

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	Music	Transition	Dark Materia's "The Picard Song," record-scratching into a Sisko-centric remix by Adam Ragusea. Picard: <i>Here's to the finest crew in Starfleet! Engage.</i> <i>[Music begins. A fast-paced techno beat.]</i> Picard: <i>Captain Jean-Luc Picard, the USS Enterprise!</i> <i>[Music slows, record scratch, and then music speeds back up.]</i> Sisko: <i>Commander Benjamin Sisko, the Federation starbase... Deep Space 9.</i> <i>[Music ends.]</i>
00:00:14	Music	Music	Record scratch back into "The Picard Song," which plays quietly in the background.
00:00:15	Ben Harrison	Host	Welcome to <i>The Greatest Generation... Deep Space Nine</i> . It's a <i>Star Trek</i> podcast by a couple of guys who are a little bit embarrassed to <u>have</u> a <i>Star Trek</i> podcast. I'm Ben Harrison.
00:00:26	Adam Pranica	Host	I'm Adam Pranica.
00:00:28	Ben	Host	Mail call, Adam. <i>[Music stops.]</i>
00:00:29	Clip	Transition	<i>[Computer chiming.]</i> Music: Flute music that continues through the clip intro, holding steady at the same two notes. Riker: Captain, I'm sorry to disturb you. Data: I'm receiving a code 47. Riker: Verify? Data: It <u>is</u> code 47, sir. Starfleet emergency frequency. Troi: Captain's eyes only.
00:00:40	Music	Music	Flute music rises in pitch, crescendos, and transitions into soft, cheerful keyboard and synth music with some quiet dialogue at intervals that sounds like Picard.
00:00:41	Ben	Host	We have a PO box. People send things to the PO box. But, uh, also occasionally people will just send things to the MaximumFun.org mothership.
00:00:49	Adam	Host	Oh!
00:00:50	Ben	Host	Which happened this week.
00:00:51	Adam	Host	Oh, no.

00:00:53 Ben Host K.T. the office manager, I think, is the only person at MaxFun that is currently going into the office.

00:00:59 Adam Host Wow.

00:01:01 Ben Host In order to make sure that the lights stay on, and that, uh, you know, things run smoothly.

00:01:08 Adam Host You imagine being the only person working in an office? The only one!

00:01:11 Ben Host *[Laughs quietly.]* Yeah.

00:01:12 Adam Host That means all those, uh, sodas in the fridge are—are theirs!

00:01:16 Ben Host Yeah! Yeah. Totally. We got something from there as well. K.T. was kind enough to bring it by the other day, and I had a few things from the PO box piling up! So, uh, what do you say we get into these things?

00:01:29 Adam Host Yeah. I wanna see what we got.

00:01:31 Ben Host I'm gonna open this first one. It's just a plain old regular-size envelope from... Brian and Jennifer in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

00:01:42 Adam Host *[Paper tearing.]*
 Brian and Jennifer have clearly sent us either a check or a bill.
[Ben laughs.]
 Let's find out which.

00:01:47 Ben Host "Dear Ben and Adam,
 Just wanted to let you know that *The Greatest Generation* has helped remind me how important *Star Trek: TNG* in particular has been in my life. In both middle school and high school, it helped me make friends when I basically didn't know anyone. Now, thanks to the pod, I'm finally watching *Deep Space Nine* through to the end after falling off in college.
 Please find enclosed a Trivial Pursuit Genius Edition card that my wife handed to me, saying, 'Send this to *The Greatest Generation*.'
[Laughs.] Whoa. When you read it, was it written that way? It was—
[Ben laughs.]
 It sounded very intense just then.

00:02:16 Adam Host

00:02:22 Ben Host Emphasis mine.
 "It took me a second to figure out why, but when I did, I agreed with her completely. I hope you enjoy this fact that is tangentially *Trek*-related, but wholly relevant to the pod."
 So these folks have, uh—have ruined their home copy of Genius Edition Trivial Pursuit. Let me see if I can find what's going on here. Mm. Okay, here we go:
 "What does a man suffering from diphallic terata have?"

00:02:56 Adam Host Oh. Is this the question that makes fun of me?
[Ben laughs.]
 Is this having to do with, uh—with bowel movements?

00:03:02 Ben Host That condition is the name of the condition of having two penises!
[Beat, as Adam audibly inhales.]

00:03:07 Adam Host And there's our answer!

00:03:09 Ben Host So all Klingons are suffering from diphallic terata! Wow!

00:03:14 Adam Host Diphallic terata. Uh, you know what? With enough time, I think we could have put that together. Based on, uh, the root words there.

00:03:21 Ben Host Yeah, "diphallic" was a big—was a big tip-off.

00:03:25 Adam Host Right!

00:03:26 Ben Host But we don't have time, or headspace! This is a mail bag episode!
[Stifles laughter.] These things take forever to record and edit!

00:03:33 Adam Host Really glad that that card is no longer in their house. Uh, either put it down the garbage disposal or mail it to us.

00:03:41 Ben Host Yeah. Totally understood.

Our next letter is a, uh... medium-to-small Manila envelope from B. Cotton in Lafayette, Indiana. It's to Messrs. B. Harrison and A. Pranica. That's us!

00:03:59 Adam Host Oh, I'm a "messr," alright.

00:04:00 Ben Host This is a letter that's been sent through the mail in a Manila envelope that just folded the little metal hasp down on the back—

00:04:07 Adam Host Whoa!

00:04:09 Ben Host —and didn't—they didn't lick the little, uh, adhesive strip.

00:04:14 Adam Host I like that! Lotta trust in—in what did you call that? "The hasp"?

00:04:18 Ben Host Yeah. I—it may or may not be called "the hasp." I don't know. Alright. Here we go:

"Messrs. Harrison and Pranica,

It appears I may have been too cute in trying to send you a brief note of... I forget now, but it was probably gratitude. Here is attempt number two. *[Stifles laughter.]* May the USPS have mercy on its soul."

And then... along with the note is a letter that got returned to sender because—

00:04:48 Adam Host I can see that!

00:04:50 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Because the addressee for our PO box here was listed as, "Two guys are a little bit embarrassed to have a *Star Trek* podcast."
[Laughs.] And I guess, uh, the post office near my house didn't think that that was specific enough to put in the PO box.

00:05:08 Adam Host The—the postal workers in our country are under enough pressure.

00:05:12 Ben Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]*

00:05:14 Adam Host Uh, without trying to do bits on them.

[Ben laughs.]

So here's what I would say. Uh, no bits on postal workers.

00:05:18 Ben Host Yeah.

00:05:19 Adam Host Uh, for the foreseeable future, alright?

00:05:20 Ben Host This is a letter that's been sealed with a wax seal, and like, a signet.

00:05:25 Adam Host Whoa!

00:05:26 Ben Host So that's pretty exciting. And—

00:05:27 Adam Host It's—it's not a bottle of Maker's Mark?

00:05:30 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* No. And it's a, uh—it's a postcard with a cat doing, like, a shampoo mohawk on another cat?

00:05:39 Adam Host I can see that!

00:05:41 Ben Host This is written in cursive, and it's been a long time.

[Adam laughs quietly.]

Let's see. It says:

"Dear Ben and Adam,

The artist's name is Pepe Shimada, which is very close to 'Pee-Pee Shimoda,' which makes me wonder if Dr. Bashir and Jim ever crossed paths, or crossed streams.

Also, the painting brings to mind the halcyon days of the [Star Trek Haircast](#)."

[Adam laughs.]

[Unclear if reading or explaining] Except it's "Hair Cats."

[Laughs.] Wow.

00:06:10 Adam Host I love it.

00:06:12 Ben Host "I swear to Q I'm sober, you guys. My personal situation doesn't permit me to increase my MaxFun contribution or purchase a P1, so you'll have to settle for this card as a small token of my appreciation for the smile you bring to me every Monday.

Also, I'm writing this with a Newton Pens Pen that I received in exchange for writing the copy for the commercial P1 a while back!"

Wow! I remember that P1! That was a, uh—a really neat pen company!

00:06:46 Adam Host Did this person just... swear to Q?

[Ben laughs.]

Did I hear that right?

00:06:50 Ben Host Yes. Yeah. But I—I think it's the *Star Trek* Q, and not the—

00:06:54 Adam Host Oh!

00:06:55 Ben Host —awful cult on the Internet that is...

00:06:57 Adam Host Okay.

00:06:59 Ben Host ...trying to whip up the freaks of America into an antisemitic fervor.

00:07:04 Adam Host The John de Lancie Q, a lot more fun. *[Laughs.]*

00:07:07 Ben Host Significantly. *[Laughs.]* Uh, anyways—

"Thanks again, and much love,
Ben Cotton."

And this is a lovely picture of some cats, so thank you for sending it in, Ben, and thanks for copywriting a P1 in exchange for a pen!

00:07:24 Adam Host Yeah, thanks for that! Very cool!

00:07:26 Ben Host That is a real power move, to write a letter in cursive. I don't think I could do it!

00:07:30 Adam Host *[Sighs.]* Yeah, I think my penmanship at this point is very... I mean, I guess you could call it cursive.

[Ben laughs.]

It's a bunch of wavy lines most of the time!

00:07:42 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* It's illegible, in the way that much cursive is.

00:07:45 Adam Host If I really want something to be read, I'm printing it out.

00:07:49 Ben Host Yeah. Alright. Next one is from Kids Kippah in Hartford, Connecticut, and it's to Uxbridge-Shimoda, LLC. Oh, look at this! It says:

"Thank you for your generosity of time, and for bringing joy to so many people.

Shana tova,
Hava and Josh!"

This is, um—

00:08:07 Adam Host Shana tova!

00:08:08 Ben Host Hava and Josh are the hosts of *Star Trek and the Jews*, which is a podcast that I was a guest on recently, talking about being a—you know, a person that did not grow up in a Jewish tradition, but participates in one now. And they've sent me a—a *Star Trek* yarmulke!

00:08:26 Adam Host *[Laughs.]* That's amazing!

00:08:28 Ben Host This is awesome!

00:08:29 Adam Host Wow.

00:08:30 Ben Host This is just in time for the High Holidays. And, uh—

00:08:33 Adam Host Are you going to wear it, Ben? For—for the High Holidays?

00:08:39 Ben Host Well, the great thing about the High Holidays this year, Adam, is that they're all being done over Zoom—

00:08:42 Adam Host Perfect.

00:08:43 Ben Host So I shall! And inside is printed, "Infinite diversity in infinite combination. *Star Trek and the Jews*."

They've even included a little, uh—a little barrette to clip the kippah to my hair, so that it won't fall off. Because—

00:08:59 Adam Host That's amazing.

00:09:00 Ben Host Anybody that's worn a yarmulke for any amount of time knows that it might fall off, and you won't notice that it did, because it still feels like you have it on your head for a long time after it has, you know, slipped away.

00:09:14 Adam Host Wow. That is a danger.

00:09:18 Ben Host That's so great! Thank you so much, Hava and Josh!

Next package is from N. Brown in Rye, New Hampshire. And, uh, it's to *TGG*.

[Paper tearing/rustling.]

This is, like, a bigger Priority Mail envelope.

00:09:35 Adam Host It's got the bubbles!

00:09:37 Ben Host It's got the bubbles.

"Dear Adam and Ben,

This isn't a P1, *[stifles laughter]* so I'll try to keep it short, but I wanted to say thanks for all the laughs, and singlehandedly making me a *Star Trek* fan!"

Wow!

"I started listening to—"

00:09:48 Adam Host Singlehandedly?!

00:09:49 Ben Host Yeah, we did it!

[One or both stifle laughter.]

00:09:52 Adam Host If you can convert one person, Ben, really...

00:09:55 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* It's worth it.

00:09:56 Adam Host Yeah.

00:09:57 Ben Host "I started listening to *TGG* years ago during the *TNG* days because I was curious. I got about 40 episodes in before I decided I needed to watch the show as well! *[Stifles laughter.]* And it only went—"

00:10:07 Adam Host I love that this person's curiosity lasts—

[Both laugh.]

Like, "I was curious about drugs. Uh, so I did 40 lines of cocaine. To

see how that worked."

[Ben laughs, Adam stifles laughter.]

00:10:20 Ben Host Uh, "It only went uphill from there. I've enclosed a couple of things that I thought were fun. That copy of *First Contact* with the neat cover art, a story Nana Visitor told about auditioning for the role of Kira, and the only *Trek* joke I've ever come up with that doesn't embarrass me."

[Adam laughs quietly.]

"Glory to you and your House!
Nathaniel B. from New Hampshire."

So, let's see. "No pressure to read this on the air or anything, but I thought you would get a kick out of Nana Visitor wearing Docs and bumping loud rap music in the car on the way to her audition to get in character for Kira, and maybe chuckle at my dumb joke."

Uh, and then this says—it's from the *Alpha Quadrant* webcast, Nana Visitor's odd audition anecdote. She says, "I remember going back and going, 'No, wait a minute. This isn't a woman's role. This is—'cause you gotta think, 25 years ago, what I was getting was, you know, 'Kids, get off the couch,' and sitcoms. Really light stuff where you were the girlfriend, or the victim of the killer. Nothing well-rounded. And this comes along, and I was thinking, 'Wait a minute. This is a man's role! They made a mistake!'

And when I found out it wasn't a mistake, I was so excited, I remember I had a dark green shift dress, and I went out and got a pair of Doc Martens, and the Doc Martens kind of informed me where I was, and who I was. I listened to a lot of rap back then. I still listen to rap. But I really pounded it in my car on my way to my audition, and it was my prep for it, and I walked in, and I was fully Kira when I walked into the room."

Wow!

00:11:55 Adam Host Fully Kira. I bet!

00:11:56 Ben Host That is a fucking great anecdote.

00:11:59 Adam Host An audition's never easy, and it doesn't matter who you are. Like, it's, uh—it's interesting to hear that someone of her talents could still need to conjure an edge. You know?

00:12:10 Ben Host Right. Yeah. I mean, how—how do you get into that character?

00:12:14 Adam Host Yeah.

00:12:15 Ben Host Is a question that only she can answer, and—

00:12:17 Adam Host I wonder if she's still got those boots!

00:12:20 Ben Host Yeah, that would be cool.

00:12:21 Adam Host Yeah.

00:12:22 Ben Host Uh—[laughs]—the *Star Trek* joke in question. Uh, "To the tune of Lil Jon's 'Get Low—'

[Adam laughs.]

00:12:29 Music Music Backing track for “Get Low” by Lil Jon & the East Side Boyz.

00:12:30 Ben Host [Rapping] Deep Space Nine
Damn, she fine
Tell her she can warp it to me one more time!

[Laughs.]

[Music returns to previous background music.]

[Speaking] That was a Tweet. [Laughs.]

00:12:39 Adam Host That's fun. [Laughs.]

00:12:41 Ben Host So I read a Tweet on the air. [Laughs.] And here is the last—

00:12:43 Adam Host That looks like a VHS tape, huh?

00:12:46 Ben Host Yeah! Last thing in the box is the VHS of *Star Trek: First Contact*. It's the kind with the hologram label—

00:12:53 Adam Host Mm-hm. Mm-hm.

00:12:55 Ben Host —where you look at it from different angles, and you see different things.

00:12:57 Adam Host Mm-hm.

00:12:58 Ben Host And it's the Borg Queen, Data, and Picard, and depending on the angle, Data and Picard are Borgified or not.

00:13:06 Adam Host Mm.

00:13:07 Ben Host And, uh... That is really neat!

00:13:08 Adam Host Depending on the angle, Lily appears?

[Ben laughs.]

As the hero of the film?

00:13:13 Ben Host As an important character in the development of warp engines?
[Laughs.]

00:13:17 Adam Host Yeah. Yeah.

00:13:21 Ben Host [Pause. Paper rustling.]

[Laughs.] Where's Lily's statue? There's the Zefram Cochrane statue, and he's got his hand raised, as if to the future. Where—where the fuck is Lily?!

00:13:31 Adam Host Yeah.

00:13:32 Ben Host There should be a ten-times taller statue of Lily, right—you know, like, standing over him.

00:13:37 Adam Host The Lily statue should be in front of Zefram Cochrane, one hand giving Zefram Cochrane the finger, the other hand pointing toward the future.

[Ben laughs.]

Getting shit done!

00:13:50 Ben Host This is the last package. It's from Bo in Rochester, New York. This is the one that went to MaxFun, and it says, "Care of *Friendly Fire* and Greatest Gen," so...

00:13:59 Adam Host Hmm.

00:14:00 Ben Host *[Paper tearing.]*

We'll see what's going on in here. There is a sub-package here.

00:14:04 Adam Host *[Chuckles.]* Was that also returned?

00:14:07 Ben Host Yeah, this is another—oh, this went to the original PO box in Seattle, it looks like!

00:14:14 Adam Host Wow. Yeah, they—as soon as I closed up that box, they couldn't fucking wait to—

[Ben laughs, Adam stifles laughter.]

—to switch it off.

00:14:21 Ben Host Let's check out what's in the returned package. This has been—this has been in the mail system for... *[laughing]* years, at this point.

[Paper tearing.]

Got a piece of paper. It's to *The Greatest Generation*, and then parenthetically, "(The podcast about *Star Trek*.)"

"Hi, guys. I found these in a shoebox, and I didn't know what to do with them. I suppose you could use them, or pass them along, or something. I just got into the show through *Movie Crush*, and I'm still listening to season five of *TNG*. But I'm already a huge fan, and basically can't listen to anything else. Thanks a lot!"

Wow! Thank you, Bo!

[Rustling.]

Movie Crush. Our buddy Chuck Bryant's beloved movie podcast.

00:14:58 Adam Host Love that show. Love being on it.

00:15:01 Ben Host Yeah! You're doing, uh, a series on that show, on your favorite director P.T. Anderson.

00:15:08 Adam Host That's right.

00:15:09 Ben Host And I am doing a series on that show about my favorite directors, the Coen brothers.

00:15:13 Adam Host Yeah!

00:15:14 Ben Host We're both regular guests on *Movie Crush* now!

00:15:16 Adam Host Pretty fun.

00:15:17 Ben Host What Bo has sent are a series of OG *Star Trek* cards. These are the ones with the, like, maroon border, that are mostly episode-specific.

00:15:27 Adam Host That's—those are the cards that I spent my \$20 bill from Grandma on when I was a little kid!

00:15:35 Ben Host Daaaamn.

00:15:36 Adam Host At the sports card store. That was a story I told very early on, on *The Greatest Generation*.

00:15:40 Ben Host Yeahhh! I remember that story. Oh, man. There's the, uh—the blue ones about original series *Star Trek* in here, as well.

00:15:48 Adam Host Yeah. Yeah, get those outta there. When I went to that sports card store, *[stifles laughter]* I was saying, "Gimme the *Next Gen* stuff, man!"

[Ben laughs.]

"Keep that *TOS* stuff outta here! Got \$20 here, man!"

00:16:00 Ben Host This is awesome. Thank you, Bo!

Well, we've reached the bottom of the mail bag for today. I know that we have a lot of people in our email box asking for the PO box, and I will share that soon enough. I've got a big move coming up, and like—

00:16:19 Adam Host Yeah.

00:16:20 Ben Host —the number of objects coming into the house really radically needs to be... limited at the moment. But thanks to everyone that sent something in!

Uh, Adam, I—we were almost besieged by mail just now.

00:16:33 Adam Host *[Laughs quietly.]*

[Music fades out.]

Almost 558 packages came in during your last visit to the PO box, right?

00:16:40 Ben Host *[Stifles laughter.]* What do you say we get into *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* season seven, episode eight, "The Siege of AR-558"?

00:16:48 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.]

00:16:57 Adam Host We begin with a scene of live band karaoke, Ben. It's something I've never done, but secretly been interested in. The idea of being backed by a live band.

00:17:07 Ben Host Wow!

00:17:08 Adam Host This time—in this scene it's Rom, with a—with a piana player.

00:17:12 Ben Host *[Stifling laughter]* Mm-hm.

00:17:14 Adam Host Doing a rendition of an old Vegas lounge song.

00:17:17 Clip Clip **Rom:** One, two, three, four, one—!

[Singing enthusiastically]
She likes the free, fresh, wind in her hair!

[Rom is joined by a piano, and then the clip audio cuts.]

00:17:24 Adam Host Not a great singer, is Rom.

00:17:26 Ben Host No. He's, uh, auditioning to get in as the opening act for Vic Fontaine, and, uh—I mean, Vic Fontaine is... artful, in the way he lets Rom down.

00:17:37 Clip Clip **Vic:** Two singers on the same bill; that's a one-way ticket to Deadsville!

00:17:40 Ben Host But, uh, we know the real reason why they're not gonna let Rom be the opening act.

00:17:46 Adam Host It's nice to be told that it's not the quality of your singing, it's that this isn't the act that we're looking for. And that's how Vic Fontaine lets him down. "I need a—"

00:17:54 Ben Host Right.

00:17:55 Adam Host "—a stand-up comic or something." And this gave me the skin-crawly feelings. Uh, because any time *Star Trek* suggests the idea, even, of a stand-up comic, only bad and unfunny things happen.

[Ben laughs.]

00:18:10 Clip Clip **Data (TNG, "The Outrageous Okona"):** Good evening, ladies and germs!

[Audience laughs.]

00:18:12 Adam Host So I was, like, looking on either side of the frame for a Joe Piscopo to arrive. And luckily there was none to be found.

00:18:18 Clip Clip **Guinan (TNG, "The Outrageous Okona"):** You made a living doing this?

The Comedian: *[Happily]* Yes, I did!

00:18:21 Ben Host That was very fortunate. Yeah, Rom is—is not going to be the opening act. Uh, he is told that he's not the right race, but the—

[Adam laughs.]

—the race that Vic Fontaine is looking for is "hologram." *[Laughs.]*

00:18:34 Adam Host Rom is, like, ready to leave the club, and Vic Fontaine's like, "No, actually the, uh, exit door's over here."

[Ben laughs.]

"It's through the kitchen."

00:18:43 Ben Host Fucked up!

00:18:44 Adam Host Yeah.

00:18:45 Ben Host Kind of a random cold open for this episode. Like, really almost no

bearing on what happens.

00:18:51 Adam Host Yeah! It's, uh, exit Rom, enter Bashir, who is there to collect a [honeystick](#) full of Vic Fontaine's greatest hits. He's going to—like, much like a person going on a road trip, you wanna be ready with stuff to listen to.

00:19:08 Ben Host Yeah.

00:19:09 Adam Host And, uh, what is suggested here that he's going on a supply run, and he wants a collection of Vic Fontaine's music to help lighten the mood for this mission.

00:19:19 Ben Host Yeah. I think it's interesting that the [Little D](#) is a holodeck-free ship.

00:19:24 Adam Host Dude, I was just going to ask you that. Which is... Knowing what we know about the holosuites and the holodeck, how do you make decisions on ship design based on—like, your hierarchy of ship needs?

00:19:40 Ben Host Yeah.

00:19:41 Adam Host I feel like holodeck should be a little bit higher than it is!

00:19:44 Ben Host Right!

00:19:45 Adam Host Because a holodeck can do so many things for a crew, not just entertainment. Why wouldn't you put one on the *Little D*?

00:19:51 Ben Host It's not all jacking off! Sometimes you need to make a model of the warp core from back when the ship was in the shipyards at Utopia Planitia so that you can make a pass at the person that designed it!

00:20:03 Clip Clip **LeVar Burton:** Total bullshit, man! It's just bullshit.

00:20:06 Adam Host Sometimes it's fucking to make babies. It's not just recreational fucking!

00:20:12 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah. Sometimes you fight a turtle-face guy! Sometimes you fight a skull-face guy!

00:20:20 Adam Host Yeah. I—*[sighs]*. It's interesting that there isn't one on the *Little D*. I get it. It's sold to us as a—as a hammer.

00:20:29 Ben Host Right.

00:20:30 Adam Host Like, it's a utility ship with bunkbeds in it.

00:20:32 Ben Host Right.

00:20:33 Adam Host Like, "There will be no creature comforts here." But like, there's more than one way to use a holodeck, you guys.

00:20:38 Ben Host Totally. Yeah. Get your mind outta the gutter! Okay?

00:20:42 Adam Host And also, like, I wonder about their different sizes! Could you make a holodeck out of a broom closet?

00:20:49 Ben Host Right. How big does a holodeck need to be to be effective?

00:20:51 Adam Host Right.

00:20:53 Ben Host It seems like the holosuites are way smaller than the—than the ones on the *Enterprise*, right?

00:20:57 Adam Host Yeah. Yeah, I think so.

Anyway, uh, we know it's Friday. Because Ben Sisko is checking out that week's casualties on—I think after seeing it several times, what

is suggested is a sort of Vietnam Memorial Wall that just keeps growing as the war goes on!

00:21:17 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Right. Yeah. It's, uh—it's pretty grim. He is always in a bad mood when he's looking at this. And he gets interrupted in his reverie by Odo, who has some, you know, iPad of information to report. And, uh—

00:21:35 Adam Host *[Odo voice; gravelly]* "There's actually a few casualties that aren't on the wall right now. I thought maybe—"

[Ben laughs.]

"—maybe you'd want to see these extra 40."

00:21:44 Ben Host *[Odo voice]* "Breaking news, Captain. Uh—"

[Both laugh. Odo voices stop.]

Sisko says something here that I thought could have turned into bits for Odo. He says, like, you know, "I—I used to read every single name, thinking that that was the least I could do for the people who gave their lives in this conflict. Now they just blur together, like... Founders in a lake, or whatever."

[Both laugh.]

00:22:14 Adam Host "Sort of like, uh—they kind of anonymize themselves, like one liquid going into another liquid, and then becoming a part of that—that main liquid from before?"

00:22:22 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah, "It's just like a big, golden pool of dead... people."

[Both chuckle.]

00:22:31 Adam Host Not a lot of Odo in this episode. This is the last we see him.

00:22:32 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah. Yeah.

00:22:35 Adam Host *[Odo voice]* "You mean I got into my makeup for this one scene? Cool."

00:22:38 Ben Host *[Laughs.]*

[Odo voice] "I'm glad you made me look extra sad this episode."
[Laughs.]

[Odo voices stop.]

00:22:44 Adam Host Very little Kira in this ep, either. We get a radio call from her to Sisko at the end of this scene. The *Little D*. Ready to go.

00:22:52 Ben Host And go they do. Uh, Quark is going to be on the *Little D* for this mission, and is quite upset about it. He's been asked to do some fact-finding on behalf of the Nagus on the front lines of the war. And, uh, he—he was making, like, logistical complaints, but we know that Quark is a coward, and he doesn't want to go be in danger anywhere, and that's, like, the main reason he doesn't wanna go. But he's also saying, like, you know, "My bar doesn't run itself. I need to be there."

And, uh, Ezri is there in the mess hall on the *Little D* with Quark,

telling him, like, you know, "Gimme a fucking break." Like, *[laughs]* "Your—the head of your entire species tapped you on the shoulder and gave you—and asked you to do something for him, and you're bellyaching about it? Gimme a break."

00:23:43	Adam	Host	I don't wanna cut to the end here too soon, but Quark is my favorite character in this episode. And I think it's because of how his story arc begins. His very reluctance to be here. The suggestion that this is just a supply run. It's a very low-stakes thing, but still.
00:24:01	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:24:02	Adam	Host	Like, what the fuck? He—he's saying what we're saying as a viewer! "Why am I even here?"
00:24:07	Ben	Host	Right. "I wasn't even supposed to be here today!"
00:24:10	Adam	Host	Right. Right.
00:24:12	Ben	Host	I also like that Quark is doing this—like, the way Quark is dressed is the way Quark is always dressed, which is fancy.
00:24:19	Adam	Host	Mm-hm.
00:24:20	Ben	Host	But like, you know he's, like, going somewhere that is like, not—like, he <u>should</u> have, like, cargo pants, and like a—
00:24:25	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:24:26	Ben	Host	—and like, a Mountain Hardwear puffer jacket on, or something.
			<i>[Both laugh.]</i>
			You know? He—instead he's in, like, a—a waistcoat, and a—and has, like, a giant broach on his chest, you know?
00:24:38	Adam	Host	The scene transitions into one of <u>bangers</u> when a banger gets dropped on the <i>Little D</i> , and the next scene is insane to me.
00:24:48	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:24:49	Adam	Host	So Quark goes out into the hallway, and finds—
00:24:51	Ben	Host	He doesn't wanna be left alone in the unexploded torpedo memorial mess hall. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:24:55	Adam	Host	Right. He's had—he's got bad memories about that place! He goes out into the corridor, and finds a <u>very</u> chill Worf. Just <u>walking</u> at sub-walk speed through the corridor.
			<i>[Ben laughs quietly.]</i>
			A person who you would think would be on the bridge during any and all bangers, or at least if he's <u>not</u> there, <u>running</u> as fast as he can to get there.
00:25:17	Ben	Host	Right.
00:25:19	Clip	Clip	<i>[Someone screams.]</i>
00:25:20	Ben	Host	It made me wonder if Worf, as sort of the backup captain of the <i>Little D</i> —like, when Sisko's <u>not</u> on the <i>Little D</i> , I feel like Worf is most often in the captain's chair.
00:25:28	Adam	Host	He's in the bunk.
00:25:31	Ben	Host	Is—is Worf, like, coming up to the bridge when he's not even

supposed to be there?

00:25:36 Adam Host Maybe. But I—I could not get over his lack of urgency here.

00:25:41 Ben Host Yeah. Yeah.

00:25:42 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Adam:** At all. Like—like, there's—it's not even—

Ben: It did seem super weird. *[Laughs.]*

00:25:44 Adam Host It's not even speed-walking! It's—it's... slower than you and I would walk on a sidewalk going to have lunch together.

00:25:52 Ben Host Yeah, it's like, *[mildly]* "Oh, shit. Wow. Fuck. The ship might get blown apart. Well... Guess I'll wander up to the bridge and see if there's anything I can do to help. Who knows?"

00:26:02 Adam Host Have they stopped with the cloaking of the *Little D*, also? Now that they know that, uh, their exhaust pipe gives them away? Do they not even try?

00:26:11 Ben Host Yeah, I feel like there is a very vague sense that the Jem'Hadar can sometimes see through a cloak and sometimes not.

00:26:19 Adam Host Mm.

00:26:20 Ben Host And I never know when that's gonna be a thing.

00:26:22 Adam Host Yeah. Yeah.

00:26:23 Music Transition A techno song mixed with clips and soundbites from *DS9*.

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

Dukat: *So...*

[Music ends.]

00:26:28 Adam Host Anyway, Quark makes his way up to the bridge with Worf, and Sisko treats Quark's presence like Quark is Kasidy Yates.

[Ben laughs.]

A deeply withering moment here between Sisko and Quark.

00:26:40 Clip Clip **Quark:** Anybody here who'd like to join me here in the mess hall for a raktajino? *[Nervous laugh.]*

Sisko: Quark.

[Beat.]

Quark: I—I—I'm just leaving.

00:26:45 Adam Host And it's also not a great moment for Nog, who has a family member on the bridge potentially embarrassing him while he's trying to get work done.

00:26:54 Ben Host But they do dispatch this tick, which just seemed to be there to kind fo harass them. This is the Chin'toka system. And Quark had the

impression that this was, like, firmly under Federation control, but like, he came to check out the front lines! What did he think was gonna happen?

00:27:10 Adam Host Yeah.

00:27:11 Ben Host No combat? *[Laughs quietly.]*

00:27:12 Adam Host Yeah. Not the case.

00:27:15 Ben Host They are beaming down to this place AR-558 with supplies for the troops that are stationed there. It's the doctor, Captain Sisko, Nog, Ezri... and Quark. *[Laughs.]* Is the away team. One of the most scattershot away teams that we've ever gotten, I think.

00:27:35 Adam Host Yeah. Yeah, it's—it's an away team full of Rudys, for sure.

[Ben laughs.]

They really make up the *Star Trek* caves in an LV-426 kind of way. Like, right away, this is a place that does not look like fun. It does not look safe.

00:27:51 Ben Host No, yeah.

00:27:53 Adam Host And they basically—like, it's—it's firefight, already! They beam into a firefight, but it's Federation phaser firefight.

00:28:00 Ben Host This really reminded me of the planet that the original Kai got left on.

00:28:05 Adam Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]* Yeah!

00:28:09 Ben Host 'Cause it's, like—some of it is caves, for sure, but some of it just looks like caves, but you can't see—like, I'm assuming that there's sky in some of these sets.

00:28:18 Adam Host Never forget original Kai, Ben.

00:28:20 Ben Host Yeah.

00:28:21 Adam Host Still out there.

00:28:22 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah!

00:28:23 Adam Host Unable to be killed.

00:28:25 Ben Host Being killed and then coming back to life periodically.

[One of them laughs.]

Trying to make piece among those random... cursed warriors?
[Laughs.]

00:28:33 Adam Host Yeah.

It's almost friendly fire here—

00:28:36 Music Music A clip of “War” off the album *War & Peace* by Edwin Starr.

Yeah!

[Music cuts.]

00:28:37 Adam Host —before being given orders to stand down among the Starfleets. They stop shooting long enough to realize that it's friendlies all around them.

00:28:45	Clip	Clip	<i>[Phaser fire in the background.]</i>
			Sisko: Those are Federation phasers!
00:28:47	Ben	Host	The people that were shooting at them were front line soldiers that have been defending this place. And we meet a few of these characters. We meet Vargas, who is the one that started licking shots in the atmosphere.
00:28:57	Clip	Clip	Larkin: Who told you to open fire?!
			Vargas: I saw movement; I thought it was the Jem'Hadar.
00:29:02	Adam	Host	Weren't you delighted to see Raymond Cruz here?
00:29:06	Ben	Host	Yeah. Always delighted to see Raymond Cruz. Definitely cast for his <i>Patriot Games</i> energy in this role.
00:29:15	Adam	Host	He's really carving out a nice Danny Trejo–like career for himself. Like, he's got a really good soldier-y look.
00:29:22	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:29:24	Adam	Host	He often plays a soldier. But some of his soldier characters also—they have—I mean, they're fully colored characters, and—
00:29:31	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:29:32	Adam	Host	With inner lives, and moments of comedy. Like, he's not just a one-note actor, but he does play very similar characters throughout his career. I really like his work!
00:29:40	Ben	Host	That gear of a guy who has, like, been taken way past the limit of what he can handle?
00:29:47	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:29:48	Ben	Host	Is really good. And that's what he is here to do. He is, you know, five months into, you know, a stationing that was supposed to last 90 days max before they were rotated off the front lines.
00:29:59	Clip	Clip	Vargas: <i>[Anguished]</i> Ninety days!
00:30:01	Ben	Host	He is pissed. He doesn't care what your rank is, and whether you know it or not. We also Nadia Larkin, which I wondered if she's any relation to the <u>infamous</u> Edward Larkin.
00:30:14	Clip	Clip	Music: Backing electric guitar track from “My Sharona” by The Knack.
			Edward Larkin (<i>Short Treks</i>, “The Trouble with Edward”): I'M NOT THE DUMB ONE!
			Ben & Adam: <i>[Singing]</i> Eeedward Larkin!
			<i>[Clip audio cuts.]</i>
00:30:18	Adam	Host	Makes you wonder.
00:30:20	Ben	Host	She's the lieutenant that's been left in command of this place after the captain and commander that were over her were killed a few days ago. And AR-558 is an important site that the Federation is defending, because it's got a Dominion communications node.
00:30:38	Clip	Clip	<i>[Rapid electronic beeping in the background.]</i>

			Larkin: The only reason anyone gives a damn about this place.
00:30:40	Ben	Host	And this was once 150 front line soldiers that have been whittled down to like, 40-something. And they've been just kind of marooned on this planet, defending this site, while engineers among them try to figure out how this communications node works, and whether they can, like, start decoding Dominion messages that are being transmitted through it.
00:31:01	Clip	Clip	Murdock (<i>Rambo: First Blood Part II</i>): Besides the monitoring devices you see here, you'll be issued every ultra-modern piece of equipment we have to ensure your safety.
00:31:07	Adam	Host	The vibe of this scene is so instructive, right? In a way that a show tells you what it is early on, and what its rules are.
00:31:15	Ben	Host	Mm-hm.
00:31:16	Adam	Host	I was really blown away because, you know, what—the idea is that this is a supply run. And it may not be a big deal, even though it's behind enemy lines. But Raymond Cruz's attitude—
00:31:27	Clip	Clip	Reese: Take it easy, Vargas.
			Vargas: Take it easy? I would <u>love</u> to take it easy.
00:31:31	Adam	Host	—as fucked up as everyone is down there, the hardboiled-ness of the entire scene?
00:31:36	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:31:37	Adam	Host	It really catches you off guard! And I think one of the aspects that is <u>so</u> uncomfortable about this location is how Captain Sisko treats the moment. And I really wonder—like, if you're directing this episode, and you're directing Avery Brooks—it made me wonder if Winrich Kolbe dialed Avery Brooks back a little bit. Because it felt like there is a scene and characters down here that would <u>invite</u> a kind of reaction that only Avery Brooks could give to things being very bad and desperate. And I <u>don't</u> feel like this is a great Avery Brooks episode, because he is <u>so</u> tempered. And <u>neutral</u> ! In an environment where it would be okay to observe and feel the kind of trauma that he's seeing around him.
			It's actually off-putting to everyone—all the other characters that he meets, I think! 'Cause he's so clean, and from somewhere else—
00:32:35	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:32:36	Adam	Host	—and they expect him to be leaving. Like, maybe I'm answering my own question by describing him that way, but I could have used more Avery Brooks trauma, because he's so <u>good</u> at it.
00:32:47	Ben	Host	The story that they're trying to tell here is that he goes from, "The number of names of dead people has just become an abstract number to me," in a way that—you know, like... I feel like is understandable to me in a whole new way. Like, when you look at, like, a Coronavirus chart on the Internet—
00:33:08	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:33:09	Ben	Host	—you're like, "Fuck. Bad news!" But it's not like—
00:33:11	Adam	Host	But it's—
00:33:12	Ben	Host	It doesn't feel that <u>personal</u> .

00:33:13 Adam Host But it's interesting that they save that realization for the end, instead of beginning it right here, which it easily could!

00:33:19 Ben Host Yeah.

00:33:20 Adam Host This is a fucked up scene, and it's traumatic to witness.

00:33:22 Ben Host Yeah, it's—it's intense. Um, we get to meet this communications array, and some of the people that are working on it. Including... Will Robinson!

00:33:32 Adam Host *[Stifling laughter]* Yeah!

00:33:33 Ben Host One of the, uh—*[stifles laughter]*—one of the Starfleet engineers working on this played Will Robinson in *Lost in Space*!

00:33:40 Adam Host Yeah.

00:33:41 Ben Host Pretty fun!

00:33:42 Adam Host This engineer begins a pattern of conversation with Ezri Dax that makes me want to rewind the season, and go back and play the Ezri Dax drinking game.

00:33:52 Ben Host *[Laughing]* Uh-huh?

00:33:54 Adam Host Which is any time a character asks Ezri, "Are you a... blank?" And she says—

00:33:59 Ben Host Uh-huh.

00:34:00 Adam Host "No, but my previous host was a blank!"

[Ben laughs.]

You drink.

00:34:04 Ben Host Yeah. Yeah. You're gonna die of alcohol poisoning by episode eight. *[Laughs.]*

00:34:08 Adam Host Yeah. Yeah, and at what point does a symbiote get to claim that they are a thing that a previous host was? Is a question that came up, watching this conversation. Because she is the thing she's describing!

00:34:23 Ben Host Yeah. She—

00:34:24 Adam Host She is an engineer! She—she is not was.

00:34:28 Ben Host She seems like she's better at it than he is, right? *[Laughs.]*

00:34:31 Adam Host Yeah.

00:34:32 Ben Host I mean, he didn't know that his frequency discriminator was drifting! She did!

00:34:35 Adam Host You don't want to discriminate frequencies in the 24th century. We're past that!

[Ben laughs.]

All the frequencies are the same!

00:34:44 Ben Host Infinite frequencies in infinite combinations!

[Adam laughs quietly.]

			That's the way of the future!
00:34:48	Music	Transition	A techno song mixed with clips and soundbites from <i>DS9</i> and other sources. <i>Odo: To be quite honest about it, I was in a pail.</i> <i>Speaker: A bucket?</i> <i>Odo: A pail.</i> <i>Announcer (Mr. Bucket commercial): Mr. Bucket!</i> <i>Odo: I have to revert back to my liquid state!</i> <i>Nog: Hoh!</i> <i>Jake: Odo!</i> <i>Odo: I don't use the bucket anymore!</i> <i>[Music ends.]</i>
00:34:58	Adam	Host	Elsewhere, Nog and Quark are observing another of the characters down here that we'll get to know a little better as the episode goes on. This is Reese. Wearing a necklace of Ketracel-white tubes as if they're severed ears in a Vietnam War movie. <i>[Ben laughs quietly.]</i>
00:35:14	Clip	Clip	Rambo (<i>Rambo: First Blood Part II</i>): To survive a war, you gotta <u>become</u> war.
00:35:16	Ben	Host	Nog is super impressed by this. Like, speaks of it with covetous tones. And, you know, considers all of these people—the 40 people that have been able to hang on here—to be heroes. And Quark is... <u>really</u> horrified by these people. <i>[Stifles laughter.]</i> Like, he is... He's got, like, a very Hobbesian view of human beings.
00:35:42	Clip	Clip	Quark: Let me tell you something about humons, Nephew.
00:35:44	Ben	Host	Which is that when "humons" stop having nice shit, they—they revert back to a very vicious state of being.
00:35:53	Adam	Host	Mm-hm.
00:35:54	Ben	Host	Which is a—is very interesting! Like, that—like, a very un- <i>Star Trek</i> idea, I think. But I think it is a very <u>Ferengi</u> idea. Like, Ferengi have, like, this inherent suspicion of everyone. And I am personally much more... a fan of the Rousseau view, that human nature isn't inherently evil the way Quark seems to think it is. But, uh—
00:36:19	Adam	Host	No, but deprivation can be a factor in—in <u>turning</u> people in a way that can be dangerous, and I found Quark's description in this scene, uh, something that I <u>know</u> I'm thinking about a lot differently in 2020 than people did in 1998.
00:36:37	Ben	Host	Right. It's a—it's interesting. I mean, I tend to have an optimistic view of these things. That like, in tough times people pull together, in my—you know.
00:36:47	Adam	Host	Mm-hm.
00:36:48	Ben	Host	Like, I—I think it's, like, much more likely that an institution engages in, like, horrific shit than a group of people that are faced with a challenge, you know?
00:36:59	Adam	Host	Yeah. That's—that's well put. I mean, this is, uh... You and I have talked a lot offline about just what life is like.
00:37:08	Ben	Host	Yeah.

00:37:09 Adam Host What life has been. What life could turn into in the short, medium, and long term, and I found, uh, just, even—even talking to you has been good therapy for me, because you are more of an optimist than I am, and that's, uh—it's been comforting.

00:37:25 Ben Host It's interesting to have a character give voice to this kind of idea in *Star Trek*—

00:37:34 Adam Host Right!

00:37:35 Ben Host —and have it feel authentic to the universe. Because *Star Trek* is such a techno-utopian, optimist universe. And, you know, I think *Deep Space Nine* is rightly cited as one of the darker *Star Trek* series, but I don't think it is in the human characters where its darkness lies. It's—it's in the kinds of things that the humans confront.

00:38:00 Adam Host Another aspect to this scene that I really like that is really elegantly done is the idea of a family member who is seen as a father figure—

00:38:09 Ben Host Yeah.

00:38:10 Adam Host —which Quark kind of is to Nog. There is some jealousy here! Like, Reese is a total badass!

00:38:17 Ben Host Right.

00:38:18 Adam Host And clearly Quark is not, and he's seeing Nog appreciate someone else, and look up to him in a way that, like, he knows he could not be that same type of person to Nog. And so I feel like there was a little bit of familial envy happening here.

00:38:34 Ben Host Right.

In the caves, Bashir is trying to kind of triage some of these soldiers. He's helping Vargas with some injuries, and Vargas has a bandage on an arm that Bashir reaches for. And, uh, Vargas reacts very badly to this. Like, to the point of holding a phaser under Bashir's chin and saying, like, "You are never going to touch that bandage."

And he explains, like, this—you know, "A compatriot that fixed this wound up was killed immediately after putting this bandage on. This is, like, the remnants of his uniform that he ripped up to help me. And now he's dead. And I have this bandage on, and I'm never gonna take it off. I'm never going to, like, dishonor him by taking this bandage off."

00:39:26 Clip Clip **Vargas:** Keep your hands off this bandage.

00:39:28 Adam Host When you've casted Raymond Cruz, I mean, this is the scene that you imagine using him in.

00:39:32 Ben Host Yeah!

00:39:33 Adam Host He's excellent in this.

00:39:35 Ben Host And I love how close they get with the camera in this scene. Like, it's as close up a shot as you get in *Star Trek* usually. Like, the ECU on his face as he processes this memory, and talks about what it was like to, like, see a guy that he thought was kind of an idiot, but that was kind to him in a moment like this, dead on the ground.

00:39:58 Adam Host Yeah. I mean, there's a real wounded animal vibe to this happening, and it's your proximity to these characters that makes it feel

dangerous in a way that you're saying. When the camera's up close, this is hurting the Vargas character.

00:40:09	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:40:10	Adam	Host	And even though Bashir's trying to help, it feels very dangerous for him to be so close to him.
00:40:15	Ben	Host	And that pathos is so needle-pegging, and it—like, you see—you see Bashir realize, like, "Oh." <i>[Stifles laughter.]</i> Like, "I—" You know, "I thought we were, like, walking into a place where, like, other people that are also in this war with us need some help, and we're gonna help 'em out a little bit." And he realizes that, like, the war has been much, much harder for these people. And he is kind of putting his foot in it, in a way.
00:40:42	Adam	Host	Vargas takes Bashir over to the side, and he's like, uh, "The war is far worse than is generally known." <i>[Ben laughs.]</i> "On AR-558."
00:40:53	Clip	Clip	Hanson (TNG, "The Best of Both Worlds, Part II"): <i>[Distorted transmission]</i> <u>The fight</u> does not go well, <i>Enterprise!</i>
00:40:55	Ben	Host	Bashir goes straight to Sisko and is like, "Hey, listen." Like, "I know that, like, this is an important site, but like, what you need to do is get word to Starfleet that like, these people are on the brink. Like, their physical health is one thing, but the morale issue is... <u>not</u> great."
00:41:11	Clip	Clip	Ramsey (Crimson Tide): Feels like the whole crew needs a kick in the ass. Hunter: Or a pat on the back, sir.
00:41:15	Ben	Host	He is kind of in the middle of making this case when the first Houdini goes off.
00:41:19	Music	Music	"Freaks Come Out at Night" by Whodini. Only a few seconds of the funky electronic song plays. <i>The freaks come out at night</i> <i>[Music cuts.]</i>
00:41:21	Adam	Host	Yeah, this is an introduction to the concept of a subspace mine. Which appears out of nowhere. You can't scan for it, because when a mine is in subspace, it's not scannable. So if you walk down a corridor, and you're scanning for mines, and there's no mine there, it doesn't <u>mean</u> there's no mine there. It means that a mine could appear there before you've arrived, or after you're gone, and it doesn't matter. Scanning doesn't do anything. They just appear and explode.
00:41:48	Ben	Host	Yeah. I don't know why they named these after <u>Houdini</u> . 'Cause this seems like much more of a Mind Freak, to me.
00:41:56	Adam	Host	They named them Houdini because the mine doesn't explode; it—it flips you upside-down, handcuffs your wrists together, and dunks you in a giant thing of water.

00:42:07 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah. There—*[laughs]*—there was a, uh—there was a version of this mine that just made you sit in a block of ice in Times Square for a week.

[Adam laughs, Ben stifles laughter.]

00:42:18 Clip Clip **Speaker 1 (David Blaine Street Magic Part 2):** No!

Speaker 2 (David Blaine Street Magic Part 2): No.

Speaker 1: No, David Blaine, no! Mm-hm.

Speaker 2: No.

00:42:20 Ben Host But, uh, it wasn't as effective. *[Laughs.]*

00:42:22 Adam Host Later on, Reese gets Houdini'd by being attached to a bunch of balloons, and, uh—

[Both laugh.]

—he just goes up into the atmosphere? *[Laughs.]*

00:42:31 Ben Host Yeah. Yeah. The Penn and Teller mine is another variant that, uh, tells you about libertarian politics for some reason?

[Adam laughs.]

And you're like, "Gimme a break, mine!" *[Laughs.]*

00:42:43 Adam Host You knew the episode was going to drop a moment of choice here on Sisko. And that occurs when bangers are dropped on the *Little D* while it's in orbit. And Sisko's on the surface; he's got to make a decision here: Does he allow himself and the crew to be beamed back up, or does he cut the *Little D* loose for its own survival?

00:43:05 Clip Clip **Jack Traven (Speed):** Pop quiz, asshole! You have a hair-trigger aimed at your head; what do you do?

00:43:10 Adam Host The decision he comes to is that the *Little D* should leave, and leave the away team behind on the surface. But big picture—wise, Ben, this is like leaving a—a general on the battlefield on the front line. Like, what is the comparison here?

00:43:26 Ben Host Right. It's like, you—like, Nechayev—

00:43:28 Clip Clip **Music:** Jaunty, jazzy

Picard: Admiral Nechayev.

Frank Pentageli (The Godfather Part II): Canapes, my ass. That's Ritz crackers and chopped liver.

[Nechayev (TNG) laughs.]

[Clip audio stops.]

00:43:35 Ben Host —was never beaming over to the Borg Cube to see if they could turn off power nodes, or whatever. *[Chuckles.]*

00:43:40 Adam Host Right. Right, at—and it feels like Sisko is kind of a de facto [Belt Buckle](#).

00:43:46	Clip	Clip	Christian Audigier (<i>The Ed Hardy Boyz: The Case of the Missing Sick Belt Buckle</i>): A totally sick belt buckle!
00:43:48	Adam	Host	With how much control he has over the battlefield right now.
00:43:55	Ben	Host	Right.
00:43:56	Adam	Host	So it doesn't feel correct that he would either <u>be</u> on this away team or rightfully give an order for the ship to leave him behind. That, in an episode that I really liked, felt like a big clang. In the logic of it.
00:44:11	Ben	Host	Yeah. I think that what they needed to do was just tweak a couple of things about, like—like, what the situation was in space. Like, if it was a—
00:44:21	Adam	Host	Make it that they <u>can't</u> beam him back!
00:44:22	Ben	Host	Like—yeah. It's a mega-tick; the—if the <i>Little D</i> drops its shields, it's done.
00:44:29	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:44:30	Ben	Host	You know. Like, "We gotta bug out." And he says, "Get outta here." Like, "We need to defend this anyways," or something like that.
00:44:35	Adam	Host	"Get out and save yourself." Make the danger... so acute that—
00:44:39	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:44:40	Adam	Host	—that they <u>gotta</u> bug out. But to make it just a <u>choice</u> that Sisko makes didn't work for me.
00:44:44	Music	Transition	A techno song mixed with clips and soundbites from <i>DS9</i> and <i>TNG</i> .

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.]

00:45:01 Ben Host He gives the order that they gotta hold this position. And they man the front lines. And Sisko starts trying to, like, scan—

00:45:10 Clip Clip **Data (*Star Trek: Generations*):** [*Singing cheerfully*] Life! Forms!

[*The computer beeps, almost like musical accompaniment.*]

[*Clip audio cuts.*]

00:45:12 Ben Host —with a tricorder to see if he can detect Jem'Hadar trying to overrun this position. And what Lieutenant Larkin explains is that they can't detect any Jem'Hadar because all signals are getting jammed in both directions.

00:45:26 Clip Clip **Larkin:** We jam their sensors, they jam ours. That's how it works.

00:45:29 Ben Host Nog is the main detecting device that they have, because of his big giant ears. So he's the person that they're leaning on to tell them whether or not Jem'Hadar are coming, and he can't hear anything.

00:45:41 Adam Host I love the... head fake of, "What the hell is Nog going to do here on a mission like this? This is fucking stupid—"

[*Ben chuckles.*]

—to, "Oh, yeah, the ears!"

00:45:52 Ben Host Yeah! [*Chuckles.*] "Oh, the ears are actually super useful!"

00:45:56 Adam Host Reese is such a badass. He may be the most badass *Star Trek* character we've gotten in quite a while.

00:46:01 Clip Clip **Mariner (*Lower Decks*, "Veritas"):** Are you nuts? I said, "Who's the all-time biggest badass?" Not, "Who's a dude nobody's heard about?"

00:46:07 Adam Host He's got kind of a Randy Couture quality about him. Like, he looks like someone who did college wrestling.

[*Ben chuckles.*]

Like—like, he does not have cauliflower ear, but he—he kind of has, like, a cauliflower head?

00:46:18 Ben Host Yeah. He's cauliflower ear energy, for sure.

00:46:20 Adam Host [*Laughs.*] Yeah. We get our first battle scene here not long after this, where we're confronting, uh, Jem'Halolograms.

[*Ben laughs.*]

Who appear. And I think it presents a kind of paranoia that pervades the rest of the episode after this, right?

00:46:40 Ben Host Yeah.

00:46:41 Adam Host Like—like, "Is this real? Is this not?"

00:46:42 Ben Host I love the way they set the scene up, too, because the Jem'Hadar just start—come, like, walking at them, and they're not really firing back. They don't seem to be, like, trying to move tactically. They're not, like, trying to stay undercover as they advance on the Starfleet position. And it's just like, "What are these cannon fodder—ass Jem'Hadar doing?"

00:47:03	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:47:04	Ben	Host	Like, "Shouldn't they be trying to win this fight?" And then you realize that they aren't even really there.
00:47:08	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:47:09	Ben	Host	The holograms were just a ploy to figure out what the position and force strength of the Federation was. And you know, like, they're kinda realizing this, and realizing that they've been had, when another one of these Houdini mines goes off.
			Every—every time they've got a scene where, like, they're—they're, like, processing shitty information like this, it gets made even shittier by somebody getting exploded by a Houdini.
00:47:38	Music	Music	A clip from "Friends" off the album <i>Escape</i> by Whodini. <i>Friends!</i> <i>How many of us have them?</i> <i>[Music stops.]</i>
00:47:42	Adam	Host	I love/hate this. Like, I love that it's an ever present danger. I love that you hear the bangs off screen. Like, it's... It's <u>meant</u> to make you jump.
00:47:53	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:47:54	Adam	Host	And feel awful at the same time. There's this going on, there's a growing tension between Quark and Sisko about Nog being sent off on this mission, and I love how they're both kind of fathers in a way. And the question of whether or not Sisko would send Jake out there is raised in a way that feels very real. It feels—like, so much of Quark's character is, like, bitching to bitch about stuff.
00:48:23	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:48:24	Adam	Host	And being annoying. <i>[Ben stifles laughter.]</i> And doing things that make Quark "Quark". But so much of his character in this episode is about asking questions that feel very grounded in the reality of the moment!
00:48:35	Clip	Clip	Quark: I bet you wouldn't send Jake out there. Sisko: Jake is not a Starfleet officer.
00:48:40	Ben	Host	There is a new urgency around detecting these mines. And Sisko gives this job to Kellin and Ezri to, uh—to figure this out. Like, "How are we gonna detect these subspace mines?" And they get to work on it. Meanwhile, Quark discusses this situation with Nog, and discusses how—almost disgusted he is in Nog's behavior? 'Cause—
00:49:07	Adam	Host	He kinda feels like Nog is—is "Uncle Humon" a little bit, right?
00:49:11	Ben	Host	Yeah. Right. Like, he's trying to impress these people, and Quark can't imagine why anyone would wanna do that.
00:49:19	Adam	Host	Yeah.

00:49:20	Clip	Clip	Quark: Look at you. You hold that phaser rifle as if it were made of pure latinum.
00:49:24	Adam	Host	I really like that Nog has never wavered from this belief in himself and his place in Starfleet, though, you know? Like, his closest family member is questioning his reason for being.
00:49:38	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:49:39	Adam	Host	And his reason for being the way that he is in this moment. And he's totally committed.
00:49:43	Ben	Host	Yeah. And Quark is, too. Like, Quark is saying, like, "We—if it had been the Ferengi sitting where the Federation was sitting when this had started, we would have—this wouldn't have been a war."
00:49:52	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:49:53	Ben	Host	"We would have figured something out that was beneficial to everyone."
00:49:55	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:49:56	Ben	Host	And Nog doesn't buy that!
00:49:58	Adam	Host	When Nog goes out on this mission with Larkin, and they find the Jem'Hadar training camp, it's clear that Nog is <u>good</u> at this! He's not just a punchline, the way that he can often be in moments like this. Like, he's brave. He uses his special skill. He gets the job done.
00:50:17	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:50:18	Adam	Host	The mission is accomplished. But when the firefight starts, shit goes down in a bad way, and he's one of the ones that gets shot.
00:50:24	Ben	Host	Yeah. Ferengi always hit that high note when they get hurt, don't they?
00:50:28	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:50:29	Clip	Clip	<i>[Nog shrieks in pain.]</i>
00:50:32	Adam	Host	I like how this sequence works, though. The fire descends on them and their mission, and we cut back to home base, and their return. And Larkin's been killed in this firefight. Nog is put on a stretcher as soon as he arrives, and Reese does that kind of battlefield, begrudging honor thing, where he tells Sisko, like, how great he was out there.
00:50:55	Clip	Clip	Reese: <i>[Winded]</i> Kid did alright.
00:50:56	Ben	Host	There is a moment where Quark accuses Sisko of, like, not caring about Nog the way he cares about other soldiers. And Sisko saying, like, "I care equally about every soldier under my command."
00:51:10	Adam	Host	Mm-hm.
00:51:11	Ben	Host	And it made me kinda wish that Quark had been a fly on the wall in that opening scene with Odo. Because... I wish he'd flipped that shit right back in his face! Like, "Oh, really? 'Cause I thought, like, three days ago you were saying the names blur together for you, and it's like—"
00:51:27	Adam	Host	Right.
00:51:29	Ben	Host	"It's just a bunch of math at this point." Like—
00:51:31	Adam	Host	That's a great call. That should have been called back somehow. In

a "You don't know what it's like" kind of way!

00:51:35 Ben Host Right.

00:51:36 Adam Host That I feel like is appropriate for a moment like this.

00:51:39 Ben Host Yeah.

00:51:40 Adam Host But as it is, like, this is an example of Sisko absorbing, and not directing, uh, his feelings toward other people.

00:51:48 Ben Host Yeah. *[Sighs.]* And being a leader! Like, it does become math at some points for him. But I also don't disbelieve him when he says he cares about his soldiers. 'Cause when he goes and talks to Nog, like, he is a great comfort to Nog.

00:52:04 Clip Clip **Preston (*Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*):** *[Strained]* Is the word given, Admiral?

Kirk: The word is given.

00:52:07 Ben Host Nog feels like he's responsible for Larkin's death, like he failed the mission. And Sisko's like, "No, man!" Like, "The things that we needed to know were the things you came back and told us about. Like, the—"

00:52:18 Adam Host Right.

00:52:20 Ben Host "Like, the mission had casualties, but it was not a failure. It was a success." *[Stifles laughter.]*

00:52:25 Adam Host Bashir tells Quark that, uh—that Nog is gonna lose the leg, and that, uh, there are a couple of options on the table. There's...

[Bashir voice; posh] "Lobotomy."

[Ben laughs.]

"Just to—just to clear the patient's memory of a traumatic event. It's what I recommend the most, in cases like these."

00:52:45 Ben Host *[Bashir voice]* "We've already arranged for a family on Ferenginar that are... prepared to tell him the lie that he was born without a leg, and that he has always lived there with them. He's going to work as a airport security specialist."

[Both laugh.]

"We—we've done this several times. There's kind of a playbook."

[End of Bashir voices.]

00:53:07 Adam Host Yeah, I mean, and the reason for lobotomy is that there's no hope that the typical biosynthetic limb would take, in a way.

00:53:16 Ben Host Yeah.

00:53:17 Adam Host Because this is—this is a nice bit of world-building about the Jem'Hadar weaponry. Like, we know that there are things that they shoot at you that make healing the wound extremely difficult. And so it stands to reason that, were you to get a leg shot off, that your ability to grow a new one would also be compromised, right?

00:53:39 Ben Host Yeah. The Jem'Hadar fight nasty.

00:53:41	Music	Transition	<p>A techno song mixed with clips from <i>DS9</i> and various other sources.</p> <p>Jadzia Dax: <i>Morn</i> Kira: <i>Morn?</i> Odo: <i>Morn!</i> <i>[Hammer clang.]</i> Quark: <i>Dear, sweet Morn!</i> O'Brien: <i>Morn</i> Kira: <i>Morn?</i></p> <p>Norm (Cheers): <i>Evening, everybody!</i></p> <p>Kira: <i>Morn!</i></p> <p>MC Hammer: <i>Stop! Hammer time.</i></p> <p><i>[Music ends.]</i></p>
00:53:49	Ben	Host	<p>Ezri and Kellin have cracked the code. They, working together, figured out a way to tune a tricorder to reveal the position of these mines. And when they do, it is <u>fucking crazy</u>—<i>[laughs]</i>—how many mines there are. These are—they are floating <u>all</u> throughout the <i>Star Trek</i> caves. They look like they would be an awesome way to brush up on your lightsaber skills.</p>
00:54:15	Clip	Clip	<p><i>[Blaster bolt landing on Luke Skywalker, who yelps.]</i></p> <p>Han Solo (<i>Star Wars: A New Hope</i>): Hokey religions and ancient weapons are no match for a good blaster at your side, kid.</p> <p><i>[Lightsaber sheathing sound.]</i></p>
00:54:22	Ben	Host	<p>I love the cut over to Vargas, who has had one materialize, like, three inches from his face.</p>
00:54:28	Adam	Host	<p>It's <u>really</u> well done, this reveal. Good job.</p>
00:54:33	Ben	Host	<p>So we get the typical battle scene prep moment, where somebody draws a diagram of the battle in the sand. This is Reese kind of describing how the Jem'Hadar will have to get to their position if they're gonna try and storm it. And Sisko has come up with the idea of moving these Houdini mines over to this ravine that the Jem'Hadar will have to come through to get to them.</p> <p>And there <u>is</u>, like, a moment of, like, "Hey, didn't—weren't we just talking about how mines are like, a really unethical way to fight a war?" <i>[Laughs.]</i></p>
00:55:08	Adam	Host	<p>It really puts the mine on the other foot, this time.</p> <p><i>[Ben laughs.]</i></p> <p>With a plan like this.</p>
00:55:13	Ben	Host	<p>Yeah. I feel like it would be one thing if Starfleet, like, was <u>manufacturing</u> mines and laying them down places. It's another thing to, like, use your enemy's mines on them. You know? <i>[Laughs quietly.]</i></p>
00:55:25	Adam	Host	<p>Yeah. Yeah, and this is something that Ezri is the one to give voice</p>

to. She's got the one—

00:55:31 Ben Host Yeah.

00:55:32 Adam Host She's got the second thoughts here. Uh, but everyone's like, "Shut up, Ezri. This is the plan."

With ten minutes left in the episode, I wondered at this moment, "Is this ep really about the mines?" Like, is that what the episode is about? The mines and their use.

00:55:49 Ben Host Oh, like—like, is this going to become a thing about, like, "I can't believe you used mines at AR-558"?

00:55:55 Adam Host That's kind of where I was at! Because at first I thought this was an episode about the communications array.

00:56:01 Ben Host Yeah.

00:56:02 Adam Host And then I very quickly pivoted into, "Oh, this is a episode about a wounded character and how it will affect them." And now it's about using a battlefield technique using a weapon that you have moral issues with. And I'm seeing how much run time is left, and I'm like, "Which is it going to be? What's the lane?"

00:56:22 Ben Host Yeah. I think it's an episode that's in some ways about all of those things.

They get there. There's like, a few minutes of tension in anticipation of the battle, that is broken when Bashir turns on his honeystick Bluetooth speaker, *[stifles laughter]* and starts playing his Vic Fontaine records for everyone. Uh, slightly unnerving! *[Laughs.]*

00:56:47 Adam Host Yeah.

00:56:48 Clip Clip *[Vic Fontaine's singing drifts in from a distance.]*

Vargas: What the hell is that?

Ezri Dax: Shh.

[Clip audio cuts.]

00:56:50 Adam Host It's not a great season for Bashir. I think you and I can agree about that. But this turn into Bashir being the guy at the beach with a boombox—

[Ben laughs quietly.]

—is maybe...

00:57:01 Ben Host Yeah.

00:57:02 Adam Host Maybe the worst aspect to him.

00:57:03 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* "We brought our kids to the beach today, sir. We don't wanna hear, 'Pull Over, That Ass Too Fat' blasting at ten."

00:57:10 Music Music A clip from "Pull Over" off the album *Da Baddest Bitch* by Trina.

Whoop, whoop!
Pull over, that ass too fat!
Whoop, whoop!
Pull over, that ass too fat!

Whoop, whoop!
Pull over, that ass too fat!
Whoop, whoop!
Pull over, that ass too fat!

[Music cuts.]

00:57:15	Adam	Host	You know what this scene made me think of? Was that scene in <i>Three Kings</i> toward the end, where they get the, uh—they get the Mercedes limousines, and they're escaping.
00:57:25	Ben	Host	Uh-huh.
00:57:26	Adam	Host	And they're out in the desert, and Chicago's "If You Leave Me Now" is playing.
00:57:31	Ben	Host	[Laughs.] Yeah.
00:57:33	Adam	Host	Like, that's the vibe when Vic's music plays on the battlefield. It's—it's a <u>stylishness</u> to this, uh... incongruity that I don't think you often get on <i>Star Trek</i> . It's like, college-level stuff.
00:57:47	Ben	Host	Yeah. And very late nineties stuff, too. [Laughs.]
00:57:49	Adam	Host	Right. Right.
00:57:51	Ben	Host	The final battle really gave me "final battle of <i>Platoon</i> " vibes.
00:57:56	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:57:57	Ben	Host	They are converging from all sides on our position. They are inside the perimeter now. We are, like, going to "butting rifles up against their chins to fight them off" situation. And a very terrifying image as Sisko hits the ground and a Jem'Hadar is about to shoot him, and we fade to black.
00:58:20	Adam	Host	That <i>Platoon</i> description is so apt. Because what is the score doing here? The score isn't doing, uh, war music. This is not, like, <i>Conan the Barbarian</i> music score here. This is, like, the "Adagio for Strings" score—
00:58:35	Ben	Host	Triumph is not in it. Yeah.
00:58:38	Adam	Host	—from <i>Platoon</i> . And that changes everything about how it feels.
00:58:42	Clip	Clip	Capt. Harris (<i>Platoon</i>): It's a lovely fucking war. Bravo Six out.
00:58:44	Ben	Host	To the episode's credit, you really don't know whether when the camera fades back up, if Sisko's gonna be around or not.
00:58:51	Adam	Host	Right.
00:58:52	Ben	Host	I mean, like, you're doing the television math, like, "Sisko probably comes back next week," but I don't feel like it's a foregone conclusion.
00:59:00	Adam	Host	What a bold choice to kill him in episode eight of the final season!
			[Ben laughs.]
			Like, that... would have been <u>incredible</u> .
00:59:07	Ben	Host	[Laughs.] Seriously. "So the Prophet is—the Emissary of the Prophets is just... <u>dead</u> ?" [Laughs.]
00:59:15	Adam	Host	From this point forward, uh, Starfleet captains are <u>really</u> not permitted on away teams.

[Ben laughs.]

"I know it was, like, a policy that was a little bit flimsy, that people like to break, but..."

00:59:24 Ben Host

Yeah.

00:59:25 Adam Host

"We—we promise this time. Not happening."

00:59:27 Ben Host

"Captains prerogative is not an excuse anymore."

00:59:30 Adam Host

Right.

[Both stifle laughter.]

There's an elliptical edit here, right? There's the blackout and the come-to. And one thing we glossed over a little bit was that Quark kills a guy during the battle.

00:59:40 Ben Host

Yeah.

00:59:41 Adam Host

A guy who rushes the infirmary.

00:59:43 Ben Host

Yeah.

00:59:44 Adam Host

Like, it goes off in this battle scene before we black out. And when we come to again, it's Reese that helps him up. Kellin's dead, which gives us, like, the counterpoint of the peaceful warrior is the one that dies. It's the battle-weary warrior that lives.

01:00:02 Ben Host

Yeah. The ring of Jesus fire—

01:00:06 Adam Host

Yeah.

01:00:07 Ben Host

—necklace of Jem'Hadar tubes guy—

01:00:10 Adam Host

Yeah.

01:00:11 Ben Host

—made it just fine.

01:00:12 Adam Host

Yeah. And it's a—it's a Ben Sisko that doesn't really have feelings about his own survival, and very soberly, like, takes stock of the scene, and is like, "Mission accomplished."

01:00:28 Ben Host

Yeah. Worf tries to gas him up about how great a battle this sounds like it was. And that is just not the mood that Sisko is in.

01:00:38 Adam Host

Yeah.

01:00:39 Ben Host

The USS *Veracruz* is arriving with replacement troops, and they beam outta there with Reese, Worf, and Sisko. Reese leaves his, uh—his crazy Jem'Hadar knife behind. Not a sentimental man.

01:00:54 Adam Host

No. I mean, and if you were writing a film paper about this episode, I think you might consider this scene one of importance, right? Like, for a man like Reese to lay down his weapon could mean his life changes here.

01:01:08 Ben Host

Yeah.

01:01:09 Adam Host

Like, maybe he never fights again. Maybe... I don't know. Maybe a number of things.

01:01:14 Ben Host

Yeah.

01:01:15 Adam Host

But I think it's a significant moment.

01:01:17	Ben	Host	The button on the episode is in Sisko's office, where Kira comes in with Friday's numbers. And Sisko sort of re-committing himself to not treating this as an abstract number of dead people, and re-avowing that he needs to think of each of these people as a whole person who is now gone from this world. It's a very grim—grim episode!
01:01:47	Adam	Host	When I think about whether or not I <u>like</u> the episode, though, I think it really comes down to this moment.
01:01:53	Ben	Host	Mm-hm.
01:01:54	Adam	Host	Because for it to have weight, I think you need to get with the idea that Sisko is a changed person from the beginning to the end. And I just don't wanna believe that Ben Sisko ever thought that these people were blurring together, and weren't individuals that had died during war. I just... I don't know if the episode did enough to establish that he had lost the feeling of this thing. And were it to do that, I think his journey is more profound.
01:02:29	Ben	Host	Mm.
01:02:30	Adam	Host	But I'm not saying I didn't like the episode, because I did, and I—and like, I like that we get a hyper-realistic <i>Star Trek</i> episode depicting war as a horrible, scary place where, like, it's not romanticized and beam-weapon heroic. It's, like, ugly, and charred, and scary.
01:02:52	Ben	Host	Yeah.
01:02:53	Adam	Host	Where legs get shot off, and—like, who is the one who lost innocence here? Is it Sisko? Did he have innocence to lose?
01:03:03	Ben	Host	I think it may be Nog!
01:03:05	Adam	Host	Yeah.
01:03:06	Ben	Host	But like, this didn't feel like a Nog-centric story.
01:03:11	Adam	Host	Yeah.
01:03:12	Ben	Host	In an interesting way. Like, it—it seemed like it kinda focused much more on Quark and Sisko than anyone else.
01:03:18	Adam	Host	I wonder if moving the focus a little bit—like, I know a lot of people praise this episode for being—for going as dark as it went. To making the darker points that it does.
01:03:28	Ben	Host	Mm-hm.
01:03:29	Adam	Host	But I wonder if you don't get even darker by moving the focus around a little bit... differently.
01:03:36	Ben	Host	Yeah.
01:03:37	Adam	Host	Maybe onto Nog, specifically. But I think we're gonna have future episodes that hopefully drill into that a little better.
01:03:47	Ben	Host	That's sorta the promise of <i>Deep Space Nine</i> at this point, right?
01:03:50	Adam	Host	Yeah.
01:03:51	Ben	Host	Like, if a stone was left unturned, you can actually hope for it being re-flipped in the future. <i>[Chuckles.]</i>
01:03:58	Adam	Host	Yeah. I mean, I think on <i>TNG</i> a character would get his leg shot off in one episode, and then it would come back the next, and there would be no conversation about it.
01:04:06	Ben	Host	Right. <i>[Laughs.]</i>

Well, Adam, do you wanna see if we have any Priority One Messages in the inbox to turn over?

01:04:16 Adam Host Uh, we're definitely not going to reject that transplantation.

[Ben chuckles.]

01:04:21 Clip Transition **Computer:** *[Beeps four times.]* Priority one message from Starfleet coming in on secured channel. *[More beeping.]*

01:04:25 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.]

01:04:35 Music Music Music plays softly in the background of this segment, peppered by the ship's computer repeating, "Captain Picard, priority one message."

01:04:36 Adam Promo Ben, our first Priority One Message is from Savannah. It's to you and me.

01:04:41 Ben Promo Oh! Hey.

01:04:43 Adam Promo Message goes like this:

01:04:44 Music Music Enescu's "Sonata for Cello and Piano in F Minor" plays in the background. Dramatic cello with piano accents.

01:04:45 Adam Promo "Now everyone knows that I'm a little bit embarrassed to be a huge sci-fi nerd, but what this P1 pre-supposes is... maybe I'm not embarrassed enough to keep myself from dropping 100 scarves—"

[Ben laughs.]

"—on two awesome dudes that are also big nerds? Thanks for all the laughs!"

[Previous background music resumes.]

01:05:00 Ben Promo Hey, thank you, Savannah! That is a super nice message! I don't know, uh, where you got those laughs, but they didn't come from us. Those must be misplaced laughs. *[Laughs.]*

01:05:09 Adam Promo Right. Yeah. Sometimes, uh, the viewers supply the laughs.

01:05:14 Ben Promo Yeah.

01:05:15 Adam Promo Not a lot of laughs in this episode, as a—

[Ben laughs.]

—as an episode of *DS9*, for sure.

01:05:19 Ben Promo Yeah. Yeah. I felt, uh—it felt hard to be a comedy podcast talking about this episode, didn't it?

01:05:27 Adam Promo Yeah! Yeah.

01:05:29 Ben Promo We have another Priority One Message. This one is from Kevin L., and it is also to you and me, Adam. Goes like this:

"Thank you for all you have done to help support Black Lives Matter. I was unsure where to focus my efforts. I really appreciate you taking the lead and showing others how to help financially. You guys gave me hope for the future when I had none. Remember when you are down, how your everyday leadership has already helped so many people."

Aw!

01:05:58 Adam Promo Wow.

01:05:59 Ben Promo That's really sweet, Kevin. Thank you!

01:06:01 Adam Promo Yeah.

01:06:02 Ben Promo Kevin is referring to our fundraiser that we did surrounding the uprisings in response to the George Floyd murder, that, uh, I think we promoted for a while on here, and probably could do to promote more often. It's Friends of DeSoto for Justice. I think the short link is [Bit.ly/greatesttrek?](https://bit.ly/greatesttrek?)

01:06:27 Adam Promo Those that have contributed for Friends of DeSoto for Justice have already raised over \$70,000. Which is a really... incredible—

01:06:36 Ben Promo *[Laughs.]* Pretty astonishing. I, uh—I am so proud of our viewers for doing that. That is... just the most amazing thing.

01:06:48 Adam Promo Yeah.

01:06:49 Ben Promo Well, thank you to Kevin and Savannah for supporting us. And if you'd like to get a message on the show, you can go to MaximumFun.org/jumbotron, where it's a hundred bucks for a personal message and two hundred for a commercial message. And we super appreciate all the help!

01:07:07 Music Transition A techno song mixed with clips and soundbites from *DS9*.

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

Am I—am I right? Ha ha! Hoo!

[Music ends.]

01:07:15 Promo Clip **Music:** Light, rhythmic keyboard over drums plays in background.

Tre'vell Anderson: Hey there, beautiful people! Did you hear that good, good news?

Jarrett Hill: Something about the baby Jesus?

Tre'vell: Mm! He's coming back!

Jarrett: Or—do you mean—

[Tre'vell laughs.]

Jarrett: —the fact that Apple Podcasts has named *FANTI* one of the best shows of 2020?

Tre'vell: I mean, we already knew that we was hot stuff, but a little external validation never hurts. Okay?

Jarrett: *[Through laughter]* Hosted by me, writer and journalist Jarrett Hill.

Tre'vell: And me, the ebony enchantress myself—

[Jarrett laughs.]

Tre'vell: —Tre'vell Anderson.

Jarrett: *FANTI* is your home for complex conversations about the grey areas in our lives; the people, places, and things we're huge fans of but got some anti feelings toward.

Tre'vell: You name it, we *FANTI* it. Nobody's off-limits.

Jarrett: Check us out every Thursday on MaximumFun.org or wherever you get your slay-worthy audio.

[Music ends.]

01:08:01 Promo Clip

Music: Laid-back drum and keyboard plays in background.

Jesse Thorn: I'm Jesse Thorn! On the next *Bullseye*, we've got the one and only Ted Danson. We'll talk about his new show, *Mr. Mayor*, about *Cheers*, and about the secret to success in comedy.

Jesse: I mean, I feel like one of your signature comedic moves at this point in your career is gazing? You do a lot of interesting gazing?

[Ted Danson laughs.]

Ted Danson: I also love this! Gazing! I love that! And if I'm not, I'm gonna start. 'Cause that's great.

Jesse: That's *Bullseye*! Find it on MaximumFun.org, NPR.org, and wherever you get podcasts.

[Music ceases.]

01:08:41 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.]

01:08:52	Ben	Host	Hey, Adam!
01:08:53	Adam	Host	What's that, Ben?
01:08:54	Ben	Host	Did you find yourself a Drunk Shimoda ?
01:08:55	Music	Music	Clips of <i>TNG</i> and Adam and Ben mixed with electric guitar.

Jim Shimoda (TNG): Incredible!

Adam & Ben: Druuunk Shimoda!

[Music ends abruptly.]

01:08:56	Adam	Host	We were talking about it before, just how <u>unfunny</u> this episode was.
----------	------	------	--

[Ben laughs; Adam stifles laughter.]

I think the only one having any fun might have been, uh, Rom! But even Rom didn't have fun, because he gets the big letdown!

01:09:09	Ben	Host	Yeah.
01:09:10	Adam	Host	By Vic Fontaine. So I think I'm gonna make my Shimoda Vic Fontaine.
01:09:14	Ben	Host	Wow.
01:09:15	Adam	Host	Who seems amused by Rom in this scene. Is, uh—is made to let him down easy. And I think, uh—I think <u>does</u> give a big city letdown here, in a way that only he can, so...
01:09:27	Ben	Host	Yeah.
01:09:28	Adam	Host	Vic Fontaine. My Drunk Shimoda.
01:09:31	Ben	Host	My Drunk Shimoda is Worf, uh, for that scene at the end when he's trying to—I think he's trying to comfort Sisko, but there's a culture gap issue at play, because Worf suggests, like, this—this was worthy of story and song, this battle.

[Adam stifles laughter.]

And Sisko's like, "You—you guys pay for stories and songs with blood? What the fuck?!" [Laughs.]

And really flips that back in Worf's face, in a way that—[laughing] I—I

just felt so bad for Worf!

01:10:06 Adam Host The Klingon jukebox doesn't take quarters, Ben.

01:10:08 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Ding!]*

01:10:09 Adam Host *[Ben laughs.]*

Takes blood.

01:10:10 Ben Host *[Laughing]* Worf was just trying to help, man!

01:10:15 Adam Host Yeah.

01:10:18 Ben Host So Worf is my Drunk Shimoda.

01:10:20 Adam Host Couple of good Shimodas. Do we have a good episode coming up, Ben? For that, I will ask you to see what's on the launchpad while, uh, I head over to the Game of Buttholes—

01:10:33 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Thunder crashes.]*

01:10:34 Adam Host —Will of the Prophets.

01:10:35 Ben Host Yeah! Well, the next episode is season seven, episode nine, "Covenant."

"Kira is held hostage by her old enemy Dukat, who has become the leader of a Bajoran religious faction"??

01:10:49 Adam Host Oh, no.

01:10:51 Ben Host Yeah. I don't know how that happens.

01:10:52 Adam Host Huh.

01:10:53 Ben Host Alright, Adam. I've gotta roll a dice on a game. That game is at Gagh.biz/game, and it determines how we will be watching this next episode. Currently our runabout is on square 22. Just out ahead there is a banger, and I think we could also hit a Naked Now episode potentially here, if I roll a six.

01:11:21 Adam Host You really need a big roll. We gotta—we gotta make up some ground here.

01:11:26 Ben Host Yeah.

01:11:27 Adam Host Too many chutes, not enough ladders.

01:11:29 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah, there's—this is—this game is definitely based on Chutes & Ladders, but we didn't build any ladders into the game, did we?

[Both laugh.]

01:11:40 Adam Host "Oops, All Chutes!"

[Ben laughs.]

01:11:42 Clip Clip **Falow (DS9, "Move Along Home")**: You are required to learn as you play. Roll.

[The Wadi are tapping their klon peags (sticks) rhythmically.]

[Quark breathes on the dice.]

[Dice roll. Tapping stops.]

Falow: Chula!

Crowd: *[Laughing]* Chula! Chula!

Quark: Did I win?!

Falow: Hardly!

[Clip audio ends.]

01:11:51	Ben	Host	Well, Adam, uh, I have rolled a <u>four</u> . So, pretty big roll! It's on the upper end of things.
01:11:56	Adam	Host	Yeah!
01:11:58	Ben	Host	But gets us to square 26. Regular old episode next week.
01:12:02	Adam	Host	Alright! Well, I'm looking forward to that. Looking forward to talking about more <i>Deep Space Nine</i> goodness with you.
01:12:09	Ben	Host	Yeah! Looking forward to a Kira episode!
01:12:11	Adam	Host	Yeah, that's—that's really what I was getting at.
01:12:14	Music	Music	Dark Materia's "The Picard Song" begins fading in.
01:12:16	Adam	Host	I hope we have a couple of centerpiece Nana Visitor episodes in store before the end of the series. I think, uh, she deserves it.
01:12:21	Ben	Host	Yeah. Me too. Well, that will all be next week. In the meantime, we could, uh—we could use your help if you've enjoyed the program, and would like to support it financially! I'd encourage you to head to MaximumFun.org/join and set up a monthly membership. You'll get all kinds of bonus content from us and from all the other shows on the network, as well as potentially, you know, prizes. I think there's, like... magnets and T-shirts and stuff in the non-MaxFunDrive part of the year for new members. Every new member is greatly appreciated!
01:13:01	Adam	Host	We appreciate every one. It's really a... It's really a miracle to think about, to be honest.
01:13:07	Ben	Host	Yeah. It's totally changed our lives, and we super appreciate it. You can also follow us online. We've got a couple of social media accounts under the tag @GreatestTrek on Instagram and Twitter . Follow the @GreatestTrek accounts! They're really fun to follow, and those are run by our good buddy Bill Tilley. The card daddy.
01:13:29	Adam	Host	That's right.

Part of the reason our show sounds so good isn't just Ben and I talking into these professional-quality microphones.

[Ben laughs.]

Uh, it's the music! And we love the music on this show. The original music made by Dark Materia, the updated introduction and interstitial music made by friend of the show Adam Ragusea, who's also a great big YouTube star. Go watch a video of his, if you got a free moment. I don't think you'll regret it at all; he does great video!

01:14:01 Ben Host No regrets!

01:14:03 Adam Host No.

[Beat.]

01:14:07 Ben Host Tell a friend about the show, give us a nice rating online, uh, check out our other shows on Maximum Fun. We got *Friendly Fire*, our war—our hit war movie podcast, and *The Greatest Discovery*, our podcast about all the new *Star Trek* coming out! We're having tons of fun over there, and I bet you would enjoy that if you enjoy this.

01:14:25 Adam Host Buy an ad over on, uh, *Star Trek: The Pod Directive*.

01:14:29 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Adam:** That's a way you could support the show.

Ben: Yeah, advertise our show! On our behalf!

[Both laugh.]

01:14:36 Ben Host We're not gonna pay for that! [Laughs.]

01:14:39 Adam Host Yeah, you already said you wouldn't!

Well, with that, we'll be back atcha next time with another great episode of *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, and an episode of *The Greatest Generation: Deep Space Nine* which I hope isn't one of our last times to lavish praise... one of our favorite actors on this show. Love letter to Nana Visitor. Might be, though!

01:14:59 Ben Host Yeah, might be. Might be her last episode. Who knows?

01:15:02 Adam Host Getting toward the end, here.

01:15:03 Ben Host [Whispering] Winding down, it's scary!

01:15:05 Music Music "The Picard Song" continues at full volume.

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

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

Jean-Luc Picard!
Make it so!

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

Jean-Luc Picard!
Make it so!

(Make make make make make make make—)

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

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

Jean-Luc Picard!
Make it so!

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

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

[Song fades out.]

01:15:36	Music	Transition	A cheerful ukulele chord.
01:15:37	Speaker 1	Guest	MaximumFun.org .
01:15:39	Speaker 2	Guest	Comedy and culture.
01:15:40	Speaker 3	Guest	Artist owned—
01:15:41	Speaker 4	Guest	—audience supported.