

## **SCENE FOUR: At a Spaceship Workstation**

*TELERAN and COSMOS are trying to get the workstation ready for the Inspectors' visit.*

**TELERAN:** *(Worried)* Where's Alar with those connection chips?

**COSMOS:** Dunno. *(He looks hopefully offstage)*

**TELERAN:** If we don't get this finished we're going to fail the inspection.

**COSMOS:** I thought we were going to fail it anyway, what with Minstral being on another planet. Well, not another planet exactly, but you know what I mean.

**TELERAN:** This is no time to be stupid, Cosmos.

**COSMOS:** Okay. *(He pauses)* Will you tell me when it is time then, Teleran?

**TELERAN:** Oh! Give it a rest!

*COSMOS sits down.*

**TELERAN:** What are you doing?! We've got important work to do.

**COSMOS:** I'm giving it a rest, it's been giving me gyp all day!

**TELERAN:** Get up and keep working you stupid idiot! *(COSMOS stands again)* We've got to get this workstation ready in time or we won't be doing any more work, ever.

**COSMOS:** *(Thinks about this)* Well, in that case, wouldn't it be better if we didn't finish?

**TELERAN:** *(Sighing)* We won't be doing any more work because we won't exist. The Inspectors will eradicate us.

**COSMOS:** *(Thinking again)* Oh. *(Pause, then looking offstage again)* Where is Alar with those connection chips?

*ALAR enters with a box. She's carrying it very carefully.*

**ALAR:** I nearly dropped these! I couldn't see where I was going and my feet got all tangled up and...

*She does exactly that, falls over and drops the box. She stands up.*

**ALAR:** ...that's what I nearly did! (*Looking at the mess*) Oh! I've done it, haven't I?!

**TELERAN:** Nice one, Alar. And what are we supposed to do now? Is there another box?

**ALAR:** No.

**TELERAN:** No, I didn't think there would be. (*Very fed up*) That's great! Just great!

**COSMOS:** Couldn't we just pick out the ones that aren't damaged?

**ALAR:** Yeah!

**TELERAN:** We needed all of them. Oh, I hate this sort of stress!

**COSMOS:** Oh. Well, what if we took some out of the other workstations and just sort of moved them around a bit, you know, swapped them over whilst the Inspector wasn't looking?

**ALAR:** Yeah! Brilliant idea, Cosmos!

**TELERAN:** We couldn't do that because they are designed individually for each workstation, they don't work in any others.

**ALAR:** Yeah! Stupid idea, Cosmos!

**TELERAN:** Right! One of us is going to have to tell the Captain about this.

**COSMOS:** He's not going to be pleased, is he?

**TELERAN:** No.

**COSMOS:** Then I'm not doing it.

**TELERAN:** And I'm not doing it. I told him about the fuse missing from the sonic alternator. I've done my bit.

**ALAR:** Well, if Cosmos isn't doing it and you're not doing it, that leaves (*Slowly realising*) Oh no!!

**TELERAN & COSMOS**

**TOGETHER:** *(Pointing at ALAR)* Yes! You!!

**ALAR:** Oh, no! Couldn't I just write him a memo?

**TELERAN:** You broke them Alar, you have to face the consequences.

**COSMOS:** Right! Off you go and good luck.

*ALAR exits unhappily.*

**TELERAN:** I'm glad it isn't me.

**COSMOS:** Me, too.

*They both pause.*

**TELERAN:** Cosmos.

**COSMOS:** Yes, Teleran?

**TELERAN:** You can give it a rest now.

**COSMOS:** Oh, thanks, Teleran! Thanks very much. *(He sits down)*

*TELERAN stands looking dejectedly at the workstation.*

*The lights fade to blackout.*

*TELERAN and COSMOS exit.*