

Subject: The Surprise
Author: Ensign Jay Masterson
Stardate: 80208.1300
Scene: In Sickbay
Time: Before "Away I Go"

It was morning. Ensign Jay Masterson slowly opened his eyes and stared at the ceiling of Sickbay. Such a cold looking sight. Sitting up, he noticed the sights around him. Sickbay was empty as can be with the exception of his pal Jake in another bio bed across the room. Lifting his somewhat healed leg off the biobed and standing up slowly, he noticed a sharp pain and almost fell. He managed to keep his balance and he slowly limped over to Jake's bed and gently shook him awake. Jake looked up at him tiredly.

Jake: "What is it Jay? I'm trying to catch up on some much needed sleep here."

Jay: "You've slept enough man. It's time go get up and face the day. I believe you're on duty in a few hours."

Jake: (Sitting up) "Morning already? (Rubbing eyes) Man that was the fastest night's sleep I've ever had."

Jay: "Yeah, well this gives us enough time to do what you had planned to do. You know, that surprise you were planning for Dr. Gray? I notice you've been paying a lot of attention to her lately." (Laughing)

Jake: (Smiling) "What can I say? The woman is very beautiful and she intrigues me. I have a few preparations to make before I go on duty. I'll meet you in my quarters in 2 hours."

Jay: "Okay bud, see ya there."

Jay limped back over to his biobed and laid back down and watched Jake as he slowly rolled out of his biobed and headed for the door. When the doors closed Jay leaned his head back and closed his eyes and fell fast asleep again.

JAKE'S QUARTERS (1 hour later)

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Jake was standing at his table. On the table were 5 little rolled up pieces of paper wrapped with red ribbon and black bows. Inside each rolled piece of paper was a beautiful RED Rose he had gotten from the Aeroponics Bay a few minutes earlier. When he had finished putting the last rose in the last roll of paper, he stood back and smiled and thought to himself, "She's gonna love this".

He gathered them in his arms and walked out of his quarters and down the hall to the end where Dr. Gray's quarters were and he pushed the signal and waited. Just as he suspected, no answer. Dr. Grey must have gone on duty already.

Jake: "Computer, override the lock on Dr. Gray's quarters. Security Authorization 37 Alpha Zulu 831."

<AUTHORIZATION EXCEPTED>

Jake pressed the button and the doors opened. He peered inside to make sure nobody was there. After all, Dr. Gray may have been asleep and didn't hear the door chime. Sure enough, nobody was there. The quarters were dark. No lights on anywhere. He pulled one of the paper rolls out of his cradled arm and placed it on Dr. Gray's pillow. Jake smiled brightly as he took one last look at it and then snuck out of her quarters and locked the door behind him.

JAKE'S QUARTERS (Another hour later)

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Ensign Masterson stood outside Jake's quarters and pushed the signal. He heard Jake shout "Come In!" from the other side, and he opened the door and stood there for a minute and peeked in. When he saw his friend Jake sitting at the table with a computer pad smiling as brightly as can be, he entered and sat down across from him. Jake looked up at him.

Jay: "Did you do it?"

Jake: "Yep." (Smiling)

Jay: "What are you writing?"

Jake: "My report on the mission we just came back from."

Jay: "I thought it was the commanding officer's duty to write the reports."

Jake: "It is. But I'm writing one anyway. This mission was unlike any we've ever been on. I've gotta hurry up and finish this, cause I am scheduled for duty in a few minutes."

A few minutes later Jake put the padd down on the table and stood up shouting, "I'm finished!".

Jay: (Standing up and walking toward the door) "Okay, I'll see ya later. Maybe we can get together for a game of poker or something."

Jake: (Laughing) "Ready to lose again?"

Jay: (Laughing back) "You haven't seen me in action since our last game. I've gotten rather good since we've been apart."

Jake: (Taking the padd with him and walking behind Jay) "We'll see. But I still say I can whip your butt."

Jay: (Laughing) "Yeah, we'll see. And this time I'll be watching you very closely to make sure you're not using your senses to see the cards."

Jake: (Smiling as they parted ways) "I would never do that to you."

Ensign Masterson walked to the right, and Jake walked to the left to the turbolift, and pushed the button. Jay turned around to take one last look behind him and watched Jake step onto the turbolift, he then turned back around and pushed the button to the door to his quarters and stepped inside and laid down on the bed and went to sleep.

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NRPG: Sorry about this being so late, but I needed to throw this in before Jake's post because it makes more sense this way ;)
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