

*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	Transition	<i>[Computer beeps.]</i>
00:00:01	Promo	Clip	<b>Enterprise Computer (TNG):</b> Incoming transmission.
00:00:02	Music	Music	Sweeping orchestral background music.
00:00:03	Ben Harrison	Promo	Hey, the stakes have never been higher for the election on November 3rd. And we're encouraging Friends of DeSoto to take four steps to make sure your voice is heard.
00:00:11	Adam Pranica	Promo	First, register to vote, or confirm your voter registration, at <a href="http://Vote.org">Vote.org</a> .
00:00:16	Ben	Promo	Make a plan to vote safely and securely, and vote early if you can in your area.
00:00:22	Adam	Promo	Volunteer for a voter outreach campaign, or organization that helps people vote.
00:00:26	Ben	Promo	And donate to organizations that mobilize voters in every state.
00:00:31	Adam	Promo	Ben and I have set up a web page where you can find out more, so go to <a href="http://Bit.ly/greatestvoters">Bit.ly/greatestvoters</a> , and that's all lowercase. Make sure your vote is counted. So together, we can all make sure history never forgets the name <i>Enterprise</i> .
			<i>[Music stops.]</i>
00:00:45	Sound Effect	Transition	<i>[Computer beeps.]</i>
00:00:46	Music	Transition	Dark Materia's "The Picard Song," record-scratching into a Sisko-centric remix by Adam Ragusea.
			<b>Picard:</b> <i>Here's to the finest crew in Starfleet! Engage.</i>
			<i>[Music begins. A fast-paced techno beat.]</i>
			<b>Picard:</b> <i>Captain Jean-Luc Picard, the USS Enterprise!</i>
			<i>[Music slows, record scratch, and then music speeds back up.]</i>
			<b>Sisko:</b> <i>Commander Benjamin Sisko, the Federation starbase... Deep Space 9.</i>
			<i>[Music ends.]</i>
00:01:01	Music	Music	Record scratch back into "The Picard Song," which plays quietly in the background.
00:01:02	Adam	Host	Welcome to <i>The Greatest Generation: Deep Space Nine</i> . It's a <i>Star Trek</i> podcast by a couple of guys just a little bit embarrassed about having... a <i>Star Trek</i> podcast. I'm Adam Pranica.
			<i>[Music fades out.]</i>
00:01:15	Ben	Host	I'm Ben Harrison.
00:01:17	Adam	Host	Uh, did you see that our appeal to the <a href="http://Friends of DeSoto">Friends of DeSoto</a> to put pressure on Adam Ragusea to begin work on the music for a next edition of <i>Greatest Gen...</i>

00:01:32 Ben Host Yeah!

00:01:33 Adam Host ...has happened.

00:01:34 Ben Host *[Laughing]* I felt really bad when I saw that it had happened.

00:01:36 Adam Host I felt exactly the same. Adam Ragusea, such a mensch.

00:01:40 Ben Host Yeah.

00:01:41 Adam Host Such a great part of our show, and the fabric of the show, and like... very generous in a number of ways to us over the years.

00:01:49 Ben Host He saw—he saw the fun in it, I think. But, uh—

00:01:52 Adam Host God, I hope so! *[Laughs.]* I really hope so, man!

00:01:55 Ben Host Well, uh, what he put out on Twitter was, “Yes. It's a yes. The issue is, I don't have time to dig through 175 episodes of a show and find the drops that need to be collected.”

00:02:11 Adam Host Mm-hm.

00:02:12 Ben Host So it's a crowdsourcing opportunity. If you, out there, know about a thing someone says on *Voyager* that is funny or ridiculous, and could be "Picard Song"-ified by Adam Ragusea, you're encouraged to Tweet timecode at him for this project. I think another thing that greased the skids is that Cyrus Farivar made like, a donation in Adam Ragusea's name to a food bank? Which I think is a—another cool way to...

00:02:41 Adam Host That is some real passive aggression right there. Holy shit, that's fucked up.

*[Ben laughs.]*

I—*[laughs]*. That—*[both laugh]*.

I respected the game. But man. You can't say no to a food bank donation. *[Laughing]* You know?

00:02:56 Ben Host No. No.

00:02:57 Adam Host Who's the asshole now? *[Laughs.]*

00:02:58 Ben Host It's—it is possible to me that they talked about that ahead of time. Like, "If you're willing to donate in my name to something, I'll give it some consideration." But maybe Cyrus just shot first, and... and then—*[laughs]*—turned to Ragusea and was like, "Well, I made the donation. Now what are you gonna do?" *[Laughs.]*

00:03:17 Adam Host Yeah, it—it seems like blackmail. Or something.

00:03:20 Ben Host Yeah. It also—you know. We should all be donating to food banks, whether or not we're using it to blackmail people.

00:03:25 Adam Host *[Laughs.]* That's a good policy.

00:03:27 Ben Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]*

00:03:28 Adam Host I mean, I guess—I guess we're obligated now. I wasn't prepared to make any kind of announcement. I don't think we made an announcement on the episode where we were talking about blackmailing the 'Gus (*goose*).

00:03:37 Ben Host No.

00:03:38 Adam Host But I guess if the 'Gus (goose) is involved, we're obligated, aren't we?

00:03:41 Ben Host We're obligated.

00:03:42 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Air horns.]*

00:03:43 Ben Host It's happening. Uh, I'm looking forward to it. I'm a big—I'm a big *Voyager* stan.

00:03:47 Adam Host I've seen maybe an episode of *Voyager*.

00:03:49 Ben Host Wow!

00:03:50 Adam Host I've seen so little of it, it's nuts.

00:03:53 Ben Host Well, there's a—there is a long and rich tradition of *Star Trek* podcasts that are like, "One of the hosts has seen every episode!"

00:04:00 Adam Host Awww, man!

00:04:03 Ben Host "And the other host is a total noob!"

00:04:04 Adam Host I don't wanna do a show like that! There's a million shows like that out there!

00:04:09 Ben Host It's not gonna be a million shows, Adam, it's gonna be our show!

00:04:11 Clip Clip **Chris Hansen (*To Catch a Predator*):** And what's going on here seems pretty pervy. Doesn't it?

00:04:16 Adam Host Yeah, that's true. We do a pretty good *Star Trek* show.

00:04:19 Ben Host We... don't... have that. But we do have this.

*[Both laugh.]*

00:04:26 Adam Host Yeah! So what are we gonna do? We gonna take our customary break? We're gonna do our, uh—our award show? How do we wanna play this?

00:04:33 Ben Host Yeah. So we will get to the end of *Deep Space Nine*. And then we will do "The Nine-ies."

*[Ben or Adam laughs.]*

The award show where we come up with a bunch of invented award categories, and give out awards. Our Mount Armus, our Mount Knuckmore episodes.

00:04:49 Adam Host Yeah.

00:04:50 Ben Host We talk about the [Drunkest Shimodae](#). All of these things. Another thing to look forward to with *Voyager*, Adam—I don't know if you've been following along with this in the drunkshimoda@gmail.com inbox, but I've been in communication with Felipe and Craig, the illustrator and coder, respectively, of the Game of Buttholes—

00:05:14 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Thunder crashes.]*

00:05:15 Ben Host —the Will of the Prophets.

00:05:16 Adam Host They're so great.

00:05:17 Ben Host We're getting a couple of new squares put on there.

00:05:20 Adam Host Did you ask for more fucking ladders in that game?

00:05:22 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* I did! I—that—that's actually a game mechanic that we're

talking about adding, is "Not all chutes, some ladders."

*[Both laugh.]*

00:05:32 Adam Host

Cool!

00:05:33 Ben Host

'Cause right now it's—it's, "Oops, All Chutes!"

*[Both laugh.]*

00:05:37 Adam Host

Wow. I'm looking forward to unveiling that!

00:05:39 Ben Host

Yeah!

00:05:40 Adam Host

That'll be a lot of fun!

00:05:41 Ben Host

I agree.

00:05:42 Adam Host

God, we're so lucky to have such talented people.

00:05:45 Ben Host

Yeah.

00:05:46 Adam Host

Involved in our show.

00:05:47 Ben Host

The Friends of DeSoto rule.

00:05:49 Adam Host

'Cause if it were just us, it'd be a real season one *Greatest Generation* situation.

*[Ben laughs.]*

Where it's just us sucking ass for 27 episodes until we get our shit together.

00:05:59 Ben Host

Yeah. Yeah.

00:06:00 Clip Transition

**Wayne and Garth (*Wayne's World*):** *(Noise signifying a flashback or dissolve)* Diddle-iddle-oo! Diddle-iddle-oo! Diddle-iddle-oo! Diddle-iddle-oo!

00:06:03 Clip Clip

*[Lower resolution audio, kind of fuzzy and tinny.]*

**Past Ben (*The Greatest Generation*, episode 1):** We are going to watch every single episode of *Star Trek: The Next Generation* in chronological order.

**Past Adam:** I think we differ quite a bit in terms of our... hope for this show's popularity.

*[Past Ben laughs.]*

**Past Adam:** Uh, I personally hope that no one listens.

**Past Ben:** *[Laughs.]* Yeah. That's, uh—

**Past Adam:** *[Laughs.]* And this is, uh, the Vanity Press of podcasts.

**Past Ben:** Mm-hm. Yeah.

00:06:25 Clip Transition

**Wayne and Garth (*Wayne's World*):** Diddle-iddle-oo! Diddle-iddle-oo! Diddle-iddle-oo! Diddle-iddle-oo!

00:06:28 Ben Host

Several of the first five episodes, I recorded on an iPad.

00:06:33 Adam Host

Wow.

00:06:34 Ben Host With software that, like, looked like it was pro, but the sound was not pro.

00:06:37 Adam Host Mm. We should go back and do George Lucas remastered episodes.

*[Ben laughs.]*

Let's go back—

00:06:44 Ben Host *[Jabba the Hutt impression; low and gruff]* "Han, mah bookie!"

*[Both laugh.]*

*[Impression stops.]*

00:06:47 Adam Host I wanna step on some Jabba tails.

00:06:49 Ben Host Yeah.

00:06:50 Adam Host Go back and re-record every line of dialogue.

*[Both laugh.]*

00:06:54 Ben Host Yeah. And delete some things that we regret. *[Laughs.]*

00:06:58 Adam Host Yeah! What an opportunity that would be!

00:07:00 Ben Host Yeah! Put, uh—digitally replace some of the guns with radios.

00:07:03 Adam Host That's how you do it.

00:07:04 Ben Host My whole life, I was told, "There's gonna be three prequel films, and three—and a trilogy after the original trilogy also." And then we got the three prequel films. And I was young enough to like them when they came out.

00:07:18 Adam Host Mm-hm. Mm-hm.

00:07:20 Clip Clip **Music:** Soft build-up of "Sebulba's Dirty Hand and Qui-Gon's Pep Talk" from *Star Wars, Episode I: The Phantom Menace*. Soft, quiet horns.

**Qui-Gon Jinn (*The Phantom Menace*):** Concentrate on the moment. Feel. Don't think.

*[Clip audio cuts.]*

00:07:24 Ben Host And then I, you know, went and saw—dutifully saw all of the new trilogy. And then I did my re-watch recently, 'cause I was like, "I've never actually watched, like, the whole thing in order, including *Solo* and *Rogue One*." And, uh, watching those prequels and the, like, re-remastered original series is fucking crazy.

00:07:48 Adam Host I bet.

00:07:49 Ben Host One thing I found out—you know in the pod race, when Sebulba's pod crashes?

00:07:54 Adam Host I think about it all the time.

00:07:56 Ben Host His swear is, "Poodoo!" Which we know means "fodder." He swears by saying "fodder."

*[Beat.]*

00:08:05 Adam Host Wow.

00:08:06 Ben Host Yeah. Jabba—

00:08:07 Adam Host I mean, that's the kind of stuff that you can only get from—

00:08:10 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Right.

00:08:11 Adam Host From a deep, deep rewatch.

00:08:13 Ben Host Yeah. Jabba the Hutt told his enemies he would turn them into bantha fodder. And "fodder" is a swear?? It's just food! Give me a fucking break, Sebulba! Come up with some more creative swears. Especially—if it's gonna be in a different language, why not make it ultra vulgar, you know? The kids in the audience aren't gonna care!

00:08:33 Adam Host "Ultra vulgar."  
  
*[Ben laughs.]*  
  
That's what I like.

00:08:35 Ben Host Yeah.

00:08:36 Clip Clip **Floyd Gondolli (*Boogie Nights*):** Call me crazy. Call me a pervert.

00:08:37 Ben Host That's what this show is. And that's—that's why we're *Star Trek* fans, Adam. *[Laughs quietly.]*

00:08:42 Adam Host When we put our show up for, uh, scheduled release—like, we'll go into the thing.

00:08:47 Ben Host Yeah.

00:08:48 Adam Host We'll upload our episode. We'll schedule it. We get the option. Is it, uh—"Is it clean? Is it explicit? Is it ultra vulgar?"  
  
*[Ben laughs.]*  
  
You better believe we're clicking "ultra vulgar" every time!

00:09:00 Ben Host Yeah. Yeah. It comes out with the record industry standard sticker. "Parental Advisory: Ultra Vulgar Lyrics."

00:09:09 Adam Host Are parental advisory stickers still a thing?

00:09:11 Ben Host Oh, I don't know!

00:09:12 Adam Host Like, if you were—if you buy physical CDs or records? I have continued to buy vinyl records, but I don't remember seeing that little stamp on anything.

00:09:21 Ben Host Yeah!

00:09:22 Adam Host That I've bought.

00:09:23 Ben Host I haven't seen that, either! Uh—

00:09:25 Adam Host Huh.

00:09:26 Ben Host It's been a long time since I've had a new-in-box CD in my hand.

00:09:30 Adam Host No parents are being advised anymore!

00:09:32 Ben Host No. I mean, that was a lot of, like, Tipper Gore, Laura Bush bullshit back in the day.

00:09:38 Adam Host Sure was!

00:09:39 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Anyways.

00:09:40 Adam Host Boy, am I glad we avoided that!

*[Ben laughs.]*

Yeah. Boy oh boy, do we have a lot to talk about on this episode, Ben. I'm gonna try not to get us canceled.

*[Ben laughs, Adam stifles laughter.]*

As we discuss season seven of *Deep Space Nine*. It's episode nine.

00:09:56 Ben Host

It's our last episode nine about *Deep Space Nine*.

00:10:01 Adam Host

It's "Covenant."

00:10:02 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!*

*[Music stops.]*

00:10:11 Ben Host

So we start with a scene in the bar. A, uh, "Let's establish that Quark and Ezri are part of the show."

00:10:20 Adam Host

*[Stifling laughter]* Mm-hm.

00:10:22 Ben Host

Before we turn away from most of our main characters for most of the episode. Uh, Odo—

00:10:27 Music Music

*[A quick "Pop!" noise from the song in the "Mr. Bucket" commercial.]*

00:10:28 Ben Host

—is, uh—I guess they're having like a Sunday morning... drink?

*[Laughs.]* I guess I don't know that the Bajorans meet for their worship services on Sunday mornings. That's—that's a very, uh, Christianity-centric way of assessing what's going on here.

00:10:44 Clip Clip

**Azetbur (*The Undiscovered Country*):** If you could only hear yourselves.

00:10:46 Adam Host

I do really love the division of people. Like, some people watch the football on Sunday morning, and others get up to go to church, and I like how Kira is not the type to try to coerce her friends to go to church with her if what they really wanna do is have the brunch. Good for Kira.

00:11:02 Ben Host

Yeah. There is a lot of respect in the relationship between Kira and Odo. There's a—you know, Odo respects Kira's beliefs, and Kira respects Odo's lack of belief, in a way that I think is, like, remarkably healthy, given what a rocky start their relationship has had.

00:11:21 Adam Host

Maybe the healthiest part is that—god, I feel like so many people fall into this trap. Where you can't say something positive about a thing without being invited to do the thing that you said something positive about.

*[Ben laughs.]*

Odo's like, "You know, I really think it's cool, and I wish I could feel the way she does. But it's too bad that I don't." And Kira doesn't pivot that into, "Oh, well, I should just bring you to church until you finally get it!"

00:11:45 Ben Host

*[Chuckles.]* Yeah.

00:11:46 Adam Host

Like—like, "We're gonna beat this religion into you. It's gonna be awesome."

00:11:49 Ben Host

Yeah—

00:11:50 Adam Host

She lets it go.

00:11:51 Clip Clip

**Ezri:** That really is so sweet.

00:11:53 Ben Host

"Vedek Fala is offering some conversion classes that you could easily sign up for!" No. That's not where she heads with it.

00:11:58 Adam Host

Yeah. No.

00:12:00 Ben Host

It's—you know, *Star Trek* has traditionally kind of distanced itself from digging into issues of religion. Previous to *Deep Space Nine*, religion has always been treated as kind of a... regrettable element of humanity's past. But this is a show that deals with a lot of aliens that aren't human. So I think that gives them an opportunity to, like, both talk about things like this without breaking canon?

00:12:26 Adam Host

To the extent that I almost feel like there are opportunities to go further that I don't believe that they take, for fear of... alienating a viewership, or going out on too much of a limb. I think an example of this is Odo expressing a regret about not having faith in a higher power. And there's something about that that is so interesting to me. Because Odo is a god.

00:12:52 Ben Host

Right. He's too busy being a god to believe in other gods.

00:12:56 Adam Host

And it's like, there's a real... Doctor Manhattan kind of pathos to him—

*[Ben laughs.]*

—that he could have, if only the writers would encourage it.

00:13:07 Ben Host

Yeah.

00:13:08 Adam Host

Like, that's never the pathos that he's dealing with. He's trying to cement himself into the class that he lives with. He's not trying to have any aspirations towards becoming better than the life that he's had and the friends that he's had up until now.

00:13:24 Ben Host

I think that there's a distinction there, though. Because, like, while the Founders are considered gods by the various client races of the Dominion, they are not "snap your fingers and change something about reality" gods. They are—they're more like god kings, in a way. You know?

00:13:43 Adam Host

What rises to the threshold of god? Like, this is a—here's a question.

00:13:48 Ben Host

Yeah!

00:13:49 Adam Host

Like, what are the superpowers that qualify as godlike vs. just—is it immortality? Is that where it begins and ends?



00:13:57 Ben Host The wormhole aliens/Prophets are the kind of god where it's sufficiently advanced technology indistinguishable from. You know?

00:14:10 Adam Host Yeah.

00:14:11 Ben Host And I think that that's the tension that runs throughout *Deep Space Nine*. Like, is Starfleet going to acknowledge their godhood, or are they going to always continue to talk about them as a hyper-advanced alien intelligence that we just don't understand? And, you know, probably won't for a long time, because our technology is too primitive by comparison.

And *Deep Space Nine* is well-written enough that I think that they get it both ways. Like, it's kind of column A for some characters, column B for others, and for Sisko a little bit of both.

00:14:46 Adam Host Yeah. Boy, it—*[laughs]*—the worship is pervasive on *DS9*, isn't it?

00:14:51 Ben Host *[Chuckle.]* It sure is.

00:14:52 Clip Clip **Dr. Bashir:** It's a complicated subject, Odo.

00:14:54 Ben Host Anyways, after this hang, Kira is in her quarters, and gets a visit from a vedek she knows from way back in the day, from back in the labor camps that she grew up in. This is Vedek Fala.

00:15:08 Adam Host I'm gonna refer to him as, "This Vedek Fella."

00:15:12 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* "This—this Vedek Fala over here." Boy, the—

00:15:17 Adam Host Yeah.

00:15:18 Ben Host We've been talking a little bit about how Kira's nose ridges seem somewhat diminished in late *Deep Space Nine*. I feel like all of the leftover loaf went onto this guy's nose.

00:15:29 Adam Host Yeah. He got two scoops!

00:15:32 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* His ridges are fucking outta control, man!

00:15:36 Clip Clip **Kira:** What's wrong?

**Odo:** Nothing!

00:15:38 Adam Host How many people besides your parents have known you for your whole life? 'Cause this Vedek Fala has known Kira since she was tiny, and it is such a power imbalance in an interesting way, to be dropped in on by this Vedek Fala, who knows your whole deal.

00:15:54 Ben Host Right. He's got a sort of fatherly relationship with her, in the way that a clergy member sometimes can with a member of the faithful. And he... uses that trust for a fucked up reason! *[Laughs quietly.]*

00:16:09 Clip Clip **Kira:** That's what makes you different from all the other vedeks I know.

00:16:12 Adam Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah, especially because she accepts it as a gift. And it is not.

00:16:17 Ben Host No.

00:16:18 Adam Host Because, uh, the stone wrapped in a cloth ends up transporting her far away. And we go with her to Empok Nor.

00:16:26 Ben Host We know right where we are before Kira does, because we see the exterior establishing shot, and it's the station but tilty.

00:16:35 Adam Host *[Stifling laughter]* Mm-hm.

00:16:37 Ben Host This is a—an Empok Nor that has been taken over by the Branch Pah-wraith-ians. Who are no longer just a cult of Bajorans. They are now led by none other... than Gul Dukat.

00:16:53 Clip Clip **Music:** Fading out on a quiet, sinister note.

**Dukat:** I'm sure you have many questions, Nerys.

00:16:56 Adam Host Gul Dukat has made a Pah-wraith megachurch on Empok Nor.

*[Ben laughs.]*

It does not fit in with the rest of the quadrant's design aesthetic.

00:17:06 Ben Host Yeah. There were a lot of, uh, complaints from neighbors when they put in the building permits.

00:17:11 Adam Host Yeah.

00:17:12 Ben Host But because of, you know, probably some greased palms at City Hall, he was able to ram these plans through and actually get it built.

00:17:21 Adam Host Just a—a massive building.

00:17:23 Ben Host Yeah.

00:17:24 Adam Host A massive draw on resources.

00:17:26 Ben Host The fucking traffic it creates on the weekends is crazy.

00:17:31 Adam Host Pays no quadrant taxes.

*[Ben laughs.]*

Gul Dukat gets that evil guy step into the light. Like, that moment you see in superhero films where you put the camera at about waist height.

00:17:45 Ben Host Yeah.

00:17:46 Adam Host And you give a guy a little bit of a cowboy shot. Turns to camera, walks into the light. It's, uh—it's a great reveal! It's a good moment.

00:17:55 Ben Host Yeah. There was—uh, that episode where they put Marc Alaimo in Bajoran loaf?

00:18:03 Adam Host Uh-huh.

00:18:04 Ben Host And I thought it was interesting to see him kind of—I mean, like, he's in the Cardassian loaf here, but he's in the Bajoran getup. And I feel it's kind of—it's nice that we have comps of the whole spectrum for him. *[Laughs.]*

00:18:15 Adam Host Yeah. He's wearing the Bajoran earring!

00:18:18 Ben Host Yeah!

00:18:19 Adam Host So he's got, uh—he's got some dangle on that lobe.

00:18:21 Ben Host It's a symbol of the titular covenant that he's made, with...

00:18:25 Adam Host Right.

00:18:26 Ben Host ...The Branch Pah-wraith-ians. And he has summoned Kira to him. Not summoned. Shanghaied her. *[Stifles laughter.]* To Empok Nor, to try and inculcate her into this cult.

00:18:41 Adam Host We get a lot of exposition over the scenes that follow. And the case that he makes is that he represents the counterpoint to The Sisko. Where The Sisko is on Team Wormhole Aliens—

00:18:55 Ben Host *[Stifling laughter]* Mm-hm.

00:18:57 Adam Host —Dukat is the Pah-wraith Emissary!

00:18:59 Ben Host He is!

00:19:00 Adam Host He's The Dukat!

00:19:01 Ben Host And he has really, like, figured out a way to invert the whole Bajoran religion to make the case that the Wormhole Aliens, in standing idly by and allowing the Occupation to happen, were in fact the real criminals in the Occupation. He was merely their instrument, and is now repenting for that. The Pah-wraiths were ejected from the Celestial Temple because they wanted to take a more active role in Bajoran affairs. They wanted to break the Wormhole Alien Prime Directive and really get in there.

00:19:42 Adam Host Just like the tilted Empok Nor, Ben, Gul Dukat's whole worldview is just really twisted, right?

*[Ben laughs.]*

00:19:52 Clip Clip **Dukat:** The Pah-wraiths are not what you think, Nerys.

00:19:55 Ben Host Praising the Dark Lord! I mean, like—

*[Adam laughs.]*

I feel like it's one thing to, uh—to embrace a... kind of novel, upside-down reading of a religious text. But when the whole aesthetic attendant to that is like, lots of, like, gloomy lighting and red accents, it's like, "Ehhh. I mean, you're saying that you're not evil, but your whole aesthetic is very specifically haunted house." *[Laughs.]*

00:20:23 Adam Host Yeah. You can't help but make that comparison throughout. Kira evokes the name of Jadzia Dax during Dukat's explanation.

00:20:32 Ben Host Yeah!

00:20:34 Adam Host And Dukat shrugs it off! In a way that evil people with power often do.

00:20:40 Ben Host Yeah. The—I mean, he gives some lip service to the idea that he regrets that she "got in the way—"

00:20:47 Adam Host Mm-hm.

00:20:48 Ben Host —while he was trying to help the Pah-wraith get into the wormhole and force the Prophets out. And I wonder how much they, like, wrote this at Rick Berman? A like, "Yeah, what a shame that, you know, we had to, like, kill her or whatever. But, you know, we had a—I had a thing I had to do, so..."

00:21:07 Clip Clip **Dukat:** It was... purely out of self-serving reasons.

00:21:12 Adam Host That—like, one of the bits of dialogue they probably wrote out that—*[laughs]*—that would confirm your suspicion, Ben, is Dukat's like, "Yeah, uh, Jadzia Dax, very beautiful woman. *[Stifling laughter]* Very unfortunate."

*[Both laugh.]*

00:21:26	Ben	Host	"She was lucky to be there, honestly."
00:21:29	Music	Transition	A techno song mixed with clips and soundbites from <i>DS9</i> .
			<b>O'Brien:</b> <i>Gul Dukat!</i> <b>Kira:</b> <i>Dukat!</i> <b>Sisko:</b> <i>Dukat.</i> <b>O'Brien:</b> <i>Gul Dukat!</i> <b>Kira:</b> <i>Dukat!</i>
			<b>Dukat:</b> <i>So...</i>
			<i>[Music ends.]</i>
00:21:33	Adam	Host	Dukat seems like he's in need of a witness, in Kira. He also needs a Tammy Faye Bakker. He wants Kira to be involved in this thing.
00:21:42	Ben	Host	Yeah. But she just doesn't have the lashes for it.
00:21:45	Adam	Host	No.
00:21:46	Ben	Host	Or the willingness to betray her own faith the way Vedek Fala does. And that's a—another great scene we get, which is the confrontation she has with Fala after her big scene with Dukat. Like, Fala comes and talks to her in the room that she's been locked in. And he claims to have been a red armband since the, like, waning days of the Occupation.
00:22:14	Clip	Clip	<b>Fala:</b> It's helped me make sense of... <i>[sighs]</i> the suffering we all had to endure.
00:22:19	Ben	Host	He is a vedek who lost his faith in the Prophets a <u>long</u> time ago! But <u>stayed</u> a vedek.
00:22:27	Adam	Host	Kira is incredulous about this. Because she's like, "Dude, you got us through the Occupation the <u>real way</u> . The Prophet way! Not the Pah-wraith way. What are you talking about?"
00:22:37	Ben	Host	Yeah! Like, "Were you saying shit you didn't really believe?"
00:22:41	Adam	Host	And this Vedek Fella guy is like, "Uh, yeah. I mean, I didn't—I said what I needed to say to get us through a hard time. Sorry."
			<i>[Ben sighs.]</i>
			He's been a Wraith Lord all the way back to the Occupation!
00:22:52	Ben	Host	That shit is crazy.
00:22:53	Clip	Clip	<b>Fala:</b> <i>[Irritated]</i> You know how often I've heard those words used to describe us?
00:22:56	Adam	Host	He calls Dukat "the Master," which... is a little skin-crawly.
00:23:01	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:23:02	Adam	Host	Hey, here's a—here's a tip to any religious leaders. <u>Any</u> leader, really. Any leader of any kind! Don't let your subordinates call you "the Master."
			<i>[Ben laughs quietly.]</i>
			I think if they do, it means something very bad has happened.
00:23:15	Ben	Host	Yeah. There's a little <i>CSI</i> moment in Kira's quarters back on DS9,

where Sisko and Odo and Worf and O'Brien—

00:23:27 Music Transition "I'm Shipping Up to Boston" off the album *The Warrior's Code* by Dropkick Murphys. Intense bagpipes punctuated by percussion and electric guitar.

**O'Brien:** *I am Chief Miles Edward O'Brien!*  
**Duncan Malloy (Con Air):** *This is fucking spectacular!*

*[Music stops.]*

00:23:34 Ben Host —are looking at the evidence. She was beamed out by a Dominion-style transporter. And they know that there was a transponder involved. But they don't really have any way of finding her, or tracing the transporter, because she went missing, like, way, way before anyone noticed she was missing.

00:23:53 Adam Host You must suspend the disbelief involved with whatever happened to the Vedek Fella.

00:24:00 Ben Host Yeah.

00:24:01 Adam Host Because, like, they're trying to figure out what happened to Kira. O'Brien finds the rag that the stone was in that transported her away.

00:24:08 Ben Host Yeah.

00:24:09 Adam Host But they've got no cameras in any part of the station that might have seen this Vedek Fella—

00:24:15 Ben Host Yeah.

00:24:16 Adam Host —coming or going, or how he left the station?

00:24:18 Ben Host This Vedek Fella could have had another transponder, I suppose, but I don't know why he didn't just transport with Kira in that moment! It seems like more for dramatic reasons, so that it's a reveal that he's also there later?

00:24:33 Adam Host *[Laughs quietly.]* Well, you gotta get that shot, reverse shot moment after Kira beams away. You gotta cut back over to this Vedek Fella looking satisfied at what he's done.

00:24:43 Ben Host Yeah.

00:24:45 Adam Host How are you gonna get to the next scene without that, Ben?

00:24:47 Ben Host I don't know, Adam. I just don't know.

00:24:50 Adam Host Yeah.

00:24:51 Ben Host I don't know how you possibly write your way around that... puzzle.

*[Both laugh.]*

00:24:55 Adam Host Yeah. This is I think maybe the only scene of the investigation into what happened to Kira. Like, they—

00:25:03 Ben Host Yeah!

00:25:04 Adam Host There is no B story here.

00:25:05 Ben Host That's not a B story. It's—it is—it's head feint, but not B story.

00:25:10 Adam Host Right.

00:25:11 Ben Host And we really, like, don't spend any more time with that crew for a lot of the rest of the episode.

00:25:17	Clip	Clip	<b><i>Auto Circus Cop (The Big Lebowski)</i></b> : They got us working in shifts! <i>[Cackles.]</i>
00:25:22	Adam	Host	It makes— <u>that</u> combined with how Kira <u>is</u> in her environment really tamps down the tension. It puts the tension on the idea of this religion being made, and Dukat being its leader.
00:25:37	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:25:38	Adam	Host	But it <u>totally</u> dials down any sort of danger that Kira is in <u>at any point</u> , and I wonder why it's like <u>that</u> . Because, uh, why <u>not</u> give us a greater element of danger? Why not make us fearful for Kira's safety? That seems to be off the table right away.
00:25:57	Ben	Host	She doesn't seem particularly worried. We don't get the sense from Dukat that he is, like, interested in murdering her if she doesn't...
00:26:06	Adam	Host	Right.
00:26:07	Ben	Host	...agree to whatever he's doing.
00:26:11	Adam	Host	I guess we've got seven seasons of proof that if what Dukat wanted to do was murder Kira, he would have done it already.
00:26:17	Ben	Host	Right. So that Vedek Fala guy is interested in explaining how their little society that they're building on Empok Nor works, so he gives her a tour of the station.
00:26:31	Music	Music	"This Old House '97" by Peter Bell, the theme tune to <i>This Old House</i> . Light, jazzy saxophone accompanied by rhythmic cymbals.
00:26:32	Adam	Host	<u><i>[Boston accent]</i></u>  "Now, when installing these guardrails for safety on the second level of Terok Nor..."
00:26:37	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i>  <i>[Boston accent]</i>  "We're using this MIG welder, which you can rent at a local home center. But it does take a little bit of training to operate properly, so we recommend hiring a professional for a job like this."  <i>[Accents continue until further notice.]</i>
00:26:51	Adam	Host	"This being a religious cult, we've had all the females ask permission to become pregnant."  <i>[Ben laughs.]</i>
00:27:03	Ben	Host	"Here we have Mira, who's just about ready to pop." <i>[Laughs.]</i> "If she does need a caesarean section—"
00:27:06	Adam	Host	"The aforementioned TIG welder will come in handy."  <i>[Both laugh.]</i>  <i>[Accents stop.]</i>
00:27:09	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughing]</i> Jesus!  <i>[Music record-scratches to a halt.]</i>

Yuck!

00:27:13 Adam Host Ben, did you notice this is a two-minute sequence that begins on the top floor, goes down the circular staircase, comes back toward the camera. It's—

00:27:18 Ben Host Yeah! It's a—

00:27:22 Adam Host It's two minutes long, there's a number of beats, there's interactions with background actors!

00:27:27 Ben Host I think it's impossible to escape that this is an homage to the pool party scene in *Boogie Nights*.

*[Adam laughs.]*

Because at one point they jump in the pool, and you see Kira swim away from the camera—

00:27:39 Adam Host Yeah.

00:27:40 Ben Host —and then the camera comes back up out of the pool, and you're like, "How do they do it?!" *[Laughs.]*

00:27:44 Adam Host I don't know how they cleared the "Spill the Wine" song for this.

*[Ben laughs.]*

It was great.

00:27:51 Ben Host I don't know if you've seen the show *PEN15*, but we just started watching season two of that, and there is a perfect homage to the *Boogie Nights* pool party scene in episode one of season two—

00:28:03 Adam Host Wow!

00:28:05 Ben Host —that I think you'll really love.

00:28:06 Adam Host I haven't seen that show yet. It's been on my list for a while, but I'll elevate it to the top.

00:28:11 Ben Host It's fucking great. And just imagine pool party scene, but it's middle school, and—*[laughing]* you can do the math.

00:28:19 Adam Host Yeah! I can!

00:28:21 Ben Host They meet a character named Benyan, who is sort of the Painter of Light of the Branch Pah-wraith-ians.

*[Adam laughs.]*

He's doing a totally gross Thomas Kinkade painting of Dukat and his followers.

00:28:34 Clip Clip **Tommy DeVito (*Goodfellas*):** I like this one. The dog—one dog goes one way, and the other dog goes the other way.

00:28:37 Clip Clip **Benyan:** I don't understand why he brought you here.

00:28:39 Adam Host Benyan looks like Matt Damon with another foot of height and maybe another 30 pounds of chiseled muscle.

00:28:47 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* And another 15 pounds of hair? *[Laughs.]*

00:28:50 Adam Host I thought this guy was a very striking individual.

00:28:54 Ben Host I feel like he must have been a nineties television "That Guy."

00:28:59 Adam Host Yeah, he looked that—like it.

00:29:00 Ben Host Like, what are the chances he wasn't like, arraigned in, like, original *Law & Order* for whacking his wife or something like that, you know?

00:29:08 Adam Host How could he not have been in *Melrose Place*?

[Ben laughs.]

Like, I'm—I'm actually gonna click on his name to rule that out.

[Clicking.]

It—it has—he was in *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman*.

00:29:16 Ben Host Wow! [Laughs.]

00:29:17 Adam Host That checks out.

00:29:18 Ben Host [Laughs harder.] He does have serious *Dr. Quinn* energy.

00:29:24 Adam Host You know what? He wasn't in that much! He was in television shows of the nineties, and then he came back for a short project with Jane Seymour called *Dr. Quinn, Morphine Woman*.

00:29:35 Ben Host [Laughs.] Is that like a—an after-school special about Dr. Quinn getting totally strung out?

00:29:42 Clip Clip **Music:** Intense action music.

**Frank Collison (*Dr. Quinn, Morphine Woman*):** This isn't your grandma's *Dr. Quinn*.

[Clip audio cuts.]

00:29:45 Adam Host He directed a video short in 2019. So it looks like he may have pivoted to behind-the-camera stuff, instead of in front of it.

00:29:52 Ben Host Hm!

00:29:53 Adam Host But I don't know how you do that when you look like this guy! Think you gotta stay in front of the camera, bud!

00:29:58 Ben Host The camera wants Jason Leland Adams!

00:30:01 Adam Host How tall is he? I—I gotta find that out. Because maybe that's the problem! Maybe it's hard to—

00:30:06 Ben Host Yeah.

00:30:07 Adam Host —get a job when you're six foot four!

00:30:09 Ben Host Yeah. You can't be an astronaut when you're six foot four. So why should you be able to be an actor also?

00:30:15 Adam Host How tall is Marc Alaimo? He's six feet tall. This guy clearly has like four or five inches on him. There's a scene later on where Stretchy Matt Damon just towers over him.

[Ben laughs.]

And that's something that you never see on *Deep Space Nine*! Gul Dukat is the tall guy in the room most days.



00:30:33 Ben Host Yeah. Him and Worf, often the tallest.

00:30:35 Adam Host Yeah.

00:30:36 Ben Host Kira starts kinda putting the screws to this guy, because he's got a baby coming, and she is... very critical of this religion, but Benyan is—does not—he's very self-assured in his belief system. In such a way that he is—not an evangelist. He's—you know?

00:30:56 Adam Host Yeah.

00:30:57 Ben Host Like, he's like, "You know don't believe that shit? Fine. You're—" It's like—you know. *[Laughs.]* He's like David Puddy. He's like, "You're the one going to Hell."

*[Both laugh.]*

00:31:06 Adam Host Yeah. And like, Kira is—is not taking thinly veiled shots at him and his beliefs. Like, she's sport-fucking his religion in front of him.

00:31:14 Ben Host Yeah.

00:31:15 Adam Host And, uh—and that doesn't seem to bother him at all. He's being wraith-cucked.

*[Ben laughs.]*

00:31:24 Clip Clip *[A church bell chimes several times, accompanied by chanting and something like wind chimes. The clip audio plays as Ben describes the scene.]*

00:31:25 Ben Host At this point, they attend a religious ceremony being officiated by Gul Dukat. And everybody on the station is in attendance for this.

*[Clip audio stops.]*

00:31:36 Adam Host What you wanna do is go shopping at the market.

*[Ben laughs quietly.]*

Uh, while this is happening. Really short lines.

00:31:43 Ben Host Yeah. I mean, if you can find a store that's open, you're gonna sail through it.

00:31:47 Adam Host Boy, that's true.

00:31:49 Ben Host Kira is, like, so creeped out in this. And she notices somebody standing a little bit ahead of her in the crowd, who's wearing a Bajoran blaster in a cat basket. And she—she grabs the gun! And holds up the religious ceremony. And is like, telling everybody, "Get on the floor, this is a robbery."

00:32:11 Clip Clip **Music:** Low, tense orchestra.

**Kira:** I said down on the floor!

**Honey Bunny (Pulp Fiction):** And I'll execute every motherfucking last one of you!

*[Clip audio stops.]*

00:32:17 Ben Host And Benyan and then like a few more of the red armbands start standing in between her and Dukat. And the one that breaks the

00:32:32 Clip Clip camel's back is that Vedek Fala guy, who says, like—  
**Music:** Soaring, dramatic orchestral stings.

**Fala:** Enough, Nerys. Unless you're willing to kill us all.

**Jules Winnfield (*Pulp Fiction*):** We're all gonna be like three little Fonzies here.

00:32:38 Ben Host And my note I wrote is, "What is the cost of stunning all these dopes?!"

00:32:43 Adam Host Yeah. You gotta start firing until your finger falls asleep. Like...

00:32:47 Ben Host Like, until the trigger goes, "click," right? Like—

00:32:50 Adam Host Yeah.

00:32:51 Ben Host Is there some reason why you can't just stun everyone? What jurisdiction is she in? She's—*[laughs]*—she's talking to the guy that was the Butcher of Bajor. Like, she could—if she could bring him in...

00:33:06 Adam Host Yeah.

00:33:07 Ben Host Like, the Bajoran Provisional Government would be thrilled to throw him behind bars, right?

00:33:12 Adam Host What are the chances that the Bajoran Militia person has a blaster in their cat basket set to kill for whatever reason, and it's unsecured with that little strap that keeps it—

*[Ben laughs.]*

—that keeps it from being pulled from someone else?

00:33:29 Ben Host Yeah.

00:33:30 Adam Host Like, at a—at anything but a very specific angle? Like, she's gotta believe that she could stun everyone. But that's never on the table. This is a—this is all for show.

00:33:42 Ben Host I wanted this scene to go the way of her pulling the trigger, and it being not a real gun, or...

00:33:48 Adam Host Hmm.

00:33:49 Ben Host ...not ha—not loaded or something, and it having been a test. I just felt like this scene—

00:33:55 Adam Host Yeah.

00:33:56 Ben Host Like, I believed all of the motivation up until she had the gun in her hand, and then I didn't believe any motivation after that. 'Cause I was like, "What is stopping her from just mowing these idiots down?"

00:34:07 Adam Host And, uh, instead of mowing these idiots down, it is Kira that is mowed down with a clasped fist to the base of her neck.

00:34:17 Ben Host Yeah.

00:34:18 Adam Host A classic *Star Trek* knockout move.

00:34:21 Ben Host Kirk-chopped to sleep.

00:34:23 Clip Clip **Music:** Falling, deep horns.

*[Thump.]*

*[Kira grunts in pain.]*

*[Louder thump as she hits the ground.]*

*[Clip audio stops.]*

00:34:27 Ben Host And Dukat, like, leans over her—*[laughs]*—while she's asleep! And, uh, twists the knife by saying, "Now don't you—do you understand how much they love me?"

She's not awake, Dukat! *[Laughs.]* That doesn't—

00:34:40 Adam Host Yeah.

00:34:41 Ben Host That's not gonna be meaningful to her!

00:34:42 Music Transition A techno song mixed with clips and soundbites from *DS9* and *TNG*.

**Sisko, little girl, and Bashir:**

*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.*

*[Music ends.]*

00:34:59 Adam Host When she comes to, she's partially undressed, which really ramps up the creep factor.

00:35:05 Ben Host Yeah.

00:35:06 Adam Host Dukat is tending to her wounds. And it's clear from this scene that—that perhaps making a martyr out of Dukat is exactly what he wants.

00:35:16 Ben Host I think that, like, the "She's gonna be killed" tension stays out of this episode even here, but the fact that her clothing has been messed with introduces another kind of tension. And another kind of fear. And the fact that he's still villain-monologuing at her is really terrifying.

And he's basically making the case, like, "If I can convince you to join me, I can make it anywhere."

Right? Like, "You're the last person that I—that people would assume I could convince to join the Branch Pah-wraith-ians. So you're the first person I'm gonna start on."

00:36:00	Clip	Clip	<b>Dukat:</b> I should think that after what just happened in the Temple, you'd realize that!
00:36:04	Adam	Host	I feel like in the way that some characters have, like, power uniforms, whenever I see Kira in this level of undress, all she's ever done is kick a major amount of ass, or blow up a pizza oven. You know?  <i>[Ben laughs.]</i>  Like, she's rarely more dangerous than she is when she's wearing the white tunic with the holes in it. You know?
00:36:25	Ben	Host	Yeah. Right.
00:36:27	Adam	Host	She <u>presents</u> as someone who maybe has been weakened from the moment, but we know from experience how dangerous she is.
00:36:34	Ben	Host	She never loses her power in these moments.
00:36:37	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:36:38	Ben	Host	And I think that that's critical.
00:36:41	Adam	Host	Can you think of a time when she has? Like when she was really broken down.
00:36:46	Ben	Host	She's had very few moments like that.
00:36:48	Adam	Host	I think that's why you feel so safe with her character whenever she's in dangerous situations. She never—
00:36:53	Ben	Host	Right.
00:36:54	Adam	Host	She never seems to be outgunned at any point.
00:36:58	Ben	Host	She's one of the few characters in any media that I could think of being, like, <u>alone</u> in a remote place with 50 hostiles—
00:37:07	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:37:08	Ben	Host	—and I'm not actually really sweating that much.
00:37:11	Adam	Host	The "alone" part is key to that statement. Like, I feel like that is—that's a special magic that Kira's got.
00:37:17	Ben	Host	Yeah. And I think that they tried to introduce, like, a <u>little</u> bit of fear by having that <i>CSI</i> scene where they were looking at her quarters and trying to figure out where she went, back on the station. Really pegging the needle for how she is in a remote place, and they don't even know where to look for her. But, uh, I'm still not worried.
00:37:35	Adam	Host	It's gotta be weird to be in your <u>twin</u> station, in what may or may not be your twin quarters.
00:37:42	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> Yeah.
00:37:43	Adam	Host	You know? Like, there was always such a creepy factor to... like, in the Nagilum episode, is what I'm thinking. Like, to when you're—whenever you—you're on another Galaxy-class ship that may or may not be haunted.

00:37:55 Ben Host Yeah.

00:37:56 Adam Host There's a great level of discomfort there that, whenever we're on Empok Nor, I feel like the earlier episodes lean into that far more than this one, even.

00:38:07 Ben Host Yeah.

00:38:08 Adam Host The megachurch tunes—in a strange way, tunes out the creepiness of the haunted station.

00:38:14 Clip Clip **Dukat:** Your anger is a challenge. I welcome it.

00:38:18 Ben Host Another strange thing is the "birth of the baby" scene.

00:38:23 Adam Host Yeah!

00:38:24 Ben Host They go to [sicks bay](#), to enjoy this, uh, blessed event.

00:38:29 Adam Host Anyone who's seen a Bajoran birth knows that this is gonna take several hours, so everyone gets outside of the infirmary, and they wait.

00:38:39 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Adam:** And they wait. And they wait.

**Ben:** *[Laughs.]* Yeah, they've all brought some reading material.

00:38:42 Adam Host There's a guy inside doing that weird, like, drum thing, where you, uh—

00:38:45 Clip Clip *[Metallic drum beat followed by beads shaking.]*

00:38:46 Adam Host You like, move your hands together, and the drums flick the little bead back and forth?

00:38:49 Ben Host The little—*[laughs]*.

00:38:50 Clip Clip *[Someone exhales.]*

*[The drum and shaking repeat, and the clip audio fades out.]*

00:38:51 Adam Host We saw O'Brien and Bashir do this.

00:38:54 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah. That's, uh—

00:38:55 Adam Host Very time-consuming!

00:38:56 Ben Host That's how Bajorans do this!

00:38:58 Adam Host Bajorans don't push.

00:39:00 Ben Host No. They—

00:39:01 Adam Host That's what we learned.

00:39:02 Ben Host They have to be very relaxed.

00:39:03 Adam Host Yeah.

00:39:04 Ben Host Uh, but maybe... maybe not in a case like this, when the baby is in fact... a Cardie!

00:39:12 Clip Clip **Music:** Sinister orchestra rising in pitch.

*[A baby is fussing or laughing.]*

**Dukat:** *[Revelatory]* The Pah-wraiths! They've sent us a sign!

00:39:17 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Comedic "boing!" as the clip audio fades out.]*

00:39:18 Adam Host What a reveal.

00:39:20 Ben Host The wordless cut-to-Benyans are really great. And, uh, a lot of tension between Mika and Benyan in this scene. Because Gul Dukat, you know, sucks all the air out of the room, and is talking to the faithful about how this is a miracle symbolizing the covenant that they've made with him. And that, you know, this—this really is Benyan and Mika's kid, but that, uh, the Pah-wraiths have changed the appearance of the baby in order to, you know, increase their faith.

It's something we see all the time. Like, tangible evidence of how bad a leader is...

00:39:58 Clip Clip **Music:** Whirring, high-pitched chirping.

**Donald Trump:** Yeah. No, I don't take responsibility at all.

*[Clip audio cuts.]*

00:40:00 Ben Host ...only making that leader's followers more fervent in their belief that—

00:40:05 Adam Host Right.

00:40:06 Ben Host —that this is the leader for them.

00:40:07 Clip Clip **Trump Supporter:** God bless our president! I will die for him!

00:40:10 Adam Host Because a redemption story is one of the most powerful inspirations to people and figures like that. "I'm a flawed leader, I make mistakes!"

00:40:19 Ben Host Right.

00:40:20 Adam Host "I fucked all of you!"

*[Ben laughs.]*

Like, the forgiveness narrative is... is strong. And this scene—  
*[laughs]*. It's fucked up in a lot of ways, but one thing I wanted to talk about what the animatronic baby...

*[Ben laughs.]*

...I read was made by the Chucky people.

00:40:39 Ben Host Wow!

00:40:40 Adam Host The, uh—the *Child's Play* people made the animatronic baby. Because you can't put loaf on newborns!

00:40:49 Ben Host Yeah!

00:40:51 Adam Host You can't do it.

00:40:52 Ben Host It's not good for newborns.

00:40:53 Adam Host I mean, there are rules about it. That seems like the sort of thing that there—you don't need a rule for. You just just know.

*[Ben laughs.]*

Someone fucked it up, and now there's a rule against it.

00:41:01 Ben Host Yeah.

00:41:02 Adam Host And that's why we've got Chucky babies on *Deep Space Nine*.

00:41:04 Ben Host God, you know occasionally how there'll be like a big PDF that goes around on the Internet of like, an auction of screen-used props from sci-fi things?

00:41:15 Adam Host Oh my god. How much would you spend for this baby?

00:41:18 Ben Host Cardassian animatronic baby, I feel like, is a big-ticket item. *[Laughs.]* If it still works—which it probably doesn't. You know, it's probably been in the drawer of some prop shop for years.

00:41:30 Adam Host Yeah.

00:41:31 Clip Clip **Fala:** They have powers beyond our understanding.

00:41:33 Adam Host Yeah, but you know there's just a guy with a Futaba transmitter just out of frame, working the sticks.

*[Ben laughs.]*

For the eyebrows, and another one with the arms, and...

00:41:41 Ben Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]*

00:41:43 Adam Host It's big fun! You don't see it a whole bunch, because it does not look great. But Marc Alaimo sells the shit out of it.

00:41:51 Ben Host Yeah.

00:41:52 Adam Host And it seems scary when he picks the baby up. That's crucial, right?

00:41:56 Ben Host Yeah.

00:41:57 Adam Host Like, if it looked silly enough to where he leaned in and grabbed the baby, you wouldn't care. But I couldn't rule out the idea of Dukat picking up the baby and throwing him to the other side of the Promenade. Like, I was fearful of the baby's safety here.

00:42:11 Ben Host Fear for the animatronic baby.

00:42:14 Adam Host Yeah.

00:42:15 Ben Host An amazing thing that *Deep Space Nine* made us feel. *[Laughs.]*

00:42:18 Adam Host Yeah! Yeah. So the scandal has been pivoted into miracle.

00:42:24 Ben Host Yeah.

00:42:25 Adam Host And Dukat has made a Ziyal for himself, hasn't he?

00:42:29 Ben Host Yeah. Ziyal has been reborn!

00:42:30 Adam Host This is a name that has not been evoked in this entire episode, but I—my mind went there, first thing.

00:42:37 Ben Host Yeah. It's interesting, 'cause I mean, he was so, like, mentally broken after that. And we don't get any evidence in this episode that he's, like, seeing people that aren't there or anything like that. Like, his—

00:42:50 Adam Host He's pretty with-it.

00:42:51 Ben Host He's kind of a different Dukat than we've had lately.

00:42:55 Adam Host He's like Jim Jones before the drugs. Right?

00:42:58 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Right.

Kira has a conversation with Fala about whether or not this is a miracle. And it's a real, like, "Miracles are in the eyes of the

beholder" conversation, because he can cite the Prophets disappearing that Jem'Hadar fleet—

00:43:16 Adam Host Mm-hm.

00:43:17 Ben Host —that was coming through the wormhole, as something she considers legitimately to be a miracle.

00:43:23 Adam Host It becomes a real miracle-measuring contest—

00:43:25 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Ding!]*

00:43:26 Adam Host *[Ben laughs.]*

—when he's like, "You think the Prophets or the Pah-wraiths have any problem making a baby if they wanted to? Look at all these other things that they're able to do!"

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

00:43:33 Adam Host "It was nothing to them."

00:43:35 Ben Host And she's like, "Are you fucking kidding me? Like, did you see all that Benyan React? That was crazy! Like, he knows!"

00:43:40 Adam Host *[Laughs.]* "Their spoons look exactly alike, Vedek Fala! Like—"

*[Both laugh.]*

"The shape, the depth..."

00:43:50 Ben Host "The number of scales..."

00:43:52 Adam Host "Everything. Count the scales, Vedek Fala!"

00:43:55 Ben Host Yeah. And I think that this is a real thing, you know? Like, when somebody is presented with something that could shake their worldview to its very foundation, there is a very strong chance that their reaction will be to double down on their belief system.

00:44:13 Adam Host Mm-hm.

00:44:14 Ben Host Like, you cannot tell somebody that believes in the flat Earth about all of the different real evidence that their belief system is bullshit, because that's not what it's about, you know?

00:44:24 Adam Host I think it's a big part of a person's identity who believes in things like that, to feel like—uh, like they're being attacked.

00:44:31 Ben Host Yep. And also, like, the only immunity to the shame of being—of acknowledging you made a mistake is never acknowledging you made a mistake.

00:44:39 Adam Host Yep.

00:44:40 Ben Host And you can never talk them out of it, because that—it, like—it's a belief system that self-reinforces against that.

00:44:47 Adam Host Right.

00:44:48 Ben Host Like, the dumbness of flat Earth is almost the point.

00:44:51 Adam Host Yeah.

Kira wants to talk to the parents. And for some reason is granted that ability.



*[Ben laughs quietly.]*

There is no reason she should be permitted to do this. Only bad things can come of this.

00:45:03 Ben Host

Yeah.

00:45:04 Adam Host

So, uh—

*[Both laugh.]*

So she does.

00:45:04 Ben Host

Yeah. She's like, uh, "So Benyan, you've prayed alone one-on-one with Dukat," and he's like, "Sure."

And she's like, "What about your wife? Has she done that? And... what position does Dukat like to pray in?"

*[Adam laughs quietly.]*

"Where does he like to finish praying?"

00:45:24 Adam Host

Yeah. Kira knows what she's talking about, because, uh, her mother also prayed with Dukat. So... she would know.

00:45:32 Ben Host

Yeah.

00:45:32 Clip Clip

**Fala:** You saw what you wanted to see.

00:45:34 Adam Host

We basically cut to Mika waiting for Dukat to talk to her. And, uh, whenever you set up a meeting near a door to space...

*[Ben laughs.]*

...I think that is, uh—that's Chekhov's door, right?

00:45:48 Ben Host

Yeah. *[Laughs.]* The door of Damocles. *[Laughs.]*

00:45:52 Adam Host

Right. Dukat shows up. They have their secret conversation about their previous secret encounter. And what you can't do is say the words—

00:46:03 Clip Clip

**Music:** Tense, long strings.

**Mika:** If he ever asks me... I don't know if I can lie to him.

00:46:08 Adam Host

This is the last line of cheaters for time immemorial.

00:46:13 Ben Host

Yeah.

00:46:14 Adam Host

This is the thing that blows up the cheating right here. It makes it a thing.

00:46:19 Ben Host

*[Sighing]* Yeah.

00:46:20 Adam Host

And Dukat goes, "That's fine, baby, I understand!"

00:46:24 Ben Host

"Anyways, you just wait here in this airlock."

00:46:27 Adam Host

Yeah.

00:46:28 Ben Host

"And I'll go do something else!"

00:46:30 Adam Host

"Anyway, see ya!"

And, uh, when that door rolls closed, and Mika does not make any attempt to leave the airlock section—

*[Both laugh.]*

This scene is so weird!

00:46:45 Clip

Clip

**Music:** Dramatic action music.

*[The door rumbles open. Air begins whooshing out, and then stops. A voice, presumably Mika's, is barely audible.]*

*[Clip plays out as Ben and Adam discuss it.]*

00:46:46 Adam

Host

Because the door to space rolls open. You get the commensurate sucking that happens with that happens. And then for some reason the sucking stops, and Mika's just on the ground—

00:46:53 Ben

Host

Yeah.

00:46:54 Adam

Host

—with the door to space behind her. What happened there?

00:46:56 Ben

Host

I think all of the air is out of the room at that point, and so there's no force to keep pushing her toward the hole.

*[Clip audio fades out.]*

00:47:07 Adam

Host

She should be floating, Ben. You gotta get her into the harness!

00:47:08 Ben

Host

You—she should have been—well, I mean, I think that that's what Dukat was going for. He was trying to alien queen her—

*[Adam laughs.]*

—but he used one of those airlocks where the door rolls to the side super slowly.

00:47:19 Adam

Host

Yeah.

00:47:20 Ben

Host

And it depressurized in a way that didn't suck her out successfully.

00:47:25 Adam

Host

Tell you one thing, you're never gonna kill any alien queens that way.

00:47:28 Ben

Host

No. That's not—*[stifles laughter]*—that is not a way to get a bitch away from a little girl.

*[Both laugh.]*

00:47:35 Adam

Host

There's gotta be another setting on the controls to blow the doors. Explosive decompression is what Dukat needed to do.

00:47:42 Ben

Host

Yeah.

00:47:43 Adam

Host

And he should know better.

00:47:44 Ben

Host

Yeah. He's—he was the administrator of a station just like this. He should know which button you push for that.

00:47:49 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.

*[Music ends.]*

00:47:57 Adam Host Dukat does such a shitty job that he doesn't even kill Mika. *[Stifling laughter]* She survives this incident.

00:48:02 Ben Host Yeah.

00:48:03 Adam Host Because Kira rolls up and closes the door behind her, this is a survivable moment!

00:48:07 Ben Host This was the miracle to me!

00:48:10 Adam Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]*

00:48:11 Ben Host That Mika fucking survives!

00:48:13 Adam Host The miracle is that she's pregnant again after this.

00:48:15 Ben Host *[Laughing]* Yeah.

00:48:16 Adam Host That was very surprising.

00:48:17 Clip Clip **Music:** Sinister orchestra.

*[Crowd murmuring.]*

**Dukat:** Oh, what a blessed day this is!

*[Clip audio ends.]*

00:48:20 Ben Host There is a scene after this where Dukat is... "praying."

00:48:25 Adam Host Mm-hm.

00:48:26 Ben Host Quote-unquote. In his quarters, alone. And talking to the Pah-wraiths. And it hit me. Like, he is the one person in this scenario that is not operating on faith! He is in fact in league with the Pah-wraiths! Like, they used him as an instrument of their—of whatever they're trying to do. And he had one inside his body! Like, when he is talking to them here, he may in fact be in communication with a real alien.

00:48:54 Adam Host Doesn't he have to bust open a doll, and release more Pah-wraiths?

00:48:57 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah.

00:48:59 Adam Host Like, that's how you become in communion with Pah-wraiths! Like—

00:49:03 Ben Host Right.

00:49:05 Adam Host He's run out of piñatas, right?

00:49:05 Ben Host Farts don't stick around forever. They dissipate eventually.

00:49:09 Adam Host Correct me if I'm wrong, but like, has that been the only example of interaction with Pah-wraiths? When one of those things is busted open? They don't just—they don't appear like the Prophets to you in that way, right?

00:49:22	Music	Music	Whimsically cartoony children's music.
00:49:23	Ben	Host	<i>[Cartoony voice which continues until further notice]</i>  "Well, we appear in lots of different ways!"  <i>[Both laugh.]</i>  "Sometimes we look like farts! Other times, we look like... characters from the show, because we don't have enough money to cast new people!"
00:49:34	Adam	Host	<i>[Same cartoony voice]</i>
00:49:38	Ben	Host	"Look at you, applying logic to a religious belief! That's hilarious!" <i>[Laughs.]</i> "Don't you know how these things work?" <i>[Laughs.]</i>  <i>[Music record-scratches to a halt.]</i>  <i>[Cartoony voices stop.]</i>
00:49:43	Adam	Host	Mika comes to in the infirmary. And a crowd is gathered again outside. Mika, spending a lot of time in this infirmary lately. Getting a lot of, uh, triangle pillow time.
00:50:00	Clip	Clip	Kira makes her accusation public here, in the public square. <b>Kira:</b> Was Mika gonna tell everyone that you're the father of her child?  <b>Dukat:</b> Kira...  <b>Kira:</b> Is that why you tried to kill her?  <b>Dukat:</b> <u>Enough.</u>
00:50:05	Adam	Host	And it's enough to get her <u>finally</u> dragged away. This is the line that she crossed.
00:50:10	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> Yeah. So it's a "Get the Kool-Aid ready, guys." Like, that's what's coming next.
00:50:16	Adam	Host	Yeah. This is the moment where I looked at the timecode, and I was like, "There are ten minutes left in this episode. <u>What</u> is going to happen?"  Because I kept on waiting to go back to the B story. "Certainly the cavalry is on their way." Right? "What is the status of the rescue mission?" With ten minutes left, we should know by now. We do not.
00:50:37	Ben	Host	Yeah, like—and—and— <i>[sighs]</i> . That's a moment in almost any other episode of this show where they'd be saying, "We're still a day away from Empok Nor even at maximum warp!"  And somebody would have introduced some idea of, like, "Maybe we should kill Kira. Anyways, we'll decide after dinner, which is in two hours." <i>[Laughs.]</i> You know?
00:50:58	Adam	Host	Right. On the Promenade, the dinner bell is rung. But, uh, it's not the usual time for services. That's because Dukat has gathered the flock

together to tell them that he loves them very much. But he loves the Pah-wraiths more, and the Pah-wraiths have told him...

00:51:15	Clip	Clip	<b>Music:</b> Strong, held chords from string instruments.
			<b>Dukat:</b> We must transform ourselves. Our corporeal bodies are not suitable for the task.
00:51:21	Ben	Host	They gotta become Force Ghosts.
00:51:23	Adam	Host	Yeah. It's time to become a ghost army. And, uh, they're gonna do that the next morning! So— <i>[laughs]</i> —look. I've thought a lot about this. If I ever become a cult leader...
00:51:34	Ben	Host	Mm-hm. "If"? <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:51:35	Adam	Host	I'm not going to give away the plan a day ahead of time! You're just <u>asking</u> your flock to disband and leave!
00:51:46	Ben	Host	How far ahead of time did the Jonestown people know about the Kool-Aid? 'Cause they knew it was poison, right? Like, they—
00:51:52	Adam	Host	They did, yeah.
00:51:53	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:51:54	Adam	Host	Well, the morning of the massacre was when that senator was shot at the airport.
00:52:01	Ben	Host	Ohhh.
00:52:02	Adam	Host	And I think things came together very quickly after that.
00:52:05	Ben	Host	Wow. It's been a long time since I've taken a deep dive into that.
00:52:10	Adam	Host	I told you that was the first date I went on with my wife, right? We went to go see the Jonestown movie.
00:52:15	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughing]</i> Jesus!
00:52:20	Adam	Host	We held hands during the massacre.
00:52:24	Ben	Host	The, uh, first date I went on with <u>my</u> wife was to get Italian food. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:52:30	Adam	Host	Yeah, I mean, that's a way that you could do that.
00:52:31	Ben	Host	Yeah. So, uh, we get the "passing out the pills" scene. Very intense moment when Benyan takes one for him, and one for the bambino.
00:52:44	Adam	Host	That is <u>really</u> true, right? Like, whenever you're threatening to kill a baby on a show, that really ratchets up the tension.
00:52:51	Ben	Host	Yeah. And we cut to Kira's—the room where they're keeping Kira, where she takes a turn for the MacGruber, and starts making life-saving inventions out of household materials.
00:53:06	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:53:07	Ben	Host	She rips open a hole in the wall, and like, plugs it into the heat lamp in the room. And blows the door. She's able to escape her confines, and get out there. And she comes in for a—an attack vector from the second level of the Promenade, where she literally, like, jumps off the catwalk—
00:53:32	Clip	Clip	<b>Music:</b> Dire orchestra.

**Kira:** DUKAT!

*[Clip audio continues.]*

00:53:33 Ben Host

—onto Dukat.

00:53:34 Clip Clip

**Crowd:** No! Stop her!

*[Crashing sounds of impact.]*

*[Clip audio fades out.]*

00:53:38 Ben Host

*[Laughs.]* And, uh, I thought it was very funny that—I—I think she jumps, like, from basically the spot where they showed the guy welding the guardrail? It's almost like they anticipated, "We might need a guardrail here, in case anybody ever, like, jumps off of here."  
*[Laughs.]*

00:53:52 Adam Host

This is a great action scene!

00:53:53 Ben Host

Yeah. Pretty exciting! And the upshot is she knocks Dukat to the ground, and he drops his Promazine tablet. And it gets confused with all of the other Promazine tablets. So when he gets up, he doesn't know which one was his. And this is proof that he was gonna fire a blank at his own head, and the faithful were all going to kill themselves. And finally the scales fall from their eyes, and they realize that he was using them the whole time.

00:54:26 Clip Clip

**Music:** Active strings and horns, discordant.

*[Crowd shouting angrily.]*

**Dukat:** None of you will ever know the love of the Pah-wraiths!  
NONE OF YOU!

*[Clip audio fades out.]*

00:54:34 Adam Host

We're told previously that the Promazine, when you take it, it turns your body to dust in very short order.

00:54:40 Ben Host

Yeah.

00:54:41 Adam Host

Had we seen this scene of mass death, and then mass dust...

00:54:47 Ben Host

Yeah...

00:54:49 Adam Host

That would have been insane to watch.

00:54:51 Ben Host

Totally crazy. Uh—*[laughs]*.

00:54:53 Adam Host

The mob gets incredibly angry, and starts flinging their Promazine tablets at Dukat, which is—

00:54:58 Ben Host

Yeah.

00:54:59 Adam Host

—which seems very impotent, as a rejection of what's happened here.

00:55:03 Ben Host

Yeah. You gotta throw something heavier, guys. *[Laughs.]*

00:55:05 Adam Host

Yeah.

00:55:06 Ben Host

"Hey, I brought some, uh—some rotten tomatoes! Let's throw these!"  
*[Laughs.]*

00:55:11 Adam Host

Benyan's still holding onto his baby, and I felt my second wave of fear for what's going to happen to that baby in this scene. Because I

thought the baby was gonna get thrown, too.

00:55:21 Ben Host Yeah. Uh, that would've been fucked up.

00:55:23 Adam Host Yeah.

00:55:24 Ben Host Benyan, to his credit, does not throw the baby. And yeah. They—it looks like they're gonna, like, tear him apart, but he's got a—he's always got an escape figured out. He slaps his wrist. He Dominion-style transporters outta there.

00:55:40 Adam Host Is his Klingon ship outside? Is that where he's headed?

00:55:44 Ben Host I don't know! 'Cause it's not a Klingon-style transporter. It's—and it's not a Federation-style transporter. It's a Dominion-style transporter.

00:55:52 Adam Host I'm confused.

00:55:53 Ben Host He's like—he—remember? He's like, working with Weyoun and, uh... and Damar at this point.

00:55:59 Adam Host Yeah.

00:56:00 Ben Host Vedek Fala pops his pill.

00:56:01 Adam Host Yeah. And, uh, it's not a fake. It's the real deal.

00:56:05 Ben Host What if—*[laughs]*—what if he'd fucking picked up the one pill?

*[Both crack up.]*

And he's like, *[hoarsely]* "Faith, Kira. Fa—*[clears throat]*. I kinda thought this was gonna..."

*[Adam laughs.]*

"...come overtake me a little bit more quickly than—than it is..."

00:56:14 Clip Clip *[Clip audio is intertwined with Ben and Adam above and below.]*

**Music:** Sad, revealing trumpets.

*[Crowd murmuring, distressed.]*

**Kira:** Fala, no!

00:56:22 Ben Host "I mean, I feel terrible, but I don't know if it's, like, symptomatic of the pill—*[coughs]*."

00:56:26 Adam Host "It may be, like, psychosomatic, like I just feel so bad about what's happened!"

00:56:27 Clip Clip **Kira:** *[Whispering]* Why?

*[Clip audio ends.]*

00:56:31 Ben Host "And I feel like I should be dying, so am I, like, doing this to myself, or...? Oh, boy."

*[Both laugh.]*

"Hey, give me another one, just to—just to be on the safe side."  
*[Laughs.]*

00:56:43 Adam Host This actually speaks directly to what you were saying before, Ben.

He would rather die than live as someone who has to change his mind about a thing.

00:56:52 Ben Host Or live with the shame of having been as grotesquely wrong about something as he was.

00:56:58 Adam Host So we cut to the [Little D](#), and Kira is just covered in dust. Like—

*[Ben cracks up.]*

Like, she—*[laughs]*—she looks like a vacuum cleaner bag just exploded all over her.

*[Ben laughs.]*

Like, she's been antiqued, like in *Jackass*.

*[Both laugh.]*

00:57:14 Ben Host Yeah. She's, uh—she's dusting herself off in the mess. And Odo is there. And he's like, *[Odo voice; gravelly]* "Well, bullet dodged, not having any faith, anyways, right?"

00:57:27 Adam Host *[Laughs.]*

*[Odo voice]* "I'm—I'm not sure if you were aware, but my lungs are liquid."

*[Both laugh.]*

*[Odo voices continue until further notice.]*

"And the dust is really doing a number on them."

00:57:33 Ben Host "Oh my god, the AQI in this mess hall is off the charts! It's like Portland in September!"

*[Adam laughs.]*

*[Coughs.]* Listen to my voice, it's all raspy!"

*[Odo voices stop.]*

00:57:45 Adam Host Uh, you look—

*[Both laugh.]*

You look behind them, Matt Damon is sitting within earshot, and he has, like, a dust outline of a baby at, like, around—around his bosom. Like, that he's frantically trying to wipe off, like he didn't just kill a baby with that pill.

*[Ben cracks up.]*

You don't see a baby in this scene, Ben!

00:58:06 Ben Host You sure don't. *[Laughing]* Did you like the episode, Adam?

00:58:10 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!*

*[Music ends.]*

00:58:14	Adam	Host	That's a hard question to answer. I know it's my job to answer it here. Here's the thing. Whenever you tell a story of religious condemnation without the corresponding religious self-examination, I think you're telling only half the story.
00:58:34	Ben	Host	Mm.
00:58:35	Adam	Host	And I think it is... religiously hypocritical for Kira to be over there, doing religious tourism, doing religious judgment, and never recognizing that it's <u>her own religion</u> that spawned this thing. They're related concepts!
00:58:53	Ben	Host	Right.
00:58:55	Adam	Host	She's judgmental for all the right reasons. Like, this is a cult, and bad shit is going on there. She's hoping to interfere before the flock turns to dust. But take a little bit of fucking ownership about this. She never does. Because Bajoran religion interpretation is the <u>healthy</u> interpretation.
00:59:18	Ben	Host	Right.
00:59:19	Adam	Host	And, uh, and it never hurts <u>anyone</u> .
00:59:20	Ben	Host	Her confidence in that is never shaken in this episode.
00:59:24	Adam	Host	I would have liked for that to have been shaken. And much like Kira is rarely felt to feel danger in circumstances like this, she's rarely made to feel mixed feelings about her own beliefs here.
00:59:36	Ben	Host	Mm-hm.
00:59:38	Adam	Host	I like it when she is made to really question shit like that. I think as close as she came was when she had to confront the reality of her mother's relationship to Gul Dukat.
00:59:48	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:59:49	Adam	Host	And that's great stuff when they make her do that!
00:59:51	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:59:52	Adam	Host	Why are there so <u>few</u> episodes where she does? This seemed like an opportunity for it that we don't get, and so it—like, I like that the episode builds Dukat back up into the heavy. I'm very excited for a sprint to the end where it's Dukat against Sisko. I—like, you can see that's the collision course that we're on. But, like, you could have gotten heavier here, and you didn't.
01:00:15	Clip	Clip	<b>Dr. Brown (Back to the Future):</b> There's that word again, "heavy"!
01:00:17	Adam	Host	Is how I feel about this episode. What about you?
01:00:19	Ben	Host	I do really like the episode. I think that the lack of, like, huge, life-

threatening stakes is a choice that I actually kind of appreciate. Because I feel like you can—you can dig into the issues more. It's not just like, "Hey, we're trying to kill you."

"Fuck you, you're bad for trying to kill me."

Like, because that's, like, somewhat off the table, the theology of the Branch Pah-wraith-ians can be explored in a little bit more detail.

01:00:50	Adam	Host	Mm-hm.
01:00:51	Ben	Host	And we're not, like, open to it, but we can be slightly more open-minded, and, like, hear them for saying what they believe in.
01:00:58	Adam	Host	Right.
01:00:59	Ben	Host	And I think that that's a really interesting writing choice. And I think it's a great Marc Alaimo episode—
01:01:05	Adam	Host	It is.
01:01:06	Ben	Host	—and a really good Nana Visitor episode. So I enjoyed watching it quite a bit.
01:01:12	Adam	Host	I am appreciating them while they're here with us.
01:01:14	Ben	Host	Yeah.
01:01:15	Adam	Host	Like, we're not gonna get too many more of these. And I really do enjoy seeing them together.
01:01:22	Ben	Host	I enjoy seeing Priority One Messages in our inbox. Do you wanna see what that is looking like today, Adam?
01:01:29	Adam	Host	Yeah. Yeah, let's take a look.
01:01:30	Clip	Transition	<b>Computer:</b> <i>[Beeps four times.]</i> Priority one message from Starfleet coming in on secured channel. <i>[More beeping.]</i>
01:01:35	Music	Transition	"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 Offenhouse (TNG):** *Why, the interest alone could be enough to buy this ship!*

*[Coins drop on a hard surface.]*

*[Music ends.]*

01:01:45	Music	Music	Music plays softly in the background of this segment, peppered by the ship's computer repeating, "Captain Picard, priority one message."
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01:01:46	Adam	Promo	Ben, our first Priority One Message is from Wesley.
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01:01:49	Music	Music	<b>Music:</b> Saxophone riff from Gerry Rafferty's "Baker Street."
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**Picard:** The boy?

*[Return to the usual background music.]*

01:01:51	Ben	Promo	<i>[Laughs.]</i>
01:01:52	Adam	Promo	And it is to all Wesleys everywhere. The message goes like this:  "To all Wesleys 33 and younger, how's it going having a parent who's a huge nerd?"  <i>[Ben laughs.]</i>  "To B and A, there hasn't been an embarrassing <i>Star Trek</i> story for a while now, so... My dad named me the eponymous space boy, and named my younger brother after one from a galaxy far, far away."
01:02:16	Ben	Promo	Wooow!
01:02:18	Adam	Promo	"He would have named my sister 'Seven.'"
01:02:20	Ben	Promo	Whooooa!
01:02:22	Adam	Promo	"Looking forward to <i>Voyager</i> and... <i>Enterprise</i> ?"
01:02:25	Ben	Promo	Did this person send this P1 in <u>after</u> the Maron for this episode?
01:02:30	Adam	Promo	Yeah. Yeah, they got in there right under the gavel.  <i>[Ben laughs.]</i>  Uh, good job, Wesley!
01:02:34	Ben	Promo	Wow!
01:02:35	Adam	Promo	Here's the thing, Wesley. While we have committed to doing <i>Voyager</i> next, uh, I think it's pretty clear from our Maron that we're gonna go back and do, uh, <i>TNG</i> again. The remastered version.
01:02:47	Ben	Promo	Was Wesley's dad looking to name a theoretical girl-child 'Seven' because Wesley's dad was a <i>Voyager</i> nerd, or because Wesley's dad was a <i>Seinfeld</i> nerd?  <i>[Adam laughs quietly.]</i>  That's my question.
01:03:01	Adam	Promo	I don't think it's good to name women numbers, is what I'll say.  <i>[Ben laughs.]</i>  Because I think you're setting them up for, uh—
01:03:12	Ben	Promo	For being told they're a seven?
01:03:14	Adam	Promo	Yep. So good bit of restraint, there. Yeah! Uh—pff. What are you talking about, we haven't told a story of embarrassment for a while? Every episode—
01:03:21	Ben	Promo	<i>[Laughs.]</i> It's all we fucking do! <i>[Laughs.]</i>
01:03:24	Adam	Promo	Yeah.
01:03:26	Ben	Promo	Anyways. Our next Priority One Message is from Birdie, and it's to Birdie. And it goes like this:
01:03:35	Music	Music	<i>Deep Space Nine</i> opening theme. Slow, majestic horns.
01:03:36	Ben	Promo	"Space: the final frontier. This is Deep Space 9. Its continuing mission: to stay put, and keep an eye on the wormhole. Best to keep

the Dominion at bay, though. They are looking a bit peckish. Hey, Worf! How about a game of dabo? DABOOO! Happy birthday to the Nanook of the North!"

01:04:09	Adam	Promo	Hey, you know what?
01:04:10	Music	Music	<i>[Return to previous background music.]</i>
01:04:11	Adam	Promo	Sometimes you just have to wish <u>yourself</u> a happy birthday, and that's... that's what happened to here. Birdie to Birdie.
01:04:16	Ben	Promo	Is Birdie the Nanook of the North? I mean, I guess—I guess the implication is that that's what's going on here. Also, we missed this by a <u>long</u> time.
01:04:25	Adam	Promo	Oh, no.
01:04:26	Ben	Promo	This was supposed to go out on June 22nd.
01:04:28	Adam	Promo	I'm so sorry, Birdie.
01:04:30	Ben	Promo	Uh, another reminder that your—if you're trying to target a P1 for a specific date, get it in well, well in advance of that date. But we sure appreciate everyone who has gotten a P1.
01:04:43	Adam	Promo	I'm looking at our spreadsheet, Ben. I think we're totally filled until the end of <i>Deep Space Nine</i> .
01:04:50	Ben	Promo	That's wild.
01:04:52	Adam	Promo	Wow. Thanks to everyone who supports the show with a Priority One Message. If you wanna get in on the award show, or <i>Voyager</i> , you know what to do!
			<i>[Music ends.]</i>
01:05:04	Ben	Host	Hey, Adam.
01:05:05	Adam	Host	What's that, Ben?
01:05:08	Ben	Host	Did you find yourself a Drunk Shimoda?
01:05:09	Music	Music	Clips of <i>TNG</i> and Adam and Ben mixed with electric guitar.
			<b><i>Jim Shimoda (TNG): Incredible!</i></b>
			<b><i>Adam &amp; Ben: Druuunk Shimoda!</i></b>
			<i>[Music ends abruptly.]</i>
01:05:12	Adam	Host	This is gonna feel bad. I might have some regrets with my Shimoda, but it's... obviously Gul Dukat, right?
01:05:19	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughing]</i> Mm-hm.
01:05:21	Adam	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> No one's—no one's having more fun than Gul Dukat here! He's a cult leader!
01:05:26	Ben	Host	Yeah, he's the king!
01:05:28	Adam	Host	I don't think anyone's having much fun here.
01:05:30	Ben	Host	No.
01:05:31	Adam	Host	But if anyone is, it's the one with all the power. So, uh, it's Gul Dukat for me. What about you?
01:05:38	Ben	Host	Gul Dukat for me, too.

01:05:39 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Jeopardy's "pew-pew"-esque Daily Double ditty.]*

01:05:40 Ben Host Especially for the moment where he is, like, pawing on the floor at the different pills.

*[A dog barks.]*

*[Ben laughs.]*

01:05:46 Adam Host Yeah.

01:05:47 Ben Host Very funny moment to me.

01:05:49 Adam Host I love trying to figure out the right pill.

*[Ben laughs.]*

You know, when you're Gul Dukat's age, you're probably taking your poison out of the plastic dispenser with the days of the week.

01:06:00 Ben Host Oh, yeah, you got the—*[laughs]*—the little—

01:06:02 Adam Host That's how you keep 'em straight.

01:06:03 Ben Host —little row?

01:06:04 Adam Host Yeah.

01:06:05 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!*

*[Music ends.]*

01:06:12 Sound Effect Transition *[Computer beeps.]*

01:06:13 Music Music 80s-esque synth music, complete with fake sounding horns, woodwinds, and chimes.

01:06:14 Adam Promo Today's *Greatest Generation* is made possible in part by Babbel. Have you ever encountered a person that you just couldn't understand? Well, it could be that they were speaking a different language from you. If that's the case, there's a way to fix that with Babbel! Babbel designs their courses with real-world conversations in mind, letting you learn everyday, practical conversations that you will actually use.

The daily lessons are 10 to 15 minutes and start by teaching you words and phrases, and before long, sentences that gradually get more complex. Soon you're practicing short conversations. And Babbel is available as an app or online, so your progress will be synced across all your devices.

So right now when you purchase a three-month subscription, Babbel will give our listeners three additional months for free with promo

code S-C-A-R-V-E-S. That's three additional months if you go to [Babbel.com](https://www.babbel.com) and use the promo code "scarves" on your three-month subscription. That's [B-A-B-B-E-L.com](https://www.babbel.com), and the promo code "scarves."

Babbel. Language for life.

*[Music stops.]*

01:07:19 Sound Effect Transition

*[Computer beeps.]*

01:07:20 Sound Effect Transition

*[Computer beeps.]*

01:07:22 Music Music

Cheerful background music.

01:07:23 Ben Promo

When my wife and I got married, I knew we needed a wedding website for all the venue details, and information about the wedding for the guests, who were coming from far and wide. And I immediately turned to Squarespace, because I knew Squarespace was a great way to make a beautiful custom website that wouldn't be super hard for me, a not terribly technical person, to make. And I just checked out our wedding website. Guess what, guys? It still works, and it still looks great!

That's 'cause Squarespace does all of the hard stuff for you. But they also let you add it if you are technically capable. So you can customize this as much as you want. And it's always gonna look great. And if you run into trouble, they've got 24-by-7 award-winning customer support. I've seen the awards. Their—their offices are lined with them.

Whether you're getting married, or starting a business, or blogging, or, you know, selling products or services, it's a great way to get yourself online. So go to [Squarespace.com](https://www.squarespace.com) for a free trial, and when you're ready to launch, use the offer code "scarves" to save 10% off your first purchase of a website or domain! That's [Squarespace.com](https://www.squarespace.com), and enter code "scarves."

Think it. Dream it. Make it with Squarespace.

*[Music stops.]*

01:08:37 Sound Effect Transition

*[Computer beeps.]*

01:08:38 Promo Clip

**Music:** Fun, cheerful music.

**Kirk Hamilton:** Video games!

**Jason Schreier:** Video games!

**Maddy Myers:** Video games! You like 'em?

**Jason:** Maybe you wish you had more time for them?

**Kirk:** Maybe you wanna know the best ones to play?

**Jason:** Maybe you wanna know what happens to Mario when he dies?

*[Kirk chuckles.]*

**Maddy:** In that case, you should check out [Triple Click!](#) It's a podcast about video games.

**Jason:** A podcast about video games?! But I don't have time for that!

**Kirk:** Sure you do. Once a week, kick back as three video game experts give you everything from critical takes on the hottest new releases—

**Jason:** —to scoops, interviews, and explanations about how video games work—

**Maddy:** —to fascinating and sometimes weird stories about the games we love.

**Kirk:** *Triple Click* is hosted by me, Kirk Hamilton.

**Jason:** Me, Jason Schreier.

**Maddy:** And me, Maddy Myers.

**Kirk:** You can find *Triple Click* wherever you get your podcasts, and listen at [MaximumFun.org](#).

**Maddy:** Bye!

*[Music finishes.]*

*[A telephone rings.]*

**Hotshot Hollywood Producer:** Listen, I'm a hotshot Hollywood movie producer.

**Music:** Fun, grooving music begins to play quietly in the background.

**Producer:** You have until I finish my glass of *[articulating]* kom-bu-cha to pitch me your idea. Go.

*[Slurping sounds.]*

**Ify Nwadiwe:** Alright! It's called *Who Shot Ya*: a movie podcast that isn't just a bunch of straight, white dudes. I'm Ify Nwadiwe, the new host of the show and a certified BBN.

**Producer:** BBN?

**Ify:** Buff Black Nerd.

**Alonso Duralde:** I'm Alonso Duralde, an elderly gay and legit film critic who wrote a book on Christmas movies.

**Drea Clark:** I'm Drea Clark, a loud, white lady from Minnesota!

**Ify:** Each week, we talk about a new movie in theaters and all the important issues going on in the film industry.

01:08:57 Promo Clip

01:09:22 Promo Clip

01:09:47 Promo Clip

**Alonso:** It's like *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* meets *Cruising*!

**Ify:** And if it helps seal the deal? I can flex my muscles while we record each episode.

**Producer:** I'm sorry, this is a podcast?! I'm a movie producer.  
*[Disdainfully]* How did you get in here?

**Drea:** Ify, quick! Start flexing!

**Ify:** *[Dramatically]* Bicep! Lats! Chest! *Who Shot Ya*, dropping every Friday on [MaximumFun.org](http://MaximumFun.org), or wherever you listen to podcasts.

*[Music ends.]*

01:10:14 Music Transition 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.]*

*[Music ends.]*

01:10:25 Ben Host Well, Adam, why don't you head over to [Gagh.biz/game?](http://Gagh.biz/game?)

01:10:31 Adam Host Speaking of little rows.

*[Ben laughs.]*

We've got a ten by ten, don't we?

01:10:35 Ben Host We sure do.

01:10:37 Adam Host We're currently on square 26. Couple squares ahead... The Naked Now.

01:10:42 Ben Host Wow.

01:10:43 Adam Host That would be tub time again, Ben. A type of show I'm not looking forward to repeating.

*[Ben laughs.]*

So let's not roll a two.

01:10:52 Ben Host I had a lot of fun last time we did a tubisode, personally.

01:10:55 Adam Host You would.

01:10:57 Ben Host Anyways, episode ten of season seven is the one we will be doing.



And it's called, "It's Only a Paper Moon."

"Traumatized by the loss of his leg, Nog retreats to the holographic world of 1960s lounge singer Vic Fontaine."

That is interesting that it's sixties. I always had fifties as my estimate of what Vic Fontaine's era was.

01:11:25	Adam	Host	I mean, that's part of what the joke was for us. <i>[Stifles laughter.]</i> Like, his home time period is far more problematic.
01:11:30	Ben	Host	Yeah. I mean, maybe it is sixties, but like, early sixties? Or maybe the caption writer doesn't know what the fuck they're talking about. <i>[Laughs.]</i> Which we've often found to be the case.
01:11:39	Adam	Host	"Hey, cool cats! I'm just in here dodging the Vietnam War!"
			<i>[Ben laughs.]</i>
01:11:45	Clip	Clip	<b>Falow (DS9, "Move Along Home"):</b> You are required to learn as you play. Roll.
			<i>[The Wadi are tapping their klon peags (sticks) rhythmically, and continue during the segment. Clip audio and podcast audio are intertwined for the next several lines.]</i>
01:11:50	Adam	Host	I cannot dodge the responsibility of rolling this die, Ben.
01:11:54	Ben	Host	No.
01:11:55	Adam	Host	And, uh—and so I must, as nervous as I am.
01:11:58	Clip	Clip	<i>[Quark breathes on the dice.]</i>
			<i>[Dice roll. Tapping stops.]</i>
01:12:01	Adam	Host	<i>[Sighs.]</i> Alright, uh—
			<i>[Both sigh.]</i>
			I've, in typical fashion, rolled a one.
01:12:06	Clip	Clip	<b>Falow:</b> Chula!
			<b>Crowd:</b> <i>[Laughing]</i> Chula! Chula!
			<b>Quark:</b> Did I win?!
			<b>Falow:</b> Hardly!
			<i>[Clip audio ends.]</i>
01:12:09	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i>
01:12:10	Adam	Host	Which does not get us out of danger. It only gets us closer, Ben. We're on square 27, and it's on the doorstep of a tub show.
01:12:18	Ben	Host	Wow.
01:12:19	Adam	Host	The bathmat, if you will.
01:12:20	Ben	Host	Yeah. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
01:12:21	Adam	Host	Just outside. So, great. Uh—

01:12:23 Ben Host Cool! *[Laughs.]*

01:12:24 Adam Host Ever-present bathtub danger ahead.

*[Ben laughs.]*

For the episode after next. But the next episode as it is... just another regular old one for us.

01:12:34 Ben Host *[Sighs.]* Alright. Well, that's a big exciting episode. I think this is one of those ones that has a reputation of being a pretty special *Deep Space Nine* episode. So, nice that we're not defiling it by being naked men sitting in water while we review it.

01:12:55 Adam Host No, we—we defile all the episodes, in myriad ways.

*[Ben laughs.]*

01:13:01 Music Music Dark Materia's "The Picard Song" begins fading in.

01:13:02 Ben Host If you would like to help support that defilement, you can head to [MaximumFun.org/join](https://MaximumFun.org/join), become a sustaining member of *The Greatest Generation*. We'd really appreciate that. You could also support our show in lots of free ways, like, uh, if you're like an Overcast listener, click the little star button on the episode, or if you're an Apple Podcast listener, give us a five-star review, and leave a nice comment about the show.

Or recommend the show to a friend on social media, and follow our social media accounts. We've got [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts, @GreatestTrek. Those are run by our buddy, the card daddy, Bill Tilley.

01:13:44 Adam Host Yeah, another way to support the show is, uh, buying hundreds of cell phones, and downloading the episodes repeatedly on them.

01:13:53 Ben Host Yeah. Yeah, become a click farm!

01:13:55 Adam Host That'd be helpful. Gotta thank—uh, more than ever, really, thank Adam Ragusea for all of his work over the years, making the great music you hear as our interstitials and our theme music, based on the great original work of Dark Materia.

01:14:11 Ben Host Yeah. Hey, did you know that there is a Discord server for Friends of DeSoto now?

01:14:16 Adam Host I did! I did know that!

01:14:19 Ben Host It's [DrunkShimoda.com](https://DrunkShimoda.com), is the Discord server.

01:14:22 Adam Host Hey, is that the place that Facebook can go, too? I've—I don't know anything about Discord.

01:14:28 Ben Host I don't, either. We've had some debates about, like, if—if there was a way to offer an alternative to Facebook. You know, like if we could become Mark Zuckerberg, but not evil, and—*[laughs]*—build some website? I don't think—I don't think that's really something that we're capable of. So I don't know.

01:14:46 Adam Host There's 31 people in our Discord right now!

01:14:50 Ben Host That's wild!

01:14:51 Adam Host I just went into it! Oh, no. It's asking me for my birthday.

*[Ben laughs.]*

I don't—okay. I'm—I'm retreating.

01:14:56	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> Yeah. It's not for us. It's for Friends of DeSoto who wanna talk to other Friends of DeSoto.
01:15:02	Adam	Host	Right.
01:15:03	Ben	Host	So check out <a href="http://DrunkShimoda.com">DrunkShimoda.com</a> , or the <a href="#">Facebook groups</a> , or the <a href="#">Reddit sub</a> , or whatever.
01:15:08	Adam	Host	Do that. Make a buddy! Make a Friend of DeSoto, won't you?
01:15:12	Ben	Host	Yeah.
01:15:13	Adam	Host	Is that it?
01:15:14	Ben	Host	Yeah, Adam, that's <u>it!</u> I'm <u>done!</u> I wanna get off this damn mic!
01:15:17	Adam	Host	Alright. Well, uh, I guess you've gotta go pack up your shit.
01:15:21	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> I do.
01:15:23	Adam	Host	With that, we'll be back atcha next time with another great episode of <i>Star Trek: Deep Space Nine</i> , and an episode of <i>The Greatest Generation: Deep Space Nine</i> which neither of us can't possibly dodge.
			<i>[Ben laughs.]</i>
01:15:37	Music	Music	"The Picard Song" continues at full volume.  <i>Captain Jean-Luc Picard, the USS Enterprise!</i> <i>Captain Jean-Luc Picard, the USS Enterprise!</i>  <i>Make make make-make-make-make make it so!</i>  <i>Jean-Luc Picard!</i> <i>Make it so!</i>  <i>Make make make-make-make-make make it so!</i>  <i>[Echoing] Jean-Luc Picard—card—card—card—</i>  <i>[Song fades out.]</i>
01:15:53	Music	Transition	A cheerful guitar chord.
01:15:54	Speaker 1	Guest	<a href="http://MaximumFun.org">MaximumFun.org</a> .
01:15:55	Speaker 2	Guest	Comedy and culture.
01:15:56	Speaker 3	Guest	Artist owned—
01:15:57	Speaker 4	Guest	—audience supported.