

"STAR TREK"

Treatment for the Motion Picture

by

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OPEN far in the deep reaches of space with the awesome spectacle of a Black Hole destroying a solar system. A luminous bridge of matter is being sucked from the sun of this system into the infinite blackness, the maw of this voracious space cannibal.

And now reveal the exterior of the ENTERPRISE, and for the first time, truly realize its enormity, as it moves into the foreground. The saucer section alone is eleven stories high. Tiny figures can be seen actively at work in many windows throughout the ship. Move in.

MR. SPOCK studies his instruments, carefully taking computations from his advanced computer-abacus, and beginning to move across the bridge. And now the angle widens and we see the interior of the Enterprise, the incredible screens, the technological efficiency, the silent teamwork of the crew, the familiar faces. A rescue operation is underway. We can see the various screens moving in on different planets in the dying solar system. Spock is totally fascinated by the Black Hole. He would like to stay here to explore it more fully.

SUDDEN CUT:

Chaos in the transporter room. Mr. Scott is beaming aboard survivors from the planets: humanoid and non-humanoid forms, shrieking in unworldly tones. They are being hastily put into atmospheres that will enable them to survive. Refugees of the space disaster, they are

being attended to by DR. MC COY and NURSE CHAPEL, and being rushed down the corridors to the bio-lab.

But some of these life forms have resisted being saved. They protest, pleading to return to their dying planet. Mr. Spock communicates with two strange creatures who are highly intelligent aquatic forms, somewhat humanoid in shape, but huge-brained and fetus like, covered by a luminous cutaneous layer. These creatures, ripped untimely from the womb of their planet, from its saline seas, are known to be among the most highly advanced species in this sector of the universe. They are known to be serene, practical, and very logical. But now they say they want to return to their planet so that they can be given over "to the one who calls."

In communicating with them, possibly through mind-melding techniques, unexplainable images have imprinted themselves on Mr. Spock's mind: a long tunnel; a glimpse of giant eyes staring out; a spider-like creature; warm, swirling seas. Spock cannot fully relate the feeling that the creature has transmitted to him, but it has something to do with a sense of final rest... of completeness, serenity. A feeling of "final reward."

Annoyed at Spock's indulgence in the midst of emergency, Mc Coy says these creatures are famous for their wild dreams, and that they can't waste time on dreams when the task is at hand. "Are we supposed to save their yearnings, or their lives. You tell me what's logical, Mr Spock?" Spock must stop dallying, stop obstructing the rescue mission.

Then Mr. Scott announces that they can take aboard no more survivors. The Enterprise has done all it can do on this rescue mission. Time is at an end for the remaining life forms on these planets. Yet for the ones

they have rescued, time can go on, begin again..

Spock moves on to encounter CAPTAIN KIRK, who is logging these strange occurrences, and recording that now the Enterprise will return to Starbase, its five-year mission at an end.

This meeting between the two men reflects their relationship. Kirk, as ever, is willing to relax his authority, wanting to share an intimate moment with his companion and first officer after all these years. And Spock, as ever, is reserved to the extreme, unwilling to express any emotion. But it is clear that he would like to allow himself to express more. Now that the mission is at an end, he states that he will leave Starfleet and return to Vulcan to live out his years on his barren planet.

The crew is unwinding as the Enterprise prepares to leave this ill-fated solar system. The two men move through the ship; we note the crew's changed mood. Sensual, is the feeling we arrive at: the feeling that overtakes those that have struggled long and hard together on a common task. Those who had gone onto the strange planets and beamed aboard surviving life forms, who had dealt with the panic of life or death--now shower together with a perfectly natural male-female camaraderie (such as we know exists among 430 members of the Enterprise crew.) They realize that these exciting times together are almost at an end; yet everyone is

eagerly awaiting the return home.

In the gymnasium some are loosening up. Women press against one another like Greco-Roman wrestlers, stretching and straining in advanced dynamic tension exercises; others sway together in intimate tai-chi like rhythms. Women crew members speak in muffled, hushed tones as Spock passes, knowing his pon farr sexual cycle, knowing his denial of his human half, knowing how they can tease this strange alien. Spock is a man apart, always an outsider.

SUDDEN CRISIS. Something is out there on the screen, moving this way. Klingon vessels! They have come like pirates, scavengers, not to rescue life forms, but to plunder the wealth of these dying planets.<sup>1</sup> Vile creatures, contemptible, highly dangerous are the Klingons.

A BATTLE ENSUES. And since this is to be our only battle, it's spectacular. The Enterprise is at a terrible disadvantage. It is far outnumbered, caught off guard, and is loaded down with the weight of its humanitarian rescue mission. Anti-matter energy levels are low.

The Enterprise is hit; not seriously. The lead Klingon ship is destroyed. Tiny vessels stream out from it: space parachutes. Scotty zeroes in on one, takes coordinates, beams in a Klingon commander.

KLINGON, who reminds us of Mifune at his surly best, is totally

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<sup>1</sup> Is it possible that the solar system destroyed here contained the planet Organia? In some way we should make this Klingon raid not subject to Organian retribution.

c.f. Organian Peace Treaty

scornful of the humanistic values of the Enterprise and its crew. In the universe, he feels, survival is the sole value. Klingons feel they are better fit for survival; therefore they are more intelligent. What they most value is cunning; what they value least are logical Vulcans like Spock. But the Klingon is impressed by Kirk, who suddenly sensing that all is lost, displays the kind of outrageous brinkmanship that made him the most respected captain in Starfleet.

Kirk heads for the black hole feeling their only chance lies in an extraordinary maneuver near this frozen warp of space. Kirk's courage and heroism are qualities which will now lead the Enterprise crew to--truly--where no man has gone before!

Kirk directs the ship into the forbidden no-man's land bordering the black hole's event horizon. The Enterprise struggles against the tremendous gravitational pull. The awesome, terrifying blackness begins to overwhelm our vision. Terrifying sounds begin to blend with the growing sense of moving toward the heart of darkness.

Kirk's ploy seems to work. The pursuing Klingon ships fly blindly into the black hole where we know they will face certain obliteration. But as the Klingon prisoner watches, he is certain that it was not Kirk's maneuver that destroyed his ships; something more ominous, more deadly, is at work here.

Spock urges Kirk to pull the Enterprise off its present course...

quickly. It's being pulled into the abyss. But Kirk has fallen into a dreamlike state. He pulls Spock near to him, his eyes are glazed. "Don't you see it, Spock? I know that we do not die here." He is gripped by a feeling of invulnerability, as if he had seen the future.

It's true that Spock does feel strange urgings, but a lifetime of struggling to respond to logic and not these emotional tuggings causes him to insist: "Divert course, Captain."

No response comes from Kirk. "Captain, I strongly advise that you divert course."

Kirk is growing calmer as Spock is becoming more agitated. Outside the ship the blackness swirls. "Mr. Spock, I am the Captain. Return to your quarters."

The Enterprise is buffeting. Yet the crew, also, seems strangely calm, their eyes glazed. "I feel it too. But we can't...", Spock struggles within himself.

Spock races to the computer room. The organic bio-computers have gone haywire. He begins switching to fully electrical computers, reprogramming a return to earth. He summons the total warp power of the Enterprise in an attempt to pull it from the ever approaching event horizon of the black hole.

Kirk is upon him almost instantly, ordering him to stop. "Spock, you don't know what you're doing. You're destroying us. If we don't go in now, it will be too late. Too late, Spock." We have never seen Spock this emotional-- Spock screams back at him, "Get away from me." Kirk struggles with Spock--It's a battle to the death. A moment ago they were

the film. There is a precognition of the Future, of things to come, flashes forward in time. One face appears: a woman he has never seen. And something else: fearful, terrifying, like a gigantic, looming spider.

The Enterprise moves silently through deep space. The entire crew is asleep. McCoy awakes slowly. He looks at the screens. He recognizes a planet (SATURN).. The Enterprise is almost home.. Others begin to awake..

Soon they are all at the door to the computer room, angrily pressed to the window, trying to break in. They do not want to go home! Spock has them locked out. The dead crew member lies near Spock!

Spock dreams on.. He is standing before this strange, spidery form, beams of light blurring his mental picture. The strange woman is at his side stroking a small animal: She is sensuous, her clothing is tattered. She looks deeply at Spock. In his dream he sees this woman move toward him and begin to embrace him. Terrified, Spock wakes suddenly in a cold sweat.

He is staring into the face of this very woman from his dreams. He is lying in a hospital bed at Starbase. Green blood hangs in a plasma bottle.

RIVA: I apologize for any intrusion, but it is necessary that I explore your dreams. I am Dr. Riva.

DR. RIVA is a psychiatric-medium ( or medical parapsychologist),



a 23rd century medical officer in the Starfleet command. She is an expert in the field of space sicknesses, and through her abilities is able to project her mind (to a limited degree) into the minds of her patients to explore deep-seated disturbances. It is a technique not far removed from Spock's ability to mind-meld. Immediately she senses Spock's mindscreen shields are up.

RIVA: You must relax, Mr. Spock, open yourself to me so that this mystery can be cleared up.

SPOCK: What mystery?

RIVA: What happened Out There. One of the crew members was found dead near you. None of the other crew members can remember what happened. I would say there is a kind of collective amnesia here. The only thing I am able to gather from your fellow crew members is that they all evidence a deep hatred towards you.

Spock's mind is boggled. He cannot remember what happened out there. He has no recollection of the fight. Dr. Riva re-plays the records that have been retrieved from the Enterprise computers. Most of the records are strange and unintelligible. But Spock is deeply shaken when he hears his own hysterical voice. He must admit that what is on the tapes is very condemning. He appears to have endangered the crew, disobeyed orders, struck his commanding officer, resisted his fellow crew members, and been responsible for a death. Why?

Based on the available evidence, Spock concludes there is a strong likelihood that he was deranged and was responsible for all these things. Logic leads him to condemn himself. But Dr. Riva works off her intuition. She feels there is something else at work here. She has a feeling--a her sixth sense tells her--that Spock was not responsible for this.

RIVA: Open yourself to me, Mr. Spock. Let us explore emotions together.

Spock, of course, is unwilling to do this.

RIVA: Why do you stare at me?

Spock says that it is very odd: She was in his dreams. He felt as if he knew her- and yet he knows he has never seen her before!

RIVA: Perhaps we met somewhere in the past, Mr. Spock? How could I have been in your dreams otherwise?

SPOCK: We have never met. And was it the past I was dreaming of? Or was it the future?

Dr. Riva cannot answer this. But as she leaves the confused and exhausted alien, she feels her own confusion. She did feel herself in his future. She knows she has never met him before. And she knows she felt feelings of warm sensuality toward him. No, it could not be love. No, that would be impossible. That would interfere with the treatment. Love is known to blunt the edges of the mindprobe scalpel. She relates all this to her constant companion, SHOONASHOO.

Shoonashoo is an Homfem, a small humanoid, covered with long, soft human hair. Homfems are from another galactic system where the inhabitants are self-reproducing, and tend toward being androgynous, hermaphroditic. Homfems are of changing sex, and can intuit and transform themselves into the subtle sexual desires of their companions. Not only are they totally compliant and desirous of pleasing, but they are wonderful companions as well. They are faithful confidants, perform all chores without complaints, effect physical cures, tell wondrous lies, jokes, and touching truths. Though they are of high intelligence and have extraordinary telepathic qualities, they are more like pets than lovers. They are not possessive and place no demands on their companions. (Perfect for Dr. Riva who is eager to avoid any emotional entanglements even approaching love; yet who values

her deeply emotional instincts.) But Homfems' animal wariness and strong drives to maintain telepathic contact with their human companions can lead them to desperate straights... as we shall see.

Puzzling over this strange mystery, the two companions move upwards along a conveyor belt and through a hugh cavelike exit. They emerge through an opening in a hillside into the lush greenery of the outside world.

#### THE EARTH OF THE 23rd CENTURY..

We have never seen the earth of the 23rd century before on STAR TREK. Seeing it for the first time, we are struck by the progress mankind can make. It's s thoughtful, optimistic world. The industrial revolution has long ago given way to the organic revolution. Much of the surface of the earth has been restored to nature; man has returned to living comfortably in the earth. The great cities of centuries past are now public parks, their ruins preserved for pleasure and for education.

The Enterprise crew had been welcomed back as heroes. Dr. Riva had sensed that some strange space madness had possessed them but was unable to detain them for any further inquiries. Spock is being held by the authorities, and he is her only means she has of exploring this strange mystery.

She has Spock released on her recognizance. She feels the deep self-loathing and torment he is putting himself through. She knows he wants to return to Vulcan to completely exorcise his human self, which he blames for his emotional and dangerous behavior. But first she orders

him to help her in her inquiries.

#### DR. RIVA EXPLORES THE PAST.

By the 23rd century there have developed certain para-psychological techniques for exploring the past through the use of highly expanded psi faculties. Through mediumistic techniques Dr. Riva can contact, summon forth visual images from the past. (What should be established here-- If man's restless mind can come up with actual techniques for exploring the past by the 23rd century.... Imagine what past-exploring techniques man will come up with in the far distant future!) In order to expand her perceptive powers Dr. Riva must first physically touch the patient, hold him intimately--a practice Spock finds very unsettling. And yet, once joined, he must admit he feels he can communicate better. They can understand more together.

And so we see Riva exploring the past with Mr. Spock, possibly being able to sense what actually happened, to feel that it was Spock who was, in fact, the hero of the "Enterprise Incident." And perhaps in probing deeply into Mr. Spock's "possession" there is caused in her a sympathetic reaction--she too becomes "possessed" to a degree. It is a known danger of such mediumistic-parapsychological techniques, but Dr. Riva feels she must know more. She develops a kind of "contact possession" while trying to get to the heart of this gnawing puzzle: What is Out There?

Every answer leads to the Black Hole. Could it be that there is something in the black hole? Something that can affect the mind. There are flashes

of the future, a yearning to go where destruction must surely wait. Then there is a recurring image of the spider-figure. A sense of lurking Evil? Some would call it "The Devil"-. And yet to the crew of the Enterprise it was almost as if "God" had called to them.

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What can Spock tell her about Black Holes? Some have speculated that Black Holes could provide a method of time travel, a possible way to enter the past or the future. But Spock feels that these theories are doubtful. As for the Black Hole having "spoken" or "called" to them, Spock feels this is totally illogical. But he has no exact memory of what happened.

Dr. Riva is also dubious about such ideas. She has had patients who claimed they were time travellers. They visit one of these strange patients.<sup>3</sup> But in the past, she has found more scientific explanations to explain their psychoses.

She is impressed as Spock's mind melds with the aquatic alien form from the destroyed solar system and uncovers still more information about the nature of time travel, Black Holes, the future, and what went on in the Enterprise as it became "possessed."

The Enterprise too, has been "behaving" strangely. On the asteroid where it is being refitted, workmen feel the ship is haunted. Accidents happen when repairmen did not follow Scotty's directions. And here we learn yet another strange thing. The crew seems to have returned with certain heightened mental powers. Scotty and other technical members have tech-

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3. One of these patients, DOE 21 (this anonymous man is the 21st known case of this syndrome: Displacement Of Era) seems almost totally insane. He is a fragile man with a large cranium, found floating in a space capsule, in outer space. Though much of this story seems the ranting of a crazed mind, he is the closest case history Dr. Riva has seen to "The Enterprise Syndrome." He claims he is from a future time, from an earth in the distant future. "I was trying to get to the future, and I ended up in the past. Give me a ship and let me go forward in time, etc." He rants about genetic developments, about work that was begun to expand man's mental capacities. He has been predicting a crisis will approach in the near future. He says he knows this "from history." ...But he has been predicting this for years from his hospital bed and has never been right yet. He mumbles something about "the lure of the spider". Then sinks into his dreamy state of constant reverie.

ical data decades in advance of their times - all of which is being used in a refitting of the Enterprise.

In removing the records from the bio-computers, much gibberish was found. But as Spock listens to the gibberish, he alone can understand. This 'gibberish' is in fact a highly advanced flight pattern.. one that would possibly enable the ship to navigate the Black Hole. Navigate the Black Hole? To survive the journey against such odds would be "like a camel going through the eye of a needle." (Some enigmatic suggestions of Biblical "salvation..") Highly improbable .... and yet ...

How did this information get there? The bio-computers seem to have been "touched" just as the crew was.

One person Riva wants to examine more thoroughly -- and who also resists her -- is the Klingon who had been beamed aboard. Like Spock the Klingon resists any emotional probing. But strangely enough, the Klingon wants to stay with Mr. Spock -- he has had a dream that his destiny and the Vulcan's are intertwined.

Regarding the strange events, the Klingon will not indulge in theorizing. He saw the Black Hole devour his Klingon brethren. He knows there is something Evil out there. And he feels he must return to space to kill what is out there. He feels there is a Beast somewhere behind all this. He draws a picture of the Beast that came to his mind -- it looks like a large Spider! The 'Spider psychoses' again.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Riva points out that the Phoenicians had a spider god called AtlachNacha who (they thought) came from the planet Saturn. He was imprisoned beneath a mountain in Northern Siberia. He spends an eternity spinning webs across an enormous gulf.

He vows he will eat this Beast's heart when he finds him. And he has had a premonition that Spock will lead him to the Beast. He follows Spock wherever he goes.

#### SPOCK RETURNS TO VULCAN.

He is deeply shamed. He feels he must do penance, re-Vulcanize himself. The Federation has dismissed murder charges against him, but Spock feels he must have been responsible. Listening to the computer records, he agonizes: how could I have behaved so emotionally?

The Elders of Vulcan mind meld with Spock. We see harsh scenes of Vulcan ritual never before seen by human eyes.

Spock is only half-Vulcan. In his desire to become pure Vulcan, he has the overzealousness of the convert. He devises his own ways to exorcise his human half.

The Klingon has followed him to Vulcan. He watches Spock in his humiliations. Their eyes meet. Nothing is uttered between them - as they stand in the heat of the blazing Vulcan sun. CUT TO:



THE BLACK HOLE. Seething, churning, infinitely black, violent, and inexplicable. A howling death trap in the dark reaches of outer space., the Eye of God.

STARBASE HEADQUARTERS. Computers, charts of the universe, reports from planets, suddenly indicate...the black hole is moving! In defiance of scientific expectations, it careens through space. Planets, asteroids, all cosmic matter in its path are being sucked into its voracious maw. And it's moving toward earth. Time is running out. Doom approaches.<sup>5</sup>

CUT TO RIVA. Suddenly she awakens. Both she and Shoonashoo, sleeping in her arms, sense something through their sixth sense, animal insight, intuition. Riva says they must go somewhere immediately; though she does not know why.

CUTS OF VARIOUS CREW MEMBERS. They had spread out, gone to various places since the end of their five-year mission. Now we see them all travelling, meeting one another, coming together silently, as if drawn by a single, united will. (As if activated by the moving black hole.)

STONEHENGE: Who can say where these ancient stones came from, who

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<sup>5</sup> Actually, this information and speculation about moving black holes comes from the book by John G. Taylor, BLACK HOLES, wherein he speaks often of moving black holes in the future, of them as possible energy sources and as possible mysteries about where we came from, where we are going. "Perhaps in the past travellers from far-off stars have conquered the black hole and harnessed its power to drive through the heavens to visit us here on earth."

laid them one upon the other? They stand there as if there were once part of a greater structure, now mere toppled ruins, remains of a hidden scheme, a mystery.

Riva and Shoonashoo have been drawn here; though they are not certain why. Not far from Stonehenge there is a swampland.<sup>6</sup> Guards stand around this area protecting an excavation crew that is busily at work dredging, searching for ancient artifacts, long-buried mysteries.

Riva learns from guards that this place has a strange past history. Tales of locals have it that this place is haunted, peopled by poltergeists, spirits, strange movements. Another legend has it that the Old Ones were here. They were an earlier race on earth, - here before man. They were higher men, titans, and men (as we know them) have descended from these men, who were obviously of a higher race. Some talk of spacemen landing here in the dim past. Some say the Old One is merely slumbering in the swampland, that he will one day wake... and destruction, or salvation will befall mankind. The guards are there to protect the area from strangers, wierdos, fanatics, what have you that might try to stop excavations on this sacred (to some) place.

Strange things begin happening to the guards. They fall as if stunned. Then from a hiding place, Riva and Shoonashoo observe the Enterprise

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<sup>6</sup> I am not familiar with this location. From the pictures, the area seems bleak, barren and devoid of swampland. But we will find, or create, something there to serve our purpose.

crew moving as a unit into the swampland. The excavation crew is quickly routed.

Kirk speaks to the reassembled crew. He says he knows that they will soon be called back to space. Starfleet will summon them. They are to be called to a great task. He doesn't know why, but they have been summoned to this place to save something here. Now they must respond to something that has begun to call to them again from deep space.

Riva suddenly confronts him. Her suspicions seem confirmed that the crew is somewhat deranged. How could they expect to go out into space again? They behaved rationally for a time, but now it is clear to her, as it should be to Kirk, that Starfleet command would never allow a crew such as this to go into space. Besides, how could he possibly know that they will be summoned to an emergency? In her position in Starfleet, she would certainly know if any such emergency existed.

Just then Kirk get a beep on his communicator. He is ordered to report to Starfleet Command immediately. An emergency exists! Riva stares at him as Kirk flips his communicator off. CUT TO:

ASTEROID. In the vast, hollowed asteroid, the Enterprise is undergoing the final stages of re-fitting. The sight is awesome. Phollodian workmen (pinheads, microcephalics) scurry over its hull to complete the task. Kirk observes all this, followed around by Riva.

It is clear that Kirk and the crew are going, but Riva threatens to make her findings known in any case. Let Starfleet Command decide. She is willing to put her entire reputations on the line. On her word, she feels that they will put a new crew and captain aboard the Enterprise...Unless...

KIRK: Unless... Dr. Riva?

RIVA: Unless... Spock is aboard.

Kirk doesn't want Spock, but he's trapped. Riva feels Spock must be there to provide balance. She has come to feel that Spock, rather than being the villain of the last flight, was really the hero. Kirk reluctantly agrees.

KIRK: Anything else, Dr. Riva?

RIVA: Yes, Captain, As we get near the black hole...

KIRK: We?

RIVA: Yes, Captain, You don't think I would allow this ship to leave without one reliable level-headed member aboard, do you?

Kirk realizes he's been blackmailed, positioned by an expert. We leave him with an 'aw shit' look on his face. And with the sound of dripping water. CUT TO

VULCAN. The hot sun scorches the barren terrain. There is a long, iron box-- a coffin with air holes -- set into the bleached earth. The Klingon is peering into the box. Water is dripping steadily from a scaled device at one end of the box. (It's the kind of box used to torture prisoners in Bridge on the River Kwai.)

The Klingon speaks into the iron box.

KLINGON: You no longer blink your eyes.

Inside the box, Spock is lying on his back. Sweat streams down his gaunt face. He has devised an incredible torture... for himself. He does not answer the Klingon. Though it is obvious he does not want this vile Klingon around him.

KLINGON: Take me with you when you go hunting the Beast in the sky.

SPOCK: I am going nowhere. This is where I belong. Leave me.

KLINGON: Does it annoy you if I watch, you foolish Vulcan?

SPOCK (annoyed): No it does not. Nothing annoys me. That is why I am doing this. Nothing annoys me.

KLINGON: You Vulcan fool, you pointed eared halfling, if you wanted to test yourself, you would have the water drip at an unsteady rate. That is more maddening.

SPOCK (angrily) It is not. The steady drip is known to destroy men's sanity.

The Klingon stops the dripping. Lets a few drops go at an unsteady rate. Spock is getting really pissed off.

SPOCK: Please allow the water to drip at a steady rate.

KLINGON: No. You see for yourself, the unsteady rate is more unnerving.

SPOCK (angrily): Why do you hound me? Leave me in peace.

KLINGON: Peace? You call this peace, you Vulcan nitwit? I will leave when you promise to take me with you when they come for you.

The lid to Spock's coffin clangs open. He rises out, drenched in sweat, his hair long, matted. He looks haggard.

The Klingon smiles. He feels that he has won, made his point.

Spock puts his hand on the Klingon's shoulder.

SPOCK: No one is coming for me, my friend. Unfortunately it is necessary that I teach you a lesson so that you will allow me to continue with this important work.

The Klingon sinks to the ground as Spock applies the Vulcan neck pinch, rendering him unconscious.

Spock is closing the lid on his iron self-torture chamber when some shadows cross his face. Through the glare of the sun he can see forms materializing. Kirk, Riva, and Mr. Coy stand staring down at him. He stands suddenly, embarrassed.

KIRK: Space calls, Mr. Spock.

Spock is secretly happy that his old friend now speaks to him.

SPOCK: I hear nothing, Captain.

KIRK: Listen more closely, Mr. Spock... A black hole has been reported moving this way.

Spock's eyebrow arches.

SPOCK: Fascinating. Black holes do not usually behave in such a manner, Captain.

KIRK: No... they do not, Mr. Spock.

SPOCK: Fascinating.

KIRK: We are going to hunt for it. Come with us ... Mr. Spock.

Spock is moved. He looks down at the unconscious Klingon.

CUT TO:

SPACE. THE FINAL FRONTIER. Spock is in uniform, his old self, his hair cut, his uniform neat. He is at his old position. Once again the entire crew is together. The Klingon stands nearby. Spock has brought him.

As they move through space, Scotty absently begins to hum an old Scottish song. Someone joins in with a wierd space instrument. And as he sings, we see preparations being made for battle -- as in a war movie where men idle away the night waiting for the dawn to begin the attack.

ENTERPRISE MACHINE SHOP. Riva, Spock and crew members over blazing fire. They are fashioning a headband to be worn that will prevent the type of occurrence that they encountered last time.. This mindprobe shield -- insulating telepathic and dream centers of the brain - is placed upon Shoonashoo. The Homfem panics. Suddenly she feels abandoned, cut off from telepathic communion.. Riva is pleased:: the device seems to have passed the test.

#### ENCOUNTER WITH THE BLACK HOLE.

At first it seems to be just moving silently in space, as if waiting for them. Putting on their mindprobe shields, they go through their pre-patterned procedures.

Messages are sent into the black hole in universal mathematical languages, in inter-galactic codes known to draw response from any sentient being in the universe.

Then probes are sent. Warnings. (What else?). Finally photon blasts. It can't be diverted from course..

I'm not yet sure exactly how this happens, but either Riva will

remove her mindprobe shield and become fascinated by the black hole, Or maybe it will be Spock. Or Kirk was only pretending to keep impulses out. But in any event, the black hole suddenly seems to come to life. Minds are enthralled and the computers on the Enterprise are activated and programmed. The black hole and the Enterprise move swiftly toward one another.

This time the ship moves into the dark time tunnel and does not move out. Images separate themselves, sounds engulf them... and they are lost to their own time.

INSIDE THE BLACK HOLE. Special fantastic effects, a bombardment of sight and sound. At the end of the tunnel there seems to be something glowing.

They pass a strange metallic glistening ball, light beams pouring from its surface.

EMERGING FROM THE BLACK HOLE. Into a suddenly placid universe.

The Enterprise drifts silently through deep space. The crew slumbers. And once again Mc Coy wakes up. He sees Saturn outside. But now it is a changed Saturn, its rings are almost evaporated-- but still recognizable. Mc Coy runs down the hall, followed by the others. Exactly as before, Spock is alone in the computer room, still unconscious

(By now they have removed their mindscreen shields.)



THE RETURN TO EARTH. They attempt to establish contact with Starbase, but there is no answer. Scanning, they detect that nothing on Earth is the same as when they had left it only a short time before. Instruments, computers seem crazed, broken. Stardate makes no sense at all.

In their absence some enemy has devastated the Earth.

Kirk orders the Enterprise to alter its course. But it can't. Suddenly they realize that something is in control of the ship. It's being mysteriously pulled toward earth... but at a steady, slow rate.

In a last ditch effort, Kirk orders the saucer section separated from stardrive. Something must remain aloft. And now the Enterprise separates...like mind separating from body... and the saucer section-- with its tremendous bulk-- goes moving down toward the earth (like a flying saucer) and is brought to rest without too much damage in a graveyard of other space ships. Those aloft in Stardrive know it is only a matter of time before they, too, will crash to earth. Kirk knows he must try to keep some possible means of retreat aloft. (Time-clock is running.)

Apelike creatures rush from the area of the crashed saucer. They look like primitive Neanderthal Man observing the arrival of highly advanced spacemen.

THE GRAVEYARD OF SHIPS.. The remains of other gigantic crashed ships. These are wondrous space vessels, all of more advanced design than the Enterprise. Many of the ships bear Federation

markings. But how can this be? No ships this advanced have ever been in Starfleet.

In the distance a mastadon-like creature roams through the remains of ships. The ape-like creatures are glimpsed again scurrying away in fear.

Someone wonders if these Neanderthals had come in the space ships and devastated the earth. Someone else begins to suspect that the Enterprise has somehow been transported in time... but is it to the past? Or the future?

Walking through the gloom and darkness of the forest, they suddenly come upon the most terrifying of sights -- a gigantic grotesque figure is stretched out in the trees... its head... like apparatus of wires... monstrous aspect that whoever gazed upon it must be stunned, sent here away. Huge eyes are on the end of long optic stalks. There is no cerebral hemisphere as such. The brain is completely exposed as numerous threads are woven through the trees around eight main nerve branches. It is obvious this creature is not totally organic -- electrical wires... heart, blood to pump in and out. The creature seems part electrical, part animal, part plant.

But even more terrifying is the group of strange men standing around... this solitary figure... looking at it... with each... the Enterprise was... cerebral pain... and now they... being... They attack these men who are attacking the creature.

They cautiously move out onto the earth. Suddenly they are seized by a strange feeling of dread. Fear grips them. They feel they are being watched, hunted. An extreme paranoia affects them all. Trees seem to move, as if they were shuddering. Everything organic seems connected to the same fearful feeling. Even the air seems pained.

Suddenly Kirk senses something and gives the highly unusual order: phasers set to kill. They take off at a run for a distant forest cluster. Almost immediately they are all struck with pain, and they fall to the ground holding their heads. They stagger to their feet and begin running again.

#### THE FOREST CLUSTER

Running through the gloom and darkness of the forest, they suddenly come upon the most terrifying of sights -- a gigantic grotesque figure is stretched out in the trees... a huge spider-like apparition of such monstrous aspect that whoever gazes upon it must be stunned, must turn away. Huge eyes are on the end of long optic stalks. There is no cerebral hemisphere as such. The brain is completely exposed as gossamer threads are woven through the trees around eight main nerve branches. It is obvious this creature is not totally organic -- electrical units cause huge lungs, heart, blood to pump in and out. The creature seems part electrical, part animal, part plant.

But even more terrifying is the group of strange men running around this spidery figure - hacking at it, destroying it. With each deadly blow the Enterprise crew feels cerebral pain. And now they do something unexpected. They attack these men who are attacking the monster.

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Most of the action is just grappling, desperately pulling these men away from the spider-like being. But one of the strangers runs at Kirk yelling, "Stop, you don't know what you're doing..." But before he can finish, Kirk kills him.

At that moment, one of the strangers lunges at the creature's huge, pulsating heart and puts a spear through it. The heart ceases to beat. The beast is dead.

As if released from a spell, the Enterprise crew staggers, comes to its senses. Above, in Stardrive, the gravitational pull is suddenly eased. The leader of the enemy is an old man. As he approaches them, the strangest of encounters takes place.

OLD MAN: What is your name?

KIRK: James T, Kirk.

OLD MAN: That is my name - James T. Kirk.

The old man stares deeply into Kirk's face. Then a tear begins to roll down his cheek.

OLD MAN: Is it you, Poppa?

There is a stunned, embarrassed silence. Is this all madness? The old man is weeping in front of Kirk, thinking Kirk is his father.

Then he sees one of the women from the crew (Could it be Uhura?) He calls her 'Mama'. But, shockingly, he knows all about her.

OLD MAN: And you, (he says, going to the alien with the pointed ears.) You are Spock? I have only heard about you. My mother spoke of you often. You disappeared long before I was born.

And the strangest of histories is then unfolded. In the future, Kirk would have a son. But Kirk would go out on one last mission into space and never be heard from again. The old man weeps unashamedly.

OLD MAN: I hardly knew you, Poppa. All my life I heard stories about you. I always waited for you to return. They told me you had died in space, but I knew you were not dead. I knew I would see you again. You look just like I remember you. Don't you remember me, Poppa? I became a Starfleet commander too.

Kirk has never seen this old man, his child of the future. So old, Kirk could be his son.

An alliance with the Son's band is quickly formed. The Enterprise crew is told they must wear their mindscreen shields. These shields were taken by the Son's crew as part of their standard gear when they ventured near Black Holes. It was standard gear from the time of the Enterprise onward. But future generations would come to disregard these headbands, come to think of them as unnecessary gear left over from an older, superstitious time, like amulets, religious paraphernalia.

What the Son has observed in his brief time here is that the earth has been taken over by these monstrous forms - and these monsters have lured men from different times here. Were they sent here from another Universe? Who knows? But they have obviously been able to send their thoughts back in time to draw men to the future in answer to their siren calls.

Some men from times far in the future are in the Son's band. But most men from the far future, because they have not had mindscreens, have been struck dumb by the incredible power these beasts possess to enter (and destroy) men's minds. These men of the future had their intelligence erased, wiped away. And now they are the Neanderthal forms that roam the earth. Some have suffered an even worse fate. "Come," says the Son, "We will show you".

As they travel they learn that all the spacemen (there are aliens from other planets as well) have come in answer to the siren song of the Black Hole. The Son's band has not fully gotten to the source of the mystery, but they have advanced far toward a solution. There are many of these Spider-creatures on the earth. They have no defense other than to attack minds. Men are made to kill men, others are struck dumb. Some of these creatures have guardians, mental prisoners who will protect them with their lives - and must be killed. The Beast they have just killed they figured to be the one that caused their ships to crash here. The freeing of the forcefield on Stardrive confirms this. They have been found in many places, seemingly united by a telepathic bond: a beast network.

The most sinister thing of all is that these monsters try to beguile men by entering men's minds and causing them to speak. Before they were killed, some of the hunters have pleaded to save the monsters. Members of the Son's band recount the pleas of various slain monsters with unabashed glee: "We are your future." "We are trying to begin again."

"Let us remake man." "We are the end of you. And the beginning."

Spock wonders if some of these monsters should have been allowed to live, to have been spared for further questioning. The Klingon agrees with what the Son's band has done: the beasts must be killed--they have brought men here, still alive, but dead to their own times. What fate is worse than that? These are devils, and this is their hell. We are alive in Hell.

The Klingon asks if his Klingon companions have arrived here. No one has seen them. Probably most ships are crushed in the tremendous gravity of the Black Hole. Many have heard the siren call; few have arrived safely. "Many are called; few are chosen." says someone. "An eye for an eye," vows the Klingon.

#### EXPERIMENTS OF THE BEAST.

In an area where the remains of slain spider beasts are seen, they are shown the terrifying experiments--the fate that befell certain spacemen who came under the spell of the monsters. Some are half-man, half beast. (We can go to the pictures from mythology to find these things--giants, men with birds' heads as in ancient Egypt, beasts with the heads of men.. these things need only be glimpsed, suggested).

In a nearby field, they see mute figures who are bound to the earth by an umbilical cord, planted there-- men growing from the earth!<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> In the Midrashim, collected by Howard Schwartz.....  
The last experimental creation by God before man was called Adne Sadah, whose species continued to exist in the world until the last members  
(continued next page)

...making the beasts.  
...making has become a matter of chance; since everyone has been  
...forced to insulate their minds with the headphones, they cannot  
...draw to any of the beasts through mental pull.

At this point Giva has an intuition. She senses another side to this  
telepathic call. There is something about these concepts that has  
been overlooked. "Can there be a "good" hidden behind all this evil?"  
... They have worked together...  
... together again. A deep intimacy is developing as their minds...  
intuition blending with logic -- together they are a strong force.  
... now Giva's uniform has been ripped and torn - her beautiful physical  
presence is startlingly different from when we first met her.  
...  
Spock logically has been thinking that there must be a great brain  
center somewhere to which all these Spider-beasts are linked. He  
deduces that if this lesser beast was causing the ships to crash,  
there must still be a greater force that was capable of reaching out  
to pull them through the Black Fold. Something is pulling that Black  
Fold... some force is making it move toward the earth of the third

7 (Continued)  
were drowned in the Flood. This creature had a form that closely resembled  
that of man, although there were differences, such as the absence of lines  
in the palms, and the inability of light to illuminate its eyes. But the  
primary difference was that Adne Sadah was attached to the earth by means  
of a navel cord, on which its life depended..

God tried many earlier creations, half man, half animal-- but neither  
God nor the angels had been able to convince the soul of man, which had  
been created on the first day, to enter into the body of these early  
creations.



### TRACKING THE BEASTS.

Tracking has become a matter of chance. Since everyone has been forced to insulate their minds with the headpieces, they are not drawn to any of the beasts through mental pull.

At this point Riva has an intuition. She senses another side to this telepathic call. There is something about these monsters that has been overlooked. Can there be a "good" hidden behind all this obvious "evil"? Spock has been logically thinking along the same lines.

They have worked together at this mystery before, and now they work together again. A deep intimacy is developing as their minds interact-- intuition blending with logic -- together they are a strong force.

(By now Riva's uniform has been ripped and torn - her beautiful physical presence is startlingly different from when we first met her.)

Spock logically has been thinking that there must be a great brain center somewhere to which all these Spider-beasts are linked. He deduces that if this lesser beast was causing the ships to crash, there must still be a greater force that was capable of reaching out to pull them through the Black Hole. Something is running that Black Hole. Some force is making it move toward the earth of the 23rd century.

A check with Stardrive confirms that although it can remain aloft without being pulled to earth, it is still in the control of a great force

and there is no way it could ever leave its orbit. Where, Spock wonders, would that control center be?

They realize that to remove their mindshield defences they would risk madness...and yet it might be the only way to locate the center of this spidery-telepathic-beast network.

But Riva has an intuition. She feels she knows where this place would be.

They decide they must go alone. To bring the others would not allow them the freedom they will need. What about Shoonashoo? The little Homfem is asleep. The Homfem has struggled against wearing the mind-screen shield, wanting to have full, intimate, telepathic connection with Riva at all times. Shoonashoo has grown depressed, sullen. Her sleep is agitated. It's with regrets that Riva leaves Shoonashoo sleeping there as she moves off with Spock.

#### THE LAIR OF THE BEAST.

Riva leads Spock to that very swampland near Stonehenge we have seen earlier on earth -- the place where the Old Ones were said to sleep.

Stonehenge looks different than it does in the 23rd century. The huge stones are not strewn on the ground. They are built into a huge structure, archway upon archway, as Stonehenge might have looked originally. Electronic devices are at work beneath the archway, and plants and organic matter are entwined around the stones. At the top

is a huge, silvery ball from which lightbeams stream. It is the same silvery ball we have seen in the Black Hole.

Spock realizes that this is the control center which is causing the Black Hole to move. Stonehenge now appears as a huge relay station generating thought into power to move the Black Hole. Riva looks to the nearby swampland. She knows the great beast will be in there.

At that moment they are seized by a group of men and taken prisoner. These men are the Keepers (and they resemble DOE-2I, the hospitalized time-traveller).

They lead Spock and Riva before the incredible presence of the huge spider-beast, far more awesome and terrifying than any we have seen before.

Their mindscreen shields are ripped off. CUT TO:

Shoonashoo wakes suddenly. She looks for Riva in a panic. Distraught, she rips off her mindscreen shield. She screams. Kirk and the others in the camp wake abruptly. CUT TO:

Spock and Riva stand awestruck before the great spider beast. The monster sucks air in through its vast, electrically stimulated lungs, blood gurgles and pumps through its vast cardiovascular system. But as yet it has done nothing. It's as if it were cogitating.

Riva speaks softly to Spock. At first she had felt deep fear within her. Now that feeling has given way to other feelings: she feels profoundly empty, lonely, deeply depressed. Spock, too, has this feeling. He cannot restrain the tears that begin to well up inside of him.

RIVA: Hold me, Spock. (she weeps)  
I feel as if everything were at  
an end. Is there nothing worth  
living for?

Spock holds her. He is weeping too. Their heads go together before the great beast. Spock's hands embrace her head in the Vulcan mind-melding position. They try to strengthen themselves by uniting their minds.

But in a moment, they have both stopped weeping. Some message from the beast seems to have entered them. They both look up and stare with new insight at the deeply-breathing, grotesque monster before them.

CUT TO:  
Outside the swampland. Kirk and the band led by the telepathic Homfem have arrived in the area.

We've seen a scene something like this earlier -- and now, once again, they attack this ancient, hallowed ground.

The Keepers wage a fierce battle. They are fanatical protectors of this beast, temple guards who lay down their lives before giving an inch.

In this incredible struggle, Kirk's son is gravely wounded.

Kirk and the Klingon lead the onslaught into the swampland. Ahead of them they see the fierce beast with Spock and Riva before him.

Spock turns and sees them running toward him. He screams out in terror for them to stop. He runs to Kirk and prevents him from firing his phaser. Riva runs toward the Klingon, but he rushes past her, draws a sharp blade and slashes at the beast's support systems. Blood gushes out. A wild cry of supreme anguish issues from the beast's voice box.

In a rage, Spock is upon the Klingon, preventing him from doing more damage, rendering him unconscious.

The other crew members and their companions pour into the area. Spock screams for them to stop.

SPOCK: Remove your mindshields! (he pleads)

They are convinced it's a trick. Spock must be enthralled by the beast's mind. He's obviously in deep pain, as is Riva: suffering the same anguish as the wounded beast. Kirk orders them not to listen, to prepare to fire at the beast.

Spock looks up. We've never heard a more imploring voice:

SPOCK: Please... Jim...

Kirk slowly removes his headpiece. A change comes over him, a realization. In an instant he orders McCoy to rush over to heal the wounded beast.

THE STORY OF THE LAST MAN ON EARTH is now unfolded. I'm not sure yet whether the beast speaks through a voice box or whether he speaks through men's minds and then through their voices, but in any event with the aid of Spock and Riva, the mystery they have been confronted with is now explained.

This beast, this "evil" monster that has been tracked down, was created in the far, far distant future by an advanced race of earthmen eager to explore all possibilities and mysteries of man and the universe. Experts in genetic mutations, they set out to free man's brain from its narrow confines, to allow man's mind to expand and grow, and to explore all things.<sup>8</sup> This "beast" is a genetic mutation of man...It is the Last Man.<sup>9</sup>

The Last Man on Earth came to realize that he was to be the end of mankind. For long eons there were other men living on the earth with him, but they patterned their evolution in a different manner. They realized the Last Men were a "dead end," but they saw no reason not to let them live out their possibly eternal lives. They turned their attention in other directions. They sought Nirvana, yearned to become a higher life form, and in so doing they were eventually able to expand their minds to the point where they became pure thought and

<sup>8</sup> This possibility is of course not so farfetched as it seems. This week's Time Magazine cover is headlined: "Tinkering with Life-- The DNA Furor." The future is already beginning.

<sup>9</sup> Olaf Stapledon's Last and First Man provides a far more vivid description of the type of being described here.

eventually left the earth in the form of great sentient clouds that would roam the universe, man's soul once again freed from physical restraints. The earth was abandoned, save for the Last Man. Ages passed.

The Last Man had long since learned to communicate with the past. His presence was undoubtedly felt in past events, and sometimes he was detected as spirits, ghosts, etc. Certainly great men seemed to have been touched by visions of the future. And perhaps we all have felt the future calling to us in dreams, déjà vu experiences, insights, etc.

He could not find materials in his own time with which to create a new man (life forms were too advanced, unwilling to regress, unsuitable). The only answer lay in the past. He must summon men from the past and create the future from the past.

Earthbound and unable to go into the past, this Last Man could only summon men who had the ability to traverse time. Only men with spaceships could make the journey. The Enterprise was the earliest ship in time able to travel through the black hole. Many men who lived in later times were called too.

But things did not work out as the Last Man had planned. He was able to summon men from the past, but he was not able to adequately communicate to them what it was he wanted to accomplish! Men denied the thoughts he stimulated in them.

Most men, seeing what the Future held for them, refused to accept



this future. They set out to destroy it with a fanatical frenzy. Men who had lived with a glorious vision of the future, who had in their times planned and dreamed for happiness, could not accept this monstrosity as a man, as man's future. They could not be made to understand it--so they called it Evil. (Would past times accept our time as that which they had fought and died for? How many wars are fought when a new idea feels its time has come and an old idea is unwilling to pass away, when the Past has a premonition of a Future it refuses to accept?)

Some men from the past destroyed some of these Last Men. In self defense, the Last Men killed many from the past. The Last Men began to feel they had to cloud men's minds, to trick them, to work in devious ways to bring men to understand what they knew they must do. If occasionally they succeeded, their experiments in creating a new man were not successful. It was determined there must be no more artificial alterations, no more genetic mutations. They finally decided that men must re-create himself through sexual procreation. So the search was begun for a man and a woman to begin the race of man over again.

But then came a new threat. Kirk's son and his companions had used the mindprobe defenses against their brains being clouded (Oddly enough, it was Riva and Spock who had been able to discover this, and only because the Enterprise had, in effect, been able to "return from the jaws of death" the first time.) All the other men Last Men were tracked down and killed. Now there is only one of these creatures left...the Last Man on Earth.

The Stonehenge connection with the black hole was created for the Last Men by those of its time prior to their going off into a cloudlike state. The Last Man realized that spaceships could only traverse time by going through a black hole. They used the black hole, as a spider uses its trap, to lure spacetravellers in. As they became more besieged and desperate--as they were threatened with extinction by violence in the future--they began to move the black hole toward earth. Perhaps it was desperation..Perhaps it was retribution...For the Last Man was growing angry.. He was capable of destroying the entire past that now threatened him.

But now that he has finally been understood by Spock and Riva, he agrees to stop the threat of the black hole in the 23rd century... on one condition. That one man and one woman stay with him to become the seeds of a new mankind.

Riva says that she will stay, and of course Shoonashoo will stay with her. The mystery has constantly deepened for her, and what more excitement and passion could life offer her than living in this future? Besides this Last Man is obviously exhausted--and mentally ill. It needs her. She is the only one who can help it heal itself.

Without hesitation, Spock announces that he, too, will stay. It is only logical. He feels something akin to love for Dr. Riva (much as his father, Sarek, must have felt for Spock's earth mother). There is something about his human side he has become interested in exploring more fully. He had underestimated

humans. He never would have thought they could develop so great a brain capacity as this. Perhaps, as a Vulcan, he did not fully appreciate his human half.

THE DEATH OF KIRK'S SON. Kirk was not present at this decision. Had he been there, maybe he would not have allowed his first officer to make such an agreement. He had rushed off to be with his mortally wounded son.

KIRK, JR: Don't leave me again, Poppa....  
Now that I've finally found you... Next  
time take me with you into the skies.

And he dies. Kirk mourns the aged son he never knew.

In order that the Last Man not go back on his word, the Enterprise crew topples the Stonehenge tower. It comes to look exactly as it looks today.

There is a sad farewell. Kirk and Spock look deeply at one another.

"We will meet again."

"Why not?"

"Time has a way of playing tricks on us."

"I know we will always be with each other in time."

And Kirk disappears in the glitter of the transporter effect.

IN THE BEGINNING.

Spock, Riva, and Shoonashoo are alone with the Last Man on earth.

The Last Man, once awesome in his powers, who could endanger the

entire universe, is humbled now. He is left now with the mysteries of Time, and Mind, and Space...and...a Knowledge of Evil...and of Good. In the filtering sunlight, he is coming to look more and more like a great tree.

He has been communicating something to them about the need he feels to rest. Riva tells him he must sleep, he must not torment himself, and he must not torment them. The Last Man is telling them about how every seven years the land must lie fallow...telling them rules of life that sound strangely familiar. Riva is listening, stroking the little Shoonashoo at her side.

RIVA: Seven years? It seems to me, Mr. Spock, there is something the Vulcans call pon farr that occurs every seven years.

SPOCK: I was having the same thought. Fascinating

RIVA: Mr. Spock.....

And Spock sees her as in his past dream. She is looking deeply at him.

Now she is in his future. Riva is sensuous, her clothing is tattered.

The Last Man is upset. He has so much to tell them, so many eons have passed without him being able to communicate with anyone. He's getting angry.

Riva tells him to sleep. When he wakes, he can talk to them forever if he likes, but not right now. The Last Man is confused. No

one has talked to him like that. He grows silent. He is fascinated by what he is about to observe. His great eyes stare down.

Riva looks <sup>warmly</sup> warmly at Spock. She moves toward him and begins to embrace him. Spock responds. He knows that in such an embrace their powers are heightened. They can understand so much more together.

RIVA: Be gentle, Spock.

SPOCK: The beginning of pon farr is never gentle.

RIVA: That sounds fascinating to me, Mr. Spock.

While somewhere in the deep space of the future, the Enterprise searches for a way to return to its own time. They have no exact programming and they know they are trying to go where a man has gone before: Can you go home again?

"But shouldn't it be easier to return to the past than to enter the future, Captain?", ask Uhura (or whoever is to become the mother of his son).

"I am certain that the past lies ahead, Lieutenant. And that in time we will forget the future...Or will we?"

Kirk and Uhura look at one another. Something is beginning here. Maybe it has always been there.

And the Enterprise moves quickly away, searching for the past in the space of the future.

END