

# taH pagh, taH be?

While searching for the perfect DVD to view on the new Blu-Ray (yes DVDs are able to be played on the machine), I decided to give [Star Trek VI – The Undiscovered Country](#) a long overdue view. Released in 1991 (I remember seeing the film in a GOOD theatre setting while taking a break from holiday shopping in the city), the sixth film was the final voyage of the *USS Enterprise* under the command of Captain James **TIBERIUS** Kirk. I still say no one chews scenery better than William Shatner. I was not disappointed in the experience as the space battles were given more punch and bang when viewed in high definition.

The tale begins when an important Klingon moon is destroyed forcing the empire to enter into peace talks with the Federation. In short, the race has roughly 50 years of life remaining. In a show of “arrogant presumption,” Spock volunteers Captain Kirk and crew to lead and escort the Klingon High Chancellor to peace talks. In defense to Kirk’s bewilderment, the first officer offers an old Vulcan proverb: “Only Nixon could go to China.”

While the Enterprise leads the Klingon ship, the Chancellor is assassinated and Kirk and Dr. McCoy are found guilty of the crime and are sentenced to serve on the gulag Rura Penthe with no possibility of parole. Of course, the duo is eventually sprung from the penal asteroid and rejoins the starship to discover the truth behind the assassination and attempt to again begin the peace process

Several factors make this one of the finest Star Trek movies. The plot parallels the climate in real world 1991: the end of the Cold War. The veteran actors shine in their prospective roles and new characters are dynamically introduced. Kim Cattrall is introduced as Lt. Valeris who (as the first Vulcan to graduate at the top of her class at Starfleet Academy) is Spock’s personal choice to succeed him as science officer

aboard the Enterprise. Christopher Plummer is deliciously hammy as the villainous Colonel Chang, a Klingon who is forever reciting Shakespeare either in English or the original Klingon. Dr. McCoy becomes so annoyed with the outbursts that he would "pay real money if he would just shut up." Michael Dorn appears as Colonel Worf, attorney for Kirk and McCoy and grandfather of the security officer from Star Trek: The Next Generation.

Captain's Log, stardate 9529.1. This is the final cruise of the Starship Enterprise under my command. This ship and her history will shortly become the care of another crew. To them and their posterity will we commit our future. They will continue the voyages we have begun, and journey to all the undiscovered countries, boldly going where no man... where no \*one\* has gone before.