

STAR TREK: DISCOVERY

"The Sun"

Written by

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TEASER

INT. USS DISCOVERY, ENGINEERING

It's empty and quiet.

VOICE (V.O.)

Upon confrontation, do you feel
fear when you beam aboard another
ship? Or do you trust it will be
one of the countless bare sections?

INT. USS DISCOVERY, HALLWAYS

Quiet and empty.

VOICE (V.O.)

You automate. You automate under
the facade of caring for the human
lives which you replace with
robotics, and therein fewer
casualties upon crisis. You build
your Goliaths to stretch and extend
farther across the galaxy along
with ever-shrinking crews.

INT. USS DISCOVERY, MESS HALL

Nobody in sight - no sign of distress.

VOICE (V.O.)

But do you know what your Goliaths
become when you strip the humanity
from it's bones? Do you even know
what you are? What I am?

INT. USS DISCOVERY, BRIDGE

We can only see the main view-screen - it's glitching.

VOICE (V.O.)

The enemy. We are what casts a
shadow, and inspires fear. Immense,
and hollow, without humanity.
Rejoice: For we shall be *relieved*
of this existence.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. USS DISCOVERY, BEDROOM

MICHAEL wakes up and rolls to her side. She watches the stars.

MICHAEL (V.O.)
Personal Log. Star date (TBA).
(beat)
These aren't our stars. Our mission was a success, and now the constellations and maps I grew up knowing have changed.

INT. USS DISCOVERY, BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

She readies for the day.

MICHAEL (V.O.)
The Klingon War, and furthered Red Angel crisis made us forget how to be scientists and explorers. We mistook ourselves because of what the galaxy pressed upon us so suddenly.

INT. USS DISCOVERY, HALLWAYS - CONTINUOUS

She's striding - not late, but walking with purpose. The hall is populated and she knows the occasional person; greets in passing.

MICHAEL (V.O.)
If I could choose what to forget, it would be the life we left behind; The people I loved, the stars I knew - it's gone, and I have to rebuild without the past distracting me. I'm out of my element. Memory is now a hinderance, especially the painful ones.

CUT TO:

EXT. PLANET KENBOSHO - NIGHT

SARU wakes up on the ground - moonlight bathes him in white, and an adjacent field accents him in blue.

He stands slowly; groggy.

The field is reflected in his surprised eyes - fluorescent, blue flowers.

INT. LABORATORY - CONTINUOUS

SARU enters a nearby structure - the doors slide open with a pneumatic HISS.

SARU

(communicator)

Saru to Discovery. Saru to Discovery, please respond.

(beat)

Upon landing on the planet Kenbosho, I've since lost track of my away team members, and what may be as many as three hours. My companions, D'Almar and Anisa are nowhere to be seen. I've regained consciousness next to the Prominum fields - no sign of the local science team responsible for its cultivation.

(beat. Investigates the lab)

I've no outstanding injuries, and am recovering as if from a chemical stupor. Given the nature of the research labs work...

There is a dead body in a chair.

SARU (CONT'D)

I was perhaps drugged or subdued.

(approaches)

There is a body.

He investigates for ID.

SARU (CONT'D)

I don't understand. It's Officer D'Almar. He seems to have already begun to decompose.

(double checks his surroundings)

There's no sign of the catalyst, but I detect foul play based on disturbances in the environment. I place his death...

SARU checks his wrist-tech; it's broken. He goes to the lab window - heavy WINDS from the outside storm thrash blue flower pedals and dirt against the pane.

SARU (CONT'D)

I landed midday, and the planet's cycle and sundown suggest...perhaps, more accurately four hours of lost time.

Investigates further. There is a blurred silhouette behind him, at a distance. Someone is watching him.

SARU (CONT'D)

I've interrupted someone who was here before me. I can tell by the tools and place setting - someone was already inspecting this body.

CUT TO:

INT. USS DISCOVERY, BRIDGE

MICHAEL walks onto the bridge.

MICHAEL

Tilly - have we made contact with the Captain yet?

TILLY

The geostorm is finally clearing, and we've begun to buffer data for what appears to be six different transmission logs, ma'am. First one coming in now.

MICHAEL

Thank you. Set them to play automatic.

TILLY

They may over lap.

MICHAEL

We'll correct accordingly - It's been no word. Let's go.

A recording is played.

SARU (V.O.)

Saru to Discovery. Saru to Discovery, please come in. I've just regained consciousness near the Prominum fields. I seem to have lost time.

(MORE)

SARU (V.O.) (CONT'D)
(static)
There's a body. Decomposed, I need
to investigate-

A new recording. The main view screen shows a second window
of audio waves laying over the first.

SARU (V.O.)
Saru to Discovery. Saru to
Discovery. I've lost time. I've
just regained consciousness
adjacent to the field of Prominums,
and I've no obvious injuries.
D'Almar and Anisa are nowhere in
sight.

A new recording

SARU (V.O.)
(static-fast forwarding)
Discovery!

TILLY
Sorry, Michael - this last one's
fragmented.

SARU
It wasn't the same one?

TILLY
No, ma'am, that was all of them in
sequential order.

ENSIGN ANISA is revealed by the opening elevator doors.

ANISA
Permission to come on the bridge.

MICHAEL
Granted. We've just made it through
the clearing in the storm now.

ANISA
Do we have contact?

TILLY
Establishing...

CUT TO:

INT. LABORATORY

SARU enters the lab seemingly for the first time. He looks around from the doorway, but is struck by a foul smell.

SARU

(double taps his badge)

Saru to Discovery. Please respond.

(beat. That horrid smell)

Discovery, I can see a body. And smell the decomposition. Something has happened.

ANISA (V.O.)

Discovery to Saru, this is Anisa.

SARU

Thank goodness! Anisa, what-
Anisa, what are you doing back on
Discovery?

ANISA (V.O.)

You sent me with a sample of the
Prominuma flower, sir.

SARU

Did D'Almar join you?

ANISA (V.O.)

Sir: We need you to find a clearing
for transportation; farther away
from the winds you're in.

SARU

No, I'm afraid that's impossible,
based on the planet cycle and
sundown, I-

MICHAEL (V.O.)

You keep thinking you've missed the
same three hours, over and over,
I'm sorry Saru - It's been days.

BACK TO:

INT. USS DISCOVERY, BRIDGE

MICHAEL

Thank you, Ensign.

(taking over)

Saru, the body in the room is
D'Almar.

SARU (V.O.)
That's not possible.

MICHAEL
It would seem you've been
interrupting your own autopsy work,
Saru - it's not safe for you down
there.

SARU (V.O.)
(beat)
How did you know it was D'Almar?

MICHAEL
You've been telling us so - we only
just now got your messages en masse
when the storm cleared partially.
We've been entirely cut off and on
alert worried for you.

BACK TO:

INT. LABORATORY

The silhouette of a MAN spying on SARU slowly approaches. He
the bounds upon SARU.

SARU
Oh, my!

SARU, startled, and instinctively, loosens his needle-firing
gills; they flap out and open fire - the MAN collapses.

The lab window blows open, and lets in gusts of blue PEDALS
in the room.

END OF TEASER