

Subject: The Funeral (Part 3)
Author: Lt. Commander Jake Arrington
Stardate: 80905.2100
Scene: Runabout Omni
Time: After "The Funeral (Part 2)"

<Warning... Shields down to 41%>

Jake: Transfer power from the warp engines to the shield grid!

Jake was frantically pressing buttons at the controls of the Runabout, transferring power to the weapon systems, trying to give himself a few minutes without being destroyed so he could figure out how the heck he was going to get out of this.

<Warning... Shields down to 20%>

Jake: I don't care! Just keep transferring power!

<Acknowledged>

Just then, 3 flashes of blue light caught his eye, and he looked out the front window of the runabout and saw another starship approaching, firing quantum torpedoes at the Romulan vessel. The 3 torpedoes impacted on the surface of the Romulan Warbird, and it exploded into many pieces. The starship gracefully maneuvered through the explosion and stopped right in front of him.

Jake: (Amazed) Computer, identify this Starship.

<Starship registers as USS Righteous NCC42451-A>

Jake: (Gasping) The Righteous!?

<Affirmative>

Suddenly, the console right in front of Jake exploded and sent him flying out of the command chair and into the rear bulkhead. Jake sat up for a moment, holding the back of his head, which slammed against the bulkhead and stared weary eyed at the front window of the runabout.

<Warning! Warp core breach in progress.>

Jake: C.o.m.p.u.t.e.r..... Priority... One...Distress call.... Authorization.. Jake... 8...3...1...
Enable...

Jake was able to get the computer to send out a distress call before he finally lost

consciousness and hit the floor. The last thing that was seen was his body and the rest of the passengers being transported off the runabout before it exploded.

Elsewhere

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"He's got a concussion. Massive internal hemorrhaging. If we don't operate on him immediately, he may die."

"Do it. Inform me the minute he's conscious. I'll be on the bridge."

"Aye Captain."

The captain looked at Jake's limp body for a few moments, thinking. Then she turned for the door and exited.

An Hour Later

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The doors opened and the Captain walked in again and approached the doctor, who was just finishing up the surgery and cleaning up.

Captain: How is he?

Doctor: He's going to be fine. The surgery was a success. No swelling, no bruising, I can wake him if you'd like.

Captain: Yes, I'd like that very much.

The doctor went to a table and picked up a hypospray and pushed a cartridge into it and programmed a setting on it, then put it to Jake's neck and pushed the button. Jake started to move a little bit, then his eyes opened slowly, and he looked around. His vision was very blurry for a moment, but it soon passed, and the first face he saw was the Captain's. Somebody he thought he had seen before, but never met.

Jake: (Reaching out to the Captain) Tar...gus???

The Captain looked at the doctor with a questioning look on her face, then she looked at Jake again and took his hand and bent down toward him.

Captain: How did you know my name?

Jake: (Feeling a little better) You... You are Ensign Anastasia Targus, aren't you? Or at least you look like her...

The Captain dropped his hand and put her head down for a few moments. Jake lifted his

head slightly to see her better. He heard her speak again.

Captain: Anastasia Targus was my mother.... But.. She died 11 years ago...

Jake: (Interrupting her) The battle of Wolf 359. She was your mother?

Captain: Yes.

Jake: I... I'm sorry, I had no idea.

The Captain took his hand again and held it firmly. And looked into his eyes again.

Captain: You... You look familiar to me, but I don't know your name.. Lieutenant...

Jake: Arrington... Jake Arrington.. Chief of Security, USS Independence.

Captain: Arrington.... Your father was Ralph Furlong...

Jake: Yes.. Don't ask me why I have a different last name now.. It's a long story. Suffice to say, my mother remarried after... The...

Captain: After the Righteous was destroyed by the BORG. Yes, we all know the story. There was a rumor going around that there was only one survivor. I guess it was you.

Jake: (Sitting up slowly) Yes...

The Doctor tried to push him back down, but the Captain held up her hand, and the Doctor backed off. Jake looked around the room he was in. Obviously the sick bay of whatever ship he was on. He did however know that he was on the ship that rescued him from the Romulan Warbird. Jake suddenly gathered his thoughts and looked at the Captain.

Jake: The others.... Where are the others?

Captain: They're fine. We beamed you out of there just before your runabout exploded.

Jake: What happened?

Captain: Warp core breach. There was nothing you could have done, it happened too quickly. If we hadn't gotten you out of there, you would have been killed.

Jake: (Whipping his forehead) Hhhhh.. I need a drink.

The Doctor giggled slightly.

Captain: I was just going to the bar. Would you care to join me?

Jake: (Smiling at her) Yes, I would. Thank you.

Jake scooted himself off the biobed and followed the Captain out the doors of sickbay and the two of them entered a turbo lift.

In The Bar (No, it isn't Ten-Forward either. LOL!)

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A Waitress came to their table and set their drinks down and smiled at them, then left them alone, and Jake looked around the room in a confused manner.

Jake: What ship is this?

Captain: The USS Righteous-A. Named after the former USS Righteous.

Jake: (Smiling) Amazing. It doesn't look much different from what I remember of the old one.

Captain: (Looking around with him) Well, she's only been in service for a year now. Haven't had too many battles. We were on our way from the Orion system when we found you.

Jake: (Smiling at the Captain) You must be proud to be in command of her.

Captain: Oh yes. Very proud. She's a good ship, and she carries a proud name.

Jake: That she does.

Captain: So tell me Lieutenant... What were you doing all the way out here? You said you are the Security Chief of the USS Independence. Shouldn't you be there?

Jake: I was on my way to Earth, to attend the funeral of my best friend Ensign Jay Masterson. He was killed in a holodeck accident a few days ago.

Captain: I see. Well, we're on our way back to port. We can drop you off if you'd like. You can take a shuttle from the Starbase.

Jake: Thank you Captain, I'd appreciate that very much.

Captain: We're nearly 30 minutes away. I suggest you get some sleep. I've arranged for temporary quarters for you on deck 16, section 31-Alpha. Room #804.

Jake: (Standing up) Thank you.

Jake turned his back to her and began to walk toward the door of the bar, but stopped and

turned to face her again.

Jake: I'm sorry, I don't believe I caught your name through all this.

Captain: I'm Captain Lynne Targus.

Jake went to her and took her hand and shook it and smiled at her.

Jake: Pleasure to meet you Captain. Thank you for saving my life. I owe you one.

Captain: (Smiling) Don't mention it. It's all in the line of duty. But we'll talk about repayment some other time.

Jake let go of her hand, and they smiled at each other and parted ways, and Jake went to his temporary quarters and drifted off to sleep for the remainder of the short journey.

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NRPG: Okay, let's try this one. LOL! Good story line, not bringing any new ships into the game, just figured I'd bring up a little more of my past.