

Final Frontier

By

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Cast of Characters

ONE: The captain. In 8th grade
TWO: The doctor. In 8th grade.
THREE: The science officer. In 8th grade.
FOUR: The communications officer. In 8th grade.

Scene

Somewhere in the woods.

Time

Now.

THE FINAL FRONTIER

Four young women on their way somewhere through a secluded area. TWO is carrying a paper (or plastic) bag filled with Mountain Dew or some other carbonated beverage. THREE is carrying, and eating, a big back of chips. The noisier the chip when eaten the better. ONE carries a bucket large enough to hold four action figures and some Mountain Dew. They are mid-conversation.

TWO

Spock would totally kick the Doctor's butt any day of the week.

THREE

Dr. McCoy has moves you don't even know.

TWO

The Vulcan Death-grip, come on!

THREE eats a chip loudly.

THREE

It's not a "death-grip" you idiot, it paralyzes. And besides, the doctor's got medicine and syringes and stuff--

ONE

Would the two of you cut it out.
Okay. I think this is a good spot.

THREE eats a chip.

THREE

Looks good to me.

TWO sets down the paper bag.

TWO

Finally. Time for some nectar of the Gods--

ONE

Don't touch the six-pack. That's for the send-off.

TWO

I spent an entire month's allowance on this stuff. I can have a sip.

THREE eats a chip.

THREE

The six-pack is important. I'm going to be thirsty later.

ONE

I know the six-pack is important, it's for the send-off.

TWO

It's meant to be drunk. I wanna drink it.

THREE eats a chip.

THREE

Chips are meant to be eaten. That's why I'm eating them.

ONE

Nobody cares about your chips. And we're not drinking until the send-off.

FOUR

I care about the chips.

ONE

So we got the chips, and the six pack. Everybody got their guys.

At various times and in various ways all three young women pull out action figures from pockets or backpacks or wherever.

TWO

Dr. McCoy checking in.

THREE

Mr. Spock--who is waaay cooler--checking in.

TWO

Shut-up.

FOUR

Uhura, checking in.

ONE

And the captain, checking in.

FOUR

Tell me again why I have to be the girl?

ONE

Because--

FOUR

Why "because"? You always say: "Because" like that, like I should already know.

ONE

You *should* know. You are the best at being the girl.

FOUR

But I hate being the girl. All I do is stay on the ship and repeat what the computer says. And you always play the computer, so I just repeat what you say.

ONE

Listen, we've been over this. You are the ships *communications officer*. You communicate.

FOUR

This feels so lame.

ONE

This is the final voyage of the USS Enterprise before being decommissioned. We are here to send the crew off with respect and honor. If you don't want to do that then you can go home.

THREE eats a chip.

THREE

Can I have a Mountain Dew?

ONE

No Mountain Dew for you!

FOUR

Okay. I'll be the stupid girl.

TWO

It's not stupid. She's the ship's *communications officer*.

THREE

Yeah. She communicates.

ONE

Shut-up girls. Okay, so we've got everything. Now, we need to send them off right.

THREE

How do we know we did it right?

TWO

We just know, stupid.

FOUR

Why are we doing this again?

ONE

Uh, because, it's the end of the world. The final voyage of the USS Enterprise. This is our last day as 8th graders. Next year there will be band practice and drama club, and high school homework. We won't have time to run the Enterprise.

TWO

Yeah, and my dad's taking me the register at East High next week.

THREE

East High? But that's like, all the way across town.

TWO

It's closer to where I live, stupid.

THREE

But who's gonna eat lunch with me?

FOUR

We're moving.

Beat.

ONE

What.

FOUR

My dad told me last night. We're moving to Seattle for his work.

THREE eats a chip.

THREE

So you aren't going to East OR West High School?

TWO

How on earth did you end up being Spock, the science officer?

THREE

I am very logical.

ONE

Would you two just be quiet.
You're moving?

FOUR
Yeah. Next week. My folks didn't want to tell me before the end of the year. They thought it'd affect my studies.

ONE
It really is the end of the world.

TWO
I don't like it when you say it like that.

FOUR
Do we have to send them off?

ONE
You just said you hated being the girl communications officer.

FOUR
But she is pretty. I like being pretty.

THREE
Oh my God.

ONE
Okay, look. Just put them all in the bucket.
Everyone but FOUR does so.

ONE (cont'd)
You too Uhura.

FOUR
I don't want to.

TWO
Oh my God! Why do you always have to be so difficult. It's getting cold and the Mountain Dew's getting warm. Let's do this.

FOUR
I don't want to give her up.

TWO
Give her to me, I'll put her in the bucket.

FOUR
It's the end of the world, guys. Us. Our little tribe. I'm moving away. Next year is High School. There will be no time. We're gonna be adults. Too busy for this, for each other. Like my mom and her friends. I don't want to be that. I want to hold onto this, to us.

THREE

It's just a doll, girlfriend.

TWO

That's sweet and all but, I really want some Mountain Dew so can we please move this along.

ONE

Throw her in the bucket.

FOUR

No.

ONE

Look, things change. That's the way the world is--

THREE eats a chip.

THREE

Anybody want a chip?

ALL

NO!!!

ONE

--That's why we have to do this, together.

FOUR

I don't like change.

ONE

Listen, you are the communications officer, right? It's not like we're dying or anything, so you'll be in charge. You'll be in charge of communications from now on. Keeping us up to date, so we don't lose track of each other.

TWO

I'm going to open a Mountain Dew in two seconds, I swear to God.

THREE eats a chip.

THREE

You guys are missing out on these chips.

FOUR places her figurine in the bucket.

ONE

Communications officer for the win.

TWO
Now what do you we do.

THREE
Uh, why don't we say the pledge?

FOUR
The whole thing?

ONE
Yeah, why not.

TWO
Get your cans ready.

ALL the women grab a Mountain Dew can and open it simultaneously.

THREE
This seems wrong somehow.

FOUR
It's not wrong. It's just the beginning of something.
Beginnings always seem scary until you reach the end.

TWO
Hey, can I have a chip?

FOUR
Yeah, give me one.

ONE
Yeah, me too.

THREE
I knew you'd all come around.

ONE
Okay, everybody ready?

ALL
Yeah.

As they all recite the pledge, they pour a portion of their cans of Mountain Dew into the bucket and hoist their chips into the air.

ALL (cont'd)
Space, the final frontier.
These are the voyages of the Starship Enterprise.
It's continuing mission:
To explore strange new worlds...
To seek out new life, new civilizations...
To boldly go where no man (or woman) has gone before!"

*ALL crunch their chips and take a sip of soda
enjoying the beginning of a new adventure.*

END OF PLAY