

Ex-Eden:
Voyage to the New World of the Enterprise Crew
—A Hommage to Star Trek—

Written by
Centroville Pathman

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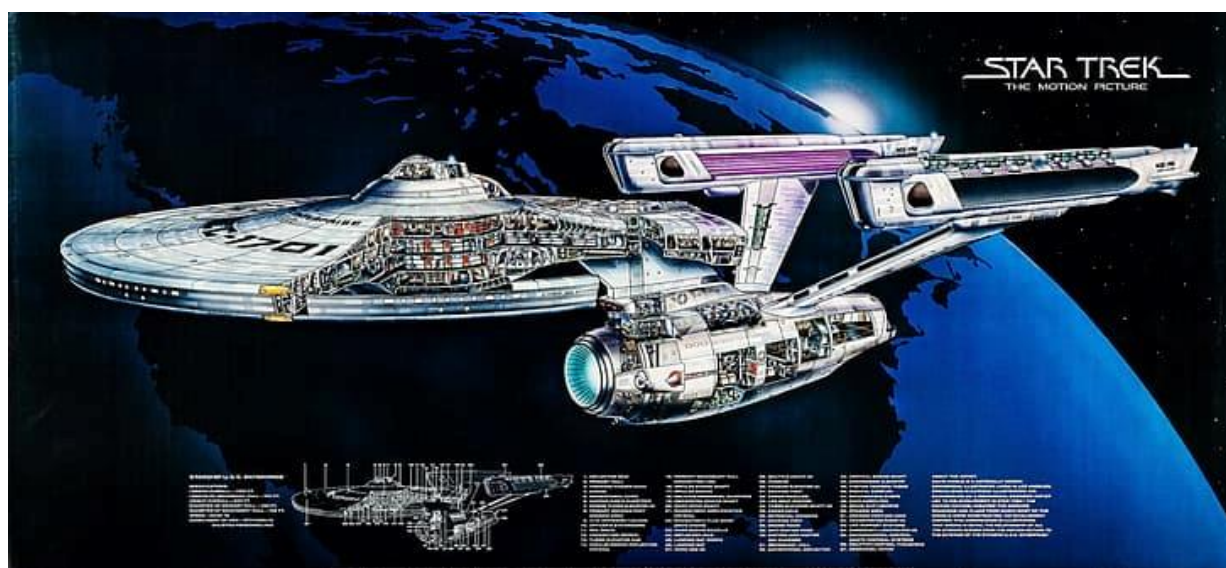
I'm Nadam, the head of the Terra Research Institute (TRI) on the planet Eden. I am currently 40 years old. A day on the planet Eden is very peaceful, and from the viewpoint of earthlings in the 21st century, it seems just boring. At some time and in some place they are troubled by the dark world of battles, terrorism, disasters, and various accidents that cause countless casualties, and at another time and in another place, they enjoy a happy world where they share the joy of daily activities with the people familiar with them. It is obviously natural that there are light and dark in everyone's life at different epoch or occasionally at same period, but what made me feel inscrutable is that both the light and dark do not interfere with each other. There is something strange about being able to spend time watching the news of the harrowing battle scenes as if watching cinema in the warmth of a home gathering. Is misery the spice of happiness for humanity in the 21st century? It has been three years of observing and thinking about such scenes, but after the survey of the Tera and Earth in the 20th to 23rd centuries, I have returned to Mother Planet Eden.

Our investigation of the Terra and Earth of the 20th to 23rd centuries has been motivated on the facts that these chaotic centuries were the starting point of our history. When we think that the accidental occurrence that a certain event happened at a certain time point in history is the basis for creating our today 1,000 years later, we wonder what the whole history would have been like if that event had not happened. Whenever we think about this, we feel as if we are walking a tightrope, and the present itself might seem vulnerable. However, there is also possibility of the reverse occurrence that a certain event did not occur at a certain point, and the subsequent world also may be vulnerable equally to the opposite case. Therefore it is more reasonable to think that "an event that was meant to happen" created the present than to think that "an event that happened by chance" created the present. In other words, we can think of ourselves as being here as a matter of course, that is, as we are supposed to be here preferably. And the planet Eden is not an accidental product, it is a planet that is meant to be. It was in this view of history that this research began.

After returning to the planet, I spent a month-long vacation on the shores of Lake Heofon with my partner Leve. Leve is a female-shaped android who can have human emotions and share affection like Rayna, an android who is the ultimate in beauty created by Mr. Flint [Star-date 5843.7], and can no longer be thought of as a human being rather than an android. Also, there are 5 Tribbles in my villa. Due to their unusually high reproductive abilities, they caused a commotion in the U.S.S. Enterprise, because lots of Tribbles have reproduced and spread out in the Enterprise. As a revenge on provocative Klingon troops, Tribbles were transported to the incompatible Klingon

spaceship [Stardate 4523.3], causing the Klingons to be enraged, and I hear that the Klingons destroyed the birth-planet of Tribbles [Deep Space 9 Episode 503]. However, the few surviving Tribbles were genetically engineered to suppress their ability to reproduce and be kept as pets. Nowadays, it seems that there are not a few Edenians who pet Tribbles. After relaxing in my vacation period, I returned to the TRI, and set about sorting through the vast amount of information I had collected about the Terra and Earth in the 20th to 23rd centuries.

One day, I received an emergency call from the Information Management Center (IMC), also known as "Terock" which was the first spaceship that our ancestors arrived in Eden. Since then Eden has been developed using Terock as a base. Currently, Terock is a center involving various governments such as the Eden Policy Bureau, the Education Bureau, the Medical Bureau, and the Space Surveillance Bureau. The official notice from Terock was as follows: The U.S.S. Enterprise, a spacecraft built in the 23rd century of the Second World, has been towed from the Milky Way galaxy coordinates Vxyz 32-47-55d / L3.75 Parsec by a Space Defense Satellite (SDS) for one year to approach Eden, and there is a possibility that there may be survivors on board, and I was instructed to lead this project team. I immediately went to the IMC. The IMC is located on the opposite side of the planet to TRI, but it can be traveled within an hour as you leave the TRI transporter room and go through an intermediate transporter base. Transporter bases are located at various points in Eden, and it takes less than half an hour to transfer a half-circle of the planet Eden when the waiting time is short.



The IMC is located on the man-made island of Deo, off the coast of the First Ocean of Eden. Deo is connected to the continent by bridges and undersea tunnels. About 1,000

people work in the IMC. In incidence of an unexpected event, as in this case, project members are summoned from those who may be involved in the situation. The team that responds to this situation will carry out a mission named Project "Enterprise" (Pro E). I became the team leader. The mission of the Pro E was to (1) safely dock the spacecraft at the Eden Space Station without damage, (2) check for survivors in the spacecraft and resuscitate them if there are, (3) investigate the extent and cause of the damage to the spacecraft, and (4) investigate the original purpose of the spacecraft's operation. Pending the results of the investigation, post-processing will be considered. There were seven members of the Pro E team, including myself. Seven of them had different expertise and skills, three of which were in feminine form and four were in masculine form. Gender is no longer a distinction in Eden, but it is only a difference between the masculine and feminine forms of the body we choose. Age doesn't mean much, but we also have a longer lifespan than earthlings, and many of us return to the "Homeland of LIFE" around the age of 150 years. It is still unclear where the Homeland is located in Eden, but the LIFE is separated from the body of the deceased and gathers in a certain place in Eden transcending time and space. We call this place the Homeland of LIFE. The LIFE is rejuvenated in the Homeland and resides in a new fertilized egg transcending time and space. There are other planets like Eden, and it seems that the LIFE of different life forms gathers on that planet. Eden is the planet where the LIFE of hominids gathers.

We worked with the Space Surveillance Bureau to estimate the spacecraft's course, which turned out to be its closest approach to Eden two days later, around 1 p.m. when we will project a towing beam to guide the spaceship to the Eden Space Station (ESS) and stop it. Fifteen new androids have been dispatched to begin preparations at the ESS. Together with the androids dedicated to the ESS, total number will be 30. Just in case, I decided to have the android have a gun set to stun. In addition, 50 medical personnel were called in for relief, 10 of whom were medical doctors. In this way, it was decided to wait for the arrival of the spacecraft.

We are continuously calling out to the spacecraft on a wide range of channels, but no response occurs. The name of the spaceship written on the hull is U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701. According to library sources, the Enterprise was built in San Francisco at 2245, capable of up to 8 levels of warp navigation, and has a crew of 430 people. She was on a mission to come into contact with and investigate unknown life forms and civilizations in unexplored space. The last captain was James Tiberius Kirk, and the deputy captain and chief science officer was Mr. Spock. While sailing to the center of the Milky Way galaxy, she suddenly disappeared and lost contact, and one year passed before she reached Eden. Many of the weak life responses were observed through our life detection

device, suggesting that there were survivors. However, it seems impossible for the Enterprise to sail on its own power, and there is no suggestion that it is operated by the crew. At this stage, we have no choice but to conclude that the Enterprise is adrift.

We were ready to receive the ship when she came close. We focused our towing beam on the Enterprise and locked the beam in tow. Her movement stopped, and the Enterprise was gradually descended towards the ESS by the towing beam. As it became visible to the naked eye, the Enterprise's main engine had been severely damaged, and all window lights and warning signals had been turned off. And its massive hull was guided to the widest dock of the cosmodrome and fixed. Due to the long drift, there were several scratches on the hull surface, and it was clear at a glance that it was a dying spaceship. After drifting, the ship now got a place to rest its damaged hull.

The androids are trying to break in through the entrance to the hangar at the rear of the ship. The other teams are heading to the hatches on the sides of the hull and the hatches on the disc part of the ship. It seems that it did not take long for them to break through. Each android's eyes are high-sensitivity cameras, so the inside of the ship is illuminated by the lights. The Pro E team and I read the inside of the ship by superimposing images on a large monitor screen and a map showing the location of each android. There are no people in the corridors and crew rooms on the ship. A group of androids advanced to a place where life responses were detected. The location was in a section of the medical department, and capsules were stacked on top of each other in a large warehouse. The capsule was a life support system. It was assumed that a power supply and a computer, independent of the hull's electrical path, managed the life support capsule. The transparent lid of the capsule was inscribed with names, ranks, and job titles, so that it was easy to see who was sleeping in the capsule. It was understood from the biological reaction that the capsule with the blue dim light illuminating the face of the hibernator was a survivor, and if the light was off, it was a dead hibernator. When the androids investigated, they found that there were 425 capsules, of which 378 were survivors, and many of the deaths were those who died in battle.

The bridge was deserted and there was no major damage. The Enterprise's fatal injury was a damage to the main engine, which did not damage the auxiliary engine, but brought it to a complete standstill. The data left on the Enterprise, such as the navigation log, remained almost complete. There were no harmful air or drinking water on board, and no viruses or bacteria were found to be a problem. However, our Pro E team decided to board the ship wearing protective clothing just in case. Since the ship's engine was stopped, it was decided to supply electricity from the space-base to the ship, adjusting

the voltage and other characteristics. And then the Enterprise was resurrected. Lights were turned on in the rooms and corridors, the air conditioning facilities were restored, the room temperature was adjusted, and clean air was flowing.

We entered the room of the life support capsule. There were 10 rows of capsules on 4 shelves, and 10 capsules in each row were neatly arranged. The remaining 25 capsules were laid out on the floor plane. These 25 capsules belonged to senior officers, including captain, chief science and engineering officers, chief helmsman, chief medical officer, and chief communications officer and so on. Five of the 25 senior officers had already died. The remaining 20 were found to be alive but in a weak and dangerous condition. We carried out the survivors' capsules one by one with the androids. In addition, the engineering androids were responsible for checking the extent of damage to the main engine of the enterprise and repairing it if it was possible. In addition, all the data left in the Enterprise is collected for further analysis. It took 5 days and nights to finish all the work.

Three months after recovering the Enterprise and rescuing its crew, a Public Hearing on Activities of the Pro E Team was held. I will briefly tell you what I explained at the Hearing.

(1) **Accident and drift of the Enterprise**: One year ago, the Enterprise was on a special expedition to the center of the Milky Way galaxy with the goal of searching for new life forms and civilizations. It was known that there was a trivial problem with the main engine, but it was determined that there was no urgency and it was decided to repair it after the investigation was completed. Shortly after the Enterprise exited warp navigation and returned to normal navigation, a huge spherical Unidentified Space Object (USO) suddenly appeared in front of the Enterprise. The ensuing situation can be seen in images reproduced based on crew testimonies, voyage records, and the physical conditions in which the Enterprise was located.

Captain Kirk addressed the USO and said, "I'm Kirk, Captain of the U.S.S. Enterprise. I understand that this area is outside the jurisdiction of the United Federation of Planets. Do I need a special permit to navigate this area? We are sailing through space to explore unknown life forms and civilizations, and we have no intention of attacking your ship. I would like to have a friendly relationship if possible. I'd like to communicate with the captain of your ship, so I could do a vocabulary match for smooth communication." The message was sent in 203 known alien languages. However, there was no response from the USO. Once again, Captain Kirk sent the same message. This time, there is no response. Then Dr. McCoy appeared in the bridge.

McCoy: "Jim, have you made any progress?"

Kirk: "She's still unresponsive, Bones."

Kirk: "Spock, analyze this situation."

Spock: "The USO has not shown any aggressive behavior towards us so far."

Suddenly, a low voice echoed through the bridge.

USO: "If you want to pass through here, answer the riddle I give you.

This is the permission to go ahead through this gate.

If you can't solve the riddle, leave here immediately.

The riddle is:

It gives birth, nurtures life and claims it.

It brings happiness and makes unhappy.

It's larger than the universe and invisible to the eye.

It's immortal like the polestar and vanishes like a meteor.

Have you solved the riddle?"

McCoy: "It's like The Sphinx, we have to solve the riddle to get through."

Kirk: "I see, there is a myth that there were such monsters in ancient Greece."

Spock: "What happens if we don't solve that mystery?"

Kirk: "We are going to be killed by the Sphinx."

Spock: "I see, but he does not say he's going to kill us if we don't solve the mystery."

Kirk: "Lieutenant Uhura, ask her what happens if we don't answer the riddle?"

Uhura: "Got it, Sir."

USO: "Whoever cannot answer the riddle, leave immediately.

If those do not leave, they will meet death."

Kirk: "The Sphinx, after all?"

Captain Kirk ordered Uhura to tell her that we were an envoy of peace and that there was no hostility, and therefore there was no need to solve the riddle.

Uhura: "She's not going to answer your question, she's just looking for an answer to the riddle."

Kirk: "Spock, Bones, what do you think about the mystery?"

Spock: "I heard that the answer to the mythical Sphinx was 'human,' but is she still looking for a human answer?"

Various scanning beams were attempted to gather information about the USO while sending the same message. However, the USO had a strong protective shield, and the scanning beam was deflected.

Kirk: "I think the answer to this riddle is 'love.' Don't you think so?"

McCoy: "Probably. 'Mother's love,'...no. 'Love' is in this case."

Spock: "Okay, I agree. 'love' is humane in our birth and death, happiness and sadness, universality and the invisible, endlessness and fleetingness."

Kirk: "Spock's understanding of love shows his human growth."

Spock: "I don't think growth. I feel more like a kind of depravity."

Kirk and McCoy looked at each other and smiled wryly at Spock's typical reply.

Kirk: "Lieutenant Uhura, send the Sphinx that the answer is 'love.'"

Kirk then ordered Sulu to steer slowly the Enterprise to the left to show no hostility to the USO. But the USO still doesn't budge. So Captain Kirk decided to stop for a while and see what was going on.

Suddenly, as if to tear through the silence, a laser beam hit the Enterprise's shield, followed by the main energizer. Captain Kirk attempted to use an auxiliary power to get out of the way. At that time, several photon torpedoes were fired, but they were deflected by the strong shield of the USO. Captain Kirk continued to send the message, "We call for peaceful dialogue." The auxiliary power was fully throttled for breakaway, but a powerful tow beam from the USO left the Enterprise stranded. Captain Kirk has ordered to push the auxiliary power to the limit, but the Enterprise didn't budge. And the auxiliary energizer overheated and became unusable. Only the life support power supply was operating.

Captain Kirk asked the USO "We answered, but why did you attack us?"

USO: "The answer is correct, but ye are destroyed in order to be reborn."

Captain Kirk had to make the final decision. He convened executives, including Mr. Spock and Dr. McCoy, to ask for their opinions on the next steps. Mr. Spock's opinion was to call for help from the Starfleet Headquarters, and until then, to save as much energy as possible to preserve the lives of the crew. He also added that this USO was not acting in a programmed manner like the Normad [Stardate 3541.9], but rather had emotions and intentions to reject us, and was probably the action of a living organism. Dr. McCoy was also in favor of emphasizing the life support of our troops, and was willing to surrender to the USO depending on the situation. Mr. Scott, the chief engineering Officer, was of the opinion that the ship's engines were almost destroyed and that it would be impossible to escape on its own, so it would be better to wait for a rescue party. Mr. Sulu, the chief helmsman, was of the opinion that the USO's tow beam was so powerful that it was impossible to escape even if the auxiliary power was restored. Captain Kirk listened

in silence. Finally, the captain opened his mouth and expressed his opinion as follows: “it was unclear why the USO had attacked us, but the reason why the USO had asked for a solution seemed that they might be just trying to buy time and create a rationale for the attack.” He also expressed his gratitude to his subordinates for their remarkable work in the Enterprise and helped the captain in the past. And he continued: “this situation is different from the past, as the USO is a highly intelligent alien with powerful scientific ability, although it seems to have an uncompromising ruthlessness and to want peaceful negotiations on an equal footing. So it is unlikely that negotiation, attack, defense, or escape will be possible. I would like to prioritize the life support of the personnel as the minimum necessary requirement, by using a life support capsule that has never been used before to put the entire crew in hibernation and by sending out rescue signals.

The ship's energy was put into life support, and a small amount of energy was diverted to a rescue signal. As a result, the ship's lights and air conditioning were shut down, and the Enterprise became like a huge coffin. The members who died in this attack were buried in space, and the living members were placed in life support capsules. After that, the USO disappeared without being identified.

Thereafter, the Enterprise became an iron box drifting in the vastness of outer space. Eventually, the communication energy was cut off, and only life support was barely functioning. These circumstances are confirmed both in the Enterprise's memories and in the testimonies of the resurrected members. After a year of drifting, the Enterprise approached the planet Eden.

(2) **Crew life-saving**: The capsules of 378 survivors were placed under the control of the Eden central computer, and they gradually transitioned from long-term hibernation to wakefulness. Since they were placed under hibernation for one year so that sudden awakening is likely to exceed the limit of their physical tolerance, it took about a month to resuscitate them. Unfortunately, 23 people died during the resuscitation process. The remaining 355 have recovered to a waking state, but their reactivity is somewhat sluggish and their memories are fuzzy, so we are also working to retain and fix the memories of individual recoverers using memory fixation devices. The recovery of the captain Kirk and chief science officer Spock is excellent, especially Spock of the Vulcans. As for how the Enterprise encountered the emergency, the memories of the Enterprise's computer and Spock were almost identical.

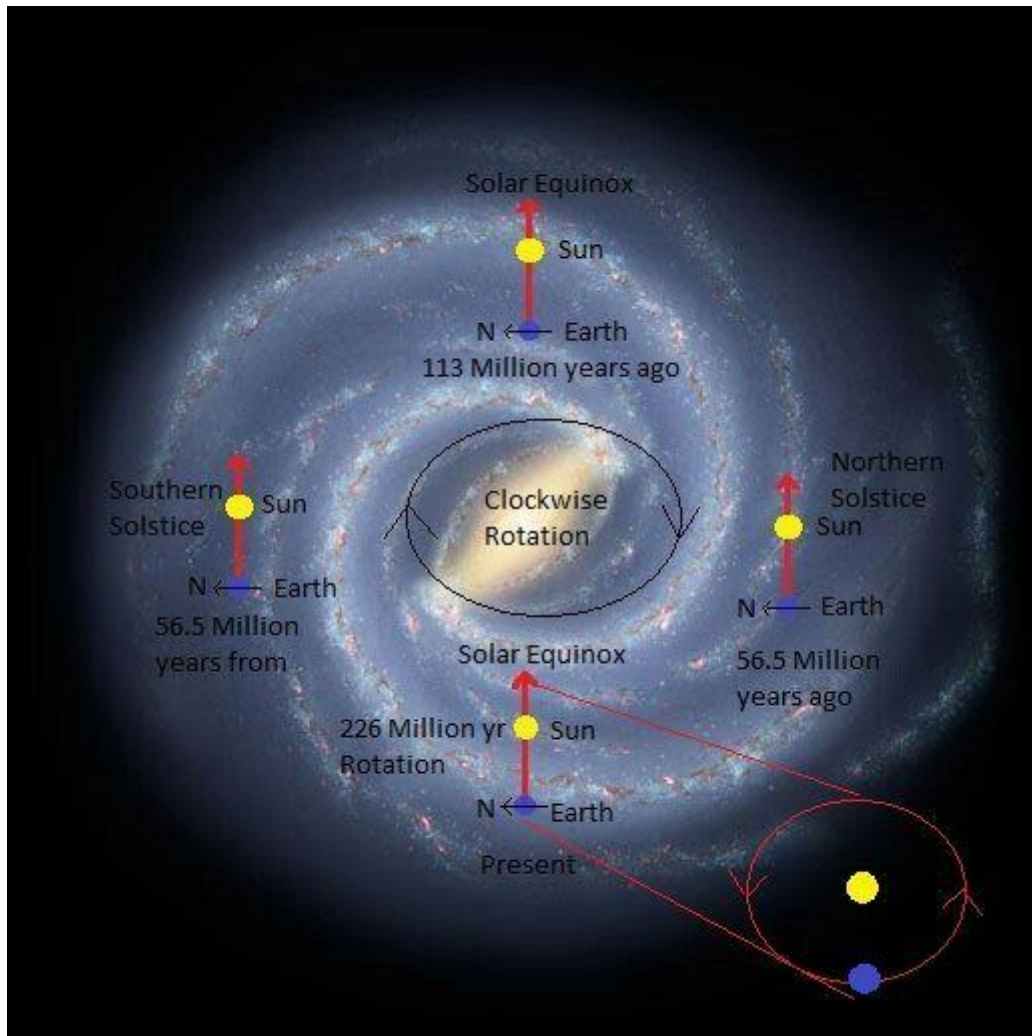
(3) **Damage to the Enterprise**: The main energizer has been severely damaged and

is expected to take about two months to repair. The auxiliary energizer is less damaged and can be repaired within one months. The communication system has almost been restored. Since it was an outdated system, we changed it to our latest system and repaired the original old system to maintain communication capabilities. In addition, we are working to improve the functions of the equipment of cloaking devices, laser cannons, and photon torpedoes.

(4)**The Future of Enterprise Members**: It will depend on how well they recover. It is necessary to consider how to respond by dividing the squad into those who have recovered to their previous state, those who have some functional damage, and those who have difficulty recovering their functions. Once the future policy of the members with recovery and mild disability is decided after discussion, we would like to support them to the extent that we can cooperate. The members with critical disability may have difficulty to support themselves, and we consider allowing them to live in Eden if they wish and providing the necessary assistance.

In response to the above report, some questions were raised and discussed by members of the Parliamentary Council, medical professionals, mechanical engineering specialists, and others. In order to reach a conclusion, it was decided to assess the recovery of the Enterprise members and then deliberate again.

After the first council meeting, I visited the hospital where the Enterprise members were being treated and rehabilitated. I requested an interview with Captain Kirk and Mr. Spock, who are also the chief executives of the Enterprise and are recovering well. Two people appeared in the visitation room. Captain Kirk looked a little tired, but it seemed that he was able to answer the question sufficiently. Mr. Spock responded in a quiet tone with the expressionless face of the Vulcans.



After introducing myself, I showed my appreciation for their surviving. Captain Kirk expressed his gratitude in a rather heavy tone. Mr. Spock could only nod silently. In the process of recovering from hibernation, the medical staff in charge of rehabilitation told them little by little about the current situation, and seemed to understand to some degree, for instance Mr. Spock heard that the planet Eden is near the bulge in the center of the Milky Way. Therefore, he wondered where the Eden is and how humans came to live in Eden. In addition to the above questions, he expressed his opinions as follows: the Enterprise began drifting in the 23rd century, and it was unlikely that a human colony would develop in the depths of this galaxy within a year or so.

I explained the history of Eden. The world-wide spread of local warfare and terrorism, environmental pollution and abnormal weather, population growth and food problems, the increased gap between the rich and the poor, the soaring cost of living and pandemic infections on the home planet Terra, and finally the outbreak of World War III due to the accidental dropping of the hydrogen bomb in 1968, these evil hammers smashed Terra to

be a dying planet with only a few survivors. Under reconsidering the nature of humanity through recognizing that discrimination and prejudice were deeply rooted in our minds as the background factors behind this disaster, we could avoid annihilation as shown in endless murder-game of Lokai and Bele in the planet Cheron [Stardate 5730.2]. Among the survivors were some of the best scientists and engineers, so a plan to migrate from the ruined Terra to another planet was considered. If there was no recognition of human rights, it would have been like the planet Omega IV, where the inter-race struggle between the Yangs and the Kohms continues [Stardate 4040.7]. In the 23rd century, Dr. Gray MacMillan who was the brainchild and developer of the spacecraft Terock appeared on the stage of Tera history. Healthy young people in their 10~20s were gathered from all over the world, and plans to migrate to new planets were promoted. The young people repeated their generations in Terock until they reached the planet Eden, ending their migration plans. I reminded Dr. McCoy and Captain Kirk the events that they once experienced [Stardate 5476.3]. Since the planet Eden was a special planet where LIFE separating from corpse was regenerated, Life science especially has progressed in Eden. Furthermore space-time travel was realized because Eden is located near a bar-shaped star cluster in the galaxy and its spatiotemporal position is undetermined by the cosmic jet, which serves as the "entrance" to the black hole in the center of the galaxy. And 1000 years have passed since we left Terra during the 23rd century in the Earth.



Before our migration, the planet Eden had an ancient history of being colonized 600,000 years ago by a race that claimed to be the progenitor of mankind and created the planet as Homeland of Human LIFE. About 100,000 years later, they developed a technology to store only mental energy and were freed from the bondage of the physical body. However, after 500,000 years, most of them perished, and only three survived on the home planet.

Kirk: "I know the inhabitants of that planet very well. They waited 500,000 years

later, when only three of them survived, for the appearance of the humans they called their 'children.' By chance, they spotted our spaceship and sent a distress signal to call us. They took over the bodies of the astrobiologist Dr. Ann Mulhall, Mr. Spock, and myself, and seemed so euphoric that they lost themselves in the sensations of our bodies. Henoeh, ambitious one of the three, was punished by his leader, Sargon, leaving with his wife, Thalassa [Stardate 4768.3 / A.D. 2268]."

Finally, I added an incident in which Dr. Sevrin and his group of young people brainwashed by his ideology took over the Enterprise in arrival at the planet Eden. Mr. Spock and Chekov tracked down a planet that seemed to be Eden in Romulan-controlled territory, and the young group stole a shuttle and landed on the planet. It was a beautiful planet, but the plants had strong acids and the fruit was poisonous, and Dr. Sevrin and Adam of the young people ate the fruit and died. And I told them that this Eden and ours are different planets. While we were talking, they were quietly listening to me.

Mr. Spock looked at Kirk's face and implicitly agreed, then opened his mouth.

"In our world we are in the 23rd century, but in Eden we are in the 33rd century?"

I said, "That's right." And I continued as follows: "The world consists of parallel worlds. On the assumption that our world is the First World, then your world is the Second World. Eden is the linchpin of all worlds, so no matter which world you are in, you will reach Eden. The Second World was born because, as you know, our Class 1 Supervisor, Mr. Garry Seven, returned to Terra in 1968 and stopped World War III [Stardate Unknown]. As a result, in the 22nd century the Second World that emerged overcame world wars and environmental problems, and jointly promoted space development. You built the Enterprise in the 23rd century, and you took off into the unknown universe with great hope. Accidentally the twisting phenomenon of space-time occurred, and the First World is in the 33rd century, while the Second World is in the 23rd century. This time deformation can be interpreted by a time loop theory as likened to 2 routes between A and B points, namely straight shortcut vs. loop detour routes.

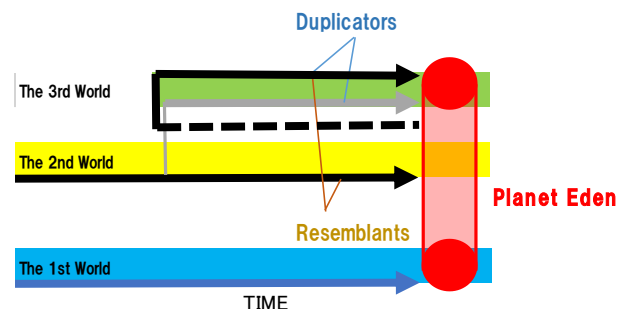
Spock then asked. "Was the scientific development of the Second World also under your intervention?"

I replied hesitantly. "Partly yes, Dr. MacMillan, the inventor and designer of the spacecraft Terock, discovered and presented the time-space theory that was the basis of warp navigation in the 23rd century of the First World. Subsequently, Dr. MacMillan collaborated with Dr. Cockrane in 22nd century in the Second World by using the space-time communication system Dr. MacMillan developed by himself, and they completed warp navigation device. Thus the Enterprise was built in the 23rd century of the Second

World, opening up a new path into space and realizing a hopeful future for the Second World."

Thereafter Kirk opened his mouth. "Is there any interaction between the two worlds? In other words, if we wish, we can go back to the 23rd century in our Second World."

I replied, looking at Kirk and Spock's serious faces. "Yes, it is possible. For example, if you were to return to your world in the 23rd century, the memory of your stay in Eden would disappear, and you and your Enterprise will be absorbed into the original them. Then you would return to Eden again with the same events happening this time. It becomes a closed circular world, like repeating history. Alternatively, you can return to the world of the 23rd century with retaining your current memories. But from the moment you return to the world of the 23rd century, the Third World will appear. The new world will begin to branch off from the Second World you have experienced. There are simultaneously YOU who have existed in the Second World and YOU who are duplicated in the Third World. People and objects that exist in two worlds are called 'Resemblants.' They are similar in appearance, but they are not same because the Resemblants will have different experiences and memories in each of the Second and Third Worlds after occurrence of the Third World."



Then Captain Kirk reminded me that it is possible to return to the 23rd century world with his current memories intact, to which I replied: "That's right. You have to embrace the Third World in which you will live with the memories of the Second World. Moreover, if older YOU returned from the future and younger YOU duplicated from the Second World are in the same space-time area of the Third World, both of YOU will have to coexist as 'Duplicates'. Older YOU will be able to understand younger YOU, but the younger YOU will perceive the older YOU as somewhat strange presence. In other words, a kind of dissociative state is created in mind of younger YOU, and it becomes like an experience of double body or 'Doppelgaenger'. In addition, because older YOU now have memories of a world that younger YOU have not experienced, older YOU may feel the Third World as a virtual world and also your own existence as an empty self. Can your mentality withstand that situation?"

There was silence for a while. Mr. Spock asked, with a nonchalant expression on his face, as if he was listening to the obvious.

"I would like to ask you just in case we return to your First World Earth namely Terra, which is another possibility."

"You will be able to return to the Terra we know, but not the Earth you know, and if you go back to the 23rd century, it will be a dying Terra. Or if you go back to the 33rd century, you will find the Terra of a world that has been rebuilt from the ruins by a few survivors. I wish you could do something for the Terra. Whichever world you choose, we will help you as much as we can. Please consult with your crew who will be discharged from the hospital."

After the first interview, I went back to my house. In Eden, some people live in pseudo-families, while others live alone like me. If you want to enjoy married life, you can live together as a couple. And if you want to have a child, you can apply to the Reproductive Center (RC), and they will give birth to a child of your choice with genes of the couple. It is possible for two people to enjoy sexual activity, but not to get pregnant. You can also raise a child who is born and live a parent-child life. There is no school, and children are educated at home with the Educational Program Equipment (EPA). Development of knowledge, emotion, and motor skills can also be achieved by using the EPA. Children can also interact with each other in the clubhouse. I had parents, and I was raised by them, and I belonged to a history club as a child. I became interested in the history of Terra, which led me to my current job.

I had my second interview a week later. In addition to Captain Kirk and Mr. Spock, Dr. McCoy and the chief helmsman Sulu were also present. Kirk and Spock looked a few steps more energetic than they had been in their last interview. McCoy and Sulu also seemed to be recovering as well as Kirk and Spock. Kirk glanced at everyone's faces and began to speak quietly.

"We've had a conversation over the past week about what's going forward. I would like to talk about the results. First of all, there are 53 awakeners who are severely injured and left with sequelae, and I would like to ask them to remain on the planet Eden because it seems that they will not be able to withstand the long voyage ahead. The remaining 302 crew have recovered almost to their former level and are expected to be able to withstand long-term voyages. Therefore, we discussed four proposals: the first plan to return to the 23rd century world of the Second World without leaving any memories, the second plan to return to the 23rd century of the Third World with the memories intact, the third plan to return to the 23rd century or 33rd century Terra in the First World, and the fourth plan to remain in Eden. In the pre-discussion voting, there were 0 members

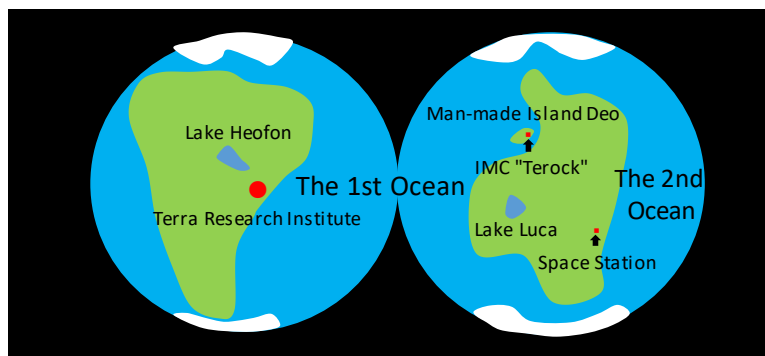
for the first proposal, 238 for the second proposal, 50 for the third proposal, and 14 for the fourth proposal. After that, we discussed with each other's opinions, and unfortunately we did not reach a proposal that was unanimously agreed. In the final vote, there were 0 votes for the first proposal, 267 for the second proposal, 33 for the third proposal, and 2 for the fourth proposal. The two who wished to stay decided to respect their wishes. Therefore, 300 people intended to leave Eden, but we will have another discussion and consider the second and third proposals."

I listened to the captain's report and replied briefly, "Do so." Three days later, Captain Kirk contacted me and agreed on the second plan, namely, that the crew would return to the Third World of the 23rd century with their memories intact, that they would like the Enterprise to be repaired, improved, and refueled, and that food and other supplies be prepared in order to continue investigating unknown life forms and civilizations in the Third World of the 23rd century. I understood, and gave instructions to the relevant departments. Since the departure date of the Enterprise has not yet been decided, I set up a chart that visualizes the progress of each department and shows the overall progress, proceeding with the work.

Six months have passed since the Enterprise entered the planet Eden. The repair and reinforcement of the Enterprise has been completed, and the whole hull looks the same as the previous Enterprise, but its performance is several times better. Warp was previously limited to 8 levels, but has been improved to 15 levels. Unfortunately, more warps are not sustainable on this hull, so it has been improved to the limitations. The crew also recovered and were either in their pre-hibernation state, or even more energetic. Memory of each member was also fixed, so memory storage before hibernation was stable. Of the 53 members with severe injury and/or persistent sequela, 10 wanted to serve aboard the Enterprise, and Dr. McCoy diagnosed that their conditions would be almost tolerable with works. In addition to the remaining members 2 healthy persons wish to migrate to Eden.

For the migrating members, it was decided to build a village on the side of Lake Luca, one of the lakes in Eden. When architect androids start building, it will be finished in about 10 days. Until then, the migrating members will be temporarily living in empty houses or houses where they can live together with residents. However, among the 43 members, there were 7 members who had difficulty being independent by oneself, and we prepared a residence where medical androids could care for them 24 hours a day. As they will adjust to daily life in Eden, they will also have the opportunity to demonstrate their abilities and engage in new activities. One of the healthy survivors was Scott, the chief engineering officer. He was originally from Scotland and ended up living in the lush

green hills reminiscent of the Highlands. It takes about 10 minutes by ground car from his residence to the village. Another healthy survivor is Uhura, the chief communications officer. She ended up living in the Village. On the Lake Luca shore opposite to the village, the Gods live. One of those, Apollo, once urged Captain Kirk and others to worship him, but now he had realized his arrogance and was remorseful [Stardate 3468.1]. I have the impression that, not limited to Apollo, many of the Gods are arrogant.



The day has come when the newly equipped Enterprise will set sail. Kirk was the Captain, Mr. Spock was the Deputy Captain and Chief Science Officer, Chief Helmsman Sulu and the deceased Chekov were replaced by Lieutenant Veena, an Indian female officer, and Lieutenant Calvin, a new communications officer, replaced Lieutenant Uhura, who remained in Eden. The Chief Medical Officer is Dr. McCoy, and the new Chief Engineering Officer is Marcel, replacing Scott. The huge Enterprise slowly broke away from the dock and ascended. Over time, the hull became as small as a dot. At Captain Kirk's request, the planet Eden and the improved Enterprise will communicate with each other on a regular basis. Mr. Spock reported that the improved Enterprise is very stable and easy to operate. Captain Kirk then reported that he was heading to the 23rd century, and ordered Mr. Sulu to set the starship as his destination.

The improved Enterprise arrived one hour earlier than the time encountering with the USO. At this moment, Captain Kirk and his crew on the improved Enterprise were transferred to the Third World. Captain Kirk seems to be waiting for the USO to appear and see what it is. The improved Enterprise vanished by using a cloaking device and advanced to the space area where the original Enterprise navigated. A fleet of three ships is following a short distance after the original Enterprise. From the ship shape, it looks to be two Klingon ships and one Romulan ship. The Klingon-Romulan starship-fleet noticed the original Enterprise ahead, vanished with a cloaking device, and gathered on the port side of the original Enterprise. Suddenly, the USO appeared covered with a camouflage shield that resembled a giant hemispheric ship with a diameter of 10 kilometers. The USO itself is a little cube with each edge of only about 2 meters, and it was wondered how such a large power could be produced from a small box. The original

Enterprise and the enemy fleet were halted and confronted by the massive semi-sphere. However, the semi-sphere has not responded to any questions from the original Enterprise.

Kirk: "Take a position behind the USO."

Sulu: "Okay. We move forward at normal speed and then stop."

Calvin: "The USO and all other ships are unaware of our presence."

At that moment, the voice from the USO echoed through the ship. It was the riddle of the Sphinx.

Kirk: "The USO is a gatekeeper who watches over ships entering the center of the galaxy, imitating the Sphinx."

Spock: "Solving the mystery of the Sphinx may express humane compassion to us."

McCoy: "I'm surprised that Spock can understand humane compassion."

Spock: "I guess it was harmfully affected because I spent so much time with humans."

Sulu: "The enemy starship-fleet lay at a shooting range."

Kirk: "Photon torpedo loading. Lt. Calvin, open a dedicated communication circuit with the enemy fleet."

Calvin: "Okay, You can communicate, sir."

Kirk: "I'll tell the Klingons and the Romulans. I'm Kirk, Captain of the Enterprise. I want each captain to inform me of the purpose of the voyage."

This call was answered by the captain of the Klingon flagship of the fleet.

Captain Klingon: "This is Captain Buck, Commander of the Klingon-Romulan fleet, and we are not obliged to report to you the purpose of our voyage. If you approach us more than now, it will be considered a declaration of war. If your ship seeks safety, solve the riddle at once and decide your own fate."

Kirk: "If we cannot reveal the purpose of your fleet, we will have no choice but to pursue your fleet, which is under our surveillance and any counterattack action will be considered an act of hostility against our ship."

Spock: "The USO continues to have a huge disguise protective shield."

Calvin: "The USO is still repeating the riddle."

Spock: "It seems that the captain of the original Enterprise has sent the answer to the riddle."

Kirk: "Lieutenant Sulu. Set the laser beam to the Klingon flagship, set the photon torpedoes to the other Klingon and Romulan ships, and fire all the guns at my command."

Sulu and Veena: "Got it, Sir."

Spock: "The enemy fleet seems to think that the original Enterprise is alone facing the spherical USO because the enemy fleet has disappeared due to the cloaking device. It seems that the laser beam of the enemy fleet has overheated and is ready for launch."

Kirk: "With my command, laser and torpedo launches."

Sulu: "The hull of the enemy fleet appeared now."

Kirk: "Fire!"

Laser cannons and torpedoes were fired from the Klingon-Romulan fleet in unison and simultaneously the improved Enterprise did, and the original Enterprise, which made a left turn just before firing, was able to successfully dodge the fleet's attack. Meanwhile, the improved Enterprise's attack hit the enemy ships, the Klingon flagship came to a halt with a heavy tilt of the hull, and the remaining two boats were wrecked. At this moment, the winner was decided. Captain Kirk informed the fleet that he would transport the wounded if necessary. Fleet Commander Buck appeared on the improved Enterprise screen and sent a final message on the bridge of the flagship in flames.

Buck: "We choose to die an honorable death, and we will not suffer the shame of being rescued by your ship. I wonder how you were able to detect us using the cloaking device? It's a shame!" Leaving such message, the Klingon ship self-destructed. Subsequently, the remaining two boats were also extinguished by a large explosion caused by the activation of the destruct system. And the USO also disappeared with the disguise shield removed.

Spock: The laser beams and photon torpedoes modified in Eden are more than twice as destructive as before, and our defensive shields are much stronger than ever. In addition, even if the enemy ship used the cloaking device, the radar of the improved Enterprise could locate the invisible ship."

Captain Kirk communicated the battle situation to Mr. Nadam in Eden, who heard about the situation and told the following story.

Nadam: "It was fortunate that neither Enterprise was damaged. There was something I hadn't told you. The spherical USO that stood in front of the original Enterprise was the Space Defense Satellite or SDS-317, which was stationed by the Space Surveillance Service of Eden. Eden is the home of those who believe love power. More than 10,000 SDS's were placed around the Galactic Bulge to protect Eden, and one of them, SDS-317, was removing undesirable aliens by questioning those who were trying to advance to the galactic center like the Sphinx. In the Second World, your ship was allowed to proceed because of the successful solution of the puzzle, but the Klingon-Romulan starship-fleet ambushed your ship to prevent the original Enterprise from entering the Bulge, rendering it unnavigable. The SDS-317 then guided the original Enterprise to the planet Eden using a towing beam. It took a year to arrive due to the inability to warp navigate. I could imagine that you would choose to return to this era when you recovered, so I thought I'd talk about it after all of you had witnessed it firsthand."

"Captain, the original Enterprise is in front of us," Veena reported. Spock also confirmed this report. Kirk seemed to be thinking for a moment and ordered.

Kirk: "Let's unlock the cloaking device and see how they react when we show up."

The original Enterprise, which had been seen in the distance, noticed the sudden appearance of the improved Enterprise and gradually approached it. And stopped in front of the improved Enterprise. There was no communication between the two boats for a while, but then Captain *Kirk's* voice reached the improved Enterprise.

"This is Captain *Kirk*. We are on a journey to explore new life forms and civilizations, and we happen to encounter your ship. Your ship looks exactly like our Enterprise, but does this suggest special intentions for us? We want to try to understand each other peacefully. We are sending this message in the language we know. If you receive a message, please reply."

After receiving the message, Kirk thought without responding.

Spock: "Would you respond to that Captain *Kirk*?"

Kirk: "How would they react if they encountered future their selves?"

Then Dr. McCoy entered the bridge.

"Jim, why don't you say hello to our juniors, Captain *Kirk* over there is confused by the appearance of another Enterprise."

Captain *Kirk* sends the same message as before. Kirk listened in silence. Dr. McCoy listened the message as fretting a little, but not Mr. Spock.

Eventually, Captain Kirk replied:

"I'm Kirk, Captain of the Enterprise, and to distinguish my Enterprise from yours, I'm going to give my Enterprise the prefix 'Improved'. What you see in front of you now is the Improved Enterprise. It's hard for you to believe, but we're yourselves coming from a little bit of the future than you are now. This is a phenomenon that has arisen by the trick of time. We have destroyed the Klingon-Romulan starship-fleet that tried to attack you, and the threat to you is gone now."

Kirk: "Do you mean that you are *us* who have come back from the future?"

Kirk: "Yes. As well as me, Mr. Spock, Dr. McCoy, and other members same as yours are on this Improved Enterprise."

Spock: "I'm Spock, and I want to talk to *me* on the original starship."

Spock: "I'm a younger *Spock*, you guys came back from the near future and destroyed the Klingon-Romulan fleet."

Spock: "Exactly. The Improved Enterprise was equipped with a cloaking device, and furthermore the Klingon-Romulan fleet was paying attention to you, so they didn't notice our presence at all. The enemy fleet was on the port side of your ship, and it seems that they misinterpreted your left turn as a hostile action against them. Moreover, the enemies opened fire on you in an attempt to prevent you from successfully solving the

riddle and entering the Bulge before they did. At the same time, we bombarded the enemy fleet and destroyed it. Luckily their shelling went off and you were unharmed."

Kirk: "I understand the situation, but with what you talked about, there are two Enterprises and two sets of crew in this world."

Kirk: "In our past, we suddenly encountered the USO which was misunderstood to attack us, though actually attacked by the Klingon-Romulan fleet, and to render us unnavigable. Now the fact is revealed that we were reached the planet Eden after a year's towing by the USO. In this way, we were rescued under the leadership of Mr. Nadam of the head of the Terra History Bureau in the planet Eden. Some of the crew died during the attack, and some died in the process of recovering from hibernation. Those of us who survived are back in time before the advent of the USO with the Improved Enterprise. Thus, you and we have moved to another parallel world, and we have come face-to-face with you through the process that Mr. Spock explained earlier. Therefore, I would like to consult with you about how to deal with the problem you pointed out. There are two possible ideas. The first is the coalescence plan, in which our members who are paired with yours become one, and the second is coexistence plan, in which you and we live as duplicates in this world. If you have any other ideas, please propose us. I think the first plan will be explained by Mr. Nadam on the planet Eden."

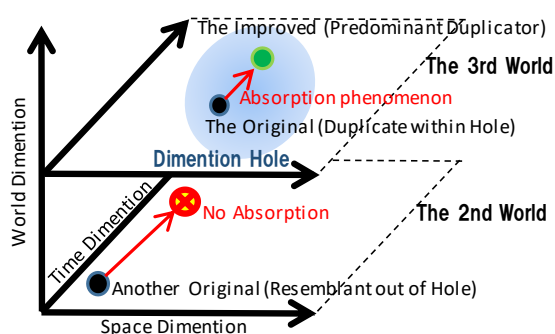
Captain Kirk ordered Calvin.

Kirk: "Ask Mr. Nadam on the planet Eden to contact me via space-time communication."

I communicated with Captain Kirk. He asked me to explain the coalescence. I gave the following explanation:

Nadam: "First of all, let's talk about the dimensional hall. A dimensional hall is created where the New World occurs. At the moment of occurrence of the dimensional hall, the objects of the Old World are duplicated in the New World through the hall. As a result, objects in the New World have resemblance to those in the Old World. For this reason, the New World is not different from the Old World except for the existence of the Improved Enterprise, but thereafter, the Improved Enterprise will create a new history and the New World will have a different history from the Old World. Resultantly in the New World, the Improved and Original Enterprises will coexist, and so will their members. On the other hand, the Original Enterprises in Old and New World are called as the term of 'Duplicators'. In a rare case of encounter between Duplicators, they can create a double body phenomenon. Therefore, it is not preferable that the Improved and Original Enterprises coexist in the New World. In order to prevent such encounter, coalescence is a possible method to use a transporter system if the Duplicators are in the same place, as you, Captain Kirk, have experienced before [Stardate 1672.1], but when the Duplicators or Resemblants are in different places, they will usually only be swapped when using the

transporter system. For example, you did have a terrible experience in the midst of a magnetic storm, when you tried to transport and the Resemblant of Captain Kirk was swapped, and you were transported to a parallel world where everyone expose lusts for control and money. Fortunately, Mr. Spock in the parallel world understood your way of life without any lusts, so you were able to return safely to your original world using a magnetic storm with a transporter [Stardate Unknown]. In order to merge Duplicators or Resemblants in different locations, it is better to use a dimensional hole instead of using unstable magnetic storms. If you move to the location of the dimensional hall, the two Enterprises, the Improved and the Original, will co-exist within the hall as Duplicators. Since this dimensional hall was created by the appearance of the Improved Enterprise and its crew, the Improved Enterprise will have the predominance and will absorb the Original Enterprise and its crew. But absorption does not occur for the other objects between both the worlds except two Enterprises and their crew, because there is no predominant relationship with other objects. For example, another Original Enterprise remaining in the Old World is likely to be outside the hall and will not merge. As a result, the Original Enterprise of the New World will disappear, as you saw in the case of the U.S.S. Defiant [Stardate 5693.2], but the Original Enterprise of the Old World will follow the history of being hit and drifting toward Eden. For this reason, members of the Original Enterprise in the New World who do not duplicate in the Improved Enterprise must be transported to the Improved Enterprise in advance. In addition, the dimensional hall will disappear in about 6 months, so I think it is better to merge as soon as possible.



Mr. Spock asked a question. "The recent memories of the members of the Improved and the Original Enterprise are different, but after the coalescence will the memories of the members of the Original Enterprise disappear?"

I answered Mr. Spock's question.

"We call it the phenomenon of memory synchronization, because the predominant memory rewrites the inferior memory by the synchronization phenomenon. However, on rare occasions, synchronization is incomplete, in which case it feels like there are two selves in the past for a certain period of time. You can't tell which one you really are, and you feel like you've dissociated."

Kirk: "Okay, let's discuss the first two proposals, but there are vacancies in the crew of the Improved Enterprise, so some of its crew members of the Original will not merge. We will send you a list of vacancies for the Improved Enterprise later, so be prepared to transport them to our Enterprise. I would also like to ask Mr. Nadam if the remaining

members of Eden would like to return to the Enterprise."

After that, consultations were held at each Enterprise, and it was agreed that the two ships would merge. I also confirmed about wishes of stay in Eden to all the remaining members. I explained that members who have suffered physical disabilities or illnesses since the raid may return to their previous state of health by merging with their pre-raid counterparts in the Second World, the 23rd century. Because of this action plan, all but three of the remaining members wanted to return to the Improved Enterprise. I informed Captain Kirk of this and told him to change the settings of the Improved Enterprise transporter for space-time transfer from Eden. I explained that the three members who wished to remain had little opportunity to come into contact with the Duplicators, and even if both the Duplicators meet accidentally, there would be no problem as long as the Duplicators understood each other. Mr. Spock's adjustment of the transporter made it possible to transfer space-time to the planet Eden, and the Eden remnant group, including Chief Engineering Officer Mr. Scott and Chief Communications Officer Ms. Uhura, returned safely to the Improved Enterprise. In order to gain an advantage over the disabled Duplicators, less disabled or healthy Duplicators stayed in the Improved Enterprise. It is a measure that takes advantage of the place because the Improved has the predominance.

Both ships followed the navigator of the Dimensional Hall settled on the Improved Enterprise. Just before the Hall, the two boats stopped and made one last contact.

Kirk: "Okay, we're going to enter the Dimension Hall, is there anything you want to check?"

Kirk: "Not really. However, I would like to confirm the situation after entering the Hall. As soon as we, namely the Second World Enterprise and its crew enter the Hall, we disappear and are absorbed by yours, developing new Kirk, a union of you and me, just like the rest of the crew. Greetings Merging Kirk."

Kirk: "Come on."

The two Kirks warned their respective crews to enter the Dimensional Hall and proceeded with the ship. There was a brief moment of light shock and flashing lights, but the Enterprise continued its way through the Dimensional Hall as if nothing had changed. Lieutenant Sulu reported that the Original Enterprise had disappeared, and Uhura also reported that communication from the Original Enterprise had been cut off. Subsequently, inquiries were sent out to see if there were any abnormalities in the crew and equipment on board, but each department reported that there were no abnormalities. Fortunately, there were no problems with the health of all the crew after the merger, and no one complained of any abnormalities such as hallucination. As a result, the deceased crew, including Chekov who was killed in the attack of the enemy fleet, was reinstated

on the Improved Enterprise, and all 425 crew members set off on a new journey of exploration of the Third World.

Kirk: "Now we've all gathered on the newly equipped Enterprise, it's time to embark on our journey to this New World. The message 'destruction for creation' of the SDS-317 may have implied this future."

For a while, all the members reflected on the events of the past in rapid succession.

Kirk: "Sulu, Warp 2 to a new future!"

Sulu: "Warp 2, understood, Sir."

Space: the final frontier, these are the voyages of the starship Enterprise. Its endless mission: to explore strange and new world, to seek out new life forms and new civilizations, and to boldly go where no man has gone before.

Homage to Star Trek :

《Stardate 1672.1》 THE ENEMY WITHIN

《Stardate 3468.1》 WHO MOURNS FOR ADONAIS?

《Stardate 3541.9》 THE CHANGELING

《Stardate 4040.7》 BREAD AND CIRCUSES

《Stardate 4523.3》 THE TROUBLE WITH TRIBBLES

《Stardate 4768.3/A.D.2268》 RETURN TO TOMORROW

《Stardate 5476.3》 FOR THE WORLD IS HOLLOW AND I HAVE TOUCHED
THE SKY

《Stardate 5693.2》 THE THOLIAN WEB

《Stardate 5730.2》 LET THAT BE YOUR LAST BATTLEFIELD

《Stardate 5832.3》 THE WAY TO EDEN

《Stardate 5843.7》 REQUIEM FOR METHUSELAH

《Stardate Unknown》 ASSIGNMENT: EARTH

《Stardate Unknown》 METAMORPHOSIS

《Stardate Unknown》 MIRROR, MIRROR

《Deep Space 9 Episode 503》 Suppliance