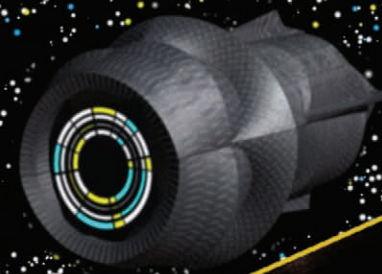


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...SO YOU JUST HAVE A GOOD THANKSGIVING WITH YOUR PARENTS, ROBERTA.

ISIS AND I WILL SEE YOU BACK HERE ON MONDAY MORNING.

OHH-KAY, MR. SEVEN, BUT I STILL WISH YOU'D COME WITH ME.

YOU KNOW MOM AND DAD ARE JUST DYING TO MEET YOU!

"1971"

Photomontage and Story by **JOHN BYRNE**

"Guardian of Forever" created by **HARLAN ELLISON**®

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

MAYBE NEXT TIME.

GOOD-BYE, NOW.

BYE-EE! DON'T LET THE WORLD END WITHOUT ME!

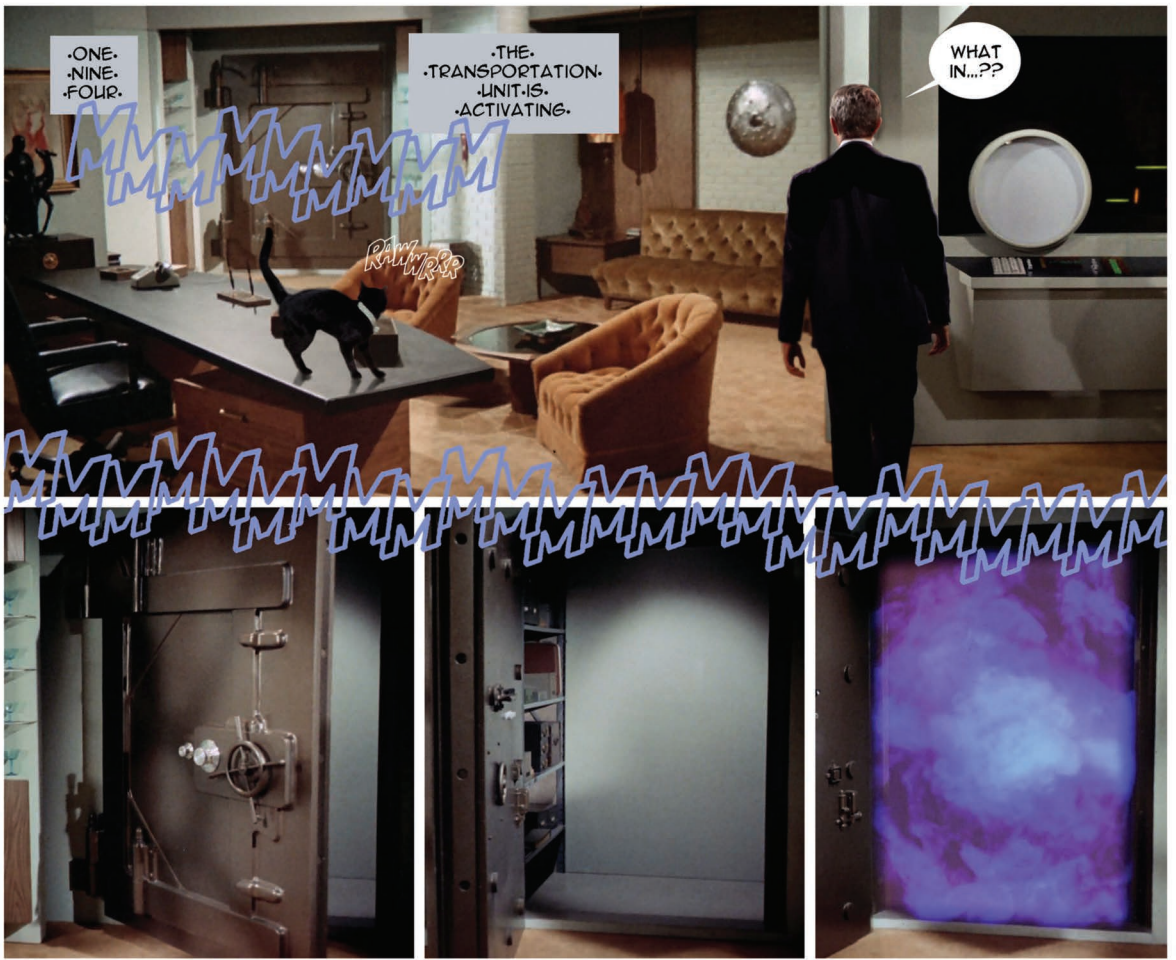
·ARE-YOU-
·QUITE-
·FINISHED-
·ONE-NINE-
·FOUR-

WOULD YOU CARE TO EXPLAIN YOUR TONE, BETA FIVE?

·YOU-HAVE-
·JUST-EXPLAINED-
·IT-YOURSELF-
·ONE-NINE-
·FOUR-

·I-AM-A-BETA-FIVE-
·COMPUTER-
·MY-COMMUNICATIONS-
·SYSTEM-IS-BUILT-
·FOR-INTERSTELLAR-
·DISTANCES-

·NOT-FOR-
·CALLING-
·OHIO-





SEVEN?



SEVEN!

THEN... IT WORKED!

IT WOULD SEEM SO, CAPTAIN.

BUT WOULD YOU MIND TELLING ME WHAT WORKED?



IT'S A LONG STORY, MISTER SEVEN.

I'M GUESSING THE SUPER-POWERFUL ALIENS YOU WORK FOR KNOW ABOUT THE GUARDIAN OF FOREVER?

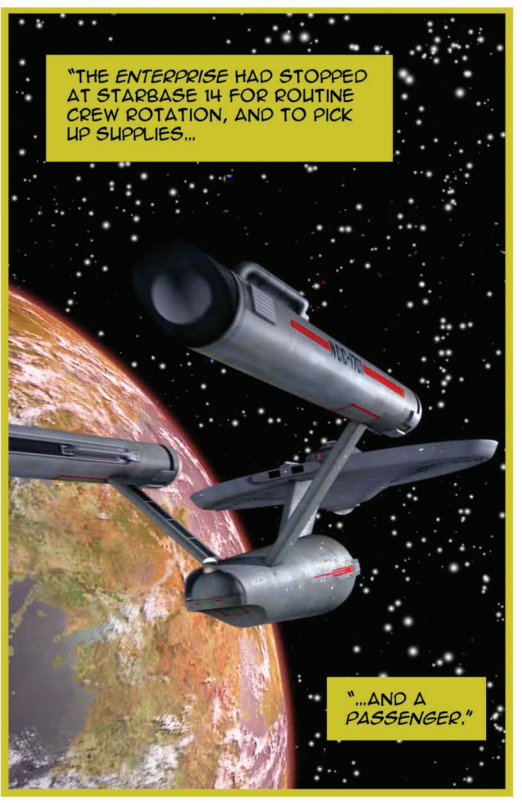
THEY DO.

AND I'M SURE THEY'D BE VERY INTERESTED TO KNOW HOW YOU KNOW ABOUT IT!



THAT'S AN EVEN LONGER STORY!

BUT THE ONE THAT CONCERNS YOU STARTED, FOR ME, TEN DAYS AGO.



"THE ENTERPRISE HAD STOPPED AT STARBASE 14 FOR ROUTINE CREW ROTATION, AND TO PICK UP SUPPLIES..."

"...AND A PASSENGER."

WELCOME ABOARD, AMBASSADOR XAHO.

SHUR LAN TRANITH PA TOOR.

I AM CAPTAIN KIRK.

THIS IS MY FIRST OFFICER, COMMANDER SPOCK...

...MY CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER, DR. MCCOY...

ARE WE CORRECT TO ASSUME QUARTERS HAVE BEEN MADE READY...

...AND YOUR SHIP AND CREW PREPARED FOR OUR PRESENCE?



YOUR GREETING HONORS US, CAPTAIN KIRK.



YES TO BOTH, SIR.

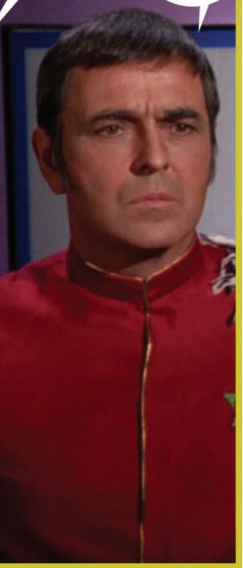
THE CORRIDORS HAVE BEEN CLEARED, AND ALL FEMALE CREW MEMBERS HAVE BEEN TOLD TO KEEP OUT OF YOUR SIGHT.

AND IF YOU WILL COME WITH US, YOUR QUARTERS ARE JUST A FEW DOORS AWAY.

THANK YOU, CAPTAIN.

PROBLEM, SCOTTY?

AYE, DOCTOR, THERE IS!



SIX MONTHS AGO, THE FEDERATION WAS AT WAR WITH THOSE CLAPPED-IN POLTROONS.

NOW THEIR AMBASSADOR COMES ABOARD, MAKIN' DEMANDS...

...DIS-RESPECTIN' OUR WOMEN...

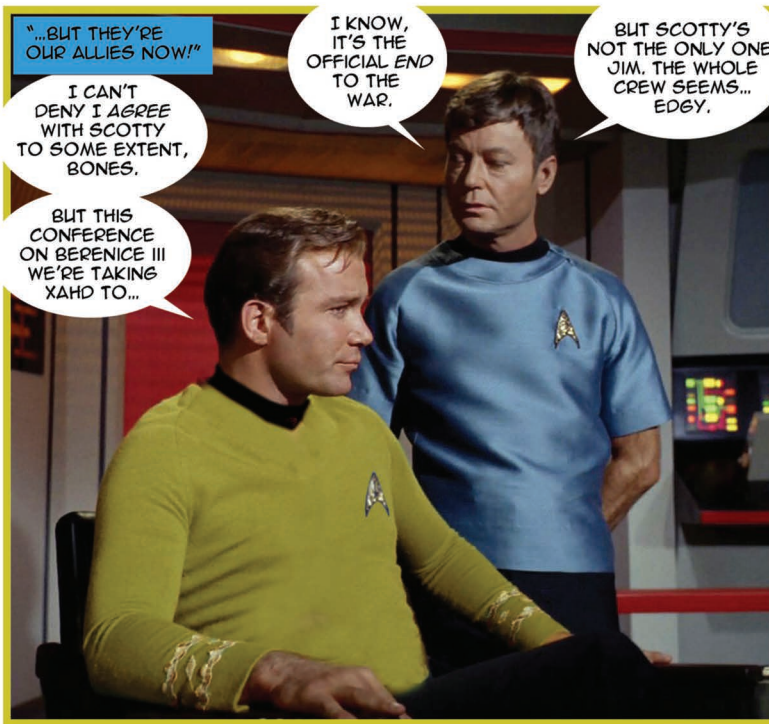
ACH!!

ANYBODY'D THINK WE LOST TH' BLOODY WAR!

DON'T BE A SORE WINNER, SCOTTY!

I'LL ADMIT I FIND THEIR WAY OF REFERRING TO THEMSELVES IN THE PLURAL SOMEWHAT OFF-PUTTING...





"...BUT THEY'RE OUR ALLIES NOW!"

I CAN'T DENY I AGREE WITH SCOTTY TO SOME EXTENT, BONES.

BUT THIS CONFERENCE ON BERENICE III WE'RE TAKING XAHD TO...

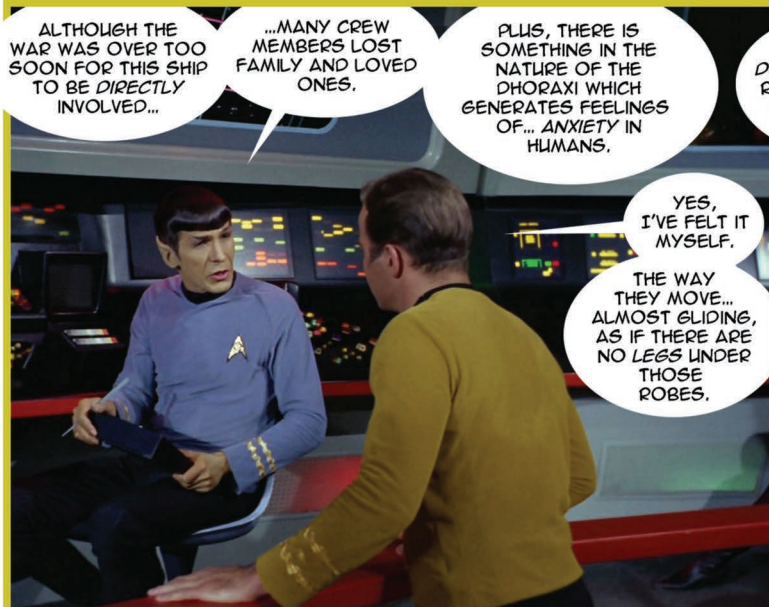
I KNOW, IT'S THE OFFICIAL END TO THE WAR.

BUT SCOTTY'S NOT THE ONLY ONE, JIM. THE WHOLE CREW SEEMS... EDGY.



NOT THE WHOLE CREW, DOCTOR.

BUT I AGREE THERE MAY BE SOME CAUSE FOR CONCERN, CAPTAIN.



ALTHOUGH THE WAR WAS OVER TOO SOON FOR THIS SHIP TO BE DIRECTLY INVOLVED...

...MANY CREW MEMBERS LOST FAMILY AND LOVED ONES.

PLUS, THERE IS SOMETHING IN THE NATURE OF THE DHORAXI WHICH GENERATES FEELINGS OF... ANXIETY IN HUMANS.

AND WHY DO THEY HAVE TO REFER TO THEMSELVES IN THE PLURAL?

TALKING TO ONE OF THEM IS LIKE HAVING AN AUDIENCE WITH QUEEN VICTORIA!

YES, I'VE FELT IT MYSELF.

THE WAY THEY MOVE... ALMOST GLIDING, AS IF THERE ARE NO LESS UNDER THOSE ROBES.



THE DHORAXI RELIGION TEACHES A LUNIQUE FORM OF REINCARNATION, DOCTOR.

EACH INDIVIDUAL BELIEVES HIMSELF TO BE THE LITERAL SUM OF ALL HIS ANCESTORS.

THEY REFER TO THEMSELVES AS "WALKING IN THE AGES."

YET ANOTHER POINT ON WHICH THEY NEED TO BE HANDLED WITH KID GLOVES!

