

Star Trek: Eternal Night  
S02E04 'Omega'

version 2.5

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Created by Gene Roddenberry

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1 EXT. SPACE. THETA INDI FOUR

The Roleystone in orbit.

2 INT. ROLEYSTONE. COCKPIT

The cockpit as it was at the end of the last episode, all consoles locked out, RIXX, HARVEY and WELLS sitting there confused.

MACKENZIE'S COMM VOICE  
Commander Rixx, Steve, Sarah...  
please join me in the crew area.

The crew follow orders...

3 INT. ROLEYSTONE. CREW AREA

Ryan is seated with a monitor in front of him. The crew ENTER and take seats.

MACKENZIE  
You've all seen this:

Ryan swivels the monitor around, displaying the Omega symbol.

MACKENZIE  
Omega. The last letter of the  
Greek alphabet used to denote a  
significant, and very real,  
threat not just to the  
Federation... but all space  
faring civilisations.

RIXX  
And that threat has been  
identified here?

MACKENZIE  
Yes. Normally, Starfleet Command  
would have a specialised team en  
route to deal with this.

(a beat)

However, this is no ordinary  
situation.

(a beat, eyeing his crew)

Only starship captains and  
Federation flag officers have  
ever been briefed about  
Omega. What you are about to  
hear does not go past these  
bulkheads, understood?

Nods all round. Ryan taps a control on the monitor and it displays the Omega particle.

(CONTINUED)

MACKENZIE

This is Omega, the most powerful substance known to exist. A single molecule contains as much energy as a warp core.

(a beat)

It was first discovered just over a hundred years ago, by a physicist named Ketteract.

(a beat)

Something went wrong at his research base in the Lantaru sector. Now, subspace is irreparably damaged there.

HARVEY

It destroys subspace?

MACKENZIE

Yes, one molecule can decimate over three light years.

WELLS

And, we've found Omega on the planet?

MACKENZIE

Yes, and based on my time as a guest aboard Romulan and Chodak ships, I know that they've formed an alliance, and I can only assume Omega is their ultimate goal.

WELLS

You mentioned that Captain Picard encountered the Chodak twenty years ago. Obviously they were unsuccessful in retrieving the Unity Device... so why has it taken this long for them to try again?

MACKENZIE

That's what we need to find out.

(a beat)

The ruins on the planet are our best source for answers. Rixx, Sarah stay here... Steve and our Romulan visitor will accompany me.

RIXX

Captain, I must protest... Starfleet protocol...

(CONTINUED)

MACKENZIE

Thanks Rixx... but this is a mystery, and I need to help solve it.

RIXX

Aye, sir.

4 EXT. THETA INDI FOUR. RUINS

Ryan, Steve and Mendak MATERIALISE. They survey the area.

HARVEY

The access shaft has been blocked by a rock slide.

MACKENZIE

Is it stable enough to fire a phaser at it?

HARVEY

I believe so. Level nine should do it.

Ryan takes his phaser, adjusts the power and FIRES. The rockslide VANISHES. Sindari is keen to keep exploring.

MENDAK

Now, what's back there?

MACKENZIE

Nice and easy Sindari, we don't know what surprises the Chodak have for us back there.

The trio walk cautiously...

5 INT. THETA INDI FOUR. CHODAK OBSERVATORY

We're inside an astronomical observatory. An alien-looking telescope sits perched on a stand.

MACKENZIE

Steve, check that out.

Steve works his tricorder.

HARVEY

If I had to guess... I'd say it's a subspace phase spectrometer.

MENDAK

And that is?

HARVEY

We use these to measure the intervals between subspace phase fluctuations.

(a beat)

The question is: where was this spectrometer pointed and why?

MACKENZIE

A very good question Commander, let's hope that this helps to piece together the mystery.

(beat)

Record your readings, we'll let the computer on the runabout make sense of it all.

Mendak spots a computer terminal.

MENDAK

Can we scan this too?

Ryan approaches it, and uses his tricorder.

MACKENZIE

I've recorded... something.

After a couple of beats...

HARVEY

I've found Omega.

MACKENZIE

Where?

HARVEY

Below us... way below us.

MACKENZIE

How far?

HARVEY

At the bottom of this chasm, almost thirty three kilometers.

MENDAK

I have heard rumours that Chodak outposts like this used to have a very stable power source... buried deep underground.

(beat)

I always imagined that it was geothermal...

MACKENZIE

I can't imagine that this Omega will pose a threat to anyone,

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MACKENZIE (cont'd)  
because we have a bigger mystery  
to solve I think it best we come  
back to finish it off.

(tapping his comm badge)  
Commander Rixx, we're ready to  
return.

6 EXT. SPACE. THETA INDI FOUR

The Roleystone in orbit.

7 INT. ROLEYSTONE. COCKPIT

Ryan, Steve and Mendak MATERIALISE, and Rixx is in  
mid-conversation with Starfleet Command.

NECHAYEV  
... please contact me when  
he's...

NECHAYEV spots Ryan now standing on the transporter pad.

NECHAYEV  
Ah, Captain. We've just received  
word from Unity One, an alien  
vessel has been detected in the  
Neutral Zone... it appears to be  
headed for the Aldermain Strait,  
a Romulan warbird is in hot  
pursuit.

MACKENZIE  
Any identifying markings on the  
alien ship?

NECHAYEV  
It's Chodak.  
(a beat)  
I've dispatched phase two of  
Operation Hawkeye... you'll need  
it to continue the mission.

MACKENZIE  
Understood, Admiral.  
(the monitor goes black,  
then to Rixx:)  
Commander, set a course for Unity  
One, maximum warp.

RIXX  
Aye, sir.

As the three officers look at the Captain, we:

CUT TO:

8 INT. EVIE'S QUARTERS - FUTURE

Not much time has elapsed since we saw Evie last, her ship is still at warp and BABY EVIE is entertaining herself with some food at the table.

EVIE

(tense, reliving the encounter)

OK, so while Dad was investigating the mysterious outpost, Mum and I were still being held by the Romulan, Telorus.

(a beat)

I'd only ever read about all the horrible things that he did during the refugee crisis... but the next time I saw him I'd change my mind, a little.

9 EXT. SPACE

The IRW Dividices at WARP.

10 INT. IRW DIVIDICES. BRIG

EVIE CUNNINGHAM lies on the bench that is apparently a bed. ADMIRAL TELORUS approaches, after a beat he DEACTIVATES THE FORCEFIELD.

TELORUS

Evie Cunningham...

EVIE

What do you want Romulan?

TELORUS

Such anger.

EVIE

You have kept me in here for six days with only bread and water for food.

TELORUS

Our replicators are unaccustomed to preparing human food...

(a beat)

I have been attending to other matters and was unaware of the... problem.

THE CENTURION ENTERS with a plate covered in a cloche. He lifts it up to reveal a feast of human food. Evie's eyes light up, but refuses to eat it.

(CONTINUED)

TELORUS

Go ahead, eat.

EVIE

You just want me to let my guard down...

(a beat)

Or more likely, it's laced with poison.

TELORUS

If I wanted to poison you, you wouldn't be sitting here now.

(a beat)

As for your guard... I have many other ways of fixing that.

(a beat)

This is food. Plain and simple.

Evie takes a cautious bite, waits for any reaction... none. She keeps eating. Telorus watches her.

TELORUS

I will let you finish your meal, then we'll have a chat.

Telorus turns and leaves with the Centurion and we return focus to Evie who is eating cautiously.

EVIE (V.O.)

I suppose feeding me was the least he could do if he wanted to interrogate me.

(a beat, looking for the benefit of the doubt...)

Or, maybe, he really did care?

11 INT. EVIE'S QUARTERS - FUTURE

Evie looks to Baby Evie for an answer to that question... nothing.

EVIE

(scoffs)

Huh... what would you know? You're only six months old.

Evie watches the baby for a moment, then has a thought.

EVIE

I wonder if you'll have to go back in time in your fourth year to complete our timeline?

(a beat, thinking harder)

But then I've done that already and am changing the future... my

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

EVIE (cont'd)  
past just by sitting here telling  
this story.

(a long beat)

Gah, I hate temporal mechanics.  
So anyway, while I was being fed  
Dad's new ship was heading for  
Unity One...

12 EXT. SPACE. UNITY ONE

Half a dozen worker bees dart around the mammoth starbase.

13 INT. UNITY ONE. OPS

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER DAVID RICHARDS and CAPTAIN T'PEL are  
on duty, along with several N.D. officers. A proximity  
alert SOUNDS.

RICHARDS  
(reacting to the console)  
Proximity alert, bearing four  
five mark six one nine.

T'PEL  
Can you identify Commander?

RICHARDS  
No... but it's massive, twice the  
size of a Sovereign class.

T'PEL  
Red alert.

The KLAXON SOUNDS.

T'PEL  
Any identifying markings?

Richards works the console, then after a beat:

RICHARDS  
None that I can make out.

T'PEL  
Distance?

RICHARDS  
Three hundred million kilometers  
and closing fast.

14 EXT. SPACE. UNITY ONE

The ship drops out of warp, it's definitely a STARFLEET design, but not like anything we've seen before. The U.S.S. AGAMEMNON's heritage is that of an Akira, but it has the crew complement of a Galaxy class. A hangar deck slices the saucer section in two running aft to fore, and she's bristling with quantum torpedo bays, pulse phaser cannons and phaser strips.

15 INT. UNITY ONE. OPS

As before, then the SOUND OF AN INCOMING HAIL.

RICHARDS

We're being hailed... by that.

T'PEL

On screen, Commander.

A brand new bridge appears on the viewscreen. It's a mix of an Intrepid and a Galaxy class... from the Captain's perspective... tactical is directly behind, Ops to the left, helm takes up the foreground, science and engineering in the wings and a new station called 'Strategic Operations' on the right (where Tactical was on Voyager.) The bridge is rather empty, only two extra crew members are on duty.

MCDONNELL

I'm Lieutenant Commander Pauline McDonnell. Sorry to startle you, Captain... I wanted to see what this thing could do.

T'PEL

That was reckless on your part, Commander.

MCDONNELL

My apologies. This is the U.S.S. Agamemnon reporting in.

T'PEL

Is that a new ship?

MCDONNELL

Yes, ma'am... the best bits from the last three generations of starships all crammed into one.

RICHARDS

Captain, the Roleystone has just entered the system.

(a beat, reacting to the hailing sound)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

RICHARDS (cont'd)  
Captain Mackenzie is hailing.

T'PEL  
Put him on screen as well.

MACKENZIE  
Unity One, this is the  
Roleystone...  
(seeing the second image on  
his viewscreen)  
Ah, Commander... welcome to Unity  
One.

MCDONNELL  
Thanks Captain, we got here as  
fast as we could.

T'PEL  
Where did you leave from?

MCDONNELL  
We left Utopia Planitia six hours  
ago.

RICHARDS  
(impressed)  
Six hours to make here?

MACKENZIE  
So Miles was able to give you a  
hand?

MCDONNELL  
He didn't want to leave.

Ryan chuckles to himself, then returns to Captain T'Pel's  
curious expression.

MACKENZIE  
Sorry T'Pel... this is the next  
phase of Operation Hawkeye, the  
U.S.S. Agamemnon.  
(a beat)  
We'll be getting under way very  
shortly.

T'PEL  
Welcome to Unity One Commander  
McDonnell, and welcome back  
Captain.

MACKENZIE  
I'll come over and brief you now  
T'Pel. Roleystone out.

The images disappear, replaced with the view of the  
Agamemnon, Richards is very impressed.

(CONTINUED)

RICHARDS  
(to T'Pel)  
She is beautiful.

T'PEL  
I fail to understand how you  
humans can personify a ship and  
call it beautiful. It is a pile  
of circuits, biomemetic gel packs  
and metal.

RICHARDS  
Oh, but that's where you're wrong  
Captain... every ship has a soul.  
(a beat)  
A brand new one like this will  
have countless bugs to work out  
but she'll be worth it... by the  
time she's had a few hundred  
light years through the manifolds  
she'll be humming.

T'PEL  
You sound as if you want to  
transfer to engineering.

RICHARDS  
(taking the bait)  
Command officers should have  
experience in every department  
before sitting in the big chair,  
sir.

Richards smiles, he knows T'Pel is trying to be less...  
*Vulcan* and she almost made it convincing.

16 EXT. SPACE. UNITY ONE. THE AGAMEMNON

A few beauty shots of our second hero ship, hanging in  
space waiting to get underway. Inside, it's exactly like  
stepping onto an Intrepid-class.

17 SERIES OF SHOTS. TOURING THE AGAMEMNON

MACKENZIE (V.O.)  
Captain's log, stardate 62901.7.  
After only a short time as  
Captain, Starfleet has given me a  
brand new ship... and not just  
any ship - the Agamemnon.

(beat)  
Just like the Defiant before her,  
this ship is a reaction to a  
critical situation... we faced  
such stiff opposition from the

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MACKENZIE (V.O.) (cont'd)

Dominion during the war a decade ago that Starfleet decided we needed to reintroduce a long retired class of ship - the carrier.

(beat)

Just like in the sea faring days of the twentieth and twenty first centuries... this carrier is designed to transport and support numerous fighter craft and their pilots. In addition a battalion of Starfleet marines are also along for the ride in case we need troops on the ground.

(an uneasy beat and a sigh)

I've never been comfortable with warships... but if the last fifteen years has taught me anything it's that we need to be prepared at all times for a conflict because not everyone shares our peaceful ideals.

(beat)

No one knows what waits for us in the Aldermain Strait... but I feel that this is the ship, even with her untested crew to meet and surpass whatever challenges lie ahead.

Captain Mackenzie dictates the log as he walks his new ship. There is faint chatter in each of the locations except the corridor:

A) A corridor, nodding to several crewmembers as they pass. Some say 'Captain' others, 'Sir.'

B) ENGINEERING. The matter/anti-matter reaction chamber sits in the middle of the room. A dozen crewmembers are working, including McDonnell as we hear the faint drum of the engine. Ryan circles the room and EXITS.

C) SICKBAY. Ryan ENTERS to see Sarah working in her office. Sarah hands him a PADD, Ryan reads it, nods and gives it back to her.

D) HANGAR DECK. Fighters are lined up against both bulkheads at either side of the hangar. A runway of sorts runs along the middle, fighters will maneuver to a slot on the runway and fly towards the front of the ship. There is space for five Peregrine fighters to line up.

(CONTINUED)

E) STELLAR CARTOGRAPHY. Rixx and Harvey are looking at the Aldermain Strait... it's a foreboding place, with crackling energy spewing from a red nebula, a black hole and asteroid belt all will make for interesting navigation.

F) BRIDGE. The ship is so new, work continues on some consoles. Ryan takes it in for a beat or two then as the log ends, he ENTERS:

18 INT. AGAMEMNON. READY ROOM

Ryan ENTERS, there's a message on the monitor. He reads it then walks up to the couch, he stands facing the window - watching Unity One - deep in thought. After a beat the door CHIMES.

MACKENZIE

Enter.

Rixx ENTERS, Ryan doesn't turn around.

RIXX

Sir?

MACKENZIE

(turning around)

How goes the preparations?

RIXX

We've isolated the problem with the E-P-S power taps... turns out the excess power the hangar deck is using was causing a feedback loop.

MACKENZIE

What about the inertial dampners? McDonnell reported a problem with them on the ride over.

RIXX

I spoke with the Dock master at Utopia Planitia... they only had a mark seven system available... and it was never designed to operate above warp nine point six for more than three hours.

(a beat)

McDonnell has it on her to do list, but for now we're limited to warp eight.

(CONTINUED)

MACKENZIE

It may not be too much of a problem, so long as it can handle sharp tactical maneuvering.

RIXX

Sir?

MACKENZIE

I've just received a report from Starfleet Intelligence... they detected an Omega explosion on the Romulan side of the Aldermain Strait.

(a beat)

They expect the damage to subspace will be severe... long range communications and warp drive will be inoperable once we enter the region.

There's a pause, the two men - good friends - are trying to think of scenarios that may play out over the coming days.

RIXX

(trying to sound convincing)

We'll get through this Mack.

MACKENZIE

I hope you're right.

WELLS' COMM VOICE

Wells to Captain.

MACKENZIE

Go ahead Sarah.

WELLS' COMM VOICE

Sir, I've finished digging... I can't find any record of Alicia being pregnant.

MACKENZIE

Thanks, Mackenzie out.

RIXX

Sir?

MACKENZIE

Something from my time with the Romulans.

(a beat)

Telorus captured the pilot that arrived at Unity One almost a week ago. He also claimed she's my daughter.

(CONTINUED)

RIXX

How could they both be saying the same thing... unless they're working together.

MACKENZIE

Or telling the truth.

RIXX

You don't believe that your future daughter has come back in time do you?

MACKENZIE

To be honest Rixx, I don't know what to believe.

HARVEY'S COMM VOICE

Bridge to Captain.

MACKENZIE

Go ahead Steve.

HARVEY'S COMM VOICE

Sir, I have a Captain Hunter on subspace... he's asking to speak with you.

MACKENZIE

(smiling)

Rixx, finalise the preparations... we'll leave in one hour.

RIXX

Yes, sir.

MACKENZIE

(to comm)

Steve, put him through.

HARVEY'S COMM VOICE

Aye, sir.

The desktop monitor displays the Starfleet logo then an image of CAPTAIN DANIEL HUNTER, a Human in his early forties...

HUNTER

Mack... you son-of-a-gun.

MACKENZIE

(still smiling)

Captain Hunter, what a pleasant surprise (!)

(motioning around him)

Like my new ship?

(CONTINUED)

HUNTER

And I suppose your mission is on the front line?

MACKENZIE

(mock seriousness)

Now we both know... in peace there is no front line.

HUNTER

Yes, but there is the frontier.

MACKENZIE

You've been doing some great work in the Chiron system mate, I've read the reports.

HUNTER

It's a challenge... I'll give you that.

The pair chuckle, old times need not be spoken.

MACKENZIE

Now, you didn't just call to see my new ship did you?

HUNTER

(taking on a serious tone)

No. Mack, watch your back out there... I've seen the reports, the Romulans are up to something and I don't want to have to come and save your ass again.

MACKENZIE

As I recall, I had the Jem'Hadar right where I wanted them.

HUNTER

(the memory...)

Yeah... about to board your ship while your warp core was going critical.

MACKENZIE

(defending)

Cat and mouse was the name of the game...

HUNTER

Yeah, I guess so...

A BEAT, remembering those that didn't make it... then with a sense of regret:

(CONTINUED)

HUNTER

You know Sarah was saying the other day that it's been too long since the four of us caught up.

MACKENZIE

Alicia and I separated mate.

HUNTER

Oh Mack... I'm sorry to hear that.

MACKENZIE

(shrugs)

Tell you what, when this is all over, why don't I pay you a visit... Jean-Luc sent me his H.M.S. Enterprise holoprogram.

HUNTER

(impressed)

The sailing ship?

MACKENZIE

Yeap, it cost me two bottles of Aldebaran whiskey... but I think it was worth it.

HUNTER

Bargain. That sounds like a plan... I look forward to it.

(a beat)

Good hunting, Captain. Intrepid out.

Ryan sits there for a beat, contemplating the conversation.

19

INT. STARFLEET INTELLIGENCE BRIEFING ROOM. NIGHT

A dark room, with a long conference table and a large monitor wall displaying a large Romulan Warbird - THE DIVIDICIES. ONE HUMAN and a KLINGON sit at the table, with a fourth standing beside the monitor... at first we don't see the speaker, but his voice is unmistakable...

SLOAN

Starfleet Intelligence received these holo-recordings late last night. She's the Dividicies, Romulus' newest warbird.

That's the voice of LUTHER SLOAN, head of Section 31 - the secret organisation with no oversight, whose sole function is to protect the Federation. Sloan died in season seven of Deep Space Nine, but as we'll learn not even death can stop him.

(CONTINUED)

ANGLE ON KIROK OF L'STOK

A Klingon male in his mid-to-late forties, Earth years. He's a friend of Captain Mackenzie, but a loyal Klingon warrior.

KIROK

(genuinely impressed that it hurts him)

That is an impressive ship.

ANGLE ON COLONEL KYLE

A Human male in his mid thirties.

KYLE

It's big.

SLOAN

Forty meters longer than the type three D'Deridex and ten meters wider. Unusually, this new warbird has been given straight to Admiral Telorus.

KYLE

Why is that unusual?

SLOAN

Usually Admirals in the Romulan Empire receive an older, more reliable vessel.

(a beat)

One that's proven itself, but doesn't necessarily have the fire power to require it to be on the front lines.

KIROK

Typical Romulan hierarchy, pave the way to victory with the blood of the Centurions.

Colonel Kyle hasn't seen much combat, but he's eager for a fight... to prove himself.

KYLE

Well, if this Admiral Telours wants a fight up close, then we should give him one.

Kirok lets out a hearty Klingon laugh.

KIROK

Easy, Colonel Kyle... your chance to prove yourself will come... soon enough.

SLOAN

(steering the conversation  
back...)

Admiral Telorus is devious and  
cunning ... a typical Romulan  
admiral.

(a beat)

What we need to know is where he  
plans on taking this new warbird.

KIROK

(retrieving a computer chip  
from his glove)

Chancellor Martok has authorised  
me to give this information to  
you.

Kirok hands Sloan the chip, who inserts it in the control  
panel. A KLINGON TACTICAL OKUDAGRAM displays.

KIROK

Klingon scout ships recorded the  
Dividices entering your Neutral  
Zone five hours ago.

(a beat)

It's heading puts it on course  
for the Aldermain Strait.

Sloan is not concerned, he's aware the Agamemnon is about  
to set sail.

KYLE

Then I assume that that's why you  
ordered a battalion of my men to  
join the Agamemnon?

SLOAN

Yes, Colonel. And I'm briefing  
you now so you can prepare your  
men.

KIROK

What is the Agamemnon?

Sloan taps a control, and the display changes to the  
MASTER SYSTEMS OKUDAGRAM of the Agamemnon...

SLOAN

This... Akira-class heavy  
cruiser.

(beat)

Eleven hundred crew members, a  
squadron of peregrine fighters  
and a battalion of Starfleet  
marines.

(CONTINUED)

KIROK

And enough ship board weapons to take on a Borg Cube.

SLOAN

Time and again events in this quadrant have told us that our peaceful ideals are no longer sacred but we believe they are worth fighting for.

KIROK

I see the Khitomer Accords have had a positive impact on you... finally.

(a beat)

I would be honoured to lend my house's support to your effort.

SLOAN

I was counting on that Kirok. But, I don't want you to join the party just yet. We don't want to give away all our surprises.

Kirok's not happy about that, but he understands it.

KIROK

I understand.

20 EXT. SPACE

The Dividicies AT WARP.

21 INT. IRW DIVIDICES. BRIDGE

Telorus is seated in the middle chair, above all others. He's supervising, peering at those under his command. He's uneasy, tense. After a beat, he turns to a Sub Commander:

TELORUS

Tell Major Solos that I'll be in my ready room... when it's convenient I need to speak with him.

The Sub Commander nods:

SUB COMMANDER

Aye, Admiral.

Telorus stands and EXITS TO:

22 INT. IRW DIVIDICES. CAPTAIN'S READY ROOM

Telorus enters, sits down at his desk. He takes a deep breath, then activates his monitor.

ANGLE ON MONITOR:

Evie is sleeping on the bench in the brig.

RESUME:

The door CHIMES.

TELORUS

Enter.

MAJOR SOLOS ENTERS, but only slightly... leaving the door open - the bridge crew's eyes are drawn.

SOLOS

You wanted to see me Admiral?

TELORUS

Yes, Major... please enter.

Solos enters fully and the doors close.

TELORUS

I am aware of the first part of the mission - since we are already chasing the Chodak to Tigelis Four.

(a beat)

I think it is time to know the next part.

SOLOS

I concur.

The pair step towards a scanner embedded in the desk, they place their hands on it - and the panel goes green. A locked box opens in the desk, in it is a ROMULAN PADD, Solos grabs it and reads:

SOLOS

We are to assist the Chodak with conquering the Tigelis system, allowing them to establish a beach head over the existing Federation-Romulan outpost.

TELORUS

The subspace rift will make that a difficult challenge.

SOLOS

But Admiral you forget, this is the pride of the Romulan Empire.

(a beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SOLOS (cont'd)  
We will defeat any challenge that  
lays before us.

Telorus isn't so sure anymore.

SOLOS  
Sir, with your permission I would  
like to post the orders for the  
men.

TELORUS  
(a beat)  
As you wish Major.

Solos turns for the door, but he never makes it. Telorus has grabbed a phaser from behind his desk and FIRED. The Major VAPORISES. Ryan sits back at his desk, contemplating what has just happened.

TELORUS  
(to himself)  
The Empire is weak. I must save  
it from itself.

A long moment as we take in what has just happened...  
then:

FADE TO BLACK.