

**Subject: Regrets**  
**Author: Lt. Jake Arrington**  
**Stardate:80720.1830**  
**Time: After "A Fallen Comrad"**  
**Scene: Jake's Quarters**

Jake entered his quarters and stood by the door for a few moments, staring around the confined space, thinking about how he was going to put it to his best friend's wife that her husband was murdered.

Wondering if he should tell her he was murdered, or tell her he was killed in a holodeck accident. He wanted to tell her the truth, not shielding anything from her and the rest of Jay's family, but at the same time, he wasn't sure if it was a murder. The report clearly said that Ensign Masterson was training on the holodeck, running the Jungles Of Africa program that he and Jake liked so much, that the holodeck safeties were off, which he at first thought was his fault, but it couldn't have been, cause once a program is ended, the safeties are automatically initialized for the next program, but what doesn't fit the profile, was the wound that went through his stomach, through his whole body, out his back. The report said it was obviously caused by a sharp metallic object. That right there showed a murder, not a holodeck accident. Basically because the Jungles Of Africa program didn't include any sharp metallic objects. The Jungles Of Africa was a program that Jake originally created to train his abilities as a Sentinel, not only that, but also a place where he could relax and feel at home, rather than feel confined within the walls of a Starship.

He kept those thoughts in mind and sat down at the table at the computer and activated it and stared at the screen for a few moments. The Starfleet insignia stared him right back in the face.

Jake:Computer, access Sub Space Communications array.

<Link established.>

Jake:Begin recording.

<Recording.>

Jake: Mrs. Masterson.... Hhhhh.. It is with deep regret that I bring you this terrible news.... And this duty is usually for the Captain to perform, but I thought I should tell you since we are so close.... (Jake began to cry) Upon my return from a mission on Betazed...(Whiping the tears from his face) I had been informed of the terrible news that your husband had been killed in a holodeck accident.... I am so sorry to have to tell you this, but the report from our Emergency Medical Hologram stated that at first it looked like a holodeck accident, but later on revealed that he was murdered..... We don't know yet by who... We believe that the holodeck sensors were tampered with because they show that the only life sign on the holodeck during the events that occurred was Ensign

Masterson. The report stated that he was found dead on Holodeck 2 with a wound in his belly that extended through his body and out his back. The EMH report stated that the wound was caused by a sharp metallic object, and since the program he was running had nothing like that in it, I sincerely believe he was murdered. And I intend to investigate the matter further just as soon as I talk with my Captain. I will keep you updated as further reports come in. Please except my sincere apologies to you and your family on the loss of your husband, and a very dear friend of mine. Whatever funeral arrangements need to be made, I think should be arranged by you. Just let me know when and where, and I'll be there. I wish you the best..... Computer, end recording.... Send to the Masterson Family on Earth. Priority-1.

<Message sent.>

Jake turned the computer off and sat back in his chair and wiped the tears from his eyes. As the sorrow and feelings of anger and remorse welled up inside him, he realized that it wasn't going to do him any good in his investigation of the matter. He needed to pull himself together. He closed his eyes and concentrated for a few moments, shoving the negative feelings deep within himself and assumed the emotionless state of that of a Vulcan for the time being. Not a very good thing to do, but it seemed right for the time being. As he stood up and prepared to return to duty, he made a mental note to make an appointment with the counselor as soon as she was available. He exited his quarters and headed for the turbo lift.

Jake:Deck 4.

Security Office

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Jake opened the doors to the Security office, and proceeded toward the desk was suddenly he lost his balance and nearly fell on his face. He got up on his knees and turned behind him to see what he had tripped over and saw a body. Turning it over, revealed the face of one of his security personnel who was stationed here to guard Lt. Hunter's cell. Jake tapped his comm badge.

[Arrington to Sickbay! Medical Emergency, deck 7, Section A]

[I'm on my way!], Dr. Gray's voice came back at him.

Jake got to his feet and looked around, searching the cells for Lt. Hunter. The cell he was supposed to be in was empty, but laying on the floor just outside the forcefield was a piece of a uniform with a comm badge attached to it. The edges were blackened Jake knelt down and picked it up and examined it for a moment. The doors opened, and Dr. Gray came running in with a medical kit. She knelt down beside the guard and opened up the medical kit and pulled out the medical triquarder and began scanning him.

Dr. Gray: He's alive... Barely. [Doctor to Transporter Room 3, Emergency protocol. 2 to

beam directly to Sickbay.]

And with that, Dr. Gray and the fallen guard's body were instantly transported out of the Security office. Jake went over to the desk and sat down for a moment, still examining the piece of cloth. Smelling it, revealed a fowl stench of smoke and charred flesh. He winced at the horrible sensation and put the cloth on the desk.

Jake:Computer, who does this belong to?

<Lt. Hunter>

Jake:Computer. locate Lt. Hunter.

<Lt. Hunter is on Deck 7, Section A.>

Jake:That's where his comm badge is, locate his life signs.

<Unable to comply. Life signs of Lt. Hunter could not be found.>

Jake sat up in his chair and activated the computer monitor at the security desk.

Jake:Computer, access Security Camera in Section A.

<Accessed.>

Jake:Begin playback on this monitor.

And to Jake's surprise, what he saw was awful. Since there were various power fluctuations, the recording seemed very staticky, but he was able to see clearly, the body of Lt. Hunter trying to run back into his cell, but the power came back on and the security forcefield reactivated and fried his body. The only remains was the piece of uniform with the comm badge attached to it, which is what he found. Jake turned the monitor off and stood up and tapped his comm badge.

[Arrington to Captain Morris]

[Morris here. What is it?]

[Captain, I'm sorry to bother you, but I think there's some things you need to be told about. Please meet me in Sickbay.]

[On my way. Morris out.]

Jake deactivated his comm badge breaking the signal and picked up the cloth and exited the Security office and got into the Turbo lift.

Jake:Sickbay!

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