John Kelly, Marine Medical Officer (2Lt):

* Attended Basic Training at SFMC Recruit Depot Parris Island; recommended for OCS after Graduation by Training Cadre.
* Attended OCS and Basic School at Quantico MCB; graduated in top 1/3 of his class with choice of specialization school; commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant.
* Attended Starfleet Medical Academy, specializing in Trauma, Emergency Medicine and Battlefield Triage
* Assigned USS *Lister* (*Olympic*-class Hospital Ship); Served as a Medical Officer via Starfleet Medical Officer Exchange {think of this as his residency}
* Assigned as Marine Medical Officer, USS Tripoli (vacancy)

John NMI Kelly was born and raised outside of Thermopolis, Wyoming, North America. His father (Matthew) was a Doctor of Veterinarian Medicine, specializing in the treatment of livestock. His mother (Julianne) worked for the local government in a variety of capacities. Kelly is the third child of five and the only other male child (a brother and three sisters). During his childhood, John was the only child that showed interest in his father’s work and for a time, Matthew thought that John would take over the family business. However during an ill-fated hunting trip, John’s “true calling” became obvious.

During the hunt, a late winter storm moved into the area. Rather than travel during the storm, the duo established an emergency camp and thought to wait out the storm. However, snowfall accumulation caused an avalanche that night. Both men survived the avalanche but Matt Kelly’s left leg had been broken in several places and John received a gash beneath his left eye. The younger Kelly stabilized the older and once the storm passed, John gathered what was left of their gear. He assembled a frame to transport his dad and then began a two day hike back to the Kelly homestead.

At the end of the second day, John trudged up to the family home. The local doctor, alerted when the pair was overdue, was on hand to treat the pair. Matt’s leg was set and he was treated for dehydration and exposure. John, however, had become delirious with fever, a side effect of his wound becoming infected, and couldn’t see out of the left eye which had swollen shut. Additionally, he was severely dehydrated and had minor frostbite on his face. But, in true Kelly fashion, he came through just fine. It was at that point that his father insisted that his son would be a doctor. John went along with the idea adding a caveat: he wanted to join Starfleet. He had been a lifelong astronomy enthusiast and was something of an amateur Space Flight historian.

Matt Kelly indulged his son by arranging a visit from a retired Starfleet officer that lived in the area. The officer, Captain Tom Harrison, was invited to dinner and regaled the family with stories of far off planets and alien civilizations. He spoke highly of his time in Starfleet but made sure that John understood that sacrifices and hardships were part of the process. Harrison became a mentor to John from that day on, agreeing to prep John for Starfleet Academy. However, a visit from a Starfleet Marine recruiter at John’s school changed John’s mind.

John told his family that night at dinner that he wanted to be a Starfleet Marine Medical Officer. While Matt and Julianne felt pride mixed with trepidation, they insisted that John talk this over with Captain Harrison. To their surprise, Harrison spoke highly of the Marines. While he acknowledged the added risk of becoming a Marine Medical Officer instead of a Starfleet Medical Officer, he nonetheless praised the Marines for their discipline, courage and dedication to one another. This cemented John’s desires. The day of his 18th birthday, his parents and Captain Harrison went with John to the Marine Recruiter’s office so that John could enlist. Captain Harrison even donned his uniform in order to administer the Oath of Enlistment to John.

Kelly shipped out on the next transport heading to the famous Parris Island Marine Recruit Training Depot. He graduated Marine Recruit Training and was recommended for Officer Candidate School (OCS) by the Training Cadre. Kelly attended OCS and then The Basic School at Quantico Marine Corps Base, graduating in the top third of his class. This earned him his choice of specialization school, which was to attend the Starfleet Medical Academy. Graduation also earned him his commission as Second Lieutenant.

Because of his Marine Commission, Kelly specialized in Trauma and Emergency Medicine as well as Battlefield Triage while at the Academy. Prior to graduation, he volunteered for the Starfleet Medical Officer Exchange program. It was through this that Kelly was assigned to the USS *Lister*, an Olympic-class Hospital Ship. He also met his love interest, a fellow Doctor, an Andorian female named Lissan th’Zarath. Both officers found themselves committed to their work and unsure of where it might take them. But wanting to explore their relationship led them to agree to a long-distance relationship.

From the Lister, Kelly received orders assigning him to the Ninth Marine Division, 21st Marine Expeditionary Force. At Division HQ, Kelly learned that he was further assigned to a detachment from the 14th Regiment embarked on the USS *Tripoli,* a *New Orleans-*class Frigate.