

Subject: Investigations (Part 2)

Author: Lt Commander Jake Arrington <-- WOOHOO! I got promoted! ;)

Stardate:80730.1400

Scene:Captain's Ready Room

Time:After "Congratulations and goodbye"

"I just want you all to know that I'm proud of you" Morris said. "Dismissed"

The officers all lined up single file and headed out the door of the Ready Room, and went about their business. Jake stepped into the turbo lift after telling Tues that he'd have to meet up with her later about those questions he had about Lt. Hunter. He had other pressing matters to attend to.

Jake: (As the turbo lift doors close behind him) Holodeck 2!

The turbo lift began to move, and within minutes, it reached its destination on Deck 4 and the doors swished open and he stepped out. Directly down the hall from the turbo lift was the entrance to Holodeck 2. Instead of trying to tear an engineering team away from their duties during a battle situation, he decided to see what he could find out about the incident that happened with his best friend Ensign Jay Masterson. As he loaded the Jungles Of Africa program and entered the Holodeck his intentions were clear. To find out if the program had been tampered with, and who did it.

The holodeck doors closed behind him and he stopped right at the arch and began hitting numerous buttons at the console, bringing up the narrative parameters file, manually going into it, using his expert computer skills, running through each file to see if he could find any anomalies. After an hour of searching, he found nothing. But he wasn't ready to give up yet. He decided to check the internal sensor logs of the Holodeck to see if he could find any anomalies there. And sure enough, he did. Running through a recording of the simulation that Jay was running in which he was killed, he came to the conclusion that the program had been tampered with, as were the sensor logs. Because right at the moment just before he was killed, the screen went staticky for a few moments, then when the sensor recording turned to normal, it showed the black and yellow holodeck grid, no program running, no Ensign Masterson.

Jake: Computer! Send this recording to my security office for further analysis.

<Transfer complete.>

Security Office

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The doors swished open, and Jake entered the Security Office and sat down at his desk and activated the computer monitor, and brought up the sensor recording of the holodeck incident.

Jake: Computer, replay from time index 442 and give me a 30 second frame by frame display.

The screen went blank for a few moments as the computer processed his request. When it came back on, it began playing back right at the point where the image became nothing but static on the screen.

Jake: Freeze!

The image stopped suddenly, and Jake began to study it for a few moments.

Jake: Computer, analyze sensor recording and tell me the cause of the static.

<Working.....> <--- Beep beep, chirp, squak :) ROFLMAO!

<Analysis shows that this portion of the recording was erased.>

Jake: What? Intentionally.

<Affirmative.>

Jake: By who?

<That information is not available.>

Jake: Computer, how much of the data block can you restore?

<Seventy-Four Percent>

Jake: Hmmmm... That's not good enough but it'll have to do. Computer, restore deleted block of data and notify me when it is complete.

<Acknowledge.>

Jake picked up a computer pad and began writing a report on his findings. When he was finished, he tucked it under his arm and stood up and exited the Security office and went into the turbo lift.

Jake: Bridge!

On The Bridge

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The doors swished open on the bridge, and Jake stepped off the turbo lift. He looked around and saw several officers going about their duties. A short look at the Captain's

chair revealed Captain Morris leaning over talking to Commander Mekel. Jake waited a few moments and then spoke up.

Jake: Captain, do you have a minute?

The seat shook a little, and the Captain turned to face him, then stood up and went to him. The two of them went off to a secluded side of the bridge and Jake handed the pad to him and he studied it for a few moments.

Morris: Is this right? What is this?

Jake: Clear as a bell Captain. The sensor logs have been tampered with. The block of data from the holodeck's internal sensors which shows the moment of Jay's death has been erased. However, it has not been erased completely. I have the computer working on cleaning it up at the moment, and won't get the end result for a couple of hours, but I thought you should know that it can only restore 74% of the image quality, so that isn't enough to make out a face.

Morris: I see. Well, do the best you can.

Jake: (Taking the pad) You should also know sir... We may have an intruder onboard. And I have reason to believe he/she is still here

Morris: How so?

Jake: The holodeck's sensors showed that Jay was the only life form in the holodeck during the incident, and I find no evidence that those sensors have been tampered with. So I believe they are correct.

Morris: Then how was he killed?

Jake: I'm not sure yet sir, but I believe it may have been another holodeck character.

Morris: Another holodeck character?

Jake: Yes sir. It's the only logical explanation. And I have confirmed that the safety protocols were online during the whole incident.

Morris: Then how was he killed?

Jake: I would surmise that it was a holodeck subroutine that was not part of the program... An independant computer subroutine that did not have the confines of the safety protocols to keep it from performing it's task.

Morris: How is that possible?

Jake: Unknown, but I intend to look into it. My next move is to check out the holodeck program itself for evidence of tampering. I wrote it, so if there's anything out of the ordinary, I'll find it.

Morris: Alright Lieutenant. Keep me informed. Dismissed.

Jake went back into the turbo lift, and Captain Morris went back to his chair in the center of the bridge.

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