



Outpost 8

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Dear Reader,

Sorry, no juicy, gossipy, editorial this time around. ☹ My life these last few months has been a roller-coaster ride...going down most of the time! My beloved and only grandmother passed away in March. For those of you who know me, you know how hard this was since she, my mother and brother are my only family. Anyway, while still reeling from this emotionally & financially draining event, (I now believe funeral expenses are criminal!), I was hit by the tax-man the next month. Anyway, it's been and continues to be a plethora of ills and I won't bore you with more of it.

Now — the better news is I have a bunch of new talent to share with you all! ☺

This issue contains:

“Irish Eyes” from newcomer, Diane Bellomo, a warm and touching epilogue to the intriguing DS9 episode “Looking for Par’Mach”. Tiff brings us the disturbing, but deeply compelling Kira monologue entitled “A Whisper in the Dark”.

What happens when two PADDs are accidentally switched? Tracy Hemenover, also new to Orion, provides the answer in the delightfully charming “Tempestuous Hearts”. Yet another newcomer (and hailing from Australia!) Felicity Carthew provides us a look at the stresses...and the love...to be found in one Bajoran family in “My Brother’s Keeper”. Orion favorite, Abra Mitchell, brings us two wonderful stories! “Not Just A Little Girl” provides an intriguing look at the lives of two of our favorite DS9 crew...from the deathbed of one of them. “The Waiting Game” is a wonderful epilogue to the episode “Hippocratic Oath” and the stress it placed on Bashir and O’Brien’s friendship, introducing us to an enigmatic young Bajoran that has ties to Garak...or does she?

In the more romantic or hurt/comfort realm, “Catharsis” by newcomer Cristal Martinez is a touching and tender hurt/comfort epilogue to “The Begotten”. Will fallible heart win spotted maiden? Your editor answers this in “Discoveries”, a light, but (hopefully?) charming ‘what-if’ epilogue to “Rejoined”. “In Another Life” by my fellow editor, Elizabeth Knauer, poses the question “what if Keiko had died in “Body Parts”?” Her engaging story provides a convincing answer.

Old favorite, Cameron Burnell brings us “I Thought You Were Sleeping”, a sexy, funny and somewhat outrageous look at Garak and Ziyal. And newcomer Catherine Allen brings us the touching and intriguing “Save Me”, a touching attempt by Odo to justify his love for Kira...at the same time that he might lose her forever. Will it be too late? She also sent the funny and touching “Pique” which answers the question for once and for all— can changelings get drunk? ☺

Cover Art is by Tracy Hemenover, additional art by Janet D’Airo, a new artist all the way from Scotland (I’d like you all to welcome! Especially since his hometown is still recovering from a horrible flood) Alex Mackay, the formidable Anja Gruber, plus a few more tidbits here and there. ☺