

Subject: Arrington Returns (Part 3)
Author: Lt. Commander Jake Arrington
Stardate: 81010.2300
Scene: DS23
Time: After "Arrington Returns (Part 2)"

Jake's pattern re-materializes in the transporter room of DS23. He looks around a moment before smiling at the transporter chief and exiting the transporter room and walking into a turbo lift.

Jake: (As the doors close) Tavern!

And with that the turbo lift begins to move towards its given location. While he waited, Jake paced around inside the turbo lift thinking about the past events. About what he was going to do now that his best friend was no longer with him. What he was going to do about the pending investigations into his death. He figured the best place to start was on DS23, where he hoped to find Commander Fallan. Seemed like a rocky place to start for him, but he figured the perspective from a fellow security officer may help shed some light on the subject. In a few moments, the turbo lift doors swished open, and he exited, walked down the hall a few meters and found the huge doors to the Tavern, right where he left it when he first arrived on DS23. He walked inside and looked around.

Many officers and species of different types were going about their business. Tables were full, lots of customers at the bar. He spotted Jaan sitting on her bar stool talking to one of her customers. He walked up to the bar and sat down in the corner, isolating himself from everybody else and waited.

A few moments later, Jaan walked over to him as he was apparently deep in thought, and wasn't paying attention. She just stood there and smiled, waiting. Jake looked up and smiled.

Jaan: Rough day?

Jake: You could say that. A lot has happened since I was last here.

Jaan: Well tell me what ya want to drink and we'll sit down and talk about it. I love stories.

Jake: (Smiling) Perhaps some other time. I have work to do.... I'll have a glass of Synthohol and some Hasperot.

Jaan: (Smiling) Are you sure? We don't serve replicated Hosperot here. We get the stuff imported from Bajor. It's really rather spicy stuff.

Jake: I'm sure...

Jaan left him alone in his little corner and went to get his order. He sat there staring down at the bar table for a few moments, thinking. Not about anything in particular, just thinking to himself. (He does this alot LOL!) But something disturbed him. Using his senses, he was able to pick out several conersations going on around the room about the USS Independence having docked at DS23, that there were repairs needed, and something that really scared him. "I hear the Doctor is missing from the Independence" he heard a deep voice say from accross the room. He looked in the direction the voice came from and saw 2 Klingons and 3 Starfleet officers talking amoungst themselves. Hearing the deep voice again, he decided that it was one of the Klingons that had said it. He stood up from his corner and slowly approached their table.

Jake: Excuse me.

The Klingon he heard looked up at him and growled slightly as if he had disturbed their peace.

Klingon: (Snarling) Grrr! What do you want!

Jake: I'm sorry to disturb you men, but I couldn't help but over hear your conversation. Did somebody say the Doctor is missing from the Independence.

Klingon: Yes! I did! Now leave us! We're busy!

Jake: Wait! Do you know where she is? I must know.

Klingon: (Standing up and getting in his face) I suggest you leave immediately or I will throw you out!

Jake: (Getting angry) Excuse me sir! You will speak to me with respect! I outrank you!

Klingon: (Growling) I am not a part of your pitiful Starfleet! I do not recongize your authority here!

Jake: I just asked if anybody knows where the Doctor is! Is that so much to ask? No! I don't think so!

Klingon: (Yelling) You will watch your tongue Starfleet! Or shall I cut it out of your throat!

Jake stepped away from the Klingon and noticed that he had a knife of some sort in his hand. Jake quickly drew his phaser and pointed it at the Klingon. Suddenly a man's voice behind them yelled.

Voice: Gentlemen! Is there a problem?

Klingon: (Putting the knife away) Not at all. This human is disturbing our little get together and I want him to leave!

The man put his hand on Jake's shoulder and spun him around to face him. Jake set aside his anger and just stood there looking into the man's eyes, recognizing him as Commander Fallan, DS23's security chief. Just the man he was looking for.

Fallan: Commander, do I need to throw you in the brig for stirring up trouble on my station?

Jake: No. That won't be necessary. (Putting his phaser away) I was up at the bar waiting for my food when I heard a conversation going on over here about Doctor Gray. She's apparently missing from the Independence.

Fallan: (Walking with him to his seat) So you walk over to their table and disturb them and start trouble.

Jake: No. I didn't start anything. I simply asked if anybody knew where she was and that Klingon got a stick up his ass.

Jake sat down to his plate of food and glass of Synthohol and picked up the fork. Commander Fallan took the seat next to him and began speaking again.

Fallan: Listen commander, I know you're fairly new here. So I'll give you a nickels worth of free advice. The Klingons aren't too happy with Federation presence in this sector. But they're cooping with it as best they can. They don't need you walking around starting fights with them. I think it's best that you leave them alone and go find out for yourself where the Doctor is.

Jake: I see your point. I apologize for my behavior, it's just that a Klingon attitude really gets to me. I try to have peaceful conversations with them and they blow everything all out of sorts. I think they do it just to annoy me.

Fallan: Commander, you're being paranoid. That's just the Klingon way. If you had been around them as much as I have, you'd understand that. (Standing up) Look. I have to get back to my office. Do you think you can behave yourself?

Jake: (Smiling) Yes. I need to talk to you later on, so don't go too far.

Fallan: Okay.

And with that, Commander Fallan leaves him sitting there eating his food and exits the Tavern. And Jake finishes his food and drink and he says goodbye to Jaan and thanks her for the delicious Hesperot and he too exits the Tavern and goes for a long walk on the Prominod (if there is one LOL!).

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