

Subject: The Aftermath
Author: Lt. Commander Jake Arrington
Stardate: 80919:0100
Scene: Masterson's Estate
Time: After "The Funeral (Part 6)"

The front door to the Masterson's Estate opened and Jake, Melanie and the kids entered. The kids ran out the back door to play. Melanie put her bag on a chair next to the door and went into the living room and sat down. Jake walked in and just watched her for a few moments. She appeared very saddened by her recent loss, and Jake was puzzled by the fact that she just appeared like she didn't know what she was going to do next. She looked up at him.

Melanie: Jake, what am I going to do now? My husband is gone, I'm all alone in this empty house with the kids. I'm lost.

Jake: (Entering the room) I don't know. I do have a few suggestions, but I'm sure you've got better things to think about rather than listen to my ideas.

Melanie: No, go ahead. I value your opinions, you know that.

Jake: Well, it occurred to me that Jay's on main goal after he rejoined Starfleet was to get you and the kids to move to the Independence with him. I just thought you might want to pursue that.

Melanie: And do what? Tag along with my best friend, appear to everybody else as an outcast, a person who just hangs around on the ship and does nothing but take care of her family? I don't think so. If Jay were still alive, maybe. But there would just be no purpose for my being there.

Jake: It was just an idea. You do have an exemplary background in Astronomy. I don't know, maybe you could use that.

Melanie: For what? What's the Federation's Flagship going to do with an out of work Astronomer?

Jake: Like I said.. Just an idea. When you first agreed to move to the Independence with Jay, I'm sure you had plans of becoming more than just a house wife aboard. Something other than just being there. I mean, look at all the other officers wives. Each of them has found something to occupy themselves with while being onboard. Besides, it would be great to have you.

Melanie: I suppose I could contact Admiral Kelly and ask him if it would be all right. But what am I going to do with this house? I could never abandon it.

Jake: I'm sure it will be just fine without you. Could serve as a place to come back to every now and then when the ship arrives at port after long missions.

Melanie: All right, I'll think about it.

Jake: (Smiling) Good. I'm going to bed. Long day tomorrow. Gotta find out where the USS Righteous-A is currently at.

Melanie: What for?

Jake: Made a new friend. The Captain is the daughter of an old friend of my father's. It's a long story. I'm gonna see about hitching a ride with them to DS23 where I will rendezvous with the Independence next week.

Melanie: Do you have to do that so soon? You're here for another week, there should be plenty of time to do that. I'm taking the kids to the Zoo tomorrow afternoon. Would be great to have you with us.

Jake: (Thinking) I suppose I could hold off on that for a while. I just want to make sure they don't leave without me. They did give me a ride to Starbase when my shuttle was attacked.

Melanie: What?

Jake: I'm sorry. Through all this, I forgot to tell you about my lovely journey from the Independence towards Starbase.

(And Jake went on to tell her about his long tail. About how he left the Independence with a small crew of people that had to be taken to Starfleet Medical, expecting a safe journey the whole way, but ended up being attacked by a Romulan Warbird shortly after leaving. And how he was saved by the Righteous-A, more than likely a blast from his past so far as he was concerned.)

Melanie: Interesting story.

Jake: Yeah well it wasn't very interesting as the events were unfolding, but I'm happy to be alive. If it weren't for the Righteous-A I'd be dead. I just didn't expect to meet her Captain, whom at first I actually thought was my father's friend until she told me she was Anastasia's daughter. You should have seen her. She looks exactly like her mother. I was totally freaked out. Not to mention in pain from being thrown into a bulkhead as the panel exploded in front of me.

Melanie: Ouch. Bet that hurt.

Jake: That's an understatement. (Getting up) Well, I'm off to bed. Good night.

Melanie: See you in the morning.

Lt. Commander Jake Arrington
Security Chief
USS Independence
SMA032372@aol.com
EGN#: 48551 (I Dumped ICQ. EGN Is Better)

NRPG: Okay, got this one out of the way. Finding it more and more difficult to post while not on the ship, but I'm just making it all up as I go along. And Captain, I'm not sure about the Ready Room's new name. Frankly I like the name it currently has. Seems kinda silly to change it, but it's your ship, so you do what you want ;)