

Note: This show periodically replaces their ad breaks with new promotional clips. Because of this, both the transcription for the clips and the timestamps after them may be inaccurate at the time of viewing this transcript.

| | | | |
|----------|-------------------------------|--------------|---|
| 00:00:00 | Sound Effect | Sound Effect | <i>[Computer beeps.]</i> |
| 00:00:01 | Music | Music | <i>[Intense, energetic rock guitar music.]</i> |
| 00:00:02 | Ben Harrison and Adam Pranica | Promo | <i>[Gruffly] Wednesday, Wednesday, <u>Wednesday!</u></i> <i>[Voices remain gruff throughout the promo, whole thing is like a wrestling promo.]</i> |
| 00:00:03 | Ben | Promo | October 23 rd , 2019! The first ever live performance of Greatest Gen Khan II: <i>Star Trek III!</i> |
| 00:00:08 | Sound Effect | Sound Effect | <i>[Ben is briefly backed by airhorns on the title.]</i> |
| 00:00:10 | Ben | Promo | The two most embarrassed podcasters on the Internet are taking Philadelphia's World Cafe Live by storm, and shredding the weird middle child of <i>Star Trek</i> films! |
| 00:00:19 | Ben & Adam | Promo | <i>Star Trek III: The Search for Spock!</i> |
| 00:00:22 | Ben | Promo | Greatest Gen Khan II is funnier, weirder, and more embarrassing than <i>[with echo]</i> last year's dumb show! |
| | | | <u>Then...</u> |
| 00:00:28 | Adam | Promo | <i>[With echo] Thursday, Thursday, <u>Thursday!</u></i> |
| 00:00:31 | Ben | Promo | The 24 th of October, 2019! We're in Washington, DC! |
| 00:00:35 | Ben & Adam | Promo | Our nation's capital! |
| 00:00:37 | Ben | Promo | At the Miracle Theater performing <i>[air horns]</i> Greatest Gen Khan II— |
| 00:00:40 | Ben & Adam | Promo | — <i>Star Trek III!</i> |
| 00:00:41 | Ben | Promo | If you've never seen <i>The Greatest Generation</i> live, you don't wanna miss out and live a life full of regret! |
| | | | I live a life full of regret! I look back on decisions I made as a young man and feel terrible! |
| | | | GreatestGenTour.com for tickets! |
| | | | <i>[Music ends.]</i> |
| 00:00:54 | Sound Effect | Transition | <i>[Computer beeps.]</i> |
| 00:00:55 | Music | Music | Dark Materia's "The Picard Song," record-scratching into a Sisko-centric remix by Adam Ragusea. |
| | | | Picard: <i>Here's to the finest crew in Starfleet! Engage.</i> |
| | | | <i>[Music begins. A fast-paced techno beat.]</i> |
| | | | Picard: <i>Captain Jean-Luc Picard, the USS Enterprise!</i> |
| | | | <i>[Music slows, record scratch, and then music speeds back up.]</i> |
| | | | Sisko: <i>Commander Benjamin Sisko, the Federation starbase... Deep Space 9.</i> |

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|----------|-------|-------|--|
| 00:01:09 | Music | Music | Record scratch back into "The Picard Song," which plays quietly in the background. |
| 00:01:10 | Ben | Host | Welcome to <i>The Greatest Generation: Deep Space Nine</i> , a <i>Star Trek</i> podcast by a couple of guys who are a little bit embarrassed to have a <i>Star Trek</i> podcast. I'm Ben Harrison. |
| 00:01:19 | Adam | Host | I'm... Adam Pranica. |
| 00:01:22 | Ben | Host | Adam, you just mentioned to me that you've been to our PO box and picked up a bunch of packages! |
| 00:01:27 | Music | Music | <i>[Music fades out.]</i> |
| 00:01:28 | Adam | Host | I've been PO box-diving, Ben. <i>[Ben laughs.]</i> And I've come up for air with <u>four</u> packages. |
| 00:01:34 | Clip | Clip | Music: Staccato flute music. <i>[Computer chiming.]</i> Riker (<i>Star Trek: The Next Generation</i>): Captain, I'm sorry to disturb you. Data (<i>ST: TNG</i>): I'm receiving a code 47. Riker: Verify? Data: It <u>is</u> code 47, sir. Starfleet emergency frequency. Troi (<i>ST: TNG</i>): Captain's eyes only. |
| 00:01:46 | Music | Music | Soft, cheerful background music with some quiet dialogue at intervals that sounds like Picard. |
| 00:01:46 | Ben | Host | When you came up for air, did you do that cartoon thing where you blow out of your mouth and like a— <i>[One of them laughs quietly.]</i> —instead of a fountain of money like Scrooge McDuck, it would be a fountain of packages? |
| 00:01:57 | Adam | Host | It's a fountain of packaging peanuts that came out when I blew. |
| 00:02:00 | Ben | Host | <i>[Laughing]</i> Oh, cool! |
| 00:02:02 | Adam | Host | Yeah. |
| 00:02:03 | Ben | Host | Those usually melt when I put them in <u>my</u> mouth. |
| 00:02:05 | Adam | Host | I like that they're made out of potato starch these days. I think— |
| 00:02:08 | Ben | Host | Yeah. Better than Styrofoam. |
| 00:02:10 | Adam | Host | I think <u>that's</u> good. But they are <u>no</u> less annoying to deal with. |
| 00:02:14 | Ben | Host | Yeah. They get everywhere. |
| 00:02:16 | Adam | Host | Ben, our first package is from Molly, and she is from Philadelphia! |

00:02:20 Ben Host Love Philadelphia!

00:02:21 Adam Host We're gonna be in Philadelphia two days from now, when—

00:02:24 Ben Host Wow!

00:02:25 Adam Host —this show drops. So great timing!

00:02:28 Ben Host Yeah! If it hasn't already sold out by now, get your tickets to Greatest Gen Khan II: *Star Trek III* in Philadelphia two days from now!

00:02:37 Adam Host Yeah, we're doing the dinner theatre at World Cafe Live. So get yourself a nice meal!

00:02:43 Ben Host Yeah, that's a really fun venue.

00:02:45 Adam Host Molly has included some business cards for a company called "Adopt A Tribble: The Tribble Orphanarium."

00:02:53 Ben Host Ohhh! I exchanged some emails with Molly, I believe!

00:02:58 Adam Host The letter is alluding to what is inside. It looks like we've got a couple of mugs. I'm opening a mug, and—*[laughing]* yeah!

The mug looks like a Wesley Crusher sweater, and on one side it says "my son" and the other side it says "the boy."

[Ben is laughing quietly.]

00:03:12 Clip Clip **Worf:** Wesley? The boy?

Music: *[Saxophone riff from Gerry Rafferty's "Baker Street."]*

Picard: The boy. Young Wesley Crusher.

Beverly: My son!

00:03:20 Adam Host They are beautiful, Molly!

00:03:21 Ben Host That's rad.

00:03:22 Adam Host They turned out great. The letter goes like this:

"Ben and Adam, consider these mugs a token of my gratitude for completely ruining Picard and Wesley's relationship for me!"

[Ben laughs.]

"If people wanna find them, they're available at AdoptATribble.com, and everything in the shop is 10% off for GG listeners using the offer code, you guessed it, 'scarves'."

00:03:46 Ben Host Wow! *[Laughs.]*

00:03:47 Adam Host "Looking forward to more of your finely crafted dick and fart jokes.

Live long and prosper,

Molly."

Molly!

00:03:52 Ben Host That's great. Thanks, Molly!

00:03:54 Adam Host Molly really gets us. Molly doesn't joke-shame.

[Rustling.]

Also included in here are a couple of pins!

00:04:01 Ben Host

Oh, nice!

00:04:02 Adam Host

These pins look a lot like the mugs, and they say "shut up" on them.

[Ben laughs.]

"Shut up" on top of the Wesley Crusher tunic pattern. So great job, Molly!

00:04:13 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Ben: What a delight.

Adam: Good—good job making a thing out of a joke.

00:04:16 Adam Host

We love that.

00:04:17 Ben Host

Yeah!

00:04:18 Adam Host

Our second package, Ben, comes to us from... Jonathan Hoefler!

00:04:23 Ben Host

[Laughs quietly.]

Our second package, or... our Klingon package.

00:04:26 Adam Host

Right.

Uh, yeah, the power position goes to Jonathan Hoefler, straight outta New York, New York! He's from one of our beloved sponsors, Hoefler&Co.

00:04:36 Ben Host

The designer of our—of the Uxbridge-Shimoda corporate identity!

[Sounds of tape being cut or torn, box being opened.]

00:04:42 Adam Host

Alright. Wonder what could be in here.

There's a letter on top.

00:04:45 Ben Host

Hm.

00:04:46 Adam Host

Letter goes like this:

"I thought these might make a fun icebreaker keepsake for the [Friends of DeSoto](#) at your next Greatest Gen Khan."

00:04:53 Sound Effect Sound Effect

[Air horns.]

00:04:54 Adam Host

"Either that or you can use them for your next 125 drunkisodes."

[Ben laughs.]

"Thanks for everything, and best wishes from your loyal viewers at [Typography.com](#)."

Wow! So—

00:05:03 Ben Host

Yeah, it's actually company policy at [Typography.com](#) to listen to *The Greatest Generation*, which their HR department has really been having a nightmare with.

00:05:12 Adam Host

This is so awesome. Ben, what we have here are hundreds of

coasters.

00:05:17 Ben Host *[Happily]* Aw, man!

00:05:18 Adam Host And what the coasters say is "[The blue drink of...](#)" and then [#GreatestGen](#) at the bottom.

00:05:25 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* So you can modify it to your own specifications!

00:05:29 Adam Host They are a delight! I will totally bring these on tour with us. What a great thing!

And the coaster that Jonathan filled out himself, it said "Drink the blue drink of gratitude."

So Jonathan, our pal, the director of Hoefler&Co., thanking us.

00:05:48 Ben Host That's super cool.

00:05:50 Adam Host For all the hours of pod.

Okay, so here's the second letter:

"PS, I recently had the pleasure of taking part in a Netflix documentary called *Abstract: The Art of Design*—"

00:06:01 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Ben:** Oh, great!

Adam: "—for an episode about typography, which is dropping this week."

00:06:05 Adam Host "At one point during filming, the director and DP and I were talking about ideas for a practical effect, and I summoned my inner Adam Pranica to suggest—"

[Ben laughs.]

"—maybe we could use a split diopter."

00:06:16 Ben Host Wow, cool.

00:06:17 Adam Host "To his credit, the DP did not tell me to fuck off—"

[Ben laughs.]

"—and stick to drawing fonts, but instead asked warmly 'How do you know what a split diopter is?'

I confessed that it had come up a couple of times on this podcast I listened to."

[Ben laughs.]

"Which is the one place I've learned all three or four things that I know about film production."

00:06:36 Ben Host Man! That is—that is an embarrassing admission to have to make.
[Laughs.]

00:06:42 Adam Host Jonathan says "They're good guys with a sense of humor, so it's possible you got a couple new Friends of DeSoto out of the deal.

But also, it was a really great segue into talking about how you can love something while not taking it too seriously, and how there are other ways to talk about things critically besides being deadpan earnest.

Honestly, I really think this conversation about your show helped set the tone for the episode that we made together."

| | | | |
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| 00:07:02 | Ben | Host | Wow! |
| 00:07:03 | Adam | Host | "Which I hope you'll enjoy." |
| | | | <u>And—</u> |
| 00:07:05 | Ben | Host | That's rad! |
| 00:07:06 | Adam | Host | When I flip over the letter, there's a picture of looking down the barrel of a camera that looks like they're shooting on a RED Weapon and a split diopter lens! |
| 00:07:16 | Ben | Host | Wow! |
| 00:07:17 | Adam | Host | Hanging off the end of the camera. Shot POV. |
| 00:07:21 | Ben | Host | Damn. |
| 00:07:22 | Adam | Host | From the perspective of Jonathan Hoefler, so... |
| 00:07:25 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Ben: That's super neat! |
| | | | Adam: Pretty cool story! |
| 00:07:28 | Ben | Host | Yeah! |
| 00:07:29 | Adam | Host | It's not all dumb stuff on this show! |
| 00:07:32 | Ben | Host | How did—did they just <u>have</u> —like, I don't think that you <u>get</u> a split diopter out of the rental— |
| 00:07:38 | Adam | Host | <i>[Laughing]</i> No! |
| 00:07:40 | Ben | Host | —place without having a specific plan to use it. That's pretty nuts that they—I mean, I guess it—I mean, they're in Manhattan. There's like ten equipment rentals in Manhattan. I guess you could probably get it on somewhat short notice if you really wanted it. |
| 00:07:55 | Adam | Host | Yeah, that is definitely not a part of the lens arsenal for shooting interviews. I'm thinking that— |
| 00:08:01 | Ben | Host | Your standard lens kit does not contain that. <i>[Laughs.]</i> |
| 00:08:04 | Adam | Host | Yeah! Yeah, and so I'm thinking this has gotta be an owner/operator situation— |
| 00:08:08 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Ben: That's <u>really</u> cool. |
| | | | Adam: —and that guy just had it in the bag. |
| 00:08:10 | Adam | Host | That's—but what a lens to have in a bag! |
| 00:08:12 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Ben: That is—that is— |
| | | | Adam: Who—I know people who owns whole lens kits and like, <i>[stifling laughter]</i> there's no way anyone I know would ever own a split diopter lens; that's rad. |
| 00:08:20 | Ben | Host | This is the—this is like the poster child for "bring all the things." |

00:08:24 Adam Host Mm-hm! Yeah. Good point.

Wow, thanks, Jonathan, for that. Really appreciate you and all the support you and yours have given *The Greatest Generation*.

00:08:33 Ben Host Yeah. Super cool. Much appreciated.

00:08:37 Adam Host Third box here, Ben. It's from Perry, from Honolulu, Hawai'i. We remember Perry from MaxFunCon!

00:08:44 Ben Host Oh, yeah!

[Sound of something being cut or torn.]

00:08:46 Adam Host Perry gave us some great edibles at MaxFunCon, and by edibles I mean treats from Hawai'i to eat. And by treats from Hawai'i to eat, I mean not filled with marijuana.

[Ben laughs.]

Just like, macadamia nuts! And, uh—

00:08:58 Ben Host Yeah.

00:08:59 Adam Host And other things.

[Some more package-opening sounds.]

00:09:01 Ben Host Yeah. Those were like—I mean, there's something really special about fresh mac nuts from Hawai'i, and that was not lost on my wife, who I just like put some of those in a bowl and I was snacking on 'em.

And she kinda just like, idly walked by and had one. She was like, "Holy shit, *[stifling laughter]* these are so good!"

00:09:18 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Adam:** They're legit.

Ben: "Where did you get these from?"

00:09:20 Adam Host *[Rustling.]*

Wow, Perry has sent us a care package that is positively loaded with the good stuff.

00:09:27 Ben Host Helllll yeah.

00:09:29 Adam Host Two more mugs, Ben! We've—we have a lot of mugs to choose from for tour this year!

00:09:35 Ben Host This is great!

00:09:36 Adam Host Beautiful matte black mug here that says "Tea, Earl Grey" in Starfleet burgundy type.

00:09:43 Ben Host Nice.

00:09:44 Adam Host Now we are getting to the foodstuffs.

[Ben laughs.]

We have got Hawaiian Tropical Lavosh! Macadamia nut Lavosh!

00:09:52 Ben Host Whoa.

00:09:53 Adam Host This. Looks. Delicious.
We also have chocolate chip arare cookies.

00:09:59 Ben Host Is Lavosh the—that lady that dated Captain Picard for a little while?

00:10:04 Adam Host Yes. *[Laughs.]* Yes it is.

00:10:06 Ben Host That's how he refers to her in French, right?

00:10:09 Adam Host Sleeve of cookies here, made fresh in Hawai'i by the 'Ono Kuki Company.

00:10:15 Ben Host Kuki Company?

00:10:16 Adam Host K-U-K-I.

00:10:18 Ben Host Oh, wow.

00:10:19 Adam Host I guess it could be "cookie."

Ben, you better get your ass up here, because I'm gonna eat these all myself.

Oh, finally! Pièce de résistance.

[Ben laughs.]

Two 7-ounce packs of Premium Gold Roast Kona Coffee.

00:10:34 Ben Host Alright! What's the roastery or wherever?

00:10:37 Adam Host Uh, Lion!

00:10:39 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Ben:** Cool.

Adam: Lion is the name of the roastery.

00:10:41 Ben Host I actually went to a coffee farm and roastery in Kona when I was on the Big Island many years ago, and it's a really cool thing to go do. See how the coffee is made. *[Laughs quietly.]*

00:10:57 Adam Host Also got a couple of pin packs in here. It says "Commemorate the end," and it looks like a pin for *DS9*, a pin for *The Next Generation*, and an *Original Series* pin!

00:11:13 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Ben:** Neat!

Adam: Pretty cool!

00:11:15 Adam Host One for each of us, and there's a postcard in here, Ben. Postcard from our friend Perry. Goes like this:

"I hope that you are both doing well. Thank you again for all the great content you produce. Listening to your podcast never fails to bring a smile to my face."

[More box-opening sounds.]

"I have my fingers crossed that all of the snacks, etc., made it to you mostly intact. I wanted to put more bubblewrap in, but the box wouldn't close when I tried."

[Ben laughs.]

"I packed you some of my favorites, and I had to fend off the rest of my family to make sure that the snacks made it into the box. The pins are from this year's San Diego Comic-Con, which my parents, who are way cooler than I am, went to."

[Ben laughs.]

00:11:55 Adam Host "Finally, I hope that you guys enjoy the snacks, and please let me know if you ever have any requests. I'd be happy to send more."

Well here's the thing, Perry. My request to you back at MaxFunCon is the same as it is today. Both Ben and I would love to do a show in Hawai'i.

If you know of a place that would have us for such a show, get in touch! I think that'd be a lot of fun.

00:12:16 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Ben:** Yeah, that would be fun!

Adam: We could do like, a "Very Brady Hawai'i" *Greatest Gen* show out there.

[Ben laughs.]

00:12:23 Adam Host Pretty great. Thanks, Perry.

00:12:25 Ben Host That sounds like one of those shows that our agent would *[laughing]* heavily discourage us from trying—

00:12:29 Adam Host Are you kidding?

00:12:30 Ben Host —trying to book.

00:12:31 Adam Host That's a show that our agent would help to book and then go to himself.

00:12:35 Ben Host That's true.

00:12:37 Adam Host Here's the thing, Perry. None of those cookies will live to meet Benjamin Ahr Harrison.

[Ben laughs.]

I'm sorry.

00:12:44 Ben Host God damn it!

00:12:45 Adam Host I mean, they're made fresh! They're just not gonna last, Ben!

00:12:48 Ben Host I want somebody to enjoy them at their peak.

00:12:50 Adam Host I l wanna hang out with you more often.

[Noise like tape being pulled off.]

I think that would help.

00:12:54 Ben Host Yeah.

00:12:55 Adam Host Ben, our final package—addressed to Jim Shimoda Enterprises—

[Ben laughs]

—is from Curtis. Curtis is from Santa Cruz. It's the biggest box.
Letter on top says:

"Hi, Ben and Adam! Enclosed please find two novelty *Deep Space Nine*-themed beers."

00:13:13 Ben Host

Whoa!

00:13:14 Adam Host

"When I saw them at my local Cost Plus, I of course had to immediately send them to you. I tried one myself to make sure it wasn't undrinkable."

[Laughing] Hey, thanks.

[Ben laughs.]

"Just in case, I also included a couple of beers from one of my favorite local breweries.

I've been a viewer from the beginning, and it's been really fun seeing you guys turn this into a real thing."

00:13:31 Ben Host

Wow, that's really cool!

00:13:32 Adam Host

"Wishing you great success in all your multi-podcast endeavors,
Curtis! From Santa Cruz."

00:13:38 Ben Host

I love an OG.

00:13:39 Adam Host

Yeah, Curtis is—has been with us from back in the day.

[Rustling and squeak of packaging.]

Curtis did a tremendous packing job.

00:13:46 Ben Host

I wish Curtis had said how they came across the show!

[Laughs quietly.] That's like, uh—like "I got—I brought you a box of chocolates; I ate some."

[Both laugh.]

"I drank one of the beers."

00:13:59 Adam Host

It kinda makes me feel better about these not being poison.

[A quiet clank.]

00:14:03 Ben Host

Uh-huh.

00:14:05 Adam Host

"Contains liquid," the sticker says. What we got here is a Foggy Forest Double IPA from Discretion Brewing.

And a Ten Million Flowers! A Kolsch with orange peel and honey, also from Discretion Brewing.

It looks like what we have here is a care package of beers from Discretion Brewing of all different flavors. And what I really like are—is that these are like, tall boy cans! These are big cans! These are cans thick!

00:14:37 Ben Host *[Laughing]* Uh-huh.

00:14:38 Adam Host Oh, and I got to the *Deep Space Nine* beer, Ben! This is Prophet Motive, Hopped Up Golden Ale.

00:14:43 Ben Host Mm!

00:14:44 Adam Host From Quark's Bar.

00:14:46 Ben Host That sounds great!

00:14:47 Adam Host *[More rustling, which continues for some time.]*

And there's a bottle in here for you and a bottle for me!

00:14:51 Ben Host I didn't realize Quark's Bar was a brew pub.

00:14:53 Adam Host Thanks, Curtis!

00:14:55 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Ben:** Thank you!

Adam: Thanks for giving us some new podcast fluid!

00:14:58 Ben Host And thanks for being a loyal listener!

00:15:00 Adam Host Wow, it sure is a treat to open up the mail from time to time.

[Music ends.]

00:15:03 Adam Host I mean, we have some very, very generous viewers. So thanks, one and all, who have sent us anything to enjoy.

00:15:14 Ben Host We are very lucky boys indeed.

00:15:17 Adam Host But are we lucky for having watched the episode?

[Ben laughs.]

I think we're about to find out, as we get into *Deep Space Nine*, season five, episode ten: *[dramatic whisper]* "Rapture."

00:15:28 Music Transition A techno song mixed with clips and soundbites from *DS9*.

Sisko:
Ow!
Do you realize how incredible this is?
Ow!
Ha ha!
Ow!
Ha ha ha!
Hoo!
No... Of course you don't!

00:15:38 Adam Host Rapture's kind of a loaded word, right? Religious connotation!

00:15:42 Ben Host Rapture is a very loaded term. There's a lot of heavy shit, and just in the kind of like—in the kind of like, cultural ideas that they used to make up this episode.

Like the repatriation of stolen artwork to Bajor.

00:15:59 Adam Host Right.

00:16:00 Ben Host Is really intense. The like, lost city ideas. It's like a—you know. A million stories have been told about lost cities.

00:16:07 Adam Host I know! No one's ever found any lost cities though, right? That's not a thing.

00:16:12 Ben Host *[Casually]* I've found a couple.

[Both laugh.]

00:16:15 Adam Host Hard to take this episode entirely seriously, because Ben Sisko does not know where to put the combadge on his new uniform.

00:16:23 Ben Host Yeah, the new uniforms appear un-commented on. This is the *First Contact* vintage uniform, and they open this scene with them all kind of like, hunched over this painting, and so Ben Sisko's uniform is all wrinkled up in front.

And his combadge is edge-on to the camera because of that.

00:16:42 Adam Host *[Sighs.]* There is bad combadge continuity throughout the episode, and it's specific to Ben Sisko's character!

00:16:49 Ben Host What do you think that's about?

00:16:50 Adam Host I wonder if his—'cause he's wearing the jacket/vest combo that Picard wears in *First Contact*. Like, I wonder if it just doesn't fit him the way that it fits Patrick Stewart. And they're trying to mess around with how it does.

I still—I would Cal Hudson the shit outta that combadge, though.

[Ben laughs.]

I think you gotta—the combadge has gotta be in the black. I think that's my personal policy.

00:17:13 Ben Host Whoa!

00:17:14 Adam Host That's what I'm saying.

00:17:17 Ben Host I think that's out of uniform!

00:17:18 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Adam:** Keep it in the black!

Ben: Nobody wears it like that!

00:17:20 Adam Host What do you mean, no one wears it like that?! The black is where it belongs!

00:17:22 Ben Host Nooo.

00:17:24 Adam Host I don't mean on the old uniform it should be in the black. I just mean that on the new uniform, the black is where the red used to be.

00:17:31 Ben Host Yeah. I guess—yeah, it's weird! Maybe they weren't sure what to do yet.

I wonder when this was produced relative to *First Contact*. Did we see this uniform in *DS9* first?

00:17:42 Adam Host No. It was a *First Contact* uniform first, specifically.

00:17:45 Ben Host Huh.

00:17:46 Adam Host And they held them back until after the movie dropped for that reason.

00:17:50 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Ben:** Wow.

Adam: They wanted the first screen time for the uni to be on film.

00:17:54 Ben Host Yeah, I'm just scrolling through; it does look like people put the combadge on the black! In like, later episodes, Sisko has it on the black.

I wonder what happened!

00:18:04 Adam Host I don't know. It's weird! It's a lack of attention to detail that is frankly pretty shocking.

00:18:10 Ben Host Yeah. You would think when you get the episode where you roll out the new uniforms, you would be laser-focused on how that comes across.

And the fact that—just the fact that they're all like, hunched over and wrinkled up when you first see them in this episode?

00:18:29 Adam Host Yeah.

00:18:30 Ben Host *[Stifling laughter]* Is by itself a strange choice.

And then the combadge issue is strange on top of that.

00:18:36 Adam Host It's strange that the only direct comment about a Starfleet uniform that I can recall happened in *Discovery*, when Pike's crew boarded *Discovery* in their *TOS* era uniforms.

And like, you actually had dialogue about them, but...

00:18:51 Ben Host *[Laughing]* Yeah.

00:18:53 Adam Host But you never get in either *TNG* or *DS9*—like, no one ever comments on the changing wardrobes throughout the years when it's time to change.

00:19:03 Ben Host In *Generations* it's so weird, because like, it is almost random.

00:19:07 Adam Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]*

00:19:08 Ben Host Whether the characters are gonna be wearing a *DS9* uniform or a *TNG* uniform.

00:19:11 Adam Host Right.

00:19:12 Ben Host And it seems like their idea was like, "We'll start to just kind of like, slowly over the course of the film—like, different characters will start to wear the *DS9* uniform."

But it's like, unmotivated, un-commented on, and... pointless.
[Laughs.]

Because they never follow that continuity in *DS9*, right? Like.

00:19:32 Adam Host Yeah.

00:19:33 Ben Host In *DS9*, the case is somewhat made that when you're stationed on a space station, you get the dumpy *DS9* uniform, but if you're on a starship, you get the *TNG* uniform.

00:19:44 Adam Host Right.

00:19:45 Ben Host But now everybody's got the same uniform.

But also weird in this episode is that we see an admiral who's in a *TNG*-era admiral uniform. *[Laughs.]*

00:19:53 Adam Host There is no way that Deep Space 9, a station that everyone knows is on like the—in the Timbuktu of space—

[Ben laughs.]

—has been issued new uniforms before a fleet admiral.

00:20:05 Ben Host That guy's an octopip! He should have the coolest uniform in the game! *[Laughs.]*

00:20:09 Adam Host What we're saying is if you can just get past all of this uniform bullshit—

[Ben laughs.]

—there might be an interesting story here.

The story starts with everyone crowded around this painting, and it's a painting of the lost city of B'hala.

00:20:23 Ben Host Yeah. Strangely Valhalla-sounding.

00:20:26 Adam Host Right. And everyone's pretty psyched about it. Psyched in the way that a group of sixth-graders huddled around like, a Scholastic order form—

[Ben laughs.]

—for books about the lost city of Atlantis would be.

00:20:39 Ben Host Yeah.

00:20:40 Adam Host Like, they're super psyched about this place.

00:20:42 Ben Host The—and like, it's—I guess Sisko's kind of like, pulled strings, right?

Like, the—this is supposed to be getting returned to Bajor from Cardassia, but he made sure that it's spending the night on—

00:20:55 Adam Host *[Laughing]* Yeah—

00:20:56 Ben Host —on the station?

00:20:57 Adam Host He's gonna hang it above his commode for the evening, and then, uh—

[Ben cracks up.]

—return it to its rightful place.

00:21:03 Ben Host *[Laughing]* Yeah.

It's a strange flex. But he's obsessed with the idea of finding this city, and the issue is that the painting depicts—like, an obelisk's in the center of town. And the obelisk is four-sided. And there's a few symbols on each side, and you can see two of the sides.

But you can't see the other two sides, and therefore the information on those symbols which would tell you the, like, cosmic location of

this city, are—you know, are indecipherable. There's just not enough information.

But Sisko is the only person in 20,000 years to realize that a third side is reflected in a waterfall.

[Adam laughs.]

00:21:44 Clip Clip **Sisko:** Magnify D2.

[Computer beeps.]

00:21:47 Ben Host He does, like, that kind of like—that *Decker* scene where he's got the computer enhancing—

00:21:52 Adam Host *[Laughing]* Yeah.

00:21:53 Ben Host —the image, and it can kinda see around corners a little bit.

00:21:56 Adam Host *[Laughs.]* Finally, a *Decker* reference on *Greatest Gen*.

[Ben laughs.]

Do you remember when we went to *Star Trek* Las Vegas, the guy in the pool that looked exactly like Decker?

00:22:09 Ben Host No!

00:22:10 Adam Host *[Laughs.]* I think he was so close to us in the pool that I didn't want to do that "Hey look at that guy!" thing and then have his cover blown.

[Ben laughs.]

But there was a Decker in the pool.

00:22:19 Ben Host Wow!

00:22:20 Adam Host And he had the totally slicked back hair, and just that look. The smirk.

00:22:26 Ben Host That's amazing.

00:22:27 Adam Host *[Laughs.]*

Sisko rents a holosuite for purposes non-sexual in nature.

00:22:34 Ben Host Mm-hm.

00:22:35 Adam Host And sets up a recreation of this obelisk. And—

00:22:41 Ben Host This is something that we've seen them do in *TNG*, like in *[as Kevin Uxbridge]* "Schisms."

00:22:44 Music Music Synth bass drop intro of "Colors," by Ice-T. Fades out as Adam and Ben speak.

00:22:51 Adam Host Right!

00:22:52 Ben Host They like, put together the operating room that they've been waking up in.

00:22:56 Adam Host Yep.

00:22:57 Ben Host By just kind of like, talking the computer through it.

And he gets the obelisks up in kind of like, one-half scale, and is just

working tirelessly on decoding the location of this place.

00:23:13 Adam Host Knowing what we know about what happens in a holosuite, whose idea was it to put carpet in them?

00:23:20 Ben Host *[Through laughter]* I don't know.

00:23:22 Adam Host Because—

00:23:23 Ben Host That's definitely something Quark could have addressed if he felt it was a problem.

00:23:27 Adam Host You're not sleeping on the floor of a hotel room, and I'm not laying down on the floor of a holosuite. That's for sure.

00:23:33 Ben Host Yeah.

00:23:34 Adam Host Good lord, Ben Sisko.

00:23:36 Ben Host That's filthy.

00:23:37 Adam Host Gross.

00:23:38 Ben Host But yeah, Quark comes in. He's—I guess Quark is trying to close up shop, and Sisko's been in there, and it's three AM.

00:23:47 Clip Clip **Sisko:** Three? Already?

00:23:49 Ben Host And they go to like, shut the thing down, and some Worf lightning—

00:23:53 Clip Clip *[Electrical discharge, dramatic music. Scene briefly plays out as Ben describes, then fades quickly.]*

00:23:54 Ben Host —catches Sisko, and he gets knocked out.

And it's, uh... It's never really explained what precisely caused this Worf lightning. Like, Quark gets in trouble for having failed to observe the scheduled maintenance on his holosuites.

Which, given the carpet and what goes on in them—

[Adam laughs.]

—I imagine is a very important thing to be doing. *[Laughs.]*

00:24:16 Adam Host Right.

00:24:17 Ben Host But he tries to like, brush it off on O'Brien, but it seems like this—it seems like the Worf lightning was more supernatural in origin.

But they never really come back to that, you know?

00:24:27 Adam Host I think that's a great point.

Everything after this holds together as some sort of vision or vision-adjacent thing that's happening, but this is actual, practical Worf lightning.

00:24:35 Ben Host Right. Did the obelisk cause it? Did the like, representation of the idea of the obelisk in the computer cause it?

00:24:43 Adam Host I think that's what we're meant to assume.

00:24:46 Ben Host Yeah. I—I don't know. I just—I don't love that.

00:24:49 Adam Host Whenever Quark calls the infirmary for a holosuite emergency, do you think that they show up always holding priapism drugs?

00:24:57 Ben Host *[Cracks up.]* They come in HAZMAT suits with priapism drugs.

00:25:03 Adam Host Yeah.

[Ben laughs.]

In the infirmary, Bashir says Sisko has post-neural shock syndrome. And it's a thing.

00:25:13 Ben Host It's like he's rolling, right? Like, he's seeing all the colors and lights more intensely.

00:25:19 Adam Host *[Laughs quietly.]*

They sent Worf right back to work after he was shocked!

00:25:22 Ben Host *[Laughing]* That's true. Keiko, too, for that matter!

00:25:25 Adam Host *[Laughing]* Yeah! Yeah, they're being a little more careful with Ben Sisko.

00:25:29 Ben Host Yeah. He seems like he doesn't really give a shit what Bashir is saying to him, right?

00:25:35 Adam Host No. He's a little blissed out.

00:25:37 Ben Host And I think that that's a weird choice also. Like, I was at—I had two doctors' appointments yesterday, and they were—I got prescribed some pills I have to take. And like, no fewer than three times did they like, make sure they were making eye contact with me and say like, *[sternly]* "You understand you have to take this every day. Right?"

[Laughs.] Like—and Bashir doesn't seem to care that Sisko is definitely not paying any attention.

00:26:04 Adam Host Mm.

00:26:05 Ben Host You know?

00:26:06 Adam Host Yeah. It's weird.

00:26:07 Ben Host Sisko is having like, the *Close Encounters* preoccupation phenomenon.

00:26:13 Adam Host Right.

00:26:14 Ben Host Like, he goes home and Jake is making dinner and—

00:26:16 Clip Clip **Speaker:** Mashed potatoes?! My favorite!

00:26:18 Ben Host Sisko is unable to get a—get it up for the idea that Kasidy Yates is gonna be returning.

00:26:25 Clip Clip **Speaker 1:** You two had something together.

Speaker 2: *[Screaming and striking a hard surface repeatedly]* I just don't know what's wrong with meeee!

00:26:30 Adam Host Yeah, Kasidy Yates—out!

[Ben laughs.]

After her six month sentence for collaborating with the Maquis?

00:26:37 Clip Clip **Lwaxana:** Maques (may-kwees)?

00:26:38 Ben Host Yeah!

00:26:39 Adam Host Six months! Huh! Good for her!

00:26:42 Ben Host I thought that this was so interesting, because all of my like, cultural association with this was like, "Wouldn't it be like, a politically terrible look for him to associate with her at all, given the fact that she has ever had anything to do with the Maquis?"

00:26:55 Adam Host Yeah.

00:26:56 Ben Host And then I was like, "Oh, well, I live in a society that doesn't believe in rehabilitation. And it looks like Ben Sisko lives in a society that does."

00:27:04 Adam Host Yeah.

00:27:05 Ben Host Like, the idea that she could go serve her sentence and make good with her society and then come out, and it's not actually, like, a cloud that hangs over her for the rest of her life is actually aspirational!

00:27:18 Adam Host Yeah! I wonder if she's wearing an ankle bracelet or anything, though. Like, is there—

[Ben laughs.]

Like, she's been released, but is there some sort of like, monitoring situation happening?

00:27:29 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Ben:** Oh, yeah!

Adam: I wanna know a little bit more.

00:27:31 Ben Host Yeah, is she—does she have a PO that she has to report to periodically and she's like, not allowed to leave the station?

00:27:37 Adam Host I mean, this is all interesting world-building that I sincerely would like to know more about. What is the entire judicial process within the Federation when it comes to crime, punishment, and rehabilitation?

00:27:50 Ben Host Right.

00:27:51 Music Transition A techno song mixed with clips and soundbites from *DS9*.

O'Brien: *Gul Dukat!*
Kira: *Dukat!*
Sisko: *Dukat.*
O'Brien: *Gul Dukat!*
Kira: *Dukat!*

Dukat: *So...*

00:27:56 Ben Host Ben is getting back to working on his obelisk, and he's back in the holosuite, computering away on this, when he gets a phone call from Admiral Whatley.

00:28:05 Clip Clip **Speaker:** D'you know Tim Whatley?

George Costanza: Yeah! Dentist to the stars!

00:28:07 Ben Host This octopip, who has some pretty momentous news.

Bajor is entering the Federation.

00:28:15 Clip Clip **Speaker:** Excuse me?

00:28:16 Adam Host I mean, to a certain degree, this show has been building to this

moment from the start. Right? Will they or won't they?

00:28:23 Ben Host It sure has, yeah! I mean, like, that was one of the many adventures that was set up as—as myth arc in the first episode.

I think that one that they've kind of abandoned was like the—all the Orbs of the Prophets being collected. Like there's definitely not, like, a *Legend of Zelda*, like, "We gotta go to the eight dungeons and get the eight Orbs—"

00:28:47 Adam Host Yeah.

00:28:48 Ben Host —thing going on at this point in season five.

But for sure, they are doing the, you know, Bajor "will they/won't they enter the Federation?"

00:28:59 Adam Host 106 episodes into *DS9*, and we finally know who the—

00:29:04 Music Music The theme song from *The Bachelor*. Tender, romantic string/piano music.

00:29:05 Adam Host —Bajoranchelor (*Bajoran* + *Bachelor*) is giving the rose to!

[Ben laughs.]

It's the Federation!

00:29:10 Ben Host *[Laughing]* Yeah.

Yeah. Quark's had 106 episodes to prepare, and he gets the wrong banner out.

00:29:16 Music Music *[Music stops.]*

00:29:17 Clip Clip *[Background chatter.]*

Worf: "Welcome, Klingons"?

00:29:18 Adam Host *[Laughs.]*

00:29:20 Clip Clip **Quark:** Not that one!

00:29:21 Adam Host I love that!

00:29:22 Ben Host Yeah. He'll have to try and see if he can get it right on *The Bajoranchelor in Paradise*.

[Both laugh.]

00:29:29 Adam Host The UFP glassware was broken out, though! Everyone's drinking out of the new glasses, so he got that right!

00:29:34 Ben Host Yeah! That's cool!

00:29:36 Adam Host That's neat.

00:29:37 Ben Host Were those just the donation glasses that he got when he got kicked out the Ferengi Commerce Authority, though?

00:29:41 Adam Host That was what my headcanon was thinking. Like, we—*[sighs]*.

[Ben laughs.]

All this—all this background and soft focus stuff—

00:29:49 Ben Host Yeah.

00:29:50 Adam Host —we need some confirmation about.

00:29:51 Ben Host Quark definitely—like, I bet Quark's Bar now smells like a vintage store.

[Adam laughs.]

You know? *[Laughs.]* Like, everything is secondhand in there and it has that smell that is unmistakable?

00:30:01 Adam Host Yeah.

00:30:02 Ben Host That comes from a secondhand store?

00:30:03 Adam Host It just smells like old box.

[Ben laughs.]

Dax and Quark here ask Kira how she's feeling, and this is a question that really should be asked more often, I think.

00:30:13 Ben Host Yeah!

00:30:14 Clip Clip **Kira:** You know, five years ago, I didn't think Federation membership was... right for Bajor.

00:30:19 Ben Host She's come around on the idea, though!

00:30:21 Adam Host Yeah!

This is complicated for her, for a lot of reasons. Reasons that she's fairly good at articulating. Like, it's—it's weird. And it's gonna be weird.

And that's okay.

00:30:33 Music Music *The Bachelor* theme music returns for the next several lines.

00:30:34 Adam Host Like, sometimes you say yes to the Bajoranchelor, like, on camera.

00:30:38 Ben Host Right.

00:30:39 Adam Host You know, during the season finale. But then...

[Ben laughs.]

Then when the show's over, cooler heads prevail.

00:30:46 Ben Host Right. In the intervening months, you realize that this is not a—like, this was not a great life choice.

00:30:52 Adam Host Right.

00:30:53 Ben Host Doing this all on a reality show.

00:30:54 Adam Host And that's fine!

00:30:55 Ben Host Yeah.

00:30:56 Adam Host Kira's smart.

[Music ends.]

00:30:58 Ben Host *[Laughing]* Uh-huh.

00:30:59 Adam Host She's gonna turn it into a reality show of her own.

00:31:01 Ben Host Yeah. I like that the—this is like, a really jovial hang for everybody. Like, Worf is actually in a good mood. *[Laughs.]*

00:31:10 Adam Host Yeah.

00:31:11 Ben Host Which is a pretty exciting and unusual situation.

00:31:14 Adam Host Yeah, 'cause he's usually the Debbie Downer of any social event.

00:31:18 Ben Host Right, like if anything, Kira is the most down character, but she's even like, looking forward to this.

00:31:24 Adam Host Right.

00:31:25 Ben Host And she admits, like, "In the like five years that I've been working with you guys and specifically with Captain Sisko, like, I've come around on this."

And they're like, "Hey! Why—speaking of Sisko!" *[Laughs.]* "Where's he at?"

And, uh, he is still up in the holosuite. And you know, this would be very worrying. If you knew that your boss was locking himself in a room, obsessing over his obelisk like this...

[Adam laughs.]

[Laughing] You would have some concerns, too. But unlike Kira, you might—you might actually knock before just walking in.

[Ben replies affirmatively during Adam's next statement.]

00:31:58 Adam Host Yeah! A holosuite addiction should be taken a little more seriously than it is in this episode.

00:32:03 Ben Host I agree.

00:32:05 Adam Host Sisko is really starting to talk a little crazy here. He's having visions.

00:32:09 Ben Host Yeah!

00:32:10 Adam Host Visions of the past and the future.

00:32:12 Ben Host Yeah, when Kira walks in he is not present at all. And she has to like, literally shake him out of it. And I really love how, like, explosive Avery Brooks's performance was when he comes back to reality.

And what they talk about is that he was like, experiencing like a waking dream that they refer to as a pagh'tem'far.

00:32:36 Clip Clip **Kira:** *[Whispering]* A sacred vision...

00:32:37 Ben Host He was, uh—I guess having like an Orb experience sans Orb.

00:32:41 Adam Host He was having tantric Orb.

00:32:43 Ben Host *[Laughs.]*

Yeah.

00:32:47 Adam Host This is a moment in an episode where the rules are different when you're the Emissary. Because if you are Dr. Bashir, sitting akimbo beneath the B'hala monument and talking this kind of shit, I think you would probably be taken to the infirmary and taken off duty.

00:33:07 Ben Host Right.

00:33:08 Adam Host And any number of things. But...

00:33:10 Ben Host Yeah.

00:33:11 Adam Host Sisko gets different treatment.

00:33:14 Ben Host Yeah. I think, uh... I think that's a good point. Like, the Emissary-ness of him means that Kira leaps to different conclusions about what is going on. And I think it's crucial that it's Kira that finds him, right?

00:33:27 Adam Host Yeah, exactly. She's always gonna be more deferential to a faith-based explanation for what's happening.

00:33:33 Ben Host Right.

00:33:34 Adam Host Even though that answer could be dangerous to people in the real world.

00:33:40 Ben Host Yeah. I thought that it was very interesting that they don't ever solve for what is going on with him.

Like, the—I mean, he gets worse and worse over the course of this episode, but it leaves unanswered whether something transcendental would have happened to him if they would have let it—let this thing run its course.

00:34:02 Adam Host Yeah. Yeah.

Just in case you were feeling good about yourself or your circumstances—

00:34:07 Ben Host Never!

[Both laugh quietly.]

00:34:09 Adam Host Here comes Kai Winn to piss in your cereal.

[Ben laughs.]

And Kira greets her at the airlock. It is catty as usual!

00:34:18 Clip Clip **Kai Winn:** *[Sweetly]* I see working beside Captain Sisko all these years has had quite an influence on you!

00:34:24 Ben Host Yeah, she's pissed that Sisko isn't there. She feels like she's being snubbed by the Emissary.

00:34:32 Adam Host Kai Winn is joining a club, there. Like, everyone's getting snubbed by Sisko this episode.

00:34:37 Ben Host Yeah. I think she's also salty that Bajor is entering the Federation. And she kind of speaks to the position that Kira had at the beginning of the series, which is "We've only had five years. We need time to—we need time to be our own planet before we become a member of this huge interplanetary consortium."

00:35:02 Adam Host Right. It's like when you break up with someone, you need to take some time. To figure out who you are.

[Ben laughs.]

Before getting in a new relationship.

00:35:10 Ben Host *[Stifling laughter]* Yeah. I mean—

00:35:11 Adam Host Bajor needs some me time!

00:35:14 Ben Host I guess so. *[Laughs.]*

Are you saying something, Adam? *[Laughs.]*

00:35:17 Adam Host No, I'm just saying that sometimes when you go on the, uh...

00:35:19 Music Music *The Bachelor* theme music returns.

00:35:20 Adam Host ...*Bajoranchelor*—

[Ben laughs.]

—maybe you're not ready for that kind of commitment!

00:35:25 Ben Host Yeah, well, I think that that's—you shouldn't go on *The Bajoranchelor* to begin with—

[Adam laughs.]

—if that's not the kind of—if that's not the kind of a commitment you're prepared to make!

00:35:35 Adam Host Bajor just wants to be famous, that's the problem.

00:35:38 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Ben:** Yeah, Bajor wants—

Adam: You make bad decisions.

00:35:39 Ben Host Bajor wants to be on TV, first and foremost?

00:35:42 Adam Host *[Laughs.]* Uh-huh.

[Both laugh. Music stops.]

00:35:46 Adam Host I love to hate Kai Winn.

00:35:49 Ben Host Yeah! That's what she's there for.

00:35:51 Adam Host She's great.

00:35:52 Music Transition A techno song mixed with clips and soundbites from *DS9* and *TNG*.

Sisko and little girl:
Allamaraine! Count to four!
Allamaraine! Then three more!
[Continues]

Picard:
What are you doing?
What—what—what are you doing?

Commander, what are you doing now?

Sisko:
Ow!
Ow!
Ha ha!
Ow!
Ow!
Hoo!

*I'm not Picard
I'm not Picard
I'm not Picard
I'm not Picard*

Picard:
Exactly.

00:36:09 Adam Host Back in the holosuite, Kasidy Yates walks in on Ben Sisko.

00:36:13 Clip Clip **Music:** Intense music plays in the background, continuing under Adam's dialogue below.

Sisko: Kasidy!

Kasidy: Jake said I could find you here.

00:36:18 Adam Host She is surprised that Captain Sisko is happy to see her.

[Music from the clip fades out.]

00:36:22 Adam Host *[Ben responds affirmatively a couple times as Adam speaks.]*

But it's not that he is, he's just sort of coasting off of spire shrooms.

[Ben laughs.]

And that thing happens when you come back from a place that you've been for a long time, and all you wanna be is home. But you're coerced into leaving again and doing something else, and Kasidy is like "I don't really wanna go on a trip to Bajor; I just got out of jail. It would be nice to sleep in my own bed."

And Ben Sisko's like, "No, it's gonna be cool! Let's get in a runabout and go!"

00:36:50 Ben Host There's so much in this scene that is like, baffling, because like, you can tell that she's a little bit relieved that he's—he's blissed out on obelisk.

00:36:57 Clip Clip **Music:** Intense music continues.

Kasidy: I didn't know you'd be happy to see me.

00:37:00 Ben Host Because it means he's not rejecting her upon her return.

But then he also says, like, "Oh yeah, like, your quarters are exactly as you left them," which is something that he didn't have to do.

00:37:12 Adam Host Yeah.

00:37:13 Ben Host That's a pretty sweet gesture on his part—

00:37:15 Adam Host Yeah.

00:37:16 Ben Host —that would bespeak that he is going to be prepared to welcome her back with open arms.

But because he's blissed out on obelisk, you can't separate the variables. You don't know whether or not that was in fact where he was at emotionally.

00:37:32 Adam Host Yeah, and Kasidy knows none of this, basically.

00:37:34 Ben Host Right. She just thinks he's just cosplaying as Captain Picard doing some artifact thievery.

00:37:41 Adam Host If you're Kasidy Yates, you're also relieved that Captain Sisko still has affection for you in a way that is welcoming and kind. Like, she sort of walks into the room a little bit on guard for what she's—

00:37:54 Ben Host Yeah.

00:37:55 Adam Host —going to find, and that... I think she's more willing to forgive a weird road trip at this point, because it's related to the idea that she's been welcomed back into his life.

00:38:04 Ben Host She is relieved enough to go to the *Star Trek* caves with him. Where they—you know, they're deep underground. He uses a phaser to cut a giant hole in a wall.

00:38:11 Clip Clip *[The clip is playing as Ben describes it: we hear a phaser, some rubble, and sustained, subtly dramatic music.]*

00:38:15 Ben Host And there on the other side of it is the ruin of the obelisk.

[Clip audio ends.]

00:38:20 Adam Host There it is.

00:38:21 Ben Host *[From serious to laughing]* B'hala is in the *Star Trek* caves.

[Adam laughs.]

[Still laughing] It was there for 20,000 years!

00:38:27 Adam Host It was there the whole time!

00:38:28 Ben Host It would have been great if this had been an Easter egg, like in all previous *Star Trek* caves, like, the—*[breaks off, laughing]*.

The episode where Picard and Worf and Dr. Crusher were—

[Both laugh.]

—ninja-ing through the caves.

00:38:43 Adam Host A very eccentric set construction guy? *[Laughs.]*

00:38:46 Ben Host Yeah.

00:38:47 Adam Host Had built it?

00:38:48 Ben Host They just happen to walk by an obelisk, like, "I wonder what that is!"

[Adam laughs.]

[Dismissively] "Well... Who knows?"

[Laughs.]

00:38:53 Adam Host We cut back to the security office, where Odo, Worf, and Kira are arguing over quarters for the visiting Starfleet brass like it's the seating chart for a wedding reception.

00:39:03 Ben Host Yeah. You can't sit Admiral Aunt Anne next to—*[laughs]*—next to him, because she hates him.

00:39:09 Adam Host Nechayev sits alone, right?

00:39:11 Ben Host I think she gets—she gets like, in the center of the dais, right?

00:39:15 Adam Host Yeah.

Nechayev probably leaves before the music starts, right? The—

[Ben laughs.]

—the dance portion of the evening?

00:39:21 Ben Host She's mysterious, but very dignified.

00:39:25 Adam Host Kai Winn interrupts the proceedings and wants to talk to Kira about Sisko. She has some pretty serious doubts about whether or not Sisko will forgive her for doubting him. Seeing as how the whole *Bajoranchelor* thing is coming to a close.

She is focused on the conclusion to the Bajor story in a way that few others are, because she's low-key wondering what her role is going to be in a post-Federation/Bajor relationship in a way that I wonder why Kira wouldn't! Or Ben Sisko himself doesn't express up until now.

Everyone's life is going to change!

00:40:05 Ben Host Yeah.

00:40:06 Adam Host After this membership happens.

00:40:08 Ben Host She's such an interesting character, because I kinda get this sense when I—you know, like the leaders of big religious organizations often read to me—you know, if I hear them talking on the news or whatever—as somewhat disingenuous in a way?

00:40:23 Adam Host Mm-hm.

00:40:24 Ben Host Like, I almost wonder sometimes if religious leaders are people who are so scared of their own lack of faith that they kind of like, overcompensate by becoming leaders within a faith tradition.

And I think that that's kind of what Kai Winn is, and then she's faced with direct evidence that Sisko is what everybody says he is.

00:40:45 Adam Host Yeah.

00:40:46 Ben Host And that causes kind of a crisis for her, because she was happy to kind of play the game, as long as there was no—I mean, she was really thrilled when there was that other guy that was, uh—was the Prophet for half an episode.

[Laughs lightly.]

00:41:01 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Adam:** Right.

Ben: 'Cause she could kinda push him around.

00:41:03 Adam Host Yeah. I mean, religious leaders really live in an area of certainty-edging, you know?

00:41:09 Ben Host Yeah, so I—uh... I don't know. I thought this was a really int—like, great timing in this episode, where you see her in the kind of pre-discovery-of-B'hala state, where she is a little bit pissed that she has

to deal with Sisko.

And now she's like, "Fuck, I hope Sisko doesn't announce that I'm not the Kai anymore or something like that, because it would be pretty hard to argue with him at this point."

| | | | |
|----------|-------|-------|--|
| 00:41:35 | Adam | Host | Kira and Kai's conversation is really interesting, because Kira kinda falls into a conversation trap that results in Kai Winn taking <u>great</u> umbrage with the idea that Kira doesn't believe Kai Winn's sacrifices during the Occupation are equivalent to Kira's. |
| 00:41:55 | Music | Music | Inappropriately cheerful music that stops after the clip ends. |
| 00:41:56 | Clip | Clip | Kai Winn: I was in a Cardassian prison camp for five years. And I can remember each and every beating I suffered. |
| 00:42:04 | Adam | Host | It's a "more resistant than thou" kind of argument that they have, and it's awkward. Because I don't think Kira really recognized that Kai Winn also made sacrifices, and she was in prison while Kira got to hold a gun. |
| | | | Like, those are two very different situations during the Occupation, and they both deserve recognition for what it means a person has lost. |
| 00:42:28 | Ben | Host | I agree, but also, Kai Winn is a scold and will never— |
| 00:42:30 | Adam | Host | Right. |
| 00:42:31 | Ben | Host | — <i>[laughing]</i> miss an opportunity to scold somebody. |
| 00:42:33 | Adam | Host | Yeah. Exactly! |
| 00:42:34 | Ben | Host | So like, I think that it's <u>reasonable</u> for Kira not to think of Kai Winn's... experience as being equivalent. |
| 00:42:43 | Adam | Host | Right. |
| | | | At the excavation site, admirals are starting to show up. And this is a situation that's like when friends and family are coming over for dinner or something, and you're in the basement playing video games when they show up. |
| 00:42:56 | Ben | Host | Or playing with your obelisk. Whatever. |
| 00:42:57 | Adam | Host | Yeah. |
| 00:42:58 | Ben | Host | <i>[Laughing]</i> Whatever you're up to down there. |
| 00:43:00 | Clip | Clip | Admiral Whatley: I was surprised you weren't on the station when I arrived. |
| 00:43:03 | Adam | Host | He should have been there to <u>greet</u> . |
| 00:43:04 | Ben | Host | Yeah. |
| 00:43:05 | Adam | Host | And he wasn't, and so Admiral Whatley beams down, feeling a little bit insulted by it. |
| 00:43:10 | Ben | Host | Yeah, and this is another extraordinarily lenient boss, who— |
| 00:43:15 | Adam | Host | Right. |
| 00:43:16 | Ben | Host | Like, Sisko is really ranting and raving. And <u>really</u> preoccupied with what he's doing. He's like, "I'm not coming back to the station and doing some shit where we have to sign some papers." Like, "That's not—that's not what I'm interested in right now; I'm interested in <u>this!</u> " |

And Admiral Whatley is like—you know, like, he expresses *[laughs]* that he's a little bit dubious about this, but also is like, "Alright, well... You know, like, "Give it another couple of days!" *[Laughs.]*

| | | | |
|----------|------|------|--|
| 00:43:43 | Clip | Clip | Whatley: I'll give you some time. |
| 00:43:44 | Adam | Host | "I mean, maybe Ben Sisko is a lot like Captain Picard with the archeology!" <i>[Ben laughs.]</i> "Maybe I should allow this to play out!" |
| 00:43:50 | Ben | Host | <i>[Laughing]</i> Yeah. |
| 00:43:51 | Adam | Host | "Maybe we'd have two Picards on our hands!" |
| 00:43:53 | Clip | Clip | Whatley: Alright. |
| 00:43:55 | Ben | Host | That would be pretty great. Love me some Picard. |
| 00:43:57 | Adam | Host | You're right, though. Ben Sisko's head is <u>not</u> in the game, and it is a cause for concern at this point. Admiral Whatley is lenient, but Sisko's on notice here. |
| 00:44:09 | Ben | Host | Whatley's under a lot of stress, but it's like the kind of stress that an admiral should have the capability of dealing with. He's saying like, you know, "Getting Bajor into the Federation was one thing, but now we have to bring the entire Bajoran Militia into Starfleet. We gotta have elections; there's lots of politics that needs to be seen to." And it doesn't seem like that is a—like, a "key man" situation where without Ben Sisko they can't accomplish it. |
| 00:44:37 | Adam | Host | Basically the only thing Whatley does is order a physical for Sisko. A physical that Sisko is 90 minutes late for. |
| 00:44:48 | Ben | Host | 'Cause he has continued to see colors more brightly, and he's also, like, getting periodic headaches and stuff. Kinda little personal <u>bangers</u> are coming a little bit faster and more frequently. |
| 00:45:01 | Adam | Host | We cut to the exterior of the infirmary, and Sisko is kind of wading through the Bajoran population— <i>[Tense string music begins fading in.]</i> —doing that weird John Edward—style psychic medium trickery. |
| 00:45:12 | Clip | Clip | Music: The tense music continues playing as Sisko speaks. Sisko: <i>[Calm, almost deadpan]</i> There's no need to worry. The katterpod harvest will be much better this year. <i>[Music continues as Ben and Adam speak.]</i> |
| 00:45:17 | Ben | Host | <i>[Laughs.]</i> Yeah. |
| 00:45:19 | Adam | Host | He even street magics Admiral Whatley outside. |

00:45:22 Ben Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]*

00:45:23 Clip Clip **Whatley:** How the hell did he know that Kevin and I weren't getting along?

Bashir: He's the Emissary.

[Music fades out.]

00:45:29 Ben Host I'm surprised he didn't take off his action jacket and Benny Hinn a couple of people. *[Laughs.]*

00:45:33 Adam Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah.

[Ben laughs.]

Admiral Whatley, like, spits out orange soda? *[Laughs.]*

00:45:38 Clip Clip **Speaker 1:** *[Spits out soda.]* How did you get it in my mouth?!

Speaker 2: Please stop, you demon!

00:45:42 Ben Host I don't know. It seems like he is like, seeing things on a higher level, right? He like, walks up to that Bajoran guy, he's like, "You don't belong here. Go home!"

00:45:49 Adam Host Yeah.

00:45:50 Ben Host What does that mean?!

[Both laugh.]

"Just go home for now? Go home forever? Am I allowed to leave?"

00:45:56 Adam Host Yeah, that part was great.

00:45:58 Ben Host Kinda reminded me of the guy that—of the false Prophet guy.

00:46:01 Adam Host Yes!

00:46:02 Ben Host You know?

00:46:03 Adam Host Yeah, but Ben Sisko doesn't have that kind of insight. He's too blissed out.

00:46:09 Ben Host Yeah.

00:46:10 Adam Host Bashir examines Sisko again, and Sisko is going on and on about this vision about locusts and clouds.

00:46:17 Ben Host Yeah.

00:46:18 Adam Host And Whatley is not a believer, safe to say. *[Laughs.]*

00:46:21 Ben Host No.

00:46:22 Clip Clip **Speaker:** I'll tell you what's up: I'm a Jew!

00:46:24 Ben Host They do the like—the thing where they like, stick stuff to his head. They're putting him through the medical wringer, and he wakes up and has had a pretty terrifying nightmare about like, locusts clouding over Bajor and then heading toward Cardassia.

[Stifling laughter] And Whatley's like, "Hey!" Like, "Dreams aren't always—aren't always literal!"

00:46:45 Adam Host *[Laughs.]* I love Whatley trying to talk sense to someone who is

clearly tripping. *[Laughs again.]*

00:46:50 Ben Host *[Laughing]* Yeah. Yeah. The chill-out tent does not go well, Enterprise. *[Laughs.]*

00:46:56 Adam Host No. Does not.

00:46:58 Music Transition A techno song mixed with clips from *DS9* and various other sources.

Dax: Morn
Kira: Morn?
Odo: Morn!
[Hammer clang.]
Quark: Dear, sweet Morn!
O'Brien: Morn
Kira: Morn?

Norm (Cheers): Evening, everybody!

Kira: Morn!

MC Hammer: Stop! Hammer time.

00:47:06 Ben Host And this sort of starts to set up a choice, a dynamic wherein Sisko is going to have to choose between visions or death.

Because Bashir says like, "Your brain is starting to fall apart." Like, "I need to do brain surgery to re-polarize something-something-something."

00:47:24 Clip Clip **Bashir:** Your basal ganglia are starting to depolarize. I'm going to have to operate.

00:47:27 Ben Host *[Laughing]* Like, it almost sounds like—like Geordi talking about an engine, the way Bashir's talking about Sisko's brain.

00:47:35 Adam Host Bashir's like, *[as Bashir, but eerily calm]* "Now, I could lobotomize you."

[Ben laughs.]

"It's something that I've done very often on the station."

[Ben laughs.]

"How would you like to be someone else?"

00:47:47 Ben Host Yeah.

00:47:48 Adam Host "With a new name, and a new face?"

00:47:49 Ben Host "We've got this old Klingon here who's willing to go with the pretense that you're his son, and you've, uh—"

[Adam laughs.]

"—and you've lost your memory."

00:47:56 Adam Host *[Still hypothetically]* We pan over to a CRTTV-VCR combo.

[Ben laughs.]

Bashir pushes in the tape, and it's—it's Kurn on the screen, he's like—

00:48:05 Music Music Fun, jazzy, infomercial-style commercial plays.

00:48:06 Adam Host *[As Kurn, over-enunciating]* "How would you like to leave your past behind?"

[Ben laughs.]

"And assume a... new identity?"

00:48:14 Ben Host *[Same impression]* "The dishonor of your family is no longer your problem!"

[Adam cracks up, Ben chuckles.]

00:48:20 Adam Host "With! The Bashir method!"

[Ben laughs.]

"You! Will leave! Your problems behind!"

00:48:27 Ben Host "Dial the number! At the bottom of the screen now!"

[Adam laughs, then starts cracking up as Ben continues.]

"For four easy payments of \$49.99! The Bashir method can be yours!"

00:48:42 Adam Host *[Comes down from the laughter.]*

Bashir's like, "So, uh, what do you think?"

[Music fades out. Ben laughs.]

"I can put you on the schedule tomorrow."

[Ben laughs.]

[No longer hypothetical] It's life-threatening! Like, if Sisko doesn't agree to the surgery, he could die without it. That's the point.

00:48:58 Ben Host Right.

00:48:59 Adam Host But the cost is removing the ability to have the visions. And so that's the conflict.

00:49:05 Ben Host He talks that over with Jake and Kasidy, who suddenly just feel like "the family," you know? Like, Kasidy is just back integrated into the family unit, and she and Jake are arguing for like, "Yeah!"

Like, "Don't die! *[Stifling laughter]* Don't let this thing melt your mind!"
Like, "We need you here! Look at Jake, he's 18! You know, like, watch him become a man and be like a—be an adult!"

And Sisko is like, "No!"

Like, "I feel like this whole—this is like, my new child, and wanna see it grow up instead."

00:49:40 Adam Host The... insanity of Ben Sisko's resistance to surgery and the idea of losing these visions, I feel like could be helped with dialogue a little bit, because—like, we understand the context of B'hala as being a lost city and whatever.

But we don't really have a way to place it in the greater context of Ben Sisko's being the Emissary, or putting it in a religious context. Like, it just feels separate from his Emissary-ness and the religion, in a way that makes it feel like this totally separate idea. And so I could get on board with the idea of Sisko being willing to die for an Orb. Or for something having to do more closely with him being the Emissary. But this seems archeological, in a way that never seems worth it! You know?

00:50:33 Ben Host Hm.

00:50:34 Adam Host Like, it seems more academic than religious. And that's where I'm hung up.

00:50:39 Ben Host I guess if this lost city had been an established thing, then it might have been easier to make that leap.

But because we've never heard about it before, it feels a little bit contrived.

00:50:52 Adam Host It wouldn't take much to un-contrive it, though.

00:50:55 Ben Host Yeah.

00:50:56 Adam Host Anyway, that's why I mean—like, you can feel the script trying to put you in the position of—of the middle.

But I was never in the middle of this conflict. I was always seeing the insanity of Ben Sisko choosing to possibly die over the visions, you know?

00:51:15 Ben Host Yeah. And I think that—like, if this episode was putting you in the position of agreeing with Kai Winn, that would be such a more interesting tension.

00:51:24 Adam Host Right.

00:51:25 Ben Host Like, "Ugh! I don't wanna be on her side; what?!"

00:51:28 Adam Host Yeah.

00:51:29 Ben Host "I never—I'm never on her side. This is uncomfortable and weird."

00:51:32 Adam Host Jake and Kasidy's efforts to get through to him are insufficient, because—

[Ben chuckles.]

—Sisko talks about holding the universe like a baby. Uh, he has gone totally loco.

[Ben laughs.]

Four Loko, even.

00:51:49 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* He's got taurine, guarana, *[laughs]* caffeine and alcohol?

00:51:56 Adam Host He's too crazy for *The Bajoranchelor!*

| | | | |
|----------|-------|-------|---|
| 00:51:58 | Music | Music | <i>The Bachelor</i> theme music returns. |
| 00:51:59 | Adam | Host | <i>[Ben laughs.]</i> |
| | | | Like—like, the producers are gonna have to sit him down! |
| 00:52:01 | Ben | Host | Wow. |
| | | | I didn't think it was possible. |
| 00:52:05 | Adam | Host | Yeah. |
| | | | <i>[Both laugh. Music stops.]</i> |
| 00:52:08 | Adam | Host | And what's worse is that Kai Winn is being—has taken it upon herself to <u>help</u> Captain Sisko in his journey, and that's always a bad sign. Because what Kai Winn wants is often <u>not</u> what is best for you or our favorite characters. |
| 00:52:24 | Ben | Host | So she's like, praying while he is Orbing. And then <u>while</u> he's still Orbing, she attends this ceremony where, you know, a momentous document admitting Bajor into the United Federation of Planets is going to be signed. And the admiral's like, "Oh, like, I feel a little weird, you know, starting this without him, but I guess if you say so, Kai Winn..." |
| | | | <i>[Both laugh.]</i> |
| | | | And Sisko comes like, stumbling in the door, like— |
| 00:52:50 | Clip | Clip | Music: Eerie, suspenseful strings/woodwinds or synth. |
| | | | Sisko: <i>[Frantic and increasingly strangled]</i> It's too soon! Bajor must not join the Federation! If it does, it will be destroyed! |
| 00:52:58 | Adam | Host | <i>[Ben laughs as Adam speaks.]</i> |
| | | | Yeah, and if one side of the conference room table are full of religiously-minded Bajorans who are already a little bit reluctant to make a decision like this, a staggering, ranting and raving Ben Sisko is the thing that finally makes them full-on push back from that table. |
| 00:53:22 | Ben | Host | Yeah. They set their fork down and put their napkin down on top of the lasagna. They are not going to eat any more. |
| 00:53:31 | Adam | Host | This didn't need to go this far. Because if Bashir had Dr. Beverly Crusher's sense of agency—like, Beverly was relieving Picard of duty all the time! |
| 00:53:41 | Ben | Host | Yeah. |
| 00:53:42 | Adam | Host | Where the hell is Bashir on this? |
| | | | <i>[Ben laughs.]</i> |
| | | | He basically turns to camera and shrugs his shoulders. |
| 00:53:49 | Ben | Host | Yeah. The question falls to Jake what to do. |
| 00:53:52 | Adam | Host | Yeah. Jake's got power of attorney. |
| 00:53:55 | Ben | Host | Yeah. Dad's nervous system is depolarizing. Sisko passed out <u>not</u> wanting this surgery, and Jake decides, "No." Like, "We gotta save his life. We gotta—we gotta do this." |

And this is a pretty powerful scene for Cirroc Lofton. He's definitely rising to the emotional challenges that this presents, I feel like.

| | | | |
|----------|------|------|--|
| 00:54:16 | Adam | Host | Yeah. He is <u>often</u> asked to grieve for his father. |
| 00:54:20 | Ben | Host | Yeah! |
| 00:54:21 | Adam | Host | You know? |
| 00:54:22 | Ben | Host | Sisko death is a frequent theme— |
| 00:54:24 | Adam | Host | Yeah. |
| 00:54:25 | Ben | Host | —and, uh—and it—yeah, he's good at it at this point. |
| 00:54:30 | Adam | Host | Jake chooses the surgery because he's not an idiot. |
| 00:54:32 | Clip | Clip | Jake: Do what you have to do. |
| | | | Bashir: Prepare for surgery. |
| 00:54:35 | Ben | Host | Yeah, he's been—he's been raised well. |
| 00:54:37 | Adam | Host | Like, he's emotional because it's come to this. I don't think he's emotional because he's having a hard time making a decision. |
| 00:54:42 | Ben | Host | Right. So while that's going on, we get another scene with Kira and Kai Winn. And Kai Winn feels like the doctor doing this surgery is another example of the Federation kind of meddling in Bajoran religious affairs. |
| 00:55:00 | Adam | Host | Kira makes a pretty interesting counterpoint to this, though. I think it's the thing that faith-based people have to confront fairly often! Like, are you a cafeteria faith-based person, or do you believe <u>all</u> of it? Because Kira's like, "Look, maybe <u>this</u> is part of the plan. All of it!" |
| 00:55:15 | Ben | Host | Right. |
| 00:55:16 | Adam | Host | "Maybe the plan <u>wasn't</u> a straight line. Maybe it's a bunch of zig-zags." |
| 00:55:19 | Ben | Host | Yeah. You can't know. |
| 00:55:21 | Adam | Host | This of course is unsatisfying to Kai Winn, because Kai Winn only cares about winning. |
| 00:55:25 | Clip | Clip | Kai Winn: I suppose you heard that Bajor will not join the Federation today. |
| 00:55:29 | Ben | Host | Yeah, she—she says, like, "At least before I knew who my enemies were," and that's such a <u>weird</u> way of thinking about what your role in the world is when you're a religious leader that's—you know? <i>[Laughs.]</i> |
| 00:55:40 | Adam | Host | Yeah. |
| 00:55:41 | Ben | Host | You would think that, like, your primary preoccupations would be like, helping people practice their faith— |
| 00:55:47 | Adam | Host | Yeah. |
| 00:55:48 | Ben | Host | —as well as they can, and not considering yourself as "you against the world," and you're picking and fighting enemies? |
| 00:55:56 | Clip | Clip | <i>[Audience laughs.]</i> |
| 00:55:58 | Adam | Host | Yeah. |
| 00:56:00 | Ben | Host | I think a great—a great piece of dialogue that says a lot more than it |

appears to at first glance.

00:56:08 Adam Host We get an elliptical edit, and Sisko comes to in the infirmary. He is distraught, because he knows right away the visions are gone. The colors are back to normal.

00:56:19 Ben Host Yeah.

00:56:20 Adam Host He's done trippin'.

00:56:21 Ben Host "You took the voices out of my head."

00:56:24 Adam Host In Sisko's office later, Whatley asks him to convince the Bajorans to come back to the table and join the Federation.

Interesting choice by Whatley! Like, do you really want Sisko to be—
[breaks off, laughing].

[Ben laughs.]

To—to come back into that conference room? I don't know.

00:56:40 Ben Host Yeah.

00:56:41 Adam Host I might transfer Sisko if I'm Whatley. But that's sort of his point!

He's like, "You know, you're so important. You are the Emissary. If you were anyone but the Emissary, I would have transferred you long ago."

00:56:52 Ben Host Right.

00:56:53 Adam Host Like it's sort of, "This is your situation. You're married to it to the end."

00:56:56 Ben Host The—like, Starfleet doesn't feel like they can do anything to move Sisko anymore. And... that sucks for them, because he's now gone directly against their orders of shepherding the Bajorans into the Federation.

00:57:11 Adam Host *[Sighs.]* But it's like—they're looking at the possible consequences here, and they're seeing nothing but bad, and it's just degrees of bad, right?

Because while they know Sisko is acting against their interests, they know removing him would be even worse, because by—

00:57:25 Ben Host Yeah.

00:57:26 Adam Host —taking the Emissary off the game board, there's no fucking way Bajor would participate in *The Bajoranchelor*.

00:57:34 Ben Host Do you think Whatley places any stock in Sisko's fear? 'Cause I don't know—I don't know if we've even said it, but the vision that Sisko's had is that if Bajor enters the Federation now, it will mean the destruction of Bajor.

And it's not entirely clear what will precipitate that destruction, but it's just not—it's not the right time for Bajor to enter—

00:57:57 Adam Host Yeah!

00:57:58 Ben Host —the Federation, and I wondered—like, they definitely don't address it in the script, so I thought—I wondered if there was meant to be an implication that is unspoken that Whatley actually places some stock

in that.

00:58:13 Adam Host Yeah. I mean, because Sisko definitely doesn't say "no," he just says "later."

00:58:17 Ben Host Right.

00:58:18 Adam Host The button on the episode is in Sisko's quarters, and Kasidy and Jake have prepared the welcome back dinner that it was Captain Sisko's job to make to begin with.

00:58:28 Ben Host Jambalaya's always a great way to end an adventure, I think. And in your case, I guess it's a way to start a whole new adventure.

00:58:35 Adam Host *[Laughing]* Uh-huh.

00:58:36 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* An alimentary adventure. *[Laughs.]*

00:58:40 Adam Host Now it's kind of a welcome back to Ben Sisko. Welcome back to the real world!

00:58:45 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Ben:** Yeah.

Adam: It's a case of stolen welcome-back valor, Ben.

00:58:48 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah.

00:58:50 Adam Host It's not fair.

00:58:51 Ben Host But the episode ends with Jake, Kasidy, and Ben's hands all clutched around each other.

00:58:58 Adam Host Yeah.

00:58:59 Music Transition A techno song mixed with clips and soundbites from *DS9*.

Sisko:
You really want to do this?
Here?
Now?!

Okay
Okay
Let's do it!
Do it!

00:59:03 Ben Host Didja like it?

00:59:04 Adam Host I might just fall into the category of people who aren't super interested in the Bajoran religious episodes of *Deep Space Nine*.

And I know there are a lot of 'em, because when you read about the production of this show, this was something that the show strained against for a long time.

00:59:20 Ben Host Right.

00:59:21 Adam Host I think the problem with Bajoran faith-based episodes is that my own feelings kinda prevent me from both-sidesing the issue in a way that the episode is asking you to do. Right?

00:59:31 Ben Host Right.

00:59:32 Adam Host I don't think I'm ever going to be on the side of the Emissary, and the Emissary's choices, as long as those choices sacrifice everyone else's interest for the narrow religious interest as we see them.

And I think to a larger extent, I don't think a *Star Trek* future is possible with religious faith as it exists today. And so when I see what looks like a familiar religion in the future struggling to integrate itself with Federation values, it's just like, frustrating to watch! And it's unbelievable to me.

01:00:07 Ben Host

Hm. Yeah. *[Sighs.]*

I think when I can remind myself and come back to the idea that there's a way of thinking about the Prophets as being a type of alien that has some kind of agenda that the Bajorans have chosen to think of as supernatural...

01:00:27 Adam Host

That really helps.

01:00:28 Ben Host

It helps, but it's frustrating that the Bajorans would be so much subject to the whims of these aliens, and so willingly subject to those whims.

01:00:40 Adam Host

Like, Kira is the one person who could actually cross the Rubicon! You know?

01:00:45 Ben Host

Right.

01:00:46 Adam Host

Like, she's been inside the wormhole! She has met the Prophets! Like, she understands the context of them in a way that the hardline religious leaders couldn't possibly understand.

Like, if she were able to cross the bridge into—god, even using, like, that terminology is religiously loaded. But like, if she could—

01:01:04 Ben Host

Right. *[Laughs.]*

01:01:05 Adam Host

—come around to the idea of an understanding of the Prophets that was more science-based...

01:01:11 Ben Host

If she could be more like an Operating Thetan Level VI, or so.

01:01:15 Adam Host

Right!

[Both laugh, and again as Adam continues.]

If she could just get clear about the Prophets were, she would be a great example to everyone else!

01:01:23 Ben Host

Yeah. Yeah! I don't know.

It's—I think that I always find these episodes really challenging, and I totally feel your pain. And yet I found this one really compelling, this watch-through, for whatever reason.

And I think that like, a lot of it is just that Avery Brooks is really good at doing these kinds of episodes—

01:01:46 Adam Host

Yeah.

01:01:47 Ben Host

—in a way that is fun to watch.

01:01:48 Adam Host

Yeah.

01:01:49 Ben Host

And I guess the other thing is that when Kai Winn gets what she wants, it's frustrating. And she doesn't get everything she wants; like, she gets what she wants in the context of having to accept Sisko as

the Emissary.

01:02:03 Adam Host Yeah.

01:02:04 Ben Host Which is a tough pill for her to swallow.

01:02:06 Adam Host Right.

01:02:07 Ben Host But she does kind of win in the end, and that's always a bad feeling.

[Both laugh.]

But it's supposed to be!

01:02:13 Adam Host Yeah! This show does not shy away from a victorious Kai Winn at the end of an episode.

01:02:19 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Ben:** Yeah. Weird.

Adam: No tone setter.

01:02:21 Ben Host No.

01:02:22 Adam Host The symbol of victory at the end of every *Greatest Gen* episode is the reading of a Priority One Message.

01:02:28 Ben Host It sure is, Adam!

01:02:29 Adam Host Wanna go check those out?

01:02:30 Ben Host I would love to.

01:02:31 Sound Effect Transition **Computer:** *[Beeps four times.]* Priority one message from Starfleet coming in on secure channel. *[More beeping.]*

01:02:35 Music Music "Push it to the Limit," by Paul Engemann, mixed with clips from various sources.

Ernie McCracken (Kingpin): *We need a supplemental income.*
Roy Munson (Kingpin): *Supplemental income?*
Ernie: *Supplemental.*
Roy: *Supplemental.*
Ernie: *Yeah, it's extra.*
Ralph Offenhause (TNG, "The Neutral Zone"): *Why, the interest alone could be enough to buy this ship!*

[Coins drop on a hard surface.]

01:02:45 Music Music Music plays softly in the background of this segment, peppered by the ship's computer repeating, "Captain Picard, priority one message."

01:02:46 Adam Promo Ben, our first Priority One Message is from the entity known as The Dith.

[Ben laughs.]

The message is for "Incoming Code 47 Message for Captain LaSoto."

01:02:59 Ben Promo Okay!

01:03:00 Adam Promo Message goes like this:

"You are the Troi to my Beverly, the Bashir to my O'Brien..."

[Ben chuckles.]

"The Lwaxana to my Q, and the [loaf](#) to my [nubbin](#)."

01:03:08 Ben Promo

Wow! *[Laughs.]*

01:03:09 Adam Promo

"Thanks for—"

01:03:10 Ben Promo

Those are complicated relationships!

01:03:12 Adam Promo

"Thanks for [always](#) being up for my away missions and cosplaying in the holodeck. Remember when I got you and your future first officer court-martialed for drunk and disorderly conduct?"

[Ben laughs.]

[More conspiratorially] "Remember the photons?"

[Beat.]

"Here's to Captain LaSoto!"

01:03:27 Ben Promo

Wow.

01:03:28 Adam Promo

"Best friend I ever had."

01:03:30 Ben Promo

That is lovely!

01:03:31 Adam Promo

Yeah.

01:03:32 Ben Promo

That's a—that's a platonic P1!

01:03:35 Adam Promo

Yeah, this is a—this is intended to celebrate Captain LaSoto's birthday.

01:03:39 Ben Promo

That's great.

01:03:41 Adam Promo

So happy birthday, Captain LaSoto!

01:03:43 Ben Promo

Yeah, happy birthday!

We got another Priority One Message here, Adam. It is from [Nebraska](#).

[Adam laughs.]

And it's to Ben and Adam. Seems like the entire state of Nebraska maybe has sent us a message?

01:03:55 Adam Promo

That makes sense.

01:03:56 Ben Promo

That's a [bad](#) use of tax dollars, right?

01:03:58 Adam Promo

Well, it's—it's [very](#) inexpensive if you go in as an entire state.

01:04:02 Ben Promo

[Laughing] Yeah.

Yeah, that amortizes across—

01:04:05 Adam Promo

Yeah.

01:04:06 Ben Promo

—everyone's tax returns as mere pennies.

01:04:09 Adam Promo

Right.

01:04:10 Ben Promo

Message goes like this:

"I'm a little embarrassed to say I found and relied on a podcast that got me through a brain tumor diagnosis last year. You didn't put 'The Inner Light' on your top five, but maybe you're not nubbin aliens. So when St. Peter meets you at the Pearly Gates, he'll have only one question:

'When you were down there, did you two find yourselves a [Drunk Shimoda](#)?'"

Wow, I—a Drunk Shimoda here on Earth! Hm.

01:04:40 Adam Promo

Does that make St. Peter a Friend of DeSoto?

01:04:42 Ben Promo

[Laughs.] Sounds like it!

Adam, you know what? You're my earthly Drunk Shimoda.

01:04:48 Adam Promo

Hey, thanks, Ben.

01:04:49 Ben Promo

You're a great example of a person who's having the most fun—

[Adam laughs quietly.]

—and I aspire to it.

01:04:56 Adam Promo

[Laughs.] I wish I saw in me what others did.

[Ben cracks up.]

I so often get in my own way when it comes to having fun. Thanks, Ben.

01:05:06 Ben Promo

Nebraska, that is—that is a scary diagnosis!

I'm—I am glad you're still with us. And I hope that the prognosis is looking good!

01:05:16 Adam Promo

Whenever I think about how stupid our show is, I'm reminded from letters like these that it is helping someone, in a big way, get through a hard thing. And I am grateful to hear it. So.

01:05:29 Ben Promo

Yeah.

01:05:30 Adam Promo

Thanks for that.

01:05:31 Ben Promo

Thank you. If you'd like to send a P1, head to MaximumFun.org/jumbotron.

[Music ends.]

01:05:38 Ben Host

Hey, Adam!

01:05:39 Adam Host

What's that, Ben?

01:05:40 Ben Host

Did you find yourself a Drunk Shimoda in the episode?

01:05:43 Music Transition

Clips of *TNG* and Adam and Ben mixed with electric guitar.

Shimoda (TNG, "The Naked Now"): Incredible!

Adam & Ben: Druuunk Shimoda!

01:05:46 Adam Host

Yeah, it came from a scene that we didn't talk about. There's a scene

at—

01:05:51 Ben Host Oops! *[Laughs.]* We fucked up.

01:05:54 Adam Host That's fine. I think we can pick it up during Shimodas. I think we're—we're being efficient!

01:05:58 Ben Host Okay.

01:06:00 Adam Host It's at Ops. And it's where O'Brien, Dax, Worf, and Kira are having kind of the faith vs. science argument.

01:06:09 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Ben:** Oh, yeah!

Adam: That you're never supposed to have in a workplace.

01:06:12 Ben Host Yeah. Keep it out of bars and workplaces.

01:06:16 Adam Host And O'Brien is doing that thing that I think I can get with. Like, he's being diplomatic. He's not really wanting to really get into it.

And he sort of ends the conversation with "I hope you're right, Major," and then he sort of makes the O'Brien face of like—

[Ben laughs.]

It's basically a fuck-off face by O'Brien, O'Brien not being a believer.

01:06:38 Ben Host Yeah.

01:06:39 Adam Host And like, it's diplomatic while at the same time stating a side, but not stating it, because he's stating it with a face.

01:06:47 Ben Host Right.

01:06:48 Adam Host And, uh, it's a face choice.

[Ben laughs.]

And I like it when actors do that.

01:06:52 Ben Host Yeah.

01:06:53 Adam Host And I wanna recognize it with my Shimoda. He may not be having the most fun, because those conversations are not fun.

01:06:57 Ben Host Yeah.

01:06:58 Adam Host In any way. But it's an interesting choice.

01:07:02 Ben Host I'm gonna give mine to Kasidy Yates. And this is actually something we talked about quite a bit, but just the fact that she's like, out of jail for three hours—

[Adam laughs quietly.]

—and suddenly running around in *Star Trek* caves. She is really game for it. You know?

01:07:16 Adam Host I would be so pissed. I would not—

01:07:17 Ben Host God bless Kasidy Yates. *[Laughs.]*

01:07:19 Adam Host I would not consent to this trip at all. I would wanna go straight to bed.

01:07:22 Ben Host Yeah. I wanna—I would wanna take a bath where I wasn't being

watched by people with guns.

01:07:28 Adam Host Can you imagine the first, like, private dump?

01:07:30 Ben Host *[Whispering]* Oh, man!

01:07:31 Adam Host It'd be full evacuation.

[Ben laughs.]

For the first time in six months.

01:07:36 Ben Host Clean separation.

[Adam laughs.]

01:07:39 Adam Host One thing that is so rarely clean, Ben—

01:07:43 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Hey, wait. Speaking of dumps—*[laughs, and continues laughing through the next line].*

Can I tell you a story?

01:07:47 Adam Host Oh, yeah. We've got all the time in the world this episode.

01:07:50 Ben Host The other day, we were on a podcast, *The Sci-Fi Wire* podcast about horror movies.

01:07:58 Adam Host Yeah!

01:07:59 Ben Host Or I guess horror things.

01:08:00 Adam Host Sure.

01:08:01 Ben Host 'Cause we were talking about Borgs episodes of *TNG*.

And I had a—I had a doctor appointment that I needed to get to. And so I took the fastest dump of my entire life, because it was literally like—I like, got up from the desk, ran to the bathroom, dropped the deuce, cleaned up, ran to the car, made it to the doctor's in ten minutes.

01:08:21 Adam Host What?!

01:08:22 Ben Host And like, it usually takes me ten minutes just to get to the doctor's.

01:08:25 Adam Host I mean to me, it's not an official dump until your legs go numb.

01:08:29 Ben Host *[Cracks up.]*

I'm saying I did the whole—the whole thing in under ten seconds.

01:08:37 Adam Host *[Whispering]* Wow.

01:08:38 Ben Host I was very proud of myself. I was like, halfway to the doctor's when it hit me how fucking incredible that was.

01:08:44 Adam Host That's a great day. That's a lost Ice Cube lyric.

[Adam chuckles, Ben laughs.]

Right there. "Took a dump, didn't even have to wipe."

[Ben laughs.]

01:08:55 Music Transition A techno song mixed with clips and soundbites from *DS9*.

Speaker: Gotta—
Sisko: Get that—get that—
Quark: Gold-pressed latinum
Sisko: Get that—get that—
Nog: Gold-pressed latinum!
Sisko: Am I right? Ha ha! Hoo! Yeah!

Am I—am I right? Ha ha! Hoo!

01:09:03 Promo Clip

Music: Lively banjo and violin or fiddle music.

Tusk Henderson: Hello, my name is Tusk Henderson, and I am an outdoorsman.

Narrator: Are you looking for a new comedy podcast? This month's episode of *Beef And Dairy Network Podcast* has, as its guest, the wonderful Nick Offerman playing the part of Tusk Henderson, adventurer and outdoorsman.

Tusk: Think about fitting yourself, a month's worth of provisions, and a half-ton cow into a kayak.

Narrator: So if you've never listened to the show before, this might be a good place to start.

Tusk: I string a bowstring between her horn tips and I can fire a spear off the top of her head. And, uh, took in some very delicious cod.

Narrator: So! If you're after a new comedy podcast, why not try *The Beef And Dairy Network* from Maximum Fun? Download it now!

[Music ends.]

01:09:53 Promo Clip

Tusk: You flip a cow upside-down, they make an excellent toboggan.

Music: Straightforward, thump-y electric bass guitar beat with light drums.

Laurie: Hi. I am Laurie Kilmartin.

Jackie: And I'm Jackie Kashian.

Laurie: Together we host a podcast called:

Jackie: *The Jackie and Laurie Show.*

Laurie: Uh, we're both stand-up comics. We recently met each other because women weren't allowed to work together, uh—uh, on the road or in gigs for a long, long time, and so our friendship has been unfolding on this podcast for a couple years. Jackie constantly works the road; I write for *Conan* and then I work the road in-between.

Jackie: We do a lot of stand-up comedy, and so we celebrate stand-up—

Laurie: Yes.

Jackie: —and we also bitch about it.

Laurie: We keep it to an hour; we don't have any guests. We somehow find enough to talk about every single week. So find us—you can subscribe to *The Jackie and Laurie Show* at MaximumFun.org, or wherever you get your podcasts.

Jackie: *[Nonplussed]* K, bye.

[Music ends.]

01:10:40 Sound Effect Transition

[Computer beeps.]

01:10:41 Music Music

Fun, up-tempo background music.

01:10:42 Adam Promo

Support for today's *Greatest Generation* comes in part by LinkedIn! Hiring the right person takes so much time. Time that I personally don't have. Which is why when it's time to hire Ben's replacement—

[Ben laughs.]

—I will be going to LinkedIn.

01:10:57 Ben Promo

Yeah. There's just a lot of candidates on LinkedIn with *Star Trek*—joking-about experience, and if you wanna hire them for your business, that is the place to go!

[Laughs.]

They screen candidates for hard skills like having graduated from college, and also soft skills, like... *Star Trek*—joking-about.

01:11:17 Adam Promo

Yeah! One of the cases that LinkedIn makes is that you can find and acquire a new hire fast. It's the best place to both post your job and find a recruit for a job posting.

01:11:27 Ben Promo

They know who's good at collaborating, who's good at creativity, who's good at adaptability, and who's good at *Star Trek*—joking-about!

It's no wonder great candidates are hired every eight seconds on LinkedIn.

01:11:39 Adam Promo

So find the right person meant for your business today! With LinkedIn jobs you can pay what you want, and the first \$50 is on them!

Just visit LinkedIn.com/scarves!

01:11:49 Ben Promo

LinkedIn.com/scarves! Terms and conditions apply. And our thanks to LinkedIn for supporting *The Greatest Generation*.

[Music ends.]

01:11:57 Sound Effect Transition

[Computer beeps.]

01:11:58 Music Music

A techno song mixed with clips and soundbites from *DS9*.

Speaker: Gotta, gotta—

Sisko: Get that—get that—

Quark: Gold-pressed latinum

Sisko: Get that—get that—

Nog: Gold-pressed latinum!

Quark: Latinum?

Speaker: Latinum!

Quark: Latinum?

Speaker: Latinum!

Distorted Speaker: Go-go-go-go-gold-pressed latinum!

Nog: That's a lot of yamok sauce!

[Cash register "cha-ching!" sound.]

| | | | |
|----------|--------------|--------------|--|
| 01:12:09 | Ben | Host | [Laughing] What do we do next on this dumb show? Oh, do we talk about the next episode? Is that what we do? |
| 01:12:13 | Adam | Host | Yeah, we need to figure out how we're watching that next episode. If it is <u>fast</u> or if it is <u>slow</u> . |
| 01:12:18 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Ben: Yeah. Adam: Only one thing can tell us. |
| 01:12:20 | Adam | Host | It's the Game of Buttholes — |
| 01:12:21 | Sound Effect | Sound Effect | [Thunder crashes.] |
| 01:12:22 | Adam | Host | —Will of the Prophets. |
| 01:12:24 | Ben | Host | The next episode is season 5, episode 11: "The Darkness <u>and</u> the Light." "A mysterious assassin targets members of Kira's resistance cell for execution!" I'm gonna fire up the Game of Buttholes here. Find out how—if any particular way—we will be <u>doing</u> this episode. |
| 01:12:46 | Clip | Clip | Falow (DS9, "Move Along Home"): You are required to learn as you play. Roll. [The Wadi are tapping their klon peags (sticks) rhythmically. Clip audio and podcast audio are intertwined for the next several lines.] |
| 01:12:50 | Adam | Host | It better be a normal way, because I'm going for a long drive soon! |
| 01:12:54 | Ben | Host | Okay! [Laughs.] Well, uh, all we can hit, I think, is a "Measure of a Man" episode. |
| 01:13:02 | Adam | Host | Alright. |
| 01:13:03 | Ben | Host | 'Cause we are on square 29. I think "Measure of a Man"'s the only thing in range. |
| 01:13:08 | Adam | Host | Alright. |
| 01:13:09 | Ben | Host | So let's see how it goes when I roll this bone! |
| 01:13:14 | Clip | Clip | [Quark breathes on the dice.] [Dice roll.] [Sticks stop tapping.] |

01:13:17 Ben Host I have rolled a three.

01:13:19 Clip Clip **Falow:** Chula!

Crowd: *[Laughing]* Chula! Chula!

Quark: Did I win?!

Falow: Hardly!

[Clip audio ends.]

01:13:22 Ben Host We are on square 32.

01:13:24 Adam Host Alright!

01:13:25 Ben Host A regular old episode, and your drive will be un-hampered by the influence of alcohol.

01:13:32 Adam Host No need for one of us to be the darkness and the other person to be the light.

[Ben laughs.]

01:13:36 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Adam:** In doing the—

Ben: Oh man, that would have been perfect!

Adam: Right?

01:13:38 Adam Host Yeah!

01:13:39 Ben Host Fuck!

01:13:40 Adam Host Yeah.

01:13:41 Ben Host Oh well.

01:13:42 Adam Host Fine without the dirty tricks of Game of Butthroles—

01:13:44 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Thunder crashes.]*

01:13:45 Adam Host —Will of the Prophets.

01:13:46 Ben Host Yeah. The Game of Butthroles—

01:13:47 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Thunder crashes.]*

01:13:48 Ben Host —Will of the Prophets has really been kind of relentless lately.

01:13:50 Adam Host Yeah.

01:13:51 Ben Host So it's nice to have—it's nice to string together a couple of normal episodes.

01:13:54 Adam Host Yeah.

Uh, some people relentlessly supportive of our show include those that go to MaximumFun.org/donate or, in certain circumstances, MaxFunkenStein.sex.

[Both laugh.]

01:14:07 Music Music Dark Materia's "The Picard Song" began fading in during Adam's last line.

01:14:10 Ben Host It's true.

We really appreciate the ongoing monthly support. It's how we justify all of the time we waste on this show. And, uh—really doesn't feel like a waste! Because it feels like we're doing this for you guys.

01:14:26 Adam Host

Takes a village of nerds, nerds that include people like Bill Tilley. [@billtilley1973](#) is his Twitter handle. He is the creator of funny joke playing cards based on every episode.

01:14:39 Ben Host

Yeah! And he also puts those up on the Tumblr. You can find Tweets about this show that use the hashtag [#GreatestGen](#).

There are [Facebook groups](#). There are [Reddit subs](#). There's probably a Discord or something. I don't really know what Discord is. But there—there's all kinds of stuff all over the Internet.

Great Friends of DeSoto to pal around with, and have positive interactions with.

01:15:07 Adam Host

Hey! If you're listening to the show on the day it comes out, we are on tour, and you can find out dates and times and locations at [GreatestGenTour.com](#).

[GreatestGenTour.com](#), the place to go to find out if and when we are touring.

01:15:21 Ben Host

Indeed! We gotta thank Adam Ragusea who made our original theme music, and Dark Materia who made "The Picard Song" upon which it is all based.

01:15:31 Adam Host

Go to Max Fun Store to buy some merch! You can get a T-shirt or a glass, or a hoodie.

01:15:38 Ben Host

Go to [StarTrek.com](#) to learn more about *Star Trek*!

[Both laugh.]

I'm pretty sure that's probably a website.

01:15:45 Adam Host

And with that, we'll be back atcha next time—

[Ben laughs quietly.]

—with another great episode of *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, and an episode of *The Greatest Generation: Deep Space Nine* you better bring a good supply of body bags for.

01:15:59 Music Music

"The Picard Song" continues.

*Captain Jean-Luc Picard, the USS Enterprise!
Captain Jean-Luc Picard, the USS Enterprise!*

Make make make-make-make-make make it so!

*Jean-Luc Picard!
Make it so!*

01:16:12 Music Music

Make make make-make-make-make make it so!

[Echoing] Jean-Luc Picard—card—card—card—

[Song fades out.]

| | | | |
|----------|-----------|------------|--|
| 01:16:15 | Music | Transition | A cheerful guitar chord. |
| 01:16:16 | Speaker 1 | Guest | MaximumFun.org . |
| 01:16:18 | Speaker 2 | Guest | Comedy and culture. |
| 01:16:19 | Speaker 3 | Guest | Artist owned— |
| 01:16:20 | Speaker 4 | Guest | —audience supported. |