

**Boston Legal Themes and Allusions in Comparison with StarTrek
For Parallel Universe: Trek in the Courtroom for Boston-Legal.org
Season Three, Episode 4: (03x04) Fine Young Cannibal [Airdate: Oct 10, 2006]
by Debb from Montreal**

Theme 1: Man o' Man

One of the most famous scenes from the Original Series takes place in an episode entitled **Amok Time**. In this episode, we learn that Spock, in a state of heightened sexual desire, must mate or die. As the story unfolds, we also learn that Spock is betrothed to a Vulcan princess named T'Pol. Kirk takes Spock post haste to Vulcan in order that he may fulfill his desires and obligations.

The fun starts when T'Pol announces that she would rather marry another Vulcan male named Stonn who is full-blooded Vulcan and not Spock, a Vulcan – Human hybrid. However, in order to free herself from her bond with Spock, she requests the “*Koon-ut-kal-if-fee*” ritual whereby Spock must fight for her. She chooses Kirk as her “champion” and he learns that he must fight Spock “to the death”.



TOS “Amok Time” Spock and Kirk in a fight to the death for the hand of the Vulcan Princess “T’Pol”
www.startrek.com/imageuploads/200306/tos-034-spock-and-kirk-battle/320x240.jpg



TOS “Amok Time” Ceremonial grounds on Vulcan.
www.startrek.com/imageuploads/200303/tos-034-ancient-ceremonial-grd/320x240.jpg



Speaking of T’Pol. Isn’t she a ringer for Claire?
www.ex-astris-scientia.org/gallery/factfiles/tpol.jpg



A striking resemblance...
www.boston-legal.org/2-newkids/images/2-boston-legal-newkids-abc-shatner-zimmer.jpg

Of course, the entire ceremony is preceded by the entrance of the Grand Dame (complete with haughty and solemn expression, and ornate necklace):



TOS: "Amok Time" Celia Lovsky as the Vulcan High Priestess T'Pol leads the procession into the ring.
www.startrek.com/imageuploads/200303/tos-034-t-pau-makes-a-ceremoni/320x240.jpg



Catherine Piper (Betty White) leads the "challenger" into the ring.
www.boston-legal.org

Theme 2: Mad Cow Boy and Indian

But the wrestling scene between Denny Crane and Alan Shore are rife with visual references to Star Trek. Any Trekker worth his/her weight will recognize the costuming in Fine Young Cannibals as being Trek inspired. Also noteworthy is the resemblance and demeanour of Claire Simms and the Vulcan princess T'Pol (above).



Alan Shore does his best "Kirok"
www.boston-legal.org/4-cannibal/images/4-boston-legal-cannibal-indianalan.jpg



TOS "The Paradise Syndrome" Kirk loses his memory (not mad cow but Tahiti syndrome!!) and falls for an Amerind who calls him "Kirok"
<http://www.sixtiescity.com/startrek/58.jpg>

Writer's thought: *They must have written this episode just for me!*

con't...

Before....



TOS "Charlie X" Kirk in spandex
http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/e/ea/Shirtless_kirk.png

Red Spandex was wrong then...

(just my humble opinion...)

Theme 3: We meet again...

In Star Trek Deep Space Nine...



<http://tv.infinitecoolness.com/05/ds903.jpg>

In Boston Legal...



www.boston-legal.org/4-cannibal/images/3x4-boston-legal-paul-cooper.jpg

and after:



Boston Legal: "FYC" Crane in spandex
www.boston-legal.org/4-cannibal/images/4-boston-legal-cannibal-reddenny.jpg

wronger now.

At a Star Trek Convention...



<http://home.pacbell.net/rad-cnd/gsix-ar2.jpg>

Theme 4: Fishers of Men

Throughout the Star Trek series and in particular The Original Series, reference to the Almighty is made many times. In particular, Captain James T. Kirk makes several proclamations about God that are similar to Denny Crane's. In addition, as discussed in a season 2 Boston Legal podcast, First Officer Spock often acknowledges Captain Kirk with the word "indeed", as does Alan Shore. ie:

Alan: Denny, what would you do if you met God?

Denny: I'd take him fishing.

Alan: **Indeed.**

Denny: He'd probably want to wrestle me for Shirley.

Alan: **Indeed again.**

From the ending of Star Trek V The Final Frontier: (Does any of this sound familiar?)

Kirk: Cosmic thoughts, gentlemen?

McCoy: **We were speculating... (staring out) ... is God really out there?**

Kirk: **Maybe He's not out there, Bones. Maybe He's right here... in human heart. (taps twice on heart)**

(noticing Spock's distant expression) Spock?

Spock: I was thinking of Sybok.

Kirk: I lost a brother once. But I was lucky; I got him back.

McCoy: I thought you said men like us don't have families.

Kirk: I was wrong.

I cannot help but draw the conclusion that the smoke expelled from Denny and Alan create the illusion of a spirit or spiritual presence on the balcony scene that validates the above exchange from ST V. Since I have already posted the visual reference in the forum, I will not repeat them here.

Theme 5: Sounds like...

If you've ever listened to Shatner's "You'll Have Time" on his "Has Been" CD, you might recognize the lyrics in some of Alan Shore's dialogue in the balcony scene. And if you listen to Alan's cadence and inflection, it is quite like Shatner's in the song "You'll Have Time."

Artist: William Shatner
Album: Has Been
Title: You'll Have Time
(William Shatner/Ben Folds)

Live life
Live life like you're gonna die
Because you're gonna
I hate to be the bearer of bad news
But you're gonna die

Maybe not today or even next year
But before you know it you'll be saying
Is this all there was?
What was all the fuss?
Why did I bother?

Now, maybe you won't suffer maybe it's quick
But you'll have time to think
Why did I waste it?
Why didn't I taste it?
You'll have time
Because you're gonna die.

Yes it's gonna happen because it's happened to a lot of people I
know
My mother, my father, my loves
The president, the kings and the pope
They all had hope

And they muttered just before they went
Maybe, I won't let go
Live life like you're gonna die
Because you are

Maybe you won't suffer maybe it's quick
But you'll have time to think
Why did I waste it?
Why didn't I taste it?
You'll have time
'Cause you're gonna die

I tell you who else left us
Passed on down to heaven no longer with us
Johnny Cash, JFK, that guy in the Stones
Lou Gehrig, Einstein, and Joey Ramone
Have I convinced you?
Do you read my lips?
This may come as news but it's time

You're gonna die
You're gonna die

By the time you hear this I may well be dead
And you my friend might be next
'Cause we're all gonna die

Yeah, oh maybe you won't suffer and maybe it's quick
But you'll have time to think
Why did I waste it?
Why didn't I taste it?
You'll have time
You'll have time cause you're gonna die
Yes, you're gonna die
You're gonna die, I tell you
You're gonna die
You are gonna die

'Cause maybe you won't suffer maybe it's quick
But you have time to think
Why did I waste it?
Why didn't I taste it?
You'll have time 'cause you're gonna die

Live Life
Life life like you're gonna die
Because you're going to
Oh yes
I hate to be the beater of bad news
But you're gonna die

Maybe not today or even next year
But before you know it you'll be saying
Is this all there was?
What was all the fuss?
Why did I bother?
Why did I waste it?
Why didn't I taste it?
You'll have time, baby
You'll have time
'Cause you're gonna die
You are gonna die
Oh yeah

www.lyricsmania.com/lyrics/william_shatner_lyrics_3366/has_been_lyrics_10478/youll_have_time_lyrics_121290.html

Theme 6: TREK ALUMNI

William Shatner (Denny Crane), and René Auberjonois (Paul Lewiston), Armin Shimmerman (Judge Brian Hooper), and Mark L. Taylor (Attorney Adam Jovanka), Henry Gibson (Judge Clark Brown). In the six degrees of separation category, Curtis Armstrong who voices the character "Snot" in an episode of the animated show American Dad, entitled "Star Trek".

Since these characters have all appeared in previous episodes, you can find screen caps of their Star Trek appearances on previous editions of this report.