

A STAR TREK FAN FICTION GRAPHIC NOVEL BY MARK R. LARGENTAND MARK McCRARY



I DO NOT THINK IT WISE FOR YOU TO BE JOURNEYING UNATTENDED.





FAIR ENOUGH.

ALL RIGHT, SPOCK, WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO TELL ME WHY YOU REALLY ASKED ME TO COME TO VULCAN?



MY FATHER SUFFERS FROM AN INCURABLE ILLNESS.

YOU ARE A DOCTOR.



YOU ALSO WOULD YIELD TO THE UNQUESTIONABLE LOGIC THAT A VULCAN DOCTOR WOULD BETTER UNDERSTAND A VULCAN ILLNESS. YOU'RE JUST USING THIS AS AN *EXCUSE*.

WHY AM I *REALLY* HERE?





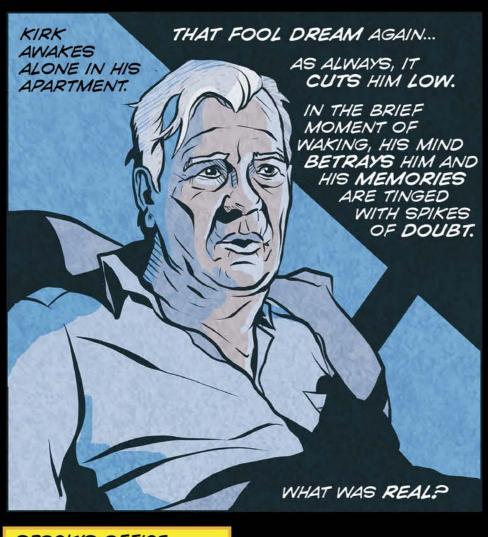
YOU ARE, AS EVER, A *NOBLE ARTISAN* OF *TACT*, ADMIRAL.

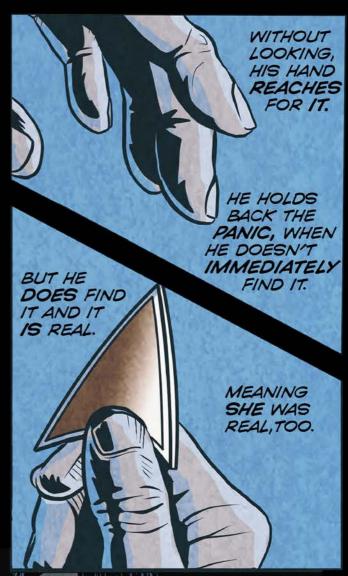
> I SHALL ENDEAVOR TO *ANSWER* IN KIND.





HER VOICE IS SOFT AND SAD AND JIM RECOGNIZES THAT FARAWAY LOOK IN HER EYES. SHE'S RESTLESS, LIKE HE HAD ALWAYS BEEN. ONLY THIS TIME HE CAN'T GO WITH HER...







THE REPORTS ARE INCOMPLETE, BUT THE INDICATIONS ARE INESCAPABLE TO SPOCK

BUT THEN, HE IS IN POSSESION OF FACTS THAT THEY CANNOT KNOW.

> HE WAS THERE.

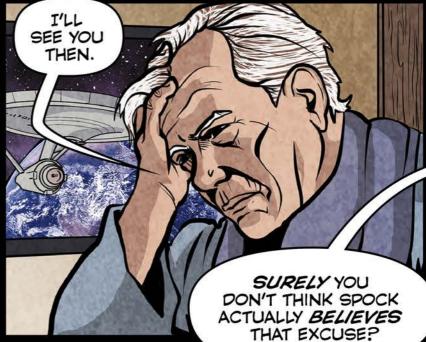


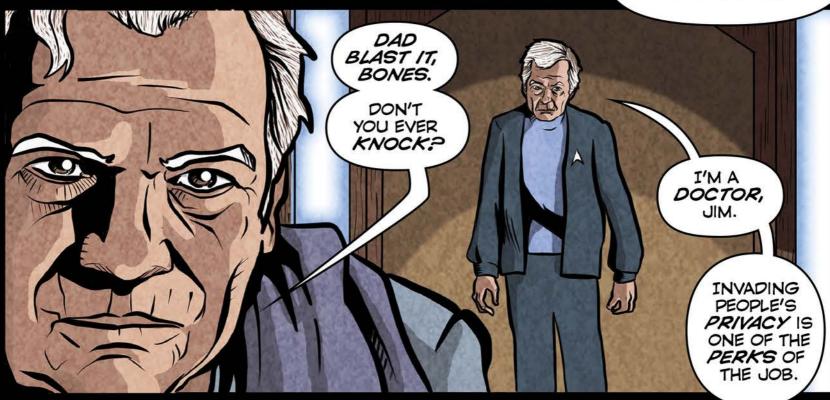
SORRY,

I'M AFRAID THAT LUNCH JUST /SN'T POSSIBLE TODAY. TOO MUCH WORK TO DO. CAN IT WAIT UNTIL TONIGHT?





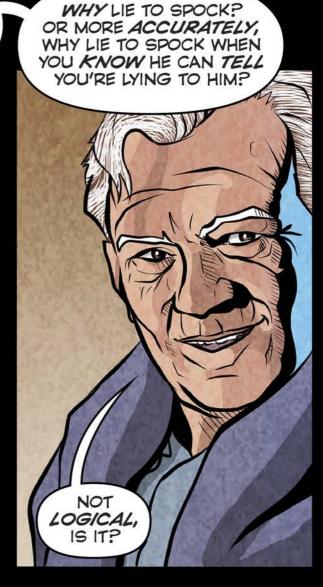




IN ALL THE YEARS WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER, BONES...

MORE THAN ENOUGH FOR ME TO KNOW WHEN YOU ARE TRYING TO CHANGE THE SUBJECT, JIM.











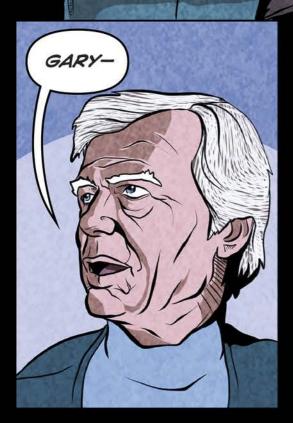
KIRK'S OFFICE IS UNCHARACTERISTICALLY QUIET.
THERE ARE A THOUSAND THINGS TO SAY, BUT THE
WORDS TO USE TO SAY THESE THINGS ARE TOO
PAINFUL TO PUT VOICE TO...





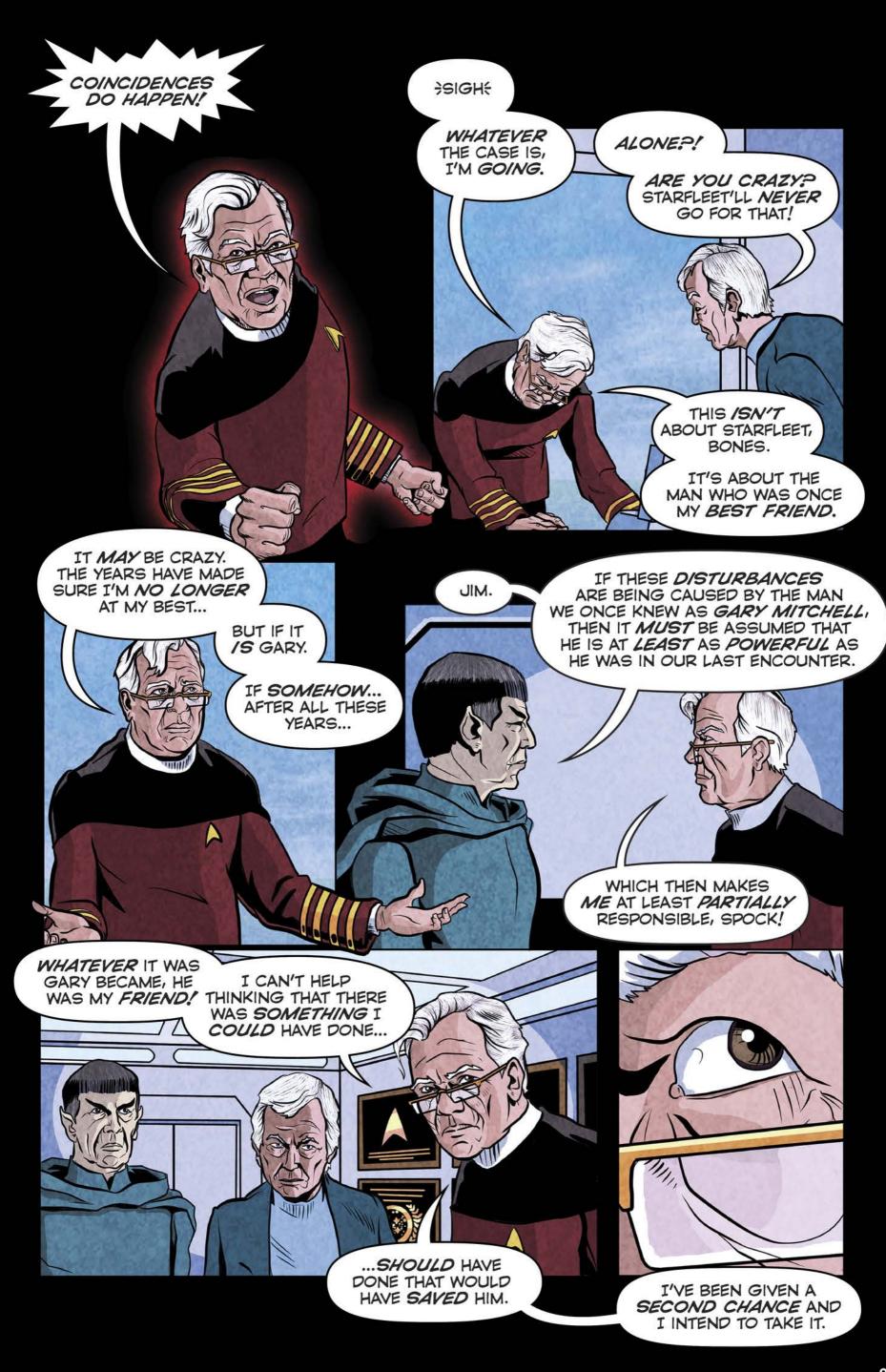
CERTAIN ... EM/SS/ONS HAVE BEEN REPORTED NEAR THE DELTA VEGA SYSTEM.

> A SCIENCE VESSEL WAS DAMAGED.



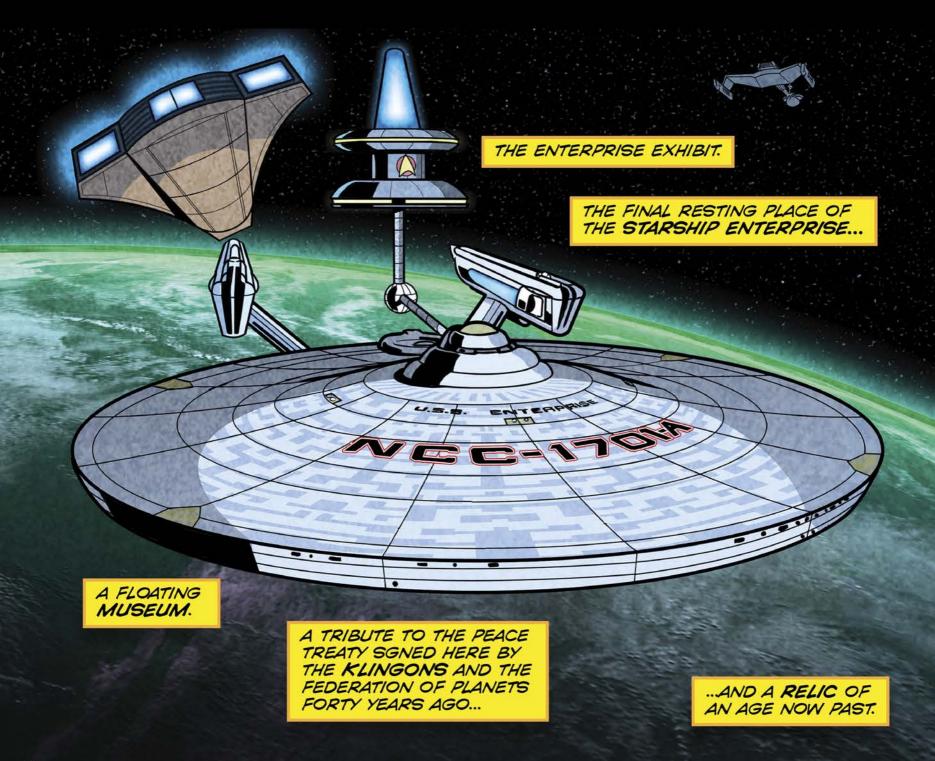




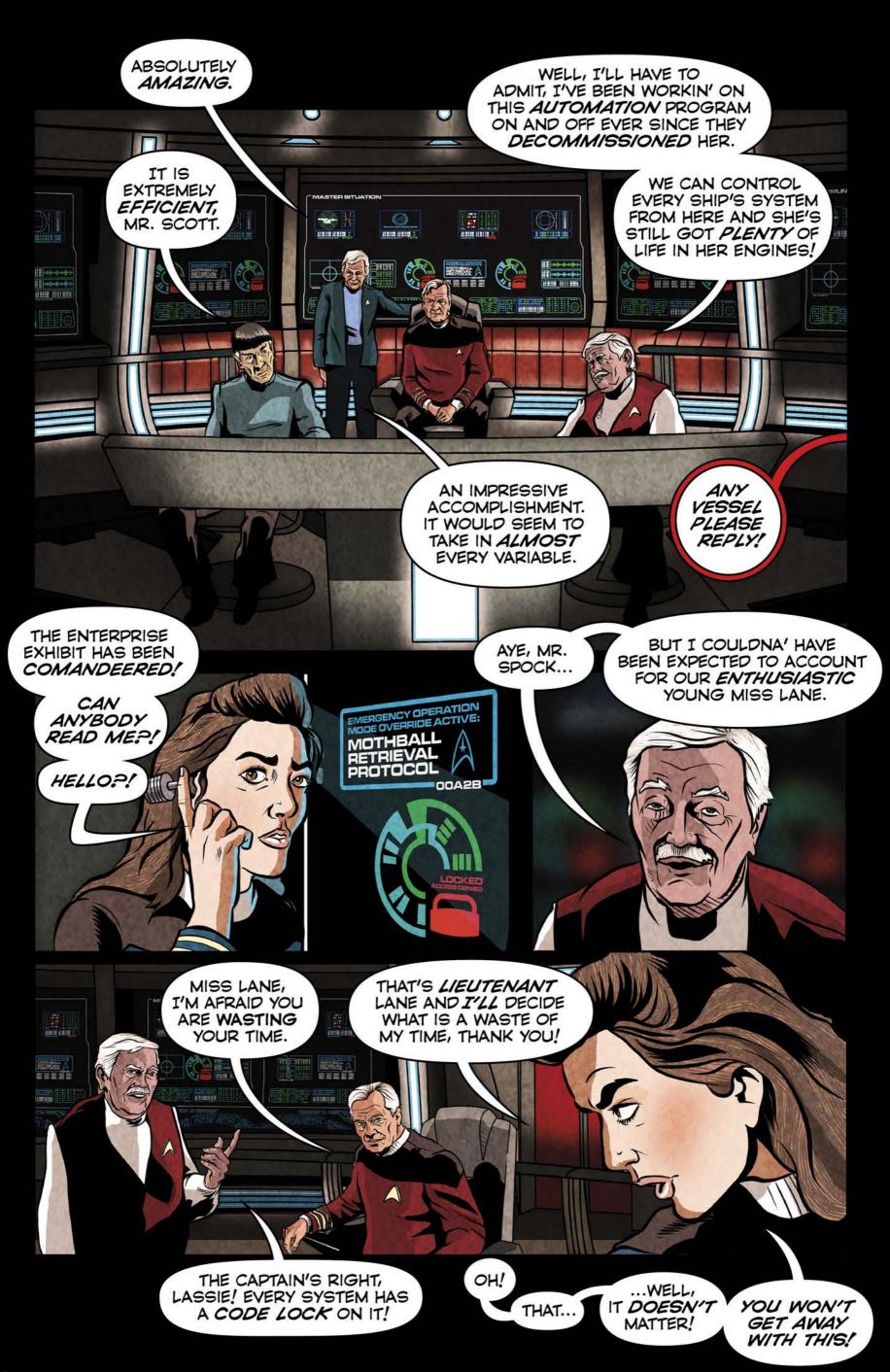




"APPROACHING KHITOMER. WE HAVE VISUAL."









ABOUT--







IT HAS BECOME
APPARENT TO ME
THAT **SOMETHING** IS
HAPPENING ON THE
PLANET YOU BURIED
GARY MITCHELL ON.

SOMETHING
STARFLEET IS AWARE
OF, YET HAS CHOSEN
TO KEEP A SECRET
FROM US.

...DESPITE
OUR KNOWLEDGE
OF THE ORIGINAL
EVENT.



I BELIEVE THE INTERFERENCE BETWEEN US AND DELTA VEGA IS A FLEET OF SHIPS.



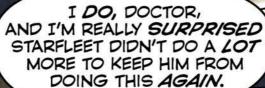
"ALL OF THEM, CAPTAIN..."

"...YOU'LL FORGIVE ME, DR. MCCOY, IF I'M LESS THAN GRATEFUL FOR YOUR HOSPITALITY."





I'D THINK YOU KNEW A





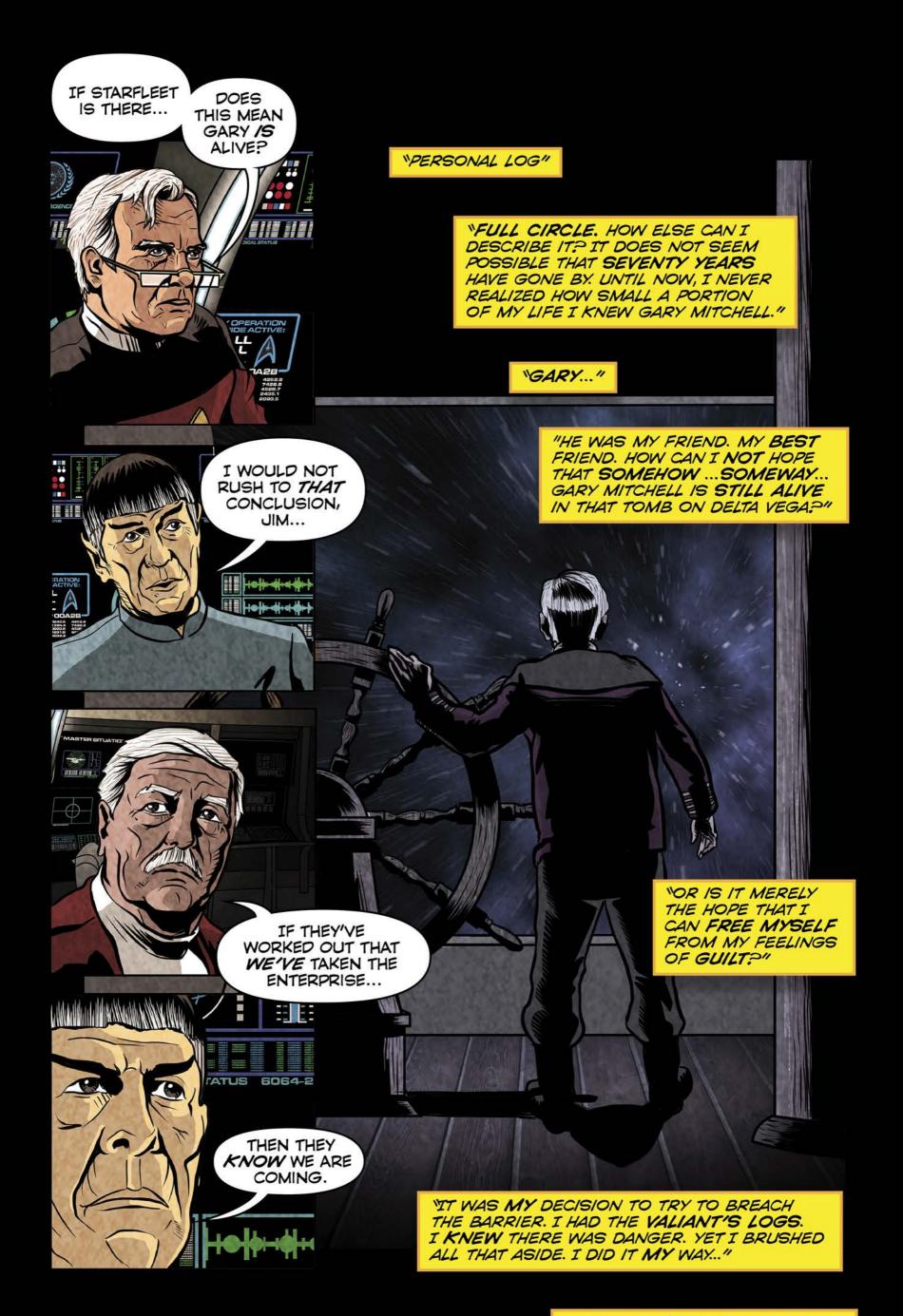
DOES SEEM
LIKE SOMEBODY
SHOULD HAVE
NOTICED A
PATTERN
BY NOW...





"IT HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE GALACTIC BARRIER. ONLY JIM KNOWS WHAT REALLY HAPPENED. THERE HAD BEEN ON KIRK'S ATTEMPT, **ANOTHER STARSHIP THAT** SOMETHING CHANGED HAD TRIED BEFORE TO BREACH GARY MITCHELL. THE BARRIER AND ITS CREW HAD GONE MAD. DESTROYED THEIR SHIP AND THEMSELVES. GARY BECAME POWERFUL." HE SAID IT WAS IT MADE HIM SOME SORT OF DANGEROUS. A THREAT TO ADVANCEMENT OF HIS ESPER THE SHIP. ABILITIES. JIM WAS FORCED TO *ABANDON* GARY TIM ON THE NEARBY DELTA VEGA. HE JUST LEFT HIS FRIEND THERE TO DIE? HIS LOG SAID GARY MITCHELL WAS KILLED IN ACTION. THE BEING HE FOUGHT ON DELTA VEGA WAS NOT THE GARY MITCHELL THAT'S HE KNEW. HOW JIM PUT IT. HE ONLY EVER TALKED ABOUT IT ONE TIME WITH ME. HE MADE IT REAL CLEAR THAT HE DIDN'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT EVER AGAIN. WHATEVER MITCHELL HAD BECOME, HE WAS MAD AND POWERFUL ENOUGH TO KILL **EVERYONE** ON THE ENTERPRISE. HE SAID MITCHELL SAW THEM JIM WAS ONLY AS LEFT WITH NO "INSECTS." OTHER CHOICE. HE HAD TO KILL HIS BEST FRIEND.





...AND MY FRIEND HAD TO DIE."

WHY MUST I BOLDLY GO AT THE COST OF EVERYONE AROUND ME?



















DELTA VEGA.

LIFELESS, DESOLATE.

ONCE HOME TO AN AUTOMATED LITHIUM CRACKING STATION.
ORE SHIPS WOULD COME HERE TO CART OFF ALL THAT WAS VALUABLE FROM THE PLANET'S MINERALS.

UNTIL DELTA VEGA HAD NO MORE TO GIVE.

A TINY, GUTTED LITTLE ROCK ON THE EDGE OF THE GALAXY.



THIS IS WHERE JAMES T. KIRK LOST HIS BEST FRIEND.







## THE ENTERPRISE EXHIBIT, DECK FIVE...































NOT ALL

OF IT DID.

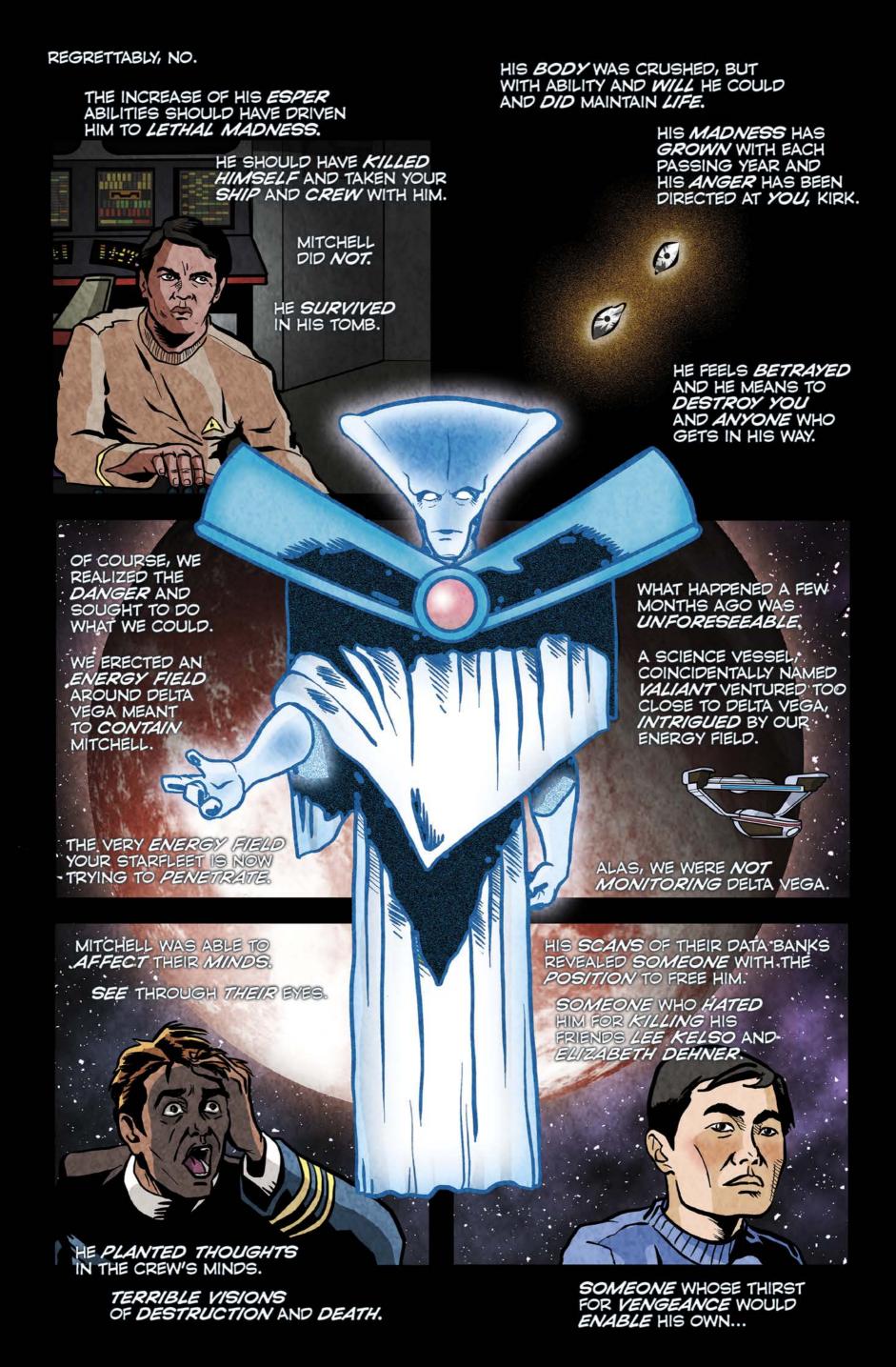
OF COURSE

YOU REFER TO

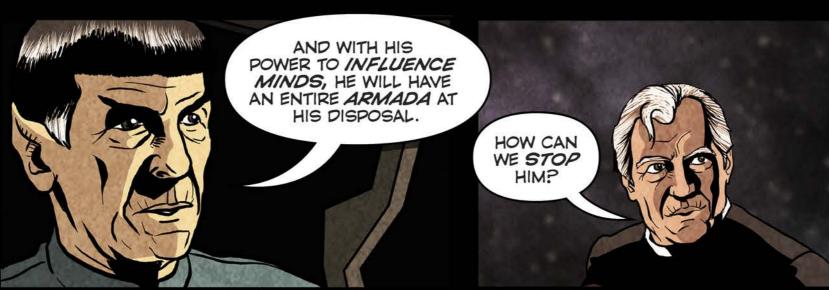
MITCHELL.

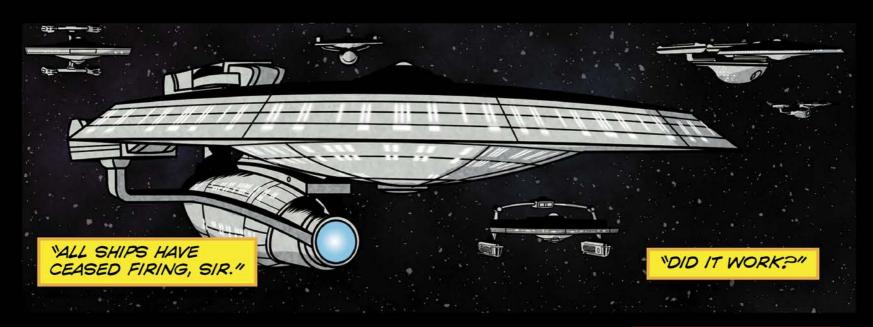
WE OBSERVED THE EVENTS OF SIXTY-THREE YEARS AGO





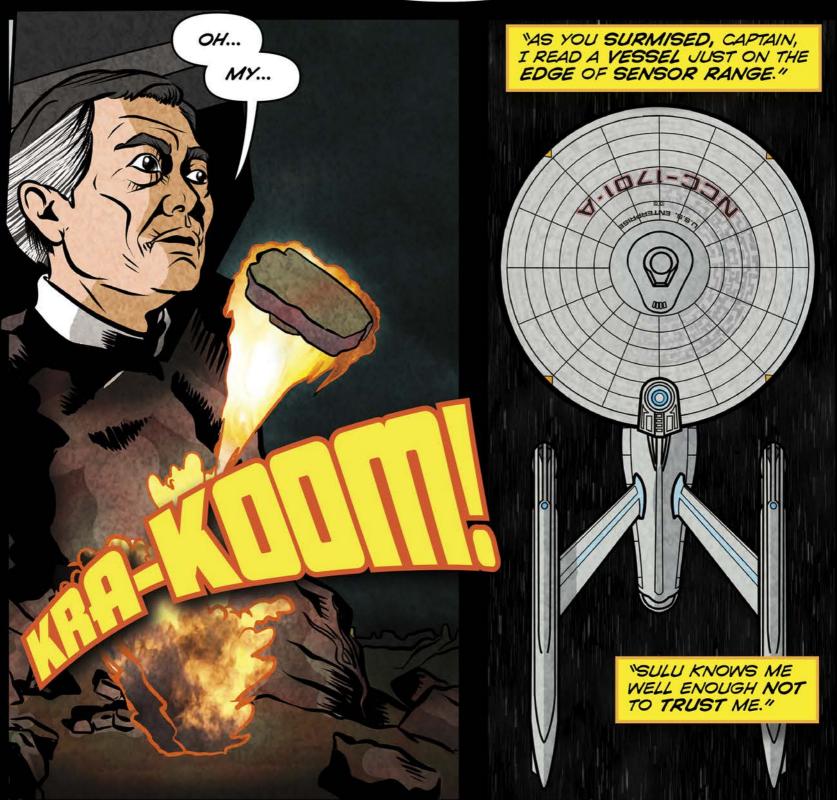






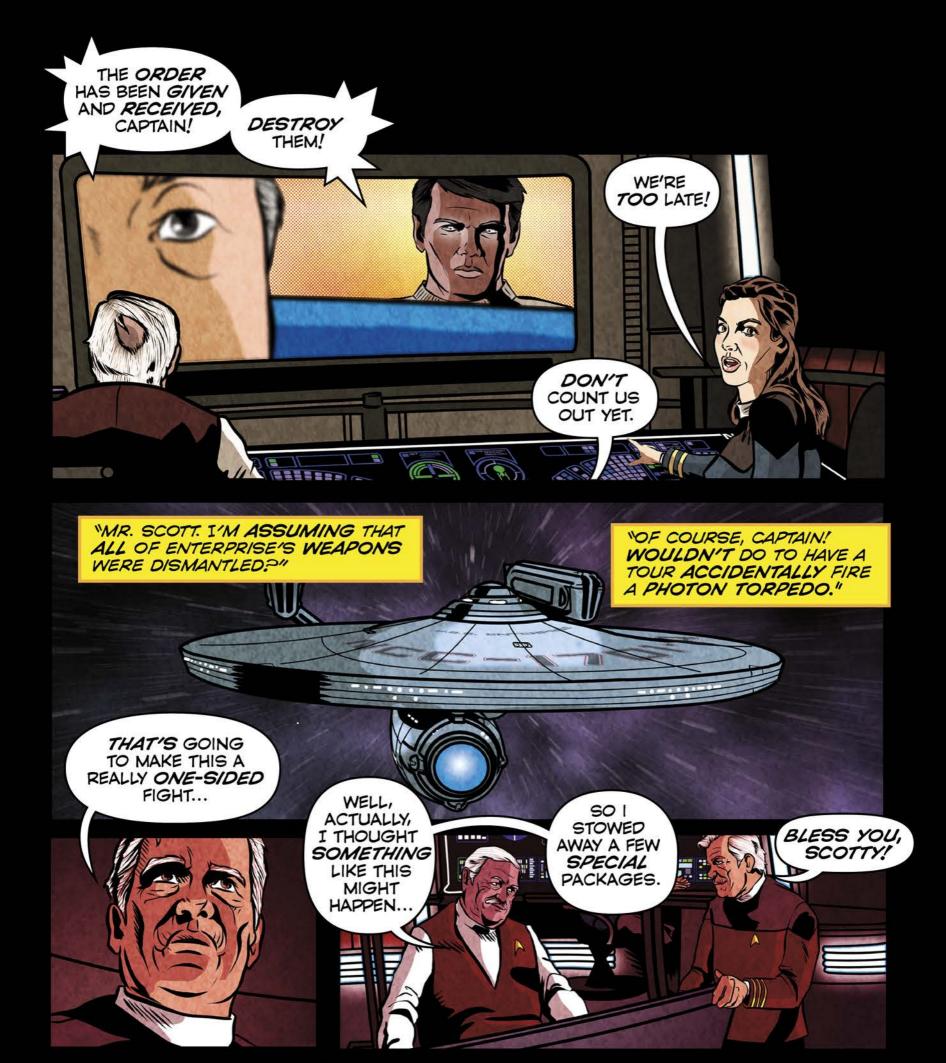
"SCANNING ENERGY FIELD, ADMIRAL."

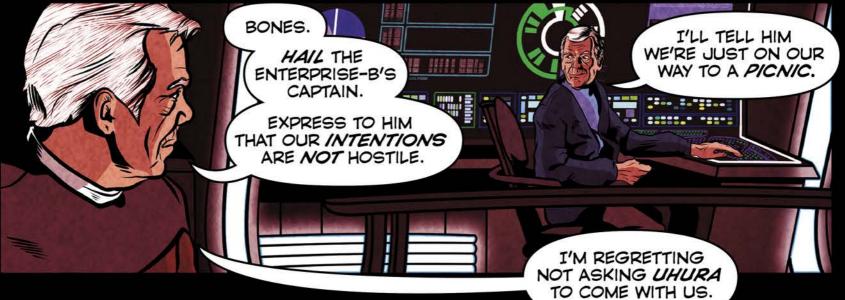






THOSE MEN ARE **STARFLEET LEGENDS.** 







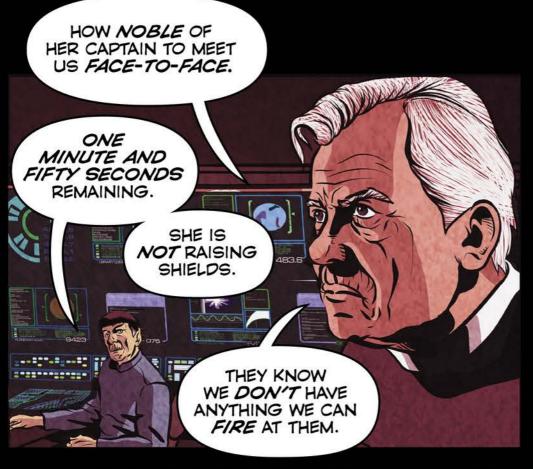


HAND-PICKED FOR THE JOB, IS

A BRILLIANT TACTICIAN.















THE ENTERPRISE-B IS ROTATING TO MATCH OUR MANEUVER.





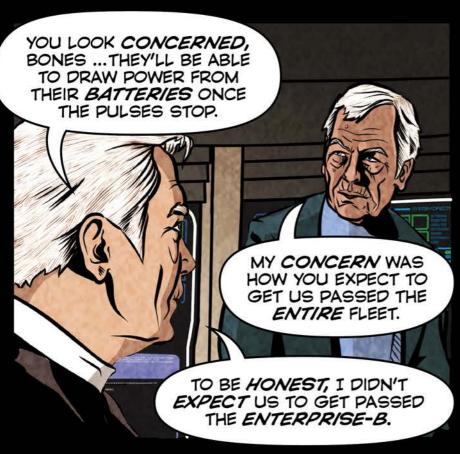






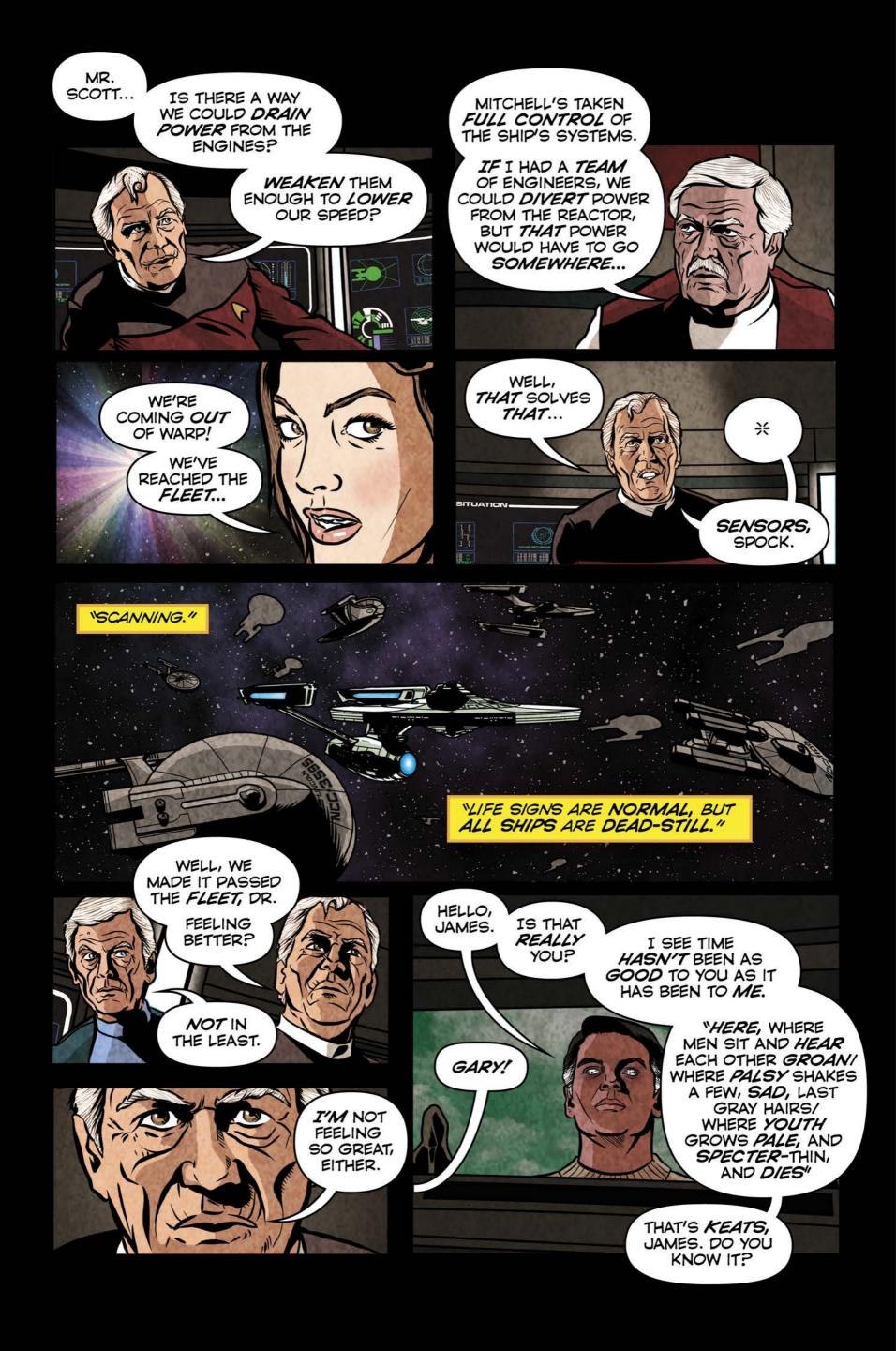




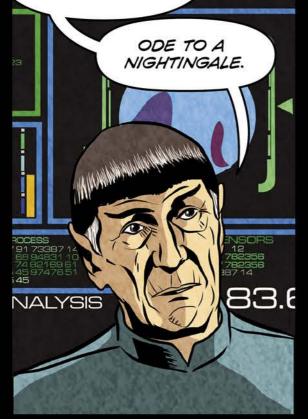








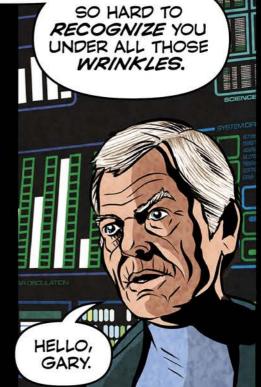
"WHERE BUT TO THINK IS TO BE FULL OF SORROW AND LEADEN-EYED DESPAIRS."



VERY GOOD, MR. SPOCK... BUT I WAS NOT ASKING YOU.

I SEE YOU BROUGHT SCOTTY AND BONES, TOO.











## YOU?

SUCH A FOOLISH THING TO SAY, JAMES.

DON'T YOU
SEE HOW
INSIGNIFICANT,
HOW FRAGILE
YOU HUMANS
ARE?

YOU NEED SO MANY THINGS JUST TO SURVIVE!

> I CAN TAKE ALL OF THOSE THINGS AWAY.

I CAN MAKE YOU **SUFFER** AND **DIE** WITH A **SINGLE** THOUGHT.

YOU CANNOT STAND IN MY WAY.

I'VE BEATEN YOU BEFORE.

IT SEEMS TO ME YOU LACK PERSPECTIVE, JAMES.

PERHAPS IT IS TIME WE SAW EYE-TO-EYE...



SO FAR, ALL I'M HEARING IS *TALKING*.

YOU PRATTLE
ON ABOUT YOUR
SUPERIORITY AND
YOUR POWER, YET
HERE YOU ARE.

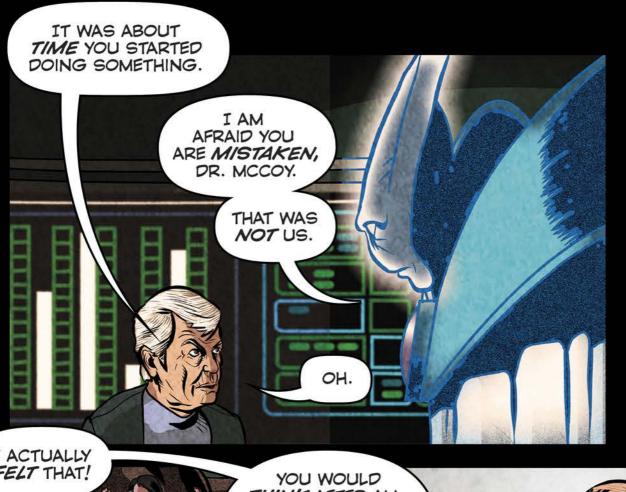
STILL ON DELTA VEGA. STOPPED IN YOUR TRACKS BY A MERE INSECT.



YOURSELF.

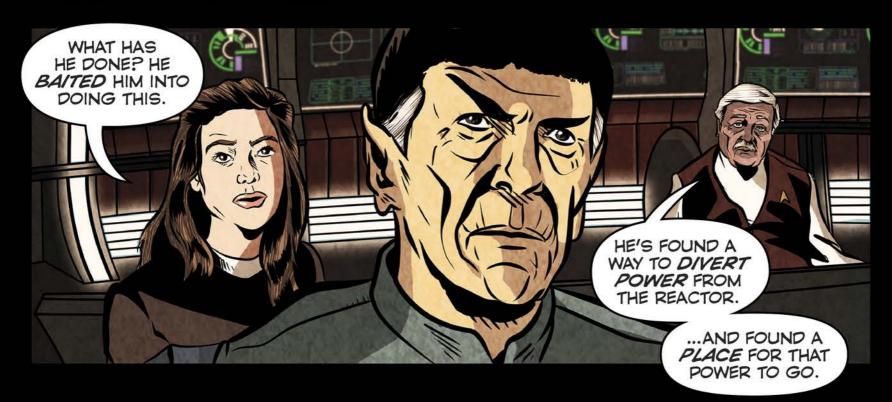












I HAD LONG GIVEN UP HOPE THAT I WOULD GET THE CHANCE TO KILL YOU, JAMES.

I HAD TO BURN UP A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF MY POWER TO LURE YOU HERE.



I CAME HERE TO HELP YOU, GARY!



IT DOESN'T
HAVE TO BE THIS
WAY, GARY!

YOU'VE

YOU'VE
DRAINED AWAY
A SIGNIFICANT
AMOUNT OF
POWER!

THE GARY
I KNEW WAS A
NOBLE MAN!

TRY TO FIND THAT PART OF YOU THAT STILL IS GARY MITCHELL!











"I HAVE BEEN HALF IN LOVE WITH EASEFUL DEATH.

"CALLED HIM SOFT NAMES IN MANY A MUSED RHYME ... "

<del>}---</del>{









TELL THEM
TO HIT THIS
ROCK WITH
EVERYTHING
THEY'VE GOT.







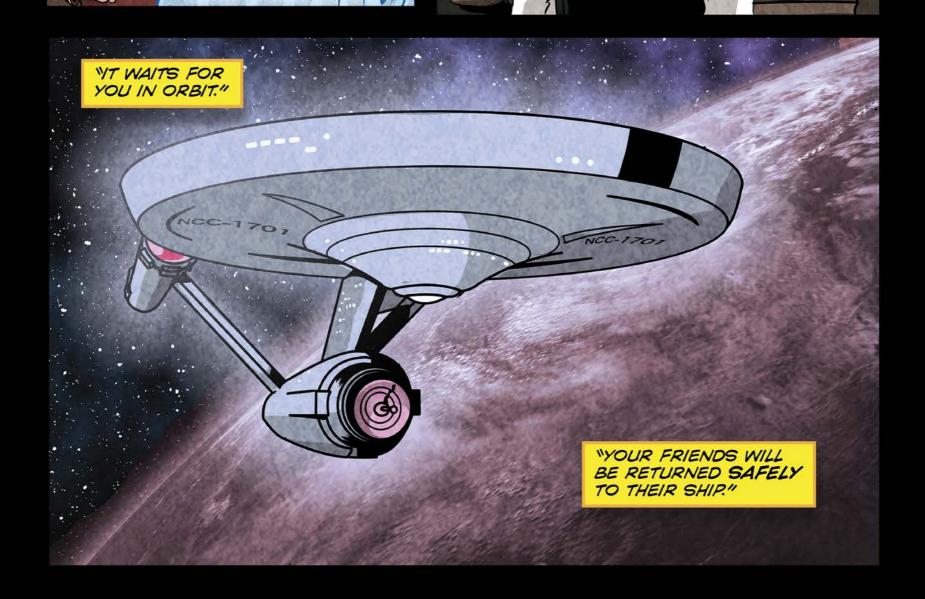












THERE'S A
SIGHT I NEVER
THOUGHT I'D
SEE AGAIN...

IT'S BEAUTIFUL! AYE, SHE IS.
WHAT I WOULDN'T
GIVE TO SEE THOSE
ENGINES AGAIN...

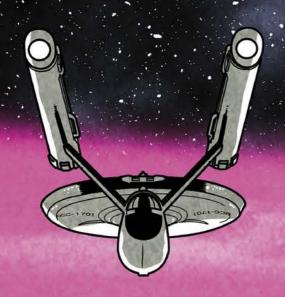
HER DECKS WERE TOO
HARD, THE SICKBAY WAS
TOO SMALL AND THOSE
ENGINES MADE TOO
MUCH NOISE...

...AND SHE WAS THE *FINEST* SHIP IN THE FLEET.





"THOU WAST NOT BORN FOR DEATH, IMMORTAL BIRD!



"ADIEU! ADIEU! THY PLAINTIVE ANTHEM FADES



## THE YEARS DO NOT WASH OFF EASILY.









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