

Star Trek: Eternal Night  
S02E05 'Allegiances'

version 2.5

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1 BLACK

THE NARRATOR introduces us to this installment...

NARRATOR V.O.

Inhospitable Space... The Aldermain Strait dissects the Romulan Neutral Zone, it's location makes it the ideal corridor for an invasion force headed towards Earth.

(a beat)

Following the detonation of the powerful Omega molecule, all subspace technology ceases to function in this region - that means warp drive and long range communications are out.

2 EXT. ROMULUS. CAPITAL BUILDING. DAY

A massive domed structure sits in the middle of a bustling futuristic metropolis. ROMULAN SHUTTLES dart in the background, as towering spires stand proud and tall. SIGNS OF A YEARS OLD CONFLICT are still visible.

NARRATOR V.O.

But, the Romulan Military has lost contact with the Warbird Dividices before the Strait, causing concern amongst members of the Romulan Senate.

3 INT. ROMULUS. CAPITAL BUILDING - CORRIDOR. CONTINUOUS

COMMANDER SAREN TOMALAK and FREIGHTER CAPTAIN NERO walk with purpose along the corridor, which is steeped in tradition, towards two large doors being guarded with large batons crossed. As they approach, the guards stand to attention and allow Tomalak and Nero to ENTER:

4 INT. ROMULUS. CAPITAL BUILDING - SENATE. CONTINUOUS

THE PRAETOR, PROCONSUL, VICE-PROCONSUL and FOUR SENATORS are seated, murmuring stops as the two members of the military enter.

PRAETOR

Captain Nero, Commander Tomalak - your report?

TOMALAK

We have been unable to make contact with Admiral Telorus or the Dividices for five hours now.

(CONTINUED)

PROCONSUL

Commander, you were tasked with bringing this emergency meeting of the Senate up-to-date with Telorus' behavior.

(a beat)

Was he told to run silent?

TOMALAK

No, Proconsul.

PRAETOR

Telorus must be found and stopped.

There's a beat...

NERO

(timidly)

The Narada is ready for launch.

PRAETOR

Speak up Captain.

NERO

(more confidently)

The mining vessel Narada stands ready to track down the traitor.

TOMALAK

(defending his friend)

Telorus isn't a traitor...

PROCONSUL

(shooting Tomalak a dirty look)

Not yet.

PRAETOR

Captain, your ship is the Narada?

NERO

Yes, Praetor. We've been experimenting with captured Borg technology to enhance mining operations... but everything has been upgraded.

(a beat)

The nanoprobes have almost taken over the ship and upgraded their efficiency, but we have managed to stop their spread and control them.

PROCONSUL

Fascinating. Why are we not aware of these plans?

(CONTINUED)

NERO

The Tal'Shiar have been working on the upgrades for nine months, and now is the time to inform the Senate.

The Senators shift uncomfortably, the distrust and fear of the Tal'Shiar is palpable.

PRAETOR

Are you confident you can control the ship, find the Dividices and stop whatever it is Admiral Telorus is doing?

NERO

Yes, Praetor.

PRAETOR

Then get it done.

NERO

Yes, sir.

Tomalak stares at Nero as they EXIT, he's not happen to have lost control of the meeting.

5 EXT. SPACE. ALDERMAIN STRAIT - FEDERATION SIDE

The Agamemnon hangs at the edge of the foreboding region of space. A red crackling nebula with electrical discharges looms left, an asteroid belt to the right.

MACKENZIE V.O.

Captain's log stardate 62913.3, we've arrived at the edge of the Aldermain Strait and now the waiting begins. To avoid starting the incident we're working to prevent, we must hold position just outside the Neutral Zone until we get a fix on Telorus' ship.

(a beat)

Meantime, I've just been called into an emergency briefing with Starfleet Intelligence... using the new holo briefing technology.

6 INT. AGAMEMNON - BRIEFING ROOM

RYAN MACKENZIE paces the room, waiting for two beats. Then:

(CONTINUED)

RIXX'S COMM VOICE  
Captain, holo briefing coming  
on-line.

MACKENZIE  
Thanks Commander, is the channel  
secured?

RIXX'S COMM VOICE  
Yes, sir... we've implemented the  
current security protocol. The  
briefing room is also secure and  
doors locked.  
(a beat)  
Good luck.

MACKENZIE  
Thanks Rixx.

After a moment, COMMANDER RENTON, ADMIRAL NECHAYEV,  
COLONEL KYLE and ADMIRAL THOMAS appear as holograms,  
seated at various chairs. Admiral Thomas, the new  
Commander-in-Chief of Starfleet sits at the head of the  
table.

THOMAS  
Good afternoon Captain, thanks  
for joining us on this briefing.

MACKENZIE  
(taking a seat)  
Thank you Admiral.

THOMAS  
This new holo briefing technology  
will make it easier for mission  
critical briefings, so thanks to  
Commander Renton for making it  
happen.

RENTON  
My pleasure, Admiral.

NECHAYEV  
Now that the pleasantries are  
over, can we please get on with  
the briefing?

THOMAS  
Of course, Alynna. Commander -  
your report?

Commander Renton stands and moves to the wall monitor, he  
activates it and a TACTICAL MAP OKUDAGRAM appears with a  
course plot for the Dividices.

RENTON

Admirals, Captain. We've been tracking the Imperial Romulan Warbird Dividices for the past fifteen hours as she moves towards the Aldermain Strait.

(a beat, tapping a control and the Chodak course plot appears)

The Chodak vessel she was pursuing has since disappeared from sensors, their last known location was in the Rillem system.

(a beat)

The Dividices is a modified D'Deridex class, longer and wider with these unusual formations on the hull.

Another tap, another slide on the monitor - it's a surveillance holo photo taken by a spy.

RENTON

This holo photo was taken by our source inside Romulan Military Command.

(a beat)

We've identified them as...

Mackenzie identifies them straight away:

MACKENZIE

Holo generators.

All turn to Ryan:

MACKENZIE

(to Renton)

Is that a holo cloak?

RENTON

We believe so, but the plans are so top secret, not even our contact can access the file.

(a beat)

As the Dividices left drydock three weeks ago, she engaged the holo cloak and left the system as a comet.

MACKENZIE

That's two steps ahead of our tech, we can only use known ships to mask ourselves.

(CONTINUED)

NECHAYEV

The Incursion's captain, Marcus Refellian has been working to improve our holo cloak technology, but so far with no luck.

RENTON

(continuing with the briefing)

Shortly after we plotted the Dividices heading for the Aldermain Strait, and thanks to Unity One's new sensor net... we noted dozens of cloaked ships being re deployed along the Neutral Zone.

(checking notes)

In all, forty eight warbirds, twenty cruisers and fourteen frigates are now patrolling the border.

THOMAS

It could just be a coincidence...

Renton shakes his head:

RENTON

Starfleet Intelligence doesn't believe so, sir.

(a beat)

Our contact on Romulus informed us just a short time ago that the Dividices made contact with Military Command, and shortly after that an emergency meeting of the Romulan Senate took place.

(a beat)

One other ship that has piqued our interest is the Narada. We've detected Borg power signatures from that mining freighter, and she's joined the hunt for the Dividices.

THOMAS

Borg power signatures? What kind of experiments -- Who's in command of the warbird?

MACKENZIE

Admiral Telorus.

All turn again to Ryan:

(CONTINUED)

MACKENZIE

He abducted me from Starfleet Medical following the explosion, for reasons unknown.

(a beat)

He has Alicia and the pilot from Unity One.

All have been briefed on the pilot.

THOMAS

Ryan, why is this the first I'm hearing of it?

MACKENZIE

It's all in my report Admiral.

NECHAYEV

Captain Mackenzie's report detailed a Romulan and Chodak plot to control the galaxy.

MACKENZIE

Telorus seemed to be leading the Romulan forces, but he was... distracted during my *time* with him.

THOMAS

How so?

MACKENZIE

Subtle things really, the Chodak with him was over bearing, controlling... and all the Romulan's I've met hate being told what to do.

(a beat)

Then there was Steve Campbell.

NECHAYEV

According to Ryan, Steve said he was captured fifteen years ago by Cardassians, and then sold to the Romulans.

MACKENZIE

I never worked out the connection between it all.

(a beat)

Then the Chodak took me aboard their vessel, and left me at the Parsis Orbital Station hours later.

THOMAS

So, we must operate on two theories. First, Ryan got through to Telorus and he's defecting... or... he's coming to start a war.

NECHAYEV

With a ship we can't detect.

A moment passes while the group takes all this in, then:

THOMAS

Captain Mackenzie, I'm giving you carte blanche to act as you see fit out there... you don't need to be second guessing your decisions, or phoning home for orders every time something happens.

MACKENZIE

Thank you Admiral.

Nechayev's not overly happy about losing control, but she's professional.

NECHAYEV

Captain, I'll assemble the ninth fleet and conduct "training exercises"... we'll be waiting to give you a hand and join the fight.

THOMAS

Captain, the only order I will give you is to keep waiting. Let the Romulans make the first move across the Neutral Zone.

MACKENZIE

Understood, sir.

THOMAS

Thank you all.

Nechayev, Renton and Thomas all DISAPPEAR with the shimmer of turning off the holograms. Ryan sits there for a beat, then:

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EXT. SPACE. ALDERMAIN STRAIT - ROMULAN SIDE

The IRW Dividices hangs in space, still.

8 INT. IRW DIVIDICES - BRIDGE

TELORUS, SUB-COMMANDER VELAL and CENTURION (from before) and 3 OTHER CENTURIONS man their stations. The tension is palpable.

TELORUS  
(to Velal)  
Program the masking cloak for a comet, and engage one half impulse.

VELAL  
Aye, sir.

9 EXT. SPACE. ALDERMAIN STRAIT - ROMULAN SIDE

The Dividices SHIMMERS into a comet, and begins moving away.

10 INT. IRW DIVIDICES - BRIDGE

AN ALERT SOUNDS.

CENTURION  
Admiral, we have a contact bearing three four zero mark five six.

VELAL  
(looking at the readings)  
It's the Koval.

The Centurions tense up, they've never been in a situation like this before.

TELORUS  
How long until we enter the subspace disruption?  
(a beat, no answer)  
How long!?

CENTURION #2  
Six minutes Admiral.

VELAL  
Orders, sir?

TELORUS  
Steady as she goes, they can't see us.

After a few tense moments, A FAINT EXPLOSION and the ship rocks HARD.

11 EXT. SPACE. ALDERMAIN STRAIT - ROMULAN SIDE  
The Dividices - as a comet - returns to form as a warbird.

12 INT. IRW DIVIDICES - BRIDGE

CENTURION  
Sir! The Masking Cloak has  
disengaged.

TELORUS  
What!  
(tapping the comm)  
Engineer - report!

ENGINEER'S COMM VOICE  
Bridge, Engineering ... the  
primary power core has over  
heated, we need at least five  
minutes to correct the problem.

TELORUS  
Get on it!  
(a beat)  
Battle Stations.

The RED ALERT KLAXON SOUNDS.

VELAL  
(quietly)  
Sir, the Koval will be able to  
spot us, even if we engage our  
normal cloak.

TELORUS  
(quietly)  
I know Sub commander, we must be  
patient.  
(to the Centurion)  
Increase speed to full impulse.

CENTURION  
Aye, sir. Full impulse, subspace  
disruption now ninety seconds  
ahead.

TELORUS  
We must make it.

A tense beat, then AN ALERT:

CENTURION #2  
We've been targeted, torpedo  
launched.

(CONTINUED)

TELORUS  
Evasive maneuvers.

The crew lurch left then right as the inertial dampeners struggle to keep up with the sharp turns.

CENTURION #2  
(off readings)  
We've confused it... the torpedo  
is searching.  
(a beat)  
No, wait... the torpedo has  
reacquired us.

TELORUS  
Time until impact?

VELAL  
Forty seconds.

TELORUS  
How far from the disruption?

CENTURION  
Forty five seconds.

TELORUS  
Engineer - get me more speed.

ENGINEER'S COMM VOICE  
Reactors to one hundred ten  
percent of recommended.

CENTURION  
That's helped... twenty seconds  
to the disruption.

VELAL  
Torpedo impact in twenty five  
seconds.  
(to Telorus, quieter)  
I hope you know what you are  
doing.

Telorus shoots Velal a look followed by a few more tense moments. Centurions check their controls, Telorus stares at the viewscreen.

CENTURION  
(expectantly)  
Subspace interference is in  
effect, we've lost warp drive and  
long range communications.

TELORUS  
The torpedo?

VELAL

Still closing, five seconds!  
(a beat, reacting to a  
beeping console)  
Wait... it's changing course...  
headed for the nebula.

ANGLE ON:

The viewscreen. The torpedo heads into the swirling red nebula gas, then it gets struck by a crackle of electricity... and EXPLODES.

RESUME:

Relief from the bridge crew.

VELAL

(to Telorus)  
How did you know?

TELORUS

The guidance system uses subspace  
to triangulate it's position  
relative to it's target.

VELAL

And you couldn't have shared that  
information with the rest of us?

TELORUS

We survived did we not?

Velal dares not push anymore.

13 EXT. SPACE. ALDERMAIN STRAIT - FEDERATION SIDE

The Agamemnon hangs in space.

14 INT. AGAMEMNON - BRIDGE

Ryan, RIXX, HARVEY are at their stations, they've just seen the Dividices battle the torpedo. ENSIGN CARLY RUSSO is at the helm, she's in her early twenties - fresh from the academy.

At Strategic Operations, COMMANDER SOPHIE GREEN works the controls. Sophie is driven and on the fast track to becoming Captain.

MACKENZIE

Report?

SOPHIE

The Dividices has now crossed the  
Neutral Zone.

(CONTINUED)

RIXX

Sir, with the subspace interference... it'll take us fifteen hours to reach them.

MACKENZIE

(to Rixx)

Assuming they don't make a move towards Federation space.

(off Rixx's concern, to Russo:)

Helm, set a course for the Dividices - full impulse.

RUSSO

Aye, sir.

MCDONNELL'S COMM VOICE

Engineering to Bridge.

MACKENZIE

Go ahead Commander.

MCDONNELL'S COMM VOICE

Sir, I've managed to squeeze another fifteen percent out of the impulse reactors...

MACKENZIE

We may just need that in a pinch, good work Commander.

15 EXT. SPACE. ALDERMAIN STRAIT - FEDERATION SIDE

The Agamemnon slowing moving through space, as the navigation hazards pass by on each side.

16 INT. AGAMEMNON - READY ROOM

It's a few hours later. Ryan is sitting on the couch, watching the hazards roll past, when the DOOR CHIMES.

MACKENZIE

Enter.

Rixx and Green ENTER. With Ryan, these three will become the "command circle" - big decisions to be made will be discussed between them.

RIXX

You wanted to see us, sir?

MACKENZIE

Rixx, Sophie - yes, please come in.

(CONTINUED)

The pair move towards and stand at the foot of the steps.

MACKENZIE

Thanks to the subspace interference, Starfleet Command has given me carte blanche to operate out here.

(beat)

But I'll need advice before making decisions that affect the lives of everyone on this ship, hell probably the entire quadrant.

(beat)

I'd like you two to help me.

Rixx and Green nod.

RIXX

Absolutely, sir. Whatever you need.

MACKENZIE

I've been thinking about that advanced warbird that's out there, headed for us.

SOPHIE

I can't believe the entire crew of the warbird wants to defect.

MACKENZIE

Neither can I. But Telorus is one of their most senior Admirals, he would've had an opportunity to hand pick his officers.

(beat)

That still leaves the crew.

RIXX

If Telorus is indeed defecting, what do we do with them?

SOPHIE

We can't send them home, they'll tell the Romulans we have the warbird.

MACKENZIE

And I'm not about to kill five hundred people just to cover up the secret.

RIXX

How do you make a crew want to abandon ship?

(CONTINUED)

The RED ALERT KLAXON SOUNDS.

HARVEY'S COMM VOICE  
Captain to the bridge!

The trio EXIT TO --

17 INT. AGAMEMNON - BRIDGE

As Ryan, Rixx and Sophie take their stations:

HARVEY  
Sir, we're reading a massive  
energy build up from the warbird.

MACKENZIE  
Helm, what's our range?

RUSSO  
Five hundred million kilometers,  
sir.

MACKENZIE  
Steve, what's the blast radius if  
that things blows?

HARVEY  
Almost a light year, sir. It's a  
quantum singularity...

Frantic work continues, it drones out to an echo as we  
focus on Ryan... processing the situation. After a few  
beats:

MACKENZIE  
(quietly)  
It's not critical.

Only Rixx heard that, the frantic pace continues:

RIXX  
Sir?

MACKENZIE  
How do you make your crew abandon  
ship?

Rixx thinks for a moment --

RIXX  
Warp core breach.

MACKENZIE  
Sophie, scan the area for  
habitable planets, moons...  
anything near by.

(CONTINUED)

SOPHIE

Stand by.

(a beat)

There is a class L moon orbiting a gas giant in the Rillem system. Escape pods and shuttlecraft could reach it in about a week.

MACKENZIE

That's what he's doing then.

HARVEY

But won't the crew notice the lack of explosion?

MACKENZIE

Not necessarily. The subspace interference and confusion amongst the escapees will give Telorus enough time to engage his cloaking device.

Almost in time with Ryan's thoughts, the action plays out on the viewscreen...

HARVEY

Sir, I'm monitoring some debris being ejected. I count two torpedoes...

A faint EXPLOSION on the viewscreen.

MACKENZIE

He's used that to convince the crew...

SOPHIE

I count seventy five escape pods, and twenty two shuttle craft launching.

ANGLE ON:

The viewscreen. The Dividices CLOAKS.

SOPHIE

She's gone, sir.

MACKENZIE

Initiate a tachyon sweep. He's not going to be too hard to find if he wants to defect.

SOPHIE

Aye, sir.

18 INT. IRW DIVIDICES - BRIDGE

Velal and Telorus and the Centurion are at their stations, every one else has left. Also on board are Engineer Taev and Doctor Stelam. The viewscreen shows the Agamemnon moving closer.

VELAL

Crew are away, sir. They'll reach Tigelis Seven's moon with just enough supplies.

TELORUS

Good.

(to Centurion)

What's the status of our Federation friend?

CENTURION

They are continuing course, and have begun a tachyon sweep.

TELORUS

(to the viewscreen)

Not so easily fooled are you Captain Mackenzie...

19 EXT. SPACE. ALDERMAIN STRAIT - ROMULAN SIDE

A typical D'Deridex class warbird DROPS OUT OF WARP. It's the Decius. It engages cloak and proceeds into the Aldermain Strait.

20 INT. DECIUS - BRIDGE

COMMANDER SAREN TOMALAK sits in the Captain's chair. CENTURIONS at stations.

DECIUS CENTURION #1

Commander Tomalak, we have arrived and engaged cloak.

TOMALAK

Very good, move into the region and scan for the Dividices.

DECIUS CENTURION #1

Yes, sir.

21 INT. AGAMEMNON - BRIDGE

As before.

HARVEY

Sir, I had a Romulan warbird drop out of warp on the other side of the strait.

MACKENZIE

You *had*?

HARVEY

Yes, sir... it cloaked straight away.

MACKENZIE

It must've been driving so hard to get here that the cloak wouldn't work at warp.

(a beat)

What was it's last known heading?

HARVEY

Hot on the tail of the Dividices.

MACKENZIE

Blasted. I assume it's out-of-range of our tachyon sweep?

HARVEY

Yes, sir... but judging by it's last known speed, I'd say we'll reacquire it in about an hour.

MACKENZIE

Very well.

(to Sophie)

Sophie - let's pick up our pace in trying to find the Dividices before then.

SOPHIE

Aye, sir.

A few beats pass, then --

HARVEY

Sir, we're being hailed.

(beat, off the console)

Correction - you are being hailed. It's Admiral Telorus.

MACKENZIE

In my ready room Steve...

Ryan EXITS at pace to --

22 INT. AGAMEMNON - READY ROOM

Ryan enters and sits at his desk, tapping a control a monitor rises from the glass top, the Starfleet logo displays like a boot screen then is replaced by the Romulan Admiral who is in his ready room.

MACKENZIE  
Admiral Telorus.

TELORUS  
Captain Mackenzie.

MACKENZIE  
What's this all about?

TELORUS  
I've been thinking about our conversation before the Chodak took you.

MACKENZIE  
You've finally seen the light and are defecting to the Federation?

TELORUS  
(insulted)  
Defecting? Is that what you think this is?

MACKENZIE  
Admiral, you just evacuated your entire crew and faked a warp core breach to make your ship disappear.

TELORUS  
I will never defect from the Romulan Star Empire.  
(a beat)  
You should know that.

Ryan knows what he's talking about...

MACKENZIE  
(remembering)  
The Battle of Cardassia.

TELORUS  
Do you remember what I said to you after we had won the battle?

MACKENZIE  
Of course... at the time of awakening on Vulcan, Tellus and a group of followers left in search of a new world. One where they

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MACKENZIE (cont'd)  
could pursue their emotions, and  
continue the path to become  
caretakers of the galaxy.

TELORUS  
(nodding)  
Unfortunately, we long ago lost  
that way and became the secretive  
militaristic force the galaxy has  
come to fear.

MACKENZIE  
Have you regained your faith in  
the Way of D'era?

TELORUS  
I do not know. But I do know  
that Mendak is aboard your ship,  
and she's searching for the Third  
Sar'Kell Octavo.

(a beat)  
And I know that that Octavo is  
derived from the Way of  
D'era. The Chodak claim they  
have it and are using it to  
manipulate the Senate.

MACKENZIE  
(scoffing)  
And I thought the Romulans  
weren't spiritual.

TELORUS  
Was your time on Romulus that  
un-enlightening?

MACKENZIE  
We were at war. I had plenty of  
other things to deal with.

TELORUS  
Captain, I do not want to defect  
- but I believe the key to  
stopping the Chodak is finding  
the original Octavo.  
(a beat, this is tough:)  
And I need your help.

Ryan thinks for a beat...

MACKENZIE  
First, release Alicia and Evie.

TELORUS  
I already have, I programmed the  
shuttle to steer them close to  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

TELORUS (cont'd)  
your ship and then disengage the  
cloak.

MACKENZIE  
Thank you.

TELORUS  
Mack - you have to understand...  
what I did was because I was  
following orders.

MACKENZIE  
(not convinced)  
We all follow orders Admiral.  
(a beat, pushing home)  
Some more blindly than others.

TELORUS  
(understanding that  
statement)  
These ships we have command of  
Captain... are weapons of war,  
lets work together to stop them.

MACKENZIE  
Indeed. Agamemnon out.

The screen sinks into the table, and Ryan's left there...  
alone. We hold on him for a beat then --

CUT TO:

23 INT. EVIE'S QUARTERS - FUTURE

Baby Evie is sleeping in her cot, but the lights are at  
mid intensity - it's afternoon aboard the ship which is  
still at warp. Evie continues telling the story.

EVIE  
And that's the last time I saw  
Admiral Telorus, when he pushed  
Mum and I into that escape pod  
without any explanation.  
(a beat)  
I never got to thank him for  
saving our life. Maybe I did  
misjudge him... maybe he was a  
good man until the Chodak got  
hold of him and turned everything  
he knew inside out?  
(a long beat)  
At any rate, there will always be  
someone else that takes on that  
role for history. And we didn't  
know it yet, but the worst battle  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

EVIE (cont'd)  
since the Dominion War was just a  
few weeks away.

Hold on this ominous moment for a beat, then --

FADE TO BLACK.