

STAR TREK

NEW VISIONS

"SWARM"



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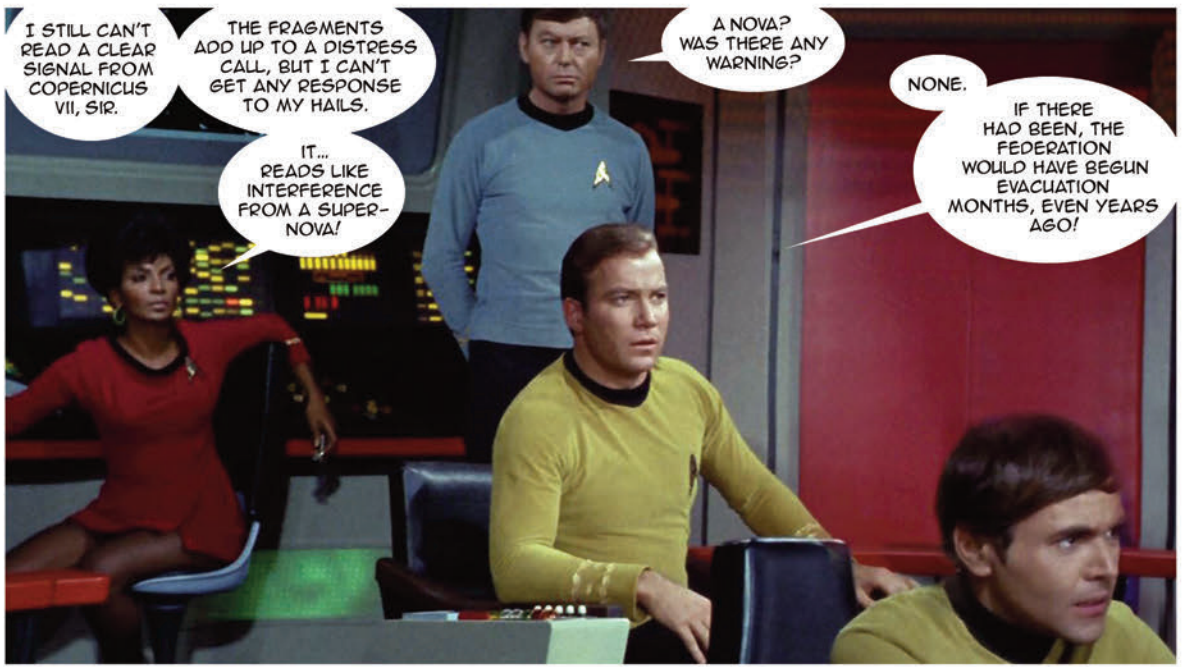
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I STILL CAN'T READ A CLEAR SIGNAL FROM COPERNICUS VII, SIR.

THE FRAGMENTS ADD UP TO A DISTRESS CALL, BUT I CAN'T GET ANY RESPONSE TO MY HAILS.

A NOVA? WAS THERE ANY WARNING?

NONE. IF THERE HAD BEEN, THE FEDERATION WOULD HAVE BEGUN EVACUATION MONTHS, EVEN YEARS AGO!

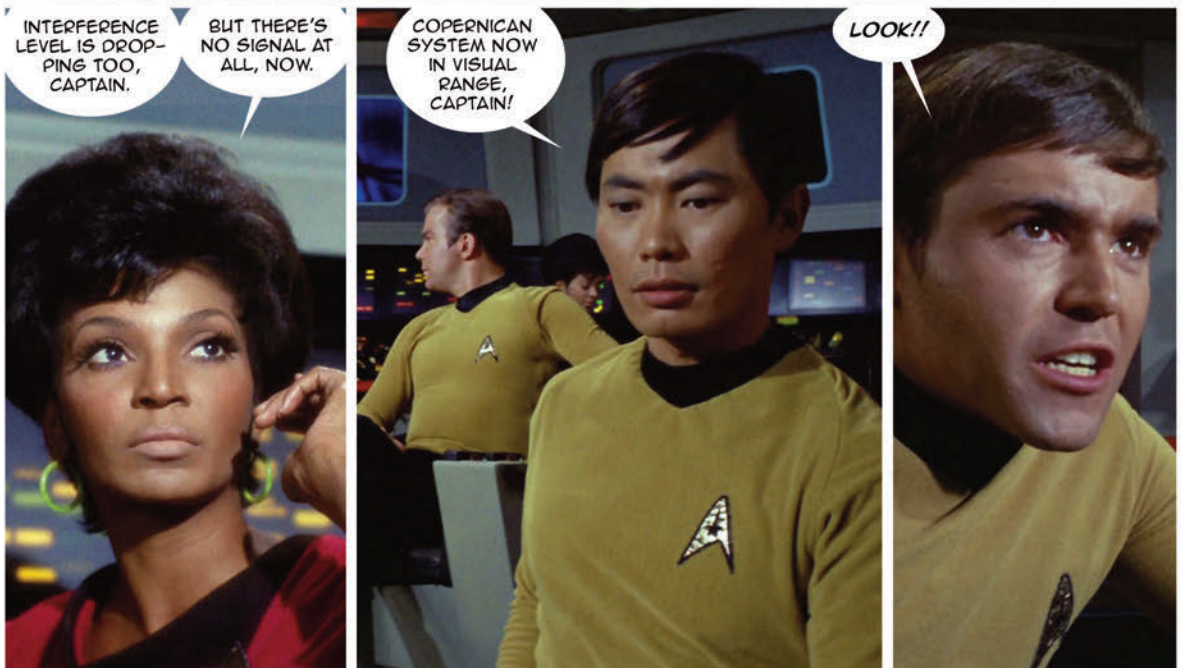
IT... READS LIKE INTERFERENCE FROM A SUPER-NOVA!



A SUPERNOVA SEEMS UNLIKELY, CAPTAIN.

WE ARE STILL TOO FAR OUT FOR PRECISE READINGS, BUT ENERGY LEVELS ARE DROPPING FAST.

THAT WOULD BE MOST ATYPICAL FOR AN EXPLODING STAR.



INTERFERENCE LEVEL IS DROPPING TOO, CAPTAIN.

BUT THERE'S NO SIGNAL AT ALL, NOW.

COPERNICAN SYSTEM NOW IN VISUAL RANGE, CAPTAIN!

LOOK!!

Space, the Final Frontier. These are the voyages of the starship *Enterprise*. Its five-year mission: to explore strange new worlds. To seek out new life, and new civilizations. To boldly go where no man has gone before.

STAR TREK

Created by GENE RODDENBERRY

CAPTAIN'S LOG,
STARDATE 4575.9

APPROACHING COPERNICUS
STAR SYSTEM--OR WHAT
REMAINS OF IT.

"SWARM"

SLOWING TO IMPULSE POWER
ONLY, ONE QUARTER SPEED.



I'LL NEVER CEASE TO BE AWESTRUCK BY THE TERRIBLE BEAUTY OF AN EXPLODING STAR.

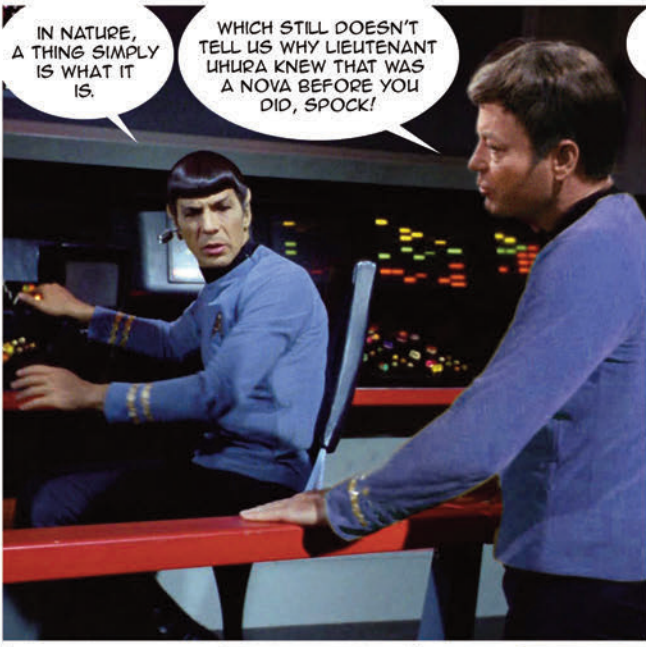
SO MUCH DEATH AND DESTRUCTION, AND YET...

BEAUTY IS A HUMAN CONSTRUCT, DOCTOR.



Photomontage and Story by **JOHN BYRNE**

DEDICATED TO THE TALENTED PERFORMERS, CRAFTSMEN AND TECHNICIANS WHOSE WORK IS REPRESENTED HERE



IN NATURE, A THING SIMPLY IS WHAT IT IS.

WHICH STILL DOESN'T TELL US WHY LIEUTENANT UHURA KNEW THAT WAS A NOVA BEFORE YOU DID, SPOCK!

SAVE IT, BONES.

WHAT ARE YOU READING NOW, SPOCK?

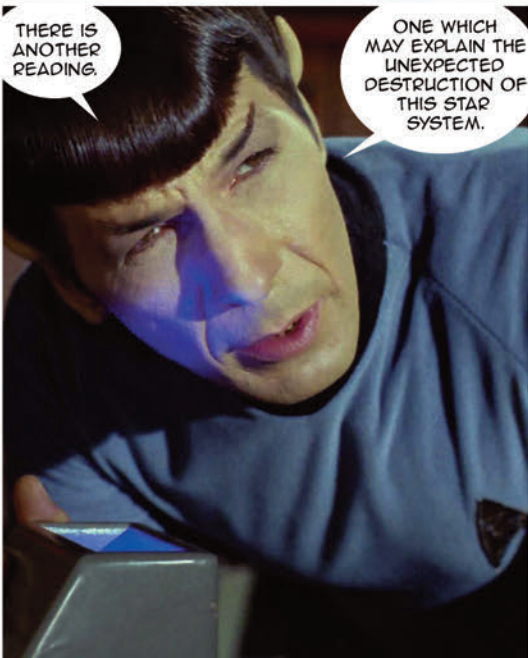


PATTERNS OF DESTRUCTION AS ARE TYPICALLY ASSOCIATED WITH A SUPERNOVA, CAPTAIN.

ALL THE INNER PLANETS HAVE BEEN DESTROYED.

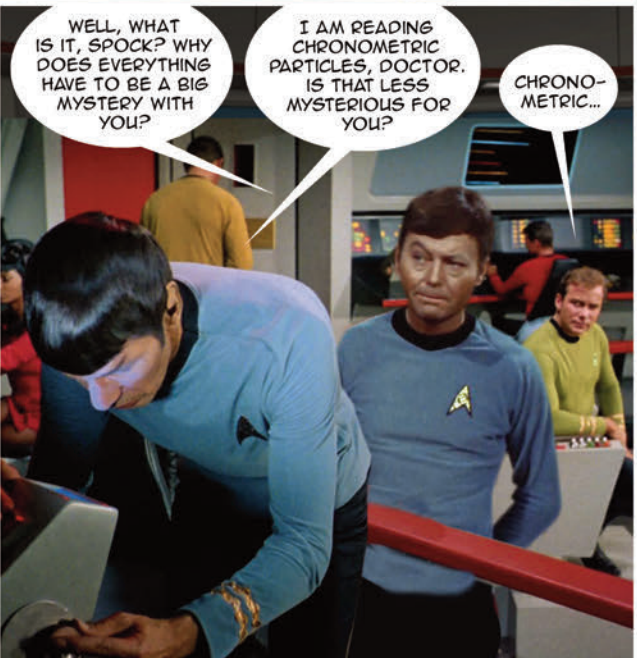
THREE OUTER PLANETS REMAIN, BUT THEIR ORBITS HAVE BEEN GREATLY DISRUPTED.

ONLY THE STEADY, RAPID DROP IN ENERGY LEVELS IS UNUSUAL...
WAIT!



THERE IS ANOTHER READING.

ONE WHICH MAY EXPLAIN THE UNEXPECTED DESTRUCTION OF THIS STAR SYSTEM.



WELL, WHAT IS IT, SPOCK? WHY DOES EVERYTHING HAVE TO BE A BIG MYSTERY WITH YOU?

I AM READING CHRONOMETRIC PARTICLES, DOCTOR. IS THAT LESS MYSTERIOUS FOR YOU?

CHRONOMETRIC...



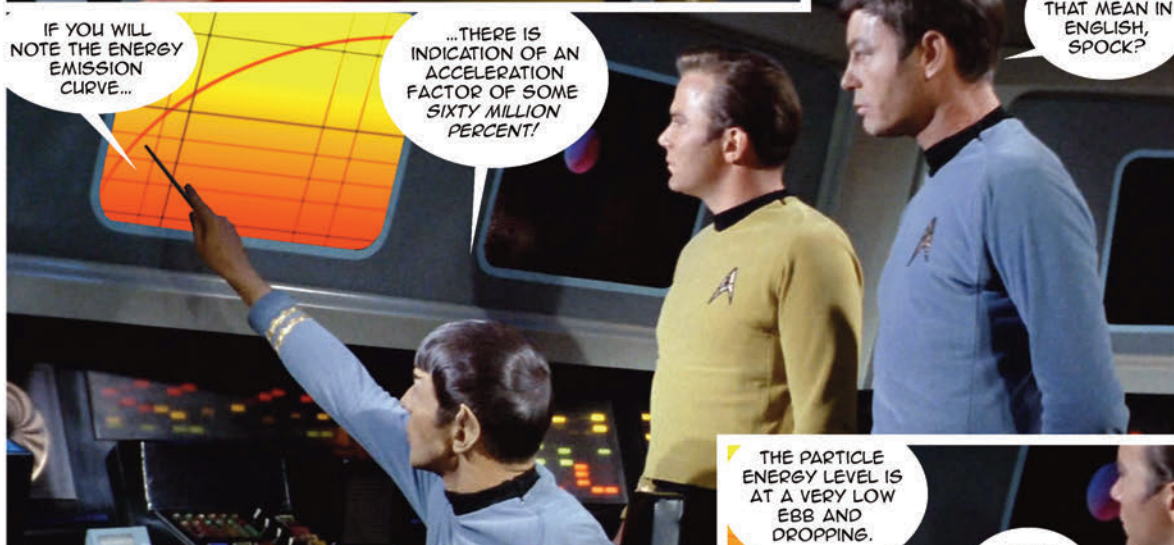
SPOCK... TIME DISPLACEMENT?

WHAT?? NOT TIME TRAVEL AGAIN!!

NO, DOCTOR.

NOT TIME TRAVEL...

...BUT THE PRESENCE OF SUCH PARTICLES INDICATES AN ARTIFICIAL ALTERATION OF TIME.



IF YOU WILL NOTE THE ENERGY EMISSION CURVE...

...THERE IS INDICATION OF AN ACCELERATION FACTOR OF SOME SIXTY MILLION PERCENT!

WHAT'S THAT MEAN IN ENGLISH, SPOCK?



IT MEANS, BONES, THAT SOMETHING CAUSED THAT STAR TO AGE SIXTY MILLION TIMES FASTER THAN NORMAL!

THEN... SHOULD WE BE THIS CLOSE?

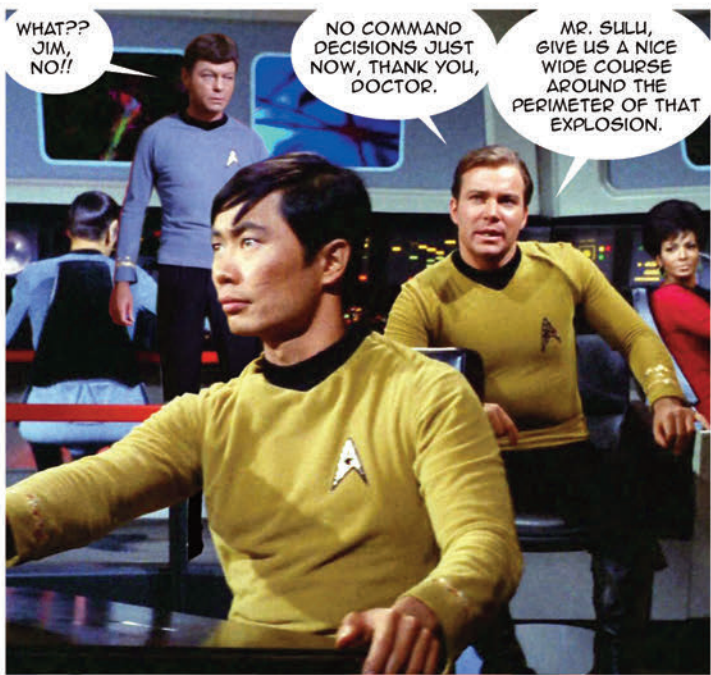
IS IT GOING TO DO THE SAME THING TO US??

THE PARTICLE ENERGY LEVEL IS AT A VERY LOW EBB AND DROPPING.

I WOULD JUDGE WE ARE SAFE AT THIS DISTANCE...

THEN CLOSER WE SHALL GO!

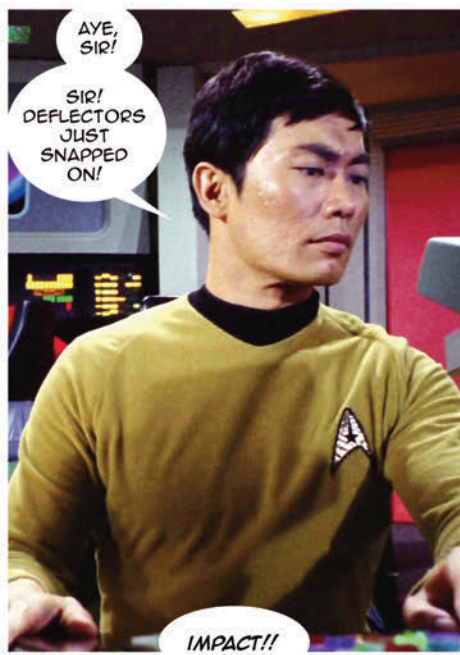
...AND EVEN CLOSER.



WHAT??
JIM,
NO!!

NO COMMAND
DECISIONS JUST
NOW, THANK YOU,
DOCTOR.

MR. SULLI,
GIVE US A NICE
WIDE COURSE
AROUND THE
PERIMETER OF THAT
EXPLOSION.



AYE,
SIR!

SIR!
DEFLECTORS
JUST
SNAPPED
ON!

IMPACT!!



REPORT,
MISTER
SULLI!

WHAT
WAS
THAT?

SOME
KIND OF
SHOCK WAVE,
SIR!

BUT NOT
CONSISTENT
WITH A NORMAL
SUPERNOVA.



AND
HERE COMES
ANOTHER
ONE!