



# Bacic's



Telemachus was less of a surprise and more of an exercise in patience and perseverance for Bacic.

"I was in Los Angeles last fall [2002] and while there I had lunch with [vice president] Phil Segal from Tribune Entertainment," he recalls. "Out of the blue he threw out the idea of me possibly returning to *Andromeda* at the end of the third season. I'd done quite a bit of work for Tribune and they seemed to like me, so it was just a question of how to bring back my character. Naturally, this was all just conversation, and as is often the case in this business, nothing ever came of it. I totally understood that and was okay with it. Then came *Andromeda*'s fourth year and with it talk of introducing a new character named Lou into the series. He was supposed to be a bit of a rogue and a swashbuckler.

"Initially, I think the producers were looking to cast someone ethnic in the role but couldn't find the right person. They eventually asked me to read for them, which I did, and much to my delight they

decided I was the man for the job. The only problem was I'd already played the two Rhades. Luckily for me this is a Sci-Fi show, and the writers came up with a plausible way to bring back Telemachus. They weren't sure, though, whether or not it would be for just a six-episode arc or something more permanent. I'm happy to say it turned out to be the latter."

The actor's regular tour of duty on *Andromeda* began with the fourth season episode *Soon The Nearing Vortex*. In it, the *Andromeda* encounters a Commonwealth transport ship being attacked by a fleet of Nietzschean vessels. Dylan Hunt (Kevin Sorbo) and his crew manage to rescue its pilot, Telemachus Rhade, before the transport explodes, but his prisoner, Tyr Anasazi (Keith Hamilton Cobb), gets away. Convinced that he let Tyr escape, the Commonwealth arrests Telemachus. Dylan, however, believes otherwise. He breaks the Nietzschean out of prison and enlists his help to find Tyr in the following story, *The World Turns All Around Her*.



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"We actually shot one or two episodes before doing the two-parter with Tyr," explains Bacic. "It's funny, when I first came back to the show it took me a few days to figure out where my character was going and what his relationships were with the other characters. So in the beginning I felt a little bit at odds or off-balance with regard to how to play Telemachus and I tried to bring that out in my performance. After all, like me, this guy was stepping into a new situation. It only made sense that we'd both feel slightly apprehensive.

"As far as the two-parter with Tyr, in some ways that was a very happy experience for me and in other ways rather sad," continues the actor. "I mean, here was Keith Hamilton Cobb returning to the show for what would likely be his last appearance. So this was very much a time of closure for him and a sort of passing on the torch to me. There's a finality to this business and people are constantly moving on to do other things,