

Oops, wrong universe.

Story by Zehsaa Hysh.

Sitting up with a jolt after what seemed to be a nightmare, Zehsaa looked around the room in confusion. The walls were white, were they used to be grey, and all smooth with what look to be displays and there was something written on the wall as well, but she couldn't make any sense of it. Trying to find her comm she discovers that it isn't even in her own clothes anymore and that all her items are gone too.

"What?! Where am I! What is this place?!" Zehsaa cried out in panic, feeling the loneliness creep up to her like a stalker gets closer.

Getting off the bed, she spots a device on the table near her. Picking it up, she looked it over, it looked like some kind of glasses with something vaguely displaying on the glass. Glancing around she held the glasses before her face and looked through them. The writing on the wall changed into something she could read.

"USS Enterprise... medical bay? I never heard of a place like that..."

'Aah, you have woken up I see,' a red haired woman said as she walked into the medical bay.

Zehsaa startled slightly and turned around, getting into a defensive position as she did not understand one thing of what the woman just said to her.

"What did you do to me? Where am I?"

The woman frowned, as it was her turn not being able to understand what was being said. Picking up one of the other devices on the table she turned it on, going through various settings before she placed it carefully on the table again and taking a step back.

Narrowing her eyes as she watched the woman, Zehsaa spoke again, "What are you doing? Why am I here?"

The woman held up her hands, showing she meant no harm and glanced at the device, 'I'm Dr Crusher, and you are on board of the USS Enterprise.'

After a moment the device told her the translation and Zehsaa blinked slightly, "Dr Crusher? Why am I in a medical bay and what is the USS Enterprise?"

The doctor smiled, "The USS Enterprise is a spaceship. We found you a few days ago after a strange energy rift on one of our planetary visits. You were in bad shape so we brought you here to fix you up."

Tilting her head slightly, "An energy rift? I don't remember anything like that... Where are my belongings?"

"You had a few items with them and a few of our engineers have been researching them as we never seen anything like that before and we like to learn new things. As for your clothes... not much was left of them, but I have a new suit for you here." She walked over to a closet and pulled out a new suit and a pair of shoes, placing them on the table.

Taking the suit she began to dress herself, not caring if the doctor saw everything, but she would not take her eyes off her in suspicion of doing something. The Force was very weak here and it was scaring her, it would not tell her if she could trust the woman in the room or not.

"I want my items back."

"I'm sorry, I don't decide of such requests... Uh, what is your name?"

Narrowing her eyes again and stepping closer to the doctor, "It doesn't matter what my name is, I need those items back."

The doctor took a step back and as the door slid open two other men stepped into the room. She bumped into one of them and the other took a step forward into the room, pointing something at Zehsaa.

"She is frightened, don't shoot her," the Dr Crusher explained.

"I just want the items back you took from me," Zehsaa said as she looked at the item being pointed at her.

"Calm yourself, we will get to your items as soon as we know who and what you are," the bald one said, "I'm Jean-Luc Picard, the Captain of the USS enterprise and this is commander Riker and I see you already met the doctor, Dr Crusher."

Zehsaa stared at the man for a moment before she finally gave an answer, "I'm Zehsaa Hysh, I am a Togruta... Now you know who and what I am, give me my items back."

"Not so fast, we don't even know what you are doing here. Captain, she might be dangerous," Riker said.

The captain nodded slightly, "True, she might be, but I think she is just frightened." Turning his attention again to Zehsaa, "We found a few of your items, of which we have no idea what they are but 2 of them. The rifle and pistol are locked away for now, but you can have your other items back, if you tell them what they are."

Frowning slightly, "the doctor said you were trying to figure that out yourself, shouldn't you know by now what they would be?"

"True," Picard said with a chuckle, "But we are also careful."

Crossing her arms she sighed softly, she really wanted those items back, "Fine... they are a communicator, a holoprojector and a... uh... flashlight."

Riker frowned at that and glanced at the captain, "A flashlight? I think we would have recognized it as one."

"You can have your communicator and holoprojector back, but I don't think the last one is a flashlight," the captain said as he turned around to leave the med bay.

Riker followed him out and waited for Zehsaa to follow as the Crusher stepped aside to leave the exit free. Following them both she glanced around the corridors of the ship, everywhere the same odd language was written next to doors.

'I should have taken the glasses along... it seemed to be able to translate the writings for me,' Zehsaa thought.

Picard and Riker both stepped into a room full of different storage boxes and shelves full of strange items. As they walked further they reached a desk with her items on it, except for her rifle and pistol. Zehsaa pushed past them and picked them up, they had survived whatever happened and she switched on the

communicator. It reacted but it only returned with static noises and her face grew sad. Riker watched what she was doing with his weapon drawn and pointed at her, but it was the captain who spoke.

"I'm afraid that whatever happened back on the planet has put you out of reach of your friends."

She shook her head, she wouldn't and couldn't believe it. "I have to go back there, I have to get back home."

"That won't be easy. The place turned into a war zone."

"I don't care! Even if it froze over, I have to return home!" she glared as she turned around and held her lightsaber, "You do understand that, don't you captain?" she said with a sweeter voice.

He nodded slightly and turned to Riker, "Get the ship ready and on alert."

"But captain, are you sure you want to do this?"

"Wouldn't you want to return home if you were stranded somewhere else?"

"Yes, captain," and with that he walked off.

Turning around to face her again he spoke to her, "He is a good man, just a little over worried at times."

Walking closer to her he pointed at the lightsaber she held in her hand, "Will you tell me what it really is?"

Zehsaa watched the captain curiously, having the lightsaber in her hand she felt her Force connection a little better, and the captain was no threat to her... yet. Looking at her lightsaber she wasn't sure... She could either show him and get in trouble or not show him and have other things to worry about.

"If I showed you... I wonder if you trust me to keep it."

"You have shown no hostile intentions yet, then that you wanted those items back. It must be important to you in some way."

Zehsaa chuckled at that, 'no hostile intentions, no, not for now, as they seemed to be her way out, but who knows how fast that would change.'

She took a step back and activated her lightsaber, with a snap hiss it sprang to life.

Startled by the lightsaber getting to life the captain sighed softly, "I'm glad they never found out how to activate that... It looks to be a sword of energy."

She nodded, "It is, and it can easily cut through many materials," narrowing her eyes, "and those who bar the way to home will feel it."

Frowning slightly the captain spoke after a moment, "Please turn it off again and let us go to a better location to have a conversation. I will explain what we know of the planet and what happened there. But I don't want any accidents with that onboard."

Chuckling softly she deactivated her lightsaber and nodded, "Alright, let's hear that story."

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An alert was heard in the conference room where Picard and Zehsaa had been talking. Riker and Data had joined to for a while when they explained what was going on on the planet they were going to. Picard looked at the screen and nodded slightly.

“Seems we have arrived and for now the space around the planet is quiet.”

“So, we can go to the planet’s surface then and find out what happened?”

The captain stood up and walked towards the door, “We first need to see what is going on on the surface.”

Frowning Zehsaa got up and followed after the captain. It was a short trip towards the bridge where the lift halted and they both stepped out. On the big window she could see a planet from some distance, blue and green marks ran over the surface with big black spots all around it. When she looked at it as she stepped closer, she had a strange feeling... like she had seen it from somewhere, but where?

“Do you recognise it?” the captain asked as he watched her reaction.

“I’m not sure, but I got a feeling it should.”

“Most of the riots have stopped, captain, only around the location we found her is there still a lot of activity,” Worf said.

Riker got up and walked to the captain, “Captain, we are outnumbered down there if we go in there. Even if we found a safe location to transport too, we would be in a lot of danger.”

Zehsaa glanced back to the two men and a smirk grew on her face, “What kind of resistance is there down there?”

“There are a lot of fanatics that seem to want to destroy the location, while another group wants to keep it for the special things that have been happening there. Both sides seem to have heavy weapons.” Worf commented.

“Special things that have been happening there? Hmm...” Zehsaa mused.

“What are you thinking about?” Riker asked.

“Well... one side is all for special things that happened there, am I not something special? And if the connection gets stronger the closer I get, I can show them special too,” she added with a chuckle.

She did feel a stronger bond with the Force here, so that might just aid them enough in this conflict and get her home sooner. She looked back at the planet and tilted her head slightly as she tried to remember what had happened before she ended up in this parallel universe... as they had called it.

“Those are a lot of risks, Zehsaa,” Riker said, “and how do you want this special thing to happen?” he added with a move as doing a magic trick, “Magic?”

She grinned, “Indeed, like magic.” She turned towards the captain, “I do need my weapons back though... and something better suited to fight in then these clothes.”

"You will get your weapons back as soon as we leave," Riker said.

Picard nodded and walked back to the lift, motioning them to follow, "We will get you ready to return home."

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They all walked into a spacey room with a platform, decorated with circles on the floor and matching circles on the ceiling. At the side was a control panel with an officer standing behind it, who was typing away on the console. The group walked further, each having their weapons and some other stuff with them and Zehsaa finally having her rifle and pistol back.

"Captain, the transporter is ready, you should arrive in a quiet zone at the keepers side," the officer said as he looked up from the console.

Picard nodded and proceeded towards the platform and stood in one of the circles, the rest of the team following his example. Frowning slightly, Zehsaa followed their example and stood on the last empty circle. As soon as she did, there was a light and a soft sound and then they were gone.

A moment later they appeared on the surface of the planet and duck down behind cover. A ripple ran through Zehsaa as she got onto the surface and glanced around, the Force had increased in power here.

"We are not far from the location we found you, Zehsaa, but it seems fanatics are gaining ground on the other group," Data said.

Zehsaa crawled up the cover and set up her rifle, "time to change it then."

Riker grabs her leg and pulls on it, "You can't just go shooting people."

Narrowing her eyes she looked back towards him, "They are shooting each other, how is it different from me joining the fight?"

"Because it's wrong," Riker answered

"It's wrong to keep me here against my will, now let go or get hurt."

"Riker, let her go, it is wrong only partly."

Reluctantly he let go over her leg and she started to aim at the fanatics with the heavy weapons, taking them out in quick succession. Taken back from the sudden attack from a different location the fanatics fled into hiding.

"Impressive," Data stated, the rest gave it a weary look.

Getting up she moved out of their hiding spot, signaling them to stay back. Sneaking closer she concentrated harder on the Force around her, hoping it would give her enough strength to pull this trick off. Making a short dash she jumped up as high as possible and lands in the middle of the groups, kicking up dust as she lands on the ground between them. Both group startle as she suddenly appears into view and hold their fire. Quickly she moved her hands in an arc around her and pushes humanoids and rubble aside, making them scream in panic and move away from her.

“Stop disturbing my home!” Zehsaa shouted, her voice menacing and loud.

Glancing around she saw most of the humanoids fleeing the field only a few brave ones from the keepers stayed behind, glancing at what she was doing. Turning around to where Data said they had found her she searched for a clue as how to get back home. Slowly she walked closer to that location, keeping an eye out for anything, she heard the others come closer to her location.

“How were you able to do that?” Picard asked as he glanced around at the stuff she hand moved with invisible force.

Zehsaa chuckled softly, “Magic.”

Riker stepped closer and watches her suspiciously, “Is that magic also going to send you back home?”

“I don’t know... I don’t even know what I’m looking for.”

Data walks past them with a scanner, “there are some strange readings around here and they get stronger when getting closer to the location we found you.” Following the readings on his scanner he continued on walking.

“I don’t trust this at all, Captain, who knows how long those will stay away from us?”

Picard nods slowly, “We should hurry our search then and keep an eye on them.”

The whole group moves after Data who was still busy with his scanner until they halted at pedestal with a pyramid shaped object floating above it. All around it where pieces of what looked like wrecks of spaceships, boats and other crafts of various civilisations.

“This is where the trail stops,” Data said as he looked back at the group.

“Now what?” Riker said as he looked at it.

Zehsaa shrugged slightly and moved closer towards it, glancing around her at the strange collection of crafts.

“I don’t know, but I feel my connection to my universe growing stronger as I get closer to it.”
“Captain, seems those keepers are following us,” Riker stated.

“Make sure they keep a distance from us, we don’t want them to mingle in whatever is going on down there,” replied Picard.

Nodding, Riker and a few others moved back and took up positions to keep them out of the area.

Zehsas moved closer to the pedestal and flashes of memories returned to her, the pyramid was something she had held before, activated it before.

Looking back at them she smiled, “I know the way home! Goodbye Captain Picard, thank you for bringing me back.”

With that she grabbed the pyramid and concentrated hard, reaching out through the Force into the pyramid and with a flash and static crackling she was gone. The group stared in surprise at the empty location for a moment before turning and facing the group of keepers behind them.

“Time to get us out of here,” Picard said with a smile, “Beam us up.”

And with that, they all disappeared and left the humanoids back to their own again, who moved cautiously towards the pedestal in wonder of what had happened.