs to her side, and starts to drag her towards the door. Burnham fires more shots down the hallway.

INT. G'RAU ROOM - DAY

Saru drags her in, and hits a button. The door slams closed.

BURNHAM

Oh god.

Saru looks down, and sees that Burnham's suit is ruptured.

SARU

Don't worry, the air is safe in this room.

Burnham tries to stand, but falls. Saru helps her stand, and they start to walk towards the center of the room.

SARU

We almost made it.

Vol appears from behind a desk, and fires a shot at Saru.

Saru drops Burnham as he ducks behind cover. Burnham slams into the ground, and drops her blaster. It slides along the ground.

Burnham starts to drag herself after it, as Vol continues to fire at Saru. As she's about to grab it, T'Lukma steps out. He smiles down at her, and kicks the blaster.

T'LUKMA

(Klingon)

Another weakling of the Federation.

He starts to point his blaster towards Burnham. A bolt then hits him in the chest. He appears shocked, and then another bolt hits in in the face.

Burnham turns around in shock. Saru stands there. He seems just as suprised.

Burnham scurries to the blaster. She picks it up, and fires it at Vol. It hits him directly in the cheek. He drops to the ground.

Saru and Burnham cry out in pain as he drops to the ground.

Saru runs back to Burnham, and helps her up off the ground. Saru then helps her limp to the G'Rau.

The center of the room stands out from the rest. While most of the room is the normal Klingon's architecture, the center is almost completely white. In the center there is a tiny black box, with various white holes cover it.

BURNHAM

The G'Rau.

SARU

Are you sure?

BURNHAM

Yeah, I am.

Burnham stops using Saru as a crutch. She limps over to the G'Rau, and places her hand on it.

Her eyes begin to rapidly change color.

SARU

Burnham, are you ok?

INT. ENGINEERING - DAY

Stammments stands at his station, typing buttons on the console. The Tardigrade sits in its container, and looks much more comfortable. Tilly looks up from her station at the Tardigrade, and then over to Stammments. Then back down to her station. A mix of embarrassment and sadness are spread across her face.

INT. G'RAU ROOM - DAY

Burnham takes her hand off of the G'Rau in shock.

BURNHAM
Tilly, Stammments.

SARU
Burnham?

Burnham grabs her head.

BURNHAM
Sorry, sorry.

Burnham has to sit down.

BURNHAM
The G'Rau works like a soul-graft.
Once the device scans a bio signature,
it forms something similar to a soul-
graft. We have to destroy it.

Burnham pauses, and pulls herself back up. Saru looks at her, dumbstruck.

SARU
What does that mean?

BURNHAM
It means that once someone uses it,
anyone who they have scanned, or they
know, could die if they die.

SARU
But with that kind of technology, the
Klingons...

BURNHAM
Could wipe out the entirety of Star
Fleet. It's likely that they didn't
know exactly what they had yet.

BURNHAM

Its likely that it also only works one way.

SARU

Then we need to destroy it immediatly.

Saru turns and starts to type on one of the consoles in the room. Burnham looks confused, and then pulls her blaster out.

Vol pops out from behind cover, and fires a few shots at Burnham. Burnham hits him with a stun blast.

Saru and Burnham drop to the ground, writhing in pain.

INT. ENGINEERING - DAY

Tilly, Stammers, and the others in the room drop to the ground. Stammers tries to pull himself up off the ground. The rest continue to writhe.

INT. USS DISCOVERY BRIDGE - DAY

Lorca, and the rest of the crew are slowly pulling themselves off the ground. They are in clear pain.

INT. G'RAU ROOM - DAY

Burnham and Saru finally get off of the ground. Saru starts to type on the console.

SARU

I can't seem to find a way to destroy it.

Burnham stares over the room, and zeroes in on a the body of Vol.

She walks over to him, and kneels down. She reaches down, and pulls out of a belt of grenades.

BURNHAM

We need to blow it up.

SARU

Excuse me?

BURNHAM

Its the only way.

SARU

We have no where to go, and with the
hole in your suit...

They both look down at her leg.

BURNHAM

If we allow this thing to exist, the
Kligon's will win. A thing like this
needs to be destroyed.

Saru contemplates this. He walks over to Burnham. They take
the gernades, and places them around the G'Rau. They then
step back. Burnham holds the trigger.

There is then a loud bang at the blast door. They both turn
to look at it. Klingon voices can be heard outside.

SARU

So how do we get out of here.

Burnham looks around.

BURNHAM

I don't think we do.

The two then look at each other.

INT. G'RAU ROOM - LATER

Five Klingons enter the room. The door hisses closed behind
them.

They all look over the room. There are no lights on in the
room.

KLINGON #2

Look for them.

Two of them move move towards the G'Rau.

They look over it. It seems to be safe.

A third moves towards a wall. He sees something on the
ground.

He picks it up, its a gernade.

KLINGON #3

What?

The grenades explode, sending fire and shrapnel flying through the room.

Burnham and Saru appear from behind cover. They start moving towards a large hole that has appeared in the wall.

The pressure in the room drops rapidly.

EXT. BENZAR SURFACE - DAY

Burnham and Saru exit the hole. Saru continues to help Burnham walk. Burnham is clearly struggling to breathe.

Burnham starts to cough as they move away from the station.

Saru places her on the ground.

SARU

Burnham, can you hear me?

Burnham is clearly unable to hear him, and appears to be unconscious. Saru pulls out a black device.

SARU

Lorca we've done it, Burnham needs medical assistance.

Saru looks up towards the heavens. Multiple Federation ships appear over the planet, and start to fire at the Klingon ships.

A golden light surrounds Burnham and Saru. The two then disappear.

INT. MEDICAL - DAY

Burnham walks up in bed. She sits up.

Saru walks into the room, and sees that Burnham is awake.

SARU

Ah, specialist Burnham.

He strides over to the side of her bed.

SARU

It is... good to see that you are well.

BURNHAM

What happened?

SARU
You're plan was a success.

BURNHAM
Oh that's good.

Saru appears to want to say something.

SARU
Even though, your presence on this ship is, in my opinion, ill advised it is good to see that you are safe.

BURNHAM
Thank you Saru.

Saru nods awkwardly, and leaves. Lorca enters, and walks past Saru. There is a mild look of disgust on his face for a brief second.

LORCA
Good work down there. I hope it all went well.

BURNHAM
Well we were able to destroy the G'Rau, so I think so.

LORCA
Not what I meant, but that's good.

Burnham appears confused. Lorca gets closer to her, on the edge of being uncomfortably close.

LORCA
I need to make sure that all of my crew can trust each other.

BURNHAM
I don't know if that worked, sir.

Lorca looks back towards where Saru was.

LORCA
Well, if thats the case that is unfortunate.

He looks back towards Burnham, a forced smile on his face.

LORCA
Get well, Specialist Burnham.

Lorca leaves, leaving Burnham alone with her thoughts.

INT. CULBER'S ROOM/HALLWAY-DAY

There is a knock on the door. Culber opens in, revealing Stammers standing in the hallway.

Stammers looks embarrassed.

STAMMENTS
Listen, I just wanted to say, well,
you see...

Culber tries to hide a smirk.

CULBER
Sorry?

STAMMENTS
Yeah that's it. Sorry.

Culber opens the door the rest of the way, allowing Stammers to enter.

STAMMENTS
I know I can be, difficult.

CULBER
Yes, yes you can.

Stammers sits down on the foot of one of the beds. Culber stands over him, his arms crossed.

STAMMENTS
So I just wanted to say, sorry.

CULBER
Hmmm, I see.

Stammers looks at Culber, pleading with him to forgive him.

STAMMENTS.
Hugh...

Culber starts to laugh.

CULBER
Yes, I forgive you. Just promise that
in the future if I attempt to keep you
safe, you won't stop me.

STAMMENTS

I do.

Culber looks uncovinned.

STAMMENTS

What, I do.

Culber laughs again, and the two kiss.

FADE OUT