

Subject: Investigations (Part 1)

Author: Lt. Jake Arrington

Stardate: 80728:1200

Scene: Sickbay

Time: After "Always A Captain" & During "1945 and Misunderstandings"

The doors swished open and Jake walked into Sickbay, an expression of extreme seriousness on his face. He looked around and saw an on duty nurse sitting in the office reading a pad, and Dr. Gray accross the roomattending to the Ensign that was injured in the Brig. She was giving him an injection with a hypo-spray. She looked up at him and smiled.

Dr. Gray: He'll be alright. He's just been knocked unconscious due to a heavy blow to the head.

Jake: A heavy blow from what?

Dr. Gray: Looks like he was beaten.

Jake handed her the piece of charred cloth with the comm badge still attached to it.

Dr. Gray: What's this?

Jake: What's left of Lt. Hunter. Or atleast that's what I think.

Dr. Gray took the cloth to the bio-scanner and turned on the sensor beam. A bright flash of blue shined accross it for a brief moment. The scanner beeped and she removed the cloth.

Dr. Gray: Computer, identify DNA sequence.

<DNA Sequence registers as the remains of Lt. Hunter.>

Jake: Damn! What was he doing out of his cell!

Just then, the doors swished open and the Captain walked in. Jake left the Doctor to her duties on his security officer and went over to theCaptain.

Morris: What have you got Lieutenant?

Jake: I'm afraid bad news sir... In the past 2 days, 2 men have died. Lt. Hunter, and Ensign Masterson.

Morris: I see. Tell me what happened.

Jake: Well sir, it appears that the Ensign over there with the Doctor was beaten unconscious in Lt. Hunter's attempt to escape from the Brig. Internal sensors show that during the battle with the Dominion, there was a power surge and the forcefields to the cells weakened just enough for him to escape from his cell.

Morris began stroking his beard as Jake continued.

Jake: The sensors failed during that time for about 30 seconds, and when they came back on, they showed him running back into his cell just as the power came back on and the forcefield reached full intensity again and fried him. There was nothing left of him except this.

Jake went over to the bio-scanner and picked up the piece of cloth from Lt. Hunter's uniform and handed it to the Captain and continued.

Jake: The bio-scanner identifies the DNA Sequence as the remains of Lt. Hunter.

Captain Morris examined the cloth for a moment, still stroking his beard then he handed it back to Jake and awaited the next event.

Jake: And today I had the worst duty in my life. I had to call Ensign Masterson's family and inform them of his death.

Morris: Yes, I know. I'm sorry about the loss of your dear friend Lieutenant. The EMH called for me when it happened, but through all the battling I just couldn't tear myself away from the bridge. She said something about foul play. What happened?

Jake: The initial reports showed that he died in a holodeck accident, but the way he was killed does not coincide with that. He was running my Jungles Of Africa program. The EMH program's report said that she was automatically transferred to the Holodeck when a medical emergency was called and found him dead with a sword sticking out of his back.

Morris: And what leads you to believe that this was not a holodeck accident?

Jake: It's impossible sir. That program only contained phasers for phaser tag. It's a training simulation. And the safety protocols were offline. Sir... I have reason to believe that the program was tampered with, and that he was murdered.

Morris: I see.

Jake: With your permission sir, I would like to begin a full scale investigation.

Morris: (Hesitating for a moment) Permission granted... You may use any personnel necessary. I have other matters to attend to. Report to me directly when you have anything further.

Jake: Sir?

Morris: (Storming out the doors) Just do it!!!

Jake: Aye sir.

Jake turned to the Doctor and smiled at her. As he left, he blew her a kiss and went to the Turbo lift.

Security Office (Also known as The Brig)

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The doors to the Security office swished open and Jake walked in. The place was deserted. No guards, no prisoners, nothing. He sat down at the desk and activated the monitor and played the sensor recording of Lt. Hunter's death again. Studying it for a moment, he decided to begin his first investigation on that matter, and tapped his comm badge.

[Lt. Arrington to Commander K`Raye.]

[K`Raye here. How can I help you Lt?]

[I`d like to speak with you as soon as you can.]

[Certainly Lt. I`ll meet you in my quarter`s in the next few minutes?]

Jake thought for a brief moment.

[No Counselor. Meet me in the brig.]

[I`ll be right there.]

Jake ordered the computer to display the sensor recording in continuous playback and put his feet up on the desk and continued to examine it over and over. A few moments later, Tues entered the security office and Jake sat up quickly and turned the monitor off.

Tues: Lt. you wanted to see me?

Jake looked up from where he sat at his desk watching something on the monitor. He snapped it off and studied her for a moment before he stood and approached her. "Counselor" He nodded his head and pulled out a chair, motioning for her to sit. "First off I should tell you Lt. Hunter is no longer on the ship."

"He was transferred this far from the station?" Tues asked calmly.

The Chief of Security watched her carefully as he spoke. "It seems he's dead actually. The computer has confirmed his demise, but it can't tell me how or why he died such an untimely death."

"You wonder if he was capable of committing suicide? Well I..."

"I'd like to ask you a couple questions."

"Certainly." Tues stopped her analysis of Lt. Hunter's ability to take his own life and waited quietly.

"You don't appear too upset over the news the man is dead." The Lt. turned towards his monitor screen. "I'd like to show you something."

[Commander K`Raye. Captains ready room on the double.]

[On my way.] Expectantly Tues looked at Lt Arrington.

Grudgingly he left the darkened viewscreen untouched. "If you could meet with me here when you have the time I'd..."

[Lt. Arrington. Captain's ready room on the double.]

[Acknowledged.] Well Counselor. It seems we'll leave here together." He stood aside allowing her to leave before him.

Tues walked past him and couldn't help but realize he was relieved to keep an eye on her. He followed her out and they both entered the Turbo lift and headed for the Bridge.

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