

Subject: On the planet

Author: Lt. Jake Arrington

Stardate: 80102.1700

Scene: At Camp

Time: After "And For The Children (Part 2)" and During "More for the children... then anyone else...."

"Anytime.....Lieutenant." She could not see his face in the dim light but heard the smile in his voice.

With a sigh Caitlin lay on the ground and fell into a fitful sleep.

Listening to everything that went on in the entire camp, Jake just lay back on his bed roll by the fire. He looked above the flames and saw Darrian emerge from the shelter and sit down across from him and begin to warm his hands.

Jake: Is she alright in there? She seemed a bit upset when I saw her go in.

Darrian: She'll be alright. She's just showing some of the stress that most of us are going through.

Jake: (Looking around) Tell me about it. This place gives me the creeps. The Doctor seems a bit upset by what you guys told us about those kids.

Darrian: Aren't you?

Jake: Yes, of course I am. But I don't let those emotions get in the way of performing my duty. I know it's hard, but none of us should be doing that. It could be our undoing.

Darrian: You know, if I didn't know better, I'd say you were behaving like a Vulcan.

Jake: (Laughing) I've been told that before. Actually, my species beliefs aren't so different from Vulcans. Except we don't suppress our emotions like they do. We found that it later comes to the surface and becomes potentially dangerous to ourselves and those around us. Our greatest success is setting aside personal feelings and getting the job done.

Darrian: (Laughing) Jesus, you even sound like a Vulcan. (Standing up) Well, everybody's all tucked in for the night. I'm going to bed.

Jake: Good night.

Darrian stands up and turns his back to Jake and begins walking towards the shelter, but stops briefly and turns back to face him.

Darrian: Lieutenant.

Jake: Yes?

Darrian: We do have beds inside the shelter. It's not necessary for you to sleep out here on the ground.

Jake: Thanks, but I preffer to sleep out here. There's so much about this planet that makes me think of home.

Darrian: Oh.. Well.. Good night Lieutenant.+

Jake: Good night.

Darrian went back into the shelter and closed the door. Jake turned over on his side and rested his hed on his arm and closed his eyes.

HOURS LATER:

Zina felt she was doing nothing important to help with getting communications working. She had tried to lay down and get some rest, but all she could do was think of the children. Ironically to Zina, she had never had the opportunity to have children. And until recently had never given it much thought. But here, now on his bizzare planet... She felt she had to do something... If not more for the children but also more for herself as well. Quietly she got up and moved over towards where her gear was stashed. She gathered together a few essentials. As she was nearing the edge of their encampment she heard a voice.

Breen :So Doctor, where do you think you are going?

Gray: Shhhh, I'm going to get those kids.

Breen: You're going alone?

Gray: I have to do something. I feel completely useless here. And they need my help.

Breen: You are not going there by yourself.

Gray: Don't forget Lt I out rank you... *smiling at Caitlin* But if you are offering to help come on before those guys realize we are gone.

Breen: Now you are making a command decision... *smiling back* Lets go...

Jake, who had been listengin to this conversation all along, turned his head toward them and watched as the pair slipped off into the darkness towards the children that needed

their help. When they vanished from sight, he sat up and looked around. The entrance to the shelter was still closed. Undoubtably locked and sealed for their protection. He decided not to wake the others, who were probably in a peaceful sleep and gathered up his gear and trailed off after the others.

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NRPG: *Okay, I'm trailing after you two sneaks :) LOL! Let's get some action moving here before the ship comes for us. Don't want this away mission to go on with no purpose.*

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