

**Boston Legal Themes and Allusions in Comparison with Star Trek
For Parallel Universe: Trek in the Courtroom for Boston-Legal.org
Season Three, Episode 6: (03x06) The Verdict. Airdate: Oct 24, 2006]
by Debb from Montreal**

Theme 1: Oedipus Retch: Stomach clenching kiss aside, strange relationships between mothers and sons do have their moments in Star Trek.

Notably, in The Next Generation, Wesley Crusher takes his place at his mother's side aboard the Enterprise after her husband perishes in action.

Meet the Crushers:



TNG (RtoL): 1. Dr. Beverly Crusher (Gates McFadden), 2. Wesley Crusher (Wil Wheaton), 3. Lt. Cmdr. Jack Crusher (Doug Wart), 4. young Wesley and brunette Dr. Crusher) Images from: http://memory-alpha.org/en/wiki/Main_Page

Too Human. Then there is that legendary relationship involving Spock, his human mother, Amanda Grayson, and his Vulcan father, Sarek, who looked up Spock's birth with disdain and his son as being "too human". Spock and Sarek's relationship remained strained well into Spock's middleage.

<http://memory-alpha.org>



Spock and his mother Amanda Grayson (Jane Wyatt) from TOS: Journey to Babel
http://members.tripod.com/camdude_1/startrekrules411/id1.html

It was Amanda who encouraged Spock to join Starfleet against his father's wishes and it was Amanda who reinforced his human side and helped acknowledge his feelings, which had been suppressed during his Vulcan upbringing.

The comparisons between Spock and Shore have been written about before in this report and this is just another example how Shore's past relationship with his mother impacts on his current behaviours as his longing "to be fitted with trousers" is a manifestation of his longing for his mother's touch.

Like Mother, Like Son: Finally, as a 3rd (but certainly not last nor least) example of a dominant mother, we have Dr. Carol Marcus, former love interest of Captain Kirk, who keeps the birth of her son (Dr. David Marcus) secret from Captain Kirk.

Consider the following mother / son dialogue from the Star Trek movie "The Wrath of Khan and the similarities found in "The Verdict".

A date between mother and son:

Carol: (mock outrage) Thanks a lot. No respect from my offspring -

David: Par for the course... **Are you teaming up with me for bridge after dinner?**

Carol: Maybe... What is it?

David: Every time we have dealings with Starfleet, I get nervous. (shrugs) We are dealing with something that COULD be perverted into a dreadful weapon. Remember that overgrown Boy Scout you used to hang around with? That's exactly the kind of man that would...

Carol: **Listen, kiddo, Jim Kirk was many things, but he was never a Boy Scout...**



ST TWK: Dr. David Marcus (Merritt Butrick) and his mother Dr. Carol Marcus (Bibi Besch) discuss Kirk. www.startrek.com/imageuploads/200307/gal-mov-ii-04/320x240.jpg



ST TWK: Admiral James T. Kirk (Shatner) and Dr. Carol Marcus (Bibi Besch) discuss Kirk's son, Dr. David Marcus. www.trekconnection.com/pictures/ST_2/PICTURES/other/09122002120422.jpg

A mother that intentionally keeps her son away from the father:

Kirk: (continuing, to Carol) I did what you wanted. I stayed away. Why didn't you tell me?

Carol: How can you ask me that? Were we together? Were we going to be? **You had your world and I had mine. And I wanted him in mine, not chasing through the universe with his father.**

(Kirk turns away, overcome. She watches him.)

Carol: (continuing) Actually, he's a lot like you in many ways. Please. Tell me what you're feeling.

Kirk: There's a man out there I haven't seen in fifteen years who's trying to kill me. You show me a son that'd be happy to help him. **My son. My life that could have been and wasn't. And what am I feeling? Old - worn out.**

Theme 2: Lyrically yours, Although not directly Star Trek related, once again (see Trek in the Courtroom for “Fine Young Cannibal), lyrics from William Shatner’s album “Has Been” come to life in this episode when Sally Heep falls asleep in Brad’s arms with a “slight snore”.

Ideal Woman William Shatner lyrics
Artist: William Shatner
Album: Has Been
Title: Ideal Woman

I want you to be you
Don't change
Cause you think I might like you to be different
I fell in love with you

I don't want you blond
I don't want you not to swear, not to sweat
It's you I fell in love with
Your turn of phrase, your sensitivity, your irrational moves
Well maybe that could go
But everything else, I want you to be you

I want you to dance whenever you feel it
Up by the bandstand
In the parking lot
Up on the table
Well, maybe the table can go
But I want you to be you
I love what you wear cause you're wearing it
That shawl

That clinging dress
The svelte black jacket
Those leopard capris
Well, maybe not the capris
But I want you to be you

I love what you eat
You want yogurt? you got yogurt!
Papaya? it's yours!
Chewing gum? chew away!
I just want you to be you...

Spit out the gum, it doesn't work...

When you sleep, you're the most beautiful
In the moonlight, your soft skin glows
Your hair scroll on the pillow a vision
The murmuring breath, the slight snore
The slight snore...
I want you to be you

from: http://www.lyricsmania.com/lyrics/william_shatner_lyrics_3366/has_been_lyrics_10478/

Theme 3: Star Trek Alumni: (Same as last Week) William Shatner (Denny Crane), René Auberjonois (Paul Lewiston), Ron Canada (Judge Willard Reese), Ethan Phillips (Michael Schiller), Armin Shimmerman (Judge Brian Hooper)



pics from <http://memory-alpha.org>