

Star Trek Continues

Episode 2
LOLANI

teleplay by

Paul Bianchi
and
Huston Huddleston

story by

Huston Huddleston & Vic Mignogna

1 EXT. USS ENTERPRISE 1

The Enterprise moves silently through space. We push in through a bright porthole and into...

2 INT. KIRK'S QUARTERS 2

KIRK is resting, reading an ancient Earth book. He notices that his eyesight is not what it once was...he checks his light, leans closer to the page, then moves it farther away. That's better.

The Intercom signals.

KIRK
Yes, lieutenant.

UHURA (O.C.)
We've received a distress signal from an unidentified vessel. Mr. Spock has requested your presence on the bridge.

KIRK
On my way.

He gets out of the chair and sets his book down. He stands and looks back at the book.

KIRK (CONT'D)
(To the book)
We'll continue this later.

Kirk exits.

3 INT. BRIDGE 3

The turbo lift doors open and Kirk enters. SPOCK, SULU, UHURA, SCOTT, and an ENSIGN are all at their stations. He stops by UHURA en route to his chair.

KIRK
Uhura, Any new information.

UHURA
Nothing new, sir. The signal is automated. Contact has been made.

Kirk sits.

KIRK
Mr. Sulu?

SULU
The ship is coming into range now,
sir.

The ship appears drifting on screen.

SPOCK
The vessel is Tellarite in design.
A G'bugoff-class transport.

KIRK
There should be a crew.

SPOCK
Scanning, I read a single life-
sign. Vitals are erratic. Life
support systems are failing.

KIRK
Understood. Have sickbay at the
ready.

SPOCK
It may not be prudent to beam an
unknown life form aboard.

KIRK
That's a risk we'll have to take,
Mr. Spock.

Hits the intercom.

Transporter room, beam the life-
sign aboard as soon as you have a
lock. Spock, care to join me?

They both head toward the turbolift.

KIRK
Mr. Scott, you have the
bridge.

SPOCK
Mr. Scott, you have the
bridge.

Kirk and Spock enter the turbolift, and as the door closes:

KIRK (CONT'D)
(with a wink)
That was strange.

A crewman, KENWAY, works the transporter controls. A huddled
form begins to materialize on the transporter platform.

The camera stays on Kenway as he slowly moves around the console. He is awestruck by what he sees.

5

INT. CORRIDOR

5

Kirk and Spock exit the turbolift and make their way to the transporter room.

SPOCK
Jinx, Captain?

KIRK
Jinx, Mr. Spock. It's a word people
used to shout out when they said
the same thing at the same time.

SPOCK
Indeed. The life form could not be confirmed as Tellarite, but knowing the volatile nature of that species, I would recommend-

Caution.

Caution. SPOCK

Jinx? SPOCK (CONT'D)

KIRK
See? You've got it already.

They reach the door to the transporter room. Kenway stands on the other side of the door, a look of confusion and fear on his face. We linger only long enough to see a Tellarite dagger at Kenway's throat.

KIRK (CONT'D)
Crewman!

Suddenly the ensign is pushed hard into Spock and Kirk and a green blur does a diving roll over them before sprinting down the hallway.

Kirk recovers and hits the intercom on the wall.

KIRK (CONT'D)
Security alert! Intruder aboard!
Seal off deck 4 section 12A thru F!

As Spock and Kirk take off down the corridor, they are joined by security officers SMITH and GRAVES bringing up their flank.

As they approach the lift, they first here the sound of banging metal and a woman's unintelligible, exasperated cries. The security officers raise their weapons.

They turn the corner to find an Orion slave girl, LOLANI, banging on the doors of the lift. She senses the men and turns around, terrified, with tears in her eyes. She is beautiful.

Kirk's face.

FADE TO BLACK.

6 EXT. USS ENTERPRISE 6
OPENING TITLES

7 INT. CORRIDOR 7
We return to where we were left. Lolani is indecisive about what to do. She holds the dagger defensively.

KIRK
We won't harm you. We're friends.
You're on the Federation Starship
Enterprise. I'm Captain Kirk.

DRAKE runs up and Lolani reacts.

KIRK (CONT'D)
This is our security chief Drake.
He wont hurt you either. Give me
the knife.

He extends a hand. Lolani slashes at him, narrowly missing him.

KIRK (CONT'D)
It's always best not to stab your
friends.

He begins to extend his hand again.

She lunges for an escape through them, but Spock nullifies her actions with a nerve pinch.

She crumples to the ground.

KIRK (CONT'D)
Well that could have gone...
smoother.

SPOCK
Weaponry often complicates
negotiation.

They both look at her on the ground.

KIRK
What was she doing alone on a
Tellarite ship?

The camera pushes to the Orion girl.

8 EXT. USS ENTERPRISE

8

FLYBY: ENTERPRISE hovering near Tellerite ship.

9 INT. SICK BAY

9

Lolani rests, seated and huddled on a sick bay bed, still frightened. She is beaten up a bit and bruised. Security chief Drake stands by in case she becomes violent. DR. MCCOY checks on her as Kirk and Spock enter.

KIRK
Bones. How's our patient?

MCCOY
Oh, she was confused when she came
to, but she settled down during our
tests. The bruising and contusions
indicate she's been in a scrap. I
also detect traces of blood that's
not hers.
(he looks at her in
frustration)
Not that I can get a word out of
her to confirm any of that.

DRAKE
Captain, a further scan of the
transport revealed the bodies of
three Tellarites. We're likely to
find more answers over there.

KIRK
Agreed. You and Mr. Spock beam over
and see what you can find out.

MCCOY
Also, the Orion girl has been
tattooed with an index symbol.

DRAKE

We were able to use the symbol to track down a partial record.

KIRK

And?

DRAKE

She was sold 4 days ago to a Tellarite by the name of Sev Bim Jor directly from one of Rigel VIII's wealthiest traders.

KIRK

Perhaps someone wasn't happy with the transaction.

SPOCK

There is the only person still alive who can confirm that. Careful, Captain. The power of the Orion pheromones is a...

KIRK

Spock, it's fine.

Kirk approaches Lolani.

KIRK (CONT'D)

What's your name?

Lolani says nothing.

KIRK (CONT'D)

We'd like to help you. But to do that, we need to know what happened.

Lolani looks at him mistrustfully and turns away. Kirk steps back to McCoy and Spock.

MCCOY

You're losing your touch, Jim.

Kirk gives McCoy a look.

I know she can hear...maybe she can't understand us. Maybe she can't talk.

SPOCK

More likely discouraged from doing so.

(MORE)

SPOCK (CONT'D)

Approximately seventy years ago the Orion women held dominion over the men. But after a revolt and civil war, the males gained control. Rather than abolish the slave trade, they continued it and in many ways, made it worse.

Lolani lays awake, listening to his words.

SPOCK (CONT'D)

The women are bred without education or opportunity. In part, to keep them subservient, and in part, as an act of revenge.

KIRK

First the men were slaves to the women, now the women are slaves to the men...

MCCOY

Why does anyone have to be a slave to anyone?

Dr. MCKENNAH enters carrying a clipboard.

MCKENNAH

Gentlemen.

(to Kirk)

Dr. McCoy requested my presence.

MCCOY

I thought her expertise might be useful establishing communication with our patient.

KIRK

Either she can't speak or won't speak.

MCKENNAH

I find it hard to believe she spent years around slave traders without picking up any language at all.

MCCOY

Then she *can't* speak.

LOLANI

Lolani.

They all turn and look at her in surprise.

LOLANI (CONT'D)
My name is Lolani.

Kirk looks at McCoy.

LOLANI (CONT'D)
Please don't be angry with me. I
apologize if I've harmed anyone.

SPOCK
Not only can you speak...you do so
quite well.

LOLANI
Not knowing if you were friend or
foe, I remained silent...and
listened.

KIRK
(to Spock)
Logical.

LOLANI
I was born and raised off world.
But when my parents died
unexpectedly I was taken back to
Rigel VIII and forced into slavery.
The things they did to me...the
things I was made to do...

KIRK
I'm so sorry.

LOLANI
Please don't take me back there.
You cannot imagine what it's
like...

She starts to shake with anxiety. Kirk is moved by her words.

KIRK
Easy, Lolani. We'll do whatever we
can to help. For the time being,
you're safe...and free.

She smiles. She reaches over and touches Kirk's hand. Kirk
and McCoy are being affected by Lolani's pheromes.

KIRK (CONT'D)
(to McCoy)
Bones, if she's medically cleared,
perhaps we could move Lolani to
guest quarters.

SPOCK
Are you sure, captain?

KIRK
It'll be fine.

MCCOY
(smiling)
That sounds like an excellent idea.

KIRK
Dr. McKennah, if you would
accompany her.

MCKENNAH
It would be my pleasure.

10 EXT. USS ENTERPRISE 10

FLY BY ENTERPRISE

11 INT. KIRK'S QUARTERS 11

Close up of monitor screen in Kirk's quarters.

Kirk sits at his desk COMMODORE GRAY on the screen.

COMMODORE GRAY
So, according to Chief Drake's
report, you have an Orion girl on
your ship, and three dead
Tellarites aboard another.

KIRK

That's correct. The girl was property of the Tellarites at the time of their death. She was wounded in some sort of assault. If we can confirm that the Tellarites were culpable, could she be granted at least temporary asylum?

COMMODORE GRAY

The Orion system is not a member of the Federation. Their law clearly states that the girl reverts to the property of the one who sold her. We cannot afford to participate in any act that would be perceived as a challenge to their sovereignty.

KIRK
But for the time being she can
stay...

COMMODORE GRAY
The girl's owner is already en
route to you. He will rendezvous
with the Enterprise in
approximately 13 hours.

Gray takes a deep breath.

COMMODORE GRAY (CONT'D)
Trust that it is not our wish to
condone the slavery of any
lifeform, but we can't afford to
risk an interstellar incident over
one girl. Continue your
investigation, but I can make no
promises.

KIRK
I understand. Enterprise out.

The screen goes dark and Kirk hits the table in frustration
as he exits the frame.

12

INT. CORRIDOR

12

McKennah walks with Lolani down the hallway towards the lift.
Male crew members pass and make eyes at her.

MCKENNAH
Those are some nasty bruises, are
you sure you're up for a walk?

LOLANI
You are kind to ask, but we Orion
are built quite sturdily.

MCKENNAH
Of that I have no doubt.

A female security officer, Smith, walks by.

LOLANI
What a beautiful ship, and men and
women working alongside each other
equally.

MCKENNAH

The Federation sees no difference between the rights and abilities of men and women.

LOLANI

But biologically and chemically, you're different. One gender isn't stronger than the other?

MCKENNAH

We're all individuals with strengths and weaknesses. We're not defined by our gender.

LOLANI

Sounds like a dream...one I've had many a night.

MCKENNAH

It's a GOOD dream, Lolani. But just between us girls...we know who's the stronger, am I right?

They laugh and enter the lift.

13

INT. BRIDGE

13

Kirk is having a conversation with an engineer about some element of the ship's operation.

McKennah and Lolani arrive on the bridge.

MCKENNAH

And this is the command bridge.

Sulu, Kirk, Scott, and an Ensign all stop what they're doing and look at Lolani. Only Uhura continues what she's doing, unfazed.

MCKENNAH (CONT'D)

Usually, everyone is working.

KIRK

Doctor, what brings you two to the bridge?

MCKENNAH

I was just giving Lolani a small tour of the ship. I didn't realize it'd be a distraction.

Kirk looks around and notices the men focused on her. He points to the viewscreen as if to say "eyes forward"

KIRK

Not at all. Just another day at the office. Feel free to look around, Lolani.

SCOTT

Hello there. I'm Montgomery Scott, Chief Engineer of entire ship. I make sure everything functions correctly.

LOLANI

Sounds like a very important job.

SCOTT

Aye, it is. Would you like to see my station, lass? It's just over here.

Uhura shakes her head towards McKennah, then turns back in her chair as Scot shows Lolani the engineering station. McKennah Approaches Kirk and speaks to him more quietly so that Lolani wont hear.

MCKENNAH

Did you speak with Starfleet command?

KIRK

I did.

MCKENNAH

What'd they say?

KIRK

They're allowing us to continue our investigation, but our hands appear to be tied.

MCKENNAH

So you're giving up?

KIRK

I'm not giving up.

MCKENNAH

It *sounds* like you're giving up.

KIRK

I'm not giving up.

MCKENNAH

There was resignation in your voice, captain. We can't doom this girl to a life of slavery and servitude!

KIRK

You're new to this crew, counselor, so I'll excuse you for not knowing that when I say I'll do everything I can, I'll do everything I can.

They suddenly notice that Lolani is standing in front of them.

LOLANI

Do you always challenge each other in this manner?

Kirk glares at McKennah.

MCKENNAH

(to Kirk)

Not always, no.

(to Lolani)

Why do you ask?

LOLANI

Well...I've read that in some cultures such challenging between males and females is a form of...mating ritual.

McKennah and Kirk look at each other and drift apart.

KIRK

NO. Not in our culture.

MCKENNAH

Yes, no, not in our...no.

Uhura turns in her chair towards the Captain.

UHURA

Captain, we are being hailed by the away team.

KIRK

Pipe it down to the briefing room, I'll take it there. Ladies, if you'll excuse me.

MCKENNAH

Yes, Captain.

Kirk exits.

LOLANI

Did I say something wrong?

MCKENNAH

No! You were just making an observation.

LOLANI

I observed something else as well.

MCKENNAH

Did you?

LOLANI

Women in uniform command the respect of their peers.

(she looks at her garb)

While other clothing identifies and object to be bought or sold.

They move to the turbolift. As they enter McKennah softens.

MCKENNAH

I have something for you I think you might like.

LOLANI

What is it?

McKennah smiles as the turbolift door closes.

14

INT. BRIEFING ROOM

14

Kirk is sitting at the table getting a real time description via audio from Spock and Drake on the Tellarite ship.

DRAKE (O.C.)

What we haven't found is any evidence of an outside party. The mercenaries were engaged in a heavy fire fight which compromised both the navigational and life-support systems.

KIRK

And the merchant?

SPOCK (O.C.)

Therein lies the mystery. He did not die from a phaser, but from a deep puncture wound to his throat.

KIRK
Something like the dagger that
Lolani possesses.

SPOCK (O.C.)
The mercenaries were also armed
with daggers, but neither appears
to have been used. There are traces
of Lolani's DNA under their
fingernails. I believe she was more
involved in this incident than she
has revealed.

KIRK
Alright. Gather any more evidence
that may be useful and return to
the ship. I'll see what I can
gather here.

SPOCK (O.C.)
Aye, Captain.

Kirk heads to exit.

15 INT. GUEST QUARTERS

15

The door buzzes.

LOLANI (O.S.)
Come in.

Kirk enters carrying the book he was reading earlier. Lolani
turns in a way that stuns Kirk for an instant.

KIRK
How did your quarters...how are
your quarters.

LOLANI
Lovely. I'm feeling a little
spoiled.

KIRK
Good. I brought you this book. You
mentioned on the bridge that you
read, I thought you might enjoy it.

LOLANI
A gift? Thank you! What's it about?

KIRK
An ancient Earth civilization that
fell from within due to it's own
moral decay.

Lolani looks at it intensely.

LOLANI
That could happen on Orion.

KIRK
It could happen anywhere when
people forget the ideals that made
them great.

She smiles and accepts it.

KIRK (CONT'D)
I also have some questions.

LOLANI
I'm sure. Please sit, Captain.
It's in my nature to be a good
hostess and since you've given me a
room to host, what's the use in
fighting our natures?

Kirk sits, though roused.

KIRK
We found the Tellarite mercenaries
on that ship dead at each other's
hands.

LOLANI
(playfully)
That's not a question.

KIRK
The merchant, however, died from a
knife wound to the throat.

LOLANI
Also not a question. You're bad at
this captain.

KIRK
A knife similar to the one you
brought aboard my ship. You need to
tell me exactly what happened.

She laughs. Kirk rises to confront her.

KIRK (CONT'D)
What happened?

LOLANI
Does it matter what happened,
really? If you were enslaved, would
you not do anything to be free?

KIRK
I would. But I'm also bound by the
rules of Starfleet Command.
(a beat)
Your owner is on his way here.

LOLANI
Zaminhon? No...please...he's a
monster! A brutal and vicious man
who abuses his slaves.

KIRK
We still have some time to...

Lolani throws herself on him.

LOLANI
Please! Do not return me to him!
I was bound, but now I'm free. I
was numb, now I can feel. I was
paralyzed, now I can dance...

She begins to dance seductively around Kirk.

KIRK
Lolani, this isn't a good idea.

LOLANI
This is the best idea. A free man
and a free woman...we can go
anywhere, do anything.

She comes in closer to him.

LOLANI (CONT'D)
(whispered)
We are free to do whatever we like.

She is very close to him. He briefly resists. Then Kirk
appears to give in. They kiss.

FADE TO BLACK.

16

INT. GUEST QUARTERS

16

Kirk is kissing Lolani on the neck.

LOLANI

You'll protect me, wont you? Don't
let him take me back.

The intercom sounds.

UHURA (O.S.)

Bridge to Captain Kirk.

Kirk doesn't seem to hear it. The intercom sounds again.

UHURA (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Bridge to Captain Kirk.

Kirk gains the strength to push her away. He gathers his
composure and moves to the desk.

KIRK

Kirk here. Go ahead, Uhura.

UHURA (O.S.)

Mr. Spock and Chief Drake have
returned from the Tellarite ship.

KIRK

Have them meet me on the bridge.

UHURA (O.S.)

Aye, sir.

LOLANI

That didn't feel like such a bad
idea.

KIRK

That was wrong of me. I understand
what you're trying to do, but
seducing me is not the answer.

LOLANI

That was wrong of ME. I'm sorry,
Captain. Some habits die hard.

KIRK

You're right about one thing. We
all have the right to freedom.
Perhaps it shouldn't matter what
happened on that ship.
Unfortunately, it does.

Kirk moves to the door.

KIRK (CONT'D)
I'll do everything I can to help
you, Lolani. I promise.

Kirk exits. The camera moves to Lolani as she forms a plan.

17 EXT. USS ENTERPRISE 17

ENTERPRISE FLYBY

18 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM 18

Kenway is working on the console when he reacts almost as if he smells something pleasant. He looks to the door. Lolani is there.

KENWAY
You! Hello.
(awkward in the presence
of such beauty)
Are you lost? Can I help you with
anything?

Lolani looks to the transporter gloomily.

LOLANI
This is where I'll have to leave
your ship forever.

KENWAY
I'm sorry.

LOLANI
It's not your fault. I should be
the one apologizing. I held a knife
to your throat.

KENWAY
You remember me?

Lolani moves toward him seductively.

LOLANI
I could not forget this face, or
the man attached to it. Does this
man have a name?

KENWAY
(clearly rattled)
Kenway. Matthew Kenway.

LOLANI

Matthew, a monster is coming to take me back to Orion. Please don't let him.

KENWAY

I...

LOLANI

Please, I'll go anywhere as long as it's away from him. And I'd feel much safer with you. I can't deny this attraction I felt the moment I saw you.

KENWAY

How...can I help you?

LOLANI

(she caresses him)
We could fly away together, just the two of us.

Kenway is mesmerized.

19

INT. BRIDGE

19

Kirk sits in his chair listening to the report of Spock and Drake. Sulu and Uhura and Ensign work at their stations.

SPOCK

A more detailed forensic analysis of the crime scene revealed that only one of the Tellarites was killed by another. The Merchant and the second Mercenary were killed by a fourth participant.

Drake hands Kirk some printouts of the scene. Kirk cannot hide his disappointment.

KIRK

You're certain?

DRAKE

There was no evidence of any recent docking or forced entry from another ship.

SPOCK

It does appear to be the only logical explanation.

(MORE)

SPOCK (CONT'D)

I know Orion women can be persuasive, but we mustn't be deceived. She is no longer just an unfortunate slave, Captain...she could be a murderer.

20 INT. CORRIDOR NEAR HANGAR DECK 20

One crewman walks by. Kenway peeks out of the doorway, then he and Lolani rush out and down the corridor. They approach the Hangar Deck doors. The shuttlecraft is in the distance.

21 INT. HANGAR DECK 21

FX SHOT- extreme wide hangar deck as two figures run toward the shuttlecraft.

22 INT. BRIDGE 22

Sulu reacts to something at his station.

SULU

Captain, the shuttlecraft bay doors have been activated.

KIRK

Under what authority?

SULU

None I'm aware of.

SPOCK

Could it be...

KIRK

It certainly could. Seal the doors. Have a security team meet me at the hangar deck. Mr. Drake.

Drake nods and the two of them rush out.

23 INT. CORRIDOR NEAR HANGAR DECK 23

Kirk and Drake arrive just as the doors to the shuttle bay are opening. Graves and female security officer escort Kenway and Lolani out. Kenway looks guilty and afraid to see him.

KENWAY

Captain...

KIRK
I'll deal with you in a minute.

To Lolani.

KIRK (CONT'D)
Some habits die hard.

LOLANI
I would do anything to keep from going back to Orion. He was only trying to help me. You can't fault me for trying to be free!

KIRK
(to Smith)
Return her to her quarters and post a guard outside. I'm revoking her free-roaming privileges.

SMITH
Yes, Captain.

The two security officers take Lolani away.

LOLANI
Forgive me, Matthew!

They take her away.

KENWAY
Lolani!

DRAKE
Stand down, crewman.

KENWAY
Please let me help her. I won't let her be a slave again to anyone!

KIRK
Get a hold of yourself, mister.

Kenway starts to straighten up a bit.

KIRK (CONT'D)
I may have to tolerate the sovereignty of alien worlds, but what I won't tolerate is insubordination on this ship.

KENWAY
But Captain!

KIRK
You're confined to quarters until
further notice and you're not to go
near her again. Is that clear?

Kenway can only muster a nod.

KIRK (CONT'D)
(to Drake) See that he makes it
there.

Drake escorts him away.

Kirk activates a wall intercom.

KIRK (CONT'D)
Kirk to sickbay.

MCCOY (O.C.)
Sickbay, McCoy here.

KIRK
Bones, is there anything that can
protect our crewmen from the
effects of the Orion pheromones?

MCCOY (O.C.)
Actually, there is. A ship-wide
inoculation can be ready at your
command. Why? What's up, Jim?

KIRK
Never mind. Just get started
inoculating immediately.

24 EXT. USS ENTERPRISE 24

FLYBY

25 INT. GUEST QUARTERS 25

Kirk and Spock enter to find McKennah sitting alone.

KIRK
Where's Lolani?

Lolani enters dressed in a beautiful elegant dress. It stops
Kirk and Spock in their tracks.

LOLANI
Isn't it lovely? Dr. McKennah gave
it to me.
(MORE)

LOLANI (CONT'D)

She told me it's what ladies wear on other exotic worlds. I almost feel like a princess.

KIRK

It's beautiful. You look lovely.

Lolani notices everyone's serious faces and becomes solemn.

LOLANI

Captain, I'm sorry for what I did. Even though I'm desperate to be free, I shouldn't have manipulated your crewman. I promise, it won't happen again.

KIRK

No it won't. Dr. McCoy has inoculated the crew against the effect of your pheromones.

LOLANI

That really wasn't necessary.

KIRK

We think it was. Chief Drake and Commander Spock have returned from the Tellarite ship with some new evidence, but we are still missing a valuable piece of information concerning the incident.

LOLANI

I told you what happened. They began...touching me. My owner got angry and they started fighting. I hid in the corner and closed my eyes. Yelling...fighting...when the noise stopped I opened my eyes. They were all dead.

MCKENNAH

Captain, it's common for someone who's been abused or traumatized to block out memories that are too painful. She might not actually be conscious of all that happened.

KIRK

That's why Mr. Spock is here.

LOLANI

I don't understand.

Spock approaches her.

SPOCK
Just relax and trust. This may be uncomfortable, but I will not harm you in any way.

LOLANI
I trust you.

Spock places his hand on Lolani's face and initiates a mind meld. Spock begins to speak as Lolani. The scene is interrupted by flashes of memory.

SPOCK
Our minds are coming together. Closer. Our minds are one. I see what you see.

Spock leans in a little closer.

SPOCK (CONT'D)
The mercenaries are guarding me. I am numb. One begins to touch me, then the other. They start to fight over me. The merchant wants me for himself and protests, but they overpower him. One is on top of me...clawing and groping. The other leans very close...I reach for his gun...and I fire.

Lolani's emotional face.

SPOCK (CONT'D)
I see the merchant. He is wounded, begging for my help. There is a knife in my hand...and now it's in his throat.

Spock furrows his brow. He severs the connection. Lolani collapses into tears.

LOLANI
What will you report? That I'm a murderer? Will they send me off to some Federation prison?

KIRK
No. You're not subject to our laws.

LOLANI

You're going to send me back! The bruises on my body are not from the Tellarites, but from Zaminhon. He beats us, captain, ALL of us! Every girl in his "care." What do you think he will do to me? And these girls...they don't know. They think they deserve it! They tell us we were meant to crawl, but we want to fly!

SPOCK

We are not diplomats, Lolani. We do not have the authority to...

LOLANI

To do what? To make a difference in the unbearable hell that is the slave trade on my planet? Well I could! I could be the voice for women who have none. But not if I'm sent back in chains. Captain, please!

Kirk looks to his colleagues, but has no response for her.

26

INT. BRIEFING ROOM

26

Kirk, McCoy, McKennah, Scott, and Spock all sit in the conference room.

KIRK

How long until Zaminhon arrives?

SCOTT

His course puts him here at any moment, Captain.

MCKENNAH

And then what, we just hand her over as if she's property?

SPOCK

What about her particular plight invoke such empathy in you, counselor? Is it because she's known a life other than servitude?

MCKENNAH

I empathize with all beings forced into slavery.

(MORE)

MCKENNAH (CONT'D)

This just happens to be the first
I've interacted with personally.

SPOCK

So it's a personal attachment that
fuels this search for alternatives.
Perhaps there are facts that can
offset your affections.

KIRK

Such as?

SPOCK

She's dangerous. Dr. McCoy had to
inoculate our crew to protect
against her.

MCCOY

That's true. Still, it's wrong to
condemn her for her body's natural
reaction to stimuli.

KIRK

Especially when it's utilized in
attempt to regain her freedom.

MCKENNAH

Can you imagine what will happen to
her when she's returned,
considering what she's done to
escape? The Orions are not known
for their civility. You heard her,
she could be beaten to death.

(to Spock)

You're right, Mr. Spock. We are
emotionally attached to Lolani.
And Starfleet isn't here. If they
were, maybe they'd see things
differently.

KIRK

But they'd still be bound by the
law, just as we are.

McKennah looks away from him. The intercom sounds.

UHURA (O.C.)

Captain, we're being hailed by an
Orion vessel. He's signaling he's
ready to beam aboard.

KIRK

I guess we should meet him.

Everyone stands to depart.

SCOTT
Isn't there SOMETHING we can do,
sir?

Kirk takes a long beat.

KIRK
Dinner. We'll show him proper
courtesy and serve him a civilized
dinner he won't soon forget.

Spock raises an eyebrow. He knows that Kirk's got something
up his sleeve.

27 EXT. USS ENTERPRISE 27

FLY BY: AN ORION SHIP PULLS UP TO THE ENTERPRISE.

28 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM 28

Kirk, Spock and Mr. Scott await Zaminhon's arrival in the
transporter room.

SCOTT
Somethin's not sittin' right my gut
about this, sir.

KIRK
Your gut may be right,
Scotty...we'll find out soon
enough.

SPOCK
Treating him with respect is an
interesting strategy. It will be
intriguing to see how he responds
should we refuse to return his
property to him.

KIRK
We may have no choice, Mr. Spock.

SCOTT
Locked on, sir.

KIRK
Energize.

Scott beams him aboard. His eyes widen upon seeing his size.
Spock and Kirk are taken aback as well.

We see his back to camera. He turns as the camera moves in to reveal ZAMINHON.

FADE TO BLACK.

29

INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM

29

Zaminhon, smiles warmly, steps off the transporter platform and offers kirk a hearty handshake.

KIRK

I'm Captain James Kirk. Welcome aboard the Enterprise, Zaminhon.

ZAMINHON

Captain Kirk, it's an honor to be aboard your fair ship.

KIRK

And it's an honor to have you.

ZAMINHON

No, no, no...You're a captain. I am but a simple business man. It's a shame I can't stay longer.

KIRK

I'm happy you feel that way. It would please us to have an opportunity to further learn about you and your people. A dinner has been prepared in anticipation of your arrival.

Zaminhon is only momentarily taken aback by this.

ZAMINHON

I've never been one to turn down a free meal, much less in the company of revered men. The thought of it has whet my appetite already.

KIRK

Excellent. Commander Spock will see you to the dining hall personally.

ZAMINHON

A Vulcan! Yes, very good. Lead on Mr....

SPOCK

Spock

ZAMINHON
Spock! Yes, of course.

KIRK
I'll join you shortly.

ZAMINHON
Take as much time as you need,
Captain.

Spock ushers Zaminhon out of the room. Kirk looks to Mr. Scott.

KIRK
That was...unexpected.

SCOTT
He seems nice, for a slave trader.

Kirk isn't convinced.

30

INT. CORRIDOR NEAR GUEST QUARTERS

30

Kenway approaches the Guest Quarters where Graves and a Smith are posted.

GRAVES
Kenway, you're supposed to be in
your quarters-

KENWAY
I was. But, we've all been
inoculated so the Orion woman is no
longer a threat. I'm supposed to
deliver a message regarding
Zaminhon.

The security officers exchange looks.

KENWAY (CONT'D)
I can show you a copy of my orders
if you like.

GRAVES
(skeptically)
That's not necessary, crewman.

They part to let him in.

SMITH
We'll be right outside.

Kenway nods and smiles before slipping into the room.

31 INT. GUEST QUARTERS

31

Lolani turns suddenly as Kenway enters, shocked to see him.

LOLANI
Matthew!

KENWAY
I...I had to see you.

A smile forms on her lips.

LOLANI
You did?

She moves towards him.

LOLANI (CONT'D)
I was hoping to see you again as well.

She moves toward him.

KENWAY
I wish there was some way to help you.

LOLANI
Can you make me disappear? Can you make Zaminhon disappear? When he takes me away, my dream of ending the horror of Orion's slave trade will die. And your captain is going to let that happen.

KENWAY
Captain Kirk is a good man. But he can't disobey Starfleet orders.

LOLANI
The only thing necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing.

Kenway can't bring himself to say anything.

LOLANI (CONT'D)
Can you let that happen?

KENWAY
How can someone like me prevent it?

LOLANI
Someone like you?

KENWAY

I hate what's happening to you and the others on your planet but what can I do about it? I'm nobody.

LOLANI

If I've learned one thing, it's that everyone is someone. That's what I'm fighting for.

Kenway is clearly torn.

LOLANI (CONT'D)

I feel like I'm screaming and no one can hear me.

Kenway gulps and backs away from her challenge.

KENWAY

I hear you...but...I'm sorry.

Kenway shrinks away from her and exits, leaving her to her sorrow.

32

INT. BANQUET ROOM

32

Kirk, Spock, McCoy, McKennah, Scott and Zaminhon are sitting and eating in nervous silence. Scotty throws back scotch the entire scene.

ZAMINHON

Mmm. What is this delicious meat?

KIRK

It's actually a vegetable. It's called eggplant.

ZAMINHON

It's wonderful. It tastes almost like a wing-slug. Does it also scream when it's boiled?

McKennah coughs.

KIRK

No it doesn't.

ZAMINHON

And what is this beverage?

KIRK

An Earth wine. We call it Merlot.

ZAMINHON

I can't taste the alcohol.

SCOTT

(tipping his drink)

I sure can.

MCCOY

Now, I'm curious, Zaminhon. The females of your species release a powerful pheromone that I actually had inoculate the crew to block.

ZAMINHON

(enjoying his food)

Mmmm...It's good that you did that, Doctor.

MCCOY

Are the men of your species gifted with a similar bio-chemical control?

ZAMINHON

Being under the oppression of females for decades hindered us from developing it to their level of potency, but yes...

He eyes McKennah.

ZAMINHON (CONT'D)

We do have a certain natural scent that can attract a desired mate.

SCOTT

(throws back a drink)

Lolani says you're a brutal monster.

The crew is shocked by his bluntness.

ZAMINHON

Well, she's is a very troubled girl. Captain, I don't expect you to know any more of her history than she wished you to. But I treat her well. As I do all my girls. They are well cared for, I assure you.

Zaminhon continues eating.

KIRK

I apologize if Mr. Scott's question lacked sensitivity.

ZAMINHON

No apology necessary. I have two hundred and eighteen slaves in my care...more than any other on Rigel VIII. Beautiful girls who provide pleasure and passion throughout the galaxy!

They look at each other uncomfortably.

ZAMINHON (CONT'D)

I surmised our business practices would be a source of intrigue to you. I'm happy to be an ambassador for my culture. Please, ask me any question. Hold nothing back.

Kirk looks at his crew, who all look like they want to hold back except Mr. Scott. Mr. Scott opens his mouth, but Kirk shakes his head at him. Mr. Scott has another drink.

KIRK

I understand that the Orions, as a people, have practiced slavery since the discovery of fire.

ZAMINHON

Correct.

MCKENNAH

Surely it wasn't a universally embraced concept. Perhaps it was even a cause for war in your early tribal society.

ZAMINHON

Possibly. The Orions have never been one to chronicle our history in great detail.

MCKENNAH

Then how can you ever expect to learn from it?

KIRK

Easy Doctor. Who are we to judge a system that has worked for the Orions for countless generations?
(MORE)

KIRK (CONT'D)

I've heard that many of your females are quite comfortable in their current standing.

ZAMINHON

They are, Captain! After the civil war, our women were without purpose. It fell upon the men to give them direction. They're next to animals without it.

KIRK

Now that, I understand. Dr. McKennah here, can be quite obstinate when she doesn't get her way. She certainly benefits from my guidance, as a man.

McKennah is too offended to speak. Zaminhon emits a hearty laugh.

KIRK (CONT'D)

I'm wondering...how much would you would pay for her?

McKennah's eyes widen.

ZAMINHON

Excuse me?

KIRK

Dr. McKennah, How much would she be worth? She could be your two-hundred and-nineteenth?

ZAMINHON

(uncertain how to respond)
No, I couldn't put a price on it. This woman is educated, civilized, refined. Slavery is not for her kind.

KIRK

But she challenges me, Zaminhon... Always a problem, on and on and on!

McKennah shifts in her seat about to rise, but McCoy puts his hand on her arm, reassuringly.

ZAMINHON

Captain, don't be unreasonable. She is a valued member of your crew, clearly learned and capable.

KIRK

And what of Lolani? Her obvious intellect and reasoning...it's worthy of our finest Federation officers. Animals don't thirst for knowledge and strive to better themselves. She's consumed a wealth of knowledge as you've consumed your supper. Zaminhon, she's not a slave, she's a *woman*. And even without knowledge, education, physical beauty or talent, SHE IS A WOMAN...with a fundamental right to be free.

Zaminhon, for a moment, has no response. Then, he begins to chuckle.

ZAMINHON

You're a shrewd one, Captain. I like you!

(standing and wiping his mouth)

But the hour is late and the two of us will not change each other's ways over a fine dinner. With your permission, I'll take my leave and prepare to return with my...with Lolani.

He smiles and leaves.

SPOCK

Fascinating. But not unexpected.

MCKENNAH

Captain.

KIRK

I'm sorry, Doctor, I was trying to illustrate a point.

SCOTT

What'd you hope to accomplish, sir?

KIRK

I thought if perhaps he could see Lolani as we do...a woman, not a slave...he might change his mind about taking her back.

MCKENNAH

Well, it doesn't appear to have worked. Any other ideas?

KIRK

None.

SPOCK

I believe it may be time to say
goodbye.

KIRK

I'll tell her.

33 INT. CORRIDOR NEAR GUEST QUARTERS

33

Zaminhon approaches and speaks to Graves.

ZAMINHON

Greetings. Thank you for caring for
my dear girl. You're free to go.
I'll take charge of her from here.

GRAVES

I'll have to check with the
captain.

ZAMINHON

Certainly! Whatever pleases you,
friend.

Zaminhon smiles wide at him and the doors close.

34 INT. GUEST QUARTERS

34

He turns to Lolani now wearing an malicious scowl.

ZAMINHON

Well, well, well... look at you.
You have them eating out of your
hand, don't you? I'm a brutal
monster?

Lolani is terrified.

ZAMINHON (CONT'D)

How dare you humiliate me. When I
get you back you'll regret the day
you imagined yourself as anything
but a slave!

He slaps her.

And this...Earthier's costume!
Changing the covering doesn't
change what's underneath.

(MORE)

ZAMINHON (CONT'D)
You will be punished until you
learn your place!

He tears away her dress and shakes her violently.

The door opens again revealing Kirk. Kirk immediately jumps on the slave trader and a fight ensues. Zaminhon smashes Kirk against the walls with brute strength.

LOLANI
Stop! STOP!

She latches on to Zaminhon's arm and he pushes her back again. Kirk fights off of him and recovers, coming back with a flying kick that knocks Zaminhon to the ground. Lolani is immediately on top of him with her dagger to his throat.

ZAMINHON
Do it. Bleed me out and reveal to
them the animal you REALLY are! Go
on!

She presses the knife harder against his throat. Then, she resists, she pulls the knife away from his neck and Kirk pulls her up by her shoulder and takes the knife from her.

The slave trader furiously bellows, rising to his feet.

ZAMINHON (CONT'D)
You're lucky you're still alive,
captain. You had no right to
interfere. This is my property.

KIRK
Civil men do not claim people as
property. But if that's all you
understand...

He steps up to Zaminhon and stares up at him unflinchingly.

KIRK (CONT'D)
How much do you want for her?

ZAMINHON
WHAT?

KIRK
Lolani. I wish to buy her from you.

ZAMINHON
First you condemn my trade, then
you wish to partake in it?

KIRK

I wish her freed from you by any means.

Zaminhon gets even closer to him.

ZAMINHON

NO.

KIRK

Why not?

ZAMINHON

Because it pleases me to deny you. I perceive that you win too much, Captain Kirk. You will not win this time.

KIRK

Whatever the Tellerites paid you, I'll match it!

ZAMINHON

I would not sell her to you for all the gold in the mines of Deneva. Now step aside, Kirk... You will beam us back to my ship, or when I'm done with you and your Starfleet, you'll be lucky to command a garbage scow!

Zaminhon storms out. Kirk looks at Lolani, as if to say "I'm sorry I couldn't keep my promise."

35

INT. KIRK'S QUARTERS

35

Kirk nurses his wounds while Commodore Gray is on screen.

COMMODORE GRAY

I shouldn't have to tell you that what you did was nearly an act of war against the Orion system. It was practically akin to striking a political figure. Zaminhon is a powerful man...

KIRK

His actions prove that we are condemning this girl to a life of physical and mental torture.

COMMODORE GRAY

And that is a matter for the diplomats, captain. And what of the families of the slain Tellarites? Do they not deserve justice as well?

KIRK

Commodore, the Tellarites were abusing her! She was fighting for her safety... and her freedom!

COMMODORE GRAY

The Federation will not start an interstellar incident over one slave.

KIRK

Her name is Lolani.

COMMODORE GRAY

Captain, you will return Zaminhon and the slave Lolani to his ship immediately or face a court martial. You have your orders. Starfleet out.

Kirk sighs deeply.

36 EXT. USS ENTERPRISE

36

FLYBY: Enterprise hovering near Zaminhon's ship.

37 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM

37

Kirk, Drake, McKennah, Kenway and another transporter tech watch as Lolani, now chained, follows Zaminhon up onto the platform. Lolani looks with resolve at Kenway, standing at the console. She has a calm but confident look on her face, almost a smile. She is at peace.

ZAMINHON

Thank you, Captain for a fine dinner and the good sense to follow orders. May our paths never cross again.

KIRK

Likewise.

With little fanfare, they beam back to Zaminhon's ship. When they are gone, Kenway makes for the door.

KENWAY

Permission to leave my post, sir.

He's out of the room before Kirk can even respond

KIRK

Granted.

Kirk watches Kenway leave briskly.

KIRK (CONT'D)

McCoy said he inoculated all the men in the crew.

MCKENNAH

He did, sir.

KIRK

Then what was that?

MCKENNAH

I would say...that's love, sir.

McKennah exits. Kirk is left standing alone staring at the now empty transporter platform. He exits slowly as if he is struggling with something.

38 INT. CORRIDOR

38

Kirk walks slowly down the corridor. Suddenly he hears some of the dialogue he shared with Lolani.

KIRK (V.O.)

I do everything I can, Lolani, I promise...I give you my word.

COMMODORE GRAY (V.O.)

We will not start an interstellar incident over one slave girl

KIRK (V.O.)

Her name is Lolani!

Kirk stops. He has made a decision. He moves forward, resolved.

39 INT. BRIDGE

39

Kirk enters the Bridge with purpose, crosses to the chair and sits. Sulu, Spock and Uhura and Ensign are at their stations. Kirk hits the intercom button.

KIRK

All hands, this is the captain. I am about to violate a direct order from Starfleet Command. I take full responsibility for this action, and my log will reflect that no one else in the crew was involved.

He pauses, reflecting.

Many of you had the opportunity over the last few days to meet the young Orion girl who was aboard...her name is Lolani.

He straightens and focuses.

KIRK (CONT'D)

Mr. Sulu, 3/4 impulse. Close the distance to Zaminhon's ship. Bring us within transporter range. Transporter room, stand by to lock on and beam Lolani aboard.

VIEWSCREEN: as the distance closes to Zaminhon's ship.

SULU

Captain, we're now in transporter range.

KIRK

Transporter room...

VIEWSCREEN: Boom! Zaminhon's ship in the distance explodes in a huge fireball.

The crew is frozen in disbelief. Slowly, Kirk rises and leaves the bridge.

40

INT. GUEST QUARTERS

40

Kirk enters the quarters that Lolani inhabited only a short time ago. He walks around slowly looking over the room, when his eyes fall on the book he gave her to read. A close up reveals it to be THE RISE AND FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE. As he picks up the book, a data tape falls out. He scrutinizes it and plugs it into the computer.

It's Lolani. She is solemn, resolved.

LOLANI (V.O.)

If you've found this recording, it means I have failed...and I am dead. I did not wish for my life to end in this way, but it seemed the only means left to send a message to those who enslave others. My death will mean nothing. But perhaps Zaminhon's death will light a fire in my people and our allies...those who witness inhumanity and yet do not act.

Kirk sits, moved by her words and clicks a button allowing her words to echo through the ship. As she speaks, we see the crew listening in Sick Bay, Engineering, the Bridge, the Security team, etc.

The message of hope must go on. It must reach Orion. It is clear that I will not be the one to carry that message. I can only pray that another will. Thousands of young Orion girls are desperate, longing for a chance to live free, to dream...to fly. You were kind to me. All of you showed me a cause worth living for...and worth dying for. If we remain silent to the cruelty that surrounds us, we will lose a part of ourselves. The part that feels, that stands up for injustice...

Back with Kirk in her quarters.

...the part that loves.
May this not be an ending, but a beginning. Freedom at all cost.

Kirk sits in silence as the Lolani's image fades.

The door opens. It's Kenway.

KENWAY

Captain...
(struggling to gain the courage)
I'd like permission to take an extended leave. To...visit family.

Kirk is silent for a moment.

KIRK
Does this family happen to be
anywhere near the Orion system?

Kenway looks as if he's been discovered. Kirk knows what he
is asking and is proud of him.

KENWAY
(stands tall)
Yes, sir.

KIRK
Permission granted.

KENWAY
Thank you, sir.

Kenway moves to the door.

KIRK
Kenway.

Kirk pulls the tape out of the viewer and hands it to him.

KIRK (CONT'D)
You may need this.

Kenway takes the tape, nods with determination.

41 EXT. USS ENTERPRISE

41

The Enterprise hovering near the wreckage of Zaminhon's ship
and the derelict Tellarite vessel.

FADE TO BLACK

THE END