

Star Trek: Lost Enterprise  
Episode Three "Below Decks"

By

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STAR TREK: LOST ENTERPRISE  
EPISODE THREE "BELOW DECKS"

Scene One: Argo Bridge

SOUND: RED ALERT AND BRIDGE SOUNDS

DRAKE

Hail them.

STARFLEET CREWMAN #1

No response.

DANIELS

They're scanning us and the Enterprise.

DRAKE

Standby on weapons.

DANIELS

Wait! Wait they're moving off. Warping out of the sector.

(FEW SECONDS SILENCE)

STYLES

What the hell was that about?

DANIELS

Just checking us out? Seeing what we are doing?

DRAKE

Let's hope so. Stand down from red alert.

SOUND: BRIDGE SOUNDS RETURN TO NORMAL

DRAKE

Keep an eye on them Daniels for as long as you can.

DANIELS

Yes sir.

DRAKE

Bring the cloaking device onboard. I want to confirm its origin and condition.

DANIELS

Understood Captain.

DRAKE

You have the bridge Commander. Maintain the mission. I'll be in my Ready Room.

(CONTINUED)

STYLES

Aye Captain.

SOUND: FOOTSTEPSSOUND: DOORSScene Two: Argo Ready RoomSOUND: CHIME

DRAKE

What is it now?

SOUND: DOORS

QUINN

Sorry to bother you. I have something to report.

DRAKE

\*Sigh\* Yes, sorry Doctor. Please come in and have a seat. I just...I have just been reading the logs on the recovery of the cloaking device. The copying of its base design for the probe. All very illegal but it still tells me nothing. Anyway what have you found out?

QUINN

The infection that killed the Enterprise's crew. I know what it is.

DRAKE

Don't keep me in suspense.

QUINN

It's called the Blight. It is a Dominion virus that was encountered and later cured by a Doctor Julian Bashir who once served on DS9. I didn't realize because until recently I had no reason to look at Dominion records. But there is no doubt.

DRAKE

The Blight? But you said it matched a Cardassian virus.

QUINN

It matched one Cardassian bio weapon used once on a disabled Klingon ship during the Dominion War. Since it was the Cardassians that used it I believed that to be the virus's origin. But it was given to them, by the Dominion.

DRAKE

Makes sense Cardassia was a Dominion world during the War.

(CONTINUED)

QUINN

Correct, however records from that time suggest that they were given only one strain before the Cardassian uprising during the last few days.

DRAKE

But why would they do that? Why not just destroy the Enterprise?...A message.

QUINN

Captain?

DRAKE

They did it to leave the Enterprise here as a message...for when the rest of us came. But we never explored this area before the war started. Exploration of the Gamma Quadrant has been sparse ever since due to the peace treaty.

QUINN

So the message was never found.

DRAKE

Never needed. Besides decades had gone by, I doubt they cared by time we found the wormhole.

QUINN

You would think they would have mentioned it though.

DRAKE

Hm.

QUINN

Anyway I will leave you to it...Oh! By the way, when you get a chance I would skip ahead and read the personal logs from the next year. It gets rather interesting.

DRAKE

Personal logs?

QUINN

You'll see. Nothing that will answer any real questions. But it's interesting. I only read hers and...well you'll see. She uses her personal log like a diary. Reveals more than most do.

DRAKE

Thank you Henry.

QUINN

Sir.

SOUND: DOORS

( CONTINUED )

DRAKE

Hmmm...Computer. Access personel logs...

Scene Three: Enterprise Quarters

JOHNSON

Captain's Log Stardate (NUMBER HERE.) Lock and classify at level 4. It has now been months since we outfitted and launched the cloaked probe and still we are the only ship receiving telemetry from it then reporting it back to Intelligence. It hasn't been easy, ordering my crew to carry out illegal actions, all without being able to explain the source of the orders. I don't think I have to report that that has made it difficult to be part of my crew. After 7 years in command some of them and I had become close friends. Now, now I'm just their Captain. And they don't trust me like they used to.

WRIGHT

Deal.

SOUND: CARDS BEING HANDED OUT.

ZARATH

I don't think I like this game.

GAIUS

You liked it well enough last week when you cleaned us out.

ZARATH

No Captain again?

WRIGHT

He hasn't joined us in months.

ZARATH

Yeah but he told me he might earlier.

GAIUS

I'm in.

SOUND: CHIPS

GAIUS

He said that just to shut you up.

WRIGHT

Fold. Well, I for one am glad. The guy's been always been a bit of a prick if you ask me.

SOUND: SOUND OF GAME CONTINUES IN BACKGROUND

(CONTINUED)

ZARATH  
Paul!

WRIGHT  
Well...Used to always moan about not doing anything and now he barely speaks, is always moody.

GAIUS  
He has a lot on his mind.

WRIGHT  
How do you know?

GAIUS  
Not hard to figure out. But if he would just tell us. You think after all these years he would trust us by now.

ZARATH  
Come on. He does trust us. I told you before; He has orders.

WRIGHT  
Command wouldn't make us spy on the Cardys and not tell us why. There's something more.

GAIUS  
Like what?

WRIGHT  
I don't know. Cloak and dagger shit. You know what I think? I think this is Khitomer all over again.

ZARATH  
The peace treaty?

WRIGHT  
The conspiracy. I think the Captain is working for some starfleet Admirals who are undermining everything Starfleet and the Federation stands for.

GAIUS  
Raise fifty.

ZARATH  
I'll call.

GAIUS  
Well. Someone has to do what's right. You heard Sulu. He told us we should have left the Bajorans to die. That's the ideals we are upholding?

WRIGHT

Saving lives. Not starting a war that could kill millions. You're damn right.

GAIUS

Raise two hundred.

ZARATH

What? Either you have the eight digger.

WRIGHT

Spade.

ZARATH

Yeah. Either you have that or your lying.

GAIUS

That's the game.

ZARATH

I wish Saavik played. Vulcans can't lie.

GAIUS

That's why she doesn't. You got the tentacles to play then or what?

ZARATH

I'll call. All in.

GAIUS

Ha ha, ok what you got.

ZARATH

You first.

GAIUS

Full house. Read it and weep blue boy.

SOUND: GAIUS SLAPS THE TABLE IN RHYTHM

ZARATH

Ah! Take it pink skin.

SOUND: CHIPS BEING COLLECTED

WRIGHT

Didn't know we were drunk enough for name calling. I'm not anyway.

GAIUS

I'm with him.

(CONTINUED)

WRIGHT  
What?

GAIUS  
The Captain. Whatever he's doing it's for the Federation and to help the Bajorans. Anything that hurts the spoon heads is good enough for me.

WRIGHT  
Yeah...we'll see how far that goes.

Scene Four: Enterprise  
Corridor/Captains Quarters

SOUND: CORRIDOR BACKGROUND NOISE

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS

SOUND: CHIME

JOHNSON  
Yeah?

SOUND: DOORS

SOUND: DOOR CLOSSES AND THEN NORMAL ROOM BG

SAAVIK  
I came to inform you that I am coming off duty.  
Lieutenant Zarath will take the bridge when "poker night" finishes.

JOHNSON  
You could have told me that over the com.

SAAVIK  
I wished to see you.

JOHNSON  
Why?

SAAVIK  
To verify what I already knew. That you would be in your quarters. Have you been here since eighteen hundred?

JOHNSON  
I have a lot of reports to file.

SAAVIK  
All of which are not due for another three days.

(CONTINUED)



JOHNSON

Why do you care? What I do with my off hours is my business Saavik.

SAAVIK

Indeed. But I believe you are suffering in your solitude.

JOHNSON

Are you of all people coming to me and telling me I should be more sociable? You!

SAAVIK

I am advising you that your behavior over the last several months has done nothing to regain the trust of the crew or alleviate their suspicions.

JOHNSON

I shouldn't have to Saavik! I am doing what I have to do!

SAAVIK

Then tell them that. Tell me that.

JOHNSON

I just did!...are you really here speaking for the crew? Or for you?

SAAVIK

I don't understand Capt...

JOHNSON

You can drop the act Saavik. No ones around. What you mean to say is that you miss me right?

SAAVIK

I...

JOHNSON

Look...me too. But it's better this way. Sorry I didn't come to you are tell you but I...I can't. Not anymore. I'm married Saavik. I have a wife, a family.

SAAVIK

All of which was true before.

JOHNSON

Yeah. But this whole...thing, being more alone with my thoughts. It woke me up. I hate myself. For doing it to them, and to you.

(CONTINUED)

SAAVIK

So...so you are using the situation as a way to end our...fraternizing.

JOHNSON

No. I mean, I was going to tell you. Cutting you off...sorry for that. But now is as good a time as any...

SAAVIK

I see.

JOHNSON

\*Sigh\* For once I am glad your Vulcan half controls you. This would be a lot harder if you...I mean if you reacted.

SAAVIK

Is that all Captain?

JOHNSON

You sure your OK?

SAAVIK

As you said Captain. I am a Vulcan. My emotions do not control me. This matter will not come up again.

JOHNSON

\*Exhale\* Alright.

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS

SOUND: DOORS

JOHNSON

\*Makes an uncomfortable sound\*

Scene Five: Enterprise Mess Hall

SOUND: BG OF A BUSY BAR/RESTAURANT LIKE AREA

SOUND: DOORS

HIKARI

Evening Gentleman.

GAIUS

Hey Doc. Zarath had to take the bridge so we moved our night in here. Can we join you.

HIKARI

Sure. I was just reading up on a Klingon virus anyway.

(CONTINUED)

WRIGHT  
Why?

HIKARI  
You never know. New allies and all that.

WRIGHT  
Right.

BARTENDER  
What can I get for you?

WRIGHT  
A old English pint please.

GAIUS  
\*Chuckle\* A brandy please. What you drinking Doc?

HIKARI  
Oh I'm fine. I have an early start tomorrow.

WRIGHT  
Sucks to be you. Harding's in charge of the engine room tomorrow. So I am out to get vaporized!

HIKARI  
\*Sigh and slight chuckle\* Well have fun. Oh Gaius I forgot to ask; how are things at home?

GAIUS  
Good thanks. Maria tells me Kyle walked yesterday.

HIKARI  
That's great!

GAIUS  
Yeah. Shame I missed it. But comes with the job.

WRIGHT  
I miss Maria.

GAIUS  
Yeah, well the Cardassian front line is no place to raise a child.

HIKARI  
You ever think she will come back to Starfleet?

GAIUS  
I dunno. Maybe. But she wants to stay on Earth and raise Kyle. Growing up without either of us would be...well not good.

(CONTINUED)

HIKARI  
Yeah.

GAIUS  
She's actually talking about opening up a practice on Earth.

BARTENDER  
Here you go.

GAIUS  
Thanks.

WRIGHT  
Thank you very much.

SOUND: GLASSES ON TABLE

WRIGHT  
Well she's a hell of a Doctor. But, now we have you my dear! Here's to your first year on the Enterprise!

HIKARI  
Actually my anniversary was two weeks ago.

WRIGHT  
No reason not to drink to that. Cheers!

HIKARI  
Cheers.

GAIUS  
Here here!

SOUND: DRINKING

GAIUS  
Ah. Good stuff. You ever think you'll have kids Paul?

WRIGHT  
Ah maybe, not now though. My babies are my engines.

HIKARI  
Yeah, we know.

SOUND: DOORS

GAIUS  
Well I'll be damned.

WRIGHT  
Huh?

HIKARI

Saavik! Over here!

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS

SAAVIK

Thank you Doctor. Wright. Drake.

GAIUS

Commander...something wrong?

SAAVIK

No. I thought I might join you. If I am not intruding.

HIKARI

Not at all. Please. have a seat.

SAAVIK

Thank you.

BARTENDER

Can I get you anything?

SAAVIK

Vulcan leaf tea.

BARTENDER

Sure...

WRIGHT

So...Gaius you want to show me that custom rifle of yours?

GAIUS

What?...Oh! Oh right. Yeah sure.

HIKARI

Guys...

WRIGHT

No really. He promised to show me it.

GAIUS

Yeah. Yeah we'll be back later. See you both at the briefing in a couple of days if your gone.

WRIGHT

See you.

SOUND: THEY GET UP AND LEAVE

SOUND: DOORS

(CONTINUED)

HIKARI  
Sorry.

SAAVIK  
It is understandable. They have always  
been...uncomfortable with me when we are not on duty.

HIKARI  
They just aren't used to you yet. From what I hear the  
last first officer was their old buddy from the  
academy.

SAAVIK  
I see.

HIKARI  
What about you. Feeling settled in after our first  
year?

SAAVIK  
Settled would not be the word I would use. But I am  
accustomed to the Enterprise.

HIKARI  
Yeah. The stuff we have been doing for the last few  
months doesn't exactly help.

SAAVIK  
Indeed.

HIKARI  
So...anything you wanted to talk to me about? You never  
socialize like this unless you want to talk. I know you  
well enough by now.

SAAVIK  
I simply wanted company Ayumi.

HIKARI  
Are you sure? You're not supposed to lie you know.

SAAVIK  
My...other halves people are very apt at lying.

HIKARI  
But you see yourself as Vulcan.

SAAVIK  
Correct.

HIKARI  
Then tell me. Somethings up, its written all over your  
face.

(CONTINUED)

SAAVIK

There is no need to insult me.

HIKARI

Sorry. Come on. We have served on three ships together.  
If you can't tell me then who can you tell.

SAAVIK

It's the Captain.

HIKARI

I'm sure he will get back to normal once we go back on  
normal duty.

SAAVIK

No. That is not it. Ayumi this is something of a  
personal matter.

HIKARI

With the Captain?

SAAVIK

Yes.

HIKARI

How personal?

SAAVIK

As personal as it can be.

HIKARI

Huh?...oh...Oh! What?!

SAAVIK

Please lower your voice.

HIKARI

Sorry. \*quietly\* When did this happen?

SAAVIK

Last year.

HIKARI

And you...I mean I thought your meant to have an  
arranged husband or something.

SAAVIK

It is a long story, as you would say. But rest assured  
I do not have one.

HIKARI

But he does! Saavik he has kids!

(CONTINUED)

SAAVIK

I am aware.

HIKARI

Wow your Romu...I mean your other side really *is* in there somewhere. So why are you telling me now?

SAAVIK

He ended it.

HIKARI

Good! Sorry, I mean that is good right?

SAAVIK

I believe so. But I needed to speak to someone about this. And you are my...most familiar colleague on board.

HIKARI

Thank you.

SAAVIK

For what?

HIKARI

For trusting me with this. I won't tell anyone I swear.

SAAVIK

Thank you Ayumi. I will meditate tonight, clear my mind of unwanted emotions on this matter.

HIKARI

Sure. But before that I have something else that will help. You want a real drink?

SAAVIK

That would be...aggreable.

Scene Six: Argo Ready Room

DRAKE

Computer record log.

SOUND: COMPUTER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

DRAKE

Captain's log supplemental. I took the good Doctors advice and switched to the personal logs. I am shocked at what I found. Not only the content but the fact that it was recorded in logs. I guess Hikari didn't tell anyone...except the computer. I guess the personal log is a good way to get your thoughts down on things. But Saavik. Saavik I am very surprised at. Vulcans always

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)



DRAKE (cont'd)

strike me as very private people. No mention of the affair until this time when it was broken off. She didn't put much. Text log only and it reads...

SOUND: PADD BUTTON PRESSED

DRAKE

'For almost a year I have been involved in a personal relationship with the Captain. When I confronted him on his solidarity in recent months he ended it.' Like I said, not much. Hikari's log and my mind did the rest. What was Johnson thinking? I guess after years out here without his family for months, even years at a time he got...lonely. But still a Captain isn't meant to get *that* close to his crew. It's kinda in the unofficial handbook. It's not a crime, hell the reports on the spying is far worse. But...I dunno I guess I will have to send a message to his descendants. For all it's worth.

Anyway, this has been an interesting diversion, it let me see the crew as people. But it hasn't got me any closer to what happened. However my logs are getting there. I'm in 2329, only weeks away from whatever happened that got them all the way out here. Won't be long now. If I am not escorted out of the area by Admiral Shadow by then.

SOUND: COM OPEN

STYLES (OVER COM)

Bridge to Captain.

DRAKE

Yes?

STYLES (OVER COM)

They're back sir.

Scene Seven: Argo Bridge

SOUND: DOORS

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS

DANIELS

Captain! *They* are hailing us sir.

DRAKE

Open a channel.

(CONTINUED)

DANIELS

Aye sir. Channel open.

SOUND: SCREEN ON

DRAKE

This is Captain Drake of the USS Argo. How can I be of assistance?

VORTA

What are you doing in Dominion space Captain?

DRAKE

As you can see we have found one of our lost ships. A very old lost ship. We are simply trying to find out what happened to it.

VORTA

And have you?

DRAKE

Somewhat. We know you killed them.

VORTA

I see. We thought you would never find it.

DRAKE

Took longer than you thought?

VORTA

Hm, indeed. Once the war had started we assumed it would never be found.

DRAKE

Well...now we have your message.

VORTA

Yes. But we didn't need it in the end. We think our more...direct methods sent the message clearly enough.

DRAKE

Yes they did. So now what? Are you going to let us continue?

VORTA

So long as you are not here much longer. We will be patrolling nearby if you need any...assistance. But should you go any deeper into our territory...

DRAKE

Understood.

(CONTINUED)

VORTA

Good day Captain.

SOUND: CHANNEL CLOSED

STYLES

That was fun.

DANIELS

They're moving off. So...they admit it then.

DRAKE

Yeah.

STYLES

So now we know what killed them. Now we just have to find out how they got here.

DRAKE

Indeed Commander. Indeed.

Scene Eight: Enterprise Ready Room

ENTERPRISE COM OFFICER (OVER COM)

Captain. Admiral Hackett is on subspace for you sir.

JOHNSON

\*Groan\* Alright. Open a secure channel to my screen Ensign.

SOUND: CHANNEL OPEN

JOHNSON

Admiral. I'm glad you called. We have been surveying for months and...

HACKETT

Captain we have a serious problem.

JOHNSON

What?

HACKETT

The probe's cloak is malfunctioning.

JOHNSON

We are getting the readings just fine.

HACKETT

From the sensors yes. But I am monitoring its systems and the cloak is days away from full failure. When that happens...

(CONTINUED)

JOHNSON

I get the picture. Why are you calling me?

HACKETT

Because you are the only ship in the sector that knows about it. And because if your engineering crew had done there jobs in the first place...

JOHNSON

Admiral my crew is the best in the fleet. If there is a problem it is a compatibility one between techonolgies. I warned you of that before we sent it.

HACKETT

Who is to blame doesn't matter. Fixing that probe does.

JOHNSON

What are we supposed to do? It doesn't have the fuel or the time to be recalled.

HACKETT

I know. I need you to go and fix it.

JOHNSON

Admiral!

HACKETT

Order the probe away from Bajor. Get it to as remote a system as you can. It should have enough for a lightyear or two before it fails.

JOHNSON

And then what?

HACKETT

Then you go and fix it.

JOHNSON

And how the hell am I meant to do that? There are dozens of Cardassian ships between us and the probe in any direction!

HACKETT

You still have the original cloaking device.

JOHNSON

Oh no...

HACKETT

Yes Captain. This is an order. None of us want a war Johnson. You need to succeed or we will have one. Either fix the probe or destroy it. Either way the Cardassian's must never find it.

(CONTINUED)

JOHNSON

It would never be there *sir*, if you hadn't have ordered me to send it.

HACKETT

I sort you out because of what you did to save the Bajorans. You did what was neccessary then and I need you to do it now. Fix the probe or destroy it. Follow my orders or I will have your command Captain. Starfleet out.

SOUND: CHANNEL CLOSED

JOHNSON

Go fuck yourself.

Scene Nine: Enterprise BridgeSOUND: DOORS

SAAVIK

Captain?

JOHNSON

To your station Commander.

SAAVIK

Yes sir.

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS

JOHNSON

All stop.

ZARATH

Aye sir.

SOUND: SHIP WIDE CHANNEL WHISTLE

JOHNSON

All hands this is the Captain. As you know several months ago we retrieved a Klingon cloaking device and used it to modify and send a probe to spy on the Cardassians. What you don't know and I am now telling you is that those orders came from an Admiral Hackett. Now I have looked this Admiral up everywhere, left no stone unturned. There is no record of him anywhere. I have to assume that he is with some arm of Starfleet that most of us have never heard of. But I followed his orders, I kept quiet about it and didn't report it. But now his orders have changed and he wants me to risk this ship and all of your lives on these new orders. If I am going to ask you to do that then you have a right

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JOHNSON (cont'd)

to know where those orders came from and what they are. The probes cloak is failing, something I'm sure we would know if we had been allowed to monitor the probe itself and not just what it sends. However I have been given the codes to allow us full access to it. We are going to order it to a remote arena and try and repair it. But we will have to cross the border to reach it. In order to survive the trip I have been authorized the use of the original cloaking device on this ship. If we can't fix the probe then we will destroy it. I can't order you to do this, as I explained our orders are not from a source that I recognize. However following Hacketts orders we have created a situation, one that could cause a war that will kill thousands, if not millions. We made this mess and now we have to fix it. But I will not carry out these order unless every head of department agrees. They will let you know. I hope now you understand why I kept this secret and why we must do this no matter the cost or the source. Johnson out.

SOUND: CHANNEL CLOSED

(FEW MOMENTS SILENCE)

JOHNSON

Well?

ZARATH

Helm ready Captain.

GAIUS

Tactical standing bye at your Command sir.

HIKARI (OVER COM)

Sick Bay standing bye.

WRIGHT (OVER COM)

My lot are ready. Let's do this.

JOHNSON

Saavik?

(A MOMENTS SILENCE)

SAAVIK

Science station and First Officer ready Captain.

JOHNSON (HAPPILY)

Alright then. Saavik order the probe as far away from Bajor as it can get.

SOUND: CHANNEL OPENED

(CONTINUED)

JOHNSON

Wright, do whatever it takes to install the cloaking device and get it online.

WRIGHT (OVER COM)

Yes Captain.

JOHNSON

May fortune favor the bold.

VOICE: TO BE CONTINUED...