The SLA Monthly

Sim Profile: *Into the Darkening Tide*

Play By E-mail Based Star Trek Simulation

*Star Trek: Into the Darkening Tide* (IDT) was set up for one reason: creative writing, which in a canon universe is very hard to do. It has all been done, written down and rehashed a hundred times. You can not do something new in the *Star Trek: The Original Series* (TOS) era, or even the *Star Trek: The Next Generation* (TNG) era because Kirk or Riker have already done it! So boosting the game’s setting ahead forty years into the future gave the crew room to make up a bit of history and do as they pleased. This brought about the addition of some real world, political commentary (from both sides) and the tackling of current issues, much in the same way that TOS did in its time on the air waves.

Some time in late February 2007, Sjet and Star (aka Captain Rheyan) decided to part with the Zealous to start their own game. At the time this was seen as rash, even daffy but... in the end the results could not be more pleasing to the creators’ eyes. The sim currently has gamers from every walk of life helping to flesh out its future. Even longtime rivals can be found writing alongside one another and having fun. Why? Because the hosts don’t care what you write, or how you do it, they just want you to have fun and knock the stuffing out of the plot! (Continued, page 2.)

**Ship Statistics**
- **Ship Name:** SS Nightingale
- **Registry Number:** NAR-1077
- **Class:** Nebuchadnezzar
- **Dimensions:** 180 meters
- **Estimated Age:** 40 years (30 mothballed)
- **Crew Compliment:** 300

**Sim Statistics**
- **Founded:** April 3, 2007
- **SLA Member:** 1 Year
- **Current CO:** Captain Jake Sjet
- **Current XO:** Doctor Star Laurent
- **Current Crew Size:** 8 members
Simmer Profile: Michael “Mikey” Drake

Simmer Name: Jackster
Character: Michael “Mikey” Drake
Sim: Into the Darkening Tide
Fleets: Manheim
Years in the SLA: 5 years
Longest Served Sim: Centauris

With a father only interested in boys Mikey quickly learnt to amuse herself. Though Betazoid, her father was human. Because of her Betazoid heritage, she did not feel welcome in her home on Earth, so she stole what she could and high-tailed it to a far off Starbase at 16.

Mikey spent the next five years of her young life with the Grackan Alliance, a group of traders on the wrong side of Starfleet. After tiring of the never-ending hazards her job entailed and hoarding her own fair share of wealth, she jumped ship to the Nightingale for a chance at a quieter life as Chief of Engineering.

She’s a smart-aleck at the best of times but her commitment and expertise are invaluable, if there’s anything worth knowing about a ship that’s flying Mikey knows it. She’s as loyal as a Labrador and has a bite like one, too.

Readers interested in finding out more about Mikey can check out a reproduction of her favorite personal log “Voices In the Dark” on the Monthly Web site.

SIM PROFILE: INTO THE DARKENING TIDE, CONTINUED

A note from Jake Sjet:
Where can you write for a character that’s not a spit and polish, by the numbers, ‘just promoted’ cadet from the Academy? Where can you write for a character that has more faults than a tectonic plate fault line? Well on the Nightingale you can, because lets face it... anything we can do, YOU can do better. Its how we learn, and how we have fun. If you have an interesting idea around a plot, or to go straight through it, go for it! The game’s here for you to enjoy, not for some GM to go power tripping.

Well that’s only partly a lie, I’ll let you figure that one out for your selves.

And here’s a sneak peek at the current plot plaguing Sjet and the crew of the SS Nightingale:

Last Chance, a farming moon at the corner of No and Where. Sole reason for the Nightingale to visit, the disused Starfleet space station held aloft in orbit, an ideal store house for aid supplies and the like. But whilst there negotiating with the locals to rent it, and clearing out the station’s squatters, a Starfleet flotilla arrives. A heavily armed flotilla, which is being led by a Commander young enough to be Jake’s own son.

Will pride come before the fall, or will it be cushioned by a bloody price?

Interested readers are encouraged to read the crew-picked favorite log, “The Rose, Finale”. Readers can find out more information about Into the Darkening Tide by checking out their Web site and their Ten Forward section by following those links.

Thanks to Jake Sjet and the crew of the SS Nightingale for being this month’s profiled sim.
FEBRUARY FLEET STATUS REPORTS

**Asimov Fleet**
*Dragon Squadron*
CO: Luke Helios
XO: Andre Zazu
**Total Players:** 10

*Firefly: Monarch*
CO: Maverick
XO: Kynthia
**Total Players:** 10

**Trinidad Station**
CO: Foxy
XO: LrShadow
**Total Players:** 7

**Torchwood Ten**
CO: Tavey
XO: Foxy
**Total Players:** 10

**Cochrane Fleet**
*USS Lionheart*
CO: Captain Erika Rheyan
Cohost: Lieutenant Commander Zheng-Darcy
XO: Lieutenant Commander Josuan Mystican
**Total Players:** 17; 12 active, 2 LOA, 2 ELOA,

*USS Mercutio*
CO: Captain Stacey Templar
XO: Commander Henry Crow
**Total Players:** 8; 7 active, 1 LOA

**Outpost Cousteau**
CO: Commander Roger K Clenner
XO: Lieutenant Commander Lei Thomas
**Total Players:** 11; 7 active, 4 LOA.

*USS Potemkin*
CO: Fleet Captain James B. “Warp” Mitchell
XO: Captain Prax Jarvin
**Total Players:** 16; 11 active, 5 LOA

**Starbase 27**
CO: Fleet Captain Alexander B. Rexan
XO: Commander Daniel Mancuso
**Total Players:** 10; 8 active, 2 LOA

**Manheim Fleet**
*USS Ark Royal*
CO: Michael Tucker
XO: Jose Trejo
**Total Players:** 10; 7 active, 1 LOA

*USS Caduceus*
CO: Dawn Henderson
XO: Rick P & Janet F
**Total Players:** 9

*USS Centauris*
CO: Kuruma Matsunaga
XO: Kennedy Nocona Shea, Akiha Himeno

**Into the Darkening Tide**
CO: Sjet
XO: Star
**Total Players:** 13, 8 active, 1 LOA

*USS Zealous*
CO: Captain Azanialix Jaarda
XO: Lieutenant Commander Ti’ana Sullivan
**Total Players:** 18, 17 active, 1 LOA

**Stargate Command**
*SG-6*
CO: Lieutenant Colonel Melinda Stone
XO: Lieutenant Colonel Martin
**Total Players:** 11

*SG-8*
CO: Amy Jacobson
XO: Pending
SO: Russel Strachan
TO: Gavin Davenport
**Total Players:** 42; 32 active, 10 LOA

For more information about these sims, feel free to visit their individual sites through the SLA Web site. You can also check out their individual sections on Ten Forward.