

Richard Sean Gross

Out of Time

A fictional screenplay

January 1st, 2013

Find out what happens when every person who ever invented a time machine shows up at the same place in a time that is "outside" of time.

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OUT OF TIME

A screenplay by Richard Sean Gross

Cast of Characters

- The crew of the starship Deep Space 791 from 3256 CE

LEE: Captain Erik Lee
KING: Engineer - Lieutenant Commander Don King
GUPTA: Medical Officer - Doctor Sunny Gupta
SKY: Pilot - Flight Lieutenant Sky Sadat
KIKI: Communications Officer - Ensign Kiki Jenkins

- The other time travelers, the year and place of origin

PFF: Phinneus Franklin Funkhouser	1897 CE	Chicago
ALYONA: Alyona Politskaya	2440 CE	Moscow
IMHOTEP: Imhotep	C 4000 BC	Egypt
BRANDT: Professor Gunther Brandt	1945 CE	Germany

- Those that were dead on arrival
 - The 10 year old son of a Pharaoh
 - Waffen SS major Heinrich Schmidt

OUT OF TIME

ACT I

- *On the bridge of the starship Deep Space 791, the captain addresses his four crew members. A video screen fills one wall showing stars in space. The date is 20 April 3256 CE. The crew is standing at attention.*

LEE: At ease crew members. Welcome to the DS 791. I am the captain of this ship. My name is Erik Lee. You have all been selected for this mission because you are the best at what you do. We have a small crew for this mission, but we have 50 robots who can serve us and fix anything on the ship. I am sure that you are all wondering what our mission is. Now that we are aboard, I can tell you. Our ship has been selected to test a recently invented warp drive system. This drive system will allow us to manipulate time in order to cover vast distances in a matter of seconds. Travel time to allied planets will be reduced to almost nothing, facilitating greater trade and cooperation. I don't need to tell you how lucky we are to have this honor. Today, we will travel 50,000 light years in seconds. Today, we will make history!

- *The crew looks at each other and smiles.*

LEE: At this time, I think we should all introduce ourselves and say a little about ourselves. I will start. I am Captain Erik Lee. I have ancestors in China and Scandanavia. I was born on the island of Hawaii. I am an amateur historian, and I like to play the ancient game of chess. I have spent my entire adult life in the service of the United Nations Starfleet. Now, let's hear from our pilot.

SKY: I am Flight Lieutenant Sky Sadat. I was born and raised in the Sahara nation, and I am a graduate of Aerotech University. I have been piloting this class of ship for 5 years now. I am 29 years old and single.

LEE: I'm sure our Communications Officer has something to say.

KIKI: I am Ensign Kiki Jenkins. My ancestors came from Africa. My mother is a U.N. official, and I have lived on every continent, including

Antarctica. In my spare time, I like to study dead languages. I joined starfleet after graduating from university.

LEE: Now, a few words from our Medical Officer.

GUPTA: I am Doctor Sunny Gupta. I am an Oxford graduate, and I don't like to talk about myself.

LEE: Finally, our Engineer.

KING: My name is Don King. I hold the rank of Lieutenant Commander, and I am the best engineer in all of Starfleet. I am from Europe. I am 46 years old, and in the best of shape. I am well acquainted with our new warp drive system. I say we get started, and cross this galaxy of ours.

LEE: My sentiments exactly, Lieutenant Commander King. Ensign Jenkins, inform Starfleet Command that we are getting underway. Lieutenant Sadat, our orders are to move one thousand kilometers away from the space station before engaging the warp drive. Make it so. Lieutenant Commander King, is the warp drive system ready to be engaged on my orders?

KING: Yes Captain.

- *Within minutes, the ship is 1,000 kilometers from the space station. Captain Lee stands in front of the video screen looking at the stars.*

LEE: In a few moments, these stars before us will race by in a flash. I want everyone to remember this historic moment. It is 20, April 3256 at 0825 GMT. Lieutenant Commander King, engage the warp drive.

KING: Yes Captain.

- *Engineer King presses a button. The screen goes blank.*

LEE: What happened? Did you engage the warp drive?

- *An alarm sounds at the Engineer's console.*

KING: Captain, there is a fire in the central cargo hold.

LEE: Get down there King, and use the robot firefighters. I thought the central cargo hold was empty?

KING: It's supposed to be.

- *King quickly exits the bridge and heads for the hold.*

LEE: Lieutenant Sadat, where are we?

SKY: I don't know Captain, my navigation computer will not give me a location.

LEE: Ensign Jenkins, contact Starfleet Command.

KIKI: Yes Captain.

LEE: Lieutenant Sadat, do we have a computer failure here?

SKY: No Captain, diagnostic tests indicate that all systems are functioning properly. However, the screen is blank. I can't find our location. I can't even get the time of day.

LEE: Keep working on it, Lieutenant.

KIKI: Captain Lee, I can't raise Starfleet Command. I can't contact anyone. I don't even hear any radio traffic on any frequency.

LEE: That's impossible. There are ships all over the galaxy. Run diagnostic tests again, both of you.

- *They frantically check their computers for a few minutes, until the Communications Officer receives a message from Lt. Commander King.*

KIKI: Captain Lee! Lieutenant Commander King says there are people in the cargo hold, and there are injuries.

- *Doctor Gupta jumps up and grabs some equipment.*

LEE: People! How can we have stowaways? Tell him I'm on my way. Dr. Gupta, let's go.

- *Captain Lee and Dr Gupta go to the cargo hold. A crashed aircraft is burning. Black smoke fills the air, and burning jet fuel is spreading across the floor. Robots are fighting the fire. A man in a white suit is shouting, "Eureka, I've done it!" A woman in a motorcycle helmet and suit is working on a hand-held computer. A man is crouching beside a golden bed. On the bed is an unconscious boy. Dr. Gupta examines the boy.*

LEE: Doctor, we have to get these people out of here.

- *Dr. Gupta directs robots to carry the bed. The man follows her and the robots to sick bay. Lee ushers the other 2 out and to the bridge, where he confronts the stowaways.*

LEE: Who are you people, and why are you on my ship?

PFF: Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Phinneus Franklin Funkhouser, inventor and purveyor of tonics and elixers. Minutes ago, I was in Chicago, Illinois, USA, in the year of our lord, 1897. Where am I now?

LEE: And who are you, young lady?

ALYONA: My name is Alyona Politskaya, and I am a university student from Moscow. I am from the year 2440. I did not intend to travel to a different place when I traveled time, and I would also like to know where we are.

LEE: I don't know if this is some sort of joke or what, but you two are on my ship, the DS791, and the year is 3256. I am Captain Erik Lee. This is Ensign Jenkins, and Lieutenant Sadat. Lieutenant, keep an eye on these two while I go to sick bay and check on the wounded.

- *Lee exits.*

ALYONA: Lieutenant Sadat, where are we?

SKY: Call me Sky, please. The fact is, I don't know where we are, and this has never happened to me before. We left the space station, engaged the warp drive system, and now I don't know where we are.

PFF: Are we out in space?

SKY: Yes, we are.

PFF: Fantastic! Another dream realized.

ALYONA: This warp drive system, was it supposed to travel time?

SKY: I was told it would manipulate time to let us travel fifty-thousand light years in a few seconds. I don't know what it did.

ALYONA: I think we have all traveled time.

PFF: Has man been to other planets yet?

SKY: Yes, all the time. I've been to dozens of them.

PFF: Extraordinary!

KIKI: That's great, Lieutenant Commander King! Captain Lee is on his way

there now.

PFF: To whom are you talking to miss?

KIKI: That was King. The fire is out, and he has transported the injured men to sick bay.

PFF: Well, that's a comfort. Who else can you talk to on that thing?

KIKI: At the moment, only people on this ship. Under normal circumstances, I could talk to anyone in the galaxy.

PFF: Extraordinary!

- *Lee arrives in sick bay.*

LEE: I assume the fire is out, Lieutenant Commander.

KING: Yes Captain. It is the strangest thing though. A jet aircraft crashed in the central cargo hold, but it did not penetrate the hull of the ship. It's like it materialized inside the ship while it was flying and then crashed into the side of the hold. What do you make of that?

LEE: I don't know King. Dr. Gupta, what do we have here?

GUPTA: The young boy is dead, so is the man in the uniform. This man here has a broken ankle, a few abrasions, and some burns, but he will be alright. I'm going to set his ankle right now.

KING: Captain, do you recognize the uniform on the dead man?

LEE: That is a Nazi SS uniform. The Nazis ruled Germany for a short time in the middle of the twentieth century.

KING: What is this, a costume party?

LEE: I don't know. The man and woman on the bridge claim to be time travelers from 1897 and 2440 respectively.

- *Lee examines the golden bed with the dead boy on it.*

LEE: These are ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics on this solid gold bed. I don't know what they say.

- *Lee turns to the man who came with the bed and points at himself.*

LEE: I am Captain Lee, who are you? *(pointing at him)*

- *The man points at himself, and says "Imhotep"*
Lee, King, and Imhotep return to the bridge.

LEE: Ensign Jenkins, you mentioned that you studied dead languages. Have you ever studied Egyptian?

KIKI: A little, why?

LEE: Because, I think this man speaks it. His name is Imhotep.

KIKI: Wow.

PFF: Captain Lee, who were those sturdy men who fought the fire? They seemed without fear.

LEE: They are robots.

PFF: Robots?

ALYONA: Machines.

PFF: Extraordinary!

LEE: My question is, when you people travelled time, why did you choose to come to my ship?

ALYONA: We didn't. Your pilot says that you don't know where you are. I think your ship has travelled time also.

LEE: No.

KING: Actually Captain, that is kind of what the warp drive system was supposed to do.

LEE: Well, if we did travel through time, then what time are we in?

KING: I don't know.

ALYONA: I think we are in a place without time. A place outside of time, if you will.

PFF: Maybe all of the people here now are all of the people who have ever travelled through time. And, instead of travelling to a different time, we have all fell out of time.

ALYONA: Yes, I think that is the case.

PFF: Captain Lee, the injured men, what time are they from?

LEE: They appear to be from Nazi Germany, middle of the twentieth century. One is dead, the other injured.

PFF: You seem to know your history Captain. Have you ever heard of me?

LEE: No, I haven't.

PFF: Have you heard of any inventors from the nineteenth century?

LEE: Just Alexander Graham Bell and Thomas Edison.

PFF: They are just a couple of showoffs! You really haven't heard of Phinneus Franklin Funkhouser?

LEE: No, sorry.

PFF: I think that means I shall not be returning to my time... pity. I expect my time machine may be all burned up.

KING: It is.

ALYONA: My time machine is here in my hand, but it won't take me anywhere. I have already tried and failed. I didn't expect to end up here, and with the fire and all, I was frightened. I tried to go back, but nothing happened. I don't think we can go back.

SKY: Do you think we are stuck here forever?

ALYONA: I fear that may be the situation.

PFF: Most unfortunate.

KING: That's putting it mildly.

LEE: I am sure that we will all find a way out. In the meantime, I will find quarters for all of our guests, and we will all meet for dinner tonight.

PFF: Most kind of you Captain.

ALYONA: Yes, thank you.

ACT II

- *The crew and their guests gather for dinner. Robot waiters set the table. Dr. Gupta pushes in a wheelchair containing the injured man from the crash. He has a cast on his leg and a bandage on his head.*

GUPTA: Hello everyone. May I present to you Professor Gunther Brandt of Heidelberg University.

LEE: I see you have made a quick recovery Professor.

BRANDT: Yes Captain. Your medical technology is miraculous. I do not feel as if I was in an aircraft crash today. Your pain medications work better than anything we had in my time, and without the side effects.

PFF: Professor, I must ask you, why did you feel that your time machine needed to fly?

BRANDT: I was planning on going to a different time and a different place. My country did a horrible thing with the war we started. And what they wanted to use my time machine for was just insane. They wanted to take our dictator, Adolph Hitler, to a time in the future, when he would be appreciated. I knew that there would be no such time. I wanted to leave the country, and go to a time and place where there was peace.

PFF: And what year was this?

BRANDT: 1945. The war was lost. My family was dead. I wanted out. They wouldn't let me test it alone. They insisted that an SS officer should pilot the craft. That was Major Schmidt, rest his soul.

KIKI: I've been working with our Egyptian friend, Imhotep. I have had some success communicating with him. Apparently, the dead boy was the son of someone very important. A Pharaoh perhaps. The boy died in some sort of accident, and Imhotep was trying to return him to a time before the accident to save his life. Imhotep is a nice man, and I think he likes me. Maybe he thinks I'm a Nubian princess.

BRANDT: I assume that all of our time machines used electricity. How did a man from ancient Egypt power his machine?

ALYONA: He had a cranked generator. It doesn't use a lot of electricity to travel time, and it seems that the ancient Egyptians were more advanced

than historians believe.

PFF: I used a coal-fired steam engine hooked to a generator. I think now, it was more than I needed.

ALYONA: I found that my fully charged phone was enough.

LEE: I don't want to interrupt, but dinner is on the table, and I think we should all sit down and eat.

- *They all take their seats, and begin to eat. Captain Lee sits at the head of the table. To his left, sits Dr. Gupta, then Professor Brandt, Sky, and Alyona. On his right sits Kiki, Imhotep, Phinneus, then Lt. Cmdr King.*

PFF: These robots are amazing. I would love to have one. And, the food they prepared is delicious. It reminds me of a hotel I stayed at in St. Louis. Funny thing about that hotel, the hotelkeeper claimed that no one ever died in his hotel. Come to find out that whenever a guest was ailing and at death's door, he would carry them out into the street to die.

GUPTA: That's horrible.

- *Sky and Alyona laugh and then look at each other sheepishly.*

SKY: Alyona believes that there is no time here, and that we will not age.

PFF: Poppycock. I can feel myself aging as we speak.

LEE: We won't be here long enough to find out. I am sure we will find a way back soon.

ALYONA: How can you be so sure Mr. Lee?

LEE: I always complete my missions successfully. And, please address me as Captain.

- *An awkward silence follows.*

PFF: Another thing about that hotel in St. Louis, they had a woman singer there who had a soprano voice so high that it had to be climbed over by a ladder.

BRANDT: Didn't Abraham Lincoln originally tell that joke?

PFF: Truth is, ole "Honest Abe" stole every joke he ever told.

- *Laughter*

SKY: Captain Lee, remember how Starfleet asked us to move one thousand kilometers from the space station before engaging the warp drive?

LEE: Yes Lieutenant.

SKY: Do you think they did that because they were worried about what would happen? Did they know we were in danger? You said we were chosen for this mission because we are the best. Or, was it because we are expendable?

KIKI: I was not told that this was a dangerous mission. I would not have volunteered if I had.

GUPTA: Nor I.

LEE: People, please! I am sure that Starfleet Command had their reasons for our orders. I obey orders without question, and I expect the same from my crew. We are in no immediate danger, and I intend to get us all back safely.

KING: We were testing something new. Of course there was a chance of an unforeseen outcome, but I can tell you that all of us who were involved in the project had full confidence that it would work as intended.

KIKI: But it didn't. Now there are two dead bodies, an injured man, and we have no idea where we are or how we are getting back. I would call that a predicament.

LEE: It is a situation Ensign, a situation that I have well in hand. There is no need to panic. I suggest you concentrate on your work with Imhotep as we all have questions we would like him to answer.

KIKI: I am working on teaching him English. I have a million questions for him myself.

ALYONA: I would like to know how they built the pyramids. They moved stones of tremendous weight.

SKY: Maybe they had gravitational neutralization technology. It is how we move heavy things. When was that invented Captain?

LEE: Around 2700. Made cranes obsolete.

ALYONA: Fascinating. Keep working with him Kiki.

KIKI: Oh, I will. We have sort of a... connection.

- *Kiki and Imhotep smile at each other.*

SKY: We are lucky that almost all of us speak English. It hasn't always been the global language. Professor, when did you learn it?

BRANDT: I was in a British POW camp in World War I. I learned it there, and it came in handy when I returned to Britain in the twenties to study at Oxford.

GUPTA: That is where I graduated, Professor. How interesting.

BRANDT: Yes, yes. What a small world it is.

GUPTA: Oxford was already old when you were there, wasn't it?

BRANDT: Yes it was.

LEE: You fought in World War I Professor?

BRANDT: For a few hours, yes. I was taken prisoner on my first day at the front. I was drafted and never really cut out to be a soldier.

GUPTA: Drafted? Do you mean you were forced to be a soldier?

BRANDT: Yes, that's right.

GUPTA: Barbaric!

LEE: It was a common practice during that time period.

GUPTA: But, how could they make him kill?

LEE: War is kind of a "kill or be killed" situation.

BRANDT: You are correct Captain.

- *The dinner continues. Dr. Gupta and Professor Brandt discuss Oxford University. Sky and Alyona whisper to each other. Kiki teaches Imhotep the words for everything in the room. Phinneus tells jokes to King, who pretends to find them amusing. Captain Lee eats in silence and thinks.*

PFF: I believe that if this ship had not travelled time with us, we would be dead. They brought the oxygen we are breathing, and the food we are eating. I would like to propose a toast to the brave and competent crew of the DS791.

- *They all raise their glasses and toast.*

SKY: I would like to propose a toast to our guests on this ship, all brave

and intelligent inventors. Imhotep, Professor Brandt, the humorous Mr. Funkhouser, and the lovely Alyona.

- *They toast. Alyona smiles sweetly at Sky, who beams back.*

GUPTA: I would like to propose a toast to Captain Lee. In this difficult situation, we are lucky to have a talented leader.

PFF: Here, here.

LEE: Thank you Doctor. I hope I live up to your expectations. Now, I would like to propose a toast to you. Thank you for saving the professors life. I am glad that our lives are in the hands of a medical professional of your caliber.

BRANDT: Yes, yes, I second the toast. Thank you Doctor.

- *Dr. Gupta blushes as they all toast.*

GUPTA: At this time, I think we should have a moment of silence for those who died today, Major Heinrich Schmidt and the boy that Imhotep brought with him.

- *They all bow their heads in silence.*

- *After dinner, Sky walks up to Alyona*

SKY: I know you had the tour earlier, but perhaps you and I could walk around the ship.

ALYONA: Look Sky, I think we will all die here, and it probably won't be long. I like you, and you like me. Let's spend the time we have together making each other happy.

SKY: What exactly do you have in mind?

ALYONA: Let's go to my quarters and get to know each other.

SKY: That sounds nice

- *Later in Alyona's quarters.*

ALYONA: Do women initiate sex in 3256?

SKY: Sometimes, but usually the men do.

ALYONA: Then why haven't you kissed me yet?

SKY: I don't know... I... uh.

- *Alyona kisses sky, then unzips her motorcycle jumpsuit to reveal black lace lingerie.*

ACT III

- *A week has passed since their arrival. Captain Lee is in his office. Dr. Gupta knocks on the door.*

LEE: Enter!

GUPTA: Hello Captain, I was hoping to have a word with you.

LEE: Of course, sit down Doctor.

GUPTA: I was wondering if you have any plans to ration the food?

LEE: To make it last how long? It won't last forever, and if we don't find a way out of here, we will all starve to death eventually.

GUPTA: You're right Captain. I hope you find a way.

LEE: I'm sure I will Doctor.

GUPTA: Otherwise, things could get ugly here.

LEE: I know.

- *Dr. Gupta exits the office, and Engineer King enters.*

KING: Captain, are you aware that our pilot and that Russian chick are having sex all over this ship?

LEE: I am aware of a general breakdown in discipline. We are in most unusual circumstances. I am more concerned with how to get us out of here.

KING: Do you have any ideas?

LEE: Just one. Would it be possible to reverse the warp drive system so that it would take us back to where we were?

KING: Maybe. I could study the plans.

LEE: I think that it could take us back to the moment that we engaged the warp drive.

KING: It could. Of course, I would have to do all the work myself.

LEE: Why can't the robot mechanics do it?

KING: They are programmed to perform any maintenance or repairs that are in the manual. What we are talking about is not in the manual.

LEE: But, it can be done, right?

KING: Let's see.

- *He brings up a hologram of the warp drive system plans, and they both study it for a few minutes.*

KING: It can be done, but I can't guarantee that it will work. As a matter of fact, it might explode.

LEE: It's risky, but we have to do it.

KING: Yes Captain. I'll go to engineering and get started.

- *They both exit the office. Captain Lee starts towards his private quarters. He sees Alyona and Sky kissing in the hallway. He rolls his eyes and passes by. They don't notice him. Next, he sees Phinneus being carried by a robot.*

LEE: Mr. Funkhouser, are you injured?

PFF: No, not at all Captain. These robot men will do whatever you ask of them!

LEE: Yes... They will.

- *Lee rolls his eyes again, and enters his quarters.*
- *The next morning, an announcement is made over the ship's PA system.*

KIKI: Attention crew members and guests. Captain Lee has an announcement to make.

LEE: This is your Captain. I have wonderful news for everyone aboard this ship. The ship's engineer and I have come up with a way to get us out of here. We are going to reverse the warp drive system, and then use it to return to the exact moment when we engaged the system. It will be 20 April 3256. We will then return to the Starfleet Space Station that is our base. Our time travelling guests on this ship will become instant celebrities, and scientists across the galaxy will want to learn of our experience. That is all.

- *Alyona and Sky are in bed together when they hear the announcement.*

ALYONA: It won't work. I've already tried to go back. Can't be done.

SKY: Well, it's worth a try, isn't it?

ALYONA: I want you to talk to the Engineer, and find out more about this.

SKY: Alright, I'll go now.

- *Sky goes to the engineering department, where King is working.*

KING: Hello lad, did you come to help?

SKY: Well... Uh... I guess I could. I'd like to know more about it.

KING: It's simple, really. I'm just going to flip some parts around and see if we can make it work backwards.

SKY: Will it work?

KING: It might work. It might blow up. Won't know until we try.

SKY: It might blow up?

KING: It could, yes. But, we don't have a lot of options here. We can't just stay here forever. We will run out of food.

SKY: Thank you Lieutenant Commander King.

- *Sky hurries off.*

KING: I thought you were going to help?

- *Sky is gone. He passes Dr. Gupta and Professor Brandt.*

GUPTA: Lieutenant, have you heard the good news?

SKY: Yes I have. The Engineer says that there is a chance it will blow up the ship.

BRANDT: I don't like the sound of that at all. This should be discussed.

- *Sky returns to his quarters and tells Alyona the news.*

ALYONA: Sky, we are going to die here no matter what we do. I want to spend as much time with you as I can before that happens. Don't you?

SKY: Of course I do, Alyona.

ALYONA: Then we have to stop them!

SKY: We can discuss it with the Captain at dinner tonight.

- *Professor Brandt visits the Engineering Department*

BRANDT: Hello Lieutenant Commander King. May I come in?

KING: Certainly, Professor. How can I help you?

BRANDT: I am concerned about the plans to reverse the warp drive. I would like to see the blueprints, and determine for myself if this is a safe course of action.

KING: I'm afraid I can't do that Professor. You would need security clearance from Starfleet Command.

BRANDT: That's ridiculous. There is no way I can get that now.

KING: Nevertheless Professor, I can't let you see anything. Actually, you are not cleared to be in here at all.

BRANDT: All of our lives are at stake here, King. This is no time to be constrained by foolish military rules!

KING: I'm sorry Professor, you will have to leave now.

- *They all meet for dinner. As soon as Lee enters, Alyona confronts him.*

ALYONA: Captain Lee, I think you should have told us all of the risks when you informed us of your plan.

LEE: I weighed the risks before I made my decision.

ALYONA: I think we should all vote on it.

LEE: This ship is not a democracy. I am the captain.

ALYONA: You are a Starfleet Captain, but I am not one of your crew. You don't make decisions for me.

LEE: I am the captain of this ship. You are on my ship, and I make the decisions here.

ALYONA: You'll kill us all, you fool!

LEE: You are not one of my crew, and that is why you can talk to me that way, but my decision stands!

- *Alyona cries and runs into Sky's arms.*

BRANDT: Captain Lee, perhaps we should wait a while, and discuss it further.

LEE: Wait for what? Nothing is going to happen here. I'm not staying here and starving to death! It is my decision, and mine alone. I have made

my decision, and it is not open to discussion. That's final!

ALYONA: Come on Sky, we are leaving!

- *Sky hesitates, then follows. Professor Brandt leaves too.*

KIKI: Captain, I have been making great progress communicating with Imhotep.
With more time, I can learn all he knows.

- *Lee says nothing. They eat dinner in silence.*

- *Later, in Sky's quarters.*

ALYONA: Why did you hesitate when I wanted to leave?

SKY: I... Um... I was hungry.

ALYONA: So, have a robot bring something. We have to stop Lee. He is going to blow up the ship because he wants it to be over with. He is suicidal, and he is taking us all with him.

SKY: I don't know that he is suicidal.

ALYONA: He is! And that's insane! He is unfit to command, and you have to relieve him of command.

SKY: I don't know if I can do that.

ALYONA: Try!

SKY: I will tomorrow. Right now, I have to order some food.

- *In the morning, Sky goes to the engineering department.*

KING: Oh, you came back. Are you here to help?

SKY: No, I have to talk to you. Alyona says that Lee is suicidal and wants to kill us all. She wants me to relieve him of command.

KING: You can't do that lad. I'm second in command. Only I can do that. While he may very well be wrong, he is not insane. He is fit to command.

SKY: Can Dr. Gupta declare him insane and relieve him?

KING: I suppose she could.

- *Sky hurries off. Later, Sky and Alyona speak to Dr. Gupta.*

ALYONA: Doctor Gupta, we need your help. There is no way to travel back to 3256, or any other time. I know because I have tried. What Mr. Lee has planned will kill us all. I think he wants that. I believe he is suicidal. You should declare him insane and relieve him of command. Will you do it?

GUPTA: This is a very serious step you are asking. While I have some training in psychology, it is not my area of expertise. Captain Lee probably believes this will work and save us. If it does, he will be a hero.

ALYONA: So you won't help us.

GUPTA: I will talk to Captain Lee and assess his mental condition.

ALYONA: Thank you Doctor.

SKY: Yes, thank you Doctor.

- *Doctor Gupta visits Captain Lee in his office.*

GUPTA: Captain, I need to talk to you.

LEE: Come in Doctor. How can I help you?

GUPTA: There are some among us who feel that you are making the wrong decision. It has been suggested that you are suicidal and should be relieved of command.

LEE: That's preposterous!

GUPTA: Maybe we should wait, discuss your plan, and try to convince everyone that it is the right move.

LEE: I considered the risks before making my decision. I am not suicidal. I see nothing to be gained by waiting and listening to wild accusations. I will not wait until we run out of food and chaos ensues. As a matter of fact, if there is a mutiny brewing, I should act as soon as possible.

GUPTA: I understand your reasoning, but I also understand the fears of many among us.

LEE: I realize that Alyona and Sky want more time to have sex. That means nothing to me. If you understand my reasoning, then I must be sane and fit to command this ship, right?

GUPTA: You are correct Captain.

LEE: I honestly believe it will work, and I see no reason to wait.

GUPTA: Do you think you could let Professor Brandt look at the system?

LEE: Starfleet rules prohibit it. Besides, he won't know any more about it

than our engineer, who has studied it extensively.

GUPTA: Very well, thank you for your time Captain.

LEE: It is always a pleasure to talk to you Doctor

- *Alyona and Sky in bed together*

ALYONA: Sky, I want you to sabotage the warp drive system.

SKY: What? That's a drastic step, don't you think?

ALYONA: No, I don't. Lives are at stake.

SKY: I could be court-marshalled for something like that.

ALYONA: We will all die if you don't

SKY: Let me think about it a while.

ALYONA: What is there to think about? You want to live, you want to make love, so do it.

SKY: King has been wanting me to help work on it. Maybe I can help and make a terrible mistake.

ALYONA: Go do that now.

- *Sky goes to the engineering department.*

SKY: Lieutenant Commander King, I've come to help you work on the warp drive sysem.

KING: You're too late Lieutenant, I've just finished.

- *They walk out of the department and King locks the door.*

- *King finds the captain on the bridge with Kiki.*

KING: Captain, the reverse warp drive is ready.

LEE: Excellent. Ensign, call our pilot to the bridge.

- *In Sky's quarters.*

SKY: Bad news, Alyona. King is done working on the warp drive, and he locked the room. I don't have a key.

ALYONA: We don't have much time. We have to gather the others and physically stop them.

- *Sky just stares at her. Kiki's voice comes over the intercom.*

KIKI: Attention please. Lieutenant Sadat, report to the bridge. Thank you.

SKY: I have to go Alyona.

ALYONA: No! Don't go! We have to find a way to stop them!

SKY: It's over Alyona. I'm sorry. I won't participate in a mutiny.

ALYONA: Don't you love me Sky?

SKY: I do love you Alyona, and the time we have spent together has been wonderful. But, I have a job to do.

- *Alyona throws herself on the bed and cries. Sky leaves and reports to the bridge.*

LEE: There's our pilot. Take your place at the controls Lieutenant, we are going home now.

SKY: Yes Captain.

LEE: Lieutenant Commander King, engage the reverse warp drive system.

KING: Yes Captain.

- *KABOOM - the ship explodes, they all die*

THE END