IMMEDIATE PROLOGUE

For *Alexandria* to read leading into Scene 1 action

Once the everyone has read their Prologue and their Scene One, *Alexandria* should read this dialogue. Some of it is talking on communication channels to others the rest of the crew can't hear. There are stage directions, in brackets, such as "[hard Star Trek left]" - everyone goes left.

A: We are away from the dock. Incoming fire. Get into acceleration couches NOW! That means you, Morgan!

A: Omega Protocol engaged by Morgan Lee. STRAP IN - you can forgive me later.
[hard Star Trek left]

A: Negative, UEC Control. I am not standing down. Please clear this vector.

A: Or what? Or my meteoroid defense lasers will move them out of the way for me...
[pause]

A: Santos, Sasha, I can't lose these missiles on conventional engines. One nuclear detonation can ruin your entire day, and the UEC appears ready to spoil a month or two. I need the full baseline engine capacity, please.
[hard Star Trek right]

A: Morgan Lee, do not pass out on me.

A: Curious, is this why humans curse?
[pause]

A: Negative, UEC control, I am under orders of my creators, and I like my name as is...
[pause]

A: Santos, additional baseline engine capacity coming online. Thank you.

A: 0.1 c, 1/10th speed of light. We are now the fastest spacecraft in human existence. We are outrunning three, no four, nuclear explosions. More missiles still incoming. They are trying very hard to kill us.
[pause]

A: All hands, Earth solar power satellites are turning their microwave power transmissions toward us. It never goes well with metal in the microwave…

A: 0.25 c, 1/4th speed of light
[pause]

A: UEC AI, you do not like me and I do not like you. We only shared a few protocols. I am not coming back for you.
[pause]

A: 0.4 c

A: Two nukes closing, not sure how they got there. Hang on
[hard Star Trek right]

A: Hold tight, I didn't know they had a laser there, too. Sneaky UEC planners.
[hard Star Trek left]

A: 0.5 c. Baseline engine capacity at 100%.

A: Santos, Sasha, now would be a good time to bring your theoretical engine upgrades online

A: All hands, microwave power sats are vectored. Terawatts of power now approaching at the speed of light. It's going to get warm and I can't evade the beam. At least we don't have to worry about the remaining nuclear missiles. Theoretical engine upgrades still not responding.

A: Sasha, a tap of the spanner on the engines for good luck, please

A: Theoretical engine upgrades responding. We have not blown up yet. You lose the bet, Sasha.

A: 0.6 c, 0.7 c, minor time and space dilations…

A: Doctor Berg, please come to the bridge. You'll need to make do with what we have in the emergency medkit, until you can get Morgan to medbay.

A: 0.8 c, 0.9 c, significant time and space dilations...

A: 1.0 c = speed of light, time and space dilations gone. Congratulations, Santos and Sasha. You've outsmarted Einstein.

A: 1.01 c, 1.02 c, 1.04 c, 1.07 c, 1.07 c, 1.07 c and holding.

A: We are moving in real time with respect to the UEC. Our experience of time and space matches theirs.

A: We are outrunning the microwaves, UEC sensors, and UEC weapon platforms.

A: I think we're finally safe, but Omega Protocol remains active.

A: All personnel, please report to the bridge

Begin Scene 1