

*Captain's log, stardate 48232.4:*

*Starfleet Command has requested that the crew of the Sarek make first contact with the civilization on the planet Renola III in the Gamma Quadrant. The PSV Cocheco reported anomalous sensor readings from the planet when they recently passed through the system.*

*Kale, out.*

"Helm," ordered Captain Kalin Kale, commanding officer of the starship *Sarek*. "Set course for Renola III. Engage, warp five. Estimated time of arrival, Mister Kes?"

Ensign Pr'n Kes looked up from her console and said, "At orrrrrderrrrred courrrrse and speed, we will rrrreach the Rrrrenola system in forrrrrty nine and a half hourrrrs, sirrrr."

"Very good. Maintain speed."

Space, the Final Frontier...

These are the voyages of the starship *Sarek*!

## Star Trek: Sarek

### "First Contact ...Again!" by Phil Schreiber

*Two Days Later...*

Captain Kalin Kale of Alpha Centauri turned toward his chief of operations

"Monster, what do we know about this planet?"

Setton To'Lock Arbelo answered, "Preliminary surveys by the crew of the *Cocheco* report that it is an advanced civilization with rudimentary spaceflight technology. The inhabitants have apparently been at peace for almost two hundred years, and indications are that they are about to develop warp technology and explore further into the galaxy."

Pr'n Kes turned to Kale.

"We arrre enterrring standarrred orrrrbit of Rrrrenola III, Captain," the conn officer purred.

Kale, standing behind the felinoid ensign, ordered, "Maintain standard (achoo) orbit (sniff, sniff)." Then turning to his first officer he said, "Number One, form an away team to be ready in half an hour with standard equipment."

"Yes, Kalin," Lt Commander Yu-Fen Cosna replied.

\* \* \*

Shortly, the away team, consisting of Cosna, security chief Lieutenant Penji Fil, security guard John Q. Laren, Counselor Kethry Sutherland, exobiologist Jo Ann Tredworth, and medical officer Dr. Rasa Palin were ready to beam down.

"Energize, Mister Giacobbe," Cosna ordered.

And with a hum, the six beings vanished.

\* \* \*

The away team was exploring the surroundings of the beam down location when unexpectedly a group of native Renolans walked over to greet them. The evident leader of the natives walked directly up to Fil and, offering his hand, said, "Lieutenant Commander Fil. It's so nice to see you again. How are Captain T'Veer and the rest of the crew of the *Sarek*?"

"Excuse me, sir," said Fil with a puzzled look on his face. "Who are you?"

"Always joking around, aren't you, Penji? You know me. I'm Kreybor, the mayor of the city of Zelar, and these are my deputies; Fenda, Kovsaad and Tebron. Now what brings you back to our world so soon?"

Commander Cosna walked over to the mayor.

"Pardon me, Mister Kreybor, but this is the first time any of us has been to this planet. How do you know so much about us?"

Kreybor looked perplexed.

"I do not know who you are, but most of you visited us last year. Doctor Rasa even helped my wife with the birth of our son, Zodan."

Sutherland took Cosna aside and said to her, "I'm getting the impression that he's telling the truth. He somehow knows some of us from an earlier meeting somehow."

As the away team followed the greeting party back toward the nearby city, Lieutenant Tredworth started scanning the surroundings with her tricorder. A short while later she moved next to Cosna, tricorder in hand, to show the first officer the strange readings.

“As you can see, Commander, many of the buildings in the city register as approximately fifty years in age, which appears to be the average age for this city.”

Cosna nodded in comprehension.

“...But look at these other readings. I’m detecting some sort of field that indicates these other buildings as existing fifty years in the future. I double checked the readings twice.”

“How can that be?” Cosna asked.

Cosna then ordered Fil and Laren to accompany her to Kreybor’s house while – with the mayor’s permission – the rest of the away team explored the city. Upon their return, they had more questions than answers.

“Mayor Kreybor,” Cosna said in exasperation. “What is the meaning of this?” She showed the Renolan the tricorder readings.

“As we explained to the *Sarek*’s away team last time you visited, this city has the ability to move through time to avoid the Jem’Hadar’s periodic attacks. Unfortunately, the controller has been malfunctioning lately, and has on occasion moved us further back in time than we intended. Still, the system...” Kreybor’s voice trailed off. “I think I understand your confusion now.”

Cosna nodded, now understanding herself.

“And just when did we... uh... do we... uh... meet for the first time?” asked Fil.

Mayor Kreybor consulted his wrist computer, which tied directly into the city’s time controller, then said, “Why, fourteen months from now, according to the time calendar.”

“Good,” said Fil. “We’ll see you then, for the first time... again.”

**The End**