

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	Adam Pranica	Host	Welcome to <i>The Greatest Generation: Deep... Space..... Nine.</i>
00:00:20	Ben Harrison	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> You forget which space station? <i>[Ben laughs, music fades out.]</i>
00:00:26	Adam	Host	It's a <i>Star Trek</i> podcast by a couple of guys who are a little bit embarrassed about having a <i>Star Trek</i> podcast. I'm Adam Pranica.
00:00:31	Ben	Host	I'm Ben Harrison.
00:00:33	Adam	Host	See, what I was trying to do is like— <i>[Pitch gets progressively, if very slightly, lower]—step... down... with each... word.</i> <i>[Adam stops the vocal pitching.]</i> And I don't have a lot of vocal range. I don't know if you know this about me—
00:00:42	Ben	Host	Oh, yeah.
00:00:43	Adam	Host	I'm very monotone.
00:00:44	Ben	Host	You're no Avery Brooks.
00:00:46	Adam	Host	Not at all.
00:00:47	Ben	Host	<i>[Pitching rapidly up and down, almost but not quite to the tune of "The Best is Yet to Come"]</i> You DON'T say, "DEEP Space NINE" when YOU inTROduce THE showwww! <i>[Both laugh quietly. Ben stops the vocal pitching.]</i>
00:00:53	Adam	Host	Great Avery Brooks impression, Ben! <i>[Ben cracks up.]</i>

We've gotten in a lot of trouble for impressions on this show, but, uh... yeah! Good job by you.

00:01:02 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* I mean, I was mostly doing the kind of song that they're singing at the end, not—not Avery Brooks in and of himself.

00:01:11 Adam Host You gotta be careful when you ask a cast member to do a singing scene. Right?

00:01:17 Ben Host Boy. You sure do.

00:01:19 Adam Host Are you, uh—are you someone who sings? You a big singer? You—you a karaokeer?

00:01:25 Ben Host I, uh—I sing in the shower. And that's pretty much the only place I sing. And I pretty much sing one song.

00:01:32 Adam Host Which is "WAP"?

00:01:33 Ben Host Which is, uh, "Go Down Moses, Way Down in Egypt Land." Uh, but I just put my dog's name everywhere there's a noun.

[Adam laughs quietly.]

00:01:42 Music Music "Go Down Moses," popularized by Paul Robeson. Melancholy piano.

00:01:43 Ben Host *[Singing very low]*
Go down, Darwin!
Way down in Darwin Land!
Tell old Darwin
Let my Darwin go!

[Music and singing stop.]

And then, like, you know, it sounds good because it's got all the reverb of the shower. *[Chuckles.]*

00:02:04 Adam Host You got some great pipes, Ben.

[Ben laughs.]

That sounded very pleasant.

00:02:08 Ben Host You're a singer, right? You do a karaoke or two!

00:02:10 Adam Host I do karaoke specifically because I'm not a good singer.

[Ben laughs.]

Karaoke is a safe place for bad singers.

[Ben laughs.]

But I do like the performance aspect of it, is the thing that's fun. Right? That's the fun of karaoke, for even a person who can't sing.

00:02:27 Ben Host I love being on stage. With you, especially. Like, our live shows are something I've really, really missed in 2020.

00:02:36 Adam Host Yeah.

00:02:37 Ben Host And I can't wait to get back. But when I do karaoke, it fucking shreds my nerves. Like right before the lockdown started, you and I were on a Palm Springs birthday hang for a friend of ours, and I did one

karaoke number, and I—I—like, I needed like half an hour to recover.
[Laughs.]

00:02:58 Adam Host That's why you left immediately.

00:03:00 Ben Host Yeah, yeah. *[Laughs.]*

00:03:01 Adam Host I thought it was our constant references to the great dinner we were involved in that evening.

00:03:05 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah. The references to how good the pasta salad, uh, were, uh, definitely buoyed my spirits that night.

00:03:12 Adam Host Nothing like a pasta salad for, uh—for a buah (*buoy-ah*).
[Ben laughs.]
 Always said that.

00:03:20 Ben Host Uh—*[laughs]*—but I mean, this show, like, more than any other *Star Trek* I think, has quite a bit of singing, especially in this last season. We talked about them throwing some song to Faith Salie and discovering that she was fucking awesome at singing.

00:03:36 Adam Host I think that's emblematic of this idea, though, of like, "Well, we wrote a thing. Hopefully the cast can carry it."
[Ben laughs.]
 "Holy shit, it turns out they can!"

00:03:45 Ben Host Yeah.

00:03:46 Adam Host That—that seems to be a—like, why would you risk that? *[Stiffling laughter]* Is my question.

00:03:49 Ben Host Right. It's like they—they threw an impossible shot the first time, and now they, like, think that they are amazing at this.

00:03:59 Adam Host Yeah.

00:04:00 Ben Host And then they throw an impossible shot the second time! God damn it! *[Laughs.]*

00:04:02 Adam Host They're pretty good.

00:04:05 Ben Host Well, Adam, we gotta review this thing before I find out if this episode sang to you.

00:04:10 Adam Host Mm!

00:04:11 Ben Host Do you wanna get into episode 15 of season 7 of *Deep Space Nine*?

00:04:16 Adam Host You're talking about "Badda-Bing, Badda-Bang?"

00:04:19 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.]

00:04:28 Ben Host

That's the one!

00:04:29 Adam Host

I tried to "tin man" that.

00:04:30 Clip Clip

Picard (TNG, "Tin Man"): Tin man.

00:04:31 Ben Host

[Laughs.]

00:04:32 Adam Host

"Bang" is—is "tin man."

00:04:35 Ben Host

Badda-bang!

[Adam laughs.]

Badda-big-boom! Big-badda-boom.

00:04:39 Adam Host

That one ensign from a couple episodes ago, not invited to the Alamo.

[Ben laughs.]

But Vic Fontaine? Totally invited.

00:04:47 Ben Host

Yeah! What's that about? Are they—do—have O'Brien and Bashir realized that their preciousness about their stupid Alamo program is maybe unfair to everyone, and they are—this is like a baby step to starting to invite other people? Like, "Well, we'll invite our hologram friend."

00:05:05 Adam Host

I think the depraved things they do in the holosuite with coonskin caps—

[Ben laughs.]

—is fine for a holosuite-generated audience, and that's what Vic Fontaine is. Vic Fontaine is of the holosuite.

00:05:19 Ben Host

Yeah.

00:05:20 Adam Host

So I guess what would be the difference?

00:05:22 Clip Clip

Vic Fontaine: I don't look good in buckskin.

[Someone laughs.]

00:05:24 Ben Host

He is turning them down, though. He does not want to participate in that program. He gives back their hat, and, uh, immediately Purells his hand, and he goes up to sing them a song about a—a—I didn't know this existed! A crooner song about the Alamo.

00:05:41 Music Music

"Wild Wild West" by Will Smith, but with added distortion to make it sound echoey, as though performed in a lounge.

Wild wild west—

[Music continues as Ben and Adam speak.]

00:05:42 Adam Host

That's fun.

00:05:43 Ben Host

Yeah. They fucking love it, too. O'Brien and Bashir are loving this, and then the holodeck glitches, and—

[Music record-scratches to a halt.]

—the tone of the room changes. It's the same room, but it's like—you know. It's suddenly full of jerks, and the decor is much darker and grimier-looking. People are smoking. The band's playing a different kind of music, there's burlesque dancers strutting out onto the stage. And everybody wants Vic Fontaine off.

And I felt like they made this moment last a really long time. Like, this deeply uncomfortable—like, Vic, the coolest cat there is, is suddenly upended and in an environment he doesn't understand, being jeered at. And, uh, I thought it was really nicely done.

00:06:31 Adam Host I don't like the association of burlesque with an unsavory type of person! I think burlesque is a beautiful art form. I don't like what this episode is saying about it!

00:06:40 Ben Host Wow! I've never actually seen a burlesque show, so I only know it from movies and television, and I felt like one of the things that seemed to be a part of the appeal was that it was a little bit grimy.

00:06:55 Adam Host I mean, my interest in burlesque is a big reason why I can make my tassels counter-rotate.

[Ben laughs.]

Look, I'm doing it right now!

[Something rustles loudly.]

See?

00:07:06 Ben Host Hey, that's really good. Oh, the people on the livestream are gonna love that.

00:07:08 Adam Host Oh, I—

[Rustling stops.]

One of 'em hit the keyboard, and I had to restart the record.

00:07:13 Ben Host Oh, shit. *[Laughs.]*

00:07:15 Adam Host Okay. We'll have to re-sync.

00:07:16 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Okay. It's interesting that you can do that, and then you denigrate your own singing ability. You know?

00:07:21 Adam Host I know!

00:07:22 Ben Host Anyways, uh—*[laughs]*—somebody comes into the bar that Vic knows. And this kinda pours a further bucket of ice water on the affair. It's Frankie Eyes, Adam! Frankie Eyes is a dude that we don't like.

00:07:40 Adam Host We don't like him because Vic fears him.

00:07:42 Ben Host Yeah.

00:07:43 Adam Host We get—*[stifles laughter]*—I believe for the very first time, Vic eyes to theme here.

00:07:46 Ben Host Yeah. It's like, lapel-grab Vic eyes.

00:07:50 Adam Host Uh-huh.

00:07:51 Ben Host Not a great way to start your holo-day, I guess. *[Laughs.]*

00:07:54 Adam Host Mm. We need an org chart for this casino, because the story we're given here is that, uh, Mr. Eyes has taken possession of the casino thanks to an investment by a backer, Mr. Zeemo.

00:08:09 Ben Host Mm-hm.

00:08:11 Adam Host But I thought that Vic was doing so well on the business side of the hotel and casino that—like, what was your understanding of Vic's place in the workplace? Because I thought he would be untouchable.

00:08:27 Ben Host Right, if he's the owner of, and like, building a new casino. But I think that the logic here is that this was, like, a pre-programmed... thing that you could, like, encounter in the game.

00:08:38 Adam Host Yeah.

00:08:40 Ben Host And the game maybe didn't—doesn't care about previous continuity.

00:08:46 Adam Host Yeah, maybe the game re-wrote that part, or ignores it completely in favor of this new—this new skin, I guess.

00:08:52 Ben Host Yeah.

00:08:53 Adam Host This jack-in-the-box skin.

00:08:55 Ben Host Yeah.

00:08:56 Adam Host This is a mystery that Bashir and O'Brien need to unravel, because at Ops—a set that still exists, Ben.

00:09:03 Ben Host *[Stifling laughter]* Mm-hm.

00:09:04 Adam Host I was... shocked and delighted to see they hadn't scrapped it.

[Ben laughs, Adam stifles laughter.]

Uh, the gang needs to figure this out. Because they don't like this new program. They like the old Vic Fontaine program. And Felix, the designer of the Vic Fontaine program, what he does to keep things fresh—like any relationship, Ben—you gotta fill it with some unexpected moments.

00:09:25 Ben Host Yeah.

00:09:26 Adam Host And so Felix has put this jack-in-the-box into the Vic Fontaine program to keep it from becoming boring.

00:09:32 Ben Host This scene is maybe just here to remind us that Ops exists, and also that Worf exists?

[Adam laughs.]

And then—and no other reasons? *[Chuckles.]*

00:09:40 Clip Clip **Worf:** I neither like him nor dislike him.

00:09:41 Adam Host Right.

00:09:43 Ben Host Couldn't they have had this conversation anywhere else?

00:09:45 Adam Host There's kind of a Chekhov's Worf... thing being established here, because I expected Worf to be a part of this story later on. At any point.

00:09:57 Ben Host Yeah. I—

00:09:59 Adam Host Like, when they're conceiving of the heist and all that? I'm like... "Worf is gonna cut someone's head off in this casino."

[Ben laughs.]

And that moment never comes.

00:10:08 Ben Host "Perhaps today is a good day to lose at Pai Gow."

[Both laugh.]

00:10:14 Adam Host "Casino War... a warrior's game."

[Ben cracks up.]

That would be so awesome. Like—*[laughs]*—here's the C story! Worf gets a little too involved in the setting for the heist that he can't do his mission.

00:10:27 Ben Host Uh-huh.

00:10:28 Adam Host He's addicted to gambling, like Brandon Walsh in *90210*.

00:10:29 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Oh, wow. That would be great.

00:10:32 Adam Host *[Worf impression; deep and solemn]* "Hit me. No, I mean, literally hit me."

[Worf voice stops.]

00:10:37 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* It's actually Chekhov's Sisko, as it would happen.

00:10:40 Adam Host Mm!

00:10:42 Ben Host 'Cause Sisko is also there to kind of shit-talk their—you know, he's like, "Uh, I kinda thought we were here to work. But you guys seem to be talking about your video games back at home."

00:10:51 Clip Clip **Hot Dog Vendor Manager (*Reality Bites*):** If you got time to lean, you got time to clean, buddy, alright?

00:10:55 Adam Host There is a vanity of holosuite programs playing out here, too. Because come on, Sisko. Your obsession with baseball is equal to the obsession with Vic Fontaine's program.

00:11:05 Ben Host Yeah. This is like—like, my wife famously has said that she will never play a video game in her life. And I kinda called her on it the other day. I was like, "You play the *New York Times* crossword puzzle app every single day, and I would call that a video game."

00:11:20 Adam Host Yeah.

00:11:21 Ben Host And, uh, it's kinda the same thing, right? Like, if it's baseball, it's not a video game to Sisko.

00:11:26 Adam Host Right. It's very, uh, "old Sisko yells at cloud."

00:11:30 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah. And he kinda gets called on his shit, too, right? Because he has a dinner with Kasidy Yates. And she is just as intrigued by this holosuite program as anybody else on the station. And he's like, "What? You're into that shit with those nerds? Thought you were cool!"

00:11:53 Clip Clip **Sisko:** Maybe that's part of the attraction.

00:11:55 Adam Host I was jolted by the composition of the frame around Sisko. It looked to me like he was sitting on a throne, the way that the replicator—

[Ben laughs.]

—is shot behind his head? It's—it's so symmetrical. It made it look like he was sitting in a seat with a tall back. Did you get that vibe? I—it was distracting, in a weird way.

00:12:15 Ben Host I'm looking at it now, and, uh, I see what you mean.

00:12:19 Adam Host They parallax it a little bit as the scene goes on, so that you don't—it doesn't look that way anymore, but establishing shot-wise, I was like, "Sisko's a big boy, sitting in the big chair!"

[Both laugh.]

00:12:30 Ben Host I feel like he sits in front of the replicator to really accentuate the fact that he is serving Kasidy a home-cooked meal.

00:12:37 Clip Clip **Kasidy:** Your daddy would be proud.

00:12:38 Adam Host And no matter how much Kasidy wants something out of the replicator, she'll have to get through him first?

00:12:43 Ben Host Yeah, "You'll have to come through me." *[Chuckles.]*

00:12:45 Adam Host Sisko wants to talk about anything else besides this, and it sounds like there's something to it that's a little more than Sisko believing that this is nerd shit. Like, he seem—he's trying to cover up some stronger feelings, I think.

00:12:57 Ben Host Right. Not starting a fight. He kinda just puts a damper on the mood of the entire evening. Like, there will be a reckoning for whatever was left unsaid here.

00:13:07 Adam Host He definitely pulls an Adam Pranica in this moment.

[Ben cracks up.]

That was a really big pop, Ben. I was sort of expecting, uh, a normal reaction.

00:13:21 Ben Host *[Sarcastically]* Wha—what are you talking about, Adam?! You never do that!

00:13:25 Adam Host *[Stifles laughter.]* I'm gonna have to do some soul-searching, I guess.

00:13:26 Ben Host I'm drinking a nice glass of the, uh, Mero Mero Mezcal that you got me.

00:13:32 Adam Host How is it?

00:13:33 Ben Host It's really good!

00:13:34 Adam Host Well, that's good.

00:13:35 Ben Host Maybe—maybe I'm getting a little tipsy. Who knows?

00:13:38 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.]

00:13:42	Adam	Host	Back on the holosuite, Bashir and O'Brien find Vic all fucked up!
00:13:46	Ben	Host	Did you notice that the, uh— <i>[laughs]</i> —that the numbers on the door to his room were just, like, the kind of address numbers you put on the side of your house?
			<i>[Adam stifles laughter.]</i>
			Nailed to a piece of foam core? <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:13:58	Adam	Host	I love it. A lot of the casino set feels very temp.
00:14:04	Ben	Host	Yeah. Yeah, I feel like this hallway could just be, like, one of the bungalows on the studio backlot that they put, like, one sort of art deco wall sconce in, and put one number on the door, and they're like, "It's the hotel!" <i>[Chuckles.]</i>
00:14:19	Adam	Host	Yeah. I think the production nerd in me would have liked to have seen the movie magic of this. 'Cause I imagine it's a very tiny bit of set.
00:14:27	Ben	Host	Mm-hm. Mm-hm.
00:14:28	Adam	Host	But the stakes of the episode are established here, in this conversation. If Bashir, O'Brien, and the gang aren't able to neutralize this Frankie Eyes threat, then Vic's gonna continue getting hurt, or maybe even killed, if that's possible.
00:14:44	Clip	Clip	Bashir: The good news is, your <u>skull</u> is still in one piece.
00:14:48	Ben	Host	I think this is a really interesting episode from a stakes standpoint, because the character who is in peril is a imaginary person. And they haven't, like, <u>really</u> gone into the metaphysics of Vic on this show—
00:15:07	Adam	Host	Uh-huh.
00:15:08	Ben	Host	—in the way that they do with Moriarty in <i>TNG</i> . And with, like, Data. Like, but he's, like—he's very real to a lot of them. And there's a lot of discussion of how he's real to them. But they never take the next step up and go, like, "Well, if he's real to all of us, is there, like, an ethical problem with XYZ?" Or, like...
00:15:30	Adam	Host	Yeah, it's interesting, because they put those factors into Vic's dialogue. I think they very briefly say, "Well, we can't reset the program, because it will erase Vic's memory, and that would be tantamount to murdering him."
00:15:41	Ben	Host	Right."
00:15:43	Adam	Host	And that's about all the credence they give it.
00:15:47	Ben	Host	Yeah! And I think it's so interesting, because none of the rest of the cast is at any risk in this episode. Like, they're still in a holosuite game.
00:15:56	Adam	Host	Not only are they not at any risk, but they all agree upon the rules of this game.
00:16:01	Ben	Host	Right.

00:16:02 Adam Host If it were to be considered a game. Like, O'Brien doesn't go get a bunch of phaser rifles for the group, and they don't go in there and shoot Frankie Eyes in the head, like they could at any moment.

00:16:14 Ben Host Right.

00:16:15 Adam Host They play by the holosuite's rules.

00:16:16 Ben Host Like, they have to win on—in the—on the terms of the game. And that's like—it's surprising that after seven seasons of *TNG* having the holodeck safety protocols get accidentally turned off or whatever, they never did a storyline quite like this.

00:16:36 Adam Host Death is never on the line in this ep.

00:16:39 Ben Host Unless you're Vic. And...

00:16:40 Adam Host Yeah.

00:16:41 Ben Host He is a—he is a fun, like, character to run to the rescue of.

00:16:47 Adam Host Everyone gets to play this game. This is a MMORG, I guess?

[Ben laughs.]

Everyone's here! The whole gang is here. Odo and Kira are the first participants that aren't Bashir and O'Brien, I think.

00:16:59 Ben Host Yeah. Odo was shockingly horny in this scene. They walk in, and he sees the sexy ladies up on the stage—

00:17:05 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Slowly climbing slide whistle.]*

00:17:06 Ben Host —and Kira's like, "Alright, have your fun, you horndog, you. I'm gonna go walk around and get the lay of the land."

[Slide whistle culminates and stops.]

"You can just watch all the eye candy up there, all those ladies 'shifting shape.'"

00:17:18 Adam Host Yeah. I mean, nothing wrong with a little window shopping if you're Odo, I guess.

[Ben laughs.]

But Kira in her own right is having her own kind of fun!

00:17:25 Ben Host Yeah. That's true. But like, he doesn't have the same biology as anyone. Like—but this really gets his—his—like—

[Odo voice; gravelly] "I don't have blood, but if I did, it would be pumping intensely right now."

[Ben laughs, Odo voice stops.]

00:17:39 Adam Host I mean, you know—you know who could easily counter-rotate his tassels, is Odo.

[Ben laughs.]

I mean, that's nothing to him.

00:17:47 Ben Host Yeah.

[Odo voice] "I don't even have to move my waist."

[Both laugh, Odo voice stops.]

00:17:53	Adam	Host	This is a—like, the fun of Odo in a episode like this is embodied in that close-up bar magic scene.
00:18:01	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:18:02	Adam	Host	Like, the agreement that Odo makes with the rules of this thing are maybe, like, the top-line rule. If Odo is obeying the rules of this story as it exists on the holodeck, knowing that he could do <u>anything</u> and all he does, literally, is play a little Mr. Stretch game with his hand—
			<i>[Ben laughs.]</i>
			Like, the restraint that he treats it, I think, is what teaches us the viewer that everyone else is gonna fall in a line with respect to the rules here, like him.
00:18:30	Ben	Host	Right. He meets, uh, Cicci, who is the—uh, he's kinda the muscle that Eyes has brought with him. And so they're starting to, like, form relationships, and the other relationship getting formed is Kira and Frankie Eyes, who spots her playing Twenty-One at a table and getting dealt a card that busts her, and he— <i>[stifles laughter]</i> —he goes up to the croupier and like, scolds him for dealing Kira a card that would not get her to Twenty-One.
00:19:03	Clip	Clip	Frankie: What kinda card is that to give such a pretty lady?
00:19:05	Ben	Host	The croupier really does not get this. It takes him like three tries to pick up what Frankie Eyes is putting down.
00:19:11	Clip	Clip	Frankie: What's wrong with you? Again.
00:19:13	Adam	Host	Yeah, that's not how blackjack works. It's not how any of this works!
00:19:16	Ben	Host	Yeah. But if you own the casino, or are the proxy for the person that owns the casino...
00:19:20	Adam	Host	Right.
00:19:21	Ben	Host	I guess you have a little latitude there?
00:19:23	Adam	Host	The rules don't apply to Frankie Eyes.
00:19:26	Ben	Host	The banter between him and Kira is straight out of a 50s movie.
00:19:30	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:19:31	Ben	Host	And I thought it was a nice writing flourish.
00:19:36	Adam	Host	Writing for this dialogue has gotta be a real treat, and it's done very well here.
00:19:40	Ben	Host	Yeah. I just wish Frankie had been, like, a more alluring character. 'Cause Kira is turning the sexiness stuff up to 11 in this episode, and I kind of thought it would be fun if Frankie Eyes had been, like, just as sexy.
00:19:56	Adam	Host	Like if Frankie Eyes were played by Robert Redford?
00:19:59	Ben	Host	Right!
00:20:00	Adam	Host	And there was actually a threat that he was seducing Kira. That would've been interesting.

00:20:05	Ben	Host	Yeah!
00:20:06	Adam	Host	<i>[Odo voice]</i> "I don't have anything to worry about here. Do I?"
00:20:08	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i>
			<i>[Odo voice]</i> "What are your intentions toward—"
			<i>[Adam laughs.]</i>
			"—uh, she's not my wife yet. But I—I—you know, I'm hoping. Eventually."
00:20:17	Adam	Host	<i>[Odo voice]</i> "I couldn't help but notice you... hitting on my queen."
			<i>[Both laugh.]</i>
			"See, I can write gambling-related dialogue, too."
			<i>[Ben laughs, Odo voices stop.]</i>
00:20:28	Clip	Clip	Frankie: You're starting to aggravate me, pal.
00:20:30	Ben	Host	So they get everyone together. Vic Fontaine is—is still routinely getting beat up by these guys, so he's like, icing himself. But like, pretty much the whole crew minus Sisko, plus Kasidy, is here.
00:20:42	Adam	Host	Mm-hm.
00:20:44	Ben	Host	And they kind of hatch a plan. Like, this is gonna be an <i>Ocean's 11</i> —style thing. The way we get rid of Frankie Eyes in the logic of the game is that we have Frankie Eyes fall afoul of the—of the higher-ups in the mafia. And in so doing, you know, make himself, uh, disappear. And wind up in a hole in the desert somewhere.
00:21:10	Adam	Host	It's an indirect way to solve their problem. It's like, circular firing squad the bad guys.
00:21:16	Ben	Host	Mm-hm.
00:21:18	Adam	Host	And not taking them out directly.
00:21:19	Ben	Host	Right.
00:21:20	Adam	Host	Is the idea.
00:21:21	Ben	Host	So what they've gotta do is knock the casino over, steal the million dollars in the bank vault, and in so doing, make Mr. Zeemo want to eliminate Frankie Eyes.
00:21:33	Clip	Clip	Vic: It's all starting to make sense.
00:21:34	Adam	Host	The episode does a good job of touring us around all the sets that are required to pull off the heist. And this even <u>before</u> the montage of the heist going on in our imaginations.
00:21:45	Ben	Host	Right.
00:21:46	Adam	Host	Like, the world of the hotel is very lived-in by the time we actually have to go through with the thing. I thought that was nicely done.
00:21:53	Ben	Host	Yeah. And so much of what Vic Fontaine's vibe is has been established, that the ways they kind of pervert that to make it the Frankie Eyes version of these—of these sets.

00:22:09 Adam Host Yeah, they try to Biff Tannen it, don't they?

00:22:11 Ben Host Yeah! And it feels like a violation. Like, we as viewers, like, want to return to the established normal.

00:22:19 Adam Host Yeah, but that's the problem with introducing a character who doesn't obey the norms of a society, and you start to realize all of the agreements you had were verbal and non-binding.

00:22:31 Ben Host Right. These norms were never codified in a way that maybe, in retrospect, they should have been.

00:22:36 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Crickets chirp.]*

00:22:39 Adam Host Uh, the codification of Morn is—

[Ben laughs.]

—what I'm primarily interested in on a *Deep Space Nine* podcast, Ben.

00:22:48 Ben Host Mm. So Kira and Frankie get closer and closer. Kira starts this episode in her holodeck crooner look. And quickly, they realize that they need more couture for her to be in. Because she gets, uh—she gets several, like, very glamorous dresses in this episode, as Frankie starts, like, showing her the cash-counting room in the casino and stuff.

00:23:15 Adam Host As the only primary lady character on the show that remains, I think that's a fortunate spot for Nana Visitor to be in. Like, she gets all of the attention of the costume designer here.

00:23:28 Ben Host Yeah.

00:23:29 Adam Host I mean, outside of Kasidy Yates, whose costuming is a little more low-key.

00:23:34 Ben Host Yeah, she's—I thought it was kinda surprising they didn't, um—I mean, I think that it... maybe is an attempt at just making her look period-appropriate. But I mean, part of this episode is about how period-appropriate is a concept that is a bit broken in this game.

00:23:49 Adam Host Mm-hm.

00:23:51 Ben Host And Kasidy is so much less glamorous in the way they did her make-up and costume.

00:23:56 Adam Host Yeah! And I wonder to what extent an actor encourages or discourages that.

00:24:01 Ben Host Yeah. Her role in this episode is to cozy up to the casino guard that stands by the door to the cash room. And she, uh—there's a very fun scene where she just hits on him relentlessly.

00:24:17 Clip Clip **Kasidy:** You have the body of an athlete.

00:24:19 Ben Host Really, really gases him up. I thought that this interaction was very fun, and funny. And it—and that, like, leads right into a scene of Cicci shoving a—an unsatisfactory Philly cheesesteak into the face of a vested casino employee. *[Laughs.]*

00:24:37 Clip Clip **Cicci:** Call this a cheesesteak?

[Smack!]

[Someone stammers.]

00:24:40 Adam Host I don't care who you are. If you aren't delighted by the image of a person hitting another person with a sandwich...

00:24:47 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Mm-hm. Yeah.

00:24:48 Adam Host Like, that is just great. That is big fun.

00:24:51 Ben Host Mike Starr, the actor that plays Tony Cicci, is a really great Hollywood "That Guy." He's in a bunch of Coen brothers movies. I—I'm always delighted to see him on screen.

00:25:02 Adam Host As fun as a scene like this is, my production heart can't help but wince. Like, there's sandwich continuity to consider.

00:25:10 Ben Host *[Laughing]* Mm-hm.

00:25:12 Adam Host There's the mess that a sandwich makes when you hit someone with it, that you must clean up in order to reset the scene.

00:25:16 Ben Host Yeah. Yeah.

00:25:18 Adam Host Like, there's more going on here than I think a lot of people realize.

00:25:22 Ben Host Yeah. Well, crucially, I think—and I think this is probably part of why the sandwich did not meet his high sandwich standards—

[Adam laughs.]

It's not very cheesy.

00:25:30 Adam Host Yeah.

00:25:31 Ben Host Which is, uh—you know. If you're gonna have a cheesesteak, you want there to be some cheese on it.

00:25:35 Adam Host You want it "wit wiz."

00:25:38 Ben Host *[Stifling laughter]* Mm.

00:25:39 Adam Host And that clearly was a little bit dry, huh?

00:25:40 Ben Host Yeah. He, uh—he smacks this guy with the sandwich, and turns around to see Odo, who introduces Tony to Ezri. And Tony gives her the classic cheesesteak handshake.

00:25:52 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Ding!]*

00:25:53 Ben Host *[Laughs quietly.]*

00:25:54 Adam Host It's not gonna get better than that, Ben.

00:25:55 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* And she's there looking for a job. That's her cover. She's gonna be a cocktail waitress. And Odo, having impressed Cicci with all his stretchy arm magic, is in a position to lobby on Ezri's behalf.

00:26:15 Adam Host You know, I neglected to mention Ezri as a recipient of a loud costume. And she sure as shit has one, as soon as she gets this job as a server.

00:26:26 Ben Host That's true, yeah! Her, like, civilian clothes are pretty unremarkable, I think. But then when she's in the Vegas, like—the, like—the kind of waitress in Vegas that is being put forth as showgirl-adjacent.

00:26:41 Adam Host Right.

00:26:42 Ben Host That's a pretty—that's a pretty outré look.

00:26:46 Adam Host Later on, there's a McLaughlin Group—

00:26:48	Clip	Clip	John McLaughlin (<i>The McLaughlin Group</i>): Issue one!
00:26:49	Adam	Host	—where there's like an intermediate costume choice, where the crew wears <i>TNG</i> season one collection vacation wear?
00:26:59	Ben	Host	Yeah! [<i>Laughs quietly.</i>]
00:27:00	Adam	Host	When they're in Vic Fontaine's suite. Which is such a weird break in the costume continuity of the episode. I really couldn't figure out why they pivoted into that!
00:27:14	Ben	Host	Yeah. Well, we'll talk about that scene, 'ca—but like, specifically Sisko shows up in something that is—
00:27:17	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:27:18	Ben	Host	—like, not anything close to 1962.
00:27:21	Adam	Host	Uh-huh.
00:27:22	Ben	Host	[<i>Stifles laughter.</i>] And is much more close to... Picard going to Risa.
00:27:25	Adam	Host	Right.
00:27:26	Ben	Host	You know, during a cold month, or something like that.
00:27:28	Adam	Host	Right.
00:27:29	Ben	Host	But first he has to be warmed up to the idea of making a grand entrance.
00:27:34	Music	Transition	A techno song mixed with clips and soundbites from <i>DS9</i> and <i>TNG</i> . Sisko, little girl, and Bashir: <i>Allamaraine! Count to four!</i> <i>Allamaraine! Then three more!</i> <i>[Continues.]</i> Picard: <i>What are you doing?</i> <i>What—what—what are you doing?</i> <i>Commander, what are you doing now?</i> Sisko: <i>Ow!</i> <i>Ow!</i> <i>Ha ha!</i> <i>Ow!</i> <i>Ow!</i> <i>Hoo!</i> <i>I'm not Picard</i> <i>I'm not Picard</i> <i>I'm not Picard</i> <i>I'm not Picard</i> Picard: <i>Exactly.</i> <i>[Music ends.]</i>
00:27:50	Ben	Host	And that is the next scene we get, which is between Sisko and Kasidy. And he explains what his real misgivings are about being

interested in this game. He's never gone into the Vic Fontaine program. And I think it's very interesting, because we know that Sisko, like, authorized its running continuously because of what it did for Nog. But he has a real problem with the fact that 1962 Vegas was not a nice place if you had Black skin.

00:28:22 Clip Clip **Speaker:** *[Shouting]* That's racist!

00:28:24 Adam Host I can't believe how we called this shot.

00:28:27 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Boxing bell.]*

00:28:28 Ben Host *[Laughing]* I know.

00:28:29 Adam Host I thought it was a joke.

[Ben laughs.]

That we were doing. And now it's real.

00:28:33 Ben Host It's very interesting! Right? 'Cause like, this is a—like, this really reminds me of a kind of leitmotif that we come back to a lot on *Friendly Fire*. Our hit war movie podcast. Which is like, if you are doing a history movie, and you revise something about history or elide an ugly truth about history to make the story more fun, does that do the audience a disservice or not? And Sisko is firmly on, "It does the audience a disservice" side of the argument.

And Kasidy argues very persuasively to the contrary in this scene, in a way that I thought was really good! Like, I—I was like, "Shit!" *Friendly Fire's* been batting this idea around for like, at least a year and a half, and Kasidy just had a very forceful argument that I don't think we've ever really articulated."

00:29:25 Clip Clip **Kasidy:** You're supposed to help your friends when they're in trouble!

00:29:29 Adam Host Sisko's like, "Have you heard the *Overlord* episode of *Friendly Fire*?"

[Ben laughs.]

"Uh, it's in the donor feed, Kasidy. So you're gonna have to support the show the way I have. But, uh, it's something that really bumped me out."

00:29:42 Ben Host Clearly. Yeah. Sisko is a MaxFun donor.

00:29:45 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Coins drop on a hard surface.]*

00:29:46 Adam Host Yeah. Uh, I mean, Sisko's feelings are... strong. This isn't just a, "I would prefer not to hear about the hobby that you guys are interested in because I'm just not interested in the same hobbies as you." It is a very direct kind of, uh, repudiation of the idea of this being a thing.

00:30:05 Ben Host Right.

00:30:06 Adam Host Which is interesting that he's been simmering on this for as long as he has.

00:30:13 Ben Host Right. Like, it's almost immaterial to Nog, right? Like, Nog is an alien, so segregation is not going to be an issue that would have affected him ever, because he comes from a totally different planet that never dealt with it. But Sisko is very conscious of the history of Black

people on Earth. And I think that that's, like, such an interesting distinction, and also... interesting in the context of how far in the future this show is set. Like, he is thinking back hundreds of years. And it's still a very present and important issue for him.

00:30:50 Adam Host Right. The idea of, like, the Ben Sisko Bat-Signal being lit has to do with the plan. I mean, everyone has a role to play in this heist, but they need—they need a whale, is what they need. They need—and they need someone to play that whale! It's Ben Sisko that ends up doing that.

00:31:09 Clip Clip **Sisko:** Now. Exactly what do you need me to do?

00:31:12 Ben Host Yeah. And the argument that Kasidy makes on behalf of going in is like, "There is a way to think about a better version of the past that doesn't dishonor the memory of the struggles that made the future better." And I think he finds that persuasive. Like, he actually listens to her and changes his mind.

00:31:36 Adam Host It's so interesting that this isn't a, "Why didn't Picard play poker with his crew for seven seasons until the very last episode?" Like, there's never that wistful separation between the captain and his crew in play here. And I—I kinda missed that!

00:31:51 Ben Host Yeah.

00:31:52 Adam Host You know? Like, there is—there's a very, like, this—when he enters the scene, when he enters Vic's condo with a flourish and everyone's happy to see him, like, that's a great moment. But there's never that corresponding sadness that comes with, you know, "I'm apart from my crew because I have to be, because of rank" being associated with this. It is very clearly, uh—

00:32:12 Ben Host Right.

00:32:13 Adam Host —a line between the two dots. The dot of... "60s Vegas is racist and I don't wanna participate" and "Where my crew is choosing to enjoy their free time."

00:32:24 Ben Host Well, and like, this show is set in a context now that is so different—like, Picard was in some battles in *TNG*, but *TNG* was never in the context of a war.

00:32:38 Adam Host Mm-hm.

00:32:39 Ben Host And like, Sisko has to look at all of these people every day and know that he may need to send them to their death. And I feel like that separation must be something that is a much bigger gulf between a wartime captain vs. a peacetime captain.

00:32:56 Adam Host That's true.

00:32:57 Ben Host *[Stifling laughter]* But—but the war feels so far away, Adam, because we are in 1962 Vegas.

00:33:01 Adam Host That's right.

00:33:02 Ben Host Where, uh—*[laughs]*—they are going over the *Italian Job*—style run-through of the ideal way the plan goes down. And this is a very, like, by-the-numbers, "Here's what the plan is, and then here is them executing what the plan is" kind of back half to this episode.

00:33:24 Clip Clip **Sisko:** Take us through it again.

Vic: You got it, pallie.

00:33:26 Adam Host This scene is a delight every time.

00:33:27 Ben Host Yeah.

00:33:28 Adam Host In every show, in every movie, you love to see it.

00:33:32 Ben Host I love heist movies for this scene.

00:33:34 Adam Host Part of the montage is Worf sitting at home alone.

00:33:38 Ben Host Mm-hm. Mm-hm.

00:33:39 Adam Host And just enjoying a plate of gagh by himself.

00:33:42 Ben Host *[Chuckles.]* Playing a little *Maylota* on his HomePod?

00:33:46 Adam Host No one invited Worf!

00:33:48 Ben Host Yeah. It's too bad.

00:33:50 Adam Host Made me sad.

00:33:51 Ben Host He knows how to get down in a casino. He's been to the Royale!

00:33:54 Adam Host Oh, yeah. I mean, the scene that we love so much where we see the run-through is followed up by all of our characters practicing their roles, which was almost as enjoyable!

00:34:04 Ben Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]* Yeah, it was cool. And then, like, the—the quintessential slow motion strut down the Promenade.

00:34:12 Adam Host The *Reservoir Dogs* shot?

00:34:13 Ben Host Yeah. And they walk past Quark's, in a way that I loved. I loved seeing Quark filling up hooves with, uh—

[Adam laughs.]

—with frozen daiquiris. *[Laughs.]*

00:34:26 Adam Host Yeah.

00:34:27 Ben Host For everyone.

00:34:28 Adam Host Multiple hooves for Morn.

00:34:29 Ben Host *[Stifling laughter]* Mm-hm.

00:34:30 Adam Host One for each stomach.

00:34:32 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah. There's a—there's a scene at the end where Morn barfs up some hoof drink to—to refill somebody?

00:34:40 Adam Host I mean, there's a moment where Quark mentions that something big is going on in the holosuite, and you get the business person sense of a character missing out on profits associated with what might be happening. But also, like, I think socially he's feeling... left out, the way anyone would.

00:34:59 Ben Host Yeah! He does not get a job here. Nog gets a job!

00:35:02 Adam Host Yeah.

00:35:03 Ben Host Jake does not get a job.

00:35:05 Adam Host [For Some Reason Jake](#), not involved.

00:35:07 Ben Host It is so wild that, like, Cirroc Lofton is still in the opening credits of this show, and I feel like Nog has had more and more interesting episodes at this point in the series than Jake.

00:35:19 Adam Host Yeah.

00:35:20 Ben Host So they strut into the holosuite, and we get the in-practice version of the plan. Which I think we should go through.

00:35:31 Adam Host It's all kinds of fucked up right away.

00:35:33 Ben Host Yeah. So Kira's job is to distract Frankie Eyes, and she is wearing a very distracting spaghetti-strap dress.

00:35:42 Adam Host Very al dente.

00:35:43 Ben Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]* He immediately starts talking about how he wishes there was even less of it. And so she's gotta, like, kinda get him off in a corner and get him—get him away from the bar, and the gambling floor, because they don't want him casting any scrutiny on things.

00:36:01 Clip Clip **Kira:** I'm glad you like what you see.

00:36:02 Adam Host Nana Visitor credibly distracts Frankie Eyes with the need for more alcohol.

00:36:08 Ben Host *[Laughing]* Mm-hm.

00:36:10 Adam Host Like, everything is believable about this scene.

00:36:12 Ben Host Yeah. Uh, I found her very distracting.

00:36:15 Adam Host Right.

00:36:16 Ben Host O'Brien and Kasidy are doing a table game next to each other, but their role is to portray people who are strangers to each other.

00:36:26 Adam Host Right.

00:36:27 Ben Host Which they do credibly.

00:36:28 Adam Host Right, because I don't think they've ever been in a scene together.

00:36:31 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* I know!

00:36:33 Adam Host Like, it's interesting—no one makes anything of Kasidy being a criminal.

00:36:35 Ben Host Mm-hm!

00:36:36 Adam Host Like, an actual felon is what Kasidy Yates is, and no one uses that as a strength.

00:36:41 Ben Host No, yeah. O'Brien, like, is a guy that we know spends a lot of time in the holosuite, but he also seems to be, like, the least capable of—

[Adam laughs.]

—like, sinking into his character?

00:36:52 Adam Host Yeah.

00:36:53 Ben Host In a funny way? Like, he is—he is, like, visibly nervous in this scene. He's like, standing half up out of his stool and looking around the room, and like, making eye contact with all of his accomplices. It's like—come on, Chief! Simmer down! Like, be cool here! Like, this is—this is game time, man!

00:37:10 Adam Host Maybe that's the thing about him that's been in our face from the start. Like, this is another separated shoulder kayaking program for him.

[Ben laughs.]

Maybe he's just not good at holo!

00:37:23 Ben Host Maybe that's it, yeah. He, like—he can never remember whether you're supposed to press A or X to jump, and—

00:37:30 Adam Host Maybe he's always separating his shoulder, no matter what the program is.

00:37:33 Ben Host Yeah, yeah.

00:37:35 Adam Host Like, "Hit me! Aghhh!"

[Both laugh.]

"Okay. One hundred on red."

[Adam and Ben both shout in dismay as O'Brien, and laugh.]

00:37:47 Ben Host "Sure, I'll have a—I'll have a third martini! Augh, god!" *[Laughs.]*
"The answer to this crossword clue is... 'aria.' OOOGHH!"

[Both laugh.]

Bashir orders his martini that he's supposed to order from Ezri. He orders it stirred, not shaken. Obvious reference to *James Bond*. But I think that James Bond orders shaken, not stirred, specifically because you would stir a martini.

00:38:13 Adam Host Right.

00:38:14 Ben Host I don't think you would need to specify stirred, not shaken, if you just said, "Give me a martini."

00:38:20 Adam Host Ezri knows this, which is why she shakes the martini onto the floor.

00:38:23 Ben Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]* She, uh—like, much like that, uh—that Klingon shuttle pilot in *TNG*, just makes super evil eye contact with him and pours it on his shoes.

00:38:34 Adam Host Right.

00:38:35 Ben Host She gets the two martinis from the bar. She's heading back, and this is where one of the interruptions to the plan happens. She's about to give the doctor his beverage, when she collides with another patron of the casino—

00:38:50 Clip Clip *[Someone grunts, glass shatters.]*

Ezri Dax: Oh! I'm so sorry!

00:38:51 Ben Host —knocking the tray, which is Odo, and the two drinks onto the floor, and the tray goes—

[Odo voice] "Ow, fuck!"

[Both laugh, Odo voice stops.]

And everybody's onto them from that point, and they're like, "What kind of tray says, 'Ow, fuck'?"

00:39:05 Adam Host That's when, uh, Odo turns himself into a helicopter—

[Ben laughs.]

—and his spinning blades decapitate everyone involved? *[Laughs.]*

00:39:14	Ben	Host	It is just a bloodbath. And, uh, Frankie gets it, and that's the end of the episode.
00:39:19	Music	Music	<i>DS9</i> end titles by Dennis McCarthy. Grand, sweeping orchestral.
			<i>[Music fades out.]</i>
00:39:23	Adam	Host	I love how time feels when the plan begins. Because as the mess-ups mount, you feel the compression of time in such a way that applies to the scene that follows. Like, it's not <u>just</u> that shit is fucked up. It's that—it's also that Howard isn't working the shift.
00:39:47	Ben	Host	Right.
00:39:48	Adam	Host	And it's <u>also</u> that Nog can't figure out the safe, because it has a weird tumbler he wasn't prepared for. Like, as the train cars of the plan start crashing into each other, <u>time</u> works differently in these scenes. And it really amplifies how stressful things become. It's really well done.
00:40:05	Ben	Host	I love Ezri's gambit to get the substitute money counter to drink the ipecac.
00:40:12	Adam	Host	Mm-hm.
00:40:13	Ben	Host	But I <u>hate</u> that Odo doesn't just suggest, like—
			<i>[Odo voice]</i> "Oh, I could just get inside the safe and undo the locking mechanism."
			<i>[Odo voice stops.]</i>
00:40:20	Adam	Host	This has everything to do with the rules that we agree upon, though. Like, and I think—
00:40:26	Ben	Host	Ohhh, that's a great point!
00:40:29	Adam	Host	I think to enjoy the episode means... subscribing to those rules from the top. Like, everyone has agreed not to use their special power. Like, we're not using phasers, and Odo's not... Odo can go as far as becoming the tray, but he can't become the instrument that actually fixes the problem.
00:40:49	Ben	Host	Right.
00:40:50	Adam	Host	He can't be deus ex Odo!
00:40:51	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> So then—and then the big, uh, catastrophe happens, which is that Mr. Zeemo shows up to the casino a day early. He is now <u>in</u> the picture, in a way that is a dismaying surprise to everyone involved in the heist.
00:41:12	Adam	Host	Yeah. I mean, speaking of James Bond references. This guy is from <i>Diamonds Are Forever</i> .
00:41:18	Ben	Host	Yeah!
00:41:19	Adam	Host	What a face on this guy!
00:41:21	Ben	Host	A hell of a face. I—for like a split second, I was like, "Did they put Marc Alaimo in, like, crazy old man <u>loaf</u> ?"

00:41:29	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:41:30	Ben	Host	"That's like, unusually good for this show?" But no. This is Marc Lawrence. He's in a bunch of Bond films!
00:41:39	Clip	Clip	Zeemo: I'm early! Any problem with that?
00:41:41	Adam	Host	Good get for the show.
00:41:43	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:41:44	Adam	Host	He's very lived-in as a character, it seems.
00:41:45	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:41:46	Adam	Host	You can really smell the coffee and nicotine off of his breath.
00:41:51	Ben	Host	Yeah. Sadly, Marc Lawrence's legacy is somewhat sullied by the fact that he ratted on his fellow reds to the House Un-American Activities Committee.
00:42:00	Adam	Host	<i>[Stifling laughter]</i> Oh, no, <i>Star Trek!</i> Don't do that!
00:42:02	Ben	Host	Yeah, don't— <i>[laughs]</i> —I mean, he was blacklisted, and he got fucked over, but...
00:42:06	Adam	Host	Wow.
00:42:07	Ben	Host	Like—
00:42:08	Adam	Host	Did not know that.
00:42:09	Ben	Host	Yeah. Interesting reading about him.
00:42:11	Music	Transition	A techno song mixed with clips from <i>DS9</i> and various other sources. <i>Jadzia Dax: Morn</i> <i>Kira: Morn?</i> <i>Odo: Morn!</i> <i>[Hammer clang.]</i> <i>Quark: Dear, sweet Morn!</i> <i>O'Brien: Morn</i> <i>Kira: Morn?</i> <i>Norm (Cheers): Evening, everybody!</i> <i>Kira: Morn!</i> <i>MC Hammer: Stop! Hammer time.</i> <i>[Music ends.]</i>
00:42:18	Ben	Host	Anyways, the—all of the timing kind of comes down to Nog. Nog is the linchpin. He's gotta crack this safe. And they blow their eight-minute window. And so now it's all about, like, what can we do to distract everyone in this casino while we buy ourselves some time? And Sisko figures it out.
00:42:38	Music	Music	"Make It Rain" by Lil Wayne. <i>I make it rain!</i> <i>I make it rain!</i> <i>Oh!</i> <i>I make it rain on them hoes!</i>

[Music stops.]

00:42:42 Ben Host Though he comes from a moneyless society, he realizes that those of us unfortunate enough to grow up in capitalism will sell our mothers down the river for money flying in the air.

00:42:54 Adam Host He makes it rain.

00:42:55 Ben Host Mm-hm!

00:42:56 Adam Host Which has gotta be the most fun thing to do. In a casino, especially!

00:43:00 Ben Host Big, big fun. And it's—it is exactly the distraction that they need. Mr. Zeemo is pissed, and they finally crack the safe, clear the money out, and, uh—and the plan is just go throw it away. 'Cause... like, who gives a shit? I feel like they should have made Vic hold.

00:43:17 Clip Clip **Vic:** Deal me in! *[Chuckles.]*

00:43:18 Ben Host Because Vic Fontaine provided the seed capital for whale Sisko to enter the casino.

00:43:26 Adam Host I thought that was such an interesting detail! I'm with you on that! And how fun would it have felt to give Vic the giant suitcase of cash?

00:43:35 Ben Host Extremely!

00:43:36 Adam Host The plan as stated is to throw it in a garbage can outside the casino!

00:43:40 Ben Host Yeah.

00:43:41 Adam Host I think you gotta make someone's day. And I'm not saying it has to be Vic, but like, give huge tips to the valets!

[Ben laughs quietly.]

Make it rain, like the way Sisko did! You gotta—you gotta do something good; you can't just throw it away!

00:43:53 Ben Host Yeah. I mean, I think that, like, that's the thing that kind of breaks the logic—like, 'cause—like, this is all based on *Ocean's 11*. The original Rat Pack version.

00:44:03 Adam Host Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

00:44:05 Ben Host And I—like, the thing that is great about that movie is that they fucking blow it. Like—*[laughs]*—

00:44:11 Adam Host Yeah.

00:44:12 Ben Host Like, they wind up as penniless as they started.

00:44:14 Adam Host Right.

00:44:15 Ben Host And this is, like, a television episode, where they have to provide... like, more catharsis in less time. So—*[laughs]*—uh, so what they wind up succeeding in doing is making Frankie and Tony look like total assholes to the out-of-town mobsters. And they get kinda... perp-walked out of the building, and the program reverts to normal. And the Vic Fontaine logo reappears on the curtain behind the stage.

00:44:46 Adam Host I gotta admit, I didn't like the moment where as soon as Frankie leaves the simulation, it changes back.

00:44:52 Ben Host Yeah.

00:44:53 Adam Host I don't know why! And I don't have another—like, I have no idea how to make it better. But it—

00:44:57 Ben Host No, I think it's the same thing of like, when you shoot a guy in a video game, and he like, falls over and then, like, the body disappears. It's like—it feel—

00:45:06 Adam Host That's gotta be it! The impermanence of the stakes.

00:45:10 Ben Host Yeah.

00:45:11 Adam Host Like, they're—the stakes should've sustained! Like, it—it should be a jack-in-the-box that, like—there should be an intermediary scene where we clean up the mess of what has happened, and we fix it.

00:45:23 Ben Host Yeah, and hang the Vic Fontaine logo back up on the wall.

00:45:28 Adam Host Right. But I guess you need to obey the rules as set up, and because we blurred into the Frankie Eyes version of the casino, we must blur back to the original version.

00:45:43 Ben Host Yeah. So—and also, partly, I think this was service—in service of the showrunner wanting enough time for this button scene.

00:45:53 Adam Host Yeah.

00:45:54 Ben Host Where Vic calls Sisko up on the stage, and—

00:45:57 Clip Clip **Donny (*Eurotrip*)** —play a little song for you.

Crowd: Yeah!

Donny: About the nastiest, freakiest little sex puppet I know.

[Crowd cheers.]

00:46:04 Ben Host —Sisko reveals himself to be a fucking incredible singer.

00:46:07 Clip Clip **Music:** "The Best Is Yet to Come" by Cy Coleman and Carolyn Leigh. Energetic jazz/swing with brass and piano.

[Sisko and Vic are both singing passionately.]

Sisko: The best is yet to come!

Vic: The best is yet to come!

Both: The best is yet to come, come the day you're miine!

[Clip audio fades out.]

00:46:24 Adam Host It sounds like they're both singing the same part. Like, one person isn't taking the harmony and the other person... Like, they aren't harmonizing with each other! Which is interesting.

00:46:34 Ben Host Yeah, it does—it's not a duet.

00:46:35 Adam Host Yeah!

00:46:36 Ben Host It's like, two people singing one song and just kinda passing the verse back and forth.

00:46:41 Adam Host That's an interesting choice. And I imagine you make that decision based on the range of, uh—of Avery Brooks. Like, you need to do what he's able to do in this scene.

00:46:55 Ben Host Yeah.

00:46:56 Adam Host They really luxuriate in the song.

00:46:58 Ben Host Yeah. And the "crew reacts" shots to the song. Like, they are fuck—like, the crew is loving it. It's the most incredible performance of song in the history of song, as far as the crew is concerned.

00:47:14 Adam Host It's what makes the moment where Vic tells Sisko to leave through the kitchen that much more hurtful after.

[Ben cracks up.]

Like, you think everything is different and better from this scene, but it's not.

00:47:26 Ben Host No, it's not. *[Laughs.]* Sisko got his wish. It's a accurate depiction of 1962 Vegas in the end.

00:47:30 Adam Host *[Laughs.]* Like, and that's his revenge on the crew.

[Ben cracks up.]

Like—like, "Enjoy your Vic Fontaine program now, assholes," and then drops the mic. *[Laughs.]*

00:47:41 Ben Host Yeah. Nog is probably not gonna be permitted.

[Both laugh.]

00:47:44 Adam Host Yeah.

00:47:45 Ben Host Did you like the episode, Adam?

00:47:46 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.]

00:47:51 Adam Host Yeah. I mean, there's a contract involved in liking this episode, though. Like, you have to give yourself over to it. You have to obey the rules of it. Because if you do any kind of deeper thinking about it, you're not going to enjoy it, and this episode isn't for you if you can't.

00:48:08 Ben Host Yeah.

00:48:09 Adam Host Like, it's a Mirror Universe episode in a strange way. Right? Like, obey the rules, and you're in for a good time. But like, a cynical—a more cynical take, I don't think would have the appetite for an episode like this. But I did.

00:48:23 Ben Host Yeah.

00:48:24 Adam Host I'm not a cynic, Ben! I'm not the cynic of this show!

00:48:26 Ben Host Whoa! Hot take! Uh, I also liked the episode. I thought it was very enjoyable.

00:48:32 Adam Host You can't expect Vic Fontaine is gonna be in many more eps this

season if we're gonna start the war back up, right?

00:48:39 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Right. Yeah.

00:48:41 Adam Host Is this the goodbye to Vic Fontaine?

00:48:43 Ben Host I—I think Vic Fontaine plays a big role, uh, for the rest of the season.

00:48:48 Adam Host Oh.

00:48:49 Ben Host But that is a vague memory, so...

00:48:51 Adam Host Alright.

00:48:52 Ben Host It's been a long time since I've watched *Deep Space Nine*. And I don't remember every single instant of it the way I remember every single instant of *TNG*.

00:49:00 Adam Host Oh, yeah. Down cold.

00:49:03 Ben Host So, uh, we'll see! We'll see what Vic Fontaine gets up to in the back half of this final season of *Deep Space Nine*. But, uh, we also gotta see what our [viewers](#) have gotten up to in the Priority One Message section of the show, Adam. Do you want to head over there with me and check that out?

00:49:23 Adam Host Yeah, speaking of back halves. That's when the back half of an episode begins, the P1s!

00:49:28 Clip Transition **Computer:** *[Beeps four times.]* Priority one message from Starfleet coming in on secured channel. *[More beeping.]*

00:49:32 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.]

00:49:43 Music Music Music plays softly in the background of this segment, peppered by the ship's computer repeating, "Captain Picard, priority one message."

00:49:44 Adam Promo Well, Ben, our first Priority One Message is from "Two people embarrassed to receive a P1 at the SF Greatest Gen Khan II."

00:49:52 Ben Promo Oh, man!

00:49:54 Adam Promo And it is to "The amazing Twitter artwork supplier and her probably equally talented physicist husband."

[Ben chuckles.]

The message goes like this:

"Happy wedding anniversary. We're so happy to share *Trek* and *TGG* with you! Lockdown blows, but we've enjoyed sharing our thoughts

on *The Damar Show* and sending you awful *Voyager* screencap memes."

[Ben laughs.]

"In the words of the man in longest and therefore most stable on-screen *Star Trek* marriage, Chief O'Brien—"

[Ben laughs.]

"—marriage is the greatest adventure of them all."

00:50:25	Ben	Promo	Wow. Beautiful.
00:50:27	Adam	Promo	Uh, "Two people embarrassed to receive a P1 at the SF Greatest Gen Khan II," a treasured memory by you and me!
00:50:35	Ben	Promo	Yeah. That was the last time we performed live! Right?
00:50:38	Adam	Promo	Live P1s. Yeah. I was just thinking the same thing.
00:50:42	Ben	Promo	I think we missed our deadline with that. That was a—they wanted that to go out August 12th. Damn!
00:50:47	Clip	Clip	Speaker: Damn, Daniel!
00:50:48	Ben	Promo	Uh, so, sorry, "Amazing Twitter artwork supplier and probably equally talented physicist husband."

[Adam laughs quietly.]

Uh, but it's the thought that counts.

00:50:56	Adam	Promo	Right.
00:50:57	Ben	Promo	Our next Priority One Message, <u>also</u> targeted for August. This one <u>late</u> August. Is from... Marnie! And it's to Dr. Alan Davis, PhD. Goes like this:

"Congratulations on finishing your astrophysics PhD, you giant nerd!"

00:51:15	Adam	Promo	<u>Giant</u> nerd.
00:51:17	Ben	Promo	"I am perpetually grateful for—that your communicator ringtone went off in the physics common room your freshman year, <i>[stifles laughter]</i> and jump-started this beautiful friendship. I also gladly welcome you to the ranks of high school physics teachers! We are lucky to have you!"

Wow!

00:51:36	Adam	Promo	When you're in the physics common room, and your ringtone is <i>Star Trek</i> communicator, I think about 40 people reach for their phones.
00:51:43	Ben	Promo	Yeah, out of the 40 people that are in the room, right?
00:51:45	Adam	Promo	Right.

[Both laugh.]

Very confusing.

00:51:49	Ben	Promo	Wow. Congratulations, "Dr. Alan Davis comma PhD." That's a huge accomplishment, and thank you for teaching science to the kids!
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00:51:57	Adam	Promo	Giant nerd.
00:51:58	Ben	Promo	That rules!
00:51:59	Adam	Promo	Doing good. Congrats.
00:52:00	Ben	Promo	Yeah. Well, if you would like to congratulate somebody or do <u>any</u> other kind of fun stuff with a P1, we encourage you to head to MaximumFun.org/jumbotron , where it's a hundred bucks for a personal message and two hundred bucks to promote something. And we really appreciate it, 'cause it helps us keep the lights on around here!
			<i>[Music ends.]</i>
00:52:22	Ben	Host	Hey, Adam!
00:52:23	Adam	Host	What's that, Ben?
00:52:24	Ben	Host	Did you find yourself a Drunk Shimoda ?
00:52:26	Music	Music	Clips of <i>TNG</i> and Adam and Ben mixed with electric guitar.
			<i>Jim Shimoda (TNG): Incredible!</i>
			<i>Adam & Ben: Druuunk Shimoda!</i>
			<i>[Music ends abruptly.]</i>
00:52:28	Adam	Host	Chief O'Brien allowed himself to be strip-searched at the end of this episode. Which I think is... emblematic of how far everyone's willing to go to obey the rules of the world that they're in.
00:52:43	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> Yeah. They cut the scene where he took his trousers off and his shoulder dislocated.
00:52:48	Adam	Host	He's strip-searched!
00:52:50	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:52:51	Adam	Host	And he <u>says</u> it at the end!
00:52:52	Ben	Host	Yeah. He does.
00:52:54	Adam	Host	I wonder how often that happens on the, uh—
			<i>[Ben laughs quietly.]</i>
			—on the program he does with Bashir.
00:52:58	Ben	Host	<i>[Stifles laughter.]</i> Uh-huh. You have to think pretty often, right?
00:53:01	Adam	Host	What about you, Ben?
00:53:03	Ben	Host	Uh, my Drunk Shimoda is Nog, for the specific close-up of Nog practicing on his fake safe door. The clenched pointy Ferengi teeth, and the ear to the wall look in the ECU just made me laugh out loud. I loved that moment, and Nog got my Drunk Shimoda just for that.
00:53:27	Adam	Host	I love that scene because of the shot, reverse shot of it.
00:53:29	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:53:30	Adam	Host	Like, from his perspective you see the safe door, and then from behind, you see that it's a mock-up.
00:53:35	Ben	Host	Yeah. I love that.

00:53:36 Adam Host And that—the way they do that reveal is really fun.

00:53:39 Ben Host Yeah. 'Cause you—like, when he opens the door, you think that that's, like, a fancy edit. And then you realize, like, "Oh, no. It's just a door to nothing." *[Laughs.]*

00:53:45 Adam Host It's weird, like, how in *Star Trek* we're trained for the comp.

00:53:49 Ben Host Yeah!

00:53:50 Adam Host It looked like a comp there, but it was real.

00:53:51 Ben Host Yeah.

00:53:52 Adam Host Good job.

00:53:53 Ben Host Yeah. That was great sleight of hand in the—on the part of the production.

00:53:57 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.]

00:54:05 Promo Clip **John C. McGinley:** Hey, kid. Your dad tell you about the time he broke Stephen Dorff's nose at the Kids' Choice Awards?

[Audience laughs.]

Music: Upbeat, groovy rock.

Andrew Reich: In *Dead Pilots Society*, scripts that were developed by studios and networks, but were never produced, are given the table reads they deserve.

Will Forte: When I was a kid, I had to spend my Christmas break filming a PSA about angel dust. So yeah, being a kid sucks sometimes!

[Audience laughs.]

Andrew Reich: Presented by Andrew Reich and Ben Blacker. *Dead Pilots Society*. Twice a month on MaximumFun.org.

Echoing Background Voices: *Dead Pilots Society...*

Sage Ryan: You know, the show you like. That hobo with the scarf who lives in a magic dumpster?

[Audience laughs. Scattered applause.]

[Music fades out.]

John Hodgman: ...*Doctor Who*?

Sage Ryan: Yeah!

[Audience laughs and applauds as the clip fades out.]

00:54:46 Promo Clip

Music: Funky guitar and triumphant horns.

Dave Hill: Hi. It's me, Dave Hill, from before, here to tell you about my brand new show on Maximum Fun, *The Dave Hill Goodtime Hour*, which combines my old Maximum Fun show, *Dave Hill's Podcasting Incident*, with my old radio show, *The Goddamn Damn Hill Show*, into one new futuristic program from the future. If you like delightful conversation with incredible guests, technical difficulties, and actual phone calls from real life listeners, you've just hit a street called Easy. I'm also joined by my incredible co-host, the boy criminal Chris Gersbeck. Say hi, Chris.

Chris Gersbeck: Hey, Dave. It's really great to—

Dave: That's enough, Chris. And New Jersey chicken rancher, Dez. Say hi, Dez.

Dez: Hey, Dave!

[A chicken clucks.]

Dave: *The Dave Hill Goodtime Hour*. Brand new episodes every Friday on Maximum Fun.

Chris: Plus, the show's not even an hour. It's 90 minutes.

Dez: Take that, stupid rules!

Dave: We nailed it!

[Snare drum, music ends.]

00:55:35 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.]

00:55:46 Adam Host

Well, uh, no sleight of hand involved in the sequence of episodes we

watch. We always watch them... one after the other.

[Ben laughs.]

It's the way that we watch them that changes, and it's the Game of Buttholes—

00:55:59	Sound Effect	Sound Effect	<i>[Thunder crashes.]</i>
00:56:01	Adam	Host	—Will of the Prophets that tells us how.
00:56:04	Ben	Host	Much like a casino, this is a game of chance where the house always wins. And the house are the Friends of DeSoto!
00:56:10	Adam	Host	It's true, Ben. We are currently on square 50.
00:56:16	Ben	Host	Wow.
00:56:17	Adam	Host	According to the game.
00:56:19	Ben	Host	Halfway up the board.
00:56:21	Adam	Host	Yeah! We've got some stuff ahead. And, uh, the Quark's Bar drunkisode is the closest to us.
00:56:27	Ben	Host	Wow.
00:56:28	Adam	Host	What episode are we gonna review next, though?
00:56:31	Ben	Host	The next episode is season 7, episode 16, "Inter Arma Enim Silent Leges."
00:56:39	Adam	Host	That's just a classic <i>Star Trek</i> episode title right there if I've ever heard one.
00:56:46	Ben	Host	That's a classic, "Somebody is going to Tweet us and tell me that I pronounced it incorrectly" episode title. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:56:52	Adam	Host	Well, that's a great way to get muted!
00:56:54	Ben	Host	Yeah! <i>[Chuckles.]</i> Sure is. Uh, the description is as follows: "Bashir becomes an unwitting pawn in a deadly game between Romulan Intelligence forces and a covert Starfleet organization." I smell Section 31 in this description.
00:57:10	Adam	Host	Sounds like <u>someone's</u> gonna get pissed .
			<i>[Beat.]</i>
00:57:13	Ben	Host	<i>[Snorts.]</i> I think I see Admiral Belt Buckle in this thumbnail, too.
00:57:19	Adam	Host	Oh, that's fun.
00:57:20	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:57:21	Adam	Host	Gotta bring that guy back.
00:57:22	Ben	Host	Yeah! Uh, Adam, do you want to, uh, get your dice out and roll that bone? Tell us <u>how</u> we will be watching this episode?
00:57:31	Adam	Host	I'm already there, Ben. Uh, I've—I've removed all my clothing.

[Ben laughs.]

I've strip-searched myself. To find the die. Uh, which I have.

00:57:41 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, and continue during the segment. Clip audio and podcast audio are intertwined for the next several lines.]

00:57:41 Adam Host And I'm gonna give it a roll right now!

00:57:46 Clip Clip *[Quark breathes on the dice.]*

[Dice roll. Tapping stops.]

00:57:49 Adam Host Boy, big roll by me; I've rolled a five.

00:57:50 Clip Clip **Falow:** Chula!

Crowd: *[Laughing]* Chula! Chula!

Quark: Did I win?!

Falow: Hardly!

[Clip audio ends.]

00:57:54 Adam Host Which puts the runabout between the Quark's Bar episode and the "Looking at each other during" episode.

00:58:02 Ben Host Uh-oh. *[Laughs quietly.]*

00:58:03 Adam Host Uh, so we're on square 55 right now! And that means it is a regular old episode for you and me.

00:58:09 Ben Host Hell yeah. Well, uh, I am looking forward to it. I can't wait for next week's ep. But in the meantime, if you want more of our *Star Trek* bullshit—

00:58:18 Music Music Dark Materia's "The Picard Song" starts in the background.

00:58:20 Ben Host —listen to *The Greatest Discovery*. And if you want more of our general bullshit, listen to our hit war movie podcast *Friendly Fire* that we do with our buddy John Roderick!

00:58:29 Adam Host Gotta thank some people who help make the show the program that it is. I'm not gonna even describe it... as good or bad.

[Ben laughs.]

Just... people involved in its production include, uh, people like Adam Ragusea!

00:58:43 Ben Host Sure!

00:58:44 Adam Host He's one of the reasons why the music is so fun and interesting. Course, uh, you and I were inspired as much as he was by Dark Materia, who made "The Picard Song."

00:58:53 Ben Host Indeed. Yeah. We gotta thank our buddy Bill Tilley, who is on the payroll now, running the @GreatestTrek [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts.

00:59:03 Adam Host Your P1 money basically goes directly to Bill Tilley.

00:59:06 Ben Host That's true. We wouldn't—would not be able to do this without the generosity of the Friends of DeSoto, and Bill Tilley wouldn't have that, uh, nice supplemental social media money coming in every month.

00:59:17 Adam Host Yeah!

00:59:19 Ben Host So if you'd like to support the show, either get a P1 or head over to MaximumFun.org/join, and set up a monthly contribution! We really, really appreciate it.

00:59:28 Adam Host It helps get us through.

00:59:29 Ben Host Yeah.

00:59:31 Adam Host With that, we'll be back atcha next time with another great episode of *[pitch gets progressively, if very slightly, lower with each word] Star Trek: Deep Space Nine. [pitch goes back to normal]* See, I stair-stepped it back down again?

00:59:39 Ben Host Mm-hm.

00:59:40 Adam Host That's a nice callback, right?

00:59:41 Ben Host Yeah, that was good.

00:59:43 Adam Host *[Laughs quietly.]*

And an episode of *The Greatest Generation* which, uh... probably going to have to remain secret from the rest of the episodes.

[Ben laughs quietly.]

Can't tell anyone about this one.

00:59:54 Ben Host Yeah.

00:59:55 Adam Host You could listen to it, but then we'd have to kill you.

00:59:58 Ben Host Yeah, so, uh, we don't wanna—no downloads next week, okay?

01:00:03 Adam Host I would say set up your support at MaximumFun.org first.

01:00:08 Ben Host Right.

01:00:09 Adam Host Uh, before listening to the episode. And then it'll—the auto-subscription will just continue to play out.

01:00:14 Ben Host Yeah. That's—that's the way to do it.

01:00:15 Adam Host After your death.

01:00:16 Ben Host Yeah. Um... your estate will handle the rest.

[Both laugh quietly.]

01:00:20 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!

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

[Song fades out.]

01:00:37	Music	Transition	A cheerful ukulele chord.
01:00:38	Speaker 1	Guest	MaximumFun.org .
01:00:40	Speaker 2	Guest	Comedy and culture.
01:00:41	Speaker 3	Guest	Artist owned—
01:00:42	Speaker 4	Guest	—audience supported.