

STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

"Day of Reckoning"

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ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

26 INT. HOLOSUITE

26

Kira sits on the floor against the grid wall of the deactivated holosuite. She appears tired and frustrated. Dax walks toward her, examining a broken racquet.

DAX

Maybe this wasn't such a good idea.

KIRA

Why do you say that?

DAX

Well... that was your third time.

KIRA

That I missed the ball?

DAX

And threw your racquet across the room.

She hands the pieces to Kira.

KIRA

I think I liked our last game better.

DAX

At least you haven't thrown anyone else against a wall.

KIRA

I'd like to throw Palmer against one.

Dax sits next to Kira.

KIRA (cont'd)

Where do we go from here, Dax? Not only do we have to prove my planet was raped, but we've also got to show that my people were brutally subjugated. Why is Bajor always on the defensive?

DAX

I wish I knew. Sometimes I wonder if strife ever ends.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

26 CONTINUED:

26

DAX (cont'd)

The Federation made peace with many of its former adversaries, but our enemies still include the Romulans, the Borg, and now the Dominion.

KIRA

But the Federation is made up of hundreds of worlds and has Starfleet to back it up. Bajor is alone. And if Palmer scares off the Federation, who's going to help us?

DAX

Kira, we both know your people suffered during the Occupation. There's got to be a way to prove it. Don't give up just yet.

KIRA

(beat)

You're right.

Dax stands and offers Kira her hand. Kira accepts and lets Dax help her up.

DAX

I'm in the mood for some gagh. How about you?

The door opens and they exit.

27 INT. OUTSIDE HOLOSUITE

27

Dax and Kira walk through the corridor above Quark's.

KIRA

Actually, I'd like to find Quark. There's got to be at least one wall I haven't thrown him against.

(beat)

I'm kidding.

They both laugh as they sit down at a table overlooking Quark's. They continue conversing as Jake and Nog enter.

JAKE

Go on, there she is.

Nog straightens himself and approaches Kira and Dax.

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED:

27

NOG

Excuse me, Major. If you and Lieutenant Dax wish to continue with your program, I'll see to it there is no additional charge.

KIRA

That won't be necessary.

Dax holds up the broken racquet.

NOG

Ah... There is one more thing.

KIRA

What, Nog?

NOG

(rambling)

It's just a question... a little one, really. It was Nurse Jabara's idea. It won't take any time at all.

DAX

Nog?

NOG

Yes?

DAX

(whispering)

You're babbling.

NOG

Oh.

(to Kira)

I wish to ask you for the translation of a text from the Bajoran sacred scrolls.

KIRA

Not now, Nog.

NOG

But Nurse Jabara gave me a list of things to learn from Bajorans about their culture. I've already talked with every other Bajoran living on the station. Please Major, you are the last one.

Nog hands Kira the text. She examines it and returns it to him.

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27 CONTINUED: (2)

27

KIRA  
It means, "The land and the people  
are one." Now go away!

NOG  
Yes, Major. Thank you, Major.

Nog heads back toward Jake mouthing the phrase.

DAX  
That wasn't so bad, was it?

As Kira shakes her head, her comm badge chirps.

SISKO (O.S.)  
Sisko to Kira.

KIRA  
Go ahead, Commander.

SISKO (O.S.)  
If you're ready, Major, I'll be in  
my office.

KIRA  
On my way.  
(to Dax)  
Guess we'll have to do this later.

Kira exits while Dax packs her gear. She is suddenly  
struck by an idea and touches her comm badge.

DAX  
Dax to O'Brien.

O'BRIEN (O.S.)  
Go ahead, Lieutenant.

DAX  
Meet me in Ops.

O'BRIEN (O.S.)  
I'm on my way.

28 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM

28

Sisko, Kira, and Palmer are seated. They rise as  
Admiral Nechayev enters. Odo follows and resumes his  
place at the doorway.

NECHAYEV  
I am ready to resume this hearing.  
Commander Sisko, Lt. Commander  
Palmer, are you ready to proceed?

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED:

28

SISKO  
Yes, Admiral.

PALMER  
Yes, Admiral.

SISKO  
I'd like to call Security Officer  
Odo to the stand.

PALMER  
I object! Admiral, I fail to see  
the relevancy of testimony this...  
changeling could render in this  
matter.

SISKO  
With all due respect, as a neutral  
observer, Constable Odo may be  
able to provide non-biased  
corroboration. And as you pointed  
out earlier, Admiral, this is a  
non-judicial proceeding.

NECHAYEV  
Very well. Proceed.

KIRA  
(to Sisko)  
I hope you know what you're doing.

SISKO  
Trust me.  
(to Odo)  
Constable Odo, you were on Bajor  
during portions of the occupation,  
were you not?

ODO  
Yes, I was.

SISKO  
And subsequently you served under  
Gul Dukat as security officer on  
this station?

ODO  
That is correct.

SISKO  
Tell me, were you aware of the  
atrocities Major Kira testified  
to?

ODO  
Yes, I saw a great deal of--

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED: (2)

28

The doors open. Dax and O'Brien bustle into the room, disrupting the hearing.

NECHAYEV

These are closed proceedings. I'm afraid you must leave at once.

DAX

Admiral, we request permission to be called to the stand.

NECHAYEV

Both of you? I take it you have pertinent information you wish to share.

O'BRIEN

Yes, Ma'am.

NECHAYEV

Your request is highly irregular... but there is little about this inquiry that I have found to be normal. You may proceed. Mr. Odo, please step down.

Odo steps down and resumes his post at the door. Dax and O'Brien present padds to Nechayev, Sisko, and Palmer, before stepping up to the stand.

SISKO

Lieutenant Dax, earlier you and Chief O'Brien ran tests to verify whether there was physical evidence of planetary genocide.

DAX

Correct. Our initial scans were directed at radiation profiles, because to conceal atrocities reported at Gallitep and other work camps, extensive use of disintegrators would have been necessary.

KIRA

Such use would be in clear violation of accepted rules of armed conflict, a deviation Gul Dukat categorically denied.

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28 CONTINUED: (3)

28

SISKO

But Lieutenant, your tests  
couldn't distinguish between  
naturally occurring planetary  
radiation and anomalies that may  
or may not have appeared several  
years ago.

DAX

What we didn't scan for was  
residue.

PALMER

Disintegrators don't leave  
residue.

O'BRIEN

Actually they do. Matter can't be  
created or destroyed, only  
altered.

DAX

Nucleogenic particles--

SISKO

The atmospheric particles that  
make M-class planets capable of  
supporting life.

O'BRIEN

Since nucleogenic particles occur  
naturally, and there is no  
baseline for the concentration  
indigenous to Bajor, we thought we  
had the same problem as with the  
radiation profiles. Then,  
Lieutenant Dax had me adjust the  
scan parameters.

PALMER

To look for?

DAX

DNA traces.

Palmer studies the padd before him for a moment.

PALMER

These traces are extremely minute.

O'BRIEN

The point is, they shouldn't be  
there at all.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)



28 CONTINUED: (4)

28

O'BRIEN (cont'd)  
Admiral, if you disintegrated a thousand individuals around a planet the size of Bajor, you might be able to register a trace a month later.

NECHAYEV  
And yet you can register traces at least four years after the Cardassian withdrawal.

DAX  
We estimate that in the past eighty years, somewhere between 7 to 10 million people were disintegrated within the Bajoran atmosphere.

O'BRIEN  
That's not all. Based on the Cardassian depletion of the planet's natural resources, we prepared several computer models of Bajoran ecosystems. Every one of them resulted in a barely habitable, planet-wide wasteland except for the one that included the biologically-rich, nucleogenic particles.

NECHAYEV  
Mr. Odo, I want Gul Dukat brought to these chambers, immediately.

Odo exits.

DAX  
These results are preliminary, of course, but it appears the seemingly miraculous recovery of the Bajoran biosphere has been an indirect result of nutrients restored by the sheer carnage of its population.  
(looks at Kira)  
"The land and the people are one."

Odo returns with Gul Dukat.

DUKAT  
I understand my presence is requested, Admiral.

NECHAYEV  
Sit down, Gul.

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED: (5)

28

Kira smiles sardonically as Dukat sits.

NECHAYEV (cont'd)

I have just been presented with incontestable evidence that proves Cardassian atrocities did occur, contrary to your earlier testimony. Please inform Central Command that the Federation Council will expect Cardassia to offer increased reparations to Bajor. Major Kira, I know your people suffered greatly during the Occupation and assure you that Starfleet is wholly committed to the rebuilding of your planet. From testimony I have heard these past few days, it is obvious that after decades of conflict Bajorans and Cardassians are inextricably intertwined. In those connections, guilt, blame, memory, and forgetfulness all churn and compete. Without Bajorans, there is no Cardassian identity; without Cardassians, there is no longer any Bajoran identity. Unless your two planets reconcile that fact, you may never find the peace signified by your recent treaty. Regardless, the United Federation of Planets will not be either planet's pawn in a covert campaign against the other. Is that understood?

KIRA

Yes, Admiral.

DUKAT

But of course, Admiral.

NECHAYEV

This hearing is concluded.

29 INT. QUARK'S BAR

29

Palmer sits alone at the bar. Noticing him, Quark decides to make small talk.

QUARK

Can I interest you with something stronger? Aldebaran whiskey, perhaps?

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29 CONTINUED:

29

PALMER

This synthale is just fine, thank you.

QUARK

Suit yourself. But a word of advice: "Never trust an ale from a god-fearing people."

As Quark turns to another patron, Bashir enters and approaches Palmer.

BASHIR

Gerald, there you are. I've been looking all over the station for you.

He sits down next to Palmer.

PALMER

Why? Did you want to show me one of those airlocks you mentioned earlier?

BASHIR

I'd like to apologize for my behavior. I realize your motivation was not malicious.

PALMER

True, but my approach could have been less... disruptive. And think of the consequences, if the hearing had gone in my favor.

BASHIR

But it didn't. And for that we can all be grateful.

Palmer smiles at his friend.

PALMER

I understand the Admiral is going to make opening remarks at the festival after all. Just as well. I don't think Major Kira would see the irony in me giving that speech.

They both stand and walk toward the exit of Quark's.

30 INT. PROMENADE

30

They enter the promenade.

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30 CONTINUED:

30

BASHIR

Nonsense. Kira is a consummate professional. She would never let her opinion of you interfere with the spirit of the celebration. Now let's track down Chief O'Brien.

Bashir spots Kira and turns Palmer the opposite direction.

BASHIR (cont'd)

Let's try this way.

As Bashir and Palmer alter their path, Kira notices Jabara and stops to talk with her.

KIRA

Nurse Jabara, I understand Nog has donated the project you assigned him to the Vedek at the shrine. He plans to keep it on display, sort of an alien's view of Bajor. Is that why you put him through all this?

JABARA

Actually, I just wanted Nog to learn about our culture.

Kira spies Nog talking to Sisko across the promenade.

KIRA

Why'd you do this?

JABARA

Give him a second chance?

KIRA

More like a tenth or eleventh chance... twentieth, maybe.

JABARA

Did you see the first text I asked Nog to translate?

Kira shakes her head.

JABARA (cont'd)

"The future is our young."

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED: (2)

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KIRA

You should know the project you gave him provided some much needed inspiration at just the right time. I think all of Bajor is indebted to you; I know I am.

JABARA

Perhaps you should tell that to Nog, Major.

Kira watches as Nog walks triumphantly away from Sisko.

KIRA

I will.

As Kira turns to approach Nog, she passes Sisko, who corners Odo.

SISKO

Constable, I just had a most interesting conversation with Nog.

ODO

Oh?

SISKO

He's under the impression that all the trouble on the station the past few days has been his fault. He wanted to apologize.

ODO

I didn't think he had it in him.

SISKO

Yes. Well at some point, I'd like to know what it was that I just pardoned him for.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVETHE END