

Subject: Ben??.Ben Who?
Author: Lt. Jake Arrington
Stardate: 80608:2300
Scene: Under The Admittance Center
Time: After "Main Admittance Center"

Suddenly out of the darkness a pair of hands grabbed her from behind. Instinctively she used what skills she had learned from the EMH O'Donnell and shoved back with her elbow catching her assailant in the sternum. Using her free hand she wheeled around and used the palm of her hand against the nose of the thug. As he collapsed on the ground another grabbed her from behind, she could see that she was not the only one in a battle now. All of them were being attacked. Two of the security Ensigns were down on the ground, while Jake was battling two others.

But their defending had been for naught as soon all of them were captured and taken to a large room, deep in the catacombs.

Around a large table with layout drawings spread out on top were many Betazoids there and as Zina tried to adjust her eyes to the light she realized the one at the head of the table she recognized.

Zina: BEN!!!!!!

Jake: (Looking at the doctor with surprise and then glaring at the one she called Ben)
Ben?..Ben who?

Zina: Jake, this is Ben.. Ben, meet Lt. Jake Arrington. He's the security chief on the Independence.

Ben extends his hand to shake Jake's, but Jake just glared at him, rubbing the bump on the back of his head that was undoubtedly put there by one of his captives hitting him in the back of the head with the butt of their gun.

Jake: You'll forgive me if I don't jump for joy at the moment. I don't take kindly to being abducted.

Ben: Believe me Mr. Arrington, it was necessary. If we hadn't done what we did, you would have been captured by somebody more unfriendly. What are you guys doing here anyway? Don't you know there's a conflict going on out there?

Zina: That's why we're here. Captain Morris has sent several teams to key locations around the planet to partake in the liberation of Betazed.

Ben: (Looking down at the map on the table) Well we're about to do the same thing. And

believe me we could use all the help that we can get. Because as you can probably tell we are just a little undermanned here. We were just on our way to the Global Defence Center when you showed up.

Jake: I apologize for throwing the proverbial stone in your plan, but we have our orders and we intend to follow them whether you like it or not!

Ben: There's no need to be hostile towards us Lieutenant. We're not the enemy here. The enemy is out there.

Zina: Stop it you two! Don't fight.

Jake and Ben both look at the Doctor, then exchange agreeable glances towards each other and sit there quietly while the doctor speaks.

Zina: Now, Captain Morris has 3 teams on the planet that we know of. Jake and I were ordered to take our team to the Main Admittance Center to secure the files. We finished that part, and then decided to take a little stroll around and found you. Or rather you found us.

Ben: I apologize for the rude capture dear.

Jake watches Ben lean over and put his hand over top Zina's and give it a light squeeze. Zina gives him a little smile, and he smiles back at her. Jake, knowing that Zina accepted him as a special friend, played it no mind, but committed to memory that he intended to have a little talk with this Ben person to set the boundaries straight about how he acts around his lovely Zina.

Zina: (Smiling at Jake) It's okay, at least we're safe, and I know that you're safe. I haven't heard from you in a long time. Was beginning to wonder if you were dead.

Ben: (Smiling) Well, after many of my friends died at the Dominion's hands, I decided to band together a few followers and take some action against this harassment.

Jake: Exactly what is it you are planning here?

Ben: We were planning to retake the Prime minister's house.

Jake: Okay. The files are secure, our mission is completed here. So we'll join your forces and help retake the Prime Minister's Estate. But if I remember correctly, Captain Morris already has a team there. So if that's where we're going, I suggest we hold back a little bit, and look around to make sure we're not interfering with their plans.

Ben: (Folding the map) Agreed. I'll tell my men. In the meantime, you two stay here, get your bearings, have something to drink. We're not preparing to attack for another half hour.

Jake: Thank you.

And with that, the one called Ben leaves the room. As soon as the door is closed behind him, Jake looks at Zina.

Jake: Did you see the way he was looking at you?

Zina: Oh Jake. (Smiling) We're just old friends. He's been taking care of the twins, keeping me posted on their lives. I'm grateful for that. I've missed having them around so much lately.

Jake takes Zina's hand and holds it gently in his and looks into her beautiful eyes and smiles, reassuring her that it was going to be alright.

*****NRPG:** *Okay, here it is. Got kinda lost at first, but I think this will do ;)*

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