

A large, faint watermark of the Star Trek logo is centered on the page. It features a stylized star with a central point, surrounded by a circular border with a scalloped edge. The words "STAR TREK" are written across the top of the logo.

S T A R T R E K

"WHOM GODS DESTROY"

Written by

Lee Erwin

Prod. #60043-
Series Created by:
Gene Roddenberry
Paramount TV Productions

FIRST DRAFT

September 5, 1968

(c) Copyright 1968 by PARAMOUNT PICTURES CORPORATION
and NORWAY CORPORATION
All rights reserved.

9/5/68

STAR TREK

"Whom Gods Destroy"

CAST

KIRK
SPOCK
McCOY
SCOTT
SULU
UHURA

GARTH
MARTA
CORY
ROMAN
TELLARITE (STUNT)
ANDORIAN (STUNT)

ENTERPRISE PERSONNEL (EXTRAS)
ELBA TWO INMATES (EXTRAS)

SETS

EXTERIORS:

SPACE
PLANET SURFACE (FOG)

INTERIORS:

ENTERPRISE BRIDGE
ENTERPRISE BRIEFING ROOM

ELBA CONTROL ROOM
ELBA DINING HALL
SECURITY CELLS & CORRIDOR
OTHER CORRIDORS

9/5/68

STAR TREK

"Whom Gods Destroy"

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 ENTERPRISE ORBITING PLANET - (STOCK) 1

KIRK'S VOICE
Captain's Log Star date One
Seven Four Point Three. The
Enterprise is orbiting Elba Two --
a planet with a poisonous atmosphere
where the Federation maintains a
penal colony for the few remaining
incorrigibles in the Galaxy.

2 INT. ELBA CONTROL ROOM 2

We see clouds of noxious appearing fog. CAMERA PULLS
BACK to disclose that we have been looking out through
a double-glassed window onto the outer atmosphere of the
planet. We have the SOUND of the materialization effect.

KIRK'S VOICE
(continuing)
I am transporting down with Mister
Spock for a routine visit with David
Cory, the Governor of the Colony.

Kirk and Spock materialize quite close to CORY, a cheer-
ful looking, round-faced, white-haired man. He beams at
them as they shake hands.

CORY
Gentlemen, you don't know what a
treat this is for me.

KIRK
(smiles)
Greetings, Governor Cory. It's
kind of you to invite us for dinner,
but we do have something of a time
problem.

Cory turns to a control panel and slowly engages a massive
switch.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

CORY
(chuckles)
Force Field's back in place,
Jim. You two are trapped here
until I choose to release you,
and I'm not accepting any excuses.

Kirk laughs, too, but Spock's expression is wooden as:

SPOCK
Your supply manifest indicated
one additional inmate since our
last visit, Governor, making a
total of fifteen. Is that correct?

CORY
It is.
(shakes head)
The rehabilitation program isn't
progressing too well, I'm afraid.

3 FAVORING KIRK

3

KIRK
A total of fifteen incurably insane
out of billions is not what I'd call an
excessive figure, David. Who is the
new inmate?

Cory presses a button and FOOTAGE OF GARTH appears on the
viewscreen.

4 INSERT - VIEWSCREEN

4

CORY'S VOICE
Garth.

5 BACK TO SCENE

5

Kirk's reaction to the name is one of shock.

SPOCK
Garth of Titan - the Star Ship
Commander?

CORY
(nods)
Garth of Titan -- the former
Star Ship Commander.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

KIRK

But -- he was one of my heroes when I was still a cadet. What happened?

CORY

A mental disease for which we've yet to find a cure. Garth was horribly maimed in an accident. When the people of Antos Four virtually rebuilt and restored him, he attempted to destroy the entire planet with all its inhabitants for no apparent reason. Naturally he wound up here.

KIRK

(shakes head; a beat)
I'd like to see him, David.

CORY

Of course.

6 INT. SECURITY CELL CORRIDOR - DAY

6

As Cory, Spock and Kirk move past the cells, it appears that there is nothing to stop the inmates from escaping. We learn that this is not so when a couple of the inmates (a Blue ANDORIAN and a pig-faced TELLARITE) hurl themselves at the visitors only to bounce back as if from an invisible wall. A very beautiful, very Green, and scantily dressed young girl (MARTA) smiles invitingly at Kirk as he passes her cell. (NOTE: Refer to "The Menagerie" for costume, makeup and hair.) Kirk looks at her compassionately and continues on. Finally, they pause before one of the cells.

CORY

Here's Garth. He's been unusually disturbed and we've had to impose additional restraints.

7 INT. CELL - DAY

7

A man is spread-eagled against the rear wall, suspended by unusual shackles, his chin resting on his chest. As he lifts his head, we see that he is Cory -- dishevelled, haggard and wild-eyed.

CORY

Kirk, you've been tricked!

8 REVERSE ANGLE - (OPTICAL TIEDOWN)

8

Momentarily stunned, Kirk and Spock turn to their companion. He has a phaser trained on them and, before their eyes, he changes into Garth, a tall, hawknosed man with deepset, glowing eyes. In the B.G. all the previously seen, supposedly restrained inmates are out of their cells. They're armed and they're converging on Spock and Kirk. Meanwhile:

GARTH

You said you wanted to see me,
Captain? Well, here I am.

Garth activates the phaser and Spock goes down, but Kirk is on top of Garth before Garth can get him, too. They struggle, but Kirk is overwhelmed by the madmen. The pig-faced Tellarite is trying to strangle him to death as we -

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

RODDENBERRY.COM

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

9 INT. CELL

9

When Kirk comes to, he finds himself sprawled on the floor of Cory's cell. The Governor registers relief as Kirk looks at him dazedly. (NOTE: Allow footage for credits.)

CORY

You're alive. I was afraid they'd finished you off.

Kirk swallows hard, licks his lips and his voice sounds hoarse as:

KIRK

I -- I thought it was a nightmare.

CORY

It is. But -- it's one that's actually happening.

Kirk suddenly recalls the beginning of the struggle.

KIRK

Spock! Is he dead?

CORY

I'm not sure. They dragged him away.

Kirk tries to release Cory but it's not possible.

10 ANOTHER ANGLE - FAVORING GARTH

10

He appears on the far side of the cell's invisible barrier. With him is the attractive, green-skinned girl, Marta. She seems fascinated by Kirk.

GARTH

(affably)

Your friend the Vulcan is still alive, Captain Kirk. My phaser was set to stun, not to kill. At the moment he's quite comfortable. Almost as comfortable as you and our esteemed Governor.

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

10

KIRK

Garth, what can you hope to gain by this?

GARTH

(coldly)

You will address me by my proper title!

KIRK

Sorry. I should have said Captain Garth, of course.

GARTH

(impatiently)

Star Ship Captain is merely one of my minor titles. I am Lord Garth and I lead the future masters of the Universe!

KIRK

(humoring him)

My apologies, Lord Garth.

GARTH

You, of course, think I'm a madman, don't you? But if so, why am I out here while you two are in there?

11 MED. SHOT

11

Garth roars with laughter at his own joke and Kirk forces a smile. The girl watches Kirk intently.

KIRK

That's a rather good point.

GARTH

Isn't it? I am, of course, the only sane man in a Galaxy run by lunatics. However, I intend to remedy that in short order. The Titans are destined to be the Master Race, Captain Kirk. When I return triumphantly from exile, they will rally to my cause.

KIRK

I doubt that. The Titans are peace-loving members of the Federation.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

GARTH

You earth people are a stiff-necked lot, aren't you? I'm afraid that subjugating you will not be enough. You must be confined, and all the peoples of the Galaxy who do not bow to my will must be confined or destroyed.

CORY

Garth, listen to me!

GARTH

Oh? Our beloved Governor has decided to address us, even though he has not received our permission to speak.

KIRK

Release him. Are you so afraid of him that you must keep him shackled?

Garth scowls at Kirk.

GARTH

I fear no one and you are all powerless against me.

KIRK

(sarcastically)

Brave words.

Marta turns and looks at Garth, a somewhat mocking smile on her face. Garth operates a remote control device that unlocks the shackles. Kirk catches Cory as Cory almost tumbles to the floor.

KIRK

Thank you. Now, let's talk until we can reach some agreement. Surely you must know that you can't hope to --

GARTH

Silence! The chatter of inferior men wearies me and it's time I took command of the Enterprise.

KIRK

(a beat)

You seriously propose to take command of my ship?

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: (2)

11

GARTH

Of course. The Enterprise is essential to my plan.

KIRK

I see. And just how do you intend to go about it?

GARTH

(smiles)

Like this.

As Kirk and Cory watch, horrified, Garth changes himself into a duplicate of Kirk. (Optical tiedown.) He savors Kirk's reaction for a moment and then strides o.s., grinning. The girl throws one last intense look at Kirk and then exits also.

12 FAVORING CORY

12

Kirk, pressing against the invisible wall, calls, but there's no response.

KIRK

(shouts)

Garth!...Garth!

(to Cory)

We've got to stop him.

CORY

We can't. And there is no help for any of us if that madman is in command of the Enterprise. He boasts that he's created the most powerful explosive in the Universe and I believe him.

KIRK

How does he manage to change form at will?

CORY

My theory is that it's a combination of several factors. Garth has a tremendous ego and a brain that is unique in the Galaxy. He may be a madman, but he was and is a genius.

KIRK

With a brain that's obsessed and twisted.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

CORY

But which nonetheless gave him the power. You see, his disease has placed him permanently in a world of fantasy but it also gave him the force needed to change his fantasies into reality, even if only partially and temporarily. I think now that he learned the secret during his restoration and recuperation on Antos Four. The Antos people restored his body but may inadvertently have done something to his mind.

KIRK

And you're saying that, in effect, he fantasizes that he's you or me and then makes the fantasy work?

CORY

Yes. A guard, seeing what he thought was me in Garth's cell, released him. That was all Garth needed.

KIRK

Where are the guards? What happened to your staff?

CORY

Dead -- all dead. Some of them were slaughtered by the madmen Garth released. The others were driven out of the colony dome while Garth sat in the control room and watched on the view screen. He -- he laughed as they slowly choked to death out there in the poisonous outer atmosphere. I can still hear that laugh. I guess I always will hear it. And yet, only days before, I was fool enough to hope for Garth's eventual rehabilitation.

13 FAVORING KIRK

13

He digests this slowly, then:

KIRK

You can't and mustn't blame yourself. There was no way of your anticipating what happened.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED:

13

CORY

Perhaps not. But it's easy to anticipate what's going to happen now. Garth and his followers are capable of destroying most of the Galaxy. Three weeks ago he tested his new explosive outside the dome and almost wiped out the entire colony by accident.

KIRK

David, listen to me. First Garth must take control of the Enterprise -- and -- I don't think he can do that.

14 INT. ELBA CONTROL ROOM - DAY

14

Garth (as Kirk) enters the control room. He's accompanied by several armed madmen but they obey him as, using his own voice: (LOOP)

GARTH (KIRK)

Remain here out of sight until I give the command for you to join me, fellow masters.

15 FAVORING GARTH

15

He uses the switch that deactivates the colony's force field. Then, using a console, he contacts the Enterprise. When he now speaks, it's with Kirk's voice.

GARTH (KIRK)

Kirk to Enterprise.

16 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE - FAVORING SCOTT

16

McCOY is with him and he and McCoy look pleased as Kirk's familiar face appears on the o.s. view screen.

SCOTT

Scott here, Captain.

17 ANGLE PAST SULU AT VIEW SCREEN (MATTE)

17

GARTH (KIRK)

Beam me aboard, Scotty.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

17

SCOTT'S VOICE
Yes, sir. Queen to Queen Three.

GARTH (KIRK)
How's that again?

18 ANGLE FAVORING SCOTT AND McCOY

18

SCOTT
I said, Queen to Queen Three.

GARTH (KIRK)
We have no time for chess problems
now. Beam me aboard!

Scott and McCoy look at each other uneasily.

SCOTT
(to view screen)
I'm following your orders, Captain.
Queen to Queen Three.

19 ANGLE ON VIEW SCREEN PAST SULU (MATTE)

19

GARTH (KIRK)
Just testing, Scotty.
(smiles suddenly)
I'll be in touch later.

The view screen goes blank.

20 INT. ELBA CONTROL ROOM - FAVORING GARTH (KIRK) - DAY 20

He switches the force field on again. Then, as even his
followers recoil, he goes into a frenzy -- overturning
tables, smashing chairs and, finally, hurling himself
to the floor. During all this, he howls like a rabid
wolf. As he lies on the floor, he changes form back to
Garth. (OPTICAL TIEDOWN)

21 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

21

Scott and McCoy look very worried as:

SCOTT
I gave him the sign, Doctor. Why
didn't he give me the countersign?

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

21

McCOY

There's something wrong.

SCOTT

Aye. Using the chess problem was the Captain's own suggestion. He couldn't have forgotten it and I can't believe he was testing me.

(to Uhura)

Re-establish communication.

22 ANOTHER ANGLE

22

They watch tensely as UHURA makes an unsuccessful attempt to raise Kirk. Finally:

UHURA

I'm sorry, sir. I can't get through.

SCOTT

I want an armed security team in the transporter room immediately. What do your sensors show, Mister Sulu?

23 ANGLE ON SULU

23

SULU looks up from his console.

SULU

We can't beam anybody down, sir. The force field down there is in full operation again and all forms of transport and communication are blocked off.

SCOTT

(grimly)

We can blast our way through the field but only at the risk of destroying the Captain, Mister Spock and all other living things on Elba Two.

McCOY

(bitterly)

Are we powerful enough to wipe out a planet and still so helpless?

SCOTT

There must be a way.

24 INT. ELBA CONTROL ROOM - DAY

24

Garth (now in his own form) is seated on the floor with his back to the others. He's staring straight ahead, seemingly in a catatonic stupor. Around him, his 'band' is having what passes for fun. One of them is huddled in the fetal position, his thumb in his mouth. Two of them are beating each other cruelly and mercilessly, but pausing between blows to laugh uproariously at what they are doing. Still another is writhing across the floor in the manner of a giant lizard.

25 FAVORING GARTH

25

The pig-faced Tellarite crouches in front of Garth, staring into Garth's unseeing, unblinking eyes. He reaches out to touch Garth, hesitates, and then finally prods him gingerly. There's no response. Emboldened, the Tellarite covers Garth's face with his paws and then turns to the others, seeking approbation. Garth's hand rises slowly and grasps a vital area in the Tellarite's throat. As the Tellarite snorts and gasps, convulsed by pain, Garth speaks and the others freeze.

GARTH

We are going to take the Star Ship Enterprise. Do you all hear me? We are going to take her if I have to slowly shatter every bone in Captain Kirk's body in order to do so.

HOLD and then slowly -

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

26 INT. SECURITY CELL AND CORRIDOR

26

Garth appears outside the cell containing Kirk and Cory. His manner is that of a solicitous host.

GARTH
Captain Kirk! I hope you haven't
been too uncomfortable?

KIRK
(shakes head)
All in all, I've found it rather
restful.

GARTH
Good. Still, I'm afraid I've
been quite remiss in my duties
as your host. I did invite you
down for dinner, as you may
recall.

KIRK
I'd almost forgotten.

GARTH
But I haven't. You and Mister
Spock are to be my guests.

KIRK
Where is Mister Spock?

GARTH
Right here.

27 ANGLE ON SPOCK

27

Garth beckons and Spock enters SCENE surrounded by an armed guard of madmen. The blue Andorian grinning, places his phaser against Spock's head, but he desists, pouting, as:

GARTH
Stop that! Mister Spock will
think we're lacking in hospitality!
(to Kirk)
Won't you join us, Captain?

28 FAVORING KIRK

28

Garth produces and activates a remote control device. Kirk tries the barrier, finds it's gone and moves out into the corridor. Garth "locks" the cell again, keeping Cory locked in.

KIRK

Nice to see you, Mister Spock.

SPOCK

Thank you, Captain.

KIRK

(to Garth)

Isn't Governor Cory dining with us?

GARTH

The Governor doesn't seem to be on the guest list.

KIRK

An oversight?

GARTH

An intentional one. He's fasting.

KIRK

Well, in that case, I'm afraid we must decline with thanks.

29 MED. SHOT

29

Garth, smiling, nods to his followers and Jim is driven to his knees by a blow from the rear. Spock tries to come to Kirk's aid but is overwhelmed by the others.

CORY

(anguished)

Don't be a fool, Jim! Go along with them.

GARTH

(beaming)

Good advice, Governor.

(to Kirk)

Well, Captain? We set a handsome table and I think you'll enjoy the entertainment we've provided.

KIRK

(groggily)

You're very persuasive.

30 FAVORING GARTH

30

He leers at Kirk.

GARTH

Oh, I am! I most certainly am!

31 INT. ELBA DINING HALL - FULL SHOT

31

The effect is that of a Roman banquet that is taking place in a madhouse. Some of the guests are pouring wine over their own heads while others are hurling portions of food at their neighbors.

32 FAVORING KIRK

32

He and Spock are cognizant of the fact that the Tellarite and the Andorian are always vigilantly at their backs. Kirk is also well aware of the fact that Marta is virtually fawning on him. Her startling combination of green skin and black hair do much to add to her physical beauty.

MARTA

(murmurs)

I'm not like the others here, Captain.

KIRK

No?

MARTA

Can't you tell? They're mad, all of them, but I'm not.

GARTH

Marta! Are you telling Captain Kirk that the Governor was arranging for your release?

MARTA

He was -- you know he was!

GARTH

Nonsense. He was merely humoring you because he enjoyed watching you dance.

(to Kirk)

She is a marvelous dancer, Captain.

(to Marta)

Why don't you dance for our guests, Marta, my dear?

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED:

32

The girl shakes her head sulkily, but she gets to her feet as:

GARTH
(continuing;
coldly)

That was not a request!

33 FAVORING MARTA

33

She glides over and sways back and forth before them. Her dance is, at first, sensuous but understated. She moves from man to man and the hubbub dies down as she attracts their avid attention. Building slowly, she eventually reaches a wildly abandoned pitch that leaves only Spock and Kirk unmoved; although in the case of the latter it requires some effort.

(NOTE: Use dance music from "Wolf In The Fold" for tempo track. We will post-score new arrangement to the tempo.)

34 KIRK, SPOCK AND GARTH

34

INTERCUT WITH ABOVE.

GARTH
Marvelous, isn't she, Captain?

KIRK
Incredible.

GARTH
What's your reaction, Mister Spock?

SPOCK
(deadpan)
I find it mildly interesting. Rather nostalgic, if I understand the meaning of that word.

GARTH
Nostalgic?

SPOCK
(nods)
It's reminiscent of the dances Vulcan children perform in nursery school. Although the children are, of course, not nearly so -- uh -- well-coordinated.

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED:

34

Kirk is amused but Garth looks rather dazed momentarily. Then, recovering, as the dance ends:

GARTH

She's yours, if you wish, Captain.

Marta has fallen to the floor before them, her eyes fixed on Kirk.

KIRK

(dryly)

You're most generous.

Garth motions to Marta. She rises and exits frame, obviously disappointed.

GARTH

You will find that I am generous to my friends -- and -- merciless to my enemies. I want you, both of you, to be my friends.

SPOCK

Upon what, precisely, will our friendship be based?

GARTH

Upon the firmest of foundations -- enlightened self-interest.

35 ANGLE ON GARTH

35

As Kirk and Spock exchange glances, Garth launches into an eloquent pitch:

GARTH

You, Captain, are second only to me as the finest star ship captain in the Galaxy.

KIRK

That's flattering -- but -- I'm primarily an explorer, Captain Garth.

GARTH

I, too. I have charted more new worlds than any man in history.

SPOCK

And tried to destroy Antos Four. Why?

(CONTINUED)

GARTH

(laughs)

I could say they were actively hostile to the Federation.

KIRK

But that would be completely untrue.

GARTH

Agreed. Actually they were harmless and they made me whole again when I was maimed and dying. But they had a secret of great value -- The ability to assume any form they pleased. Once I mastered this technique, they were of no further use to me.

Kirk looks as if he's going to be ill.

KIRK

How could you, a star ship commander, have believed that your crew would blindly obey an order to destroy the entire Antos race -- a people famous for their benevolence and peaceful pursuits?

GARTH

That was my only miscalculation. I had changed. I had risen above this decadent weakness which still has its hold on you, Captain, but my crew had not and I couldn't sway them.

SPOCK

Most fortunately.

GARTH

(hotly)

You both have eyes but you cannot see. Galaxies surround us! Limitless vistas and yet the Federation would have us grub away like ants in a somewhat larger than usual ant-hill. But I am not an insect. I am the Master of the Universe and I must claim my domain!

36 FAVORING KIRK

36

He attempts to get the discussion back onto a more rational level.

KIRK

I agree that there was a time for war and that you were our greatest warrior. I studied your victory at Axanar when I was a cadet. It's required reading at the academy.

GARTH

(proudly)

Which is as it should be.

KIRK

Very well. But my first visit to Axanar was as a new-fledged lieutenant with the peace mission.

GARTH

The peace mission. Politicians and weaklings.

KIRK

They were statesman and humanitarians and they had a dream -- a dream that has become a reality and has spread throughout the stars. A dream that has made Mister Spock and me brothers!

GARTH

(to Spock)

Do you feel that Captain Kirk is your brother?

SPOCK

(dryly)

Captain Kirk speaks figuratively and with undue emotion, but what he says is logical and I do, in fact, agree with it.

GARTH

Blind -- truly blind. Captain Kirk is your commander and you are his subordinate. And that is all. But you are a worthy commander in your own right, and in my fleet, you will assuredly have a star ship to command.

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED:

36

SPOCK

Forgive me, but exactly where is your fleet?

GARTH

Out there -- waiting for me -- they will flock to my cause for good reason. Limitless wealth, limitless power and solar systems ruled by the elite. We, gentlemen, are that elite and we must take what is rightfully ours from the decadent weaklings who now hold it. I offer you untold wealth and power!

37 ANGLE ON SPOCK

37

Spock is studying Garth in the manner of a scientist examining a rare germ.

SPOCK

Captain Garth --

GARTH

(cuts in)

Lord Garth!

SPOCK

If you wish. At any rate, you must be aware of the fact that you are attempting to repeat the disaster that resulted in you becoming an inmate of this place.

GARTH

I was betrayed and then treated barbarically.

SPOCK

On the contrary, you were treated justly and with a compassion you displayed toward none of your intended victims. Logically, therefore, it would --

38 ANGLE ON GARTH

38

He bounds to his feet with a strangled cry and he's practically frothing at the mouth. All other SOUND IN THE ROOM CEASES as Garth points a trembling fore-finger at Spock.

GARTH

Remove this animal!

39 FULL SHOT

39

As the inmates close in on Spock, Kirk attempts to intervene and the other inmates swarm all over him. He fights desperately, but they're on the verge of tearing him apart when:

GARTH
(shouts)

Enough!

Kirk's assailants release him but Spock is dragged from the room.

40 FAVORING GARTH

40

He instantly switches to a parody of the affable host as:

GARTH
Won't you try some of this wine, Captain? It has a robust, full-bodied quality I'm sure you'll find diverting.

KIRK
Thanks, but I prefer to join Mister Spock.

GARTH
And I prefer that you remain here.

(calls)
Marta! Please join us.

As Marta enters SCENE, Garth beams at her. Her eyes gleam as she looks at Kirk.

GARTH
(continuing)
We thought your little divertissement enchanting, didn't we, Captain? But there's more, much more. The entertainment has merely begun. By the way, I presume you play chess?

KIRK
Occasionally.

GARTH
So do I. How would you respond to Queen to Queen Three?

41 FAVORING KIRK

41

He smiles at Garth.

KIRK

There are, as you know, an infinite number of counter moves.

GARTH

I'm interested in only one.

KIRK

I can't, for the life of me, imagine which.

GARTH

(smiles silkily)

'For the life of me' is a well-chosen phrase. It could literally come to that, Captain.

KIRK

I doubt it. Dead I'm of no use to you at all.

GARTH

But I could make you long for death -- beg for death.

Suddenly, Marta speaks.

MARTA

(to Kirk)

Tell him what he wants to know.

KIRK

No.

MARTA

(urgently)

Tell him. For your own sake!

KIRK

I can't.

MARTA

I beg of you!

42 ANGLE ON GARTH

42

GARTH

(mild reproof)

Don't beg, Marta. It's degrading.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

42 CONTINUED:

42

GARTH (cont'd)

(to Kirk)

You'll talk freely, Captain, and quite soon. They're about to bring in the purgatory cage.

Marta recoils in horror.

MARTA

No! You mustn't do that!

GARTH

(coldly)

I am beginning to find you offensive, my dear. Don't make it necessary for me to put you in the cage.

She reacts with fear to this threat. Garth looks o.s. with evident delight.

43 FULL SHOT

43

The inmates are trundling in an ordinary-looking cage, barely large enough to contain a man standing erect. There is a man inside it, a stocky, swarthy earth man named ROMAN.

44 FAVORING GARTH

44

He studies the cage with paternal pride as:

GARTH

You see before you my latest invention, Captain. Quite ordinary in appearance, in fact, almost primitive, wouldn't you say?

KIRK

So it appears. However, I assume that it's really complex and intended to terrify.

GARTH

You're right, the appearance is most deceiving. Now -- I believe you'd agree that, throughout history, death by fire has been considered one of the most painful deaths imaginable. True?

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED:

44

KIRK

I -- uh -- don't think I'll argue the point.

GARTH

(cheerfully)

I don't think you can. A soul consigned to Hades was a soul consigned to the eternal torment of the flames. I have created my own small hell right here.

KIRK

Who is the man in that cage?

GARTH

(impatiently)

He is of no consequence. He had his chance to join me and he refused.

(calls out)

Would you like to change your mind now, Roman?

45 ANOTHER ANGLE

45

ROMAN

(sullenly)

You're a madman and a murderer, Garth.

GARTH

(to Kirk)

You see? Governor Cory had high hopes for Roman's rehabilitation, so, obviously, Roman's a worthless weakling.

KIRK

Let him go.

GARTH

Queen to Queen Three?

When Kirk merely shakes his head:

GARTH

(continuing)

Well -- to continue. The problem of consigning a man to the fire as a means of conversion or of obtaining information from him lay in the fact that the flames destroyed him eventually.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

45 CONTINUED:

45

GARTH (cont'd)
I have solved that problem by
the further extension of a
basic electronic principle.

Garth produces a remote control unit and points it at
the cage.

46 FAVORING ROMAN (OPTICAL TIE-DOWN)

46

He cries out and writhes with pain as the cage glows
red, flames leap from it and he becomes apparently one
huge burning coal. Even the inmates recoil from the
sight and the sound of his torment.

47 FAVORING KIRK

47

He's horrified.

GARTH
(chattily)
Interesting, isn't it? The pain
is real and it can be prolonged
indefinitely because there is no
actual destruction of tissue.

KIRK
(hoarsely)
Stop it!

GARTH
Of course, Captain. You have
but to ask.

Garth de-activates the device and Roman, sobbing,
sinks to the floor of the cage.

GARTH
(continuing)
You can see that he is unharmed
physically. But the memory of
the exquisite torment remains.
Queen to Queen Three?

KIRK
No!

GARTH
(sighs)
Too bad.
(calls)
Remove Roman and put Captain
Kirk in the purgatory cage.

48 MED. SHOT

48

Kirk springs at Garth and they go down together. Kirk is trying to kill Garth with his bare hands as the other inmates descend on them.

49 FAVORING KIRK

49

The other inmates manage to save Garth from Kirk. They then go to work on Kirk. Marta tries to intervene, but she's swept aside as Kirk is overwhelmed by the enraged ex-prisoners. They drag him to the cage, pull Roman out of it and throw Kirk in.

50 FAVORING GARTH

50

He activates the device and sits back, relishing the sight of Kirk's torture.

51 FAVORING KIRK (OPTICAL TIE-DOWN)

51

He's in anguish as we:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

RODDENBERRY.COM

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

52 ENTERPRISE ORBITING PLANET - (STOCK) 52

53 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE 53

Scott and McCoy are part of the almost unbearable tension that pervades the room.

SCOTT
(to Uhura)
No breakthrough?

UHURA
No, sir. Communications still blocked by force field.

SCOTT
(to Sulu)
Sensor readings?

SULU
Force field weakest on obverse side of planet, sir. We can beam down a team in environmental suits.

McCOY
It won't work, Scotty. They'd have to cover almost fourteen thousand miles through a poisonous atmosphere before they'd even arrive at the colony dome.

SCOTT
(slowly)
You're right. Even if they made it, they couldn't carry anything powerful enough to break the colony dome. Only the ship herself can do that.

McCOY
And probably kill Jim and Spock.

SCOTT
(a beat)
Doctor, they may already be dead.

As McCoy reacts, we

CUT TO:

54 INT. ELBA DINING HALL - FAVORING KIRK (OPTICAL
TIEDOWN) 54

Kirk is still inside the purgatory cage. He's writhing in torment as he's seemingly being consumed by flames. Still no sound escapes his lips as:

55 FAVORING GARTH 55

He's enjoying every agonizing moment.

GARTH
Queen to Queen Three, Captain
Kirk?

56 FULL SHOT - (INTERCUT) 56

Reactions are mixed among the inmates. Some mirror Garth's attitude while others are bored by (or indifferent to) the horrible sight. A scant few are appalled by it and Marta is one of these last.

57 FAVORING MARTA 57

She makes her way to Garth's side and:

MARTA
Stop it -- please!

GARTH
(grins)
You want him, don't you?

MARTA
Yes. Yes - yes!

GARTH
Badly enough to join him in there?

MARTA
My Lord Garth, listen to me!
I can get him to tell me what you
wish to know!

58 FAVORING GARTH 58

Garth's smile broadens.

GARTH
A most interesting suggestion.

He watches Kirk in his torment for a moment longer and then, with obvious reluctance, turns off the purgatory cage.

59 TIGHT ON KIRK (OPTICAL TIEDOWN)

59

Kirk is drowning in a sea of flames. Then the flames die down abruptly as Kirk loses consciousness.

60 INT. ELBA DINING HALL - CLOSE ON WINE GOBLET

60

Wine is poured from a carafe into the goblet. We PULL BACK to disclose Marta. She brings the goblet to Kirk's lips as he regains consciousness. He drinks thirstily. Kirk lies on a divan. The cage is gone and they are alone.

MARTA
(tenderly)

Slowly, my darling, slowly.

Kirk shudders as memory returns to him.

KIRK

I - I was being burned to death.
What happened?

MARTA

I begged Garth for your life.

KIRK

Where is he -- where are the others?

MARTA

Rest. You've suffered more than anyone else could bear.

She takes his hand, kisses it gently and then strokes his face lovingly.

61 FAVORING KIRK

61

He studies her quizzically.

KIRK

Is this more of Garth's persuasion, Marta? First pain, then pleasure?

MARTA

(readily)

I told him I would discover your secret. I lied. I would have told him anything to save you from the torment.

(CONTINUED)

61 CONTINUED:

61

KIRK

(a beat)

I think you mean that.

MARTA

I do.

She leans forward and embraces him. After a moment, his arms enfold her, too. She clings to him as:

MARTA

(sighs)

This is where I've longed to be.
I think I knew I loved you the
first moment I saw you.

Kirk disengages himself gently.

KIRK

Then help me, Marta. I must
return to the Enterprise.

MARTA

It's not possible.

KIRK

There's a way -- I know there is.
If I can get to the control room
and remove the force field, Garth
is finished.

MARTA

Garth is too powerful.

KIRK

(shakes head)

He's a madman. A genius, perhaps,
but still a madman.

62 ANOTHER ANGLE

62

As Kirk tries to rise from the divan, he sways and almost collapses.

MARTA

I will help you but you must wait.
Can't you see that?

Kirk is groggy but he still tries to pull himself erect.

KIRK

There's no time -- no time...

(CONTINUED)

62 CONTINUED:

62

He allows Marta to ease him back onto the divan as:

MARTA

You mustn't try to leave now.
Your friend Spock will soon be
here. I've arranged it.

KIRK

How did you do that?

MARTA

(shrugs)

A convincing lie told to a guard
who finds me desirable.

KIRK

Marta, let me help you, too.
If I can get away from Garth,
aboard the --

She silences him with a kiss and he doesn't fight it.
When they separate, she's breathing hard.

MARTA

(strangely intense)

There is a way -- a way in which
we can be together always. Where
Garth cannot harm us. Trust me
and believe in me, my darling.

63 FAVORING MARTA

63

She kisses him again, clutching at him with almost animal intensity. At the same time, one of her hands steals beneath the cushions of the divan. It emerges with a long, thin, wicked-looking knife. As she presses her cheek against his, her eyes are closed dreamily, but her knife hand starts to descend. The point of the knife is aimed at Kirk's back. Then, just as she's about to bury the blade in him, Kirk twists suddenly and disarms her. Agile as a cat, she whirls to the dining table and grabs another knife. As she's about to throw it at Kirk, Spock enters and clamps his hand over her wrist. Marta's eyes are shining and she sounds sweetly reasonable as:

MARTA

(to Spock, reproachfully)

You mustn't stop me. He is my
lover and so I must kill him.

(CONTINUED)

63 CONTINUED:

63

She claws at Spock suddenly, going for his eyes. He evades this and his free hand presses a nerve that renders her unconscious.

SPOCK

(dead-pan)

Apparently she has worked out an infallible method for ensuring permanent male fidelity. Interesting.

64 FAVORING KIRK

64

KIRK

I'm awfully glad to see you, Mister Spock.

SPOCK

Thank you, Captain. We now have a phaser and I presume we will try to reach the control room.

KIRK

You presume correctly.

As they start off, Kirk staggers slightly and Spock steadies him.

KIRK

(continuing)

I'll be all right.

Moving carefully, they exit.

65 INT. CORRIDOR OUTSIDE DINING HALL (REDRESS CELL CORRIDOR)

65

Kirk and Spock cautiously emerge from the dining hall. They duck back in, just in time, as a group of the inmates passes. Then they emerge again.

KIRK

The control room will be guarded.

SPOCK

Then we'll blast our way in.

Kirk, surprised, glances at Spock briefly.

KIRK

(a beat)

Only if it's absolutely necessary, Mister Spock. Meanwhile, set that phaser on stun rather than kill.

(CONTINUED)

65 CONTINUED:

65

SPOCK

Yes, Captain.

66 SHOT

66

They continue, taking advantage of available cover. Suddenly they run into two prisoners. There is a quick struggle -- neither Kirk nor Spock have time to use their phasers, but their opponents are easily taken care of.

67 CLOSE SHOT - TELLARITE GUARD

67

He stands guard outside the Control Room door.

68 FULL SHOT - CORRIDOR OUTSIDE CONTROL ROOM

68

as Kirk and Spock enter the corridor leading to the control room. The Tellarite guard, seeing them, takes aim with his phaser. But Spock is quicker and the guard, stunned, falls. Kirk scoops up the guard's phaser and they conceal his body before entering the room.

69 INT. ELBA CONTROL ROOM - DAY

69

Kirk leads the way as they burst into the room, but they find the place deserted. Spock moves to the master switch and throws it.

SPOCK

Force field is now off, Captain.

70 FAVORING KIRK

70

at the console.

KIRK

Kirk to Enterprise. Kirk to Enterprise!

71 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE - FAVORING SCOTT

71

He's galvanized into sudden and happy action as:

UHURA

Mister Scott! It's the Captain!

(CONTINUED)

71 CONTINUED:

71

Scott whirls around to the view screen as Kirk's face appears on it.

SCOTT

Scott here, Captain. You had us worried, Jim!

KIRK

I want a fully armed security team here, Scotty, on the double.

72 INT. ELBA CONTROL ROOM - DAY

72

SPOCK

No! Have him beam us aboard!

Kirk turns to face an obviously agitated Mr. Spock.

KIRK

Mister Spock!

Spock struggles for self-control but his face is twisted with anger as:

SPOCK

Exchange the sign and countersign with him. The patrol can wait until we're safely on the Enterprise.

SCOTT'S VOICE

(filter)

Are you all right, Captain?

KIRK

(to console)

Stand by, Scotty.

73 FAVORING KIRK

73

Kirk studies Spock thoughtfully for a moment and then:

KIRK

Very well, Spock. But -- why don't you do it?

SCOTT'S VOICE

(filter)

Queen to Queen Three. Repeat -- Queen to Queen Three.

(CONTINUED)

73 CONTINUED:

73

SPOCK

(angrily)

Give him the proper reply,
Captain.

Kirk steps back a pace and levels his phaser at
Spock.

KIRK

You're not Spock at all, are
you? You're Garth.

74 ANGLE ON GARTH (OPTICAL TIE-DOWN)

74

He changes from Spock to Garth before our eyes and
he glares malignantly at Kirk as he menaces Kirk
with his phaser.

GARTH

(sneering)

Blast away, Captain, if you can.
Do you think I'm fool enough to
let you have a loaded phaser?

75 TWO SHOT

75

As Kirk pulls the trigger and nothing happens, Garth
uses the switch that reactivates the force field.

KIRK

Where is Spock? What have you
done to him?

GARTH

Nothing as yet, Captain, but
I do have plans for him. The
Vulcan will die rather horribly
and his death will be on your
conscience.

Kirk is desperate but his eloquence also rests on
deep conviction throughout the following scenes.

KIRK

Captain Garth --

GARTH

Lord Garth.

(CONTINUED)

75 CONTINUED:

75

KIRK

No, sir. Captain, Star Ship
Captain, is an honored title
and it was once yours.

GARTH

(mollified)

And I was the greatest of them
all, wasn't I?

KIRK

You were, but now you're a sick
man.

GARTH

(bristling)

I've never been more healthy.

KIRK

Part of your illness is the
fact that you don't recognize
it. Think. Think back. Try
to remember what you were like
before the accident that sent
you to Antos Four.

76 FAVORING GARTH

76

He is, for the first time, hesitant and uncertain
and, therefore, more human.

GARTH

I -- I can't remember. It's
-- almost as if I died and was
reborn.

KIRK

But I remember, even though
we'd never met. You were the
finest of the star ship captains,
You were the prototype, the model
for the rest of us.

GARTH

(slowly)

Yes -- I do remember that. It
was a great responsibility but
one I was proud to bear.

(CONTINUED)

76 CONTINUED:

76

KIRK

And you bore it well. Captain Garth -- the disease that changed you is not your fault and you're not truly responsible for the terrible things you've done since then.

GARTH

I -- I don't want to hear any more of this. You -- you're weak and you're trying to drain me of my strength.

KIRK

No! I want you to find what you once had. I want you to go back to the greatness you lost.

77 ANOTHER ANGLE

77

For a moment it seems that Kirk has won. Garth half turns away and Kirk takes a step toward him. But Garth wheels on Kirk, his phaser ready, and the mad glint is once again in his eye.

GARTH

I am Lord Garth, Master of the Universe. You doubt me only because I have not yet had my coronation.

KIRK

(despairingly)

Listen to me -- !

GARTH

(continuing)

The others failed but I will not. Alexander, Lee Kuan, Napoleon, Caesar, Kronos of Desparta, Hitler -- all of them are dust but I will triumph -- I will make the ultimate conquest!

HOLD for Kirk's reaction and then:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

78 INT. ELBA DINING HALL - FULL SHOT - DAY

78

All of Garth's followers, with the exception of the two guarding Kirk, are busily transforming the dining hall into something vaguely resembling a throne room. Garth is happy as a child playing games and his attention is divided between Kirk and his minions.

79 FAVORING GARTH

79

GARTH

(calls)

The throne must be higher -- higher than anything else. Use that table as a pedestal.

(to Kirk)

I know that even a real throne is merely a chair but the symbolism is important. Don't you agree?

KIRK

By all means. You intend to wear a crown, I presume?

GARTH

Again, just as a token. Not impressive in itself but it will serve as a standard around which my followers will rally.

KIRK

Your followers are a handful of men and all of them are dangerously ill.

GARTH

(smiles)

Others have begun with less, but none have reached so far as I.

(calls)

Good. Very good. Now I will want a royal carpet for my feet. That cloth will do nicely.

(to Kirk)

The tread of my feet will sanctify it.

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED:

79

KIRK

And it will still be a cloth,
stained by food and wine. That's
all.

GARTH

My dear Captain, you do refuse
to enter into the spirit of the
thing, don't you? Would you
prefer a larger role in the
ceremony? You could serve as a
human sacrifice, for example.

KIRK

I think we'd both find me more
useful alive.

GARTH

That's true... All right. How
about crown prince? That would
make you my heir apparent.

KIRK

(shakes head)

I'm not part of the family.
Who were they again? Alexander,
Hitler, Lee Kuan, Ghengis Khan
and so forth?

GARTH

Ghengis Khan. I'd forgotten
about him. Heir apparent, I
believe, that's the proper role
for you. Besides, I have
other candidates in mind for
my human sacrifice.

80 ANOTHER ANGLE

80

Garth hurriedly exits and Kirk looks at his guards.
Kirk makes a tentative move, but he subsides as they
menace him with their phasers.

81 FULL SHOT

81

Garth makes a triumphant entry. A very subdued Marta
is on one arm and a metal crown is tucked beneath the
other. They slowly proceed along the royal carpet and
then mount to the throne. His followers drop to
their knees as the couple passes.

82 FAVORING GARTH

82

He signals for his followers to rise.

GARTH

(grandly)

Since there is no one mighty enough to perform the ceremony, I will perform it myself. Therefore, I hereby proclaim that I am Lord Garth, the Master of the Universe.

He places the crown upon his own head.

GARTH

(continuing)

And I designate my beloved Marta to be my consort.

He kisses her chastely on the forehead, disregarding the fact that she shrinks in terror from his touch.

GARTH

(continuing)

And I also designate Captain James Kirk of the Star Ship Enterprise as my heir apparent.

Garth seats himself in the throne and then signals for the guards.

GARTH

(continuing)

And now remove my beloved consort and my heir apparent from our presence so that they may conclude their vital roles in this ritual.

83 ANOTHER ANGLE

83

as Kirk's guards prod him to his feet; other guards surround Marta and she begins to keen -- an eerie, wailing dirge that chills the blood.

84 INT. ELBA CONTROL ROOM - DAY

84

Kirk is alone in the control room -- except for the Tellarite and the Andorian, armed with phasers, who are guarding him.

(CONTINUED)

84 CONTINUED:

84

KIRK
(urgently)
Listen to me. This may be
your only chance.

They watch him, as expressionless as statues.

KIRK
(continuing)
Garth will destroy all of us
if you don't help me stop him.
He's using you. All he wants
is power for himself.

Kirk moves toward the controls and his guards merely
continue to watch him.

KIRK
(continuing)
If I can get a patrol in here,
Garth will be finished and all
of us will be safe again.

As Kirk's hand touches the master switch, one of the
guards emotionlessly clubs him with a phaser and Kirk
goes down, stunned.

85 FAVORING GARTH

85

He enters, carrying a small flask that's packed with
glittering crystals. Kirk's eyes are open but he's
still weak from the punishment he has absorbed.

GARTH
(to guards)
Well done.
(to Kirk)
You will continue to resist,
Captain. How stupid of you.
(to guards)
Put him in that chair. I've
arranged a small entertainment
and I do not want him to miss
any of it.

86 ANOTHER ANGLE

86

The guards place Kirk in the indicated chair and Garth
turns on a switch that activates the view screen.
The picture that appears shows the deadly, desolate
wasteland outside the dome and the poisonous fog which
permeates the atmosphere.

87 ANGLE ON GARTH

87

He holds the crystal-packed flask directly in front of Kirk's staring eyes.

GARTH

Even you must admit that I am a genius, Captain. What you see here is my latest invention.

He tosses the flask in the air and catches it with one hand.

GARTH

(continuing)

This is an explosive, Captain, the most powerful one in history. If I were to drop this flask, the resulting explosion would vaporize not only this planet, but even the Enterprise out there in orbit thousands of miles away would be destroyed.

Garth studies Kirk for a moment.

GARTH

(continuing)

Now do you see how ridiculous it is for you to resist me?

(a beat)

Well -- perhaps you require the demonstration I have arranged. Look.

He points to the view screen and then presses a button.

88 ANGLE ON VIEW SCREEN

88

The view of the foggy planet surface switches to another area as a pair of guards are driving Marta down a corridor. The Guards wear Environmental Suits as established in "The Tholian Web".

GARTH'S VOICE

(over)

True, she's as deadly as a poisonous serpent, Captain, but she is a beautiful woman and you have held her in your arms.

89 FAVORING KIRK

89

He's trying to fight his way out of his temporary paralysis but it's impossible.

GARTH

I've ordered my men to drive the poor child from the colony and she could of course choke to death on the outside in a matter of minutes. But I've also arranged a more merciful end for her, because she is, after all, my consort. One tiny crystal is affixed to her body -- a portion of this explosive no bigger than a grain of sand. I propose to detonate it from here.

He activates a button on his view screen control again.

91 ANGLE ON VIEW SCREEN

91

Marta stumbles into view on the surface of the planet. The guards hastily retreat and Marta attempts to return but she can't. Then she clutches at her throat gasping for air, and her face contorts in a soundless scream. She stares straight into CAMERA, beseechingly.

92 BACK TO GARTH AND KIRK

92

GARTH

Poor girl. Poor dear suffering child. I will help you -- now!

He presses another button and there is a flash of light which emanates from the view screen, followed a second later by the SOUND of an immense explosion. CAMERA SHAKES violently.

93 CLOSEUP - KIRK

93

He reacts with horror and anguish.

CUT TO:

94 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE

94

SULU

(urgently)

Mister Scott! There's been an explosion on Elba Two!

Scott, with McCoy at his elbow, hurries to a sensor.

(CONTINUED)

94 CONTINUED:

94

SCOTT
(reading)
Point Nine Five!

McCOY
(stricken)
That must have wiped out
everything!

SCOTT
Immediate probe, Mister Sulu.

Sulu probes the planet below and the tension builds
until:

SULU
Life continues to exist, Mister
Scott.

SCOTT
Is the force field in place?

SULU
Yes, sir. Solidly.

SCOTT
(hopelessly)
Then we still can't beam down
or transport up.

95 INT. ELBA CONTROL ROOM - FAVORING KIRK - DAY

95

Kirk's almost completely recovered and he watches,
trying to remain calm as Garth plays with the deadly
flask.

GARTH
(suddenly)
Here!

He tosses the flask to one of the guards and the man
juggles it and almost drops it. Garth laughs uproari-
ously and so do the guards. The first guard tosses
the flask to the second one, who barely manages to
catch it.

GARTH
(continuing -
laughing)
How are your nerves, Captain?

(CONTINUED)

95 CONTINUED:

95

KIRK

(steadily)

If it happens to me, it happens to you, too, Garth. That's all I want to know.

Garth, scowling, retrieves the flask and he juggles it carelessly as:

GARTH

You're an extraordinary fellow, Kirk. Your stubbornness defies all logic.

(a beat)

Logic. There's the key. Your friend Spock is a logical man. A very logical man.

(to the guards)

Go and bring the Vulcan here to me.

96 INT. CELL - DAY

96

The guards enter scene and discover Spock stretched out on the floor, apparently unconscious or dead. They approach him cautiously, but not cautiously enough. Spock, suddenly coming to life, grabs one of the guards. Using his enormous strength, he lifts the first guard and easily throws him at the other, knocking him down. Neither one rises. Spock retrieves a phaser and exits.

97 INT. CONTROL ROOM - FAVORING GARTH - DAY

97

phaser in hand, he's haranguing Kirk.

GARTH

Spock is not only a more logical man than you, Captain, but a more intelligent one, I'm sure. Therefore, I will be able to establish a rapport with --

He breaks off as he HEARS a peculiar buzz from the monitor. He activates the screen.

98 ANGLE ON VIEW SCREEN

98

Spock, armed with the guard's phaser, is moving down the corridor heading toward the Control Room.

(CONTINUED)

98 CONTINUED:

98

GARTH'S VOICE OVER
 Fascinating. Your Vulcan friend
 is an ingenious fellow. This
 could be most amusing.

99 INT. CORRIDOR OUTSIDE CONTROL ROOM - FAVORING SPOCK 99
 - DAY

He runs into some of the inmates. Spock doesn't hesitate long. He quickly phaser stuns both of them. Then he heads for the Control Room door.

100 CLOSE SHOT - SPOCK 100

He listens at the door, phaser ready. Suddenly, the door opens!

101 REVERSE - FAVORING SPOCK 101

Spock is prepared for anything except, possibly, the sight that brings him up short -- blinking in surprise.

102 INT. CONTROL ROOM - SPOCK'S P.O.V. (OPTICAL TIE-DOWN) 102

Two Captain Kirks are waiting for him! (SPLIT SCREEN SHOT)

KIRK (A)
 (urgently)
 That's Garth. Blast him!

KIRK (B)
 Hold it, Spock. The madman
wants you to shoot me.

KIRK (A)
 Look at us carefully, Spock.
 I'm your captain, you can see
 that.

SPOCK
 (a beat)
 Queen to Queen Three.

KIRK (B)
 I won't answer that. It's the
 thing he wants to know.

(CONTINUED)

102 CONTINUED:

102

KIRK (A)

Very clever, Garth. You said exactly what I would have said.

Spock, keeping both Kirks under the gun, crosses to the master switch.

KIRK (B)

What are you doing?

SPOCK

Arranging to beam down a patrol. Are there any objections?

KIRK (A)

Yes! They may walk into a trap. Garth's capable of wiping out this entire planet.

KIRK (B)

Garth can destroy this planet, Spock.

Spock hesitates and then backs off -- moving away from the master switch as:

KIRK (A)

And you are Garth!

(to Spock)

Shoot! That's an order, Mister Spock.

103 FAVORING SPOCK

103

He hesitates and then trains his phaser on Kirk (B).

KIRK (B)

He's right, Spock. You must shoot -- but -- you must shoot both of us. It's the only way to ensure the safety of the Enterprise.

Spock whirls on Kirk (A) before Kirk (B) has quite finished talking, but he's already too late. Kirk (A) whips out a hidden phaser and Spock goes down -- stunned. Kirk (A) wheels on Kirk (B), but Kirk (B) is in motion, and he hits Kirk (A), sending the phaser spinning from his hand.

104 MED. SHOT

104

They fight, both men masters at hand-to-hand combat and each trying to destroy the other. Desperate efforts are made to recapture one of the phasers, but each time the effort is thwarted. Finally, one of the men is being driven steadily back, staggering, rubber-legged and ready to collapse. With his last bit of strength, he lunges for the flask of deadly explosive. He gets it, wheels to throw it and then collapses before he can do so. His opponent, lunging, catches the flask just in time.

105 ANOTHER ANGLE

105

The survivor, almost out on his feet, carefully replaces the flask. Then he throws the master switch and contacts the Enterprise.

KIRK (B)

Kirk to Enterprise.

Spock stirs, comes to and gropes for a phaser.

106 INT. ENTERPRISE BRIDGE - FAVORING SCOTT

106

He's a study in mixed emotions as he sees the familiar face on the view screen.

SCOTT

Enterprise here. Queen to Queen Three.

KIRK

Queen to King One.

A broad smile crosses Scott's face and McCoy pounds him on the back.

107 INT. CONTROL ROOM - FAVORING KIRK - DAY

107

Spock, greatly relieved, lowers the phaser he has trained on Kirk. They look o.s. at the "other Kirk".

108 THEIR P.O.V. (OPTICAL TIE-DOWN)

108

The unconscious Garth resumes his true form.

109 BACK TO KIRK AND SPOCK

109

Battered, bruised and exhausted -- Kirk smiles.

DISSOLVE TO:

110 EXT. SPACE - (STOCK)

110

The Enterprise orbits the planet.

111 INT. BRIEFING ROOM - (OPTICAL TIE-DOWN)

111

Kirk is watching the Triangular Viewscreen on which we see the smiling visage of Governor Cory in the Elba Control Room. Kirk sits in front of a Triangular Chess Game. Engineer Scott sits opposite him. Spock and McCoy stand nearby, interested spectators.

CORY

... and with the auto-therapy developed by the scientists of Antos IV, I think we can anticipate a complete rehabilitation for Commander Garth... and the other prisoners.

KIRK

That's good news, sir.

CORY

Yes, Captain... and thank you.

He looks intently out at Kirk and then his image fades out on the viewscreen.

McCOY

Jim, maybe someday there won't be any more penal colonies anywhere in the galaxy.

KIRK

Well, Bones, we're getting closer to that "someday" all the time.

(to Scotty)

Scotty, your last move was Queen to Queen three?

SCOTT

(eagerly)

Aye, Captain... that it was.

Kirk hesitates, indecisively. Spock clears his throat.

SPOCK

(almost eagerly)

Captain...

(CONTINUED)

111 CONTINUED:

111

KIRK

(bemused)

Yes, Mister Spock.

SPOCK

If I recall correctly, your previous counter to that move was Queen to King One.

McCOY

Spock, I don't think that...

KIRK

(cuts him off)

That's right, Spock. So it was.

(moves chess piece)

Queen to King One.

Scotty has hardly been able to contain himself, waiting for that very move. He moves one of his pieces.

SCOTT

Then this little lady is mine.

(takes Kirk's piece off)

Check, Captain!

Scotty turns and grins up at McCoy and Spock.

McCOY

Scotty...

Kirk doesn't hesitate very long. He makes his move deliberately.

KIRK

(quietly)

Checkmate.

Scotty, unbelievably, looks at the board. Spock raises an eyebrow.

SCOTT

But... but...

KIRK

Engineer Scott, if you and Mr. Spock will excuse me... I have some rather pressing duties to attend to on the bridge...
Coming, Doctor?

(CONTINUED)

111 CONTINUED: (2)

111

McCoy seems seized with a sudden fit of choking as he follows Kirk to the door. Scott turns to Spock.

SCOTT

Mister Spock!

SPOCK

If you'll excuse me, Mr. Scott
... I just remember that I, too
... have some unfinished business
... elsewhere...

Spock exits hastily, leaving Scott alone, highly suspicious.

112 EXT. SPACE - (STOCK)

112

The Enterprise leaves its orbit about the planet and heads away into the outer reaches of the galaxy as we:

FADE OUT.

THE END

RODDENBERRY.COM