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# STAR TREK®



## WAYPOINT



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### The Menace of the Mechanitrons

A "Star Trek: Gold Key" Story

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Welcome back to *Waypoint* and our continued look at new and interesting angles of the *Star Trek* universe!

First up is an homage to the classic **Gold Key** *Star Trek* comics. For those of you not familiar with those 1960s gems, the early Gold Key comics were created by writers and artists who, at times, had never even seen the show, and worked off of whatever publicity materials they could get their hands on. Needless to say, their end results were definitely unusual—and very un-*Trek* in some cases (Spock kills! The *Enterprise* belches fire!)

Our second story features the tale of Yeoman Leslie Thompson, the only female redshirt killed under Captain Kirk's command during the *Enterprise's* original five-year mission. It's poignant and inspiring, and beautifully highlights the message of *Trek*. Enjoy the issue!



Regular Cover  
Art by David Malan



Subscription Cover  
Art by Gordon Purcell  
Colors by Jason Lewis



Retailer Incentive Photo Cover

In memory  
of long-time  
Star Trek fan  
Eric Cone.

STAR TREK created by Gene Roddenberry  
Special thanks to Risa Kessler and John Van Citters of CBS Consumer Products for their invaluable assistance.

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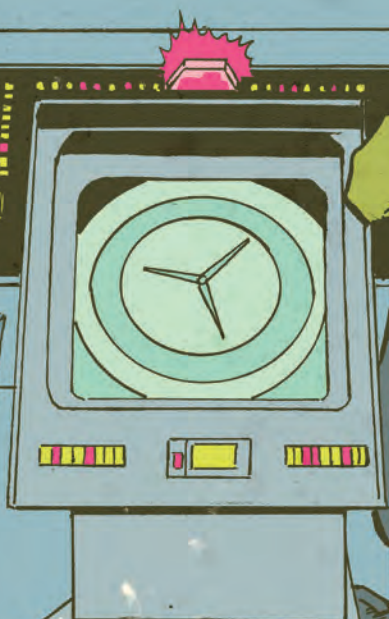
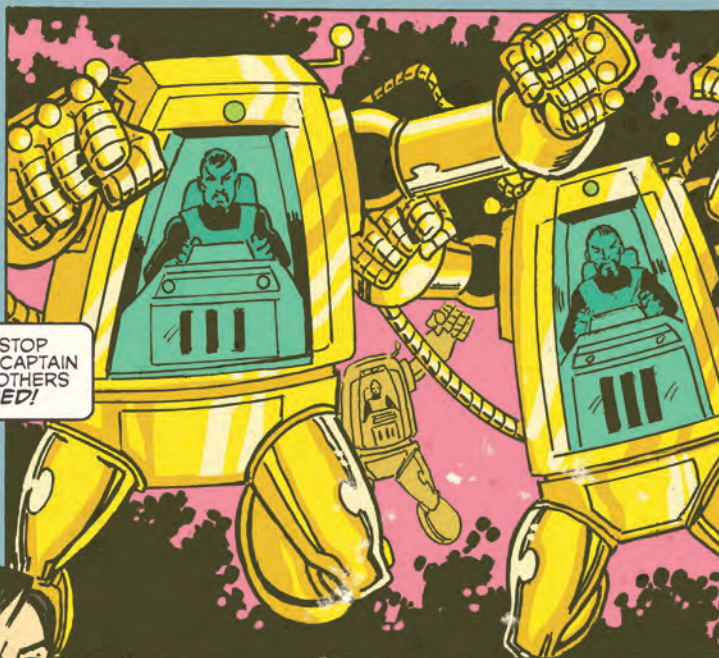
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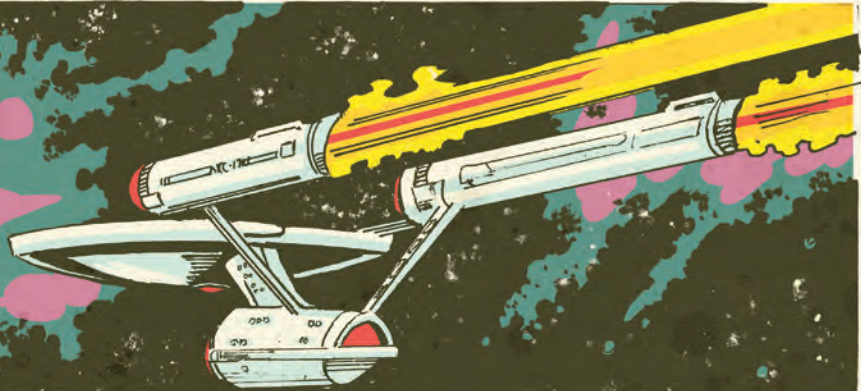
# THE MENACE OF THE MECHANITRONS!

ORBITING A WORLD RIPPED ASUNDER BY WAR, THE *U.S.S. ENTERPRISE* CREW FACES CHALLENGES THEY NEVER DREAMED OF—ROBOTIC TERRORS CAPABLE OF DESTROYING ALL THEY SEE...INCLUDING THE MIGHTY STARSHIP ITSELF!

MR. SULLU! THOSE MECHANICAL MONSTERS WILL TEAR THROUGH THE HULL LIKE TISSUE PAPER!

WE HAVE TO STOP THEM, OR ELSE CAPTAIN KIRK AND THE OTHERS ARE DOOMED!





**CAPTAIN'S LOG, STAR DATE 37:05.7**  
 —TOP BRASS HAS TASKED THE ENTERPRISE  
 WITH INVESTIGATING A DISTRESS CALL FROM  
 THE SCOUT SHIP *AD ASPERA*...

ACCORDING TO  
 ADVANCE SCOUT  
 READINGS, PHYGMA 4  
 WAS RAVAGED BY A  
**GLOBAL WAR!**

SURVIVORS HAVE  
 BEEN REBUILDING  
 THEIR SOCIETY BY  
 SCAVENGING ANYTHING  
 THEY CAN FIND!

WITH THE PHYGMANS'  
 LIMITED TECHNOLOGY,  
 THE *AD ASPERA* WOULD  
 BE QUITE THE PRIZE!

WE SHOULD GET DOWN  
 THERE RIGHT AWAY!  
 PREPARE A LANDING  
 PARTY, MR. SPOCK!



AFTER THE EXPLORATION  
 TEAM TRANSPORTS TO THE  
 SURFACE OF PHYGMA 4...

MR. SPOCK, HOW  
 FAR ARE WE FROM  
 THE *AD ASPERA*?

THE DOOMED SHIP LIES IN THAT DIRECTION! HOWEVER,  
 I AM DETECTING NO HUMAN LIFE READINGS!

OH, THOSE POOR  
 PEOPLE! MAYBE  
 WE CAN FIND OUT  
 WHAT HAPPENED!





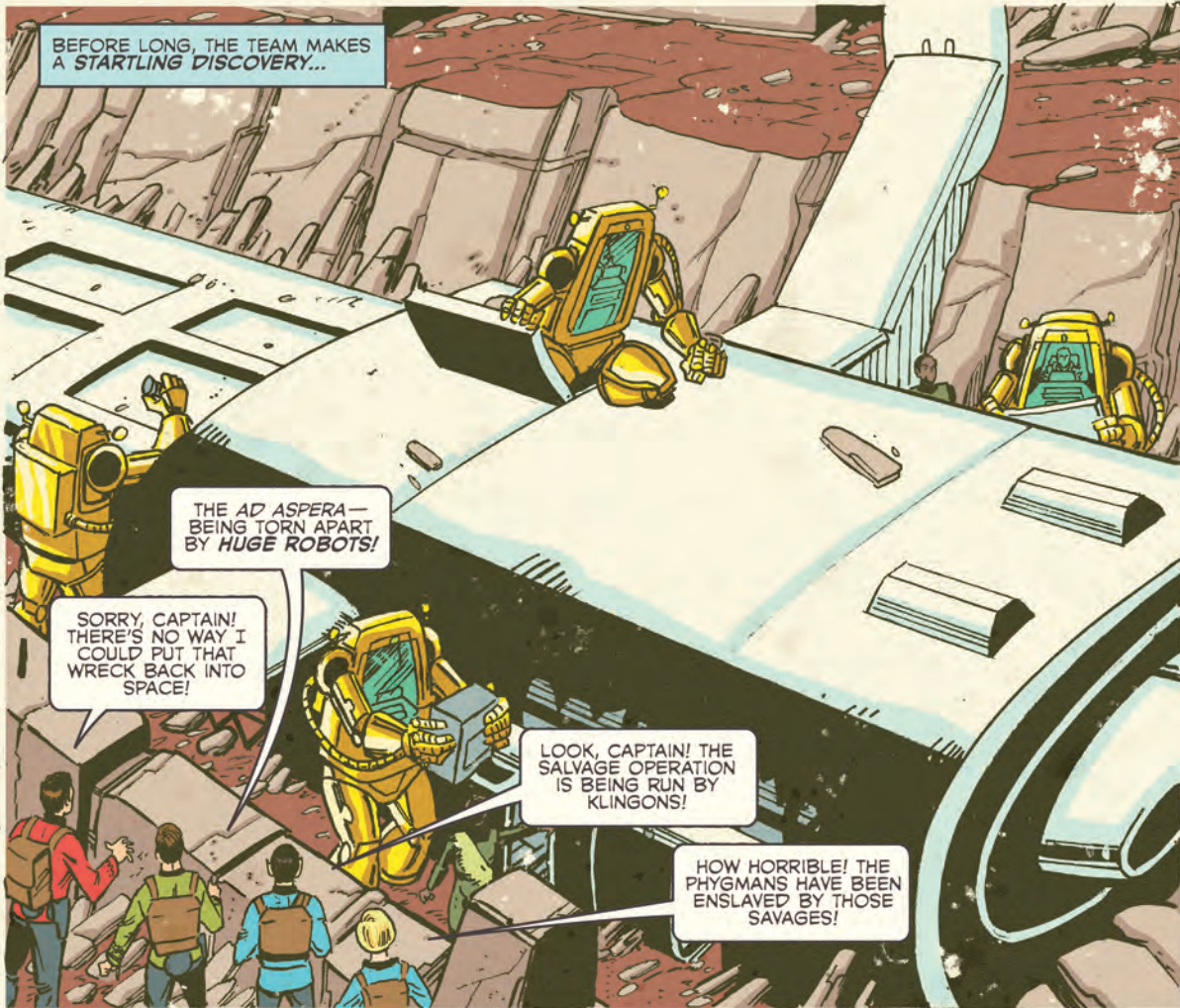
CAPTAIN, I AM DETECTING LARGE DEPOSITS OF **GRAVITITE!**

GREAT JUPITER! THE MINERAL EVERY DEEP-SPACE SHIP NEEDS TO REPRODUCE GRAVITY IN SPACE!



SPOCK, THE PEOPLE OF THIS WORLD COULD BE SITTING ON A GOLD MINE!

EVERY SPACE-FARING RACE WOULD WANT TO HELP REBUILD PHYGMA 4 AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, CAPTAIN!



BEFORE LONG, THE TEAM MAKES A STARTLING DISCOVERY...

THE *AD ASPERA*— BEING TORN APART BY HUGE ROBOTS!

SORRY, CAPTAIN! THERE'S NO WAY I COULD PUT THAT WRECK BACK INTO SPACE!

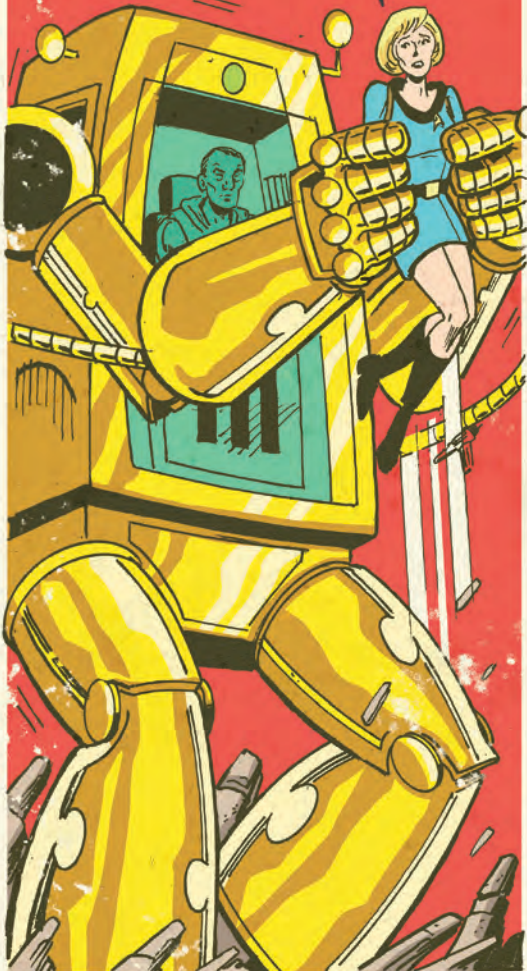
LOOK, CAPTAIN! THE SALVAGE OPERATION IS BEING RUN BY KLINGONS!

HOW HORRIBLE! THE PHYGMANS HAVE BEEN ENSLAVED BY THOSE SAVAGES!



SUDDENLY...

CAPTAIN  
KIRK! HELP  
ME!



WAIT! DON'T  
HURT HER! WE  
SURRENDER!



I EXPECTED AS MUCH  
FROM A COWARDLY  
EARTHLING!

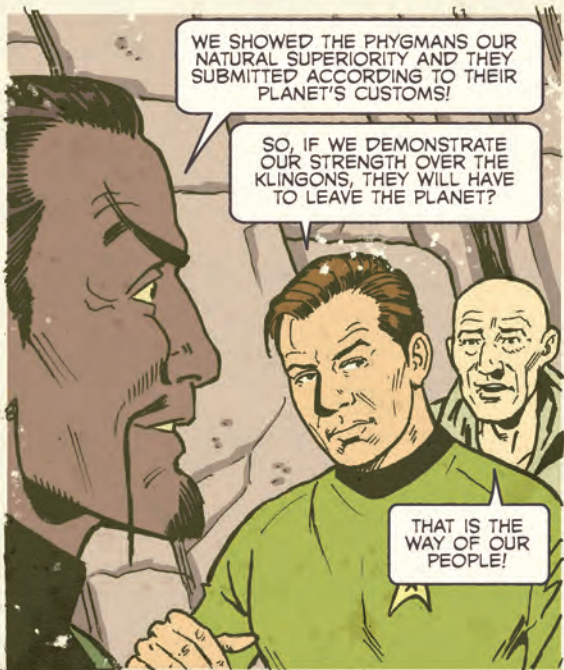
CAPTAIN, THE  
KLINGONS HAVE  
RIGHTFULLY  
CONQUERED US!



WE SHOWED THE PHYGMANS OUR  
NATURAL SUPERIORITY AND THEY  
SUBMITTED ACCORDING TO THEIR  
PLANET'S CUSTOMS!

SO, IF WE DEMONSTRATE  
OUR STRENGTH OVER THE  
KLINGONS, THEY WILL HAVE  
TO LEAVE THE PLANET?

THAT IS THE  
WAY OF OUR  
PEOPLE!



I MAKE THAT  
CHALLENGE!

EXCELLENT! THEN WE  
SHALL FIGHT—WITH *THE  
MECHANITRONS!*

