

**Boston Legal Themes and Allusions in Comparison with Star Trek  
For Parallel Universe: Trek in the Courtroom for Boston-Legal.org  
Episode: Race Ipsa [02x23: airdate: April 25, 2006] by Debb from Montreal**

**Theme 1: "It's in His Kiss"**

In a story that revolves around race issues and kissing, it is important to note that on November 22, 1968, the first televised interracial kiss appeared on Star Trek between William Shatner as Captain Kirk and Nichelle Nichols as Lt. Uhura. It caused quite a stir and is considered a turning point in television history. Therefore, it should come as no surprise that David E. Kelly would pay homage to that moment in history in an episode that involves both racial profiling and kissing.



TOS: "Plato's Stepchildren" Date in History: November 22, 1968.  
Event: First interracial TV kiss, Star Trek: Captain Kirk and Lt. Uhura  
photo: [www.daisydownunder.com/DT-ART22.htm](http://www.daisydownunder.com/DT-ART22.htm)



"Death Be Not Proud" Alan and Chelina share a tender moment.  
[www.boston-legal.org/17-death/17-death-alan-chelina.jpg](http://www.boston-legal.org/17-death/17-death-alan-chelina.jpg)

And like Captain Kirk before him, Alan Shore has more than his fair share of lips.



TOS: The Gamesters of Triskelion Kirk seduces Shahna (Angelique Pettyjohn)  
[www.startrek.com/imageuploads/200303/tos-046-kirk-seduces-shahna-h/320x240.jpg](http://www.startrek.com/imageuploads/200303/tos-046-kirk-seduces-shahna-h/320x240.jpg)



Alan and Tara in "Hired Guns"  
[http://i30.photobucket.com/albums/c305/chantal\\_wilson/TAR\\_AKISS\\_3.jpg](http://i30.photobucket.com/albums/c305/chantal_wilson/TAR_AKISS_3.jpg)



Alan and Melissa in "Stick It"  
[http://i41.photobucket.com/albums/e276/24\\_addict/Boston%20Legal/Stick%20It%20ep19/Image72.jpg](http://i41.photobucket.com/albums/e276/24_addict/Boston%20Legal/Stick%20It%20ep19/Image72.jpg)

## “A Kiss is Just a Kiss?”

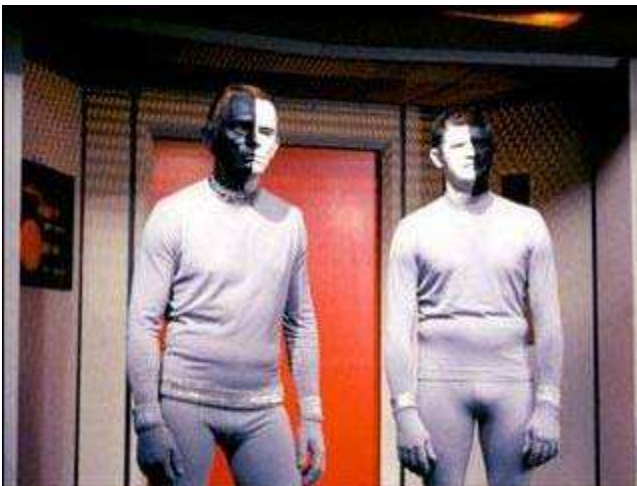
Exception to the Rule: Brad... Brad needs lessons... Since I am unavailable... it's up to Denise.



[www.boston-legal.org/23-raceinsa/images/23-raceinsa-boston-legal-kiss-1.jpg](http://www.boston-legal.org/23-raceinsa/images/23-raceinsa-boston-legal-kiss-1.jpg)

## Theme 2: Ebony and Ivory

The case concerning racial profiling is an old story. In the original Star Trek series, the entire subject is deconstructed in “Let That Be Your Last Battlefield”. The differences between the two main protagonists is that one is black on the right side, white on the left (Bele), and one is black on the left and white on the right (Lokai). But they are condemned to struggle for all eternity because they cannot, and will, not accept their similarities. To the crew of the Star Trek Enterprise, who cannot recognize their differences, their complaints against each other appear to be without merit. They are, for all intents, sakes, and purposes, identical, mirror images of each other. Which brings us back to the title of this week’s episode: Race Ipsa. In legal Latin and loosely translated: It goes without saying or in a legal sense “the matter itself speaks, i.e.: The court ruled the facts in the case *res ipsa loquitur*



Frank Gorshin as Bele and Lou Antonio as Lokai in TOS: “Let That Be Your Last Battlefield”  
[www.startrek.com/imageuploads/200306/tos-070-bele-and-lokai320x240.jpg](http://www.startrek.com/imageuploads/200306/tos-070-bele-and-lokai320x240.jpg)



Frank Gorshin as Bele and Lou Antonio as Lokai in TOS: “Let That Be Your Last Battlefield”  
[http://www.io.com/~o\\_m/omvworld/images/blog/05-05/bele\\_lokai.jpg](http://www.io.com/~o_m/omvworld/images/blog/05-05/bele_lokai.jpg)



**Theme 3 - Star Trek Alumni:** William Shatner (Denny Crane), René Auberjonois (Paul Lewiston), Michael Ensign (Judge Paul Resnick):



TNG: "First Contact": Security Minister Krola  
[www.startrek.com/imageuploads/200506/tng-189-krola/320x240.jpg](http://www.startrek.com/imageuploads/200506/tng-189-krola/320x240.jpg)



DS9 "The Forsaken" Ambassador Lojal  
[www.s47.org/triviapic4-17-05/12.jpg](http://www.s47.org/triviapic4-17-05/12.jpg)



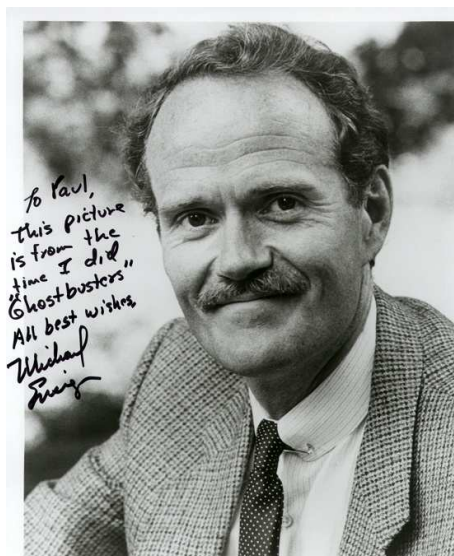
VOY: "False Profits" Takarian Bard  
[www.memory-alpha.org/en/images/e/ee/Bard.jpg](http://www.memory-alpha.org/en/images/e/ee/Bard.jpg)



ENT: "Stigma" Dr. Oratt  
[www.sdce.de/universum/personen/images/2100.jpg](http://www.sdce.de/universum/personen/images/2100.jpg)

**Judge Paul Resnick:**

- Witches of Mass Destruction
- It Girls and Beyond
- An Eye for an Eye
- Catch and Release
- Live Big
- Race Ipsa



[www.auto-robot.com/astro/astro/astro/michael\\_ensign01.jpg](http://www.auto-robot.com/astro/astro/astro/michael_ensign01.jpg)